

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Thomas Slye House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number South side county road (184 St.)  not for publication  
city, town Andrew  vicinity  
state Iowa code IA county Jackson code 097 zip code 52030

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Limestone Architecture of Jackson County, IA  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature] Date 6/10/92  
Signature of certifying official  
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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet. [Signature] 7/24/92  
 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 the Keeper Date of Action

---

**6. Function or Use**

---

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

---

---

---

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

---

---

---

---

**7. Description**

---

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)Mid-19th Century

---

Vernacular

---

---

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone

---

walls Limestone

---

---

roof Composition shingle

---

other Wood

---

---

---

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Thomas Slye house (c.1860) is a two story gable roof limestone rectangle measuring 28' x 40' with a single story wood frame rear addition measuring 12' x 38' and an attached two car garage. On the south side of the county road, the house is approached by a long curving drive. It is located on the crest of a hill overlooking rolling fields to the north. It features a symmetrical five bay facade on the eave side, with the entrance flanked by sidelights. The side elevations have two windows on each floor, while the rear elevation has three windows irregularly spaced. The double end chimneys of brick are a somewhat unusual element. Three houses in Perry Twp. have double chimneys, Butterworth, DeFries, and Slye, but only the DeFries and Slye houses are constructed of brick. Windows throughout have limestone sills, and all openings have jack-arched tops rather than stone lintels. While this is not common in Jackson County stone design, the nearby DeFries house and outbuildings share this type of window treatment. The stonework here is similar to that found on other examples around the county. It is of coursed, cut stones of varying size and shape. The size of the stones on the facade is more consistent than is found on the other elevations. The stones vary in size from about 3" to 5" in height and up to about 20" in length. Larger stones are used at the corners. A simple wooden cornice is found beneath the roof line. The additions to the rear are recent. These do not detract from the integrity because they are not visible when approaching the house. Present shutters and double hung windows are not original.

Interiors were generally not addressed in the limestone survey. However, on occasion the owners have provided some information. In the case of the Slye house, it appears to have originally consisted of four rooms downstairs, with the stairs leading up from the central hall. The house has never served as anything other than a single family dwelling.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

c.1860  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

c.1860  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N.A.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

This limestone house is significant under Criterion C as a good example of vernacular limestone architecture in Jackson County from c. 1860.

This two story house is one of 101 limestone houses recorded in the county. It is representative of the majority of these houses (89), which are rectangular and have a gable roof. It illustrates a common plan, a symmetrical five bay facade with entry on the eave side. This entrance is flanked by sidelights. There was originally a name and date stone on the house but it has disappeared. The stonework here is similar to that found on many of the Jackson County buildings: stones of varying size and shape laid in courses. There are two somewhat unusual features on the Slye house. The first is the use of double end chimneys. Two other examples are found in Perry Twp. (the Butterworth and DeFries houses), but only one other uses brick rather than stone (the DeFries house). The second unusual element is the use of jack-arches rather than lintels over doors and windows. Again, the DeFries house has the same technique. It is known that Christian Blessing was the stone mason who built the DeFries house. It appears probable that he was also responsible for the Slye house. (Blessing lived and worked in nearby Fulton from 1855-63.) Family history tells of Slye arriving from England in 1850, and purchasing 160 acres which he farmed with his son. Slye is said to have quarried the stone for the house himself and hauled it to the site. He then hired a mason, perhaps Blessing, to build the house. The mason told him there was only half enough stone to build the house he wanted and Slye had to quarry more. It has not been determined if the stone was quarried on the Slye farm, or on the Merritt farm immediately west which was the source of the stone used for the insane asylum.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Atlas & Plat Book of Jackson County, Iowa. 1893; 1913.  
History of Jackson County, Iowa. 1879, p 739.  
Letter from Dorothy Prohaska (granddaughter of Thomas Slye) to Donald  
Kilburg, present owner of house.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A 

1	5	6	9	7	8	4	0	4	6	7	3	5	8	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This nomination includes only the limestone house noted above. It does not include any other buildings or structures located on the site.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

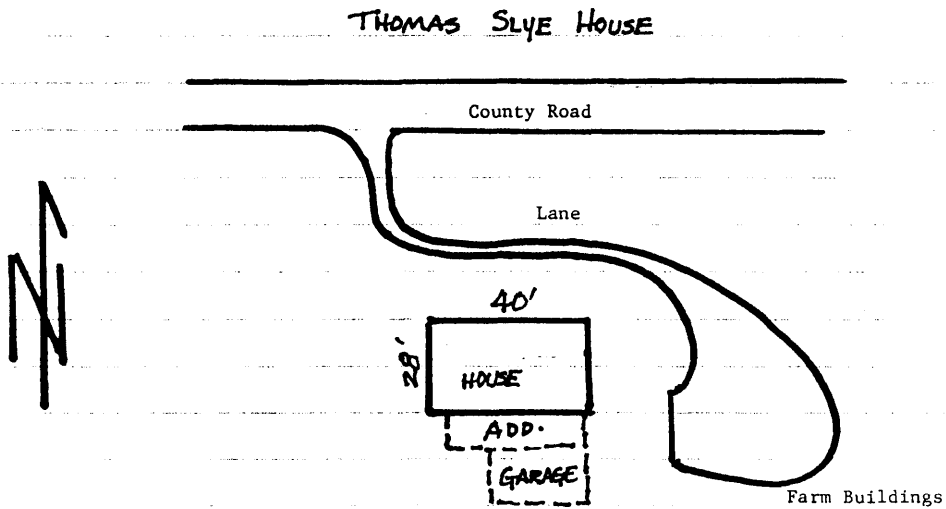
name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743  
organization Jackson County H.P.C. date May 1992  
street & number J.C. Courthouse, 201 W. Platt telephone (319) 652-3181  
city or town Maquoketa state IA zip code 52060

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116



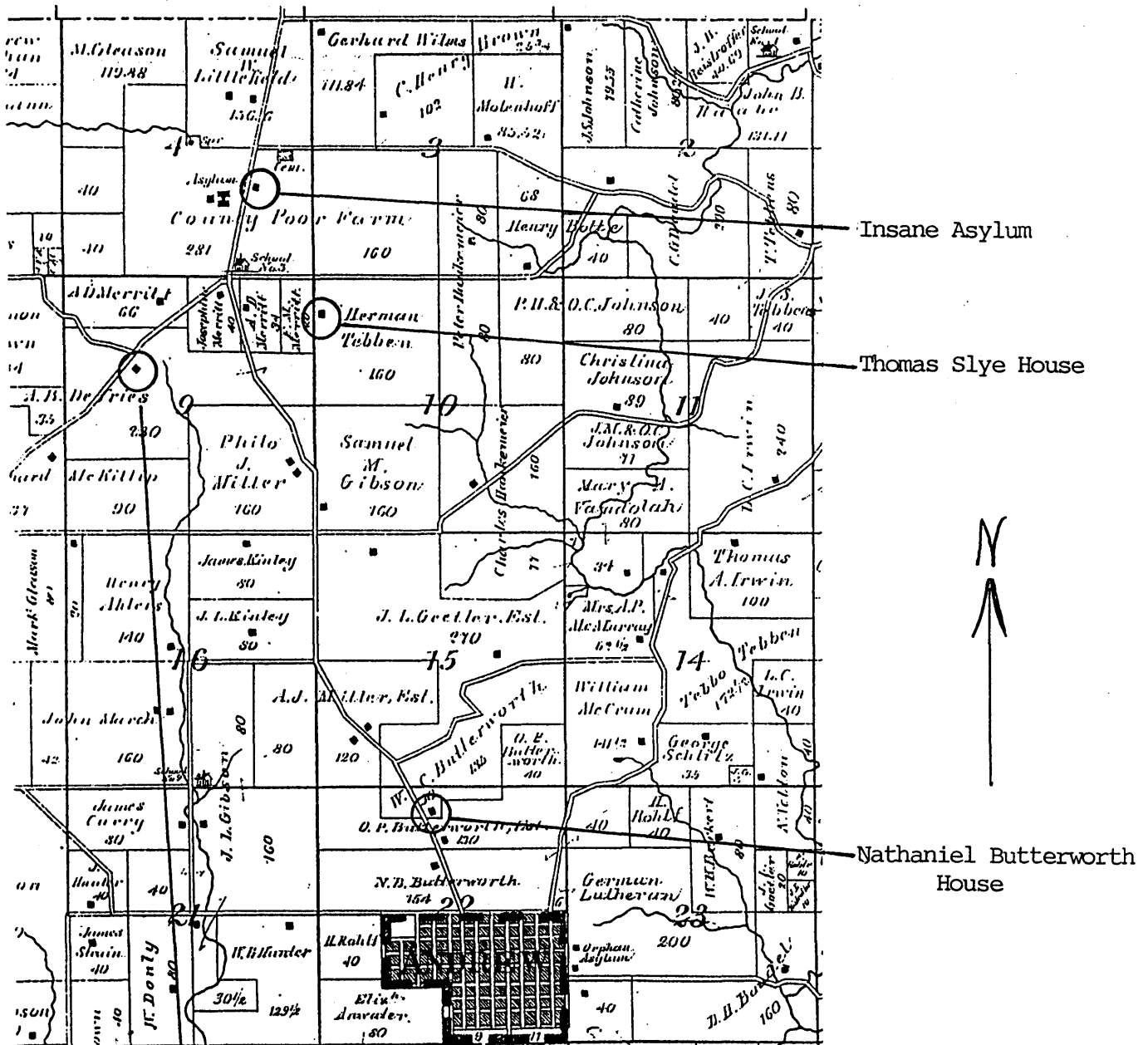
OWNER: Donald Kilburg  
Location: NW Qtr Section 10 T85N, R 3E Jackson County Iowa

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

CFN-259-1116



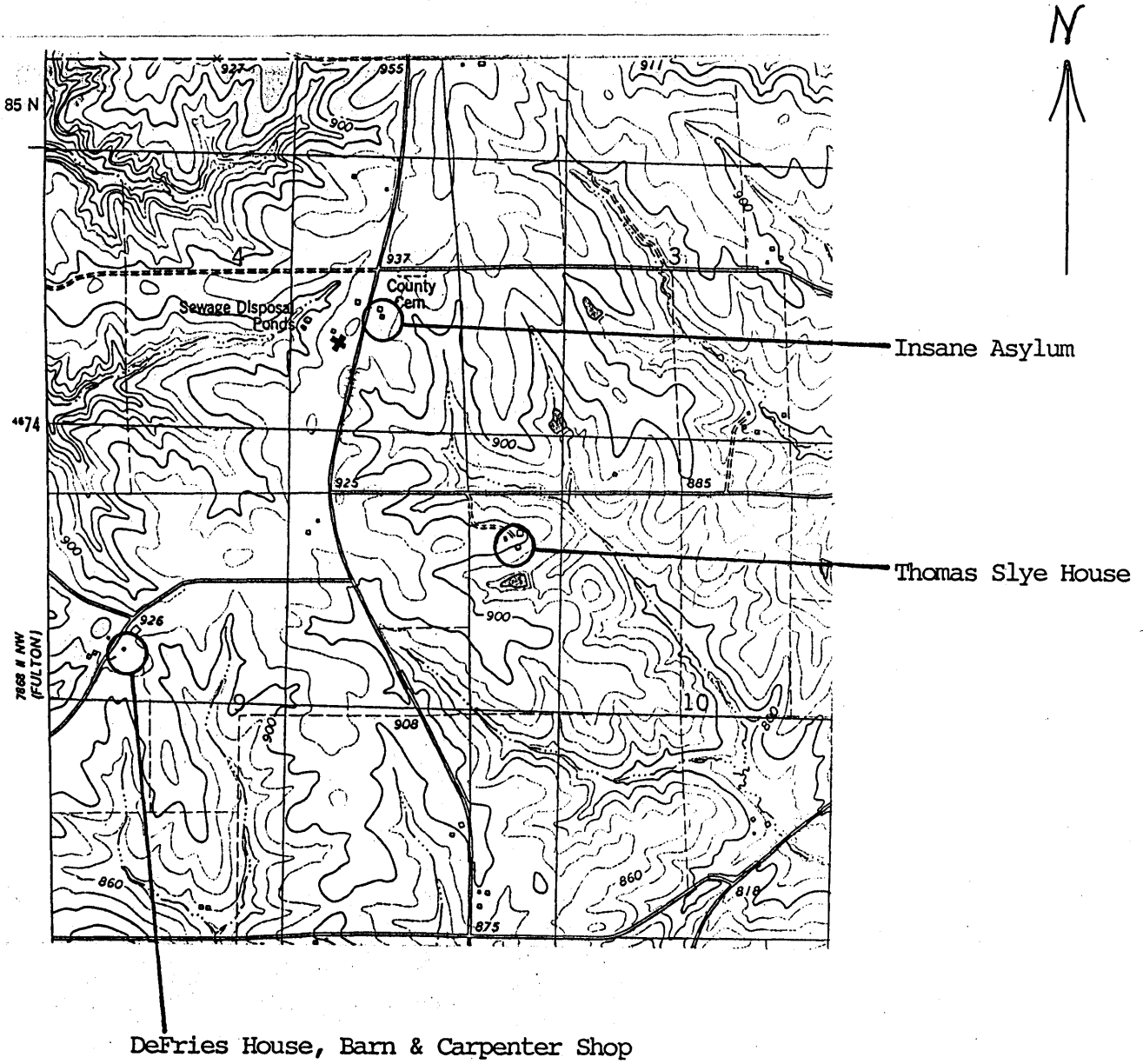
DeFries House, Barn & Carpenter Shop

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

CFN-259-1116



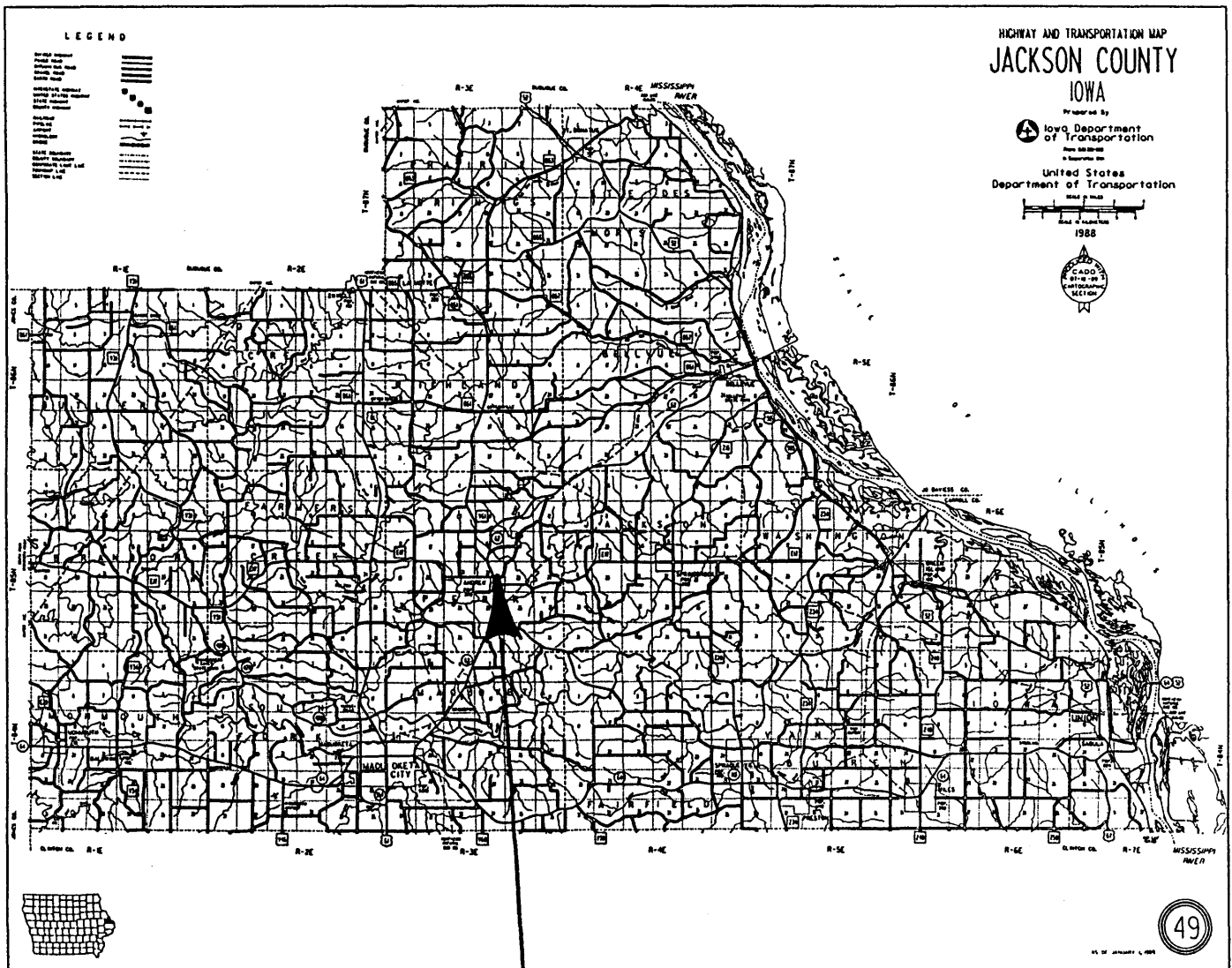
U.S.G.S. Map

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

CFN-259-1116



Location of Thomas Syle House, Perry Twp.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 2

CFN-259-1116

### Verbal Boundary Description

A parcel of land located approximately 3 miles north of Andrew, east of County Road Y61, in T85N R3E Sec 10 NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ . The parcel is located at the end of a curving lane, approximately .1 of a mile south of the gravel road 184 St. The parcel is rectangular in shape with an E/W axis, measuring 48' x 60', centering on the limestone house in question. This allows a ten foot extension on all four sides of the house.