

# Iowa Site Inventory

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

Site Number 77N 29W - 35  
District Name Legacy In Stone TR  
Map Reference # 58

## Identification

1. Site Name Peter and Isabelle McCulloch McQuie Milkhouse
2. Village/Town/City Vic. Earlham Township Penn County Madison
3. Street Address 1 1/4 miles east of P53 on unnamed road, section 35
4. Legal Location 77N 29W 35 NE1/4 NW 1/4\*  

Urban:	subdivision	block	parcel	subparcel
Rural:	township	range	section	1/4 section of 1/4 section
- (Map 7) 15 403,120 4,587,030
5. UTM Location: zone 15 easting 403,120 northing 4,587,030; Acreage less than one acre
6. Owner(s) Name Mrs. Gale Manston
7. Owner(s) Address 501 Cherry St. Earlham IA 50072  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Storage Original Milk house/living quarters

## Description

9. Date of Construction 1870's Architect/Builder unknown
10. Building Type:
 

<input type="checkbox"/> single-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> other institutional	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> multiple-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/> commercial			
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other Native limestone
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:
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other barn has stone first story
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 farmsted

18. Map

19. Photo

Roll \_\_\_\_\_ Frame \_\_\_\_\_ View \_\_\_\_\_

\*Nomination description:

A circle, 50' diameter, with center point located at center point of milkhouse. Includes only subject building.

## SIGNIFICANCE

### 20. Architectural Significance

—a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register

—b. Contributing structure \_\_\_\_\_

Theme(s): Vernacular Architecture

Subtheme(s): Function: Agricultural.

The Peter and Isabelle McCulloch McQuie Milk House is an early example of a vernacular farm building built of limestone. It is the only extant duplexed building. It consists of a single cell milk house with centered gable entrance in the front and what may have been a single cell residence with under eave entrance toward the rear of the facade. Notable features include stone bunkers through which water ran to cool the milk.

The 15' x 24' one story gabled building is constructed of ashlar and rubble limestone which may have been quarried at the Parkins Quarry in Madison Township, Section 18. The north two thirds of the building is a milk house. The south back one third, separated by a stone wall, may have been a residence for a hired hand. The north public facade with normal road setback has a centered gable entrance. The east main residential entrance facade has an under eave door with flanking windows. The door is not centered, but toward the back of the building. The south facade has no openings, and the west facade has two under eave windows, one to each room.

The north and east public facades are constructed of ashlar with the face roughly finished with a square ended tool. Stonework is coursed with random bond and ribbon joints. These facades have a protruding water table with margin lines and exaggerated quarry faced texturing. Quoins and jambs are ashlar with margin lines and roughly tooled with a square ended tool. Lintels on these facades have protruding cornices. Sills on all facades are protruding and have axed texturing. The west and south facades are constructed of rubble with three against one broken bond within broad courses and with ribbon joints. Lintels on the west facade are dimension stone with margin lines. Jambs are quarry faced finished cut stone. Window treatment consists of splayed windows with plain wood paneling in the reveals and some decorative wood trim around the windows. Sashes are four over four. The recessed doors have plain wood covering one-half of the width of the reveals. The overhanging eaves and verges are closed with mitred soffits and have mited boards against the stone.

There is a flue within the stone wall separating the milk house from the residence and opening into the residence. There is a small square stone chimney at the gable ridge. The milk house has two stone bunkers along the entire west wall which could be used for water to cool the milk. They have a drain to the north exterior of the building. There is a stone trap door to a cellar under the milk house.

Although the stone probably came from Parkins Quarry, the builder is unknown. There is a large barn associated with the building which has a first story built of stone.

### 21. Historical Significance

--a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register

—b. Contributing Structure \_\_\_\_\_

Theme(s) Early Settlement

Peter and Isabelle McQuie came to the United States from Scotland in 1857. In 1871 they came to Madison County, bought a 320 acre farm and built many fine buildings. By 1875, the family was well established. They eventually owned 680 acres.

Atlas of Madison Co., Iowa Philadelphia: Harrison & Warner, 1875.

Courthouse Records. Winterset, Iowa: Madison County Recorders' Office.

Mueller, Herman. History of Madison County, Iowa, 2 vols. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1915.

**22. Sources**

Prepared by: Roslea Johnson  
Organization: Des Moines Area Community College  
Address: Public & Human Services  
              2006 Ankeny Blvd  
              Ankeny, IA 50021  
Date: November 1986  
Telephone: (515) 964-6310