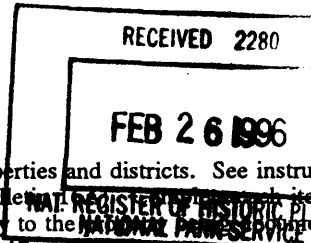


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 38). Mark each item by marking "x" on the appropriate line or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being nominated, 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 WILLIAM A. AND IDA C. JOHNSON HOUSE

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 307 College Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Oskaloosa N/A vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Mahaska code 123 zip code 52577

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this (nomination request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (meets does not meet) the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant (nationally statewide locally). (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Patricia Ontenking OSHPO 2-21-96
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

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

Edson H. Beall
Signature of Keeper

3/28/96
Date of Action

Entered in the National Register

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House
Name of Property

Mahaska County, Iowa
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many lines as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one line)

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

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

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

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

The Quaker Testimony in Oskaloosa, Iowa

**Number of contributing resources
previously listed in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood

roof Asphalt
other Glass

Narrative Description

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

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House
Name of Property

Mahaska County, Iowa
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1911-1923

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

9. Major Bibliography References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historical Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House
Name of Property

Mahaska County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 15 | 529 530 | 45 72 325 |

Zone Easting Northing

2 | | | |

Zone Easting Northing

3 | | | |

Zone Easting Northing

4 | | | |

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William C. Page, Public Historian; Joanne R. Walroth

organization Oskaloosa Historic Preservation Commission date October 28, 1994

street & number 520 East Sheridan Avenue telephone 515-243-5740; FAX 515-243-7285

city or town Des Moines state Iowa zip code 50313

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs - Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

Property Owner

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

name Martha E. Berry Johnson

street & number 307 College Avenue telephone 515-673-3817

city or town Oskaloosa state Iowa zip code 52557

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

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

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This is a 2-1/2 story, frame, single-family dwelling. It features a complex roof consisting of intersecting steeply-pitched gables, 1/1 double-hung sash windows, 1-story bay window on the east elevation, and wrap-around full-width facade porch with gable-end entryway supported by wood columns. A massive brick chimney stands near the rear of the roof.

HOUSE

The main block of the Johnson House measures approximately 28' x 39'. The wrap-around porch forms an important element on its facade and contains about 300 square feet of area.

The interior of this house features original woodwork, including doors, door and window surrounds, and a staircase.

SITE

The Johnson House is situated on a portion of Lot 8 in Mendenhall's Addition to the City of Oskaloosa. This plat was laid out in only a few lots, each of which was subsequently subdivided. This parcel measures 60' x 164' (width by depth). The house stands on the north side of College Avenue and faces south.

A 1-story, detached frame garage is situated at the rear of the house. It was constructed circa 1940 and measures approximately 20' x 20'. This is considered a noncontributing resource.

This site is well landscaped with plantings. They include mature shade trees and shrubs and a well maintained lawn.

The site of this property is generally level in topography. The Iowa Yearly Meeting House-College Avenue Friends Church is located diagonally across College Avenue to the southwest from this house. North Market Street is situated approximately two blocks to the east, and Penn Boulevard, which is located one lot to the west, runs four blocks north to the new-site campus of William Penn College.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

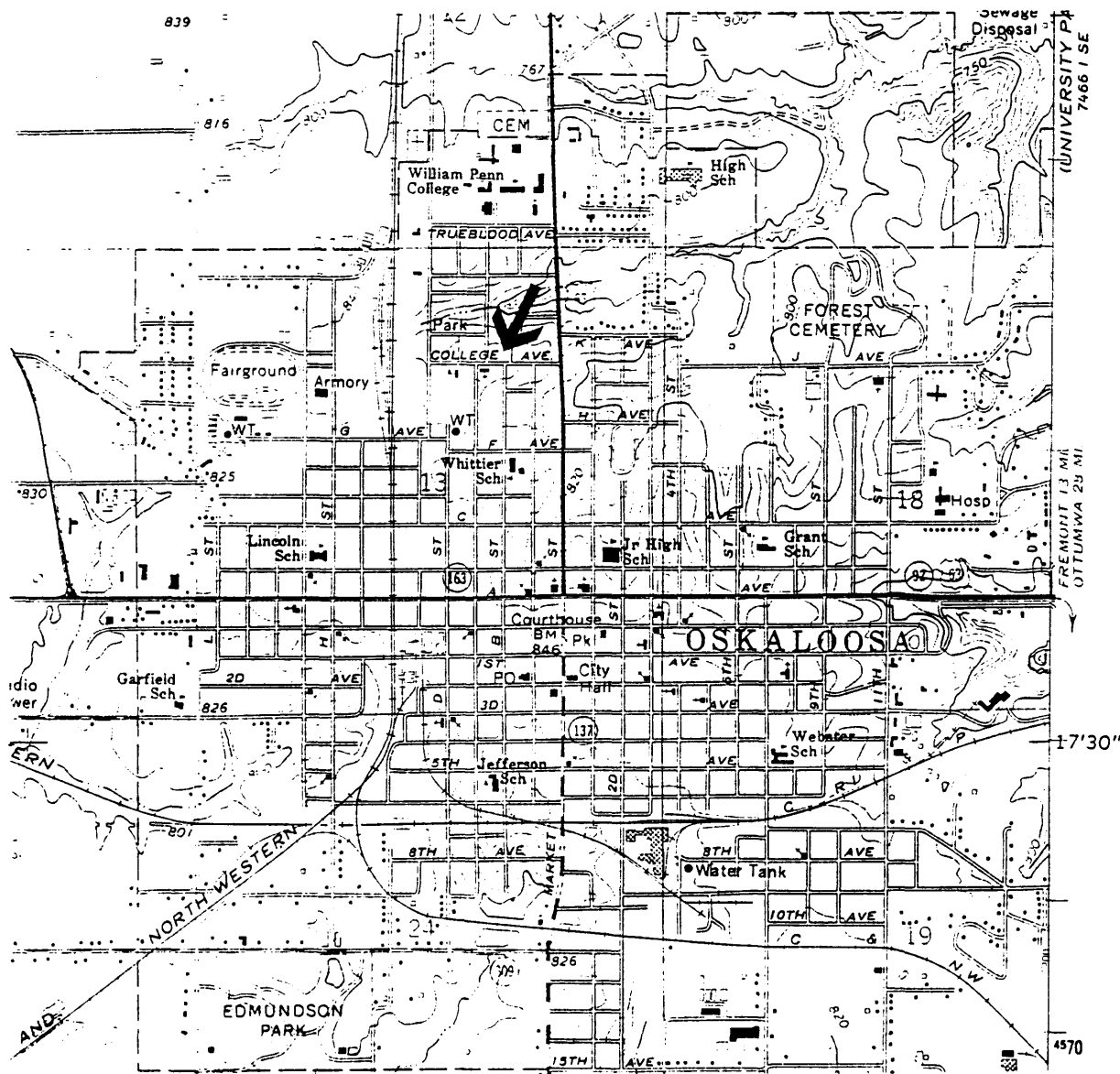
Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

SITE MAP

ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY



Source: U.S.G.S. Map (7.5 Minute Series), Oskaloosa Quadrangle, 1968.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

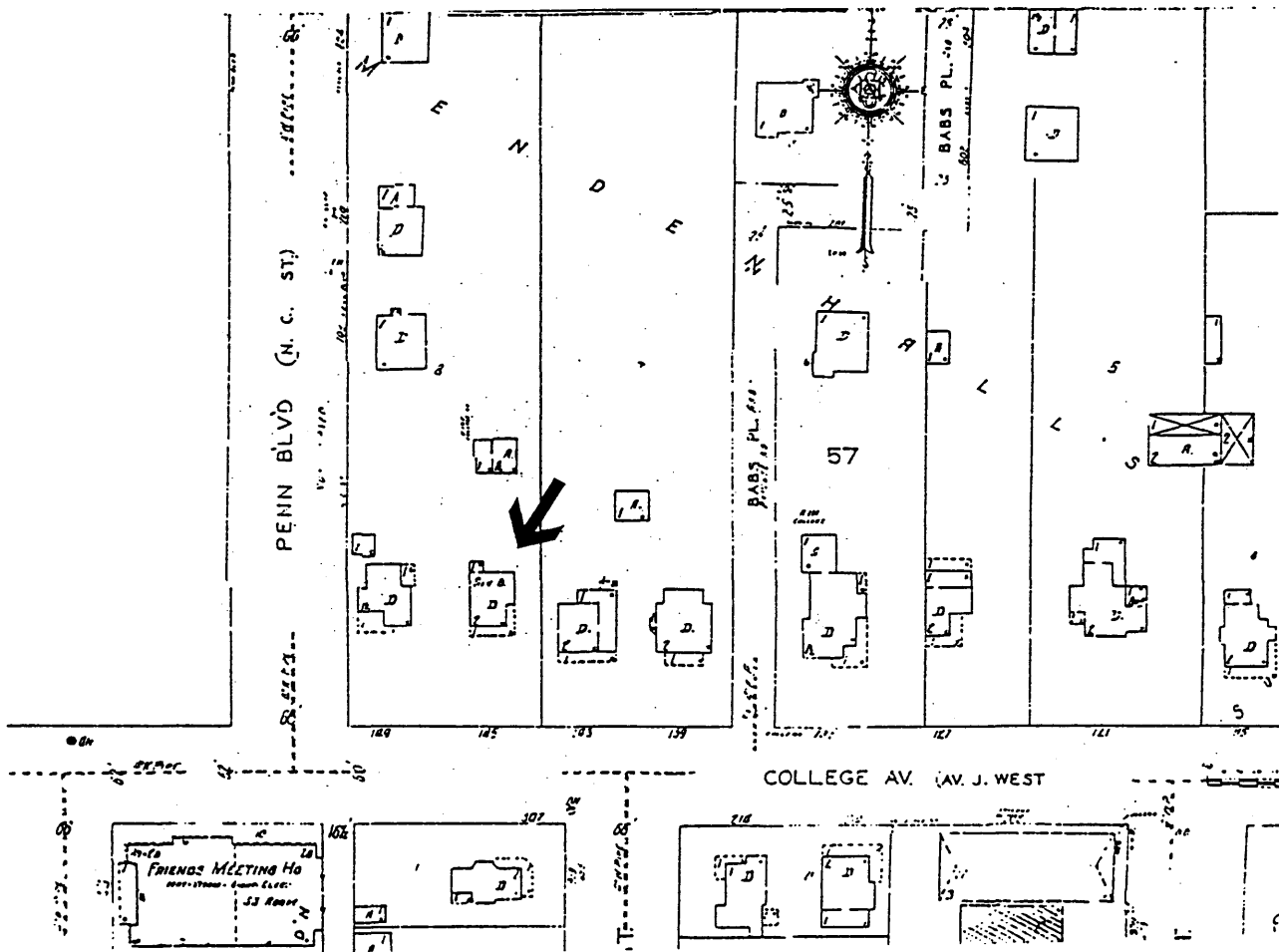
Section number 7

Page 3

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

PLAT MAP ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 4

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built circa 1910 as a single-family dwelling, the William A. and Ida C. Johnson House possesses historic significance, under National Register Criterion A, because it calls attention to the contributions of William to Penn College as a philanthropist and member of the Board of Trustees. The house also calls attention to the tendency of parents to move into Oskaloosa so that their children could attend Penn Academy and Penn College, as well as for families to offer room and board in their homes to children of other friends or relatives for the same reason.

The period of significance, under Criterion A, for the Johnson Family House is 1911-1923, the time the building served as residence for William A. Johnson's tenure as a college trustee.

The property contains one contributing resource for this nomination, the house, and one noncontributing resource, the garage.

EVENTS AND PATTERNS

The career of William A. Johnson and his contributions to Penn College illustrate how Quakers could and were involved in Friends' institutions in numerous ways. In 1916, immediately following the destruction of Main Building by fire, William contributed \$3,000 to Penn College for rebuilding. As president of the Board of Trustees at that time, Johnson pushed for the college to relocate its campus and build on what became the new-site campus.

About 1910, the William A. and Ida C. Johnson family moved into Oskaloosa so that their children could attend Friends' schools in Oskaloosa. Prior to this time, William had farmed. (He may have continued this or another occupation until about 1921, when the Oskaloosa City Directory lists him as retired.) This family provides a good example of the pattern mentioned above among Quakers in the vicinity of Oskaloosa.

From 1911 through 1923, William served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Penn College, and president of that board from 1915 through 1922. As "The Quaker Testimony in Oskaloosa, Iowa" shows, these years were critical for Penn College and witnessed the relocation of the school to its new-site campus.

Although significance, under National Register Criterion A, is not presently claimed for the associations of this building with student housing, further research might strengthen such claim. Penn College students, who lived in outlying areas, also attended to move into Oskaloosa and board in the homes of relatives or friends while they attended the college. Although the Women's Residence Building was built in 1917, no men's dormitory was available until 1962, when the west wing of Watson Hall opened. As a consequence, many students, but especially the males, were forced to live off-campus. The William A. and Ida C. Johnson House illustrates one choice open to students. They opened their home to their granddaughter, Thelma Johnson (now Mrs. Ben K. Shepherd), so that she could reside with them while attending Penn College. Thelma graduated with the class of 1940, thus

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 5

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

illustrating the prevalence of off-campus living even after the opening of the Women's Residence Building.

The examples of other Quaker families also illustrate the tendency of parents to move into Oskaloosa so their children could attend Friends' educational institutions. Howard Johnson, great-nephew of William A. and Ida C. Johnson, said in an oral informant interview, that his parents also moved into Oskaloosa in 1915 so that he and his brothers could attend Penn Academy and later Penn College (interview of February 7, 1992). This family provides another example of this tendency.

Howard Johnson comes from a long line of Quakers in Iowa. He was raised in Lynnville (Jasper County) prior to his family's relocation to Oskaloosa. Johnson's two great-uncles, Charles and Albert Johnson, contributed funds for Penn College to purchase the John White Farm, which later became the new-site campus for Penn College. Howard Johnson has served on the Board of Trustees of William Penn College, continuing the tradition of his family.

The siting of the Johnson House along College Avenue calls attention to this street as a corridor of residential preference among Quakers in Oskaloosa, particularly prior to the relocation of the Penn College campus to its new site.

The current resident is Martha Berry Johnson (widow of Elmer), a Penn graduate and the daughter of Dr. William E. Berry, an influential longtime Penn faculty member, and granddaughter of Penn President Absalom Rosenberger.

ARCHITECTURE

The attempt to convey a picturesque feeling--through a complex roof configuration, an irregular footprint, and wall surfaces broken by architectural details, such as the bay window on the east elevation--shows the influence of the Queen Anne taste. The columns and railings of this porch relate its design to the Free Classic architectural subtype within that style. Although these architectural elements and details elevate the house above many homes of similar vintage and architectural influence in Oskaloosa, the building lacks sufficient architectural significance in its own right for nomination to the National Register, under Criterion C.

REPRESENTATION IN OTHER CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEYS

The Johnson House was surveyed in 1981 as part of the Area XV Regional Planning Commission's then comprehensive cultural resources surveys of Mahaska County. At that time, the Historical Survey did not identify or evaluate the building within the context of education in Oskaloosa. The Architectural Survey evaluated the building as not eligible for nomination, under National Register Criterion C. In the intervening years, more information has come to light regarding the Johnson House and its place within the historic context "The Quaker Testimony in Oskaloosa, Iowa."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 6

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

POTENTIAL FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Although the site's potential for archaeological research is, as yet, unevaluated, there appears to be little if any in this regard.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

Page 7

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

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Oskaloosa City Directories

1907-08
1910-11
1914-15
1919-20
1921-22
1934

SECONDARY

Housing list prepared by Oskaloosa Monthly Meeting volunteers, 1992.

Naumann, Molly Myers; *Architectural Survey of Oskaloosa, Iowa*; Report prepared by the Area XV Regional Planning Commission and on file at the State Historical Society of Iowa; 1981.

Page, William C.; *Historical Survey of Mahaska County, Iowa*; Report prepared by the Area XV Regional Planning Commission and on file at the State Historical Society of Iowa; 1981.

Page, William C., and Joanne R. Walroth; *Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the Quaker Testimony in Oskaloosa, also including the Chicago, Rock Island, & Pacific Railroad Area*; Report prepared for and on file at the Oskaloosa Historic Preservation Commission and State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines; 1992.

ORAL INFORMANTS

Martha Berry Johnson, interview with Joanne R. Walroth, February 7, 1992.

Martha Berry Johnson, interview with William C. Page, May 22, 1995.

Howard Johnson, interview with Joanne R. Walroth, February 7, 1992.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 8

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The south 164 feet by the east 60 feet of Lot 8 in Mendenhall's Addition to the City of Oskaloosa.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The National Register boundary contains all land associated historically with this resource.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 9

CFN-259-1116

William A. and Ida C. Johnson House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. William A. and Ida Johnson House
307 College Avenue
Oskaloosa, IA 52557
Looking northeast
Patricia Pierce Patterson, Photographer
April 24, 1994
2. William A. and Ida Johnson House
307 College Avenue
Oskaloosa, IA 52557
Looking southeast
Patricia Pierce Patterson, Photographer
April 24, 1994