Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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	FOR NPS	USE ONLY	
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		Stringtown Ho	use]	
		AND/OR HISTORIC:							
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	2. 1	LOCATION						1	
		STREET AND NUMBER:						1	
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	3	CLASSIFICATION				STATUS	ACCESSIBLE		
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Z		District X Building	Public	Public Acquis		Unoccupied	X Restricted		
0		Site Structure	□ Private				Unrestricted	1	
_		Object	☐ Both	Bein	g Considered	Preservation work	No No	1	
—						in progress		_	
			1 Appropriate)					_	
J		PRESENT USE (Check One or		Park	Г	Transportation	Comments		
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		☐ Educational ☐ M	ilitary	Religious					
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S	*****	OWNER OF PROPERTY						<u> </u>	
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		Bloomfield				<u> Iowa</u>	1 17		
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7. DESCRIPTION	Γ			(Chec	k One)		
CONDITION	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	∑ Fair	☐ Dete	eri ora te d	Ruins	☐ Unexposed
CONDITION	(Check One)					(Ch	eck One)
	☐ Alter	red	🔀 Unaltered			Moved	▼ Original Site

The Stringtown House is an early frame structure - a double one and one-half story building with a saltbox profile. Two entrances appear at the front and rear. The front porch, possibly a later addition, has a "hip" roof and extends the full length of the street side. It is supported by slightly carved alternated wood posts. Windows on the upper half are very squat, paned (some original glass) and flanked by louvered shutters. The first floor windows, evenly spaced, are larger and have 12 panes. Wood sills and frames are simple. The lean-to porch at the rear of the building is of a much simpler design than that of the front and may possibly be original. The limestone foundation of the building is extended to the "floor" of this overhang. The wood framing of the structure has been covered by asphalt "tiling" on the two "gable" ends.

Two chimneys on the far end of each part of the "duplex" are of deteriorating brick. Since they are of unequal size, these sections may have been built at slighly different times. However, no documentation save what evidence the building itself provides is available to substantiate anything other than the supposed building date of 1832.

On the interior, the only new portion is that of a bathroom. The walnut woodwork is original though covered in many layers of paint. The fire-places are brick with two inch walnut plank mantels.



PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	□ 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ble and Known) 1832		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	(Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	Used as a stage
Agriculture	Invention	Science	coach stop and
	Landscape	Sculpture	hotel
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	 itarian	
Communications	☐ Military	Theater	
☐ Conservation	Music	7 Transportation	-

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is perhaps the oldest house remaining in Davis County and the only one left in its original condition of what was once a small community and stage coach stop known as Stringtown. It is also a rare representative of a style not often found in Iowa.

Stringtown was on a road travelled between Fort Madison and Des Moines. The mill, store, and hotel as well as other residences located here no longer exist.

The house was built in 1832 by Byron Wilson who bought the land from the U. S. Government; the property was then owned by Jake Day, John Schmidt and his son, Richard, the present owner.

The Stringtown one-room school is also on the property but in poor repair, having been used as a chicken house.

Stringtown was the first town in Davis County. It was first called Harpersville, then Dover, then Stringtown. It was originally on land owned by B. F. Wilson, situated partly on the northeast quarter and the northwest quarter of section 35, township 69, range 12 about a mile and a half south of the present town of Troy, surveyed and platted by John Ellis, county surveyor. One of the earliest settlers was Berney Carter, a whiskey seller. The population in 1951 was 32.



Mr. Richard Schmidt, Owner The History of Davis County, Iowa, Des Moines: State Historical Company, 1882, page 603. Response of Davis County, Iowa, Des Moines: State Historical Company, 1882, page 603. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINIS A RECLARGE LOCATION THE PROPERTY CORNER LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINIS A RECLARGE LOCATION THE PROPERTY LESS THATEN ACRES CONTINUES Seconds Degrees Minutes Seconds Degrees Minute											
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