

Iowa Site Inventory

Office of Historic Preservation
Iowa State Historical Department
East 12th & Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Site Number 59
District Name _____
Map Reference # 59

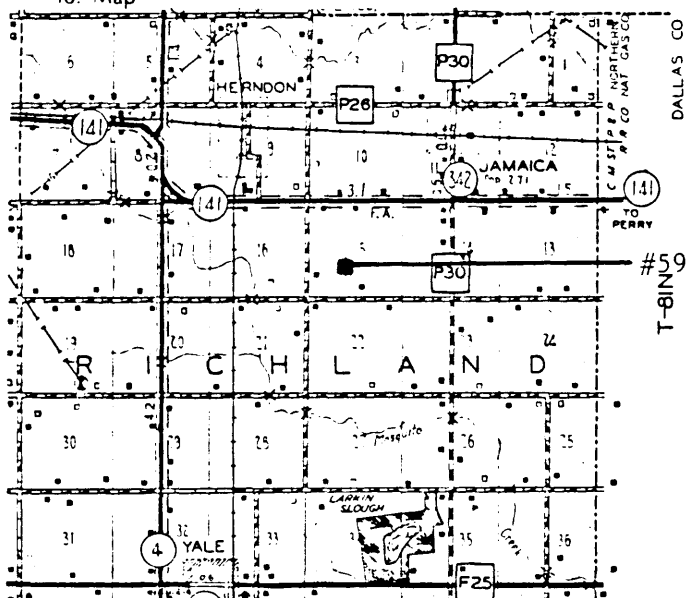
Identification

1. Site Name Octagon Barn, Richland Twp., Guthrie County
2. Village/Town/City Jamaica vic. Township Richland County Guthrie
3. Street Address Off IA 141
4. Legal Location 81 N 30 W 15 NE 1/4 of SE 1/4
Urban: Rural: subdivision township block range parcel section subparcel 1/4 section of 1/4 section
5. UTM Location: zone 15 easting 389,030 northing 4,630,800; Acreage less than one acre
6. Owner(s) Name Elmer and Beulah Burk
7. Owner(s) Address _____
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Gen'l purpose barn Original Gen'l purpose barn

Description

9. Date of Construction 1881 Architect/Builder _____
10. Building Type:
 single-family dwelling industrial other institutional religious
 multiple-family dwelling educational public agricultural
 commercial
11. Exterior Walls: clapboard stone brick board and batten shingles stucco
 other Horizontal sawed wood.
12. Structural System: wood frame with interlocking joints wood frame with light members (balloon frame)
 masonry load-bearing walls iron frame steel frame with curtain walls reinforced concrete
 other _____
13. Condition: excellent good fair deteriorated
14. Integrity: original site moved—if so, when? _____
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:
See reverse side.
15. Related Outbuildings and Property: barn other farm structures carriage house garage privy
 other _____
16. Is the building endangered? no yes—if so, why? _____
17. Surroundings of the building: open land woodland scattered outbuildings densely built-up commercial
 industrial residential other _____

18. Map



19. Photo Roll 641 Frame 23 View _____

VBD: A circle 90' in diameter, based on center point of barn, includes barn only.

MAY 27 1986

Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

20. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

N/A

Continuation of 14. Integrity.

Approximately 70' diameter 28' on a side. Bank barn style with drive to loft floor. Cupola missing. Modified hip roof. Wood shingles. Stone foundation.

21. Historical Significance

Theme(s) Octagon; Coffin type.

- a. Key structure individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

Oldest known octagon barn still existing on an Iowa farm. The modified hip roof of this barn specifically characterizes it as a Coffin type, most likely influenced by the 1867 Webster County barn of Lorenzo S. Coffin. Other identifying characteristics include the heavy timber construction, rectangular plan, and general purpose use. Lorenzo S. Coffin, a stock breeder, and farm editor of the Fort Dodge Messenger, is credited with building the first round barn in Iowa.

22. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Elmer and Beulah Burk, Jamaica, IA 50128

Soike, Lowell J. Without Right Angles. Des Moines, Iowa: Iowa State Historical Department, Office of Historic Preservation, 1983.

Prepared by _____ Date _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Organization _____

For Office of Historic Preservation Use Only

1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: _____
- Determination of Eligibility

Review and Compliance Project:

- Other _____
- Other _____
- Other _____

2. Subject Traces

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

3. Photo Images _____

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____