Form	No	10-300	(Rev.	10-74)
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PH0502049

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ON	LY
RECEIVED AUG	8 1977
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DATE ENTERED	TH N & J J B

#### SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

HISTORIC				
	ion Estate			·
AND/OR COMMON	<b>-</b>			
Pinecrest		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER				
Valley Driv	<i>v</i> e		NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	
Centervill	le	VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE
			Appanoose	<u> </u>
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
_XBUILDING(S)	<u>X</u> private	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESID
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTAT
OWNER OF	PROPERTY	- i. <u></u>	<u> </u>	
NAME J.B. MC(	<b>PROPERTY</b> Conville, M.D.			
NAME J.B. Mc( STREET & NUMBER				
NAME J.B. MC(			STATE	
NAME J.B. Mc( STREET & NUMBER R.R. 3 CITY, TOWN Centery	Conville, M.D.		state Iowa 52544	
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CONDITION

EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	XORIGINAL	SITE
<u>X</u> GOOD	RUINS	ALTERED	MOVED	DATE
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Vermilion estate, which dates from 1870, consists of a main house and outbuildings, set on a wooded knoll to the west of, and overlooking, the town of Centerville. The grounds immediately surrounding the house contain an apple orchard, pine, hickory, oak, and other shade trees, the profusion of greenery contributing to the character of this country house.

The house is a well-proportioned example of vernacular Italianate architecture, designed by Burlington architect C.A. Dunham. It is of frame construction, with a hipped roof and stone foundation, 44' wide and 52' deep. There are three brick chimneys, now covered in cement. The basically rectangular plan was extended in the rear shortly after the original construction.

A variety of detail characterizes the house. Paired brackets with decorative jigsaw work support the side eaves. While the cornice frieze in the rear is plain, that of the main block is denticular. First-floor windows are taller than those of the second story, with 2/2 lights in flat-headed box frames and bracketted hoods. Second-floor windows (also 2/2) have curved heads and plain wooden hoods. On the south side is a bay, with similar bracketting and cornicework. The main entrance porch is likewise detailed, and supported by square, slender wooden posts. The door itself is tall and narrow.

The rear section is rather simpler than the main block, with single pendant brackets and flat-headed windows lacking hoods. There is a small veranda on the west side.

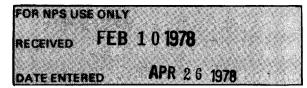
Interior decorative features date from the original construction, including a quarterturn walnut staircase, panelled doors (some with etched glass), dining-room fireplace, two chandeliers and several "beehive" light fixtures.

In close proximity to the house are six other structures, three of which ("gazebo", barn and granary) were built during the decade 1870-80 and are thus associated with the first owner of the estate. Other structures are a garage (ca. 1910), playhouse (ca. 1920), and chicken house (1942). While none of these buildings is architecturally significant, the first three may be considered important through their association with the original estate.

The "gazebo" is a small, square, hipped-roof structure, with corner posts and lattice walls. Detail is provided in the curved, keystoned door heads. Its location behind, rather that in front of or beside, the house, suggests that it may have originally been a work area for a summer kitchen. The barn is typical of its kind, of boardand-batten construction below a wide gable roof with a shed extension. The granary is straightforward, with a gable roof, horizontal siding (vertical in the gable ends), and wooden grain bins on either side of a wide "drive-through". Although these latter two buildings are weatherbeaten, they are structurally sound.

The entire estate comprises 26 acres, mostly wooded pastureland. The main house and outbuildings are within an area approximately 400' x 300' (see diagram). The 26 acres included in this nomination are all that are left of Vermilion's original estate. While they have no major significance, they are an integral part of the historical and environmental character of the estate.

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



Vermilion Estate, Centerville vic., Appanoose County, Iowa

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Boundary/acreage discussion:

The 26 acres included in this nomination may be justified on two points. First, the Vermilion Estate is not an in-town property, but a type of agricultural complex, albeit on a rather small scale. At least part of the Vermilions' livelihood was made through agriculture, probably in livestock or horses with cultivation limited primarily to feed crops. Without grazing land, there would have been no use for a barn or granary: thus the acreage of woods and pasture is a principal element in the historical and environmental character of the Vermilion Estate.

The second point is rather weaker, but worthy of consideration. Vermilion's landholdings were originally over 40 acres. Through the years, sections have passed into other ownership: 11 acres are in corn and there are a few small acreages with new (or comparatively new) reisdences. The 26 acres included in this nomination comprise the intact remains of Vermilion's land and thus on grounds of historical association might properly be included in the National Register.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	LAGRICULTURE LEBONICH	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE 2117178	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DAT	es 1870	BURDER/ARCH	HITECT C.A. Dunham (a	and Jordan), Burlington

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Vermilion house demonstrates a very competent handling of the Italianate style as expressed in frame construction. It was designed by the Burlington firm of C.A. Dunham and Jordan. Noteworthy are the graceful proportions and fine use of detail. The whole is enhanced by the hilltop setting, with its orchard and variety of shade trees. The various outbuildings, while not significant individually, maintain the integrity of this property as a 19th-century rural estate.

The house was built for W.F. Vermilion (1830-1894), who was born in Kentucky and came to Iowa in 1857 as a physician after attending De Pauw University and Rush Medical College in Chicago. During the Civil War, he was commissioned captain in the 36th Iowa Infantry. After the war he studied for - and was admitted to - the Iowa bar, and served one term in the Iowa Senate as a Republican. The civil township of Vermilion, east of Centerville, was named after him.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Taylor, L.L. (ed.) Pa		ppanoose County, Io	wa. Chicago: S.J.	4
Clarke Publishing C Thompson, Lewis S. (e	o., 1913. d.) Biographical a	nd Geneological His	tory of Appanoose and	
Monroe Counties, Io	wa. New York: Lewi	s Publishing Co., 1	903.	a <b>t</b> a
"Specifications Ca (transcribed from o	pt. W.F. Vermilion' riginal. copy with	Division of Histori	ham and Jordan, archite c Preservation, Iowa Ci	ty)
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ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPER				
UTM REFERENCES				
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRI				
Commencing at the SW corr noose County, Iowa, then				
line of the SW4SE4 of Sec	ction 35, Twp. 69, I	Range 18, thence not	th 18.8 rods, thence we	st
5 feet, thence north to t	the north line of sa	aid 40 acres, thence	e west 35 feet, thence s	outh
to a point 4 rods south of thence west620 feet, then				
thence west, to the west	line of the NW4SE4	Section 35, Twp. 69	, Range 18, thence sout	
the place of beginning,	COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIE	S OVERLAPPING STATE OF ETIVINg Same.		~~~
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
11 FORM PREPARED	BY			-
11 FORM PREPARED	BY			-
NAME / TITLE J.B. McConvil			DATE	
NAME / TITLE			DATE	
NAME / TITLE J.B. McConvil Organization Street & NUMBER			DATE TELEPHONE	
NAME / TITLE J.B. McConvil ORGANIZATION				
NAME / TITLE J.B. McConvil Organization Street & NUMBER R.R. 3		Iowa 52	TELEPHONE	
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