

RECEIVED JUN 25 1992 OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Mill Rock School other names/site number District No. 8

2. Location

street & number West side of county road (53 Ave) city, town Baldwin state Iowa code IA county Jackson code 097 zip code 52207

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private, public-local (checked), public-State, public-Federal. Category of Property: building(s) (checked), district, site, structure, object. Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 1, Noncontributing buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total 1.

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

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination (checked) request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets (checked) does not meet the National Register criteria. Signature of certifying official: State Historical Society of Iowa. Date: 6/10/92.

In my opinion, the property meets (checked) does not meet the National Register criteria. Signature of commenting or other official. Date. State or Federal agency and bureau.

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: entered in the National Register. determined eligible for the National Register. Signature of the Keeper: Alanna Byers. Date of Action: 7/24/92.

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/School

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th Century
Vernacular

foundation Limestone
walls Limestone
roof Composition Shingles
other Wood Frame

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This single story gable roof limestone school building from 1869 is rectangular in shape, measuring 28'2" x 36'4" with a wood frame addition of undetermined date on the front measuring 14' x 28'2". Two entrance doors are located on the east gable end (presently obscured on the exterior by the addition). This use of two doors is unusual in the rural schools of Jackson County. The north and south side elevations feature four windows each. These are presently covered by wooden shutters, but the original 6/6 double hung sash is in place. The three windows originally in the west (rear) elevation have been blocked in, apparently by 1910. A single brick chimney is located at the west end of the building. The stonework consists of cut stone blocks of varying size, ranging from 3-5" in height and from 12-15" long, laid in courses. Only the sills and lintels are of dressed stone. A small name/date stone is located in the east gable

Dis. No.8
A.D. 1869

The school is located at the south end of what was once the main street in Mill Rock, and is surrounded by large shade trees. Abandoned as a school in the first quarter of this century, the building is now under the ownership of the County Conservation Board. It has continued to be a center of community activity. Most recently is has been the scene of Saturday night dances, neighborhood Halloween parties for children, the Firemen's breakfast, and the County Conservation Board holds their meetings in the school several times a year. The Board is considering removal of the frame addition on the front as part of their continuing preservation efforts.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

1869

1869

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.

Significant Person

N.A.

Architect/Builder

Abner Hunt & P.A. Downer

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

The Mill Rock School (1869) is significant under Criterion C as a good example of the use of the abundant local limestone for a variety of building types in mid-19th century Jackson County.

This is one of 217 examples of limestone architecture recorded in Jackson County, and is one of only twelve extant stone school buildings. Records show that in 1875 there were 147 school houses in the county. Of these, 102 were constructed of wood, thirteen were of brick, eleven were log, and twenty-one were stone. All of the remaining limestone schools are single story rectangles, with a gable roof, and entrance on the gable end. The size of stone varies from building to building, as does the masonry technique. It appears that the buildings were probably constructed by area stone masons rather than a single mason being responsible for all. Mill Rock is unusual because the builders have been identified: Abner Hunt and P.A. Downer. The fact that neither man is listed as a stone mason in either the 1860 or 1870 census means only that they probably made their living in another activity.

Mill Rock was the first town established in Monmouth Township (1854). The location on Bear Creek and the building of a grist mill were indications that the town would grow. However, when the Midland Railroad was built between Maquoketa and Anamosa in 1872, it ran half a mile to the north. The town of Baldwin was established, while Mill Rock declined. By the 1890s only a few houses and the stone schoolhouse remained.

Limestone buildings and structures were found in all eighteen townships of Jackson County, but the majority are located in the northeast corner, Tete des Morts and Bellevue townships. To the south and west the examples are far less numerous. Of the eight sites identified in Monmouth township, three are being nominated: Mill Rock School; Mrs. M. Sieben House; and the Henry Lubben House, Springhouse and Smokehouse.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

A.T. Andreas Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa, 1875, p 443.

Atlas & Plat Book of Jackson County, Iowa. 1893, p 45; 1913, p 9.

Historic photographs from Jackson County Historical Society.

History of Jackson County, Iowa. 1879.

Maquoketa Excelsior, 1 November 1897.

Several unidentified, undated newspaper articles from Jackson County Historical Society.

See continuation sheet

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 #

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A 15 678800 4658320
Zone Easting Northing

B Zone Easting Northing
D Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

A parcel of land in T84N R1E Sec 27 NW 1/4. Specifically a portion of the area shown on historic plat maps as Town of Mill Rock, Block 7, Lot 5, Original Plat. This is a rectangular parcel measuring 50' N/S x 60' E/W centering on the building in question, facing Jefferson Street which is now a gravel county road.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the area historically associated with this resource.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

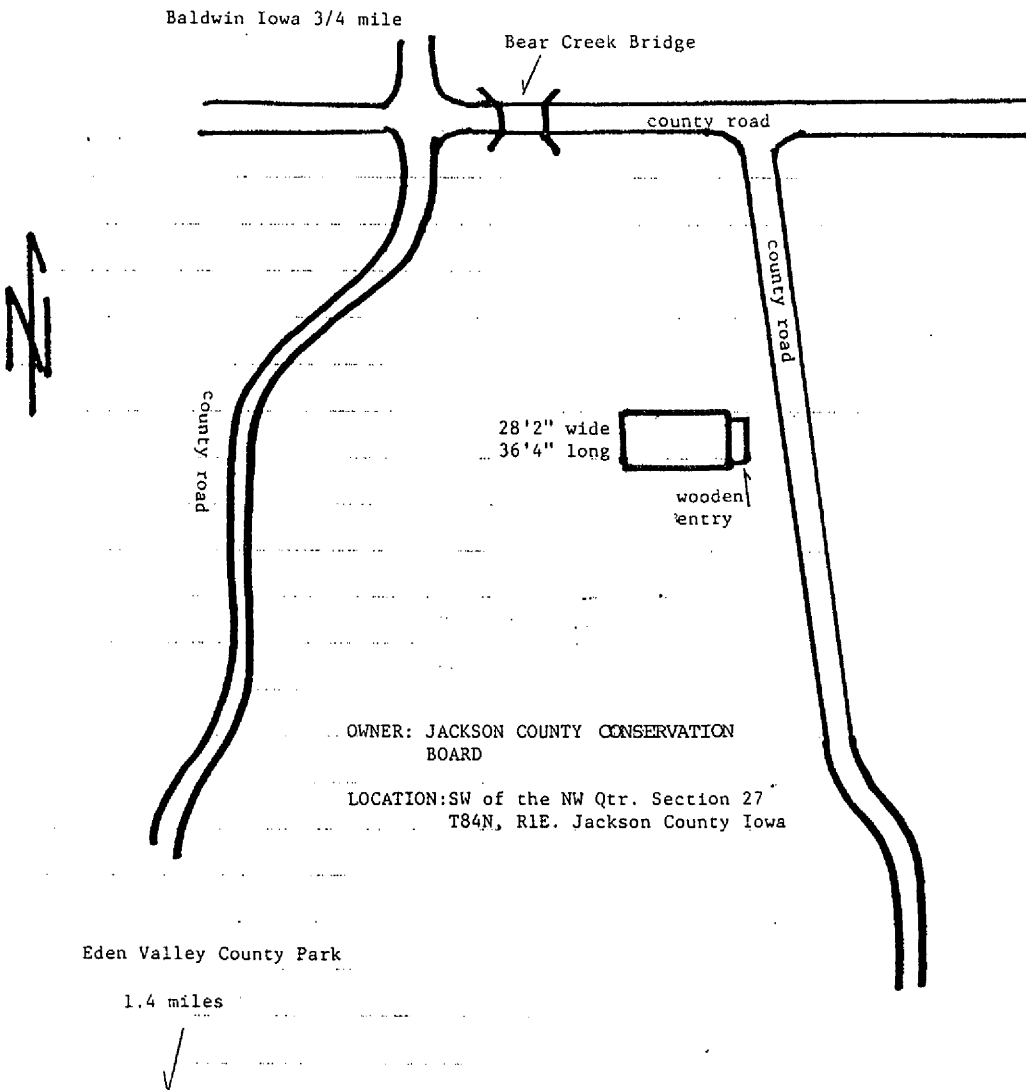
name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743
organization Jackson County H.P.C. date May 1992
street & number J.C. Courthouse, 201 W. Platt telephone (319) 652-3181
city or town Maquoketa state IA zip code 52060

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National Park Service

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Mill Rock School

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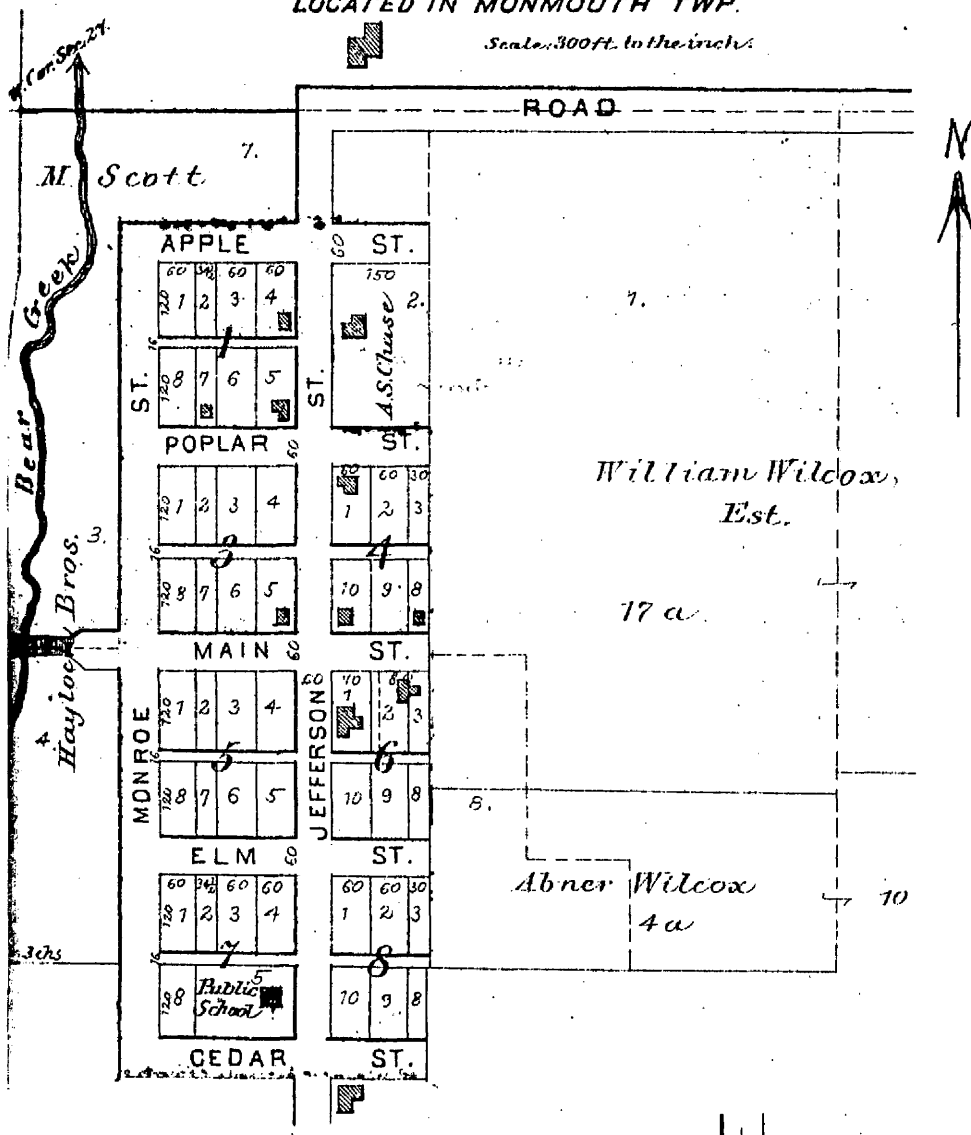
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MILL ROCK

LOCATED IN MONMOUTH TWP.

Scale: 300ft. to the inch

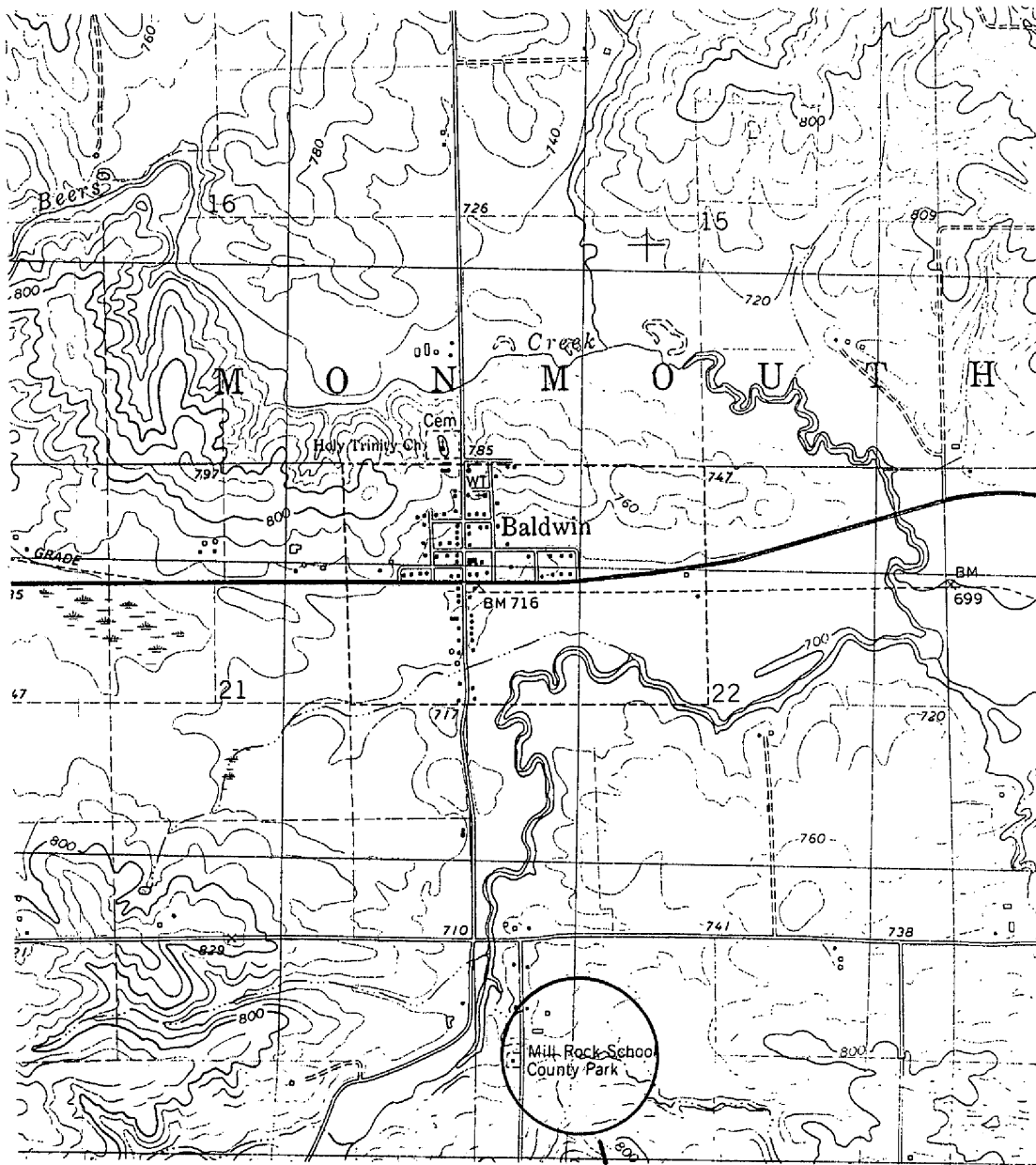


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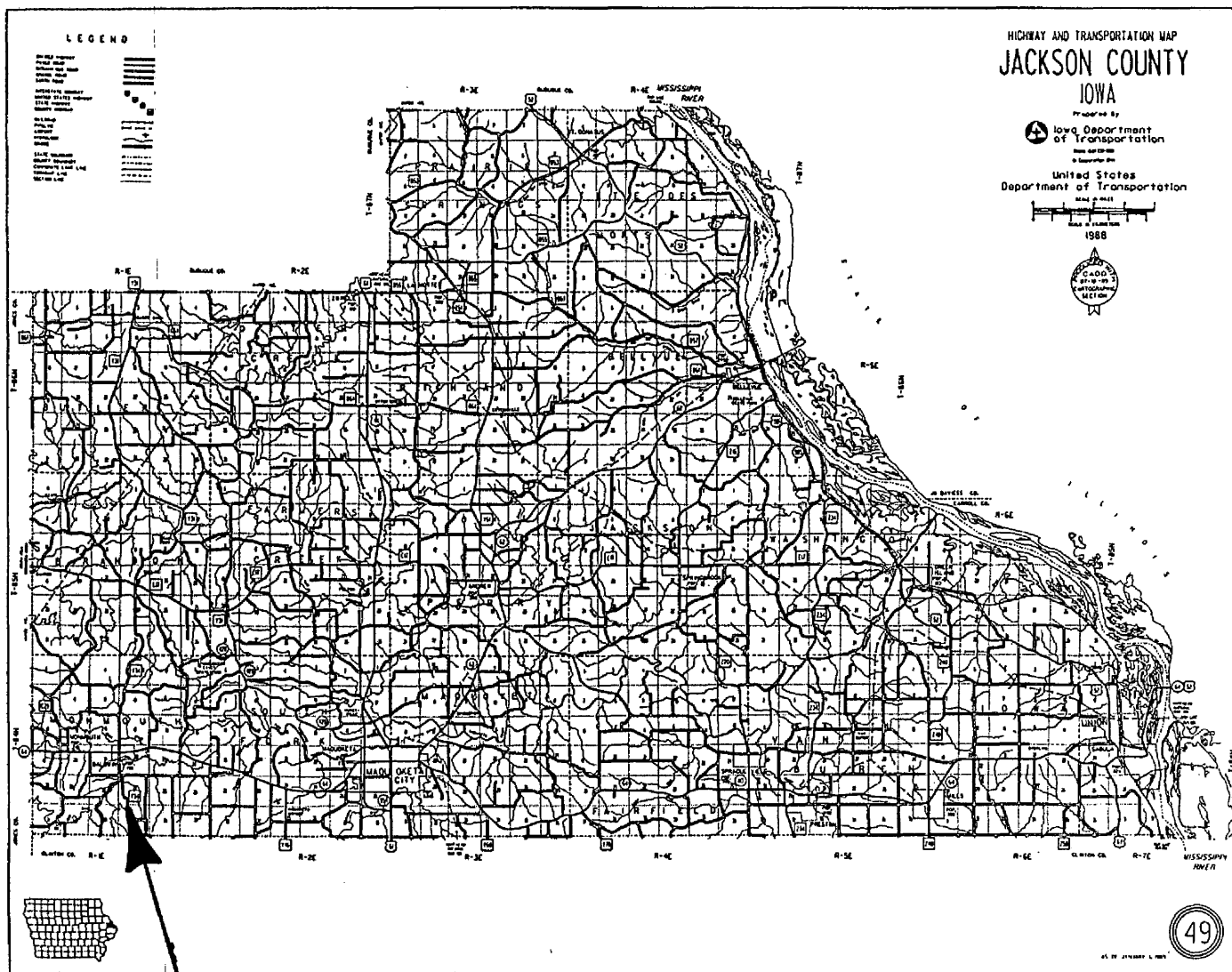
U.S.G.S. map, Mill Rock School.

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Location of Mill Rock School, Monmouth Twp.