

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0683434

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED AUG 29 1978	DATA SHEET
DATE ENTERED	OCT 19 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

William Waterfield House

AND/OR COMMON

Waterfield Octagon House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

308 3rd St. South

CITY, TOWN

Raymond

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

Third

STATE

Iowa

CODE

COUNTY

Black Hawk

CODE

013

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

Frank S. Schmitz

STREET & NUMBER

308 3rd Street South

CITY, TOWN

Raymond

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 50667

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Black Hawk County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cedar Falls

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Waterfield house is a two-story, eight-sided building, the sides measuring between 13 and 14 feet. Built 1867-68, the house is of rubble ashlar construction, stuccoed after 1950. The house has a raised basement, and a somewhat unusual hipped roof, formed by the extension of the east and west roof planes. Fenestration is irregular, with upper story sash windows smaller than those of the first story. First story windows (24" x 63") are located on north, northwest, east, and west facades; upper story windows on northwest, southwest, south and east sides. The south facade contains an asymmetrical arrangement of a double and a single window, the latter at the level of the stair landing. The main entrance is in the southeast facade, and a breezeway connects a modern garage to the southwest side. The present porch, on the southeast side, is not original, having replaced a larger porch extending around three sides of the house.

The interior plan, with only minor modifications (besides the removal of a circular staircase) resembles that of William Howland's "Octagon Cottage", featured in Orson Fowler's A Home for All... (1848). On the first floor are two large living areas on east and west sides, kitchen and staircase on the south, and bedroom on the north, with main hall, closets, and bath occupying the other sides. The second floor contains the continuation of the stairs up the south side, a center hall running north-south, with bedrooms off the east, west, and north sides.

The total acreage under single ownership is approximately 9. However, all of this, with the exception of the area immediately around the house, is in cropland. Inclusion of one acre of land in this nomination (immediately surrounding the house) would appear to be sufficient to preserve the environment of the house.

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

1867-68

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Waterfield

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Waterfield House is one of approximately 20 octagon houses presently known to exist in Iowa, and thus achieves significance as a representative of Orson Fowler's unusual and somewhat controversial designs. This vernacular adaptation of Fowler's eight-sided house is not, however, Iowa's best example of the type. The Langworthy House, Dubuque, and the Sinnett House, Muscatine, are more sophisticated in design and execution, and the Waite House (rural Chickasaw County), with its finely-dressed stone and compact size, is a better example of the "cottage" form. Furthermore, the stuccoing of the Waterfield House has obscured the original charm of the building, which derived from the textured wall surfaces of the rock-faced ashlar masonry. Nonetheless, this house, with its unusual roofline and irregular fenestration, is illustrative of the basic octagon form and thus merits recognition as an architectural rarity in Iowa.

William Waterfield was born in New Jersey in 1828, and came to Iowa about 1856. He began his Iowa career as a "general farmer", later concentrating on dairy cattle and hogs. He is believed to have operated a hotel in Raymond (perhaps out of his eight-sided house) for about 10 years, catering particularly to workmen on the Dubuque and Sioux City Railroad. Waterfield's choice of design for this house was probably no accident: he was a student of phrenology, as was Orson Fowler, and lectured occasionally on the subject both in Iowa and Illinois. An acquaintance with Fowler's writings on phrenology may have led Waterfield to the New Yorker's publications describing and promoting the octagon mode.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fowler, Orson Squire. A Home for All; or a Cheap, Convenient, and Superior Mode of Building. New York: Fowler and Wells, 1848.
 Sissel, D. Kent. The Octagon Form in Nineteenth Century Domestic Architecture in Iowa. Unpublished M.A. Thesis, University of Iowa, Iowa City. 1968.
 Waterloo Daily Courier, October 12, 1941.
 History of Black Hawk County, Iowa. Chicago: Western Historical Co., 1878.
 Historical and Biographical Record of Black Hawk County, Iowa. Chicago: Inter-State Publishing Co., 1886.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Gilbertville, Iowa

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 564140 473480

B

C

D

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

One acre of land surrounding the house (total acreage in single ownership: 9)

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

Mrs. Vincent Fischels

May, 1978

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Route 3

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Independence

STATE

Iowa 50644

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

Alvin D. Anderson

DATE

8/25/78

TITLE

Director, Division of Historic Preservation

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

10/19/78

CHEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

Oct 18, 1978