

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 30 1978  
DATE ENTERED NOV 14 1978

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Zephaniah Kidder House

AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Epworth

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Second

STATE

Iowa

CODE

19

COUNTY

Dubuque

CODE

61

**CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Paul and Clarice Zimmerman

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Epworth

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 52045

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dubuque County Courthouse; County Treasurer

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Dubuque

STATE

Iowa 52001

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT       DETERIORATED  
 GOOD             RUINS  
 FAIR               UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Zephaniah Kidder house is 2½ stories, of local brick laid in common bond on a rock-faced stone foundation. The main block is 40' x 30', with a wing 18'x23' to the northeast. The gable roof, with ridge parallel to the front facade, has two interior brick chimneys and bracketed eaves. Front and side elevations of the main block are symmetrical. The front is three bays wide, with protruding bay windows on the first floor and (modern) sash windows, dressed with keystone drip moldings on the second floor. The entrance has sidelights and transom, and is sheltered by a small, flat-roofed porch supported by rather thick, panelled posts. The side elevations have two 6/6 sash windows on each story, with plain stone lintels and sills, and a similar, though smaller, window centered in each gable end. Windows in the rear wing are of like form.

The interior plan features a center hall, with a 180°-turn staircase at the far end. This hall is flanked on the west by one large room, on the east by dining room and library. The kitchen is located in the rear wing. The second floor plan is similar to that of the first, although the west side of the main block is divided into two bedrooms. As far as is known, no major exterior changes have been made on the house, except for the removal of side porches on the kitchen wing which are remembered by a granddaughter of the builder. Early interior features remaining include wide pine flooring on the second floor, and much of the woodwork, although the latter has been painted many times. Wainscoting is found in the kitchen, and two fireplaces (one closed) remain. The original ceilings have been replaced by drywall, due to their deteriorated condition.

At the rear of the property is a small brick smokehouse, now used for storage. Like that of the house, the brick is laid in 8-course common bond. The structure is nearly square, with a hipped roof and chimney at the rear.

The house is located on a ½-acre plot toward the west side of Epworth.

# 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      1868                                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Zephaniah Kidder

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kidder house is a local example of the survival of a traditional architectural form: brick construction, the three-bay, center-hall double-pile plan. Features more in keeping with the building date (1868) are found in the half-turn staircase around an open well, and, on the exterior, in the "drips" of the window hoods on the second floor, the octagonal panelled porch posts, and the eaves brackets. These details are individualistic, localized interpretations of contemporary decorative styles.

Zephaniah Kidder appears in the county histories as one of three men who laid out the town of Epworth on portions of their holdings in 1855. A small community was already in existence here, including a Methodist Church and a store or two, built from brick locally manufactured by Otis and Thomas Briggs, and in the construction of which Kidder is noted as a participant. Kidder is also listed as among the founders of Epworth Seminary about 1856. He was active in a variety of business pursuits in Epworth, including a creamery, small typewriter factory (1894), and an ice house on the nearby Chicago and Great Western tracks. Kidder was born in Maine in 1822, came to Iowa in 1853 after four years in California, and died at Epworth in 1897.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Dubuque County, Iowa. Chicago: Western Historical Co., 1880, pp. 727-8,732.  
 Interview with Elma Sisler, Epworth, June, 1975.  
 Portrait and Biographical Album of Dubuque, Jones and Clayton Counties. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1894.  
 History of Epworth, Iowa. Dubuque: Gorsuch Scarisbrick, 1976.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Epworth

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 6,7,0 3,4,0 4,7 0,1 2,0,0

B                  

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                  

D                  

E                  

F                  

G                  

H                  

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Elmwood -- Part of Lot 2 of Part of Lot 1 N/K/A Lot 5 (Epworth, Iowa)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paul and Clarice Zimmerman

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Epworth

STATE

Iowa 52045

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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

*Adrian S. Jenkins*

TITLE

Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

5/19/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles H. ...*

DATE

11-14-78

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

11-8-78

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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

Zephaniah Kidder House  
Dubuque County, Iowa

EXPLANATION OF THE AMENDMENT

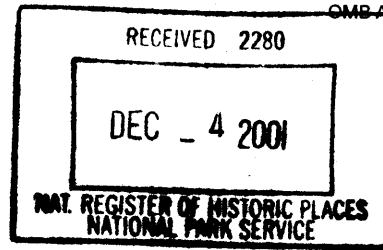
This amendment to a previously listed National Register Registration Form is being filed under "Section VI. Amending National Register Forms" of National Register Bulletin 16-A, using alternative #1 listed on page 71. Alternative #1 requires submission of "continuation sheets with the new information and an explanation of the amendment."

This nomination is being amended to correct the address in number 2 on the front of the nomination form to indicate that the property is located at 206 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE and not on Main Street:

2. Location

street & number 206 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, NE N/A not for publication \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Epworth vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state Iowa code IA county Dubuque code 061 zip code 52045

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



178-1218

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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

Zephaniah Kidder House  
Dubuque County, Iowa

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.)

Rowell J. Sirke October 30, 2001  
Signature of certifying official 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 commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau