

Iowa Site Inventory

Office of Historic Preservation
Iowa State Historical Department
East 12th & Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Site Number 77 N28W - 20
District Name Legacy In Stone TR
Map Reference # 52

Identification

1. Site Name James Allen Stone Barn
2. Village/Town/City Madison Township Madison County Madison
3. Street Address 2 1/2 mi. south of Earlham on unnamed road 1 1/4 mi. east of P57
4. Legal Location 77N 28W 20 SW1/4 SW1/4*
Urban: subdivision block parcel subparcel
Rural: township range section % section of 1/4 section
- (Map 6)
5. UTM Location: zone 15 easting 407,660 northing 4,588,970; Acreage less than one acre
6. Owner(s) Name Francis Mapes
7. Owner(s) Address RR #2 Box 115 Earlham IA 50072
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Barn Original Barn

Description

9. Date of Construction c. 1856 Architect/Builder unknown
10. Building Type:
 single-family dwelling industrial other institutional religious
 multiple-family dwelling educational public agricultural
 commercial
11. Exterior Walls: clapboard stone brick board and batten shingles stucco
 other Native limestone
12. Structural System: wood frame with interlocking joints wood frame with light members (balloon frame)
 masonry load-bearing walls iron frame steel frame with curtain walls reinforced concrete
 other _____
13. Condition: excellent good fair deteriorated
14. Integrity: original site moved—if so, when? _____
Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:
Sheds on North and South; reroofed
15. Related Outbuildings and Property: barn other farm structures carriage house garage privy
 other _____
16. Is the building endangered? no yes—if so, why? _____
17. Surroundings of the building: open land woodland scattered outbuildings densely built-up commercial
 industrial residential other Farmsted

18. Map

19. Photo 5407 11-12 W, NE
Roll _____ Frame _____ View _____

*Nomination boundary:

A circle, 150' diameter, with center point located at center point of barn. Includes only subject building.

SIGNIFICANCE

20. Architectural Significance

—a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register

—b. Contributing structure _____

Theme(s): Vernacular Architecture

Subtheme(s): Function: Agricultural

The James Allen Stone Barn is an early example of a vernacular farm building built of limestone. It is a square single cell gabled barn.

The 22' x 22' one and one-half story gabled building is constructed of locally quarried limestone rubble, some of which has exaggerated quarry face. The east gable facade has a door on the right. Above the door, centered in the building is a small opening for haybales. Directly above it is a window. The north facade has two very small awindows and the south facade has three. The west facade has a centered window with an arched stone top. There is a very small window above it.

The east main facade is constructed of coursed rubble with exaggerated quarry face. Other facades are of coursed rubble. Joints are grapevine tooled. Quoins have exaggerated quarry face. The entrance and the west window are arched with limestone rubble set vertically to form the arched opening. The entrance has a very large stone sill. Other lintels and sills are of wood.

21. Historical Significance

—a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register

—b. Contributing Structure _____

Theme(s) Early Settlement

James Allen obtained patent deed to 280 acres in 1855. The barn reportedly was built for draft stallions and had four stalls.

Atlas of Madison Co., Iowa Philadelphia: Harrison & Warner, 1875.

Courthouse Records. Winterset, Iowa: Madison County Records' Office.

Iowa Site Inventory by Frank Hunter, 1983.

22. Sources

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