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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 Grenville M. Dodge House

AND/OR COMMON General Dodge House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
605 South 3rd Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
007 (Seventh)

Council Bluffs

VICINITY OF

STATE
Iowa

CODE
19

COUNTY
Pottawattamie

CODE
155

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
 - PRIVATE
 - BOTH
 - IN PROCESS
 - BEING CONSIDERED
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME (City of Council Bluffs Park Board) Ms. Penelope B. Chatfield, Director,
Historic General Dodge House

STREET & NUMBER
605 3rd Street

CITY, TOWN
Council Bluffs

VICINITY OF

STATE
Iowa 51505

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Pottawattamie County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
5th and Main Streets

CITY, TOWN
Council Bluffs

STATE
Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE
1934

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Library of Congress/Annex, Prints and Photographs Division

CITY, TOWN
Washington

STATE
D.C.

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 type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> restored	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The three-story, fourteen-room brick Dodge House was built in 1869 at a cost of \$35,000. The architect was W. W. Boyington of Chicago. The mansard roof is pierced by four chimneys. A short flight of steps leads from a brick patio and ornate iron foundation through double black walnut doors into a spacious hall. Black walnut woodwork is featured throughout the house, along with stucco medallions, bronze hinges with silver butts, and many family or contemporary pieces.

Most of the alterations in the original design of the house were made in 1907-08, when Dodge retired from business and returned to live permanently in Council Bluffs. The original Victorian porch, which had run along the west side of the building, was replaced by a much more imposing porch. It ran along both the west and north sides, featuring wooden columns with arches between the corner columns on a solid, low brick railing. The porch floor was red tile and the metal roof had wood wainscoting underneath.

On the south side of the house, the back porch was removed and the present screen-enclosed porch was installed with a sleeping porch above for the second floor bedroom. Another sleeping porch was built above the solarium, also on the south face of the home. New maple floors were installed in the entrance hall, library and dining room which still remain.

In 1950 the Dodge family sold the home and it became an apartment house for thirteen years. In 1963 the City of Council Bluffs purchased the building and began restoration. Minor interior alterations were corrected and the whole restored to the period of Dodge's occupancy. A brick floor in the basement and a brick patio with iron foundation on the lawn are the two non-historic additions. The Dodge carriage house, built in 1871, is still standing and in use as a garage and custodian's residence. It and the third floor of the Dodge House are unrestored. In a more recent structure is a dilapidated garage, due to be removed shortly. The entire Dodge House property consists of about four acres extending east into the bluffs. Except for a small lawn and brick patio, it is given over entirely to natural vegetation.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1869-1916 (Period of occupancy) BUILDER/ARCHITECT W. W. Boyington

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grenville M. Dodge was the chief engineer of the Union Pacific Railroad, 1866-1869. More than any other single man, Dodge was responsible for completing the first trans-continental railroad in 1869. That same year he completed work on his Council Bluffs home, which remained his until his death in 1916.

Biography

Grenville M. Dodge was born in 1831 and began his involvement with railroads at the age of twenty. In 1861 he volunteered his services to the Union Army and distinguished himself as a field commander. It was as an engineer that he proved most valuable, however; in three days he built a bridge 14 feet high and 710 feet long across the Chattahoochee River. His skill in building bridges and replacing Confederate- with Union-gauge railroad kept Sherman's huge army supplied during its epic march to the sea, and effectively cut off the Confederate armies from their supply centers.

Dodge left the army in May 1866 as a Major-General. He immediately entered upon his duties as chief engineer of the Union Pacific Railroad. On May 10, 1869, the first transcontinental railroad was completed. In one year 568 miles of road were located, built, and equipped. The completion of this stupendous project was the fulfillment of the great ambition of Dodge's life. Throughout his life his surveys alone totalled over 60,000 miles. For half a century he was active as projector, builder, financier and director of railroads in the West and Southwest and was called by some the ablest railroad lobbyist of his time. Certainly, he was one of the greatest builders.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chatfield, Penelope M., report submitted 1975.
 Dictionary of American Biography, pp. 347-348, 1946.
 "Historic General Dodge House," informational booklet.
 Perkins, Jacob R., Trails, Rails and Wars - The Life of General Dodge, 1929.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.8 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	2,6,1	4,6,0	4,5,7,0	7,3,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Grenville ~~M~~Dodge House is located on a small plot of **1.8 acres** facing 3rd Street in Council Bluffs. The 1871 carriage house and a modern garage, soon to be removed, are the only other structures. The site includes all the Dodge property as it provides an unobtrusive setting for the Dodge House and carriage house. The garage does not contribute to the national significance of the landmark.

See continuation Sheet.

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

Stephen Lissandrello, Historian, Landmarks Review Project

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

DATE

August 5, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street N.W.

TELEPHONE

(202) 523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C. 20240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Designated: Nov. 5, 1961
 date

Boundary Certified: Aug 21/1977
 DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Stephen Lissandrello

DATE

8/10/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The Dodge house is located on the Southeast corner of Third and Story Streets. At the intersection of the eastern curb of Third Street with the southern curb of Story Street, proceed east for 400' to the top of the bluffs; thence 200' southerly to a point; thence west for 400' to the eastern curb of Third Street; thence proceed northerly along the eastern curb to the point of origin. This boundary encloses the house within the original lot.