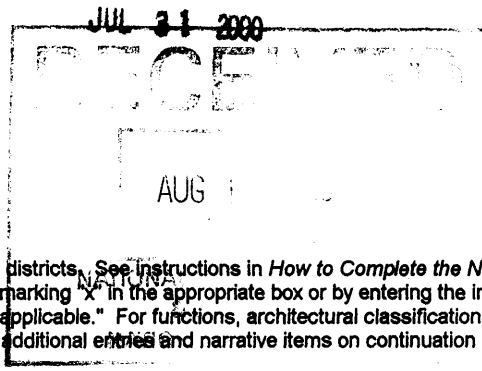


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



1081

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 an 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 Moorhead, Joseph and Clara Amanda H., House

other names/site number Site Number 57-00457

2. Location

street & number 88 Palisades Access Road N/A not for publication

city or town Ely vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Linn code 113 zip code 52227

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 Omlen King DSND 8-2-11
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 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 the Keeper

9/14/00
Date of Action

Moorhead House
Name of Property

Linn 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 the count.)

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

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Early Settlement & Ethnic Archeological and Architectural Properties of Linn County, Iowa

N/A

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)

OTHER: Heavy Timber Frame Cottage

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/Limestone
walls SYNTHETIC/vinyl

roof ASPHALT
other _____

Narrative Description

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

Moorhead House
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa
County and State

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 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)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c.1859

Significant Dates

c.1859

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Moorhead, Joseph

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _____

Moorhead House
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	[1][5]	[6][2][1][5][4][0]	[4][6][3][5][7][8][0]	2	[][]	[][][][]	[][][][][]
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	[][]	[][][][][]	[][][][][][]	4	[][]	[][][][][]	[][][][][][]
							[] 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 Leah D. Rogers/Consultant

organization Linn County Historic Preservation Commission date July 27, 2000

street & number 217 NW 5th Street telephone 319-895-8330

city or town Mt. Vernon state IA zip code 52314

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the complete 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 Jerry and Linda Regan

street & number 88 Palisades Access Road telephone 319-848-7681

city or town Ely state IA zip code 52227

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**Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa****Narrative Description**

The Joseph and Clara Amanda Moorhead House is located on the west side of Palisades Access Road in the SW1/4 of Section 34, T82N-R6W, Putnam Township, Linn County, Iowa (Figure 1, Page 7). The barn that was originally associated with this house is located on the opposite side of the road east of the house. The barn is now under separate ownership and is not included in the present nomination for that reason. The barn is also in an advancing state of collapse and is too far gone at this point to save. The other extant buildings of this former farmstead include a corncrib and a hog house; however, the current nomination includes only the house as these outbuildings (except for the barn) were built after the period of significance for this property (i.e., after the 1850s). There was also up until recently a second banked/basement barn to the north of the extant barn, but it was in such poor condition that it was demolished. Unfortunately, the extant barn is in a similar state and will likely be torn down in the foreseeable future.

House (Iowa Inventory #57-05520)

The house on this property sits on the west side of the north-south road that subdivides this property into two halves. The house currently has a gable-front-and-wing configuration but originated as a side-gabled house two stories in height and facing south. In later years, two gabled ells, two stories in height and balloon-frame in construction, were added to the north side, with a porch added off the west side of the north additions in more recent years. A more recent shed-roofed porch wraps around the north and east sides of the house.

The entire house is presently clad with vinyl siding, although it is of an appropriate "clapboard" width compatible with the original siding appearance and noting that the original clapboard siding is still intact underneath the vinyl siding. The foundation is limestone, with a cellar underneath the east half of the original core. This core is of heavy timber-frame, post-and-beam construction but has no infill in-between the posts and beams (Jerry Regan, personal communication 2000). The posts, beams, and sills are all rough-hewn timbers, with several still retaining the original bark. The joinery is mortise-and-tenon fastened with wooden pegs. The floorplan shows a central hall plan, with the stairs to the second floor located in the central hall. A small attic space is present underneath the gabled roofline.

The majority of the windows are the original 6/6 double-hungs with smaller square windows, with six divided lights, across the second-floor south facade. These smaller windows are not fixed but slide up into the wall cavity above the windows. These windows appear original to the construction. There are modern replacement windows of a 6/6 muntin configuration on the west gable end and one on the lower west side of the front facade but the remainder of the windows are original. There are also several modern windows inserted in the later north-side additions. An enclosed shed-roofed porch was added to the west side (rear) of the house. A door on the east gable end was infilled years ago.

The house roof is a squat gabled form covered with asphalt shingles. The south facade has a central door flanked by single windows. The entry is covered by a gabled portico porch supported by square wooden posts. This porch appears original to the construction of the house as it is fashioned of boards and hand-made trim that are all fastened with square nails. Side railings have since been removed but the mortises are still in evidence where the tenoned rails were once inserted. The floor of the porch is a newer wooden floor that rests on limestone slabs. The front door itself is a modern replacement.

The interior retains the original staircase to the second floor, the wooden steps of which show many years of wear. The railing around the second floor of the staircase also appears original and is a simple rail with square balusters. At least one vertical plank door and much of the interior trim and flooring appears original to the house. Interestingly, much of the trim was fastened with very large square nails.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 **Page** 2

**Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa**

While the original house has been impacted by the application of modern vinyl siding, the additions to the north side, and the replacement of the front door and some windows, it does retain sufficient integrity as a rare survivor of an Early Settlement Era heavy timber-frame post-and-beam dwelling to be individually eligible as a significant Early Settlement Era building, specifically the early homestead of Joseph Moorhead. Despite the modifications, Moorhead could easily recognize this building as his house were he to return today. The view of this property from the south looking towards the front of the house, still presents a sense of time and place (see attached photographs).

The present owners, Jerry and Linda Regan, are very interested in the history of this house and its preservation. It is in recognition of the rarity of survival of this Early Settlement Era house type and to aid in its future restoration and preservation that this nomination is being set forth.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 3**Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa****Statement of Significance**

The Joseph and Clara Amanda Moorhead House is locally significant under Criterion C for the architectural significance of its heavy timber frame construction and as a surviving representation of the Early Settlement Era in Linn County, Iowa. The house represents a rare survival of an early heavy timber frame house, which retains sufficient integrity to be considered a significant Early Settlement Era dwelling. While it has been impacted by modern modifications, it still retains enough integrity of location, setting, design, feeling and association to be considered National Register eligible as an individual building. The association of this house with Joseph Moorhead and his early settlement in this township is strong, and it still presents the appearance of an early dwelling despite the vinyl siding and additions. The period of significance and significant date is the approximate year of construction, c.1859. This house replaced the original log house on this property, which Moorhead occupied for only a few years before constructing this house.

This property meets the registration requirements for the Property Type: Buildings, Structures, and Sites Associated with the Early Settlement of Linn County, Iowa: 1830s-1860s because it retains sufficient integrity and is a good example of an early, but now rare, house type constructed during the Early Settlement Era of Linn County. Specifically, this house is of heavy timber frame construction, which represents a transition between the earliest type of construction—the log cabin, and the common type of later construction—balloon framing. While perhaps once a common type of construction itself, this heavy timber frame example today represents a rare survivor in the areas surveyed to date in Linn County (see Rogers 1998).

Heavy timber frame construction is of ancient origin and was used for both houses and outbuildings. In Linn County, the most common occurrence of heavy timber framing is in the nineteenth-century barns of the rural countryside. In many respects, the Moorhead house is built like a barn but on a smaller scale. The most common type of heavy timber frame construction for dwellings is the half-timbered house type which has the spaces in-between the posts and beams filled with “brick, wattle and daub, or even cord wood” (Howe et al. 1987:109).

These infilling methods could be covered with stucco, or the entire structure could be covered with wood siding. This type of house construction is usually associated with the colonial period, but it also was used later. For example, German settlers in Old Salem, North Carolina, and Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, employed it extensively. This construction technique later spread to the Midwest as Germans migrated there in the nineteenth century (*ibid.*).

Heavy timber frame and half-timbered construction have also been observed to have been common in the German and Pennsylvania-Dutch settlements in Ohio, and Joseph Moorhead’s roots in Ohio might well account for the choice of this construction type for his Iowa homestead (Wilhelm 1992:66). While half-timbered construction involves infill of brick or other dense material, the spaces in-between the posts and beam framing of the Moorhead house were left unfilled with interior insulation provided only by heavy plaster. This is the only known example of this type of early heavy timber frame construction known to be extant in the area of Linn County intensively surveyed to date (Rogers 1998; Rogers and Page 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996).

The 1998 intensive survey of Early Settlement Era architectural properties in Subsection P (College and Putnam townships) in Linn County documented three heavy timber frame houses (Rogers 1998). These included the Josias Minor house, the Henry Rogers House, and the Joseph Moorhead house. However, all three differ somewhat in their construction, with the Minor and Rogers houses being the more traditional half-timbered construction and the Moorhead house being a simpler heavy timber-frame post-and-beam construction, very much like a barn in its construction. The Minor house had straw infill, while the Rogers house had the more typical brick infill or “nogging.” The nativity of these three early settlers in Pennsylvania (Minor) and Ohio (Rogers and Moorhead) may account for their selection of the heavy timber frame and half-timbered construction due to their familiarity with these construction techniques in their native states. While the Minor, Rogers, and Moorhead families are of English or Scotch/Irish descent, they were likely familiar with the German immigrant building trends in their home states of Ohio and Pennsylvania.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4 Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa

Joseph Moorhead was born in Holmes County, Ohio, on January 15, 1828. He married Clara Amanda Heller of Chemung County, New York, on March 1, 1849. Together they had four children: James, Moses H., Alice, and Annie. In 1855, the family migrated to Linn County where Joseph and Clara purchased the subject property. According to his obituary, after Joseph Moorhead settled on this property, he lived for "a few years in a log house" (*Cedar Rapids Gazette* 1903). Therefore, the extant house represents the second house on this property but would have been built within a few years of settling. Since it was shown at this location on the 1859 map, it is concluded that this house was built c.1859 (McWilliams and Thompson 1859).

The 1856 Iowa State Population Census, listed Moorhead as a farmer living in Putnam Township. The 1860 U.S. Population Census listed the Moorhead household in Putnam Township as including Joseph, aged 32; wife, Clara A., aged 30; and children, James (10), Moses (8), and Mary A. (one month). It is suspected that "Mary A." more commonly went by her middle name "Alice." By the 1870 U.S. Population Census, daughter Annie had been added to the household. She was then six years of age. Both Mary Alice and Annie had been born in Iowa, while James and Moses had been born in Ohio. By 1870, Joseph Moorhead appeared to be a successful farmer having an estimated \$6000 in real estate and over \$2600 in personal property.

The 1860 U.S. Agricultural Census listed Moorhead's farm as containing 50 improved and 130 unimproved acres for a total farm valuation of \$880. He had \$40 worth of farm implements, seven horses, three milk cows, seven other cattle, and six swine. Moorhead raised Indian corn (600 bushels), wheat (220 bu), oats (160 bu), and Irish potatoes (30 bu). He also produced 100 pounds of butter and cut 10 tons of hay. By the 1870 agricultural census, he had added 10 acres to his landholdings, with 160 acres now improved for a total farm valuation of \$6000. He had \$200 worth of farm implements and \$2450 in livestock. He had nine horses, seven milk cows, 18 other cattle, 16 sheep, and 62 swine. Crops included Indian corn (1500 bu), oats (680 bu), spring wheat (270 bu), Irish potatoes (80 bu), and beans (3 bu). Wool produced weighed 70 pounds, with 750 pounds of butter produced. Twenty-five tons of hay had been cut. These data show a growing and prosperous farming operation.

The Moorheads lived in this house until 1881 when they moved into Marion after Joseph had been elected Linn County Auditor. Joseph and Clara A. would live in Marion for another twenty years before her passing in 1901. Joseph then moved to Wichita, Kansas, where he lived with one of their daughters and her family. It was in Kansas that Joseph Moorhead passed away on April 21, 1903. Both Joseph and Clara A. are buried in Rogers Grove Cemetery near their old homestead (*Cedar Rapids Gazette* 1901, 1903).

Interestingly, the Moorheads retained possession of the old homestead until 1900 when it was sold to Joseph and Anna Voitisek. In 1915, the property was transferred to Annie E. Voitisek, who eventually deeded the property to Coe College in Cedar Rapids through a bequest in 1963 (Land Transfer Indices, Linn County Auditor's Office, Cedar Rapids, Iowa). It was later sold and split into two separate parcels, with the barn on the east side separated from the house on the west side of the road. The present owners are Michael Erenberger (the barn) and Jerry and Linda Regan (the house).

It was said of Joseph Moorhead that:

[he] was one of the early settlers of this county [Linn], to which district he removed when the work of civilization and improvement had scarcely been begun. His life was devoted to farming and school-teaching, and in both departments he was very successful. The cause of education ever found in him a stalwart friend, for he realized its value to the individual as a preparation for life's work and to the nation as one of the bulwarks upon which the stability of the country depends. His worth made him one of the influential and valued citizens of this part of the county and he was called to the office of assessor and was also made one of the trustees of the state reform school. In all the public positions to which he was called he discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity and in the record of his business life there was not one single esoteric phase (ibid.).

He served for six years as county auditor and six years as trustee of the state reform school at Eldora. He was counted among the "influential citizens" of Linn County upon his passing in 1903 (*Cedar Rapids Gazette* 1903).

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

**Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa**

Section number 9 Page 5

Major Bibliographic References

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1994 *Linn County Comprehensive Planning Project Phase Three: Archaeological, Historical, and Architectural Survey Subsections C & Q*. Prepared for Linn County Historic Preservation Commission and the State Historical Society of Iowa.

1995 *Linn County Comprehensive Planning Project Phase Four: Archaeological, Historical, and Architectural Survey Subsection B*. Prepared for Linn County Historic Preservation Commission and the State Historical Society of Iowa.

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Iowa State Population Census 1856

U.S. Agricultural Censuses 1860, 1870

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 **Page** 6 **Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa**

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Moorhead House is shown as the dashed line on the map entitled "Plan Map of the Moorhead House Property."

Boundary Justification

This boundary encompasses the Moorhead House and the surrounding house yard bounded on the east by the road ditch and on the south by the driveway.

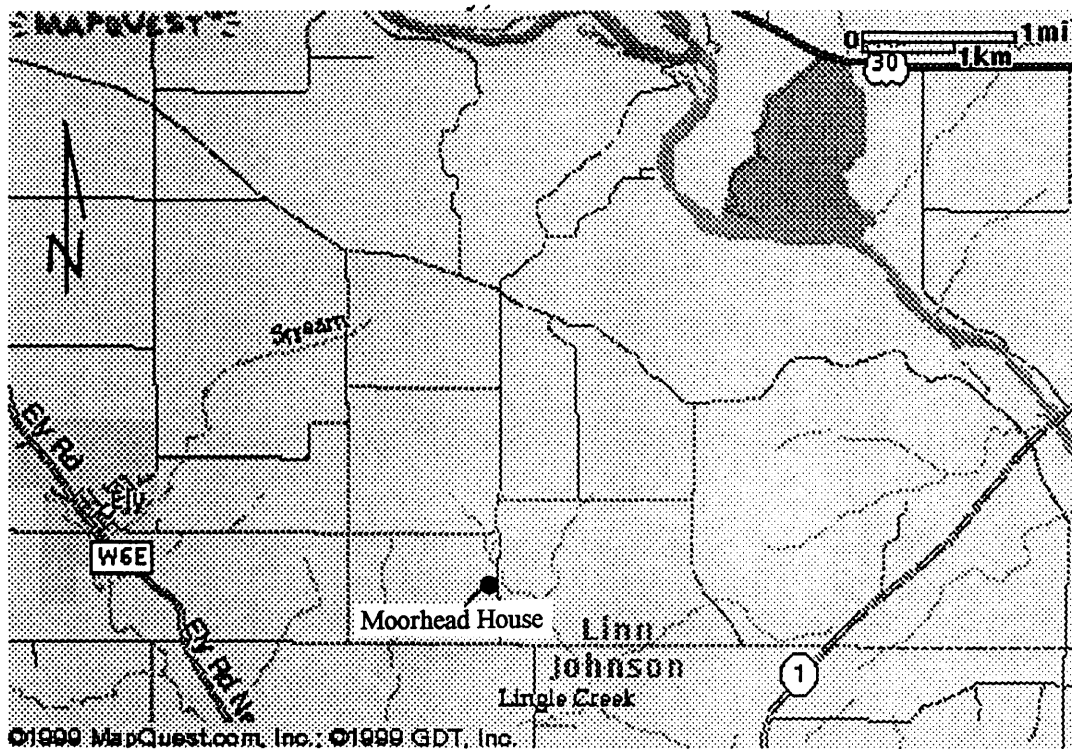
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National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 7

**Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa**

Figure 1. General Location Map of Moorhead House



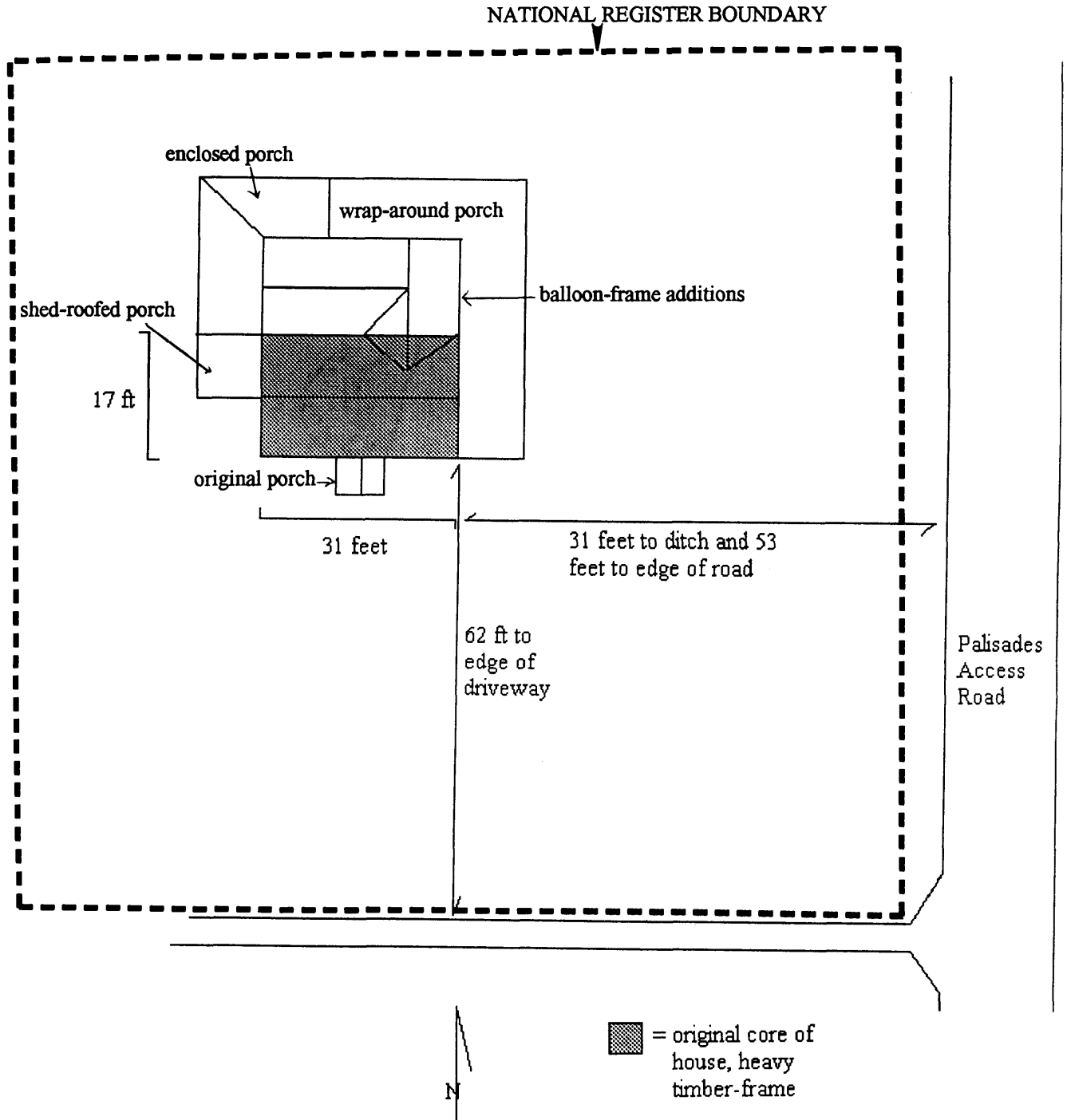
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 8

Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa

Figure 2. Plan Map of the Moorhead House Property



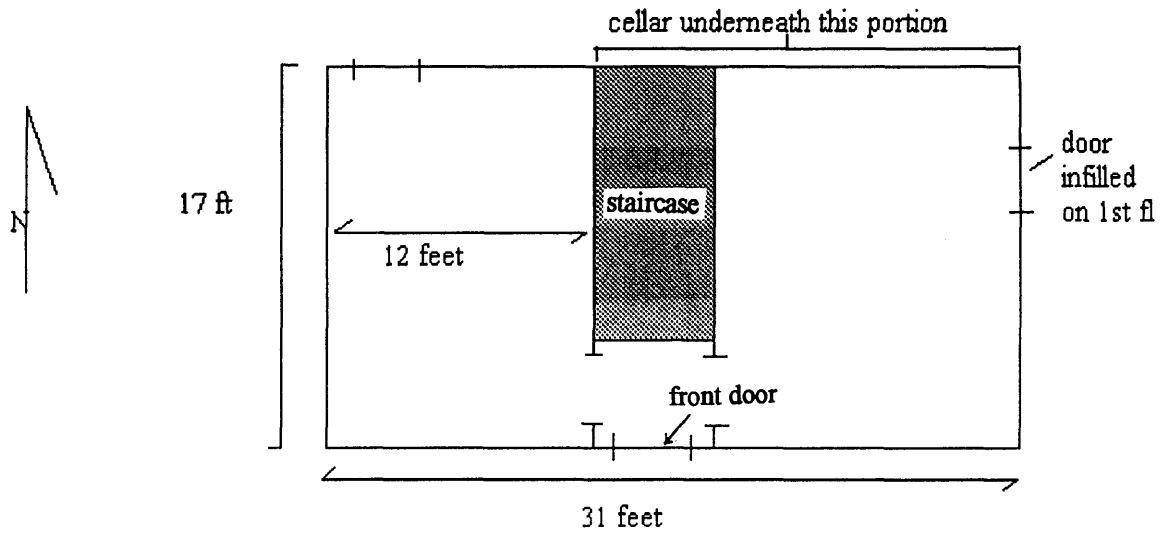
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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 9

Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa

Floor Plan of Moorhead House



Floorplan of Original Core of House

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 10

**Moorhead House
Linn County, Iowa**

Photographs

Photographer: Leah D. Rogers

Date of Photographs: March 2000

Location of Negatives: State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines

- #1 General view of House, view to the NNW
- #2 Original core of House, view to the WNW
- #3 Original core of House, view to the NNW
- #4 House, view to the WNW
- #5 House, view to the NE
- #6 Detail of second-floor windows, view to the NNE
- #7 Detail of front porch, view to the NE
- #8 Interior staircase, view to the South
- #9 Detail of hewn floor beam exposed in cellar, view to the SW
- #10 Detail of cellar wall construction, view to the West

