

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

**NRIS Reference Number: 92001666**

**Date Listed: 12/18/92**

**State Quarry, Iowa Men's Reformatory  
Property Name**

**Jones  
County**

**IA  
State**

**Municipal, County and State Corrections Properties MPS  
Multiple Name**

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrus  
Signature of the Keeper

12/21/92  
Date of Action

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

**U.T.M.:** The UTM coordinates are revised to read:

- 1. 15 639280 4664500
- 2. 15 638860 4664740
- 3. 15 638700 4664740
- 4. 15 638930 4664480

This information was confirmed in a telephone conversation with Lisa Linhart of the Iowa SHPO.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

**National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED

NOV 03 1992

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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 State Quarry, Iowa Men's Reformatory

other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number unnamed road, SE 1/4, SW 1/4, section 33, T85N, R4W  not for publication n/a

city or town Anamosa  vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Jones code 105 zip code 52205

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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State Historical Society of Iowa  
State of 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): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patrick W. Andrews

12/18/92

**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	
3	0	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
5	0	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**

none

Municipal, County, and State Corrections Properties in Iowa

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/correctional facility  
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/extraction facility

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/correctional facility

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Romanesque

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone  
walls Limestone  
  
roof Shingle  
other Steel

**Narrative Description**

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

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LAW

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1905-1942

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1905

1942

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

**Cultural Affiliation**

n/a

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

\_\_\_\_\_

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

Iowa Men's Reformatory

State Quarry, Iowa Men's Reformatory  
Name of Property

Jones Co., IA  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 18 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	15	639200	4664460
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	15	638810	4664690

3	15	638320	4664690
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	15	638570	4664450

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 Joyce McKay, Cultural Resources Consultant

organization private consultant date April 10, 1992

street & number P.O. Box 258 telephone 608-424-6315

city or town Belleville state Wisconsin zip code 53508

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed 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 Iowa Department of Corrections

street & number 523 East Twelfth Street telephone 515-281-4811

city or town Des Moines state Iowa zip code 50319

**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.

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7. Description

The State Quarry<sup>1</sup> at the Iowa Men's Reformatory lies 1.75 miles northwest of Anamosa off an unnamed road in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 33, township 85 north, range 4 west. The district is placed between the east bank of Buffalo Creek to the east, the limestone bluff to the west, the south line of section 33 to the south, and an arbitrary boundary just north of the entrance bridge to the north. Thus, a combination of natural, man-made, and arbitrary boundaries define the district. The district contains five properties including one structure, the entrance bridge; three buildings: the scale house, dining hall, and the tool building, and the site of the limestone quarry (Husman 1991). All five properties are contributing properties. The quarry site lies at the district's west edge with its open face oriented east toward the creek. Entrance to the district occurs from the east at the north end across the bridge. The three buildings are widely separated in a northwest to southeast linear pattern in the field along the creek east of the quarry face. To the south and west of the buildings occur slag piles and a narrow gauge railroad bed and to the east is the open face of the limestone quarry. The field is now overgrown with tall grasses, and shrubs and trees line the edges of the district.

Standing buildings date from 1904 to 1905. Constructed from the adjacent limestone, the masonry buildings represent a simple interpretation of the Romanesque Revival erected at the reformatory complex. Details parallel to the reformatory buildings include their heavy massing, the rough texture of the ashlar stone, and the treatment of building corners and window and door surrounds. Although these buildings have undergone little if any change through additions or replacement or alteration of components, they have suffered considerable deterioration.

Property Description:

1. Bridge

The state constructed the 100 foot long, double span Pratt Overhead Truss bridge across Buffalo Creek to gain access to the quarry in 1912 (plaque on bridge). The current bridge replaces a 1902-03 structure (Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1906: 75]). Perhaps members of the county highway commission, the plaque identifies T.J. Finor, J.K. Hale, John Thompson, C.J. Musfield, Matt Noyes, and Craus Gender, Co. Auditor in addition to the date. This bridge type was commonly constructed between 1911 and 1925 (Meyer 1986: (12) 4-15).

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<sup>1</sup> Specific references to the State Quarry and prison quarries are located in sections E and F on the following pages: 17, 29, 65-68, 72, 74-76, 86-87, 91, 104, 107, 128.

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Ashlar limestone footings resting on both banks of the creek and ashlar limestone pilings support the bridge. It is composed of steel trusses common to bridges erected after 1911. Its steel members are built of heavier roller sections with connections riveted at the gusset plates. Its deck is covered with concrete pavement. The overhead truss is a deep truss located at the level of the road surface. The top chord is braced over the roadway between the trusses. The compression and tension members are generally built-up members from larger angles. The bridge appears unaltered except for the woven wire fence across its east end and additional layers of pavement on the road surface.

**2. Scale House**

Erected in 1938 (date block), the scale house sits at the north end of the district just south of the bridge. It is now used for storage. The 14 by 26 foot building contains one story and a basement. Its rough-faced, coursed ashlar limestone, masonry walls rest on a rubble limestone foundation. Clay tile and stone covered with tar and gravel compose the flat roof. This roof rests on narrow gauge railroad irons tied into the wall. An exterior limestone chimney rises in the northeast corner of the building. Openings are symmetrically placed. A metal door closes the main entrance positioned at the side of the east facade, and vertical steel bars protect the windows. The window frames have been removed. Heavy stone lintels mark the openings, and a parapet with concrete coping surrounds the building on the east facade and north and south elevations.

The building contains a single room on both levels. The counterweights for the scales housed in the basement room no longer remain. The floor of the first floor is stone, and the stone walls and clay tile ceiling are unfinished. Alterations to the building include the removal of the weighing platform which stood along the east side of the building and its associated equipment. The rear, north entrance is filled with concrete block, and window frames are removed.

**3. Dining Hall (Main Building)**

Constructed between 1904 and 1905, the dining hall is now vacant (Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1906: 75]). The building faces west toward the open limestone face. The rough-faced, coursed ashlar, limestone walls of the ell-shaped, single story building stand on a rubble limestone footing. The intersecting, hip roof is covered with wood shingle. Wood rafters tied into the masonry walls support the roof. The windows and doors are removed, and the steel bars across the windows are sawn off. Openings are generally symmetrically distributed around the building. The main entrance stands at the south side of the east facade in the slightly projecting wing of the ell. Most windows are double. The heavy stone lintels and sills emphasize the window and door openings while dentils embellish their sides. The door frame indicates the presence of at least one sidelight. Heavy quoins mark the corners of the building. Three tall, exterior stone, corbeled chimneys rise along the east and north elevations.

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Concrete walls, a wood ceiling, and stone floor finish the interior. Stone partitions divide the interior. The building contains seven rooms. Two main rooms separated by a wide doorway functioned as the dining hall. The two rooms along the north wall were the kitchen. An office and two additional rooms occupied the south end. Other than removal of the doors, windows, and bars, the building has undergone little alteration. However, because the roof is leaking significantly, interior features, particularly the ceiling but also the concrete finish along the walls, are seriously deteriorating.

**4. Tool Building**

Constructed in 1904 and 1905, the tool building probably also or entirely functioned as a blacksmith shop (Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1906: 75]). It stands at the south end of the line of quarry buildings. Measuring 22 by 37 feet, the rectangular, single story building faces west toward the limestone face. The building is one room deep and three rooms wide, and each room is about the same width. The rough-faced, roughly coursed ashlar limestone wall stands on a random rubble footing. A tar and gravel, flat roof covers the building. Railroad irons rest on the masonry walls and support the stone ceiling. Placed along the rear, three stone chimneys with corbeled caps serve each of the rooms. Stone closes the three, barred window openings, one in the center of the south wall and the others evenly spaced along the north wall. Three doors along the west facade enter into each room. A stone parapet with stone coping and cornice surround three sides of the building. Window and door lintels are stone, and dentils embellish their sides. The interior walls and ceiling are unfinished stone, and the floor is stone. Some evidence of burning remains in the north room. The tool building has also suffered some deterioration and limited alteration. The windows are closed with stone and the doors are removed. The center door is boarded. However, the roof and interior walls remain relatively intact.

**5. Quarry Site**

The limestone face of the quarry stretches along the west side of the district for about 1980 feet. This face represents the site quarried by the prisoners from the Iowa Men's Reformatory until 1942. Quarrying thus ended prior to the beginning of the modern era. This irregular, relatively vertical cliff face with the piles of limestone debris in its foreground represents the site of operation at the prison quarry. Because it is man-made, it is viewed as a resource. It is an important element of the district since activities at the quarry occurred in relationship to this limestone face and the type of limestone quarried there. In the vicinity of Anamosa, the quarries contained dolomite, a form of limestone with a high magnesium carbonate content which is generally a bright yellow in color.

Although potential archaeological sites remain untested, the district appears to contain a high potential for significant historical archaeological resources.



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A photograph taken between 1905 and 1912 (Finn 1988: 82; plaque on bridge) illustrates the tool building and dining hall as well as a row of two or three stone and frame buildings just north of the dining hall. It also shows the high fence surrounding the quarry property beginning just north of the bridge and running along the top of the cliff. The photograph also indicates the narrow gauge railroad traveling along the base of this cliff and the five hoists standing adjacent to its face. Pedestrian inspection at the property located the foundation of the stone crusher. These potential resources are included within the district.

The five resources within the district and their setting have undergone limited alteration except through deterioration. The state has almost entirely abandoned the buildings except for the storage of equipment associated with the nearby firing range in the scale house. Primary alterations are the removal and in some cases the blocking of windows and doors. Although the spaces which once contained them are present, the equipment at the scale house no longer remains. Deterioration has significantly affected the dining hall's roof and ceiling, and interior deterioration of the concrete walls has begun. Despite this deterioration and probably because of their neglect, the integrity of original design, workmanship, and materials remains high. Unless removed by later quarrying activities, the historical archaeological resources probably remain intact.

Table 1: Resources within the District

Map No.	Historic Name/Use	Construction Dates	Class <sup>2</sup>	Category
1	Bridge	1912	C	Structure
2	Scale house	1938	C	Building
3	Dining hall	1904-05	C	Building
4	Tool house	1904-05	C	Building
5	Quarry	1870s-1942	C	Site

Total contributing resources: 5

<sup>2</sup> Class refers to the designation of contributing and noncontributing properties.

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**8. Significance**

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The State Quarry of the Iowa Men's Reformatory gains significance through The Prison Quarry Subtype (1b) of the Auburn Penitentiary Property Type (1) within the Iowa Corrections Institutions context. It acquires this significance under criterion A in the area of law by representing an important component of the work program of both the Additional Penitentiary established in 1872 and the Iowa Men's Reformatory created in 1907. The state located the Additional Penitentiary at Anamosa to provide materials for prison construction. Many of its prisoners served their hard labor at the stone quarries or in construction of the reformatory complex. But, unlike the labor at the Iowa State Penitentiary, the quarrying operated under state-use system. The district acquires significance under criterion C in the area of architecture because its resources represent a property subtype. The state quarry contains an early grouping of buildings lying beyond the security of the prison walls. They represent some of the kinds of buildings necessary for this type of prison operation. They thus document a poorly known property subtype. There was one other state prison quarry site which is also located at Anamosa. However, its exact location and condition remains unidentified. The quarry property also represents the source of the post-1878 materials for the buildings and structures at the reformatory complex. Finally, the buildings display a simple interpretation of the Romanesque Revival style constructed at the reformatory complex. The period of significance begins with the construction of the remaining buildings completed in 1905 and ends in 1942, the beginning of the modern era and one year before quarry operations closed. The significant date of 1904-1905 represents the construction of the first standing buildings. Because the quarry is operated as part of a state institution, it gains significance at the state level.

**Historical Overview**

The state began the purchase of the quarry property in the southwest quarter of section 33 with two initial forty acre parcels in 1878. It acquired an additional forty acres in 1879. Small acreages were added in 1925 and 1934 (Husman 1991). This property represented the second quarry purchased by the state near Anamosa.

The state purchased the first 128 acre quarry site three miles west of the Additional Penitentiary along the Wapsipinicon River in 1872 when it acquired the penitentiary grounds. These quarry grounds lay along the Wapsipinicon River near Stone City in sections five and eight of township 84 north, range 4 west. The first quarry became exhausted by 1877. Because the location of this quarry lies near others at Stone City, its identification was not possible during this project. The original legislation which established the Additional Penitentiary specified the purchase of stone quarries near Anamosa to provide construction

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materials for the prison. The state attempted to curtail construction costs by using prisoners to provide necessary labor. Prison labor was to be employed at state-use work in the quarry and or in construction rather than under contract to a private firm. Acting on behalf of the legislature in the construction of the prison, a Board of Commissioners inspected different quarry sites near Anamosa and visited other penal institutions maintaining prison quarry operations (Haynes 1956: 12; Briggs 1915: 79; Iowa, State of [Acts] 1847- [1872: 49-52]; Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1874: 7-16, 54; 1878: 3, 15; 1882: 3; 1884: 5-8; 1886: 5, 8]; Western Historical Company 1879: 398; Zumbrunnen 1978: 90-91).

Promoters of the Anamosa properties emphasized the importance of its nearby limestone quarries to employ prisoners and support the prison. They observed that the labor at the State Penitentiary failed to provide self-support because of unprofitable contracts available to the state at that location. However, the prisons at Sing Sing, New York and Columbus, Ohio, both visited by the Iowa commissioners, had reduced prison construction costs by using inmate labor to quarry and dress stone from nearby, state-owned quarries. Anamosa provided such possibilities. In the summer of 1872, the commissioners selected the first 128 acre quarry site which contained three open quarries. In 1872, the state constructed a board fence and several temporary buildings at the quarry and began its operations with hired labor in the spring of 1873. Prisoners worked at the quarry by May of 1873. The Dubuque and Southwestern constructed a switch to this property in 1876 to 1877. After the purchase of these lands, not only did the quarry provide materials for the prison properties, but the state sold dressed stone to other state institutions engaged in building projects. The 1872 act provided for such transactions. The profits supported the Additional Penitentiary (Zumbrunnen 1978: 89; Iowa, State of [Acts] 1847- [1872: 49-52]; Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1874: 12-15, 18, 50-54; 1878: 7]; Briggs 1915: 79; Iowa Joint Committee to Visit the Additional Penitentiary 1874-96 [1894]; Brookman 1934: 130; Remley 1901: 65, 68).

The 1872 quarry became exhausted by 1877, and the state acquired the second quarry along Buffalo Creek in 1878 and 1879. The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad also connected to this quarry. The railroad line traveled northwest along Buffalo Creek from the reformatory. Prisoners trimmed and dressed the limestone at the quarry. The state also sold its building materials to state institutions at Independence in 1884, 1886, and 1888; Davenport and Vinton in 1886; and Marshalltown and the Training School for Boys and the Iowa State Penitentiary in about 1903 and 1907 (Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1874: 12, 15-16, 20-21, 45; 1877: 10; 1880: 5, 8; 1882: 4; 1884: 4; 1886: 3; 1888: 5; 1902: 698]; Western Historical Association 1879: 398; Iowa Governor's Office n.d.b [1872]).

With the cessation of the single prison contract which had employed a large number of prisoners at the Iowa Men's Reformatory after 1914, state-use work

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gained increasing importance. The state operated state-use work and either used or sold the products to state, county, municipal, or quasi-government institutions. Since the products never entered the open market, this type of labor competed little with private industry. By the turn of the century until it burned in 1932, the state cut the building stone at the stone shed in a frame building standing north of shop no. 7 at the reformatory complex. Then the operation shifted to shop no. 2. The state continued its quarrying industries, a form of state-use work, through the early twentieth century. Although the reformatory produced building materials for its own use into the 1930s, quarrying had removed most of the building stone by 1915. The operation shifted to crushed gravel and sold it to other state institutions and road districts by 1906. Installing a forty ton stone crusher by 1911, inmates ceased breaking the stone by hand into specified sizes. The site of a later stone crusher remains visible at the south end of the quarry. The state continued these quarrying operations until the beginning of World War II, about 1943 (Iowa Department of Social Services 1987; Iowa Board of Control 1898-1934 [1906: 2; 1912: 12; 1934-42 [1942: 136]; Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1905: 75; 1913: 29]; Iowa, State Historical Society of 1942).

## Statement of Significance

## Law

The state quarry gains significance under criterion A in the area of law because it represents a major form of prison labor practiced at the Iowa Men's Reformatory. Its remaining buildings, structures, and archaeological deposits provide some understanding of how a prison quarry functioned. The state opened the quarries when the prison functioned as the Additional Penitentiary. Under the act of 1872 and effective to the turn of the century, prison labor was to be hard labor. Hard labor both reformed and punished prisoners. With the assistance of religious instruction, labor as punishment led prisoners to repent of their former life. Thus, penitence and moral reformation, still the main goal of penitentiary life, remained under the guidance of the chaplain and depended on the religious conversion experience. To encourage proper employment after the prison term, reform through labor focused on developing habits of industry through the simple repetition of work but not the teaching of work skills. Additionally, the support of the institution by prison labor remained as much an objective as the work's reformatory qualities. Probably because contract labor often failed to support the State Penitentiary, the legislature did not initially permit contract work at the reformatory. This directive gave the warden direct control over all areas of the prisoner's behavior. The 1872 act creating the penitentiary explicitly encouraged production through the commutation of sentence and limited earnings to reward hard work although not necessarily good behavior. For every one hundred dollars' worth of labor performed in excess of three

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hundred dollars in any one year, inmates shortened their sentence by fifty days. The state rewarded additional time worked over this period through small payments received after discharge. But prisoners continued to receive no daily wage. And, the labor did not reform prisoners through the teaching of skills leading to employment after the prison term (Curtis 1899; Iowa, State of [Acts] 1847- [1872: 52]; Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1882: 3; 1884: 5; 1886: 5, 8; 1888: 4, 37; 1892: 6-7; 1894: 3; 1898: 7-10, 12; 1900: 6]; Brookman 1934: 134-35; Briggs 1915: 211).

When the state converted the Additional Penitentiary to the Iowa Men's Reformatory in 1907, the approach to prisoner reform had already begun a gradual change. The program slowly placed increased emphasis on reform through proper training in work habits. The 1907 law specified state-use or state-account work rather than contract labor. Such work was to be conducive to the teaching of useful trades and moral and intellectual development. But the 1907 law failed to provide the funds to implement a training program. The 1913 legislation stimulated by the 1912 Cosson report ended contract work in part because of public complaints of competition but also because of the state's limited control over contract labor. This law and subsequent acts provided funds for building improvement, equipment, and establishing and maintaining state-use and state-account industries. Qualifying as state-use work, the quarrying industry survived these changes in policy. The monies provided by these acts may have facilitated the alteration from the production of building stone to gravel. They also provided funds to purchase a second quarry at Granite in Lyon County. However, the high cost of equipment and particularly transportation from the site prohibited the development of the granite quarry at this site. Thus, the quarry property represents a significant aspect of the prison labor practiced at the Iowa Men's Reformatory (Iowa, State of [IA Docs.] 1857-1931 [1908: 13-14; 1909: 14; 1911: 37; 1913: 31; 1915: 18, 37; 1918: 10]; Briggs 1915: 211; Cosson 1912; Brookman 1934: 134-35; Iowa, State Historical Society of 1942; Haynes 1956: 32-34; Iowa Board of Control 1898-1934 [1914: 6-7]).

#### Architecture

The State Quarry at the Iowa Men's Reformatory gains significance under criterion C in the area of architecture through its representation of the Auburn Penitentiary property subtype. The quarry buildings extended prison labor beyond the penitentiary walls. However, unlike the open prison farms, the state fenced these buildings, placed bars at their windows, and posted guards. This property was an extension of the penitentiary and not designed to house honor prisoners. Thus, the property type indicates the manner in which the state accommodated these prisoners many of whom were a substantial security risk. Since they resided in their individual cells within the Auburn type cellblock when not engaged in quarrying or other prison programs, only the dining hall facility was

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necessary. Additional resources, the bridge, scale house, and tool house, relate to the quarrying industry.

The buildings were erected by prison labor with stone quarried from the adjacent limestone. In a simplified form, the buildings' design resemble the Romanesque Revival style erected at the Additional Penitentiary and are symbolically an extension of them. The buildings display the heavy massing, the rough texture, and the window, door, and corner treatments of the penitentiary. They communicate a parallel message, the state's strength, authority and direction of purpose. Here, the state is committed to their reform through hard labor and the training of their work habits (American Corrective Association 1983: 53-56; Johnson 1973: 26, 31; Eriksson 1967: 59; Erickson 1990: 22; McKelvey 1977: 10, 13, 28; Zumbunnen 1978). Additionally, the quarry site represents the source of building material for the post-1878 construction at reformatory properties as well as other state buildings. Although the state architects Henry Franz Liebbe between 1898 and 1927 and Henry Jackson Liebbe between 1927 and 1941 designed the buildings at the Men's Reformatory and the design of the buildings at the State Quarry appears similar to those of the reformatory, it is unclear whether they created the plans for these buildings. The linkage is probable but not verified (Liebbe, H.F. 1898-1927; Liebbe, H.J. 1927-1941).

#### Period and Level of Significance

Although the state probably constructed at least temporary buildings at the State Quarry shortly after 1878, they no longer stand. Therefore, the period of significance dates from the construction of the first standing buildings, the dining hall and tool house in 1905. The period of significance under the area of architecture dates to 1905, 1912, and 1938, the dates of construction for the four buildings and structures and the period during which quarrying occurred at the site. Quarrying at the site ended in 1943, about the beginning of the modern era in 1942. Thus, the period ends in 1942. Representing a state prison work program at a state institution, the district gains significance at the state level.

#### Architectural Integrity

The five properties in the State Quarry district retain considerable integrity. Integrity of location and the general setting between the limestone face and Buffalo Creek remain. As part of a quarry operation, a changing landscape is inevitable. And, as the emphasis in the quarry operation altered from building stone to gravel, the equipment and likely some buildings associated with the property also changed for that reason. However, evidence of the structures in the gravel operation remains only as archaeological components, for example the

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stone crusher and narrow gauge line in the south part of the district. Thus, the setting has lost some integrity.

Integrity of design, material, and workmanship of the four properties remain relatively intact. The buildings have lost windows and doors, the bars no longer protect the windows of the dining hall, and openings have been closed with concrete or boarded. The scale house has also lost its equipment. Otherwise, these elements of integrity have not undergone alteration except through deterioration. Disintegration of the wood shingle roof covering the dining hall has affected the ceiling and some of the concrete walls within the building. Open windows and doors provide a similar problem. Despite this threat, much of the original materials, design, and workmanship remain. Because the overall setting also survives relatively intact and visually related to the quarrying operation, integrity of association and feeling are present. The property clearly represents a stone quarry operation operated by prison labor. The massive buildings with some of their barred windows continue to communicate a feeling of strength and purpose.

The State Quarry at the Iowa Men's Reformatory near Anamosa represents the only located quarry associated with penal labor in the state. cursory examination of the area of the first quarry site west of the Iowa Men's Reformatory found no evidence of this operation. Although the state attempted to open a second quarry near Granite in Lyon County for operation by the Iowa Men's Reformatory, this quarry was never developed. Additionally, although penitentiaries such as Sing Sing in Westchester County, New York and the Ohio State Penitentiary and several western states by the 1890s opened stone quarries near their penitentiaries (McKelvey 1977: 126), documentation of the existence of these sites was not located. Thus, although the property has suffered considerable deterioration and lost its industrial equipment, its buildings together with the untested historical archaeological resources remain as an important representation of this form of penal labor developed under the Auburn prison system.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the State Quarry district begins at the east bank of Buffalo Creek and the north side of the bridge and runs due west to the 900 foot elevation contour across the valley. At this point, the boundary turns south and runs along this elevation at the top of the cliff to the south line of section 33. Here, the boundary turns east and travels to the east bank of Buffalo Creek. It then runs north along the east bank of the creek to the point of beginning (see the USGS map).

Boundary Justification

The district includes the cluster of three buildings and the bridge and the remains of the associated limestone quarry, a significant part of its setting. Much of the boundary also follows clearly delineated natural limits of the quarry such as the creek and the top of the limestone cliff.

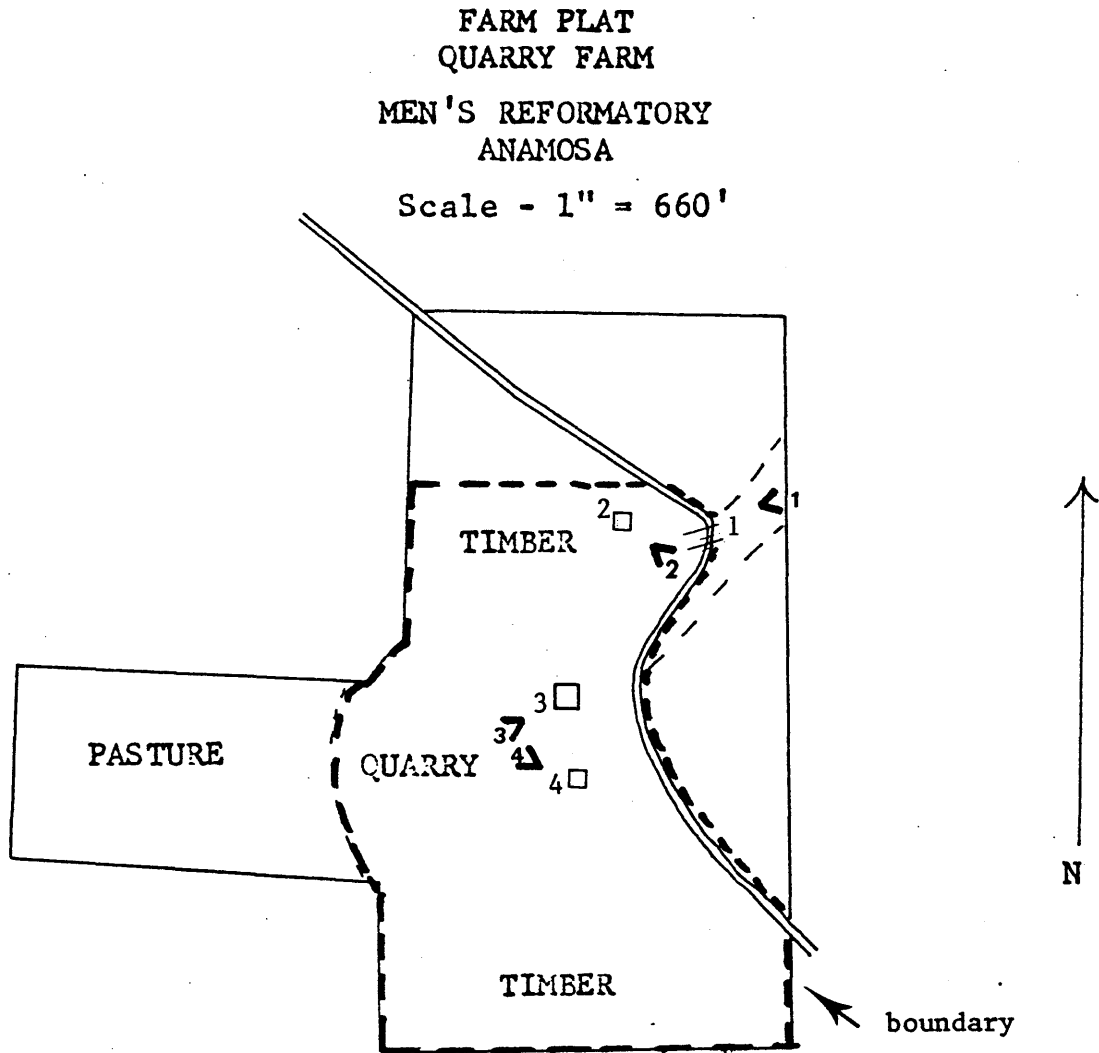
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Key

- 1. bridge
- 2. scale house
- 3. dining hall
- 4. tool house or blacksmith shop

Base map provided by Doane Agricultural Services, Inc. (1965).

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Photographic Documentation

Name: State Quarry, Iowa Men's Reformatory

Location: Anamosa, Jones County, Iowa

Photographer's name: Joyce McKay

Date of photographs: 6/25/92

Location of negative: Historic Preservation Bureau, State Historical Society  
of Iowa, Des Moines

1. View of the east entrance to the bridge facing southwest (6/22).
2. View of the south and east elevations of the scale house facing northwest (6/16).
3. View of the west facade and south elevation of the dining hall facing northwest (6/18).
4. View of the west facade and north elevation of the tool building facing southeast (6/19).