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**6. Function or Use**

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## Historic Functions

AGRICULTURE/animal facilityAGRICULTURE/storage

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## Current Functions

AGRICULTURE/animal facilityVACANT/NOT IN USE

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**7. Description**

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## Architectural Classification

Other: Square Hipped Roof Barn Type

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## Materials

foundation concretewalls wood/weatherboard

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roof wood/shinglesother glass

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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The Hans J. Jorgensen Barn is situated on a southeast-facing gradual slope at the northwest corner of new Highway 44 and Main Street at the north end of the town of Kimballton. The building is square in ground plan, measuring approximately 36'x 36' and rising 22' from a rusticated concrete block foundation. The roof is a steeply pitched pyramidal hip with broad, triangular gabled wall dormers on all four sides. Copper ridgerolls and guttering are present on the roof. The walls are clad with horizontal drop siding, and the windows are rectangular, fixed four-light windows. This barn accommodated animals on the first floor with a very high-ceilinged hay loft above. Heavy timber mortise and tenon construction was utilized for the animal stalls and as support for the hay loft floor. Eight feet four inches above the loft floor, a timber extends from each wall to the opposite wall with a central post supporting the two timbers where they cross. The outer walls and upper story loft are of balloon framing construction. The floor plan of this barn consists of a central aisle with animal stalls to either side. A grain bin is situated in the northwest corner. A drop-down hay mow door is present in the north dormer peak.

Situated on the south side of the barn, and considered a contributing structure to this property, is a 16' diameter silo constructed of rusticated concrete blocks laid in courses. The blocks from this silo and those of the barn foundation were likely manufactured at the Kimballton/Elk Horn Construction Company's factory in Kimballton. It is also likely that the barn foundation and silo were constructed by masons employed by this company.

Both the barn and silo have undergone few modifications since their construction. The roof of the silo has been removed and there is some deterioration of the mortar; however, the structure is sound. The only modifications to the barn has been the cutting of a new single-wide door into the east facade to the north and the loss of some window panes, but both of these changes are minor. Overall, the barn retains a remarkable amount of its original components and looks much the same as it did when first constructed.

The original farmstead itself has undergone major alterations including the moving of a rectangular barn built in 1898, the construction of a modern house, and the division of the original farmstead by the construction of new Highway 44 through this property. The original house of this farmstead is still standing but has been greatly modified and retains little integrity. This house has literally been separated from the remainder of the farmstead by the new highway and is no longer part of this property. Because of these radical modifications to the original farmstead, this unit as a whole is not eligible for nomination. Therefore, only the square barn and silo, which have not been moved or altered, are being nominated. The lot on which these properties are situated is wooded, but both are highly visible from a variety of vantage points along the highway.

XSee continuation sheet



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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Andrews, H. F., editor. History of Audubon County, Iowa. Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen and Company, pp. 651-652, 1915.

Assessor's Records. Audubon, Iowa: County Courthouse.

Book Committee. Poplar, Iowa. Audubon: Book Committee, p. 208, 1985.

White, Edward S. Past and Present of Shelby County, Iowa, Volume II. Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen and Company, p. 734, 1915.

1895 Iowa State Population Census.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):	<u>See continuation sheet</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	Primary location of additional data:
<input type="checkbox"/> previously listed in the National Register	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State historic preservation office
<input type="checkbox"/> previously determined eligible by the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Other State agency
<input type="checkbox"/> designated a National Historic Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal agency
<input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Local government
<input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> University
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
	Specify repository:
	<input type="checkbox"/> Bureau of Historic Preservation

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of property Less than one acre

### UTM References

A	<u>15</u>	<u>327270</u>	<u>4610780</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	_____	_____	_____

B	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	_____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet

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### Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is bounded by the topographical description from the USGS Kimballton, Iowa, 1978, quadrangle map: the NW1/4, NW1/4, SE1/4, SE1/4, SE1/4, of Section 19, T79N, R36W, of Sharon Township, Audubon County, Iowa. Specifically, this includes the barn building and 20 feet out on all four sides thus encompassing the contributing silo. See continuation sheet

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### Boundary Justification

The boundary includes only that portion of the historic farmstead which encompasses both the nominated barn and silo.

See continuation sheet

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title	<u>Leah Rogers, Project Director</u>	date	<u>June 30, 1991</u>
organization	<u>Preservation Partnership Phase III</u>	telephone	<u>319-849-1271</u>
street & number	<u>520 Franklin</u>	state	<u>Iowa</u>
city or town	<u>Center Point</u>	zip code	<u>52213</u>

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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**Name of related multiple property listing:**

The Ethnic Historic Settlement of Shelby and Audubon Counties: 1860-1941

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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The barn has served as a landmark in the Kimballton vicinity since its construction, and the present owner has demonstrated an interest in its preservation.

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Jorgensen's main occupation continued to be farming until 1912 when he retired. He died on March 19, 1914, at the age of 70. His daughter and son-in-law then purchased the farm outright, having rented it since Jorgensen's retirement. The nominated property is the best extant representation of Jorgensen's lifework and accomplishments. His farm home and his farmstead as a cohesive unit have retained little integrity with the exception of the barn and silo being nominated. Additionally, the Kimballton Hotel is no longer extant, and the Landmands Bank building has been completely remodeled.

The concrete blocks that went into the construction of the silo and barn foundation were manufactured at the local cement factory. Both the silo and foundation were likely constructed by masons employed by that industry. Commonly, these masons were Danish immigrants trained in Denmark. From the results of the ethnic survey, it can be stated that the silo is one of the few that remain extant in the two county area and in such a good state of preservation. The barn and silo were constructed in 1908 when the cement factory was just two years into production.

The barn itself is one of only five such barns once known to have been present in Shelby and Audubon counties. Of these five, only three remain extant, and only two are well preserved. Of the original five, there were two subtypes or variants within the general square hipped barn type with each defined by the distinctive shape of the roof. Two had pyramidal hipped roofs, while the other three had truncated hipped roofs. The two pyramidal barns were associated with the Danish settlement area, while the truncated variant was not associated with any particular ethnic group. Of the two pyramidal hipped barns, only the Hans J. Jorgensen barn survives. The non-extant barn is known from historic photographs and was situated on the Chris N. Jensen farm in Jackson Township near the former Danish community of Poplar.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Hans J. Jorgensen Barn  
Kimballton, Iowa  
Roslea Johnson, photographer  
Original negatives at the Iowa Bureau of Historic Preservation

Photo #	Description	Photo #	Description
#1	Barn 8/10/90 view to SE		
2	Barn and silo 8/10/90 view to NW		
3	Barn from a distance Leah Rogers, photographer 2/20/91 view to NE		