

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form

MAR 23 2010

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APR 9 2010

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any 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 Hardin County Home Historic District

other names/site number Hardin County Poor Farm; Hardin County Farm; Hardin County Care Facility

2. Location

street & number 28483 County Highway D41 not for publication N/A

city or town Eldora vicinity X

state Iowa code IA county Hardin code 083 zip code 50627

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Barbara A. Mitchell DSHPO March 25, 2010
Signature of certifying official 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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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

Edson H. Beall

Date of Action

5-24-10

Hardin County Home Historic District
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(do not include previously listed resources in count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC / institutional housing

FUNERARY / cemetery

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE / agricultural field

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling

FUNERARY / cemetery

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE / agricultural field

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND EARLY 20th CENTURY REVIVALS /

Classical Revival

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

Wood

roof Asphalt

other Stone

Other

Narrative Description

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

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7. Narrative Description

The Hardin County Home Historic District, also known as the Hardin County Home or Hardin County Poor Farm, was established through the purchase of land in 1877 and continued to operate until 1996 at this site. It is located in Jackson Township, about four miles northwest of the county seat of Eldora (Figure 1) (see Images section for all figures, starting on page 29). The setting historically and currently is rural, surrounded by agricultural fields and farms. The property roughly consists of around 136 acres in the east half of the southwest quarter and the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 26, south of the railroad tracks (Figure 2). The buildings are located in the southeast corner of the east half of the southwest quarter, facing County Road D41 to the south. In 2001, the county sold the parcel with the remaining buildings to the current private owner. This parcel includes the Hardin County Home (1), pump house (2), barn (3), shelter (4), and metal machine shed (5) (Figure 3). The brick "fire proof" County Home was built in 1926-27 from the plans of Willfred Holtzman, Jr. of Des Moines after a fire destroyed the original building. With changing conditions and a demand for new space, an addition was planned in 1950 and constructed in 1952-53 on the west side of the original building. The large dairy barn was also built in this period. The remaining land around the parcel with the buildings continues to be owned by the county and leased as cropland. The Hardin County Home Cemetery remains in the southwest corner of the property. The cemetery retains simple stone markers for the marked burials related to the county home from 1877 through 1938 (Figure 4).

The brick Hardin County Home (1) is a contributing building to the Hardin County Home Historic District and the dominant building on the property. It is located on the north side of County Highway D41, facing to the south. The portion constructed in 1926-27 is the east two-thirds of the current building. This three-story T-plan section is built with "fire proof" construction, clad in brick. The "top" of the "T" measures 66 feet north-south by 24 feet, and the west wing forming the "bottom" of the "T" extends out an additional 33 feet. The home was designed in 1924 by Willfred Holtzman, Jr., finally built in 1926-27 when sufficient funds were available. The main entry, currently filled with glass block, is accented by stone details on either side. Additional carved stone detail is found above the opening with "Hardin County Home" inscribed on it. Stone quoins accent the corners of the raised basement story. The windows have stone sills and soldier brick lintels, and they have later aluminum sashes. A course of soldier brick with rowlock bricks above and below extends across the top of the walls. Stone quoins mark the corners of this horizontal detail, and the façade also has four stone square panels above this row. These details continue around the building on the east, north, and west elevations. Windows on the east elevation are similar to the façade. Placement is similar from basement to first to second stories, creating an overall consistent and balanced appearance. A metal fire escape extends up the east elevation. A shed-roof addition for basement stairs/entry is located at the northeast corner of the east elevation. Window placement continues to be consistent among the stories on the rear (north) elevation, with the exception of the three windows above the rear entry. The elevation has been extended to the west for the elevator addition constructed in 1952-53 with the west wing. The course of soldier brick with rowlock bricks above and below has been continued into this addition.

In 1950, plans began for a new addition to incorporate an elevator and additional space into the facility, finally constructed in 1952-53. This two-story rectangular 41 by 59 foot addition sits to the west of the original building, with a three-story elevator addition at the junction serving both sections. Details on the original home were

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carried into this addition, such as the row of solid brick above the raised basement story windows. The metal multi-light windows with crank-out panels are intact in several openings, with some later casement windows. Several windows on the west side have broken glass from an August 2009 hail storm. Window placement on the south, west, and north elevation continues the balanced design of the original building, with first story windows generally located above the windows in the raised basement.

No subsequent additions have been constructed on the building. However, the 1971 aerial photograph of the property shows that the roofs of the original building and 1953 addition were flat. Thus, the hip roofs with wide eaves are a later addition, after the 1971 aerial photograph. A grove of apple trees also remains on the west side of this main building.

The interior of the Hardin County Home was not accessible during this project. However, exterior measurements were recorded, and interior plans were sketched based on information in the county files. These interior sketches from the county files show the general interior layout and room uses, apparently dating to the 1990s. The ground or basement story of the original building included the kitchen, dining rooms, and laundry facilities (Figure 5). This level on the addition was devoted primarily to the three-room apartment for the steward and his family, including bedrooms, living room, kitchen, laundry, and bathroom. Storage and additional bathroom space was also located here. The first story of the original building had several patient rooms as well as employee rooms (Figure 6). Likewise, the upper story of the addition provided additional bedrooms and bathrooms for patients, one of the main reasons for the addition. A beauty shop and drug room were also located on the first story of the building. The second story of the original building had additional patient rooms, a large patient day room, an employee room, and a barber shop (Figure 7). Historic layouts of the entire building and room uses in the addition appear on the architect's construction drawings dated June 30, 1952 (Figures 17-19).

A hollow tile block pump house (2) sits to the east of the County Home building. This 10 by 16 foot building was perhaps constructed in the 1920s, around the time of the new home in 1926. It is possible it was constructed in the 1950s, reusing earlier windows. The gable-roof building is oriented to the south, with a single-door entry and window on this elevation. A two-over-two-light double-hung wood window is located on either side. No openings are found on the north side. It is a contributing building to the Hardin County Home Historic District.

A 36 by 72 foot gambrel-roof barn (3) anchors the northeast corner of the group of buildings. It was built in 1951, partially using material salvaged from two earlier barns. The lower level is hollow tile block construction, with a frame upper portion. The windows in the lower portion have two parts: a two-light fixed sash below and a four-light that can be adjusted within the metal sides on the interior of the windows for ventilation. Windows along the west side have several broken panes from the August 2009 hail storm. Large entries are found on the north and east sides, with a pedestrian door in the south side. Exposed rafter tails are visible under the eaves of the roof, which is clad in asphalt shingles. The milking parlor is located along the west side of the interior, with the milk room in the southwest corner. The walls of these spaces are also tile block construction. The milking parlor has a poured concrete floor with three milking stalls and a lower pedestrian section for easy access for milking. Two wood pens are found in the northwest corner of the barn. The hay loft is accessed through a trap door near the center of the barn. It is a contributing building to the Hardin County Home Historic District.

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The 1971 aerial photograph of the Hardin County Home property shows that a second large early 20th century gambrel roof building sat to the south of this barn, east of the pump house (Figure 23). This building has been demolished. A smaller gable-roof building to its east also has been demolished. Additionally, two large equipment/machine sheds for the county to the west of the extant barn have been demolished. The closest one was replaced by the existing metal building around 1977.

A 24 by 32 foot one-story building (4) currently used as a shop was built to the north of the main building around 1975. This hip-roof frame building has a raised concrete block foundation, and the upper walls are clad in wide wood boards. Doors are located on the north and south sides. It was used as a shelter house, hosting picnics and outdoor events. It is a non-contributing building to the Hardin County Home Historic District, due to its construction after the period of significance.

In the place of the earlier 20th century machine/equipment shed, a 30 by 66 foot metal building (5) was constructed around 1977 at the north edge of the buildings lot. It has five large overhead door openings on the south side, and it was used as a garage for county equipment. It is a non-contributing building to the Hardin County Home Historic District.

Open fields surround the buildings' parcel, continuing the historic function of the farm property. The land is currently leased for farming, and no additional buildings or structures have been built within these areas. In 2009, an emergency communications tower has been scheduled to be constructed on the southeast corner of the property. Power lines run along the road on the south edge of the property. These fields historically associated with the Hardin County Home are important within the boundary for the historic district.

The Hardin County Home Cemetery is located at the southwest corner of the property historically associated with the farm (Figure 2). Simple stone markers were used for the cemetery from the earliest burial in 1877 through 1938 (Figure 4). Burials averaged about one per year through this period. Three rows are found in the east half, with numbers on the top of the headstones. The east row includes markers 1 to 19 from south to north (1877-1897), the next row west (row two) includes markers 20 to 37 (1897 to 1914, with #27 missing and #28 lying down) from north to south, and the third row includes markers 38 to 51 (1915 to 1932) from north to south. The markers continue in a row (row four) at the west edge of the cemetery, with #52 in the northwest corner and markers 53 to 60 (1934 to 1938) continuing north to south. The stone markers are similar with slight variations from different periods. All measure about eight inches wide and two inches thick, standing between 10 and 14 inches depending on the ground. The top is inscribed with "No" followed by the number, such as "No 12." The earliest markers have square tops, and the names are inscribed in an arch. The death date then extends straight across the marker under the ends of the names. This style is found for the markers in row one (#1-6, 8-19) and the oldest three markers in row two (#20-22, through 1898). The next set of markers has a square top with a straight name and no death date (#23-26). Maggie Cronk's marker in the place of #7 in row one follows this style and may be #27. She was listed in the 1900 census, dying after this point. The last seven in row two (south half of row) have a slightly arched top with the name inscribed in a full arch similar to the earliest ones. The third row (#37, 1914) starts the next style with a square top, name inscribed in an arch, death date, and age (if known). This style is found throughout row three and continues through row four (to 1938) along the west edge of the cemetery beginning in the northwest corner. Five later graves are marked in the south one-third of

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this row, one from 1986, a double headstone associated with graves from 2004 and 2006, and one from 2008. The double headstone is for Ray and Dorothy Warner. Ralph C. Ball (1986 burial) appears to be their son-in-law, though their daughter later remarried and is buried elsewhere. The most recent grave (September 2008) appears to be Ralph's son Richard Ball. The county indicates that they worked with funeral home directors to bury them here, as they had no arrangements elsewhere. A fifth grave from 1991 is noted in cemetery records as temporary, and it has no marker. These later graves do not detract from the overall feel of the historic cemetery. The metal gate and fence around the cemetery are non-historic. A wood sign has been placed to mark the cemetery in the last 20 years. The cemetery is a contributing site to the historic Hardin County Home Historic District.

The Hardin County Home Historic District has sufficient integrity to convey its significance. The current buildings and cemetery associated with the property reflect the evolution of the use of the property as a county home. The resources retain integrity of location. The setting is similar to the historic setting of the property, primarily surrounded by farm buildings and agricultural fields. Modern power lines extend along the road. The overall design, materials, and workmanship of the buildings and cemetery markers are intact. Some replacement windows are found on the county home building, and the roof has been modified. Though some buildings have been demolished through the evolution of this property to serve the county's needs, the remaining buildings and sites reflect its historic use. The overall feeling of the property as a rural county home remains intact, as well as its association with this significant aspect of Hardin County history.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes 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" in all the boxes 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 a 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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical 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)

- ☐ 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Health/Medicine

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1877-1960

Significant Dates

1877

1927

1953

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Holtzman, Jr., Willfred D.

Smith and Voorhees

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8. Architect/Builder (continued)

Iowa Falls Construction Company

Gethman Construction Company

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Hardin County Home Historic District is significant under Criterion A at a local level for its historic association with the social history of Hardin County. Efforts to care for less fortunate residents expanded in the middle of the 19th century, as demonstrated by the establishment of county homes throughout the state. The responsibility of the county to care for these residents continued through the 20th century, evolving to new profiles for residents by the middle of the 20th century. County homes reflect this significant aspect of the social history of counties across Iowa and the country. The Hardin County Home operated here for 120 years from 1877 until 1996. The buildings and property features continue to reflect this significant history in Hardin County. The boundary for the Hardin County Home Historic District encompasses the historic buildings, fields, and cemetery associated with the property (east half of the southwest quarter and west half of the southeast quarter south of the railroad of Section 26 in Jackson Township). Contributing buildings and sites include the Hardin County Home (1), pump house (2), barn (3), and Hardin County Home Cemetery. The Hardin County Home reflects the move towards designs of more institutional buildings for county homes in the early 20th Century. It is the only known county home from the 1920s extant in Iowa. The Hardin County Home Cemetery is intact, with inscribed markers numbered for each grave. A cemetery was a common feature of county home properties, though graves were often left unmarked. The level of information and completeness of these markers appears unique among other county home cemeteries in Iowa. The cemetery is primarily significant for its association with the Hardin County Home, and it does not need to meet Criterion Consideration D as it is nominated as part of a historic district. The state level significance of this property may be evaluated at a future date.

The period of significance for the Hardin County Home Historic District extends from 1877 to 1960, the 50 year cut-off for historic significance in the National Register of Historic Places. This end date may be extended in the future. The Hardin County Home, first known as the Hardin County Poor Farm, was established through the purchase of land in 1877. A building was constructed in the southeast corner of the west parcel (east half of the southwest quarter of Section 26), and a cemetery was established in the southwest corner. The first burial occurred in 1877 in this associated cemetery. In the 1880s, the property was expanded to include the area to the east (west half of the southeast quarter of Section 26 south of the railroad). Maps from 1892, 1903, and 1918 show a building (home) facing the road, with a building (likely barn) immediately behind it. A fire destroyed the home in April 1924. A new brick "fire proof" County Home was built in 1926-27, from the plans of Willfred Holtzman, Jr. of Des Moines. This building served the needs of the county until the late 1940s. With changing conditions and a demand for new space, an addition was planned in 1950 and constructed in 1952-53 on the west side of the original building. A new barn was also built in 1951. This construction marks a peak of the historic development for the property. The County Home evolved to serve more as a nursing home for county residents in the second half of the 20th century. In the 1970s, improvements to the property included the

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construction of two new buildings. The County Home continued to serve the county until 1996, when the decision was made to move the residents into Eldora. Significant dates associated with historic events in this history are 1877, 1927, and 1953.

Though historic archaeological sites have not been identified at this time, they could potentially contribute to the Hardin County Home Historic District. Locations of buildings shown on the 1971 aerial photograph (Figure 23) and earlier maps would be logical places of contributing archaeological sites. These sites may be identified and evaluated in the future.

Establishing a home in Hardin County and caring for the less fortunate

Caring for the less fortunate was a common concern for Iowa residents by the last quarter of the 19th century. William Moir wrote in 1911: "Nothing speaks better for any country than to observe that it has a humane feeling towards this class of their citizens and begrudges not the small tax necessary to maintain such an institution, where the aged, infirm and helpless may be cared for in a Christian manner" (Moir 1911: 61). The Iowa General Assembly had authorized county boards of supervisors to oversee matters related to the poor and other dependents in the county in 1860. Poor houses were tax-supported institutions to care for any dependent person, such as paupers, the infirm, vagrants, the insane, and orphans. Changes in state law in 1873 required that the administrator of the poor house use proceeds from the poor farm to help fund expenses of the poor house. Thus, the steward not only had to care for the inmates but be concerned about the profitability of the institution. In Iowa, county poor houses were typically built in rural areas and operated as farms to help provide for the expenses associated with the facility. Thus, barns and other outbuildings were typically built in addition to the house (Rogers 2004: 3-5; Page 1990: 1-5, 1-6; Gillin 1914: 168-69). Historic county homes and farms are significant as they reflect this movement within the social history of the county.

The property later associated with the Hardin County Home was owned by prominent businessman and real estate investor Lyman F. Wisner (west half of southeast quarter and east half of southwest quarter) on the 1875 atlas of Hardin County. In 1875, the question arose on the care of the less fortunate residents of Hardin County. In November 1876, the issue submitted to the people for a county poor farm passed by a large majority. The January 1877 report indicated that 22 people needed a home, and the Board of Supervisors bought the land about four miles northwest of Eldora from Wisner in June 1877 for \$1,100 (east half of the southwest quarter of Section 26, Jackson Township). Committee member S.F. Benson was also authorized to continue with the plans and specifications and to let a contract for the construction of a building. D.E. Hughes built the first poor house on the county farm in 1877 for \$2,225, in the southeast corner of this property. A cemetery was quickly established in the southwest corner, with the first burial in November (Lucy Rogers). Lucy Rogers was believed to be insane and died at age 37 after jumping out of a third story window. The first superintendent was Isaac S. Moore, with his wife as matron. In September 1879, arrangements were made for the construction of a barn at a cost not to exceed \$500 (Moir 1911: 61; Mason 1999: 297; "Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors," *Eldora Herald*, July 11, 1877, 1; *Eldora Herald*, November 21, 1877, 2; "Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors," *Eldora Herald*, September 24, 1879, 3).

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The 1880 census tabulated nine residents of the Hardin County Poor Farm, along with superintendent Homer Shattuck (age 45) and his family (wife Martha, age 43; daughter Alice, age 16; son Chauncy, age 14). The nine residents varied in reasons to their stay. Stephen Dorman (age 90, born in New York) was phthisic (lung disease), and a 63-year-old woman was noted as "deaf and dumb." Both were widows. Isac Phillips (age 60, born in Ohio), Malferna Garrison (age 42, born in Ohio), and Charles Cobb (age 21) were noted as "disabled" and could not read or write. Dalmour A. Shaw (age 8, born in Iowa), Frank Shaw (age 4, born in Iowa), and Lee Shaw (age 3, born in Iowa) appear to be orphans and siblings. A. McAstocakort (age 3, born in Iowa) likely was also an orphan. The January 1, 1881 report indicated that the home had 11 inmates at the beginning of 1880, with 12 admitted and 11 discharged throughout the year, leaving 12 at end of year (Moir 1911: 61-62). Rules for the poor house were adopted by the Board of Supervisors on September 11, 1882. They included no drinking or quarrelling, no dangerous weapons, a requirement to keep quarters neat and tidy, a need to ask permission to leave the premises, a requirement to be present at meal time or wait for the next meal, and a rule that children at the home will be under the direction of the steward and stewardess regardless of parents ("Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors," *Eldora Herald*, September 20, 1882, 1).

In 1885, the county built an \$850 addition to the poor house for insane inmates (Moir 1911: 62). The addition also accommodated increased numbers at the facility, with 18 residents tabulated in the 1885 census of Iowa. The residents included mostly single people, with the exception of Rose D. Williams (age 24, divorced, born in Illinois), Maude Williams (age 3, born in Iowa), and Earle Willams (age 0, born in Iowa) who appear to have been a family. Isac Phillips (age ?, born in Ohio) and Mahala Garrison (age 48, born in Ohio) appear to be the only residents still here from 1880. Otto Vilhorn (age 8, born in Iowa) appears to be the only orphan. Other residents include: Thomas Burke (age ?1, widower, born in Ireland), Phillip Diel (age ?6, divorced, born in Germany), John Fox (age 70, single, born in Indiana), Bertha Funk (age 22?, single, born in Germany), Clemintine Hardinger (age 62, widow, born in Pennsylvania), Harvey Hastings (age 82, single, born in Indiana), Jacob Hauthy (age 68, widower, born in New York), Minnie Hursh (age 48, single, born in Ohio), John Wicker (age 34, born in North Carolina), Armstrong Wilson (age 76, divorced, born in Pennsylvania), Eugene Wood (age ?7, single, born in Wisconsin), and Cyrus C. Woodward (age 24, single, born in Illinois). In September 1885, a committee was appointed to have the cemetery at the poor farm fenced and cleaned up and to mark the graves (*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, September 17, 1885, 3). By 1889, the county also acquired the property to the east (west half of the southeast quarter of Section 26, south of the railroad).

Homer Shattuck continued as the superintendent at the county farm in 1885, listed in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 26 as well. He is listed as a farmer at age 47, with wife Martha, age 46; daughter Alice, age 19; and son Chauncy, age 18, farmer. It is unknown if the residents of the home also assisted with farming and livestock, as the 1885 census lists each resident as "pauper." The 1883 *History of Hardin County* notes that H.B. Shattuck took charge of the County Poor Farm in October 1879. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1835, moved to Iowa in 1854, and lived in Hardin County primarily since 1865 (*History of Hardin County, Iowa* 1883: 806). The contract with Shattuck for 1886 as steward of the poor farm and house noted that he "shall work the Poor Farm and keep and care for all pauper inmates, all material furnished him for board and clothing for paupers, he to receive as compensation \$550 and food for himself and family" (*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, January 21, 1886, 2). The notice for the position of steward in September 1886 noted:

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The Steward to take charge of and properly care for all pauper poor who may be legally sent to the poor house. Also all insane persons sent there by order of the Board of Supervisors or committee having charge of the poor farm and also to take charge and care for all stock belonging to said farm and do the farm work in connection therewith. The county to furnish house room, fuel and eatables for Steward and Stewardess and all teams, tools and implements necessary to conduct said farm.

(*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, September 16, 1886, 2)

With the opening of the bids, C.E. Cummings became the new steward. The newspaper reported that H.B. Shuttuck of Hubbard "had been efficient manager of the Poor Farm for the last seven years, and most likely would have been continued, but for the fact that he thought he ought to have a larger salary, and other underbid him in price. He feels, however, that he is relieved from a great responsibility, and breathes the free air of liberty, which is a great pleasure" (*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, January 6, 1887, 7).

The construction of the Chicago, Iowa, and Dakota Railroad northwest from Eldora in the 1880s brought the railroad to this section of the county, running through the center of Section 26 in Jackson Township. With the established of Hughes (or Hughes Station, or Hughes Crossing) across from the southeast corner of Section 26, a store, creamery, and grain dealer brought increased services to the area (Figure 9). As depicted on the 1892 map, Pleasant View School to the north served local residents, and Union Church was established at the corner (Figure 10). Improvements continued at the poor farm as well. At the June 7, 1888 meeting of the Board of Supervisors, it was "resolved that an addition be erected to the house on the poor farm to be used for a dining room, kitchen, bath room and wash room. And that E.W. Crockett be added to committee on poor farm to draw plans and specifications and superintend the erection of said building" (*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, June 14, 1888, 8). On April 3, 1889, they authorized a "windmill to be put up on poor farm for the purpose of pumping water from the poor farm well" and authorized W.J. Moir to "put in a cistern at the poor house, of such size and kind as he shall deem necessary" (*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, April 11, 1889, 6). After a June 6, 1889 visit, they recognized the need of heating the buildings by furnace and steam, arranging to make improvements as soon as practical (*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, June 13, 1889, 1). In May 1890, apple trees were planted at the poor farm (*Eldora Herald*, May 16, 1890, 1).

A total of 22 burials are recorded in the cemetery on the southwest corner of the Hardin County Home property from 1877 to 1898. The simple stone grave markers are numbered from one to 22. The east row includes markers 1 to 19 from south to north (1877-1897), and the second row wraps around the north end and continues back to the south with markers 22 to 37 (1897-1914). Some residents are familiar from the census records: Stephen Dolman (#5, d. October 7, 1880), Philip Dieval (#9, d. February 17, 1885), Harvey Hastings (#10, d. September 11, 1886), Mahala Garrison (#11, d. February 17, 1886), Isaac Phillips (#14, d. January 16, 1889), Thomas Burke (#16, d. February 22, 1892), and Minnie Hursh (#20, d. June 18, 1897). Hilke Harms (#12, d. January 28, 1889) had previously been taken to the insane asylum in Independence in November 1886 – "Her malady is doubtless due to some religious excitement. She claims that she was born in heaven, is a sister of the Savior, and that her children are gods. She is hopelessly insane, though perfectly tractable" (*Eldora Herald*, November 17, 1886, 4). She was a widow with three children. It is probable that the other burials were also residents of the poor farm or a related state institution at the time of their death though this has not been confirmed.

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Other than the census and cemetery information, little is known about the residents of the Hardin County Home in the 19th century. An occasional newspaper reference adds some information. For example, in June 1891 Amanda Walkers escaped from the insane ward by crawling through a transom window and was violent upon her capture and return. She had been sent there in 1885 as insane, and now the order changed to send her to the asylum in Independence (*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, June 11, 1891, 4). A.J., or Jack, Reed, labeled as one of the most notorious criminals in the state, died at the county poor farm on June 26, 1891 at age 61 (marker #15 in the cemetery). He was a thief who operated in nine states with different aliases and assisted other criminals out of trouble (*Eldora Weekly Ledger*, July 2, 1891, 5). "Birdie" Dart died at the county poor farm after living there for two years, with the newspaper reporting that the death of this poor unfortunate boy must be accepted as a real mercy by all those acquainted with his condition (*Eldora Herald*, July 29, 1898, 4). The *New York Times* reported on James Webster on June 2, 1897 – a farmer with land four miles outside of Eldora. In the panic of 1893, he cashed out his assets and buried the \$50,000 on his farm. Three months ago, he had lost his mind and forgot where he buried his money. He went to the county poor house, as he had no relatives capable of caring for him. The newspaper predicted that he would die there as a pauper despite his \$50,000 ("Worth \$50,000 and a Pauper," *New York Times*, June 2, 1897). Likewise, on May 23, 1902, Tim Donahue, an old citizen and well known character of Eldora, died at the Hardin county poor farm at the age of 100 years. He had gone there after the death of his wife as he became feeble and often continued to walk to town until the last few years ("Brief Iowa News," *Davenport Daily Leader*, May 23, 1902; *Eldora Herald*, May 16, 1902, 1). Neither man is buried at the cemetery on the home property, so not all residents of the home who died while living here were buried on the property.

C.E. Cummings continued to serve as steward until January 1894 when H.G. Heard took over the position. In September 1899, the newspaper reported that "Today our county buildings rank with the best buildings of the state. We have a poor farm of 144 acres valued at \$9,500 with buildings on the same worth \$3,000; a jail, \$10,000; a court house, \$60,000" ("Then and Now," *Eldora Herald*, September 23, 1899, 1). An article on November 18, 1899 noted that many people had the impression that the county poor farm was "a distressing place where poor unfortunates are abused, half fed and left to themselves to do as best they may, when in fact the contrary is the true situation." Upon a visit to determine the conditions, they reported:

The buildings and rooms are large and comfortable and enough bed clothing is furnished for warmth. The food is the same as nine-tenths of the farmers of the county have on their tables every day. The vegetables, meats and other products of the farm being equal in quality to any raised in the county. For the sick, delicacies are furnished adapted to the needs of the patient. There is no reason for anyone to suffer who far any cause is compelled to make his abode at the Hardin county poor farm. Supt. Heard and his good wife have more interest in the farm than the mere drawing of the salary or they would not have continued in the work as long as they have where there are many opportunities of making more money. The farm consists of 160 acres just west of Hughes, about six miles northwest of Eldora. It is well stocked with cattle, hogs, and poultry. About 1,200 bushels of corn are in the crib and everyone committed there is sure of the necessities of life. Numerous improvements are needed which the board recognizes and with the necessary funds on hand they will doubtless be made. An addition to the main building with a steam heating plant and bath rooms and other conveniences will undoubtedly be made in due time. (*Eldora Herald*, November 18, 1899, 8)

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The 1900 census lists Y.H. Heard (age 49, born in England) as the superintendent, with his wife Sena (age 47, born in Ohio) as the matron. Their daughter Artie (age 13, born in Iowa) also lived with them. May Rieke (age 19) worked as a housekeeper for the home. Eleven "inmates" are listed as living at the county home: Hulda Soery (age 60, widow), Charley Moffett (age 80, single), Emma Washburn (age 39, single), Edward Dunehue (age 92, widow), Louisa Clark (age 34, single), Dibbe Stillwell (age 36, single), Phebe Kessler, (age 64, single), Christian Olson (age 84, single), John Ripley (age 78, single), William Zumm (age 59, widow), and Maggie Cronk (age 60, widow). The residents have trended towards older persons. Eight of the residents now fall into the category of 59 or older, with only three younger, assumed "disabled" or "pauper," residents. The average age of the residents is 62. The 1903 map shows the Hardin County Poor Farm as 141 acres in the south half of Section 26, with two buildings in the southeast corner of the east half of the southwest quadrant (Figure 11). The railroad, then known as the Chicago and Northwestern, extends along the north edge of the property.

Burials in the second row of the cemetery date from 1897 to 1914, from markers 20 to 37 placed from north to south. The simple stone markers continued to be used in this period, though the death date was not included on markers 23 to 36. Markers for numbers 27 and 28 are missing, and numbers 35, 36, and 37 appear mixed up on the south end of this row. However, Maggie Cronk is listed with marker #7 in the cemetery records, with no death date similar to the markers from this period. She may be #27, leaving #7 missing. She died after 1900, as she is listed in that census. Two other names are familiar from the census records as well: Phaebe Kessler (#25) and Emma Washburn (#37, d. January 12, 1914). Emma Washburn had lived here a number of years upon her death (*Eldora Herald*, January 15, 1914, 5).

State legislation impacted county poor farms across the state in 1909. It permitted for higher tax levies to support the homes, and the language was officially changed from poor houses or poor farms to "county homes."

In 1911, 95 of Iowa's 99 counties had a county home. Many facilities housed both sane and insane patients, with the number of sane patients across the state at 1,137. State inspections were restricted to those facilities with insane patients, leaving the remainder solely under local jurisdiction regardless of local expertise in care. Efforts at reform for county homes were discussed at the state, regional, and national levels. Facilities were improved, with converted buildings replaced by buildings designed for use as a county home (Rogers 2004: 5; Page 1990: 1-6; Gillin 1914: 41, 110).

In 1911, William Moir reported that the Hardin County farm was almost self-sustaining, with crops and livestock raised for the residents. The farm included 120 acres. The original buildings with some improvements, such as electric lights and water, remained on the property and served the needs. Twelve residents continued to live in the home. The salary of the superintendent was \$1,095.75 (Moir 1911: 62). The 1910 census had listed eleven "boarders" and one "inmate." It is unknown if the change in terminology indicated a shift in type of residents or services. It may distinguish the one inmate as an insane patient. The inmate was Ruth Locy (age 70, widow). The boarders included: John Ahrens (age 87, widower), Frank Bauman (age 70, single), Trintje Cathris? (age 80, single), Elsie Ellsworth (age 77, widow), Joseph Higgintham? (age 70, divorced), Charles Moffett (age 89, single), Solomon Serman (age 70, widow), Dibb Stillwell (age 47, single), Emma Washburn (age 50, single), Jason Wilson? (age 85, widower), and William Zumm (age 70, widower). The profiles of the residents again show a trend towards serving older persons, with an average age of 72. Four of the residents were born in Germany.

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Improvements to the property in the 1910s included improved drainage, particularly on the west half of the property. The Eldora Pipe and Tile Company was awarded the contract for the 730 acres in Drainage District No. 78 in spring 1916. A survey from this period shows that the county home property had two buildings at the southeast corner of the east half of the southwest quadrant along road near center of property (Figure 12). A water shed line ran through half of the west half of property (east half of southwest quadrant), with corn with some tame hay in remainder of this section. Pasture was found in three-quarters of the east half of property (west half of southeast quadrant), with grain along the east quarter of the east half (files in Hardin County Auditor's Office). The 1918 map of Hardin County shows the Hardin County Farm in Section 26 with the new drainage system (Figures 13-14).

The 1920 census records eleven "inmates" under the care of George R. Bailey, superintendent and farmer. He was 52 year old and lived here with his wife Josie (age 52) and son Marion (age 18). Residents included Cleo Bowers (age 40, single), Jake Bradford (age 54, divorced), Abe Cox (age 61, widow), Carl Doren (age 68, widow), Sarah Eastabrook (age 79, single), Jennie Eckhoff (age 47, divorced), James Hockett (age 73, single), Lewis Loose (age 64, widow), Deb Stillwell (age 56, single), Hardin Sprague (age 57, single), and Carl Zilske (age 76, single). Interestingly, the residents have trended back to younger, with average age at 61. This apparent trend, however, may relate to the influenza epidemic in 1918. Three of the residents could read and write while three could not read or write. The remainder could read but not write.

Burials dating from 1915 to 1926 (#38 to #46) are found on the north half of the third row of the Hardin County Home Cemetery, west of the second row. Graves in this row are numbered north to south from 38 to 51 (1915 to 1932). Simple stone markers continued to be used. These markers again have a death date included, as well as an age at time of death. Six of the nine people who died in this period lived to be age 75 to 81, with the youngest dying at age 59. William Zumm, noted in previous census records, died on December 20, 1919 at age 80 (#41). Likewise, Karl Zilske died on January 29, 1920 at age 78 (#42), Hardin Sprague died on July 19, 1924 at age 59 (#43), and Abraham Cox died on September 9, 1926 at age 67 (#45). Not all residents were buried in this cemetery. For example, Andy Anderson was doing poorly in November 1922, and he was taken to the county home (*Hardin County Ledger*, November 9, 1922, 8). A grave is not indicated for him in the cemetery.

The superintendent, George Bailey, continued to be responsible for the operation of the farm in this period. On February 8, 1923, the *Hardin County Ledger* reported that "Superintendent G. R. Bailey, of the Hardin County farm, is home from Chicago, where he accompanied a load of live stock raised on the county farm. The consignment comprised forty-three head of hogs and seven of cattle. The hogs, which averaged 225 pounds, brought \$8.20" ("Local and Personal," *Hardin County Ledger*, February 8, 1923, 4).

New facilities for the Hardin County Home

On April 9, 1924, a fire struck the Hardin County Home property, destroying the home. A strong wind quickly spread the fire from the east wing to the rest of the building. The Eldora Fire Department did respond, but they only had water sufficient for a three minute fight. The furniture was salvaged from the west wing as well as some

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from the east wing. Seven inmates were moved to Grundy County, and George Bailey rented a house at Hughes. He publicly thanked everyone for their help in securing his personal property and expressed his sadness at the loss of the building he had called home for the last ten years. The insurance paid the county \$5,550 on the building and \$900 on contents ("County Home Burns Down," *Hardin County Ledger*, April 10, 1924, 1; "Insurance Men Here," *Hardin County Ledger*, April 17, 1924, 1; "Hughes," *Hardin County Ledger*, April 17, 1924, 4).

Plans were made quickly by the Board of Supervisors to spend up to \$37,000 to rebuild the home with "fire proof construction." This construction would increase the safety of the property and reduce the cost of insurance for the property. The two story building with a basement would also have a provision for future extension if needed. Preliminary plans called for the main building to be 34 by 35 feet, with a 24 by 69 foot wing. The issue was added to the ballot of the scheduled primary election on June 2. The board instructed the architect to proceed with design of building in spring 1924 and reduce costs below the estimated \$37,000 if possible. Willfred D. Holtzman, Jr., living in Adel and working in Des Moines, was the architect for the project, with The Canfield Engineering Company of Des Moines as the structural engineers ("To Rebuild the County Home," *Hardin County Ledger*, May 1, 1924, 1). Holtzman was paid \$300 on May 5, 1924 for his services for a sketch for the county home ("Hardin Co. Board of Supervisors," *Hardin County Ledger*, June 5, 1924, 7).

Willfred D. Holtzman, Jr. only practiced in Iowa from 1917 to around 1926. He was born on September 16, 1888 in Little Rock, Arkansas and studied to be an architect at the University of Illinois from February 15, 1908 to June 10, 1910 (Architectural license application for Ohio). He practiced in Little Rock from 1912 to 1916, marrying Ina Straight and moved to Adel, Iowa. He completed residential work, commercial buildings, and factory buildings while in Iowa (Architectural license application for Ohio). He designed his unique family home in Adel, Iowa, as well as a Straight family cottage at Lake Okoboji. At the time that he was working on the plans for the Hardin County Home, he was also supervising the construction of the residence of O.C. Cobb in Iowa Falls. It is unknown if he designed any other county homes. Around the same time that the County Home was under construction in 1926, he was divorced from Ina. Willfred moved to California, married his second wife in Ohio in 1929, and practiced until his death near Toledo ("Willfred D. Holtzman, Architect since 1929 for Catholic Order," obituary, *Toledo Blade*, March 17, 1952, I-16-1; "To Rebuild the County Home," *Hardin County Ledger*, May 1, 1924, 1). Thus, it appears that this building may have been his last design project in Iowa.

Despite the support of the *Hardin County Ledger* in 1924, county residents were not convinced of the plan to build the new \$37,000 fire proof county home. Discussion included relocating the county farm closer to Eldora ("To Vote on Bond Issue," *Hardin County Ledger*, May 29, 1924, 1). After the bond issue failed in June with a margin of two to one, the Board continued to seek temporary housing for the inmates of the home, including the housing in Grundy County ("Problem of County Home," *Hardin County Ledger*, June 19, 1924, 1). With a lack of public support for a bond issue to construct the home, the Board of Supervisors spent the next two years accumulating their own funds, including money in levies, insurance, and the emergency fund. Plans to design the county home continued to move forward, with the final payment of \$400 for the balance on the contract to architect Willfred D. Holtzman, Jr. approved in July (Hardin Co. Board of Supervisors," *Hardin County Ledger*, July 24, 1924, 7). On November 5, 1924, they authorized improvements to Building No. 2 for remodeling to accommodate the steward's family (*Hardin County Ledger*, December 4, 1924, 8). They issued a notice for bids

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for the construction of the county home at a cost not to exceed \$35,000 on June 4, 1925 and then retracted the notices in subsequent weeks ("Proposal for Bids for Hardin County Home near Eldora, Iowa," *Hardin County Ledger*, June 4, 1925, 8; "Hardin Co. Board of Supervisors," *Hardin County Ledger*, July 2, 1924, 7).

In March 1926, the Board asked for bids for "for the erection of a County Home Building, including heating plant, plumbing, and wiring" per specs by Willfred D. Holtzman, Jr. – architect, The Canfield Engineering Company – engineers – Des Moines, and The Frank Tustison Company – mechanical engineers – Minneapolis ("Ask for Bids for County Home," *Hardin County Ledger*, March 18, 1926, 1). Bids were opened in April, with the bids received from the Iowa Falls Construction Company (general contractor) for \$32,427, Stauffer Van Avery Company of Eldora (heating and plumbing) for \$5,553, and W.L. Fowler Electrical Company of Cedar Rapids (electrical) for \$790. With the total of the bids adding up to \$38,200, they asked the architect to assist in trimming \$1,200 from their \$37,000 project ("Bids are Opened for County Home," *Hardin County Ledger*, April 26, 1926, 1). On April 26, they accepted a deduction of \$1,925 in the bid from the Iowa Falls Construction Company based on changes. They accepted the low bids from the named contractors, contingent on approval of the project by the voters on June 7. They also authorized a committee to select the face brick ("County Board," *Hardin County Ledger*, May 20, 1926, 7). While discussion continued on the higher cost of the "fire proof construction," the authorization to spend the funds on hand without any additional tax levy carried by almost two to one in June 1926 ("County Home Carries Big," *Hardin County Ledger*, June 17, 1926, 1). On June 29, 1926, the Board of Supervisors entered into contracts with Iowa Falls Construction Company, Stauffer Van Avery Company, and W.L. Fowler Electric Company for the erection of the county home based on bids as accepted previously ("County Board of Supervisors," *Hardin County Ledger*, July 22, 1926, 5).

Work started on the county home immediately in summer 1926. In August, work was delayed for a few days as they waited on material. Payments for services related to the construction began to be approved in September. Architect Willfred D. Holtzman, Jr. apparently moved out of Iowa around this time, as the Board of Supervisors took action against him in September. His contract on May 19, 1924 was for preparation of plans and supervision of construction of the county home, and he had been paid for the service associated with the plans. However, he had failed to supervise construction, and it was necessary for the Board to hire another architect for this task. A resolution terminating his contract was sent ("County Board of Supervisors," *Hardin County Ledger*, September 23, 1926, 6). The minutes do not seem to reflect who was hired in his place. However, a payment was authorized on February 15, 1927 to H.W. Hartuppee for \$75 for "Supervision, County Home" ("County Board of Supervisors," *Hardin County Ledger*, March 17, 1927, 11). Harry W. Hartuppee was a structural engineer who had previously worked for Proudfoot, Bird, and Rawson of Des Moines. Interestingly, the *Cedar Rapids Republican* noted on January 3, 1926 that "Wilfred D Holtzmann Jr. and Hartuppee & Co., Des Moines architects and engineers, have completed an examination for the Leon high school and have recommended plans for repair and remodeling." Thus, it appears that the two individuals may have worked together previously, and Hartuppee may have taken over construction supervision on this project.

Construction on the new county home continued through the fall of 1926 and into the winter. Payments were issued periodically by the Board of Supervisors to the Iowa Falls Construction Company, W.L. Fowler Electric Company, and Stauffer Van Avery Company, based on estimates by the architect of work completed. The Board of Supervisors and "architect from Des Moines" visited the site in early December 1926 to check on progress. In

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January 1927, an expense of \$300 for finish hardware from Garver Hardware Company was approved. In February, Eady & Jaggs were paid \$76.55 for painting at the county home. Other expenses were also necessary to bring the new county home to a point of operation. Wehrman & Andrie were paid in March 1927 for equipment for the county home. These additional expenses had been publicly explained by the Board of Supervisors on September 30, 1926 as concern arose over the reported cost of \$7,000 for a high line to the county home. The actual cost was \$2,191.65, which was necessary for the lighting, water system, and refrigeration, eliminating the expense of shipping and storing ice. Other incidental expenses would be unavoidable, and they were not considered part of the building costs, as explained by the Board of Supervisors ("Supervisors Correct Error," *Hardin County Ledger*, September 30, 1926, 1).

As the contractors worked toward completion of the building, residents continued to be spread out among various facilities and locations. Abraham Cox, who was staying at the Hamilton County Home, died there on September 9, 1926, and he was brought back to the County Cemetery for burial (grave #45) (*Hardin County Ledger*, September 16, 1926, 6). In early March 1927, the new building was ready for use. The *Hardin County Ledger* reported:

The new county home is completed, the furniture and fixtures have been installed and the inmates that have been cared for in Grundy, Hamilton and Story counties have been returned to this county and will make this their home hereafter. The new home is a dandy, complete in every detail and will last many years, in the care of those who shall be confined there. Mr. Bailey, who has been on the job many years, has been chosen again to be steward and he makes a splendid man for the job, along with his splendid wife. They will enjoy the new home, and it will make their work much easier to do.

("Moved Into New County Home," *Hardin County Ledger*, March 10, 1927, 8)

The final bills for the construction of the home were paid on April 5, 1927.

The Hardin County Home operated within this building for the next two decades. The number of residents typically ranged from 16 to 22, in the home with a capacity of 20. The 1930 census records 12 inmates, the steward and his wife, a male farm laborer, and a female servant. George R. Bailey was listed as the steward at age 62, living here with wife Josie (age 62). Harold Cable (age 20) worked as a farm laborer, and Edna Plum (age 24) worked around the home. Two of the "inmates" have inmate listed as their occupation, while the others have "none" listed. These two inmates were Carl Doring (age 79, widow, cannot read or write) and Frances Keyes (age 69, widow, cannot read or write). It is assumed that they had medical conditions as a reason for their residency. Other residents included John Connell (age 75, widow), Albert Edgington (age 77, single), Bertha Garles (age 70, widow), Adam Habessweiller (age 66, single), James Houghtaling (age 83, widow), Perry Monniar (age 81, widow), Cornelia Sathaur (age 79, widow), John Shaner (age 75, single), Deb Stillwell (age 67, single), and Dan Young (age 58, single). Three of the residents could read and write, while the remainder could neither read nor write.

Burials in the cemetery at the southwest corner of the property continued through 1938. Not all residents were buried here, such as Henry Smith who died at the County Home in May 1927 ("Hughes," *Hardin County Ledger*, May 26, 1927, 6). Some changes are noted in the cemetery in this period. The third row continued the pattern of the second row on the east side with burials and simple stone markers north to south from #38 to #51 (1915 to 1932). The row ends slightly before the previous rows. Marker #52 is then located across the cemetery in the

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northwest corner. The fourth row extends north to south on this west edge with markers #52 to #60 (1933 to 1938) in the north half. Only John Connell is familiar from the 1930 census (#49, died August 4, 1930, age 75). It does not appear that this cemetery was used after 1938 for residents of the Hardin County Home. It is unknown at this time where they were buried. Alternatively, ample grassy area is located between the east and west rows, and there may be unmarked burials. A large rock is located at the north end of this area. No markers are found for any burials between 1938 and 1986. However, an article on July 27, 1939 reports that a body was found near the Illinois Central tracks, apparently someone "bumming" a ride who fell off. Burial was made at the county farm cemetery. The four later graves are marked in the south end of this fourth, west row, one from 1986, a double headstone associated with graves from 2004 and 2006, and one from 2008 ("Unidentified Body Found Near Tracks," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, July 27, 1939, 8).

With the start of the farm problems in the 1920s followed by the Great Depression in the 1930s, the county homes across the state found increased numbers in their facilities. Elderly residents lost their homes and savings, and they moved into county homes. Iowa enacted the Old Age Pension law in 1934, which was quickly followed by the start of the Social Security program in 1935. Both had an impact on numbers entering the county homes. The national law stipulated that residents of a county home were not eligible for benefits, and thus a number of residents returned to other accommodations to receive benefits. Nationally, a number of county homes closed from 1935 to 1950, when the clause was reversed. The county home system remained stronger in Iowa, as counties were required to pay the costs of local residents at state institutions. Additionally, farmers were not eligible for Social Security until the middle of the 1950s, leaving a large portion of the state population without federal assistance (Rogers 2004: 6; Engel 1979).

An aerial photograph from the 1930s shows the Hardin County Home property configured similar as in the early 21st century (Figure 15). The county home is located in the southeast quarter of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 26. The drive enters the property on the east, extends around the rear of the county home to access the outbuildings, and it exits on the west side. Several barns are shown to the northeast and northwest of the county home within the buildings parcel. The cemetery is located in the southwest corner of the property, marked by trees on the photograph. Responsibilities of the grand jury of the district court in Hardin County included examination of the county facilities by the 1930s. For example, in November 1937, they reported:

We were pleased to find that the inmates of the county home were being well cared for by Mr. and Mrs. Schneider but we would suggest replacement of thin mattresses by new and more comfortable mattresses and that the mattresses be provided with covers so as to be more easily kept sanitary. We also recommend that a lounging room with reading and writing tables and easy chairs be provided for the inmates. ("Grand Jury Reports are Made Public," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, November 18, 1937, 10)

L.A. Schneider continued as steward at the county home into the 1940s, with his contract renewed for 1941 and 1942 at an annual salary of \$2,100 ("Regular Proceedings," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, September 12, 1940, 6).

While the Hardin County Home continued to fill a need, nearby facilities felt the impact of national and state programs by the 1940s that reduced county home residents, resulting in an impact on Hardin County. In September 1944, the *Eldora Herald Ledger* reported that the Grundy County Poor Farm, now known as the Grundy County Home, was closing due to lack of inmates. They had operated since 1885 with a peak of 16 residents in 1933. The number of residents had gradually declined since the 1930s. They made arrangements

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with the Hardin County Board of Supervisors to provide for Grundy County's poor cases in Hardin County ("Grundy to Close County Poor Farm," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, September 21, 1944, 1).

The annual inventory and report of the county home in 1949 showed that the county farm, house, barns, and other buildings were valued at \$53,120. The farm machinery was valued at \$1,756, and the furniture was valued at \$1,608. Expenditures for the year totaled \$18,988.26, including the salary of the steward (\$2,600), nurses (\$2,640), other help (\$1,576.50), repairs (\$959.51), light and fuel, provisions, clothing, medical and burial, gas and oil, stock, seed, permanent improvements, veterinarian and stock expense, and other expenses. Receipts from stock sold, grain and produce sold, care of inmates, and other miscellaneous income totaled \$7,308.14 ("The County Board," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, March 21, 1950, 10).

Expansion and changes for the Hardin County Home

Changing conditions by the late 1940s led the Board of Supervisors to consider expanding the facility. The report from the annual inspection tour of county facilities by the grand jury of the district court recommended the installation of an elevator. Wheelchair patients on the upper floors had no way to get to the dining room, and the only way to bring food to them was by carrying it on trays up the stairs. Overall, the report was favorable on the county home: "We found everything clean and in good repair. The premises were neat and well kept and we commend the administration there on the way the home is operated. We found the rooms all very clean" ("Ask Elevator for County Home, Addition to Jail," *Hardin County Index*, November 4, 1949, 1).

In January 1950, the Board of Supervisors brought the issues before the public for their opinion. The need for an elevator in the three story building had been a problem for several years, highlighted by a grand jury investigation the previous fall. Food was carried to the third story from the basement, and patients were carried up "sharply turning" stairs. Second, the county was facing pressure from the state to return "harmless mental patients" in the state hospital in Independence to the county home. Three such patients had been returned, with no problems locally, and the county had another 22 patients in Independence. The cost to the county was highlighted as lower than paying for the patients to remain in state care. Finally, the profile of residents of the county home was shifting from those without means to support themselves temporarily to elderly patients chronically unable to take care of themselves and unable to afford care in hospitals and nursing homes. This trend was expected to continue as life expectancies were increasing. A hospital ward had been set up a few years ago, and seven of the sixteen current residents were confined to their beds. The staff included Mr. and Mrs. Martin (steward and stewardess), day and night nurses, a hired girl to help with kitchen and housekeeping, and a hired man to do outside chores. The 142 acres of the farm provided food for the County Home as well as minor income for the county. At the farm, 100 head of hogs and 125 chickens were raised annually, and six or seven milk cows were kept on the property ("\$100,000 County Home Addition Before Public," *Eldora Herald-Ledger*, January 24, 1950, 1).

Over the next few months, the Board continued to emphasize that they did not have a strong opinion on the solution to the problems, but they were looking for public opinion to guide them. An elevator addition could be constructed for around \$25,000, or an elevator and wing addition could address the elevator issue as well as

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increasing capacity for around \$100,000. As the newspaper stated: "The moral obligation of the county to take care of the poor is a duty which the public can not shirk," but the question was how to do it ("The County Home," *Hardin County Index*, January 27, 1950, 1). Little public opinion was reported, and the county proceeded with hiring architects from Smith and Voorhees in Des Moines to survey the county home and gather information for a proposed addition in spring 1950 ("Architects Survey County Home Building," *Hardin County Index*, April 7, 1950, 1). With preliminary plans being designed, the Board decided to wait until the November election, when more people voted, to bring the bond issue for the addition to vote ("Plan Vote in November on County Home Addition," *Hardin County Index*, May 26, 1950, 1).

A sketch of the new addition was published in October 1950, with additional information on the project for the vote on a bond issue of \$70,000 to fund the project (Figure 16) ("Vote on County Home Addition Nov. 7," *Hardin County Index*, October 6, 1950, 1). Wilson Hadley, chairman of Board of Supervisors noted that "an architectural blunder" was committed when an elevator was not included in the original building, and it was necessary to construct one now. The proposed addition by architects Smith and Voorhees of Des Moines was a two-story wing – 42 by 59 – with an elevator between sections to serve both portions. The lower level of the addition would serve as living quarters for the steward and other staff members, storage space, and a utility room. Three wards on the second story – two bedrooms and one confinement room – would add 15 beds, as well as rest rooms, an auxiliary kitchen, and nurses' room. Moving the steward from the second story of the old section would open more space for beds there ("Hadley Explains County Home Addition Issue," *Eldora Herald-Ledger*, October 31, 1950, 1). With record turnout in the November 1950 election, the bond issue for the addition passed about two to one ("GOP Sweep in Record Off-Year Vote," *Hardin County Index*, 1).

Notices for bids appeared in January 1951, with bids opened in February. However, all bids were rejected as they exceeded the \$70,000 approved in the bond issue. The Board of Supervisors thought other projects around the state reduced the number of bids submitted, and they were also exploring ways with architect Smith and Voorhees to trim costs. Additionally, contractors were nervous about increasing material costs with the start of the Korean War. Gethman Construction Company of Gladbrook was the low bidder for the general contract at \$60,687, in addition to costs for the plumbing and heating, electrical, and elevator contractors ("County Home Bids, \$27,858 Over Limit, Rejected; A Second Letting Planned," *Hardin County Index*, February 20, 1951, 1). With further review, it was determined that additional funds would need to be authorized before proceeding.

Meanwhile, construction proceeded with a new barn at the county home. Bids were advertised for the work to salvage materials in two existing barns and to construct a new 36 by 72 foot barn, with tile block construction on the lower portion. Six bids were opened on July 18, 1951, and Joe Cervetti, a Steamboat Rock contractor, was awarded the construction contract with a bid of \$3,450.69 for labor only. Both Moser Lumber Company and Lovell-Denniston were awarded the contract for part of the materials required that would not be salvaged from the two old barns to be torn down ("County Farm Barn Bids Due Tuesday," *Hardin County Index*, July 13, 1951, 1; "Cervetti to Build County Farm Barn," *Hardin County Index*, July 20, 1951, 8; "The County Board," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, September 18, 1951, 11).

In December 1950, Wendell Martin resigned as steward at the county home. Howard "Jack" Dempsey took over as the new steward of the county home on January 1, 1951, living at the home with his wife and two children,

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Linda and David. At this time, the county home staff also consisted of nurses and a farm manager ("Howard Dempsey Named Steward of County Home," *Eldora Herald-Ledger*, December 19, 1950, 1). He would continue in this position for over 20 years. He assessed the current conditions and noted that a couple of televisions would improve the life of residents. The Iowa Falls Ministerial Association spearheaded the efforts in the north half of the county to buy one television for the women, with the Eldora Kiwanis Club voting in April to spearhead the drive in the south half of the county for the other television for the men. The Iowa Falls Ministerial Association raised their funds first, with the donations for the television fund in Eldora finally reaching the needed \$225 in early June. The newspaper noted that the 15 elderly men residing at the county home were excited to get their television ("Kiwanians Head TV Fund for the County Home," *Hardin County Index*, April 29, 1952, 1; "TV Set Becomes a Certainty for County Home," *Hardin County Index*, June 6, 1952, 1).

With construction costs remaining high nationally during the Korean War, the Board of Supervisors proposed a new \$100,000 bond issue in spring 1952 to replace the one previously passed for \$70,000. The same set of plans previously drawn was utilized for the bids:

Specifications for the new addition would provide for three hospital-type wards on the ground floor, with a capacity of 10 beds and two semi-private rooms with 2 beds each. The basement would include a 3-room apartment for the superintendent, laundry, kitchen, rest rooms and two bedrooms for employees. One of the important factors would be an electric or hydraulic elevator which would facilitate the moving of patients to the second floor, and also eliminate the problem of carrying meals up two flights of stairs by tray. The present building has no elevator, a serious handicap in view of the fact that the majority of patients are bedfast and unable to get to the dining room.

Additionally, a number of persons that the county paid the state to house at the asylum in Independence could return to the county, reducing the outlays to the state for their care ("Separate Ballot Asks \$100,000 for County Home," *Hardin County Index*, May 30, 1952, 1). The addition was estimated to expand the facilities by an additional 30 patients. On June 2, 1952, the \$100,000 bond issue was approved by 2,298 votes to 1,298 ("Voters Approve Bond Issue for County Home," *Hardin County Index*, June 6, 1952, 1).

With approval, the Board of Supervisors requested final drawings from the architects, Smith and Voorhees. Construction drawings were prepared on June 30, 1952. The floor plans included the general layout of the 1927 building, without any descriptive information. As noted in the newspaper, the basement of the new addition included the three-room apartment for the superintendent (bedroom, living room, kitchen), laundry, two bedrooms for employees, men's bathroom, women's bathroom, utility room, machine room, and the elevator (Figure 17). The first story of the new addition included the women's ward, two additional ward rooms, two bedrooms, a linen room, a men's bathroom, a women's bathroom, a shared bath, a kitchen, a nurse's station, a hall bathroom, and the elevator (Figure 18). The second story plan shows the new elevator and hall connecting to the west end of the original building (Figure 19). The elevation drawings detail the exterior appearance and connection with the original building (Figure 20). The louvered horizontal metal windows on the addition are clearly depicted, and the original building appears to be depicted with multi-light casement windows.

However, the Board of Supervisors continued to hit snags in their plans for the addition. They advertised for bids to be received by July 23, 1952, but they had to call off the opening due to a steel strike that slowed

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construction across the country in 1952. The county had been unable to get governmental approval on the steel allocation required for the construction. They continued with a hearing on the budget while working with contacts in Washington D.C. to secure the approval. U.S. Senator Bourke Hickenlooper telegraphed on September 18 that the steel allocation was approved and the county was authorized to begin construction immediately. With the final loose end tied up, the Board of Supervisors prepared to collect the final bids, with awarding of contracts set for October 14. Bids in the amounts of \$57,416 from Gethman Construction Company of Gladbrook for general construction, \$17,942 from Carstens Brothers of Ackley for plumbing, heating, and ventilating, \$4,750 from the Moore Electric Company of Des Moines for electrical, and \$6,993 from R. and O. Elevator Company of Minneapolis for installation of an elevator were accepted, with total project costs of \$87,102 ("Steel Strike Causes Setback to New Hardin County Home Addition," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, July 22, 1952, 1; "Hickenlooper Wire Gives Go-Ahead on County Home," *Hardin County Index*, September 19, 1952, 1; "Let Contracts on New Addition to County Home," *Hardin County Index*, October 17, 1952, 1).

Construction on the new addition began immediately in October 1952. By November 25, about 75% of the footings were poured for the new addition. The contractors were running ahead of schedule by April 1953. Framework for the first story was erected, with heating pipes, plumbing, and electrical roughed in. Work was ready to start on the second story ("New County Home Addition Far Ahead of Schedule," *Eldora Herald-Ledger*, April 21, 1953, 1). On September 14, 1953, an open house was held at the new addition of the County Home, with a final cost of approximately \$96,000 ("Addition on Display," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, September 15, 1953, 1). Thus, the county remained under the \$100,000 approved in the second bond issue.

Expenses for the operations of the Hardin County Home continued to be recorded in minutes of the Board of Supervisors meetings. Clothing, provisions, supplies, and repairs were typical expenses on a monthly basis. A number of community groups visited the county home periodically, bringing baked goods or visiting with residents. The effect of three new nursing homes was felt already in 1954 as the county home continued to have empty beds after building their new addition. The *Hardin County Index* noted that "Some are referring to the county home as a county hospital now" ("Rumblings," *Hardin County Index*, February 12, 1954, 2). Howard A. Dempsey's contract was renewed for 1954 at a salary of \$3,000, with Viola as stewardess with a salary of \$1,200 ("County Business Proceedings are Listed by Board," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, April 13, 1954, 8). Farm operation continued as part of the life at the Hardin County Home, with stock and produce sold from the county farm operations totaled \$1,729.67 in the first half of 1957 ("Semi-Annual Report of Helen E. Schumacher, Treasurer Hardin County," *Hardin County Index*, July 19, 1957, 5). With annual raises, the county entered contracts with Howard "Jack" Dempsey as steward for \$3,600 and Viola Dempsey as stewardess for \$2,000 in 1959 ("Dempsey's are Rehired by Board," *Eldora Herald Ledger*, March 24, 1959, 1).

An aerial photograph from the 1950s shows the county home with the extensive operations of the farm (Figure 21). The county home is located in the southeast quarter of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 26. The drive enters the property on the east and extends around the rear of the county home, as well as continuing north to the west side of the new barn and northeast to the mid-section line. It appears to connect to the west drive that extends north to a barn as well. The barns are located to the northeast and northwest of the county home within the buildings parcel. The fields are planted with various crops, and only a small area with a stream

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appears uncultivated. The cemetery is located in the southwest corner of the property, marked by trees on the photograph.

The Hardin County Home continued to operate with its increased capacity through the end of the 20th century. Jack and Viola Dempsey continued to serve as steward and matron into the 1970s. Their daughter Linda recalls that they usually had 40 to 50 residents in the 1950s and 1960s, and that the "bed patients" were moved back into the hospital in this period. A large garden along the east drive provided produce for the home, as well as an orchard to the west of the home. A hog barn sat near the east drive as well, and it has been demolished. A 1971 aerial photograph shows the buildings throughout the property, including two large equipment sheds used for county equipment (Figure 23). Jack Dempsey died in 1974, and Viola continued on as manager of the home through the end of the 1970s. Son David assisted her with the management. David Dempsey would remain as manager of the home until it closed in 1996 (Piske 2008). Around 1975, a small building was constructed behind the house, and a large metal equipment building was constructed further north around 1977. The roof of the county home building was also modified to provide improved drainage in this period. The 1982 map and 1990s aerial photograph (Figure 24) continue to show the county farm with its historic boundaries, buildings, and cemetery.

In August 1995, a task force began to meet to look at the Hardin County Care Facility. They met with representatives from Story County and Hamilton County to investigate handling a move from country to town. They recommended a gradual move into town to smaller supervised settings with a Phase II Committee to investigate and implement this option. This was complete by 1996, and a Phase III committee formed to investigate options for the property. In January 1997, they recommended looking at all possible uses for the property, and if none were found to sell the buildings and to lease the farmland (Hardin County Auditor Office files). A parcel of about four acres with the buildings was surveyed in 2000, and the current private owner bought it in 2001. He plans to continue to live here and utilize the buildings. The county retains ownership of the agricultural fields and the Hardin County Home Cemetery. The cemetery has been used in recent years for a handful of people without funds for other burial arrangements. An emergency telecommunications tower for the county is proposed at the east edge of the property in the fields.

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"Willfred D. Holtzman, Architect since 1929 for Catholic Order," obituary, *Toledo Blade*, March 17, 1952, I-16-1. From Francis K. (Joe) Holtzman, Mission Viejo, California.

Hardin County Home Historic District
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 136 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	487415	4694825
2	15	488225	4694425

	Zone	Easting	Northing
3	15	488225	4693910
4	15	487415	4693910

☐ See continuation sheet.

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 Rebecca Lawin McCarley, Architectural Historian
organization SPARK Consulting date March 19, 2010
street & number 17 Oak Lane telephone 563-324-9767
city or town Davenport state Iowa zip code 52803

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name see continuation sheet
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal boundary description

The boundary for the Hardin County Home Historic District is depicted on Figure 2. The district includes the land in the east half of the southwest quarter and west half of the southeast quarter south of the railroad line of Section 26 in Jackson Township, Hardin County, Iowa. Generally, the boundary begins at the right-of-way for County Road D31 at the southeast corner of the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 26, and it extends north along the mid-quarter line to the right-of-way for the railroad, thence northwest along the railroad right-of-way, thence west along the north line of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 26, thence south along the west line of the east half of the southwest quarter, thence east along the right-of-way for County Road D31 to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary for the Hardin County Home Historic District has been drawn to include parcels that reflect the significant associations of the district while the property operated as the Hardin County Home from the 1870s to 1990s. It includes the parcel with fields and cemetery in the east half of the southwest quarter (original purchase), the parcel with fields in the west half of the southeast quarter (19th century addition; proposed telecommunications tower site at southeast corner), and the approximately four acre parcel with the buildings sold to a private property owner in 2001 (part of the original purchase in the southwest quarter). Though historic archaeological sites have not been identified at this time, they could potentially contribute to the Hardin County Home Historic District. The boundary includes these potential sites.

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Owners:

Chris M. Clarke
28483 County Highway D41
Eldora, IA 50627

Hardin County
c/o Hardin County Auditor
1215 Edgington Ave
Eldora, IA 50627

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Photographs

The photographs of the Hardin County Home Historic District near Eldora, Hardin County, Iowa, were taken by Rebecca Lawin McCarley, SPARK Consulting, on September 24, 2009. The digital photographs were printed with HP 100 photo gray Vivera ink on HP Premium Plus Photo Paper (high gloss). The photographs were also submitted digitally, per current guidelines. Three maps depicting the location of the photographs are found on the following pages.

1. Setting of the Hardin County Home Historic District, looking northwest from CR D41.
2. East end of district, looking west from southeast end.
3. West end of district, looking east from southwest end.
4. Hardin County Home parcel, looking northeast.
5. South side of Hardin County Home, looking north.
6. Detail of entry to Hardin County Home, looking north.
7. East side of Hardin County Home, looking northwest.
8. North side of Hardin County Home, looking south.
9. West side of Hardin County Home, looking east.
10. Outbuildings on Hardin County Home parcel, looking north.
11. Pump house, looking northeast.
12. Barn, looking northwest.
13. Barn, looking southeast.
14. Detail of window on south wall of barn, looking southeast.
15. First story of barn, looking northwest to milking parlor.
16. Upper story of barn, looking north.
17. Non-historic outbuildings, looking northwest.
18. Hardin County Home Historic District along south boundary, looking east from southwest corner.
19. Hardin County Cemetery, looking north.
20. Hardin County Cemetery, looking northeast at east three rows.
21. Hardin County Cemetery, looking northwest to west row.
22. Grave markers (19-11) in north half of east row (row 1), looking north.
23. Detail of grave marker number 12 from 1889, looking northeast.
24. Three markers at east end of row 2 from the early 1910s, looking southeast.
25. Detail of grave marker number 37 from 1914, looking southeast.
26. Detail of grave marker number 52 from 1933, looking southeast.

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Photograph key 1 for the Hardin County Home Historic District.

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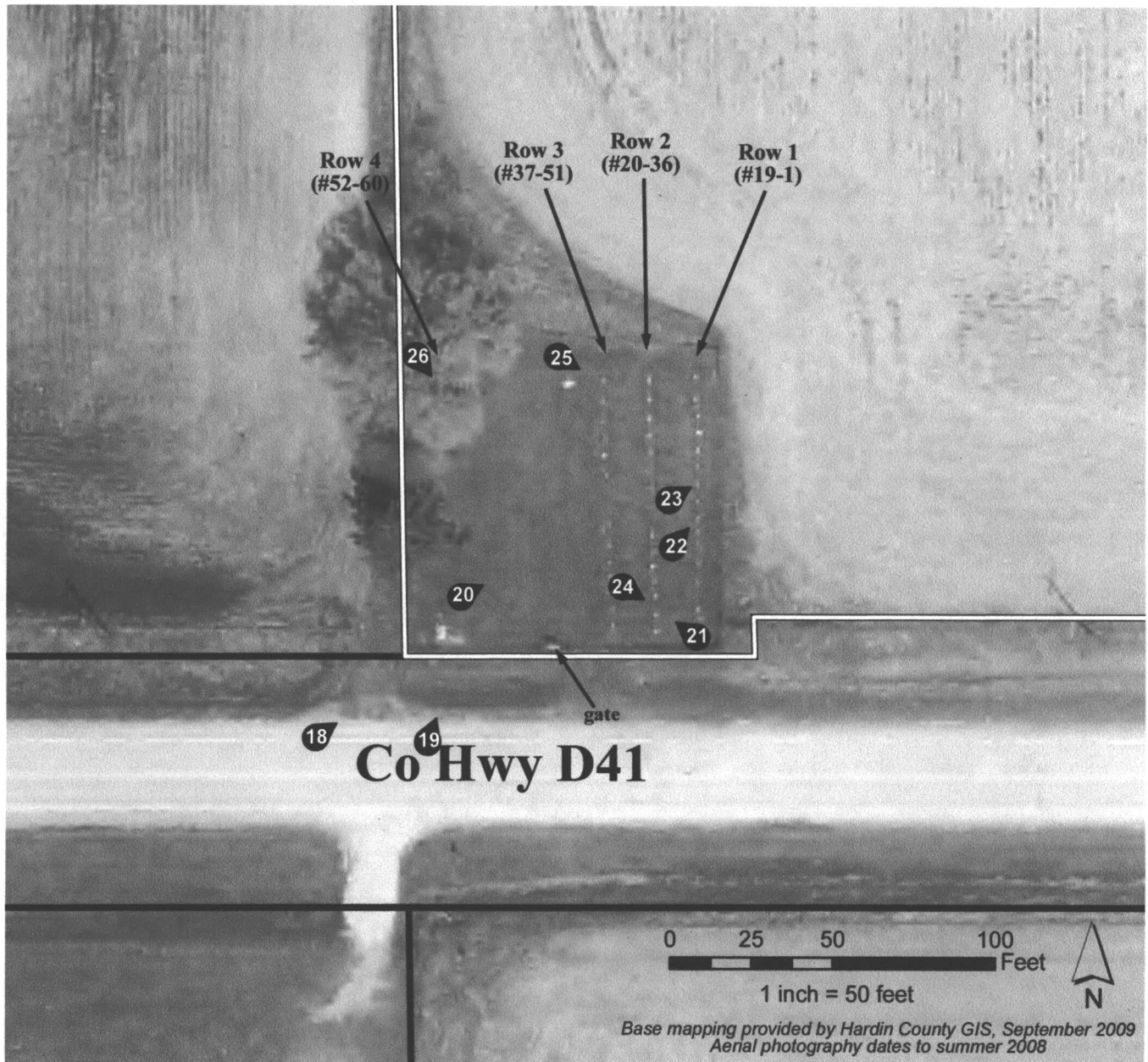


Photograph key 2 for the buildings in Hardin County Home Historic District.

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Photograph key 3 for the cemetery in Hardin County Home Historic District.

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Figure 1. Location of Hardin County Home Historic District.

USGS topographic map from Iowa Geographic Image Server: ortho.gis.iastate.edu

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Figure 2. District map and boundary for Hardin County Home Historic District.

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Figure 3. Site plan of buildings associated with Hardin County Home Historic District.

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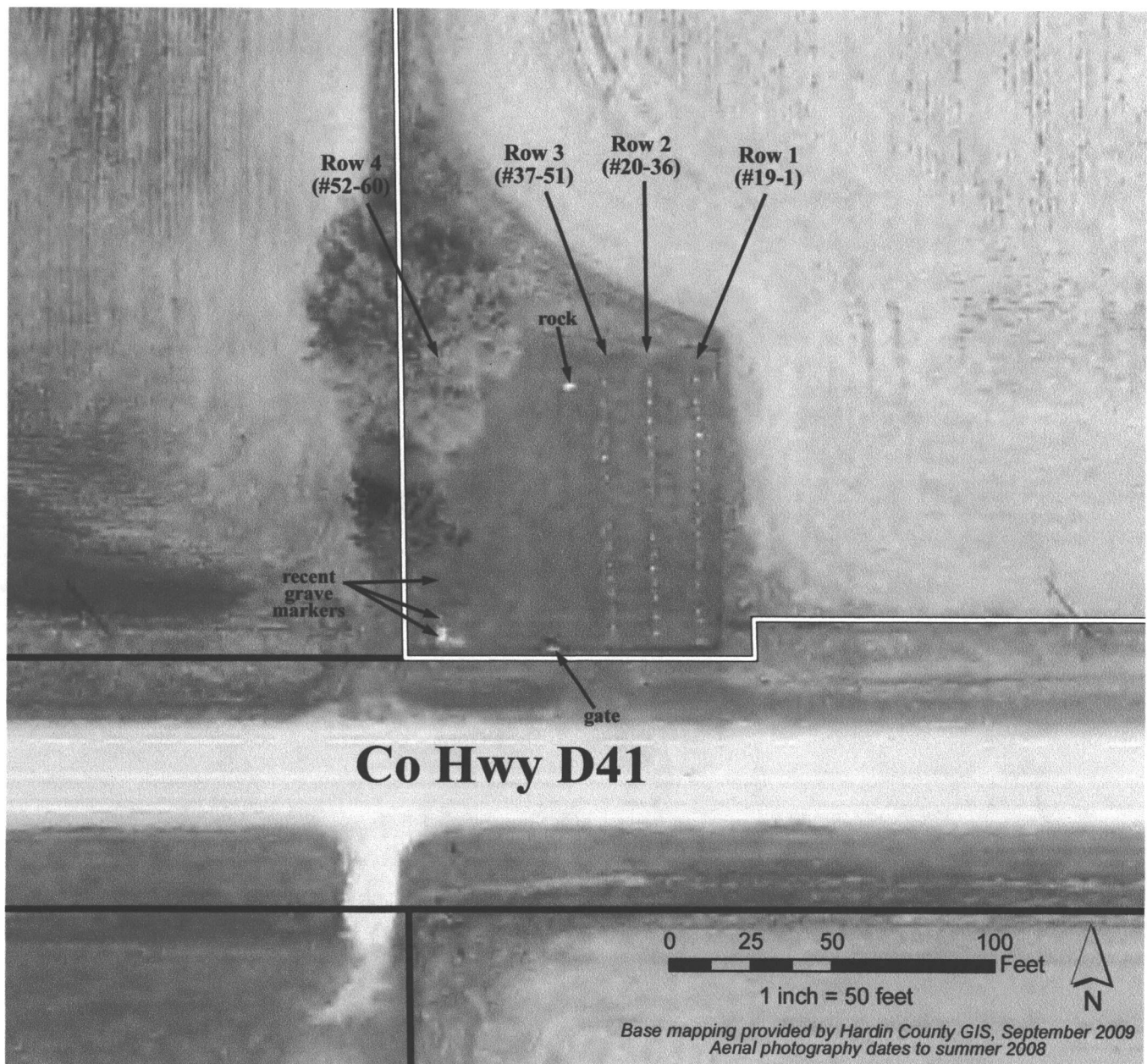


Figure 4. Site plan of cemetery in Hardin County Home Historic District.

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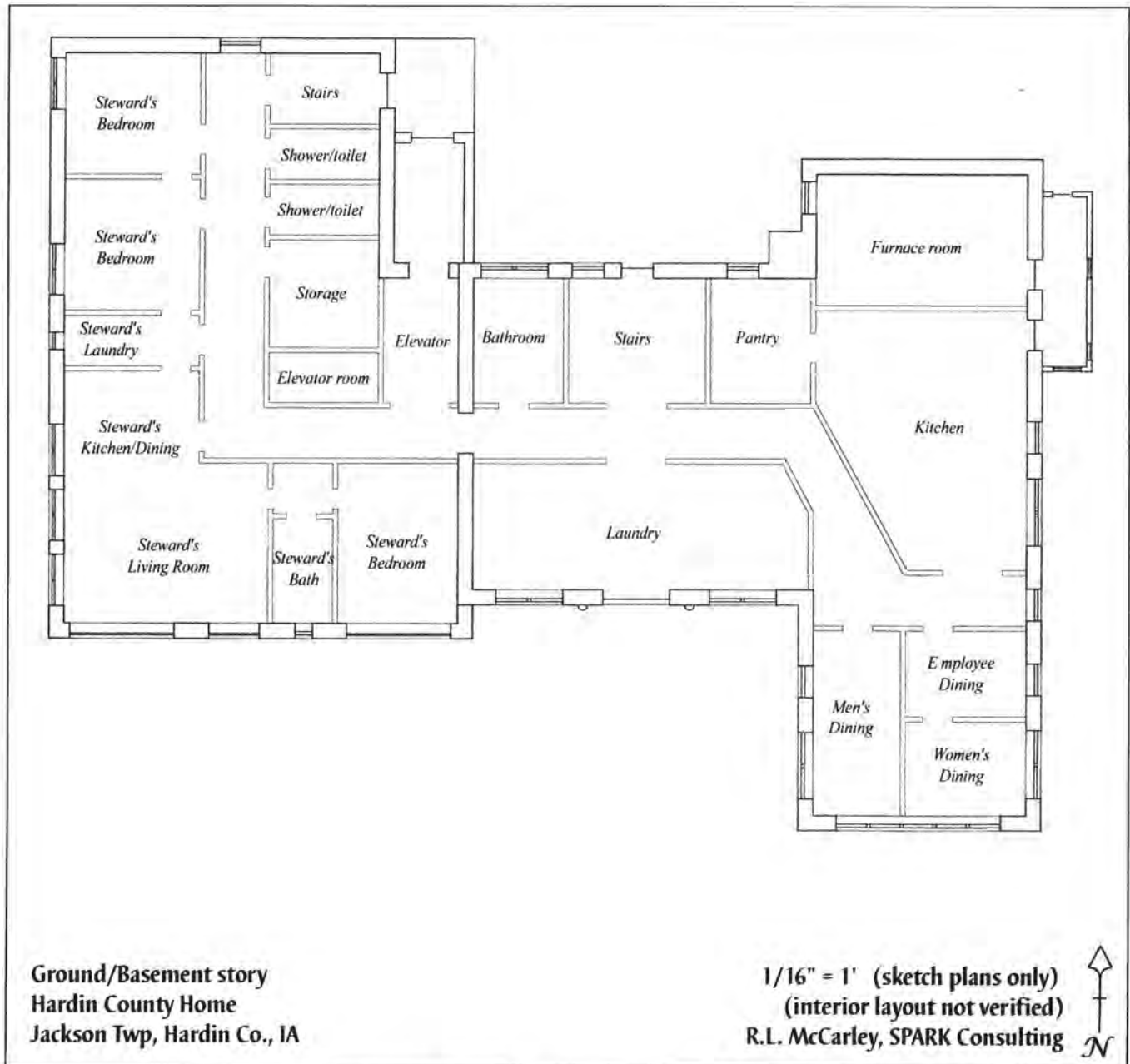


Figure 5. Ground/basement story plan of Hardin County Home.

Exterior dimensions measured (9/2009) ~ Interior layout from 1990s county sketch ~ Interior not accessible for project
see also architects' drawings from addition project in 1952 – Figure 17

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Figure 6. First story plan of Hardin County Home.

Exterior dimensions measured (9/2009) ~ Interior layout from 1990s county sketch ~ Interior not accessible for project
see also architects' drawings from addition project in 1952 – Figure 18

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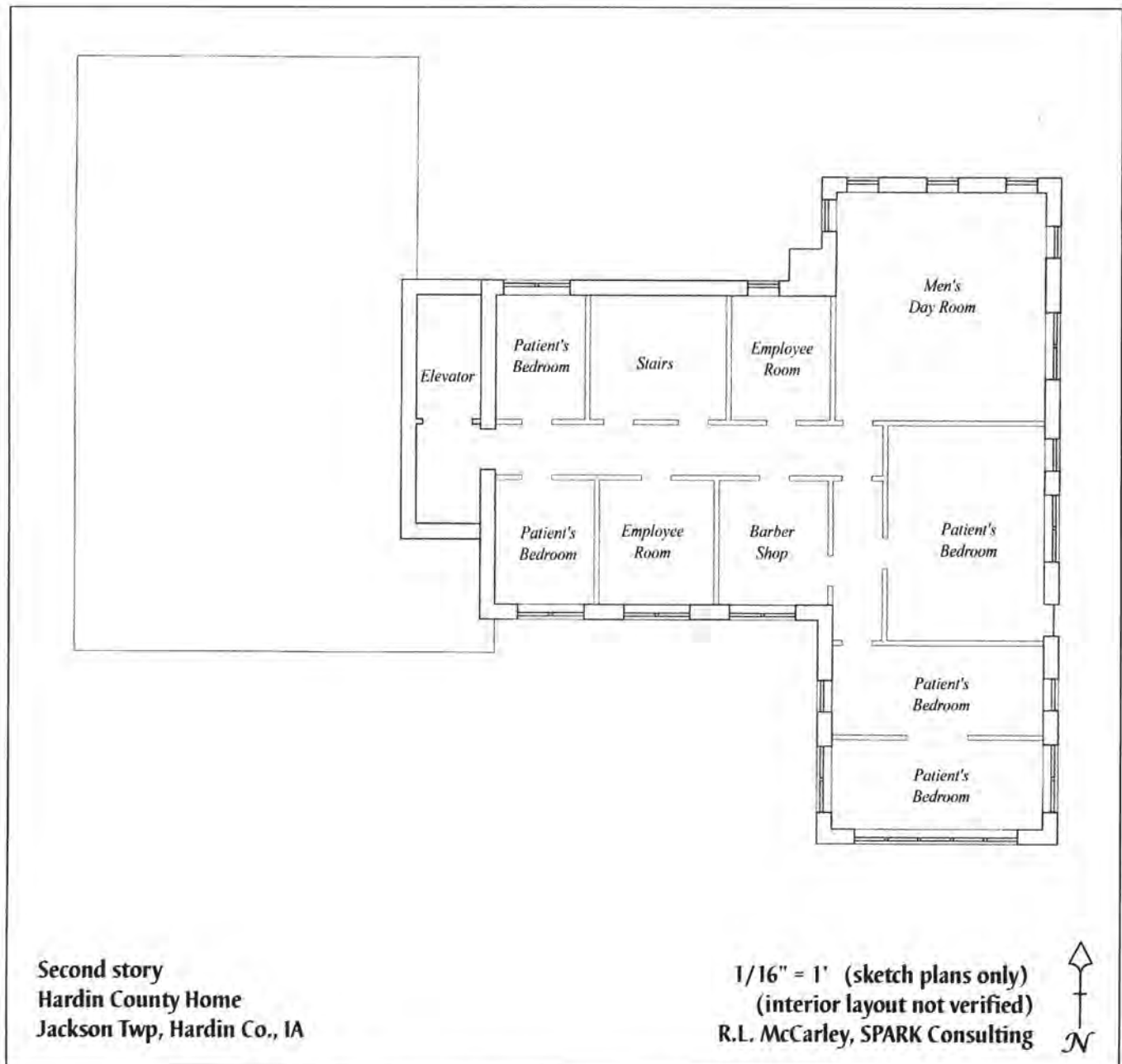


Figure 7. Second story plan of Hardin County Home.

*Exterior dimensions measured (9/2009) ~ Interior layout from 1990s county sketch ~ Interior not accessible for project
see also architects' drawings from addition project in 1952 – Figure 19*

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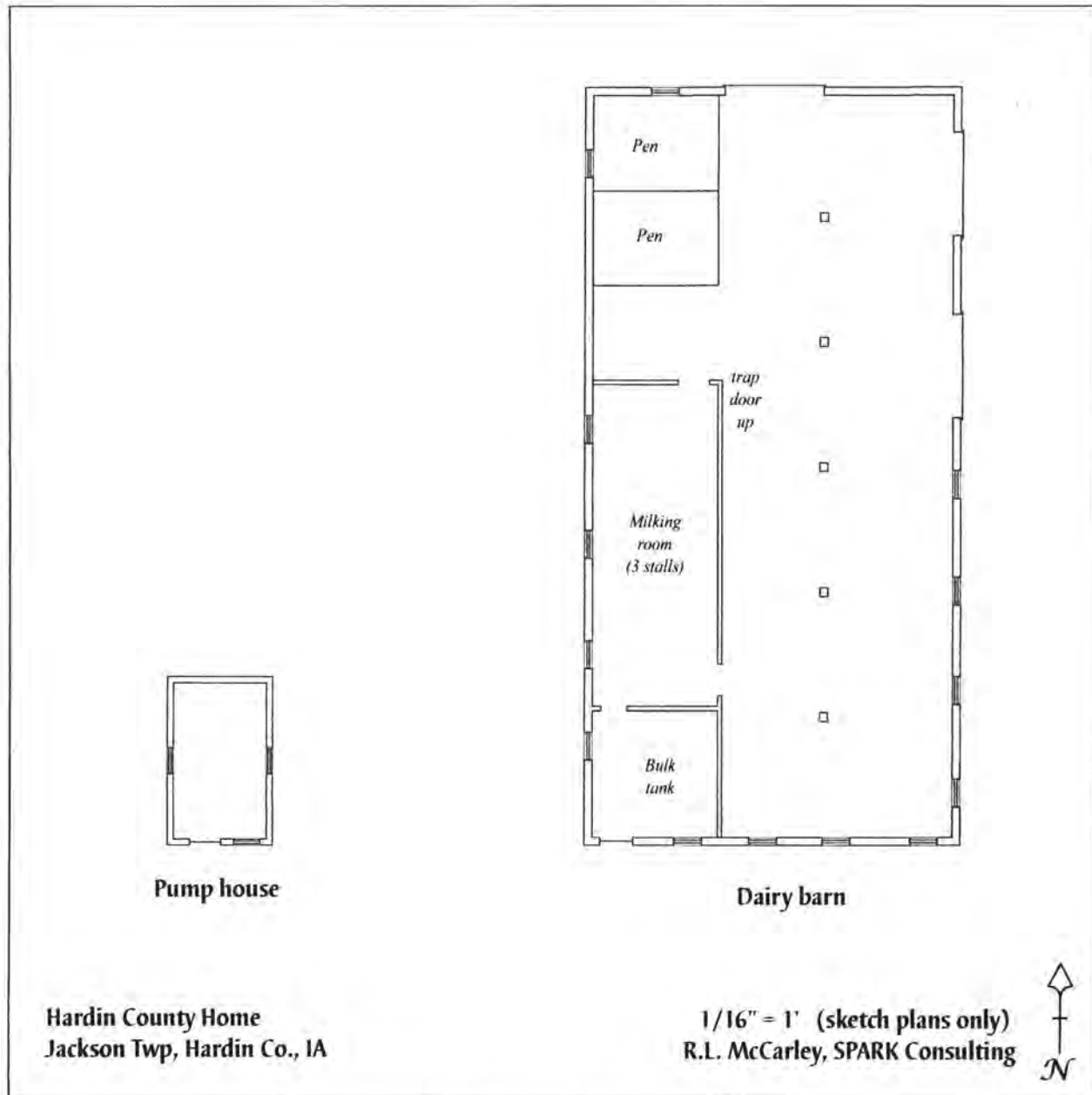


Figure 8. General plans for pump house (2) and dairy barn (3).

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Historic maps and photographs



Figure 9. Location of Hardin County Home on 1892 map of Hardin County
(Plat Book of Hardin County, Iowa 1892: 3).

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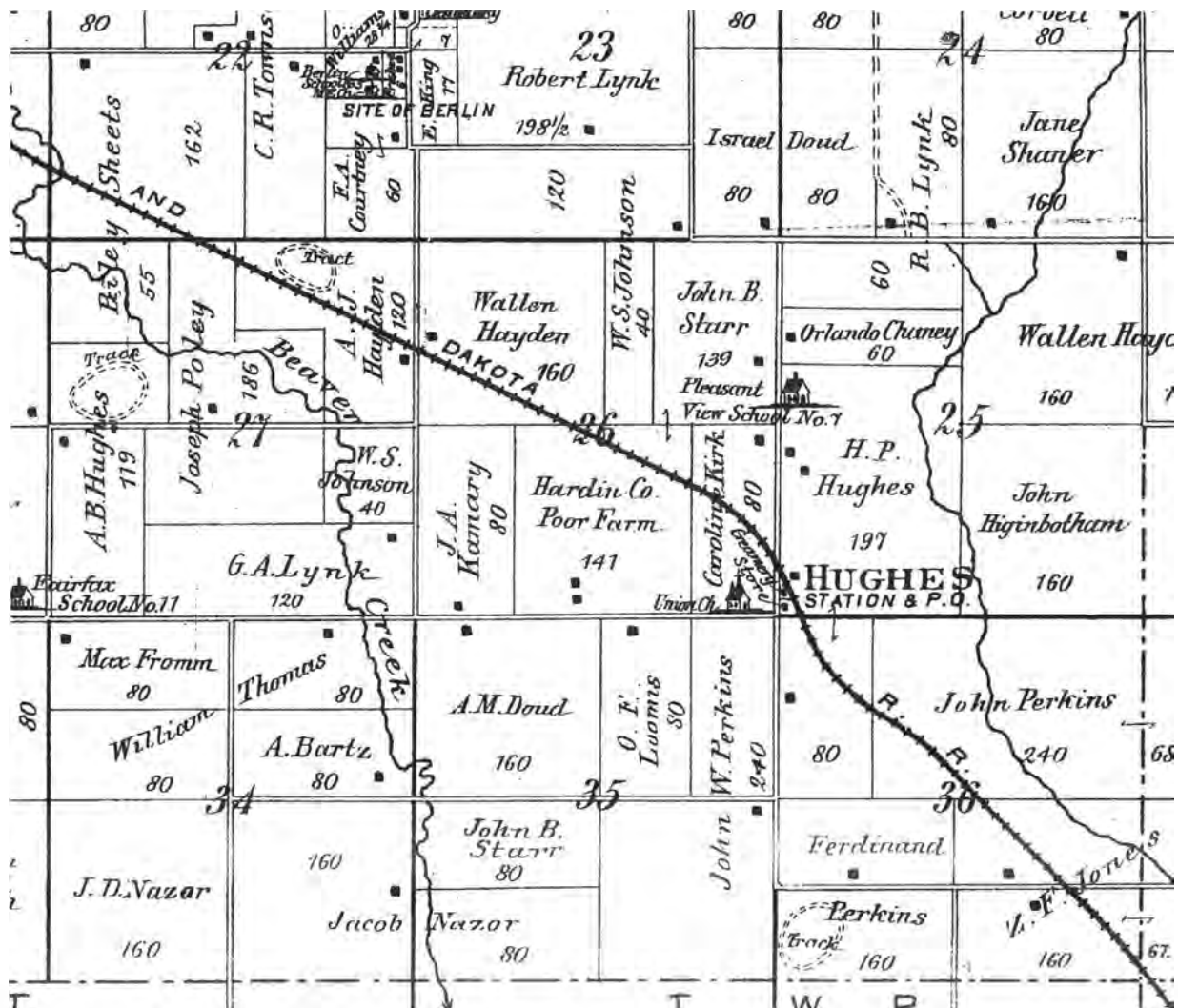


Figure 10. Hardin County Home (Poor Farm) property in 1892 (Plat Book of Hardin County, Iowa 1892: 15).

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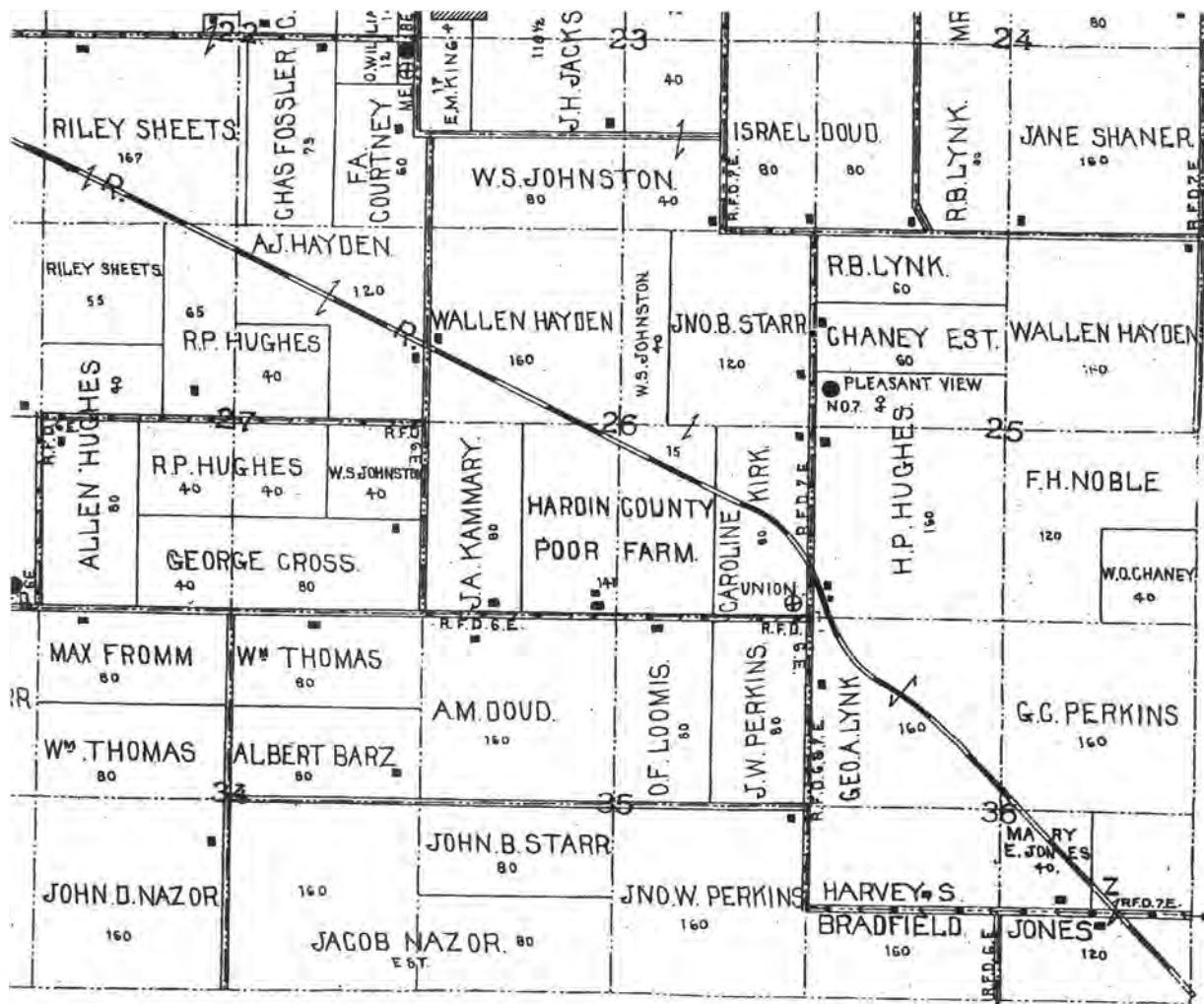


Figure 11. Hardin County Home (Poor Farm) property in 1903 (*Plat Book of Hardin County, Iowa* 1903: 9).

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Section Images Page 40 Property name Hardin County Home Historic District
County and State Hardin County, Iowa

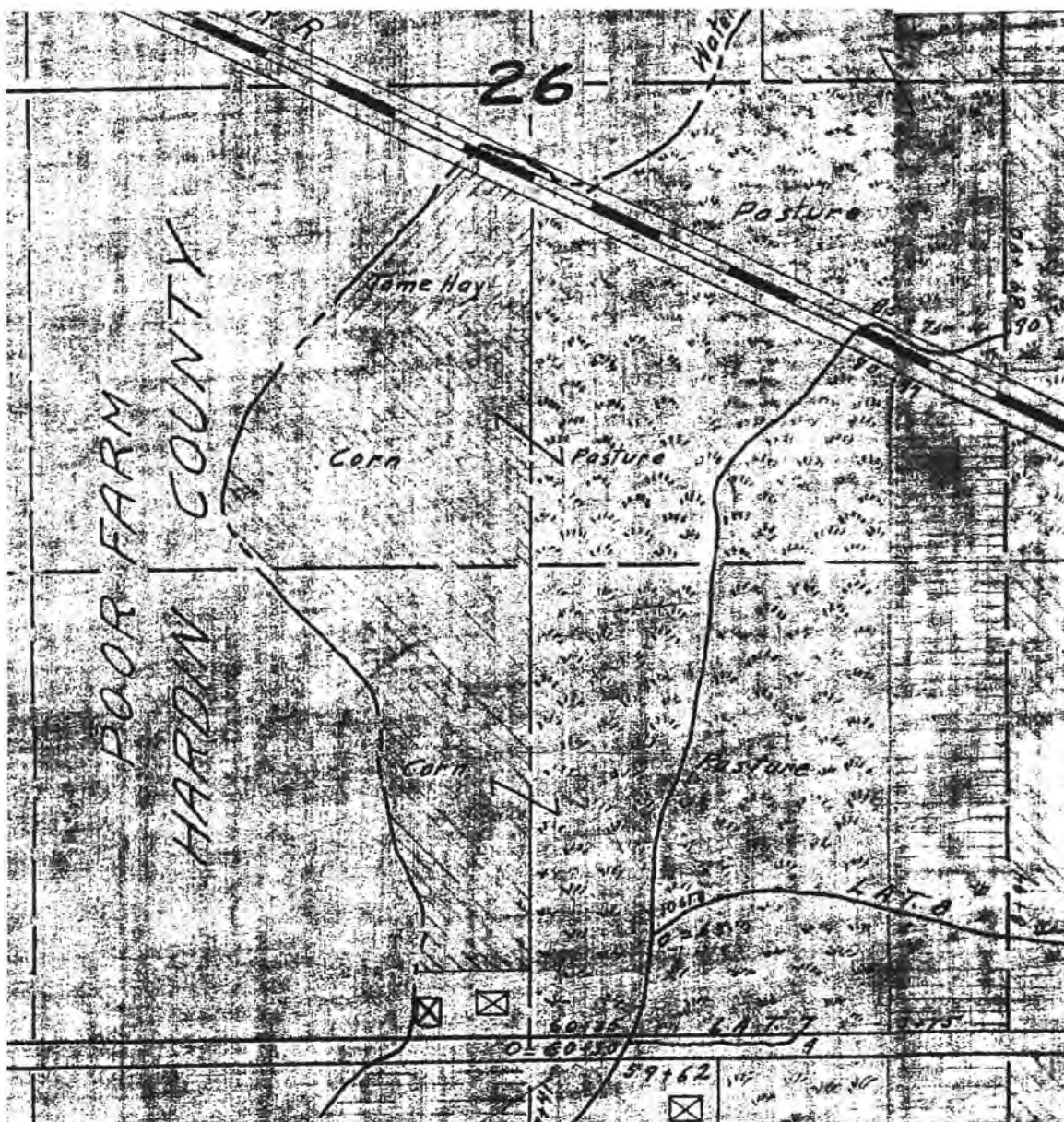


Figure 12. Survey for Drainage District No. 78 around 1916 (Hardin County Auditor's Office).

edge of district extends through west half of property

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section Images Page 41 Property name Hardin County Home Historic District
County and State Hardin County, Iowa

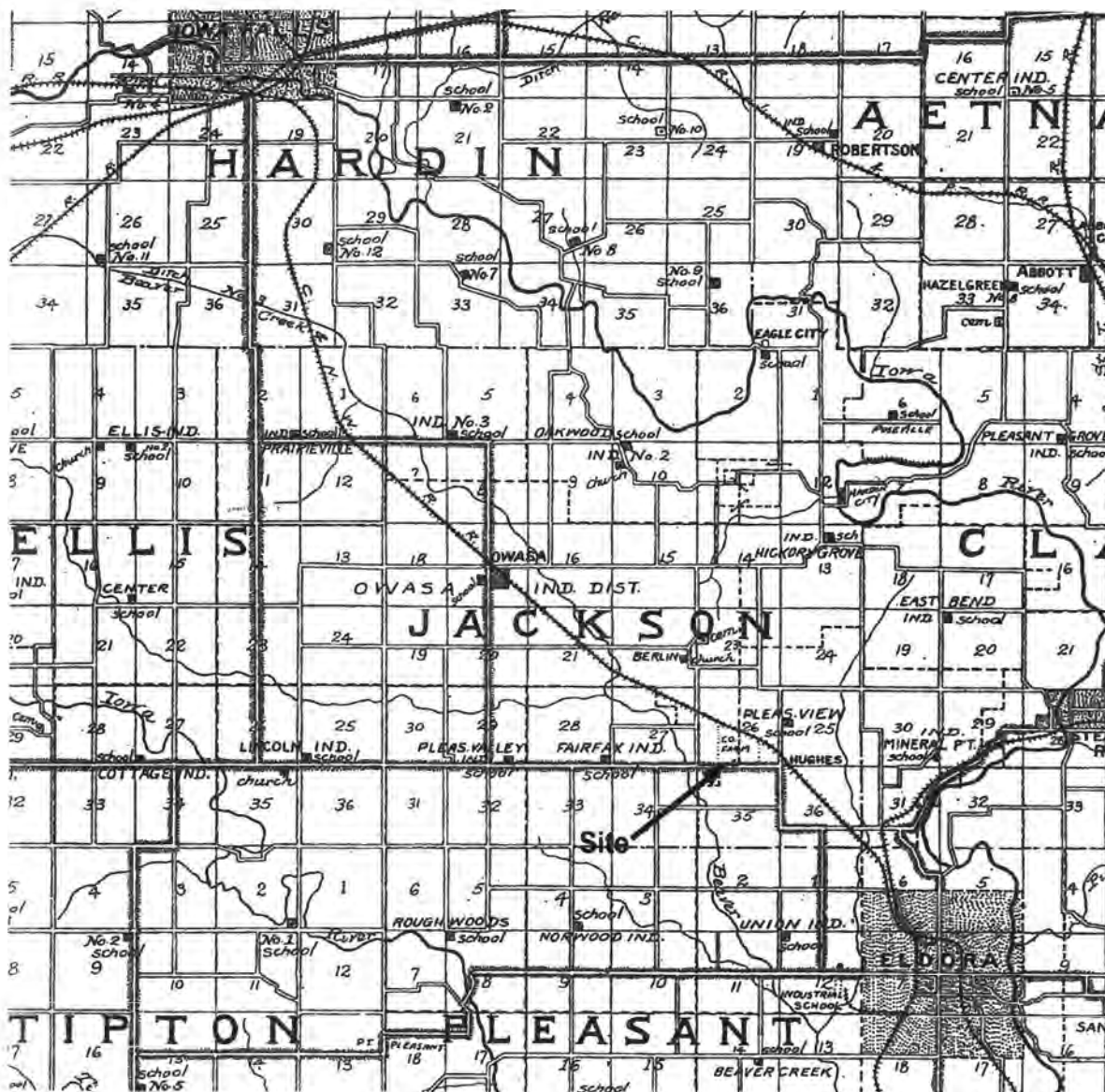


Figure 13. Location of Hardin County Home on 1918 map of Hardin County (Atlas of Hardin County 1918).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section Images Page 42 Property name Hardin County Home Historic District
County and State Hardin County, Iowa

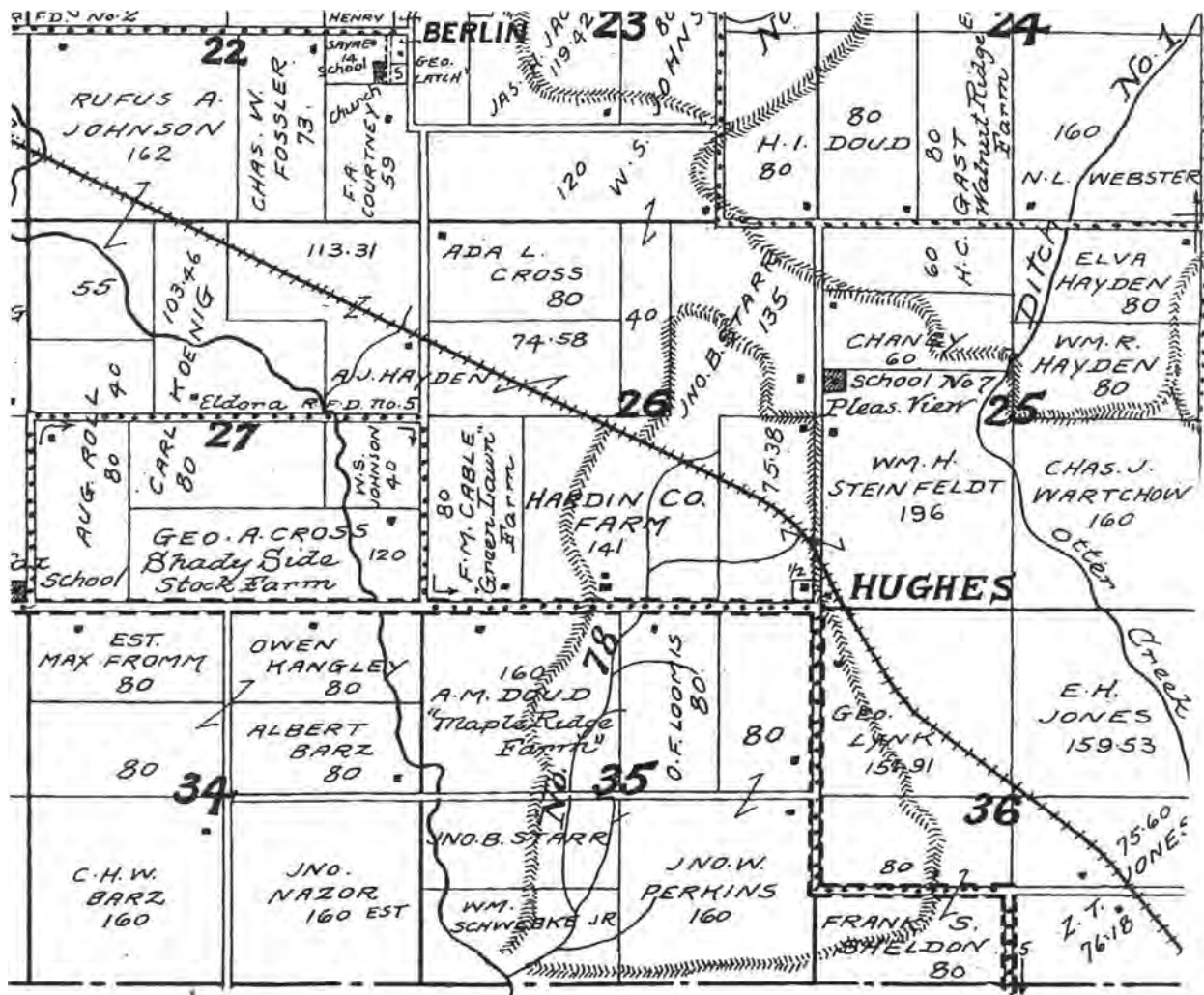


Figure 14. Hardin County Home (Farm) property in 1918 (Atlas of Hardin County 1918).
drainage district lines marked with hatching

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Images **Page** 43 **Property name** Hardin County Home Historic District
County and State Hardin County, Iowa

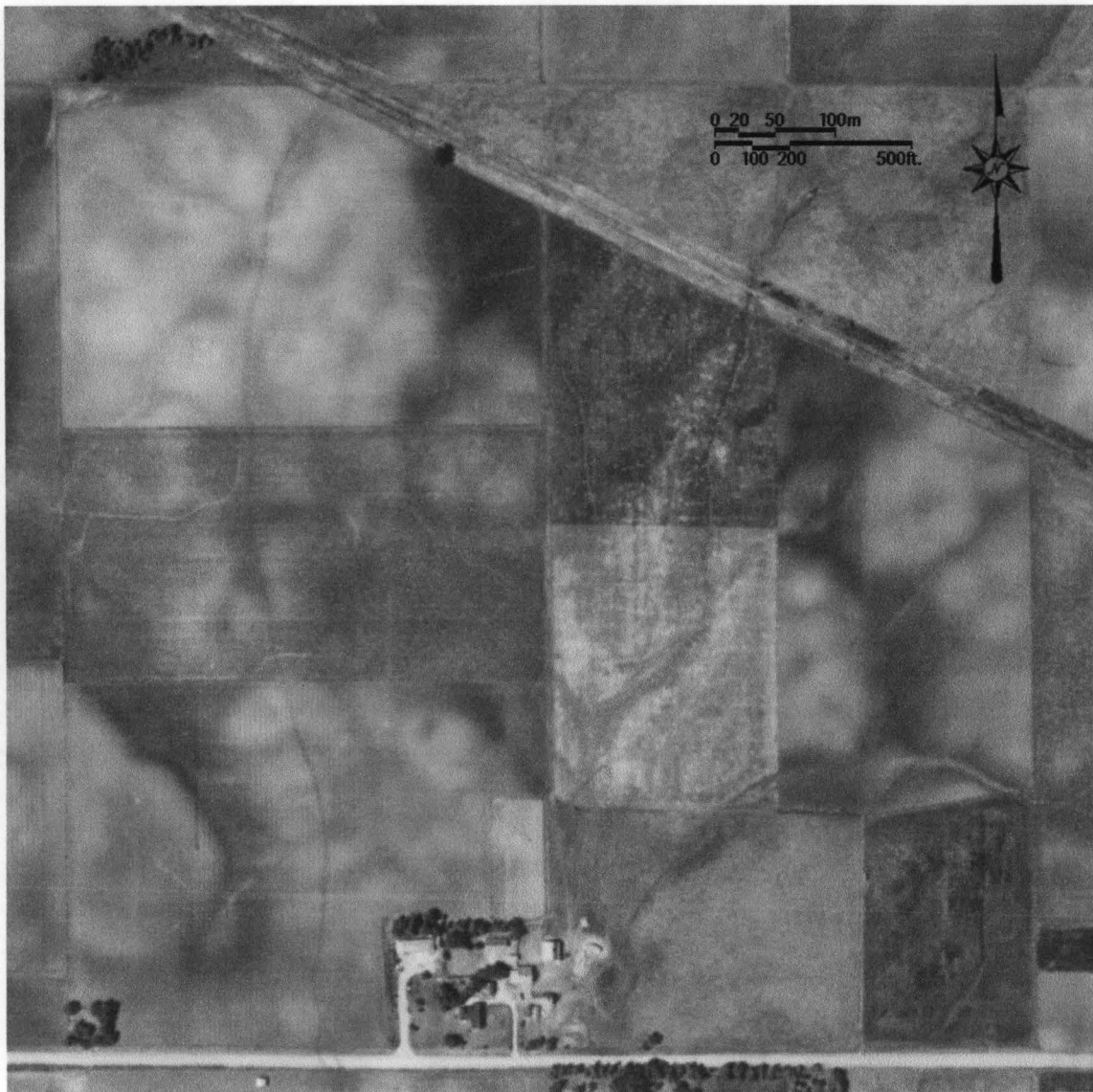


Figure 15. 1930s aerial photograph of Hardin County Home farm.

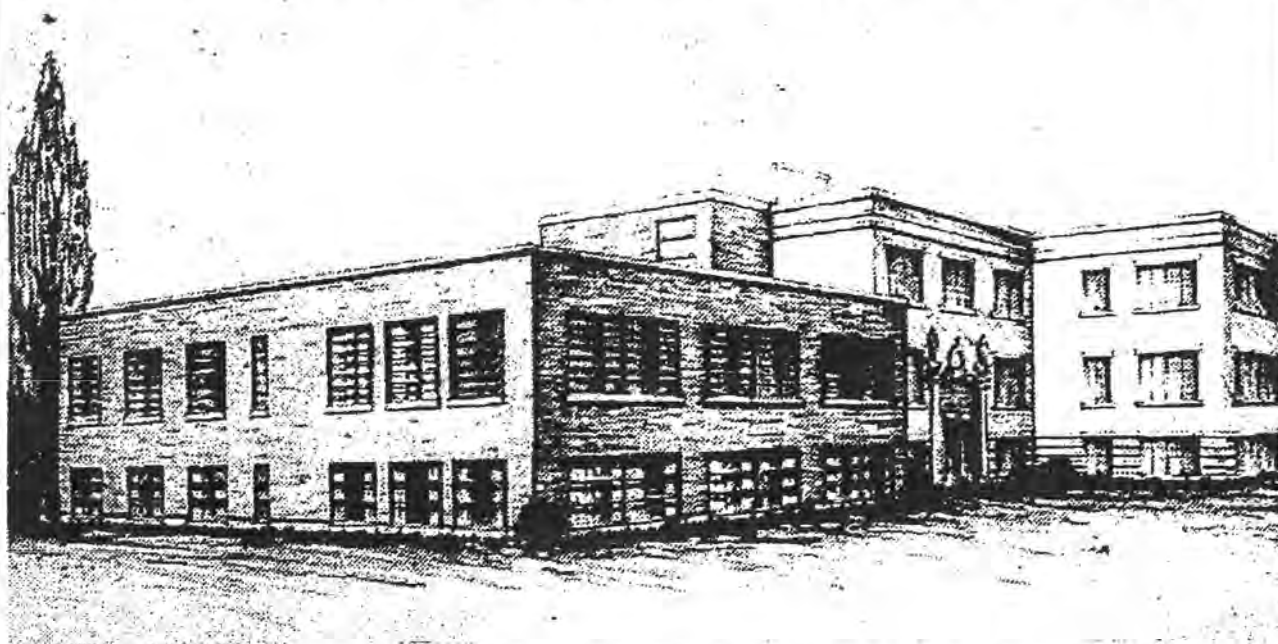
Iowa Geographic Image Server: ortho.gis.iastate.edu

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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County and State Hardin County, Iowa

Vote on County Home Addition Nov. 7



The board of supervisors this week decided to put the proposition of an addition to the county home before the voters in the Nov. 7 election. This architect's drawing shows the proposed two-story addition, 42 feet wide and 59 feet long, on the west side of the building. Construction would necessitate a bond issue of \$70,000. Spread over five years, a one-half mill tax levy would handle the financing, according to Wilson Hadley, board chairman, who stated that a one-mill levy on taxable land in the county now raises about \$40,000 annually. Protruding above the addition in this sketch is an elevator shaft. This lift would serve both the new unit and the present three-story section.

Figure 16. *Hardin County Index*, October 6, 1950, 1.

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet

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County and State Hardin County, Iowa

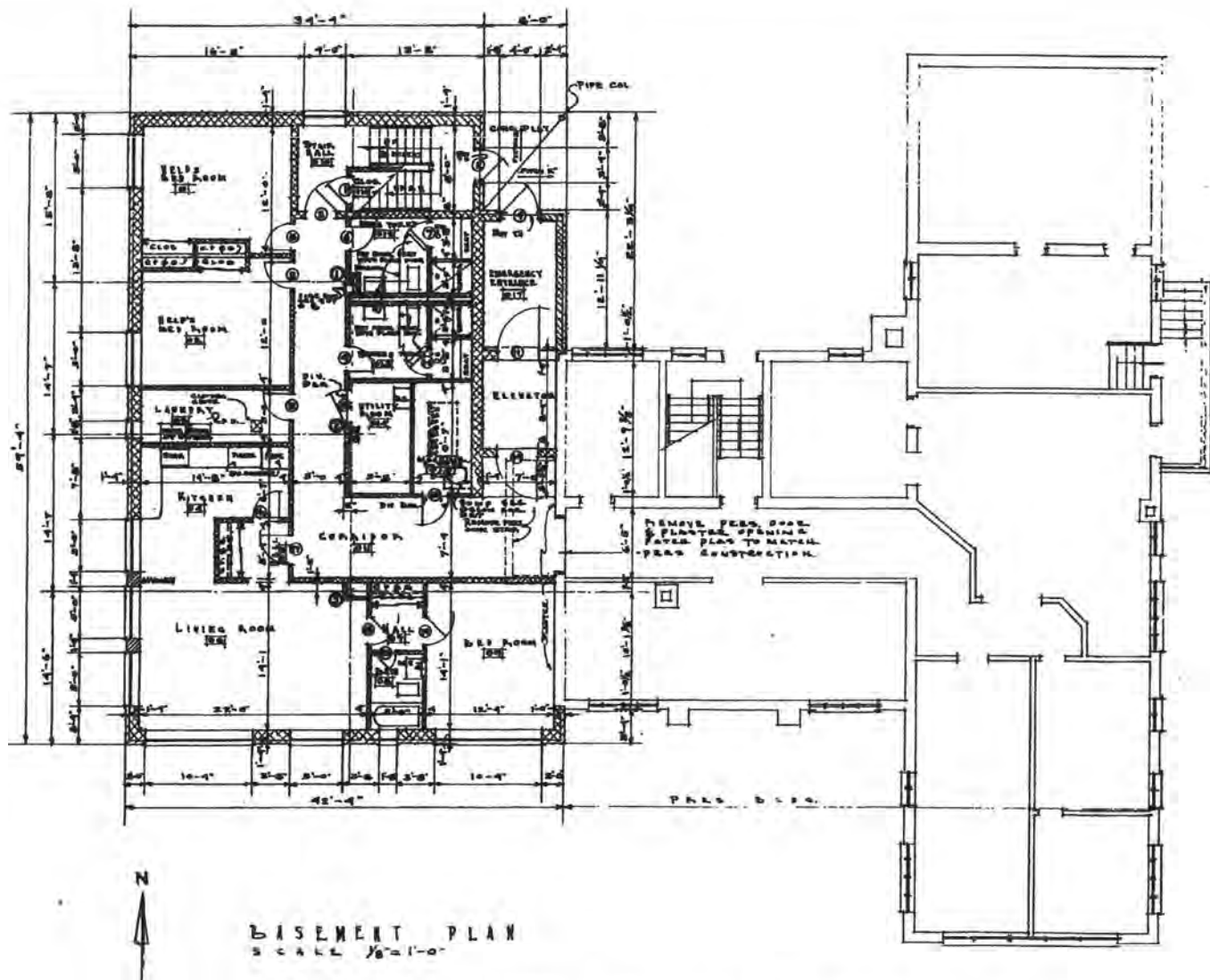


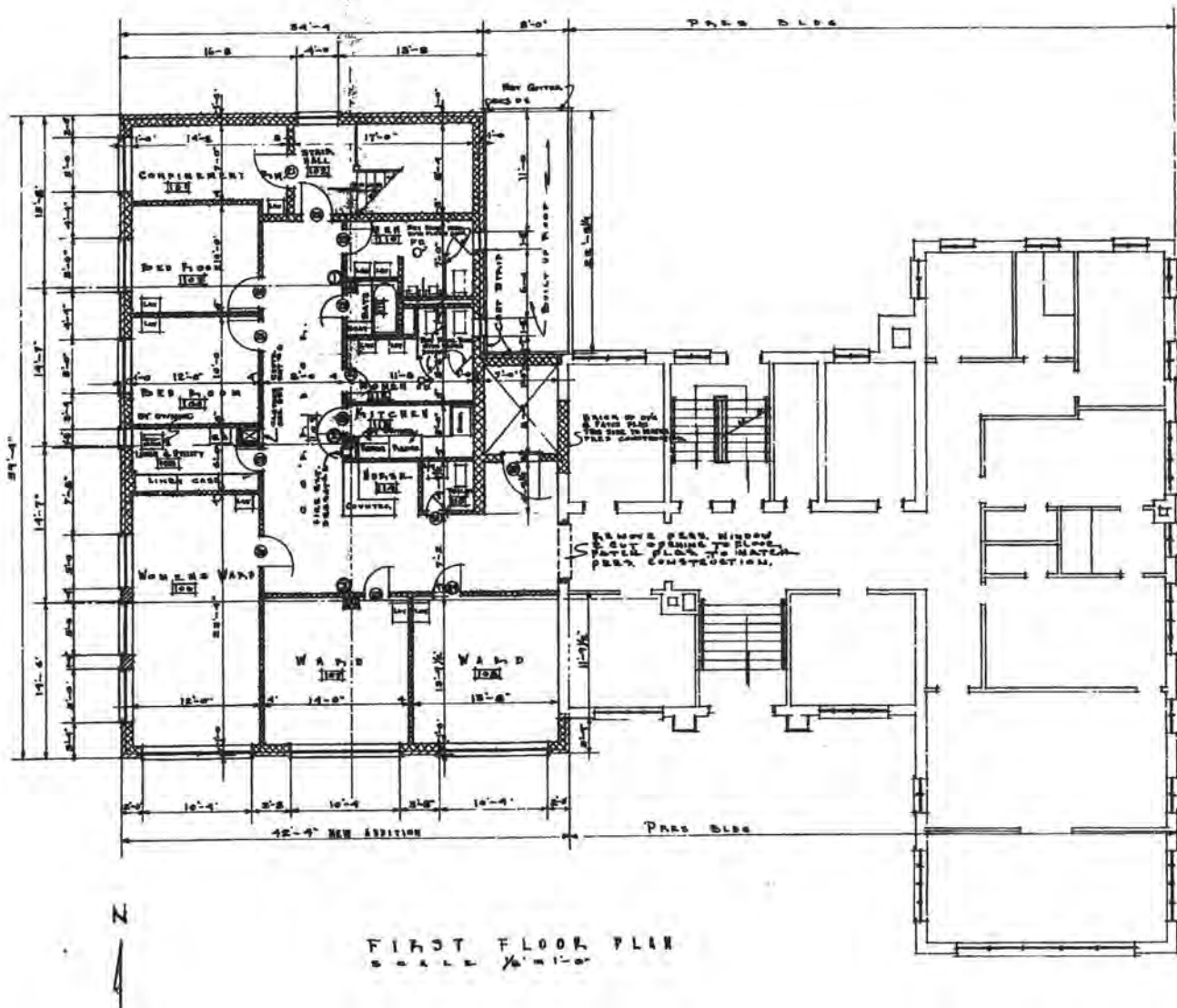
Figure 17. Basement Plan, Addition to the Hardin County Home, Eldora, Iowa
Smith & Voorhees Architects, June 30, 1952.

reduced 50% to 1/16" = 1'

from the files of Design Alliance, Inc., Waukee, Iowa

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 County and State Hardin County, Iowa



from the files of Design Alliance, Inc., Waukegan, Iowa

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Section Images Page 47 Property name Hardin County Home Historic District
County and State Hardin County, Iowa

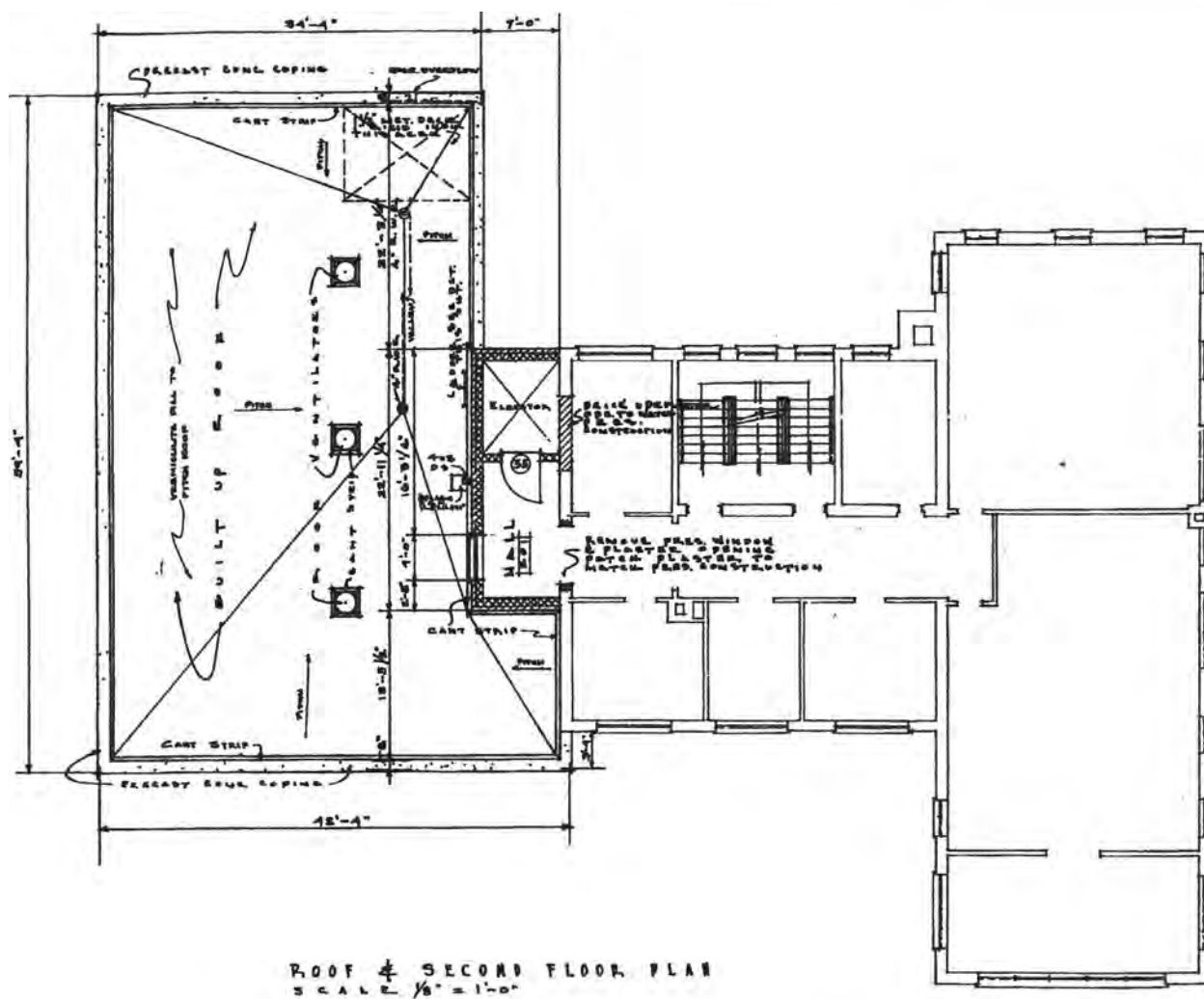


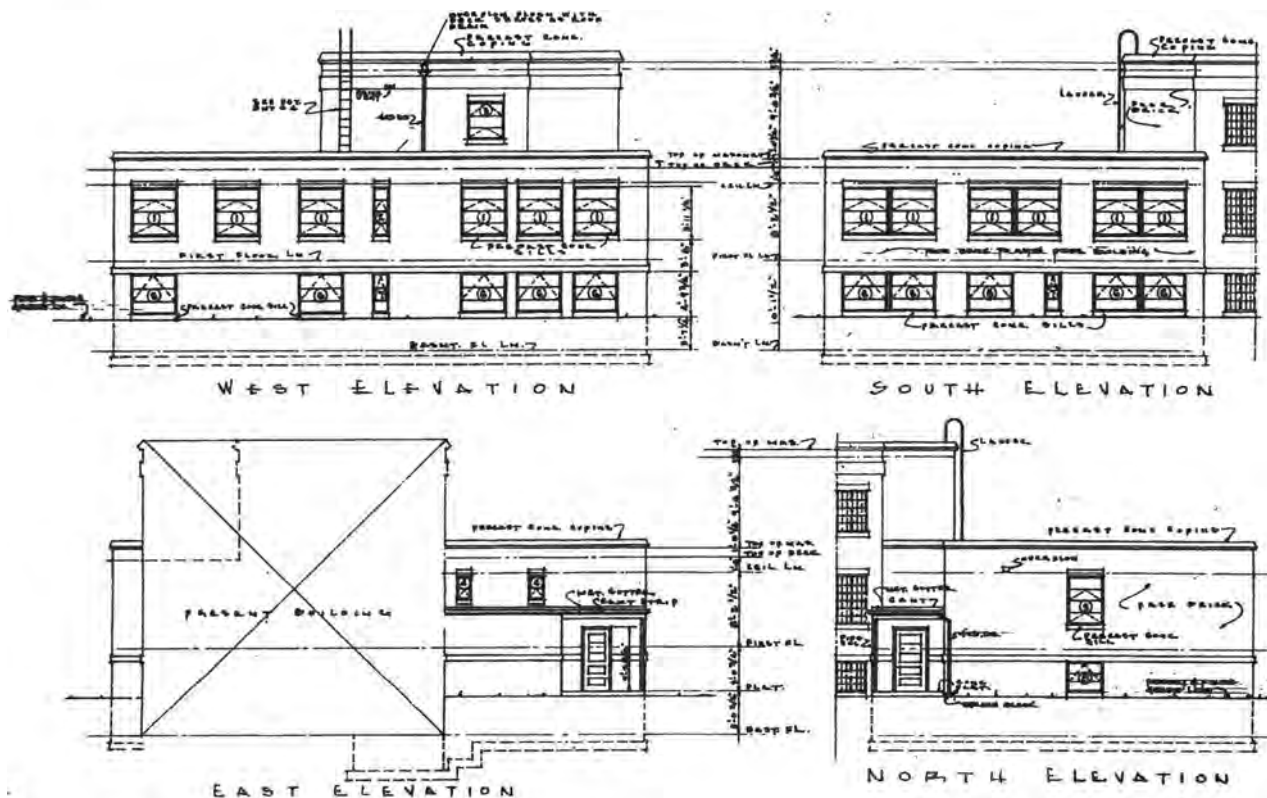
Figure 19. Roof and Second Floor Plan, Addition to the Hardin County Home, Eldora, Iowa
Smith & Voorhees Architects, June 30, 1952.

reduced 50% to 1/16" = 1'

from the files of Design Alliance, Inc., Waukee, Iowa

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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 County and State Hardin County, Iowa



**Figure 20. Elevations, Addition to the Hardin County Home, Eldora, Iowa
Smith & Voorhees Architects, June 30, 1952.**

from the files of Design Alliance, Inc., Waukegan, Iowa

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Images **Page** 49 **Property name** Hardin County Home Historic District
County and State Hardin County, Iowa

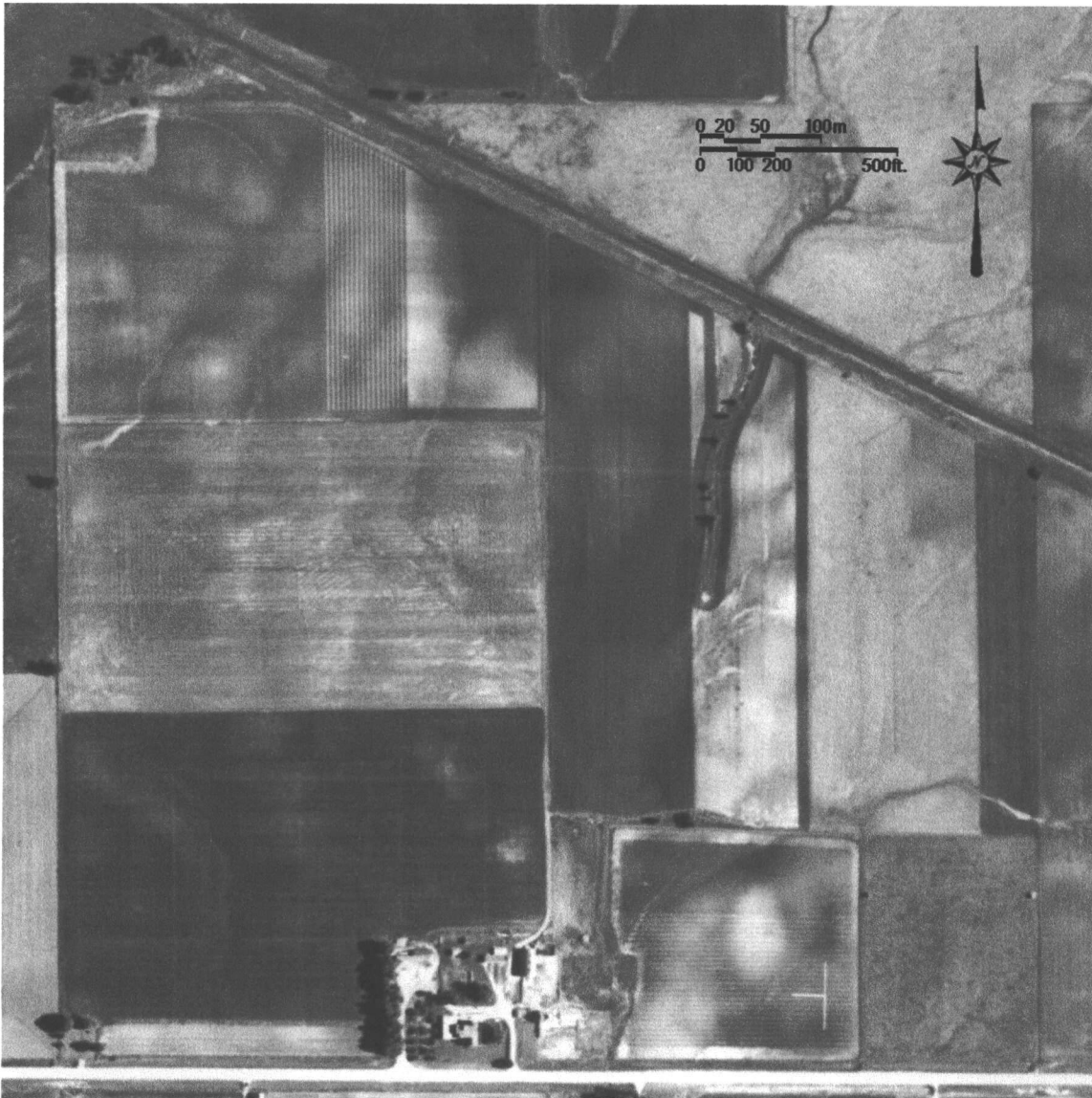


Figure 21. 1950s aerial photograph of County Home farm.

Iowa Geographic Image Server: ortho.gis.iastate.edu

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Images Page 50 Property name Hardin County Home Historic District
 County and State Hardin County, Iowa

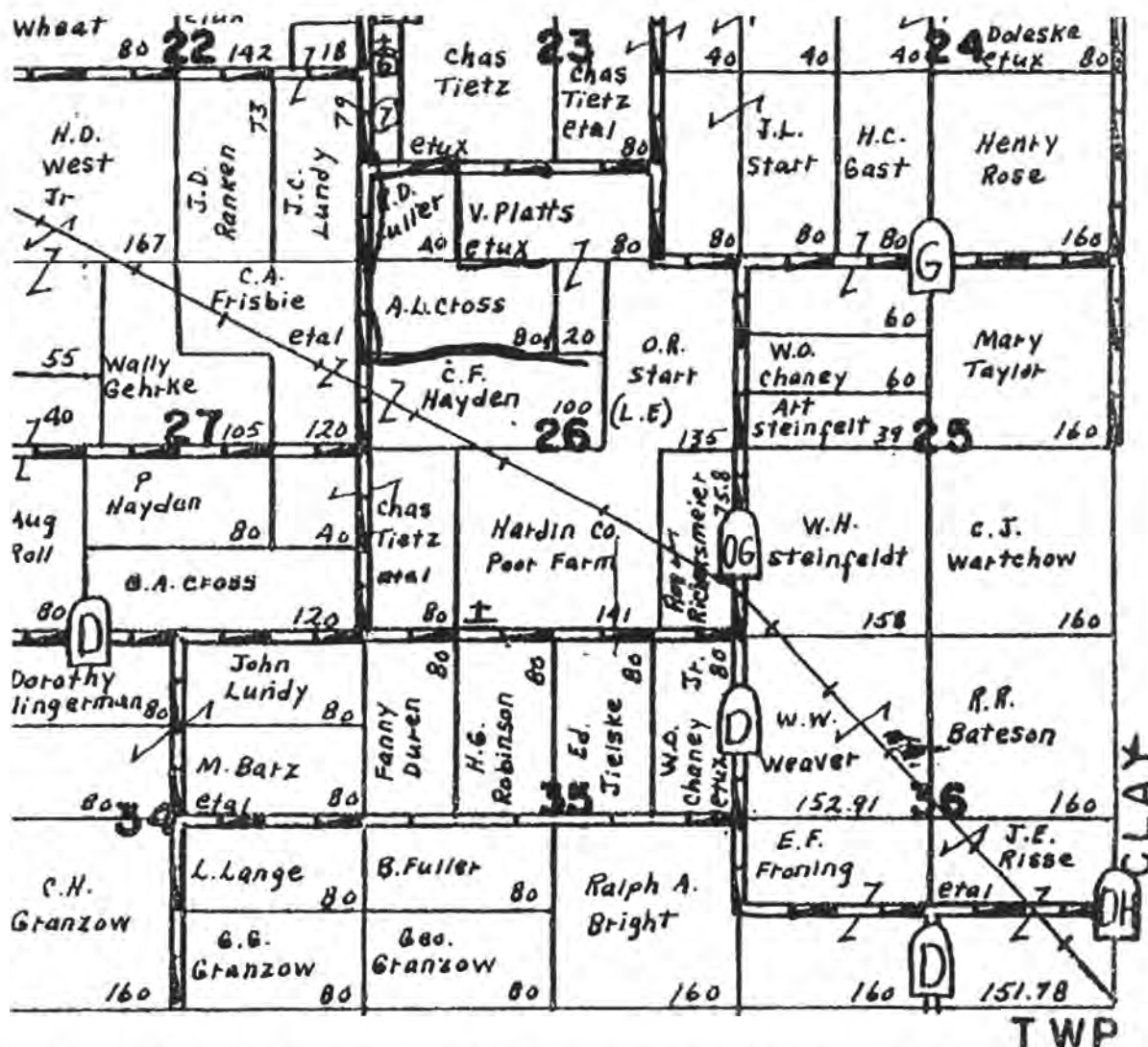


Figure 22. Hardin County Home (Farm) property in 1961 (*Atlas of Hardin County 1961*).

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Figure 23. 1971 aerial photograph of Hardin County Home farm.

courtesy of Chris Clarke, current owner of building parcel

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

Section Images **Page** 52 **Property name** Hardin County Home Historic District
County and State Hardin County, Iowa

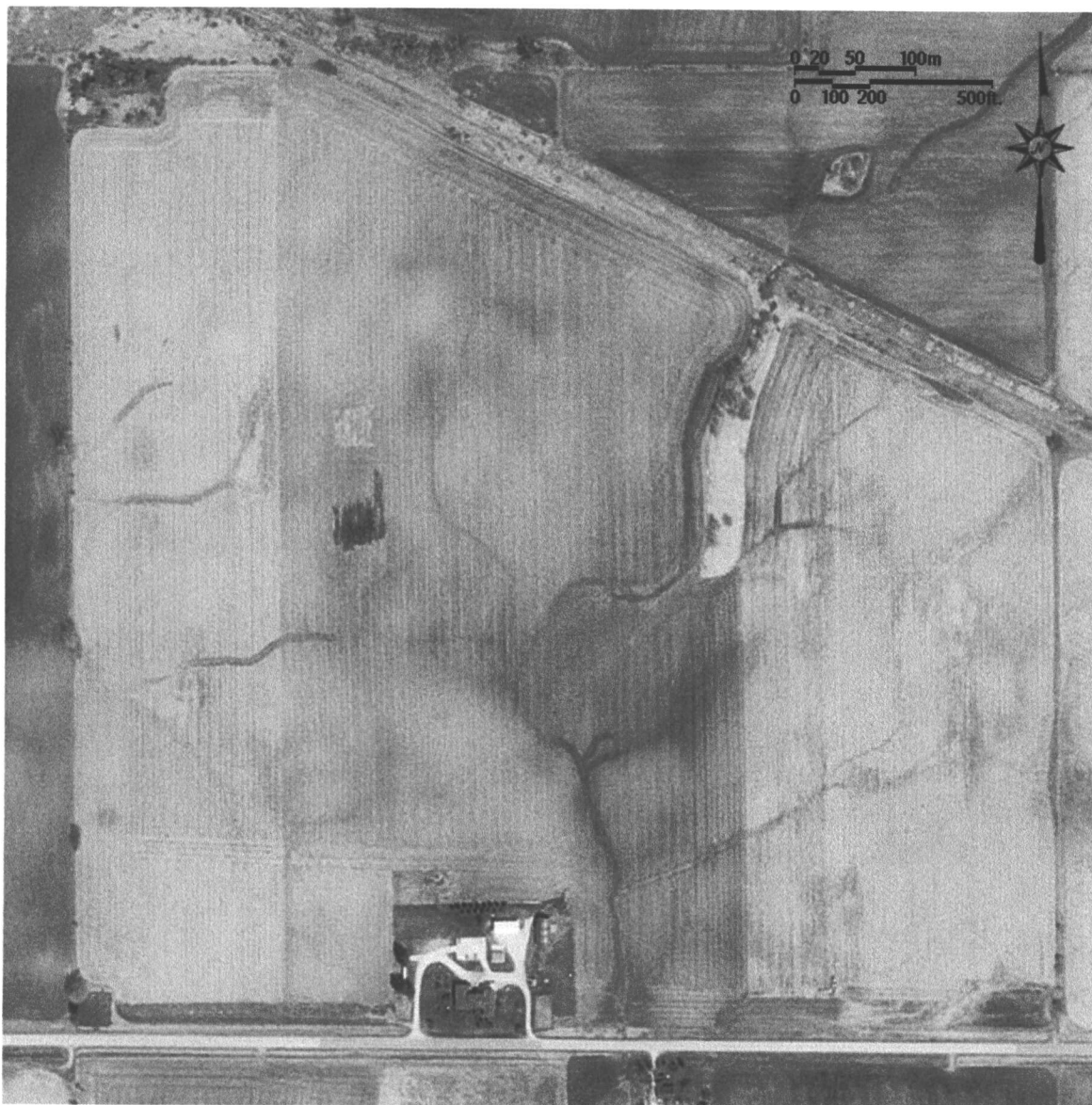


Figure 24. 1990s aerial photograph of Hardin County Home farm.

Iowa Geographic Image Server: ortho.gis.iastate.edu

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Hardin County Home Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Hardin

DATE RECEIVED: 4/09/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/10/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/25/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/24/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000275

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 5-24-10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 2



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 3



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 4



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 5



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 6



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa. Photograph 7



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 8



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 9



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 10



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 11



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 12



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 13



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 14



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 15



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 16



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 17



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 18



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 19



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 20



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 21



Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 222





Hardin County Home Historic District, Hardin County, Iowa, Photograph 24

EMMA
DIED
Jan 12 1911
Aged 53
BURN



Missing Core Documentation

Property Name	County, State	Reference Number
Hardin County Home Historic District	Hardin, Iowa	10000275

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

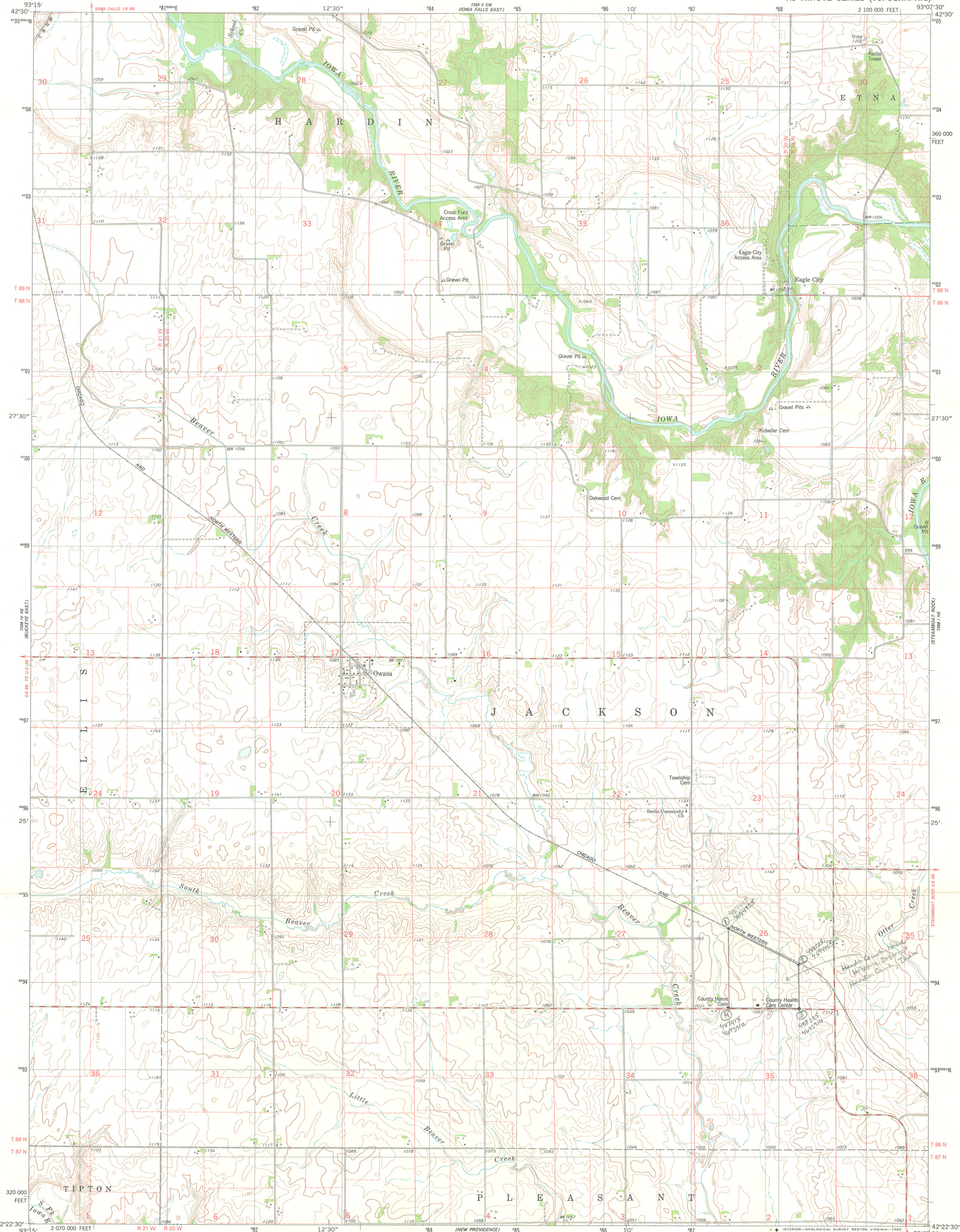
☐ Nomination Form

☒ Photographs (#1)

☐ USGS Map

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

OWASA QUADRANGLE
IOWA-HARDIN CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1973. Field checked 1974. Map edited 1979

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Iowa coordinate
system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)

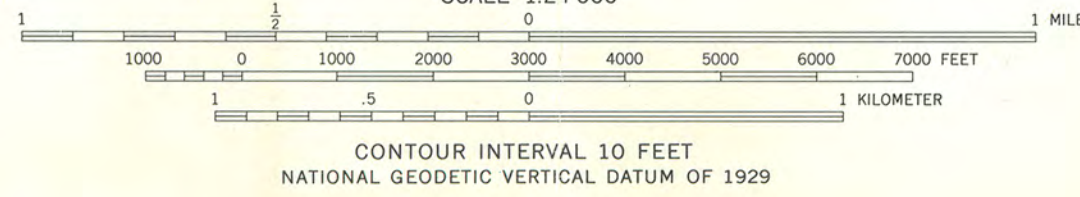
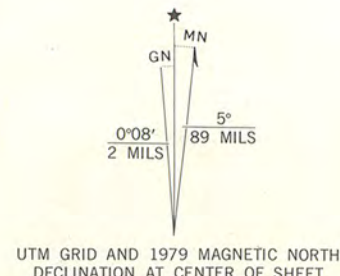
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15

1927 North American datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 4 meters north and

17 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

OWASA, IOWA
N4225.5-W9307.5/7.5

1979

DMA 7368 1 NW-SERIES V876

CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG Name Hardin County Date of Public Meeting

Property Name Hardin County Home Historic District, 28483 County Highway D41, Eldora vicinity, Hardin County

1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature *[Signature]* Candy Wait Ad Crosser Date 02-03-10

Print Name Timothy M. Hoy Candy Wait Deb Crosser

Title MEMBER member member

Reason(s) for recommendation:

2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature *[Signature]* ED Bear 2-4-10 Date

Print Name ED BEAR

Title Chair of Board of Supervisors Hardin County, Ia.

Reason(s) for recommendation:

3. Professional Evaluation:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature *[Signature]* Ralph J. Christian Date 2/6/10

Print Name RALPH J. CHRISTIAN

Title SHPO HISTORIAN

Reason(s) for recommendation:



March 30, 2010

Carol Shull, Chief
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, N.W.-- 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

The following National Register nomination(s) are enclosed for your review and listed if acceptable.

- Hardin County Home Historic District, 28483 County Highway D41, Eldora vicinity, Hardin County, Iowa

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Foster Hill
Tax Incentive Programs Manager/
National Register Coordinator