

10-25-74

PH 0077671

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	IOWA
COUNTY:	POLK
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	NOV 30 1973

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Flynn Farm, Mansion and Barn

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Flynn Farm, Walnut Hill Farm, Clive Honor Farm

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2600 111th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Des Moines

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Fourth

STATE: Iowa CODE: 50322 COUNTY: Polk CODE: 153

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Living History Farms, Inc. and Mr. Rollo Bergeson

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2600 111th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Des Moines

STATE: Iowa CODE: 50322

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Polk County Courthouse, Office of Recorder

STREET AND NUMBER:  
500 Mulberry Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Des Moines

STATE: Iowa CODE: 50322

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County

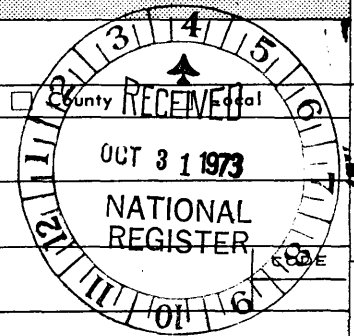
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: IOWA

COUNTY: POLK

ENTRY NUMBER: NOV 30 1973

DATE: NOV 30 1973

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Living History Farms, formerly the Martin Flynn Farm (1867-1915), now comprises 350 acres of farm land, pasture and wooded areas. A large brick farmhouse and barn are included in the property. These have remained largely in their original condition and have been well preserved. The main house, now white, was originally unpainted. The Flynn House is a two story brick building of Italian Bracketed Style. A rectangular cupola with round arched windows crowns the roof. Stone quoins, arched window hoods, a one story full front porch with wood columns, a side porch and two two story gabled projections with cornice returns and round attic windows adorn the otherwise simple square block of the main building. A small wing with side porch and roof brackets, simpler than those on the main block, appears at the rear. A nineteenth-century addition of pre-cast cement is attached to this rear wing. The whole is supported by a foundation of brick.

The Flynn House sits atop a hill and overlooks the surrounding farmland and stream.

Also part of the original farm buildings is the gable-roofed barn. Board and batten wood construction, the barn has a cupola for ventilation, several small window openings, and one large main door.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**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) 1867

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 type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation |  |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Flynn Farm is an example of a large unit of the post-Civil War period. The two main buildings, the Flynn Mansion and Barn, have been preserved intact largely as a result of the care given them by the State of Iowa during the years (1915-1965) when the Farm was an honor prisoner farm with plenty of labor available to maintain the buildings in good durable condition.

The Flynn Mansion is an especially fine example of the architecture of the 1870's. The Flynn Barn is a large structure built to provide shelter, grain, and hay storage, and some equipment space for the large number of horses used on the Flynn Farm which was expanded from the original 600 acres to a maximum of 1300 acres.

Martin Flynn who bought the land in 1867 and built the Mansion and the Barn was an important farm and business leader during the 1870-1906 period. Reference to his leadership as a livestock judge, cattle breeder, and business man as well as railroad contractor is contained in the article from the Annals of Iowa and the news article in Wallaces Farmer.

The 350 acres of land included in this application belongs to the Flynn Mansion and Barn. The farmland and the farmstead make an integrated unit although only 350 acres out of the original 600 are available, the 350 acres which are available include the original farmstead and an excellent cross-section of the original 600 acres.

The property is being readied for the public and will demonstrate the history of farming in Iowa. The property is also being considered for a Special Bicentennial Project as a Meeting House.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land records in the Polk County, Iowa, Courthouse in Des Moines, Iowa

"The Martin Flynn Farm: From Public Land in 1845 to Living History Farms in 1970", Annals of Iowa, Volume 40, Number 7, Winter 1971

News Article - Homestead Magazine, July 19, 26, 1906, Wallaces Farmer, July 27, 1906

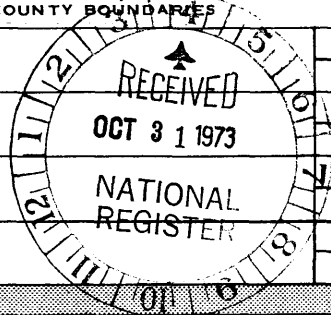
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	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
NW	41°	37'	46.33	93°	47'	08.74			
NE	41°	37'	46.33	93°	45'	56.79	FLYNN MANSION		
SE	41°	36'	54.48	93°	45'	45.19	41	37	06
SW	41°	36'	54.48	93°	47'	08.74	93	46	26

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 350 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



UTM  
SEE  
MAP  
CD  
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: William G. Murray, Director

ORGANIZATION: Living History Farms Foundation DATE: October 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 2600 111th Street

CITY OR TOWN: Des Moines 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  (Acting)

Name: Adrian D. Anderson

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 10/24/73

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

Robert L. Utley  
Associate Director, Professional Services  
Date: 11/30/73

ATTEST:  
Charles A. Herring  
Acting Keeper of The National Register  
Date: 11-28-73

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 20 1976

DATE ENTERED

Flynn Farm, Polk County, Iowa

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

ADD to #4: U.S. Highway Department

CHANGE #10 to: SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 28; N $\frac{1}{2}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 29, T79NR25W excepting  
area included in I-35 interchange.

UTM References: A:15/435/210 4608/700  
B:15/436/240 4607/910  
C:15/436/240 4607/100  
D:15/435/465 4607/110  
E:15/434/600 4607/515  
F:15/434/600 4608/710

Received 1975

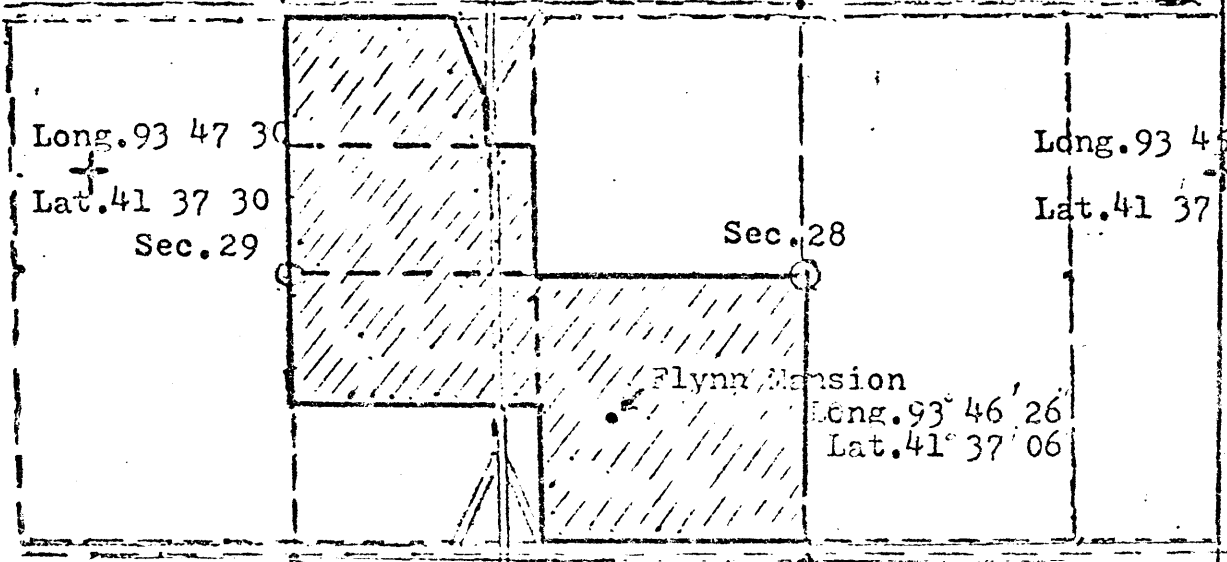
North



Long. 93° 47' 08"  
Lat. 41° 37' 46"

Long. 93° 45' 56"  
Lat. 41° 37' 46"

Douglas Ave.



Long. 93 47 30  
Lat. 41 37 30  
Sec. 29

Sec. 28

Long. 93 45 00  
Lat. 41 37 30

Flynn Mansion  
Long. 93° 46' 26"  
Lat. 41° 37' 06"

Long. 93° 47' 08"  
Lat. 41° 36' 54"

Long. 93° 45' 56"  
Lat. 41° 36' 54"

Hickman Road

Sections 28 and 29, Twp. 79 N., Range 25 West 5th P.M.

From Commerce and Grimes, Iowa Quadrangle  
7.5 Minute Series (Topographic)

Flynn Farm Area - 350 Acres