

Iowa Site Inventory

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

Site Number W - PI - W2.2

District Name Legacy In Stone TR

Map Reference # 89

Identification

1. Site Name C. D. and Eliza Heath Bevington Privy
2. Village/Town/City Winterset Township County Madison
3. Street Address 805 South 2nd Avenue
4. Legal Location 75N 28W 1 NE1/4 NE1/4*
Urban: subdivision
Rural: township
(Map 3A
UTM Location: zone 15 easting 415,160 northing 4,574,520; Acreage less than one acre)
5. Owner(s) Name Madison County Historical Society
6. Owner(s) Address 515 Fremont Street Winterset IA 50273
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Exhibit Original Privy

Description

9. Date of Construction c. 1856 Architect/Builder unknown
10. Building Type:

<input type="checkbox"/> single-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> other institutional	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> multiple-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/> 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:
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 farmstead

18. Map

19. Photo

Roll _____ Frame _____ View _____

*Nomination boundary:

A circle, 50' diameter, with center point located at center point of privy. 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): _____

The C. D. Bevington Privy is an early example of a vernacular privy built of limestone. It is the only extant stone privy and is the only extant single cell stone building with entrance centered under the eaves. The most notable feature is the six foot deep stone vault beneath the entire privy. There are also stone chimneys at the gable peaks.

The 7'6" x 10'4" one story gabled privy is constructed of locally quarried very roughly squared limestone rubble. The privy is oriented toward and is to the east of the large brick residence. The west main entrance facade has a door centered under the eaves. The north and south gable facades each have a window toward the front of the building and the east facade has no openings.

All facades are constructed of very roughly squared quarry faced rubble laid with two against one bond. Joints have been repointed. Quoins and jambs are of finished cut quarry faced stone. Lintels are of dimension stone with draft lines, margin lines, and with the face vermiculated so that it is almost smooth. Protruding sills are dimension stone with axed surface texturing. The door sill has draft lines, margin lines, and vermiculated face. Windows and doors are recessed and have undecorated wood paneled reveals. Eaves and verges do not overhang and the ends of the rafters are visable. There are two stone chimneys, one at the gable peak at each end of the building. There is no evidence of a flue, and it is unclear whether the chimneys were used as a flue, a vent or were simply decorative. The roof is of single rafter construction with no ridge beam or collar beam. It has wood shingles.

The interior of the privy is a very spacious "three holer". The walls and ceiling are as carefully plastered as a house interior. Seating across the entire east wall is built of wainscoting with a finished wood top.

The two against one broken bond, the decorative treatment of the lintels and the windows to the side of the gable ends suggest the the privy may have been built by David Harris.

21. Historical Significance

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

--b. Contributing Structure _____

Theme(s) Early Settlement

C. D. Bevington was one of the organizers of Winterset, a land speculator, real estate agent, livestock dealer, and banker. He was a very wealthy and influential man who built a large expensive brick mansion and this associated large stone privy.

22. Sources

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