

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>IOWA</b>
COUNTY: <b>FAYETTE</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>NOV 5 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Union Sunday School**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Presbyterian Church**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Northwest Corner McGregor and Larrabee Streets**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Clermont**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**Second**

STATE: **Iowa** CODE: **14** COUNTY: **Fayette** CODE: **065**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Historical Governor Larrabee Home, Inc. (A non-profit Corp. under Int. Rev. Code 509a)**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Clermont**

STATE:  
**Iowa**

CODE:  
**14**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Fayette County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN:  
**West Union**

STATE:  
**Iowa**

CODE:  
**14**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Original town plat**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1851**

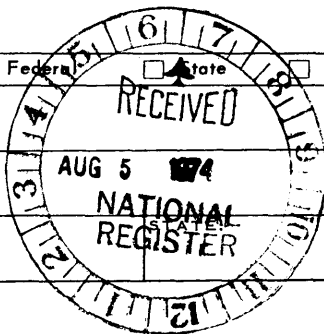
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Fayette County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN:  
**West Union**

STATE:  
**Iowa**

CODE:  
**14**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Union Sunday School built with classical revival elements retains its original appearance on the exterior and close to its original appearance on the interior as well. The unpainted brick building laid in common bond and covered by a tine gable roof measures 57 x 41 feet. It is a rectangle enhanced by brick wall pilasters regularly spaced between the tall narrow window openings with 12/12 lights. Each of the pilasters is capped. The windows are marked by locally quarried dolomite lintels and sills and the front openings by louvered shutters. Above the central doorway at the gable end is a stone lintel and a suggestion of a pediment with an almost floral brick frieze and simple brick coping. The square white wood bell tower though proportionately large, follows closely the design of the brick building as its corners are adorned with capped pilasters and each side by two louvered panels. The metal steeple, also white, it topped by a brass ornamental cross. The interior chamber of the church-Sunday school shows original wide flooring and pews. Interesting features are the ornamental pressed tin ceiling and a large Kimball pipe organ installed in 1896. The vestibule has been divided into a library and entry area since 1877.



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**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1858**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Clermont Union Sunday School derives its significance from its early construction date, its sophisticated use of materials and popular styles and its association with an historic figure in Iowa politics. It has been so well preserved that it can truly serve as a good example of local interpretation of national styles and of fine local craftsmanship.

This was the first church to be erected in Clermont. It was built by Presbyterians in 1858. The congregation disbanded soon after and in 1863 an agreement was made by the Presbytery and the Union Sunday School for the School to use the building as long as they kept it in good repair. For one hundred years the Sunday School used and maintained the church.

In 1970, the Presbytery of Northeast Iowa deeded the church to the Historical Governor Larrabee Home, Inc. (a non-profit corporation. A bronze plaque in the vestibule records this gift.

The Union Sunday School was organized in 1857. It was a non-denominational Bible School for adults and children. In 1963 the membership became so small that it was decided to cease having meetings.

When news of President Lincoln's assassination was brought to Clermont, the messenger chose to make his announcement at the Sunday School.

The Christmas program at the church has been famous for one hundred and ten years. The Clermont Historical Society now arranges the service.

Most prominent member of the Sunday School was William Larrabee, a philanthropist who served eighteen years in the Iowa Senate and who was Governor of Iowa for two terms (1886-1890). In 1896 he gave the church a Kimball pipe organ. The walnut case of this instrument measures 20 feet long, eleven feet deep and seven and one-half feet high. The pipes extend up to make a total height of twenty feet.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. Historical Archives--National Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church, New York City.
2. "Historical Atlas of Iowa"--A. T. Andreas-1875
3. "Historic Clermont"--Clermont Historical Society-1967
4. "History of Clermont Landmarks"--Frances Grover Cline-1972
5. Records of the Fayette County Recorder -- Privately printed

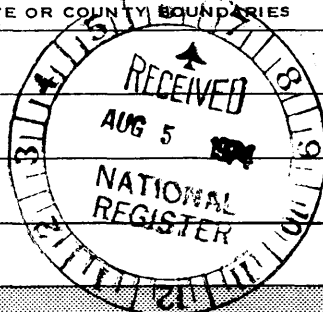
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		42 59 59	91 39 12	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



2015-11-13  
 NE 601 0660  
 #4261770  
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mrs. A. W. Allen, President**

ORGANIZATION: **Historical Governor Larrabee Home, Inc.**      DATE: **December 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**3131 Cottage Grove Avenue SE**

CITY OR TOWN: **Cedar Rapids**      STATE: **Iowa**      CODE: **14**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National     State     Local

Name Adrian D. Anderson

Title Historic Preservation Officer

Date August 1, 1974

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

Adrian D. Anderson  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/5/74

ATTEST:

Charles R. Herring  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 11-1-74