

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

DEC 27 1982

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Burnett-Montgomery House

and/or common James H. Montgomery House

2. Location

street & number 605 North Third Street

not for publication

city, town Fairfield

vicinity of

state Iowa

code 19

county Jefferson

code 101

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lydia L. Montgomery

street & number 605 North third Street

city, town Fairfield

vicinity of

state Iowa 52556

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson Co unty Courthouse

street & number 51 East Briggs Avenue

city, town Fairfield

state Iowa 52556

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Area XV Survey

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981-2

federal state county local

depository for survey records Sieda Area Office/Iowa SHPO (Des Moines, Iowa)

city, town Ottumwa

state Iowa

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This is a well preserved example of a late Italianate brick residence. It exhibits a restraint in design somewhat unusual during this exuberant period. The careful craftsmanship and attention to details make this otherwise simple structure outstanding. This is the only example in Jefferson County of a cast iron porch, and the hoodmolds are of a different design than those found on other Fairfield residences. This was built as a quality residence and has been maintained in the same manner.

This is a two and a half story late Italianate brick residence (1888) with cast iron wrap around porch across the west and south sides. The cast stone hood molds feature an incised Eastlake design. Large scroll brackets appear to be of wood and are placed on a frieze of narrow vertical boards. The house appears basically unaltered except for the raised roof and dormers, and the bay on the south. The structure (with carriage house) sits on a landscaped lot slightly larger than one-half city block. The residential character of the immediate neighborhood remains, although houses from later periods now dominate. The size of the Montgomery lot protects it from visual intrusions.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1888–1932 **Builder/Architect** James H. Montgomery

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This well preserved brick Italianate house, in addition to its architectural significance, calls to thematic attention the importance of industry in the development of Fairfield, Iowa.

Joel Turney & Co. was Jefferson County's largest private sector employer prior to World War One. The firm was one of the early factories of large scale in the community. The firm manufactured farm wagons. "Rugged construction and quality workmanship made 'Charter Oak' and 'Fairfield' wagons highly desirable to midwestern farmers." (Welty, *A Fair Field*, p. 285). The company began operations in Fairfield in 1888. It was privately owned by four partners: Joel Turney, the founder; Dillon Turney and Ellsworth E. Turney, his sons; and James H. Montgomery.

Three extant buildings in Fairfield bear witness to the importance of this industry in the community:

Factory Buildings	501 North Eighth St.
Dillon Turney House	405 East Burlington
James H. Montgomery House	605 North Third St.

Two other buildings associated with the company are non-extant:

Joel Turney House	Corner North 4th & Kirkwood
Ellsworth E. Turney House	300 West Burlington

James H. Montgomery (1860–1948) was Superintendent of the company and the only partner unrelated to the other three. He bought the Burnett-Montgomery House in 1906. Burnett, a local lumber merchant built the house in 1888. Montgomery lived here until his death in 1948. With Dillon Turney, Montgomery continued the successful production of wagons after the death of Joel and retirement of Ellsworth Turney. Montgomery ceased operations at the factory after Dillon's death in 1932. The Great Depression and decline in popularity of horse-drawn wagons were also factors.

Industry remains an important theme in the economic development of Fairfield. Over the years, Fairfield has attracted much industry and Joel Turney & Co. was the first to come through active solicitation. The company contributed much to civic pride in manufacturing.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Fairfield North

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UTM References

A

1	1	5
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 Zone

5	8	7	0	1	0
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 Easting

4	5	4	0	6	5	0
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 Northing

B

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

C

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 Zone

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting

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 Northing

D

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

E

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

F

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

G

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

H

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 Zone

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 Easting

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 Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

North 124' of SW quarter of Block 20, Henn-Williams Addition, Fairfield.

This property contains the house and carriage house only.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state Iowa code 19 county Jefferson code 101

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

organization Iowa SHPO

date December 10, 1982

street & number Historical Building
East 12th and Grand Avenue

telephone 515-281-4137

city or town Des Moines

state Iowa 50319

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

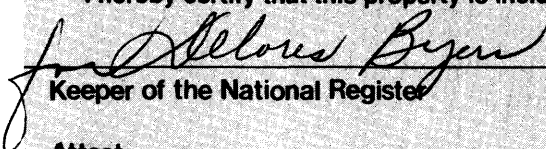


title Executive Director Iowa State Historical Department

date November 24, 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register



Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 1/27/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 1

PRIMARY

Abstract of Title; property Lydia L Montgomery
Fairfield, IA.

Fairfield Ledger; 7 Feb 1883; p 3 c 5: "One of the hand-
somest & most stylish residence in Fairfield is
that of..."

Fairfield Ledger; 12 Dec 1883; p 3.

Fairfield Ledger; 18 Jan 1888; p 3 c 4; "Went up in Flames."

Fairfield Ledger; 15 Feb 1888; p 3 c 3; "Materials on the
ground with which to erect a new residence."

Fairfield Ledger; 11 July 1888; p 3 c 2; "The fine resi-
dence of J. W. Burnett is finished."

Fairfield Ledger; 27 Feb 1928; p 1 c 2; roof fire.

Fairfield Ledger; 2 May 1928; p 5 c 6; roof fire.

Albumen Print; property Lydia Montgomery. Pictures
house in presumed original state.

Photo Post Card; property Lydia L Montgomery. Pictures
house before roof alteration and after conserva-
tory removal, circa 1906.

Photo Post Card; property Lydia L Montgomery. Pictures
dormer window alteration and Miss Montgomery as
child of 5. Interpolation dates roof alteration
between 1906 and 1911.

Page, W C; Informant Interview with Lydia L Montgomery,
daughter James H Montgomery. October 1982.

SECONDARY

Welty, Susan Fulton; A Fair Field; Detroit; Harlo Press;
1975; pp 102, 285-91.

Page, W C; Jefferson County, IA; An Historical Survey of
Buildings; unpublished survey for Division of
Historic Preservation, Iowa State Historical
Department; 1980; pp 213- 14; 221- 226.