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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" on the appropriate line or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name LOUDEN, R. BRUCE AND MAY W., HOUSE
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 501 West Adams Avenue N/A not for publication
city or town Fairfield N/A vicinity
state Iowa code IA county Jefferson code 101 zip code 52556

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this (nomination
_ request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
(meets _ does not meet) the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant (_ nationally
_ statewide, locally). (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patricia [Signature] DSHPD 12-30-98
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property (_ meets _ does not meet) the National Register criteria. (_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is :
- entered in the National Register.
_ See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the
National Register
_ See continuation sheet
 - determined not eligible for the
National Register
 - removed from the National
Register.
 - Other, (Explain)

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature] 2/22/99
Sandra McClelland

R. Bruce and May W. Louden House
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Iowa
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many lines as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one line)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Louden Machinery Company, Fairfield, Iowa

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/
Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Wood

roof Asphalt
other Glass
Brick

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Iowa
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" on all the lines that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

Circa 1905-circa 1948

Significant Dates

Circa 1905

Circa 1948

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance - (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliography References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- previous determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Record
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historical Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository _____

R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 15 | 5 8 6 6 8 0 | 4 5 3 9 6 2 0 |
Zone Easting Northing

2 | | | |
Zone Easting Northing

3 | | | |
Zone Easting Northing

4 | | | |

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William C. Page, Public Historian; Joanne R. Walroth, Project Associate
organization Jefferson County Historic Preservation Commission date January 15, 1998
street & number 520 East Sheridan Avenue (Page) telephone 515-243-5740 (Page)
city or town Des Moines state Iowa zip code 50313-5017

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs - Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items - (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Melvin F. and Katheryn D. Davis
street & number R. R. 4 telephone 515-472-2961
city or town Fairfield state Iowa zip code 52556

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

CFN-259-1116

R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This is a 2-1/2 story, frame, single-family dwelling, conceived within the tradition of the American Colonial Revival. Dormer windows are situated on each slope of the building's hipped roof. The building also possesses a wrap-around porch on the south and east elevations, now enclosed but might originally have been open. The property is situated on a corner city lot and faces to the south and to the east. Although the house has been converted into a multiple-family dwelling, the integrity of its original fabric remains good.

HOUSE

Roughly speaking, the footprint of this house consists of a rectangle, which measures approximately 32' x 42' (width by depth). The building rests on a stone foundation. A 1-story, wrap-around porch is situated on the south and east elevations of the building. It contains an area of approximately 694 square feet. This porch (and the siting of the building, as discussed below) lends the feeling of a double facade to the building. This porch is covered with a low-pitched shed roof. The porch features a pedimented entrance on the south elevation and a semi-circular corner at the southeast of the porch. A porte cochere is situated at the rear of the building with an enclosed porch situated above it. This enclosed porch contains 280 square feet and is supported by wood columns.

This building is covered with a flared hipped roof. Dormer windows are located in each of the roof's four planes. These dormer windows are covered with hipped roofs with clipped corners. An exterior wall, brick chimney is situated on the east elevation of the building.

The house features numerous architectural details, including classically-inspired columns and capitals on the wrap-around porch, a pedimented entryway to that porch, a 1-story bay window on the west elevation, and wide eaves under the flared roof. The capitals of the columns feature a composite order design. The porch and the main block of the house both feature denticulation directly under the eaves. Original porch protectors remain extant beneath the deck of this wrap-around porch. They feature Roman-curia (or criss-crossed) decorative millwork and add another classically-inspired embellishment to the house.

In the interior, the first floor and second floors each contains a total area of approximately 1,403 square feet. The first and second floors feature mastic tile and softwood floors. The walls are plaster-finished. A full attic is situated between the roof and the second floor. The basement, which is also full, features a concrete floor and contains one apartment.

Although the house has been converted into a multiple-family dwelling, the integrity of its original exterior fabric remains good. A metal fire-escape ladder is situated on the facade between the dormer window and the roof of the wrap-around porch. Although this element is visually distracting, it is reversible. On the interior, some partitions of wood studs and panels were constructed during the building's conversion to multiple-family, but these additions are probably reversible as well.

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CFN-259-1116

R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

SITE

This house is situated on Lot 7 and Lot 8 in Block 3 of Grimes Addition to Fairfield, Iowa. These parcels of land are located on the northwest corner of the intersection of West Adams Avenue and 5th Street. The house stands on the west side of South 5th Street and faces both south and east. The 2-lot size of this site adds dignity to the appearance of the house. This visual impression is strengthened by the fact that the site also occupies the corner of an intersection.

The immediate surroundings of the Loudon House are generally level in topography. The overall feeling of the immediate area is residential. Most of the dwellings in the neighborhood date from the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries. West Burlington Avenue, which is an east-west artery in Fairfield and serves as the route of U.S. Highway 34 through the community, is located two blocks to the north. The neighborhood was never mapped for fire insurance purposes.

This house is located within walking distance of the Loudon Machinery Company. The site of that office and factory at 607-609 West Broadway Avenue is about three blocks to the north. This house is also located near the house of Bruce's parents. The William and Mary Jane Loudon House is situated at 501 West Washington Avenue, one block to the north.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

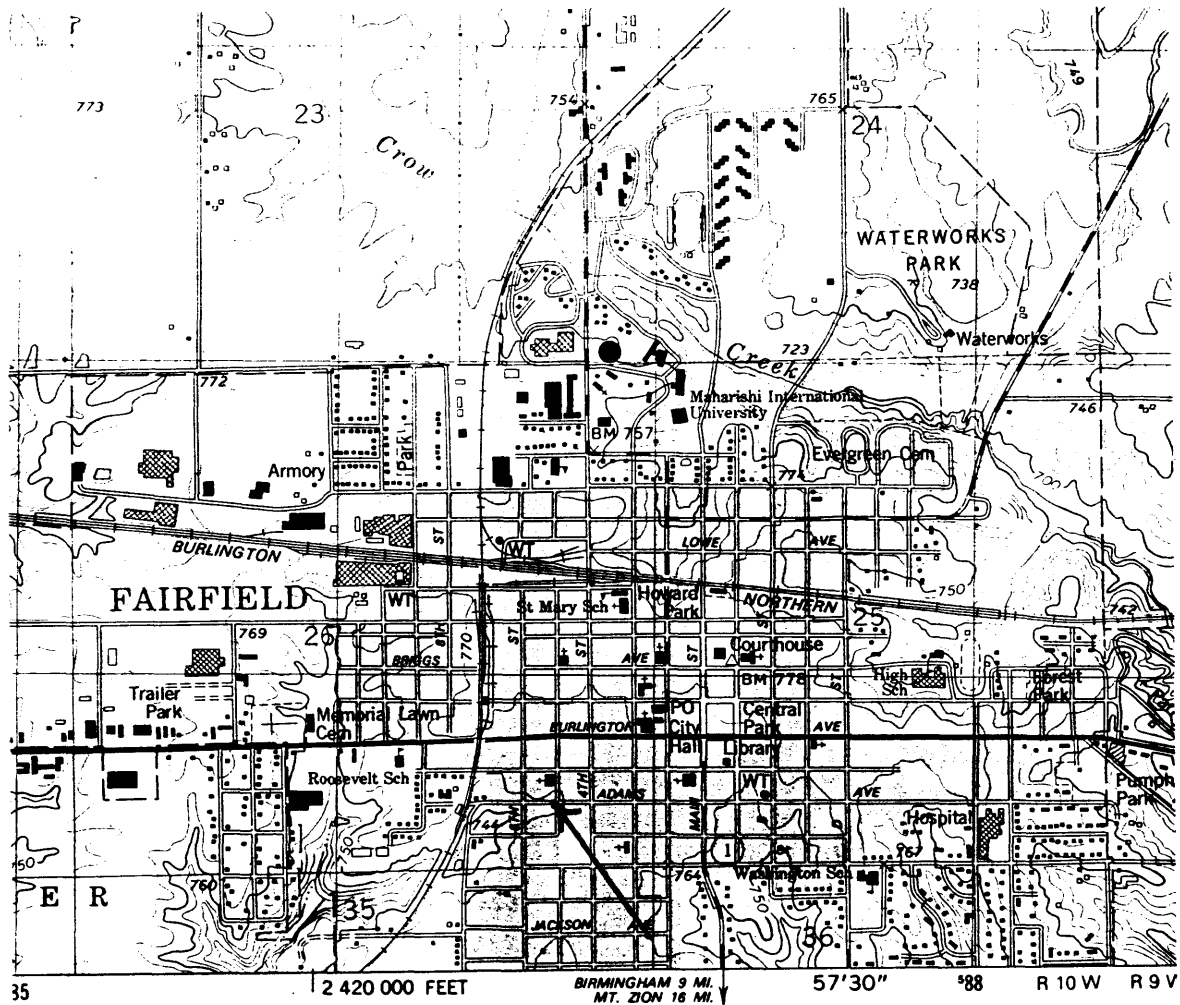
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R. Bruce and May W. Louden House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

SITE MAP

ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY



Source: U.S.G.S. Map (7.5 Minute Series), Fairfield North Quadrangle, 1980.

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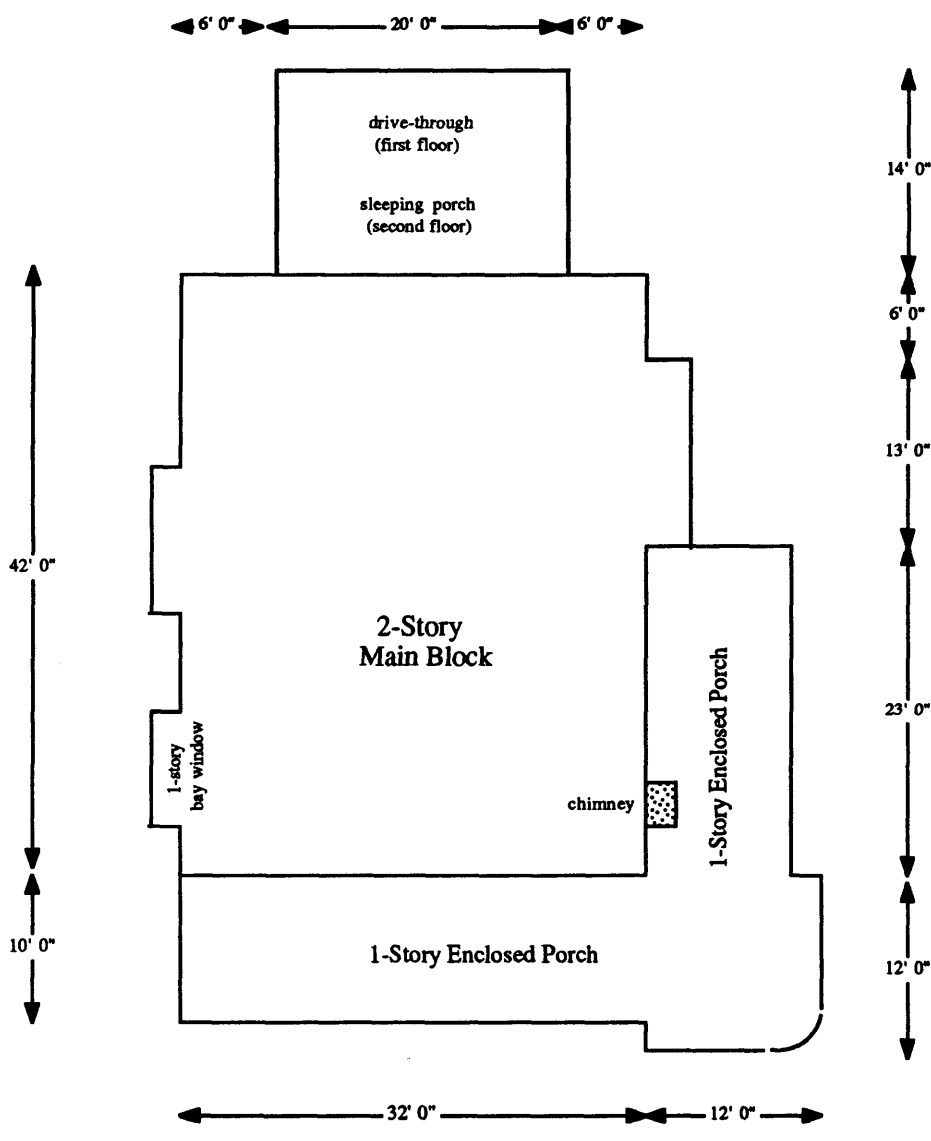
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R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

HOUSE SKETCH PLAN



Source: Jefferson County Assessor Office measurements and William C. Page.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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CFN-259-1116

R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Completed and first occupied as a single-family dwelling in 1905, the R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House is historically significant, under Criterion A, because it calls attention to R. Bruce Loudon for his leadership of the Loudon Machinery Company through a critical period in the firm's history. Loudon served as the company's third president from 1940 until his death in 1951. During that time, the company foresaw, prepared for, and successfully supplied vast quantities of overhead handling equipment to American industry during World War II. (See cover document.)

The period of significance, under Criterion A, for the R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House is circa 1905 through 1948. This period reflects the time in which R. Bruce Loudon served the Loudon Machinery Company and lived in this house. The period of significance, under Criterion C, for the Loudon House is circa 1905, the time when its construction was completed.

The property contains one resource for this nomination--the house itself.

INDUSTRY

The R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House is historically significant as the home of R. Bruce Loudon (1885-1951) and calls attention to his career at the Loudon Machinery Company. A son of William Loudon (and known as "Bruce"), he became the third president of the firm in 1940 and served in that office until his death in 1951.

R. Bruce Loudon's career also illustrates the entrance of the Loudon family's second generation into the management of the Loudon Machinery Company. Bruce had begun his employment with the firm in 1903. He subsequently served in various capacities before assuming the presidency.

The R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House is also historically interesting because of its siting. Situated only several blocks south of the Loudon Machinery Company factory and only one block south of the William and Mary Jane Loudon House, this location calls attention to a common pattern among Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century industrialists in America--the owner living near his factory. Such proximity facilitated monitoring the security of business property and provided convenient access to it. Bruce's decision to build his new home at this location was also undoubtedly influenced by its proximity to his parents' home and calls attention to the clan spirit among the Loudons. Bruce and May's house is situated on the same site as the parental home, except one block south.

Bruce and May continued to live in this house until circa 1948, when they sold the property and moved into smaller quarters at 1106 South Second Street in Fairfield. Bruce lived there until his death.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 6

CFN-259-1116

R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

ARCHITECTURAL BACKGROUND

The R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House is a large and very good example of a residence influenced by Colonial Revival styling. The house features numerous architectural characteristics of this influence, including classically-inspired columns and capitals on the front porch, a pedimented entryway to that porch, a 1-story bay window on the west elevation, an outside brick chimney on the east elevation, and wide eaves with a flared roof. Original classically-inspired trellis-work remains extant beneath the deck of the wrap-around porch. This decorative detail adds distinction to the building because it is often replaced.

A study of this house and the William and Mary Jane Loudon House at 501 West Washington Street illustrates the transition from the Free Classic styling to that of the closely related Colonial Revival taste in Fairfield. William and Mary Jane's house was constructed about five years earlier. It shows more attention to picturesque architectural elements--the 2-story bay windows on the east and west elevations, for example, add notes of irregularity to the building's design. Bruce and May's House, in contrast, is more tightly massed. The projecting bay windows are absent, and more attention is paid to symmetry of design. For example, the pedimented entryway on the wrap-around porch is centrally placed. This symmetrical design is further accented by a small projection immediately above it on the second floor and embellished with three ribbons windows. In contrast, the pedimented entryways on William and Mary Jane's house are strongly offset at the ends of the wrap-around porch.

REPRESENTATION IN OTHER CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEYS

This house was surveyed in the early 1980s as part of a reconnaissance architectural survey of Fairfield, Iowa. At that time, this house was evaluated as not eligible for nomination to the National Register. (Area XV Regional Planning Commission)

This house was also surveyed in 1996 as part of the "Loudon Machinery Company, Fairfield, Iowa" hybrid reconnaissance and intensive surveys of that historic context within Jefferson County, Iowa. As one resource within that survey, this house was evaluated as individually eligible, under Criteria A and C, for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The State Historical Society of Iowa was informed of this determination through the survey report.

POTENTIAL FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Although the site's potential for historic archaeology is, as yet, unevaluated, the site identification of other ancillary structures associated with this property is limited. Evidences of a barn, which might have stood at the rear of the property, might be uncovered.

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R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Please refer to Section I of the Multiple Property Documentation Form for complete bibliography.

PRIMARY

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Fairfield, Iowa.
1885, 1892, 1899, 1907, 1913, and 1927.

SECONDARY

Area XV Regional Planning Commission; *Architectural and Historical Surveys of Fairfield, Iowa*; 1981. Report on file at the State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Jefferson County Assessor's Office, Assessor's Property Record Card.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee; *A Field Guide to American Houses*; New York: Alfred A. Knopf; 1984.

Page, William C., and Joanne R. Walroth; *The Loudon Machinery Company, Fairfield, Iowa*; Intensive cultural resources report prepared for and on file at the Jefferson County Historic Preservation Commission and State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines; 1996.

ORAL HISTORY

Louden, Thomas A.; Oral informant interview with William C. Page, April 12, 1996.

McCoid, Roberta Loudon; Oral informant interview with William C. Page, January 22, 1998. Loudon is the daughter of R. B. and Lizzie L. Loudon.

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CFN-259-1116

R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 7 and 8 in Block 3 of Grimes Addition to the City of Fairfield, Iowa.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Contains all land associated historically with the resource.

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R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House, Jefferson County, Iowa.

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House
501 West Adams Avenue
Fairfield, IA 52556
Looking northwest
William C. Page, Photographer
November 15, 1997

2. R. Bruce and May W. Loudon House
501 West Adams Avenue
Fairfield, IA 52556
Looking northeast
William C. Page, Photographer
November 15, 1997