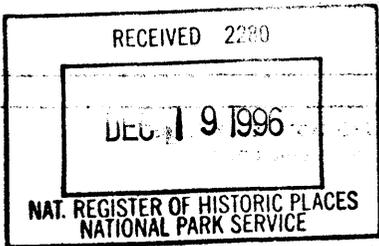


1586



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Damour, William and Sue, House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 1844 Second Avenue S.E. N/A  not for publication

city or town Cedar Rapids N/A  vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Linn code 113 zip code 52403

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patricia Overking DSMP 12-10-96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historical Society of Iowa  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action  
1.16.97

Damour House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

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**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revival-  
Colonial revival

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**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick  
walls Brick  
roof Asphalt  
other \_\_\_\_\_

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**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

~~Damour House~~  
Name of Property

~~Linn County, Iowa~~  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1917

**Significant Dates**

1917

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Cail, John Henry

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Damour House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	5
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6	1	2	3	2	0
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4	6	4	9	5	3	0
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Zone Easting Northing

3 

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Zone Easting Northing

4 

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 See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title DJ Smith, attorney at law

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 7-20-96

street & number 1844 Second Avenue S.E. telephone (319) 364-7387

city or town Cedar Rapids state Iowa zip code 52403

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Abbie A. Smith

street & number 1844 Second Avenue S.E. telephone (319) 364-7387

city or town Cedar Rapids state Iowa zip code 52403

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Damour House, Linn County, Iowa

Located in the historic Wellington Heights area of southeast Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the William and Sue Damour House is an excellent example of the Georgian Revival phase of the Colonial Revival style of domestic architecture. The house was constructed in 1917 by general contractor John Henry Cail who built numerous structures for more than 30 years prior to his retirement in 1939. Mr. Cail built the seawall around the island upon which the city's governmental buildings are located, and he built the seawall on the west side of the Cedar River which bisects Cedar Rapids.

The Damour House is a large two-and-one-half story brick edifice which has not been structurally altered since it was built. In 1926 a two-stall garage, also made of the same brick as the house, was erected at the north end of the lot, and a driveway from the Second Avenue (or south) side passes on the east side of the house under a portico to the garage.

The west side of the house features a two story solarium and sleeping porch which are an integral part of the house as it was originally constructed, even though its white stucco exterior suggests that it was a later addition. The solarium is used year-round, thanks to the three hot water radiators and two ceiling fans. The sleeping porch on the second level with its 17 full-sized screened-in windows was used extensively during hot Iowa summers prior to the advent of air conditioning.

The front view of the Damour House shows a side-gable roof with a three-part symmetrical front and three gable dormers. The cornice returns on the gable end with modillions along the eaves. The home's front entrance is flanked by beveled side lights with a beveled transom above. The house features 16 casement windows on the first floor and a similar number on the second story. In 1983 the present owner replaced the first floor casement windows (excluding the solarium) with triple-pane vinyl windows because many of the casements did not operate properly and lacked screens. The upper panes are consistent with the original casement windows' general appearance, however.

The house features a massive brick fireplace on the west wall, and another chimney pierces the gable end peaks on the east side wall. Other interior features of the house include two built-in hutches in the dining room, built-in bookcases in the living room, a pantry between the kitchen and the dining room with cupboards, counters, a plate-warming radiator, and an ice door. The living room and dining room are separated by French doors as are these two rooms from the adjoining solarium. All doors are solid wood and original to the house. The home features hardwood floors throughout, although the upper floors

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

Damour House, Linn County, Iowa

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are now carpeted except the bathrooms. A detailed floor plan of the first two floors is on Continuation Sheet Page 7.

The Damour House has certain unusual characteristics. These include a butler button in the dining room floor, a maid call switch to the third floor situated in a first floor closet off the portico entrance, a vanity/dressing room between the master bedroom and an adjoining bedroom, many lighting fixtures (dining room chandelier and wall sconces) which are thought to be original, and a central vacuum system with wall outlets and a place for the motor unit in the full basement.

Virtually all of the woodwork is painted, and there is no way of knowing whether this was done at the time of construction or whether natural woodwork was painted later.

Generally speaking, the Damour House possesses a high degree of integrity. The house has not experienced any structural additions which might compromise its architectural significance.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Damour House, Linn County, Iowa

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Located in a potential historic residential district in the Wellington Heights area of southeast Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the William and Sue Damour House is locally significant under criterion C as an excellent example of the Georgian Revival phase of the Colonial Revival style of domestic architecture in the early years of the 20th century.

Other homes of similar size and construction were built on Second Avenue a block south of the main thoroughfare of Cedar Rapids in the period 1910-1925. Second Avenue is lined with mature trees, but at one time, Dutch Elms arched over the avenue, providing an ambiance of graciousness and beauty. After the elms were ravaged by disease, the city undertook an aggressive replanting program. The 1800 block of Second Avenue remains today one of the most interesting areas of architectural significance within one of the most historic areas of Cedar Rapids. The Damour House stands out as a jewel in this area.

A close examination of the home's floor plan reveals a circular traffic pattern with the sweeping stairway from the full front foyer to the second floor as its axis. The house is not "cut up" and its rooms are large and comfortable for gracious living. The fireplace with its clay tile hearth accomodates logs of 20-inch width.

The house has no central air conditioning because there is no duct work. It is heated by the original hot water radiators supplied by a gas-fired boiler which was installed by the present owner in the early 1980's. The original boiler was designed to accept coal, then heating oil before being converted to natural gas. The old coal room in the basement is now being used to store firewood, which is delivered from the driveway through a coal chute.

The Smiths are the sixth family occupying the house since it was built. Very little is known about the Damours, although Mr. Damour had a number of occupations including tax collector and general insurance agent. In 1929 the Damours sold the house to A.J. and Katherine Murray. After Mr. Murray died in 1941, his wife Katherine continued to live in the house until her death in 1966. Her estate transferred ownership to Forrest and Penelope Binger who lived there for eight years. Abbie A. Smith acquired title in 1979.

Even though there has been some minor loss of original materials, the overall integrity of the house remains high. The Damour House represents a genuine example of the Georgian Revival influence in the city.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   9   Page   4  

Damour House, Linn County, Iowa

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Bibliography

Abstract of Title containing deed records filed in the office of the Linn County, Iowa, Recorder.

City Directories for Cedar Rapids, Iowa from 1915-1955.

Obituary of John Henry Cail published in the Cedar Rapids Gazette on December 12, 1942.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 5

Damour House, Linn County, Iowa

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Verbal Boundary Description

A tract of ground particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a point on the Northwesterly line of Second Avenue in Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa, 100 feet Southwesterly from the intersection of Second Avenue and 19th Street; thence in a Southwesterly direction along the Northwesterly line of Second Avenue 100 feet to the Southeasterly corner of Lot 14 in Block 1 of Sampson Heights Addition to the City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; thence at right angles in a Northeasterly direction and parallel with Second Avenue 100 feet; thence at right angles in a Southeasterly direction 150 feet to the place of beginning. Provided, however, that a strip of ground off of the rear or Northwesterly side of the tract herein described, is conveyed subject to any claims that the City of Cedar Rapids or any other person, firm or corporation may have therein for alley purposes. Being part of Lot 6 in the Irreg. Survey SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 15, and all of Lot 2 Irreg. Survey NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 22-83-7.

Boundary Justification

The verbal boundary description is taken verbatim from the legal description contained in the Abstract of Title. The house is centrally located on the lot which is described by said boundary description.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 11 Page 6

Damour House, Linn County, Iowa

William and Sue Damour House as it looked in 1917.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 11 Page 7

Damour House, Linn County, Iowa

Floor Plan (Not drawn to scale) of William and Sue Damour House.

