

971

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Other names/site number: Westchester 02 Deluxe model, #01237
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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

2. Location

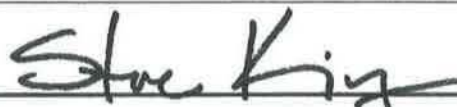
Street & number: 2017 Washington Avenue
City or town: Iowa Falls State: Iowa County: Hardin
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
 A ___ B C ___ D

	6 Oct 2014
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
State Historical Society of Iowa _____	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Joe Eason H. Beal
Signature of the Keeper

12-2-14
Date of Action

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

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/ single dwelling

Domestic/ secondary structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/ single dwelling

Domestic/ secondary structure

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/ Lustron

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Foundation, Concrete; Roof, METAL/steel;
Walls, METAL/steel; Other, METAL/aluminum

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

(See Continuation Sheets)

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

Narrative Description

(See Continuation Sheets)

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1949

Significant Dates

1949

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Lustron Corporation

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

(See Continuation Sheets)

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

(See Continuation Sheets)

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

(See 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than 1

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 15 North | Easting: 47674 | Northing: 4707491 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

(See Continuation Sheets)

Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

(See Continuation Sheets)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: James Hammann

organization: _____

street & number: 2017 Washington Avenue

city or town: Iowa Falls _____ state: Iowa zip code: 50126

e-mail jimhammann@aol.com

telephone: (515) 943-3541

date: 2/13/2014

OWNER: James Hammann (All contact information as listed above)

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Kurtz, Glenn & Neil, Lustron Home & Garage
Name of Property

Hardin County, Iowa
County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log (See Continuation Sheets)

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of ____.

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. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

Section number Section 7 Page 1

SUMMARY PARAGRAPH

The Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home and Garage are set back from their location on Washington Avenue in Iowa Falls, Iowa approximately thirty five feet from the street. Constructed almost entirely of steel that was then covered with a baked-on porcelain enameled finish at the factory in Columbus, Ohio, it was delivered on a specially built truck and assembled on site during the second and third week of August, 1949. Behind the house is a driveway accessed from Michigan Avenue which terminates and gives access to the 1 ½ car Lustron garage, which was erected in 1949 at the same time as the house. The Lustron garage is located behind and to the left of the house with its rear wall near the east property line. Also located on the property is a recent additional garage, erected in 2011, also of metal construction, which is on the south side of the driveway and on the rear portion of the property. The Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home and Garage are in remarkably original condition. The exteriors have their original light yellow porcelain steel panels on the walls, their original brown steel shingled roofs, off-white gables and trim, and the house has its original metal entrance doors. The interior of the house retains its beige porcelain steel paneled walls, pocket doors, built-in architectural features in the living, dining, and master bedroom areas, and the original tub in the bathroom. The property has been well maintained through the years, and the current owner is dedicated to both good maintenance and historical integrity. This is the only Lustron Home in Iowa Falls, Hardin County, and one of 143 in Iowa. The closest other Lustron to Iowa Falls, located in Hampton, Franklin County, Iowa, seventeen miles away, is in poor condition and in danger of demolition.

MAIN NARRATIVE

Architectural innovations abound in Lustron Homes. The design is of a single story ranch style with no steps, and rooms that flow from one to another. Four Chicago style casement "picture" windows give the entire home natural light and airiness. These are supplemented by an additional four casement windows of more standard size in the bedrooms, kitchen, and bath. Pocket doors that roll on hidden tracks are used to partition the bedrooms and bath eliminating wasted floor space. All of these features make optimum use of the 1,021 square foot space which has an exterior measurement of 31 by 35 feet. Exterior features include a 6 by 12 foot front porch on the northeast corner of the house, a front bay window, and oblique angled downspouts which are supported and decorated with zig-zag steel tube trellises. All of these original features are extant in the Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home.

The house is accessed in the front through an entrance door located on the side of the six by twelve foot porch located on the north east corner of the house. One enters into the main living area (living room). The interior walls, constructed of eight foot floor to ceiling two foot wide steel panels, which contain vertical grooves both for strength and visual interest, are finished in a gray beige color of porcelain enamel. Eight foot high ceilings are consistent throughout the house being made of four foot square porcelain

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KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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enameled steel panels, with odd sizes as required for corners and fill-in applications. Architectural features in the living room include a built-in book case/ mirror, and an approximately one foot projection of the large casement "picture window." To the left of the entrance door, flowing directly from the living room is the nine by ten foot dining area. This area also has a large casement "picture window," and is separated from the galley kitchen by a built-in cabinet that provides a china closet with display shelves for the dining area, and in the kitchen, cabinets, drawer space, a shelf and "pass through."

The seventeen by six foot kitchen area is partitioned on one side by the aforementioned china/storage unit and the rear wall of the house on the other side. This rear wall area contains an area for a stove, sink and counter space, and cupboards above. This is the space of the Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home that has had the most changes. The original Thor combination clothes/dish washer which also contained the sink, was removed. (These units were a mechanical disaster, and very few remain in existence.) A counter top with stainless steel double sink and cabinets below was installed sometime in the 1970's. New above counter matching cabinets were installed at the same time. The original Lustron above counter cabinets are in storage in the Lustron garage, and the intention is to restore and re-install these in the near future. A rear entrance door is located beside the rear wall countertop. It opens into the kitchen and also straight into the utility room.

The seven and ½ foot by eight foot utility room serves as a space for furnace and water heater, since Lustron Homes were designed to be constructed on a concrete slab, and have no basement space for these appliances. It also has a wall adjacent to the bath room that contains on its interior, the junction area for plumbing and electrical connections. The fuse box, and access to bathtub plumbing are located behind pull-out panels in the wall. The original furnace was positioned horizontally just under the ceiling allowing for more space since the utility room was also designed to function as a laundry hanging area. There are hooks provided in the wall for stretching a clothes line. Also located in the utility room is a broom closet, with cabinet space above for cleaning supplies. The interior walls of both the kitchen and utility room are clad in two foot square metal panels finished in light yellow porcelain enamel.

The bedrooms and bath are located on a short hallway that is accessed from the living room area. They all have pocket doors for privacy, and these slide into the walls which make for an optimum use of floor space. Also contained in this hall are two closets for bed and bath linens. The five by ten foot bathroom has a large tub that was specifically engineered and produced in the Lustron factory. There is also an original small storage cabinet with drawers and counter space located in the corner. The toilet and bathroom sink are replacements, but both are of the appropriate time period and style of the originals. The bathroom walls are constructed of two foot square metal panels coated with light yellow baked porcelain enamel. Above the sink and recessed into the wall is the original medicine cabinet with mirror and light fixtures.

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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Bedroom number one is a twelve by twelve square, accessed by a pocket door that separates it from the hallway. It has a large casement "picture window," and another smaller window positioned high enough to allow for the headboard of a bed. The larger of the two bedrooms, it has a built-in vanity with mirror that fits between two clothes closets with rods for hangers and shelving space. The unit also contains drawers below the vanity counter, and overhead storage space. The closets and above head storage space are concealed by sliding doors. On the interior wall separating the two bedrooms is another large clothes closet with a rod for hangers and side shelving. This, too, has a storage space above it, with sliding doors. Bedroom number two is ten and ½ feet by fourteen feet. It has a casement "picture" window, and also a smaller window located again at a height that will allow for a bed headboard to dresser. There is only one closet with hanger space, and shelving.

The original brown asphalt tile flooring in the living room, dining room, and bedrooms has been covered with wall to wall carpeting. Pulling up the corners of the carpeting in various corners of the rooms has revealed the original flooring, but tack strips for the carpeting have compromised the integrity of the original tile. The bathroom, utility room, and kitchen floors all have fairly recent vinyl floor coverings.

Central air conditioning was installed by locating a refrigeration unit outside of the back door, running coolant pipes through the inside of the utility room wall, and locating a blower unit above the closet adjacent to the bathroom, and lowering a small portion of the ceiling in the hall outside the bathroom door. The trim and cover for this hall ceiling were all matched to the existing Lustron beige color.

There are two outbuildings on the property. A 1 ½ car garage, 15 by 22 feet was supplied by Lustron, the steel components of which were delivered at the same time as the house. This garage uses a wooden framework onto which the standard Lustron exterior wall, gable, and roof porcelain panels were attached. The materials for the wooden framework were purchased locally, this being standard Lustron procedure for garages. This garage is a contributing structure to the nomination. A second garage, 18 by 22 feet, was erected in 2011, and is made entirely of steel. Manufactured by Carolina Carports, it uses a pre-fabricated square tube steel structure system which was clad with standard steel siding and roofing materials that were cut and fit on site. This is a non-contributing structure.

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

INTEGRITY

The Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home and Garage retain their integrity from the period of significance identified for this property, 1949. The rationale for this assertion is discussed below:

Location: The Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home and Garage are located in their original location which was the main residential growth area for Iowa Falls for a two decade period following World War II.

Design: The Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home follows the main design precepts for a family home in a suburban setting for this era, with the main exception being, and also being a unique qualification for significance, the all porcelain steel construction. It has had no changes made to its appearance and construction since it was delivered on the specialized truck and assembled on site in 1949. The Lustron garage that was a part of the original construction package has had its door changed, but its original porcelain steel siding, brown metal roof, and internal support system remain as originally built. The other unattached garage, erected in 2011, and of all metal design, was delivered and then assembled on a concrete slab. It was chosen to blend-in and compliment the existing 1949 structures. There have been no additions or alterations made to the original Westchester package except for the replacement of the original furnace, water heater, and rear wall kitchen cabinets and base cabinets and the addition of a central air conditioning system. The toilet and sink in the bathroom were changed, and have been changed again using period fixtures suitable to the age and style of the house.

Setting: The setting for the Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home and Garage retain most of their original integrity. The Washington Heights addition of Iowa Falls is still primarily a residential neighborhood with the majority of the houses having been constructed in a two decade period following World War II. As would be expected with a neighborhood of this type, additions, and modernization exterior updates have been made to some of the houses, the majority remain in their original style and construction.

Materials: The original materials for the Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home and Garage remain unaltered from their fabrication in the factory in Columbus, Ohio, and their assembly on site in 1949. The original porcelain colors, yellow for the outside walls, brown roof, and interior beige walls and ceiling remain. Small chips in the original porcelain finish have been matched with touch-up paint from a local automobile body shop, and downspouts have been repainted in original colors.

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Workmanship: All of the hallmark features of Lustron Home workmanship remain intact. Exterior walls and roof retain original finish and rubber seals. All walls, doors, ceilings, and built-in cabinets are as delivered from Columbus, except for the interior kitchen changes noted above. The central air conditioning was installed by utilizing space above the linen closet which is next to the bathroom and utility room. A small area of the ceiling was lowered in front of the bathroom door and the materials were matched in color to enclose the blower for the air conditioning.

Feeling: The Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home and Garage evoke the basic post World War II aspirations for progress, modern styling, and residential family living. Located on a main artery of Iowa Falls, it presents an unaltered representation of this era.

Association: Integrity of association refers to the degree to which a property has a direct link to the event, person, or development for which the property is significant. As was noted earlier, 1949 was for Iowa Falls, as with many communities a watershed time. The old patriarchal, Victorian, Ellsworth mansion was razed to make way for a supermarket, the west end of the town was being developed primarily for residential use, and the homes being constructed were of the single floor plan ranch style. The Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home #01237 represents a unique part of that postwar time and aesthetic.

Future Plans: The current owner intends to maintain this property as a single family home, and to continue to return it to original specifications. This includes the restoration and re-installation of the original kitchen wall cabinets, removal of wall to wall carpeting, and replacement/restoration of original floor tile. This process was begun by replacing non-original bathroom lavatory and toilet fixtures with period appropriate ones.

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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SUMMARY PARAGRAPH

During the early part of August in 1949, a specially designed tractor trailer truck traveled west from the Lustron Corporation factory in Columbus, Ohio, to Iowa Falls, Iowa, loaded with the unassembled parts for Lustron Home and Garage #01237. An article in the *Iowa Falls Citizen* of August 25th contains an article with pictures of the house being erected on site at 2017 Washington Avenue. Glenn and Nell Kurtz had purchased the vacant land which comprises lots 10 ½ and 11 in the Washington Heights Addition of Iowa Falls, Iowa, in 1944. Mr. Kurtz was the proprietor of the Cigar and News Store, which was located in the central business district of Iowa Falls, and had also been named the Lustron dealer for Hardin County and three other adjacent counties, Hamilton, Franklin, and Grundy (Iowa Falls Citizen: B1). The Washington Heights residential area was developed initially after the construction of the first Washington Street Bridge over the Iowa River in 1911, but building activity increased dramatically after the initial bridge was replaced with a new concrete bridge in 1934 (Nichols: 87). This was a part of highway construction that routed US Highway #20 west through Iowa Falls, across the Iowa River and down Washington Avenue. Following the World War II this became a major growth area of Iowa Falls; the majority of homes date from this period and reflect a middle class socio-economic status. The property is eligible under criteria A and C as a good illustration of how Lustron Homes were marketed in Iowa. The property is also architecturally significant as an excellent example of a Lustron Westchester 02 Deluxe model and companion garage.

MAIN NARRATIVE

During the 1930s the Chicago Vitreous Enamel Company had produced porcelain steel panels for use in store front modernizations, and the constructions of pre-fabricated steel buildings such as gasoline stations and White Castle Hamburger stands (Knerr: 21). The term "Lustron," had been coined and patented during the late 1930's and was a made-up word containing the idea of luster on steel. This activity was curtailed as a result of World War II steel rationing, and the company turned its production toward war equipment production. During the war, a young executive, Carl Strandlund came to notice for his innovative endeavors, and quickly rose to be a vice president in the organization (Knerr: 21).

At the wars end, Strandlund made a trip to Washington D. C., to lobby for the release of steel rationing for the production of commercial buildings. He was turned down in this request but told by government officials in charge of rationing that unlimited amounts of steel would be made available if his company could design and produce housing to alleviate the post-war demand for residential housing needed by returning veterans (Fetters: 15). The Lustron Home was designed and a model built in Hinsdale, Illinois (Fetters: 18). Negotiations for a massive loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation which included the lease of a former bomber aircraft plant on the outskirts of Columbus, Ohio, were consummated and by 1948, large stamping equipment, baking ovens, assembly line fixtures, and other machinery for the production of all steel homes was installed. It was envisioned that the sales and distribution network for these homes would be modeled upon the automobile system of dealerships and that these sleek, well designed, one thousand square foot homes would not only alleviate the post World War

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housing shortage, but would revolutionize the way that single family homes were constructed and distributed (Knerr:23-24). By 1949, homes were being manufactured in Columbus and shipped to building sites principally in the mid western section of the United States. Special trailer trucks were outfitted and loaded so that components for a house were positioned in a way that the first needed items were on the outside perimeter of the truck, and as the truck was unloaded, the house was assembled on the site (Liccese-Torres: 3). The design and quality of these homes was superlative. All components, including the structural steel beams used for studding and roof trusses were given a coat of baked porcelain enamel. Copper plumbing, insulation, first rate wiring, and even an especially designed combination clothes/dish washer were part of the design package.

Much favorable publicity made the public aware of these new homes. Large lines formed in the model homes put on display in New York City and other metropolitan areas. *Life* magazine and other national periodicals ran large articles, and radio programs were aired from model home sites (Knerr: 19). However, production delays, cost overruns, inadequate financing, political intrigue, and pressure from unions connected with traditional methods of home construction led to the foreclosure of the loans by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in 1951. After building around 2,680 homes, Lustron was forced to close its doors and was out of business. There are approximately 143 Lustron Homes located in Iowa (Fetters: 164).

The Glenn and Nell Kurtz Lustron Home in Iowa Falls is an excellent example of this style of all steel, pre-fabricated house. A two bedroom, 02 Westchester Deluxe Model, it is completely original except for a replacement furnace, wall to wall carpeting over the original asphalt tile flooring, rear wall cabinet and sink replacement in the kitchen, and lavatory and toilet change in the bathroom, and the addition of central air conditioning. (Note: The original kitchen combination dish/clothes washer was a design disaster, and very few examples are extant.) The exterior steel paneling has its original baked porcelain finish, all windows are the ones originally provided with the house, and the interior pocket doors and the front and rear entrance doors are all original. The brown steel roof shingles are original and extant, as are the gutters and down spouts. While two of the rear kitchen cabinets were replaced, the originals are extant on the property and are in storage in the Lustron garage awaiting restoration and re-installation. The house is located in an area largely developed after World War II and is chiefly surrounded by traditional stick style construction ranch style homes.

The *Iowa Falls Citizen* for August 25, 1949 contained a front page article on Section B of the paper which contained two pictures of the Lustron #01237 assembly on site, and a picture of the specialized trailer which delivered the components of the home. The article noted that Mr. Kurtz, the owner, was a Lustron dealer for a four county area, and repeated many of the architectural advances found in the advertisements for Lustron in national publications (Iowa Falls Citizen: B1). This article documenting the arrival and assembly of this innovative porcelain steel manufactured home contrasted with a series of articles

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earlier in the year in the *Hardin County Times* that detailed the razing of the eighteen room, Victorian styled mansion that had been built in 1875 by the deceased patriarch of Iowa Falls, E. S. Ellsworth. The Ellsworth mansion had been razed to make way for a new supermarket (*Hardin County Times*: 1).

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Kurtz are a good representation of the upward mobility possibilities and aspirations of typical American couples in the twentieth century. According to census records of 1930, and 1940, they had spent their entire married life heretofore in rental housing, first in Eldora, Iowa, and then in Iowa Falls. According to his draft registration of 1918, Glenn Kurtz had completed eleven years of public education. He was listed as a county farm worker in Corydon, Wayne County Iowa, the place of his birth. Nell was eleven years younger and is listed in the 1930 census as a homemaker. By the 1940 census Glenn is listed as a wage or salary worker who worked approximately 72 hours per week (*Ancestry.Com*). By 1950, we find them living in their new Lustron Home, with Glenn proprietor of a small business, The Cigar and News Store in Iowa Falls, and also a dealer for the Lustron Corporation, with a four county area of representation (*Iowa Falls Telephone Directory*).

The Lustron sales network was loosely based upon the dealership system that was developed in the automobile industry. Since Lustron was only in business for a few years, this system was never refined and fully implemented (*Knerr*: 26). Initially, dealerships were granted to a few large corporate entities responsible for large geographical areas. This evidently proved inefficient and unwieldy. A refinement of this system was described in a fact sheet that accompanied a letter to the press written by Carl Strandlund on the last day of December, 1949 (*Fetters*: 139). The sheet lists the prerequisites to qualify for a dealership as, "experience in the construction and sales field, a good credit record, sufficient working capital (and the) willingness to use AFL union labor." Evidently, Glenn Kurtz's ownership of a small business in Iowa Falls, and his record and reputation connected therewith, gave him the necessary qualifications. The trust that Lustron placed in Glenn Kurtz was evidently well founded since there are four additional Lustron Homes in the four county area represented by him. There are three in Webster City, in Hamilton County, and one in Hampton, which is in Franklin County. Considering the relatively sparse population of the sales area, and the short amount of time Lustron Homes were produced, this is a notable sales achievement.

The Lustron Home clearly represents the thoughts and aspirations of post World War II, mid-twentieth century United States Society: innovative architectural design of a single-family ranch style home, use of all steel construction, factory construction of standardized components, delivery using an increasingly sophisticated national highway system, and a dealer/distribution system based upon the automobile industry. The Glenn & Nell Kurtz Lustron Home and Garage, in Iowa Falls, IA., surrounded by post World War Two ranch homes of traditional stick style construction, is an important historical reminder of this bold, innovative, experiment in American housing, and of the ambitions of typical, hard working couples for a home of their own.

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National Park Service

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KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE

Section number Section 9 Page 9 HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

9. Major Bibliographical References

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot 11 and the W1/2 of Lot 10, Block 9, Washington Heights Addition to Iowa Falls, Hardin County, Iowa

Boundary Justification

The boundary is the legal parcel of land that is historically associated with the property.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

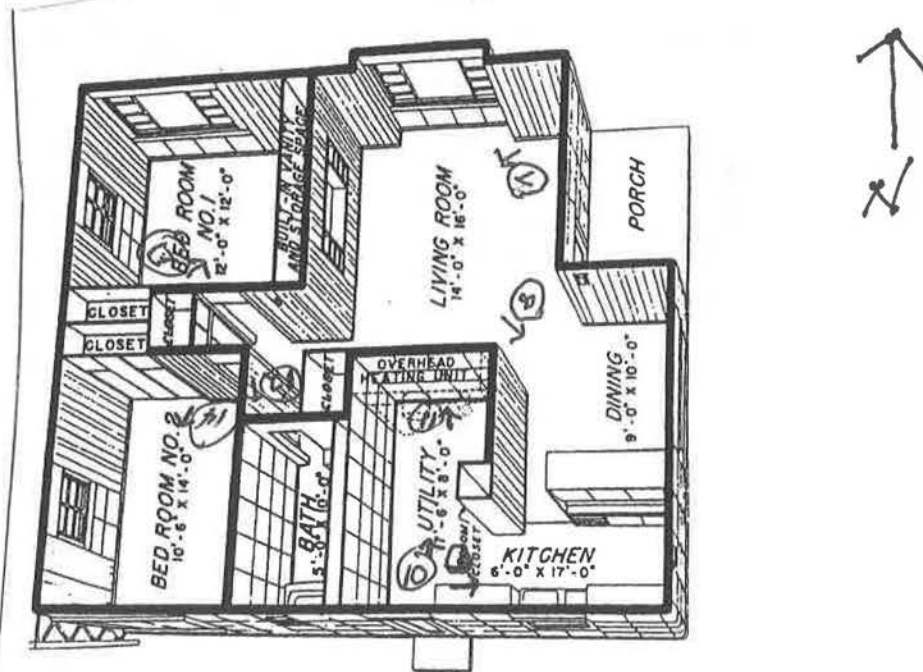
KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

FLOOR PLAN AND INTERIOR PHOTO KEY



This model 02 Westchester floor plan is accurate for the property with the exception of the kitchen appliances and the furnace, both of which have been replaced.

Copied from page 70, *The Lustron Home*, Thomas T. Fetters

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KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

CITY OF IOWA FALLS (PORTION OF USGS MAP) LOCATION CIRCLED



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KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

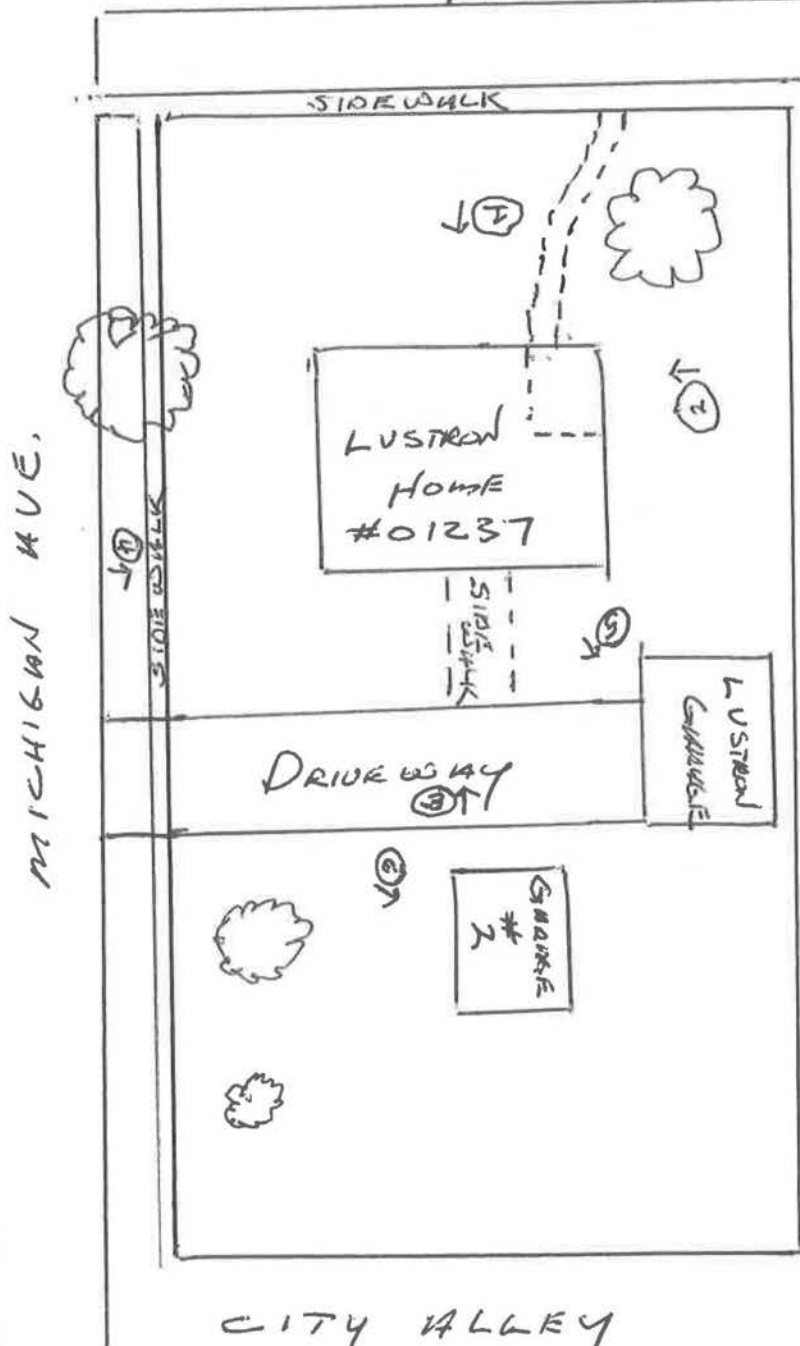
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13

HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

SITE PLAN AND EXTERIOR PHOTO KEY

WASHINGTON AVE.
N ↑



NOT
TO
SCALE

DRAWN BY
JAMES
HAMMANN

12/11/2013

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

PHOTO LOG

Property Name: Hammann Lustron Home #01237
County and State: Hardin County, Iowa
Name of Photographer: (1-14) Jess Lindsay Lindsay's Photography, Iowa Falls, IA
Date of photographs: November 18, 2013

Photographs

Photo #1 North Elevation (front) of house, Camera facing south
Photo #2 East Elevation (side) of house, Camera facing west
Photo #3 South Elevation (back) of house, Camera facing north
Photo #4 West Elevation (side) of house, Camera facing east
Photo #5 North and West (corner shot) of Lustron garage, Camera facing southeast
Photo #6 North and West (corner shot) of Additional metal garage, Camera facing SE
Photo #7 Living Room showing built-in book shelf unit, Camera facing west
Photo #8 Dining Area showing built-in divider, Camera facing east
Photo #9 Kitchen showing built-in divider. Camera facing east
Photo #10 Utility Room, showing built-in broom closet, Camera facing north
Photo #11 Lustron nameplate, showing serial number, Camera facing north
Photo #12 Bathroom, showing original tub and storage cabinet, Camera facing south
Photo #13 Bedroom #1, showing built-in vanity table and storage, Camera facing NW
Photo #14 Bedroom #2, Camera facing south

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National Park Service

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KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

Section number Add. Doc. Page

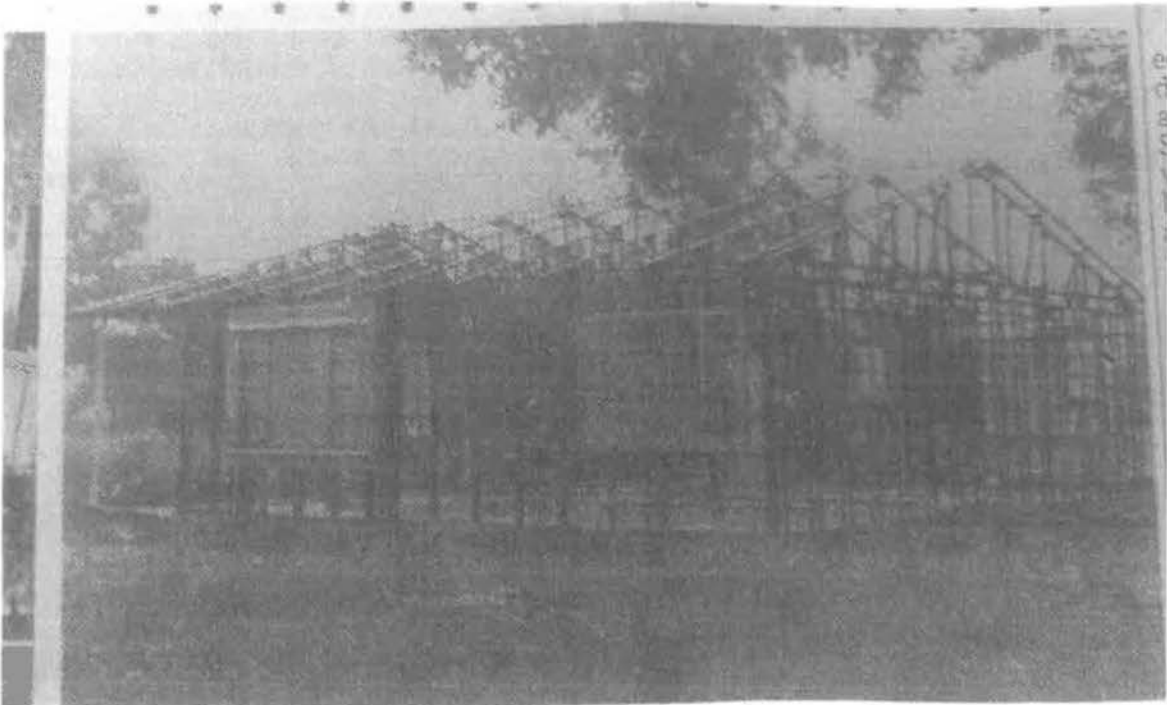
15

PHOTOS FROM CONSTRUCTION ARTICLE
Iowa Falls Citizen, August 25, 1949

PHOTO
OF
PAPER
ARTICLE



STEEL
SKELETON
ERECTED
ON
SITE



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KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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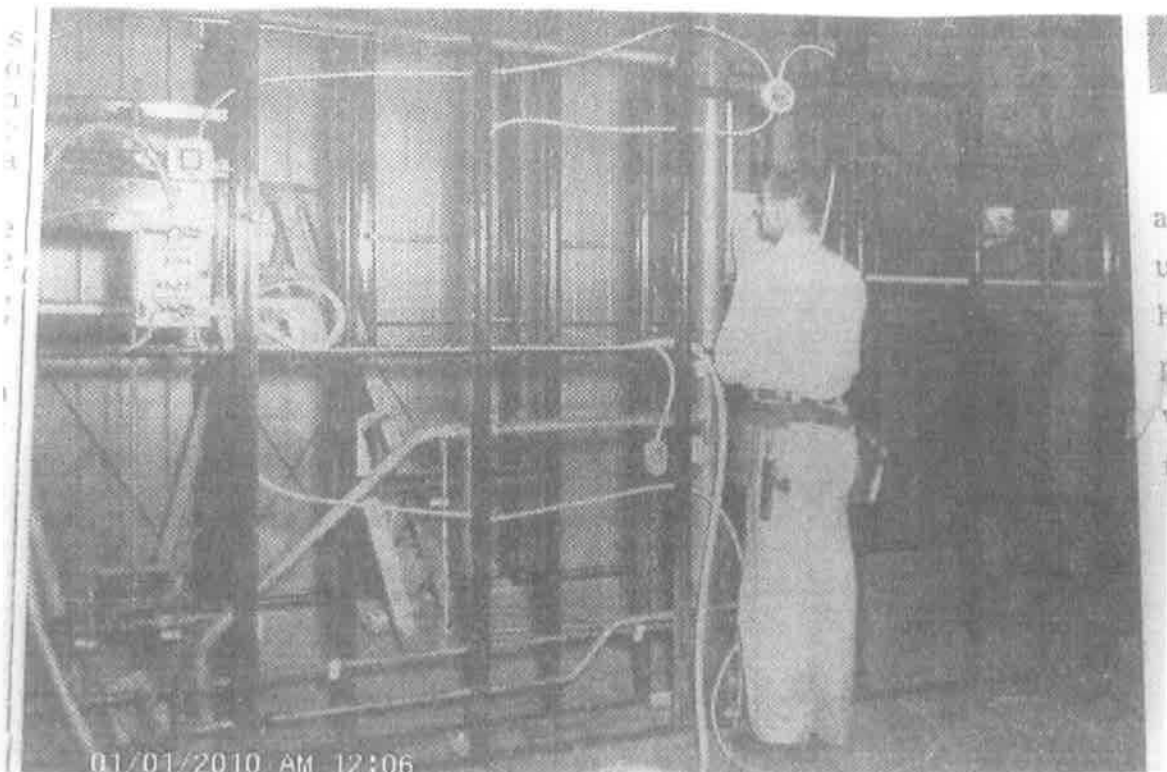
PHOTOS FROM CONSTRUCTION ARTICLE
Iowa Falls Citizen, August 25, 1949

LUSTRON
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KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

Photos of other Lustron Homes in Hamilton and Franklin Counties
Which were part of four County Dealer area of Glenn Kurtz



#1313, 912 WEBSTER ST, WEBSTER CITY, HAMILTON CO.,
IOWA, GOOD ORIGINAL EXTERIOR, PORCH ENCLOSED



#1280, 1520 GROVE ST, WEBSTER CITY, HAMILTON CO.,
IOWA, REPLACEMENT WINDOWS, PORCH ENCLOSED.

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KURTZ, GLENN & NELL LUSTRON HOME & GARAGE
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

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HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

Photos of other Lustron Homes in Hamilton and Franklin Counties
Which were part of four County Dealer area of Glenn Kurtz



#1602, 1503 GROVE ST. WEBSTER CITY, HAMILTON CO.,
IOWA, GOOD CONDITION, ENCLOSED FRONT PORCH

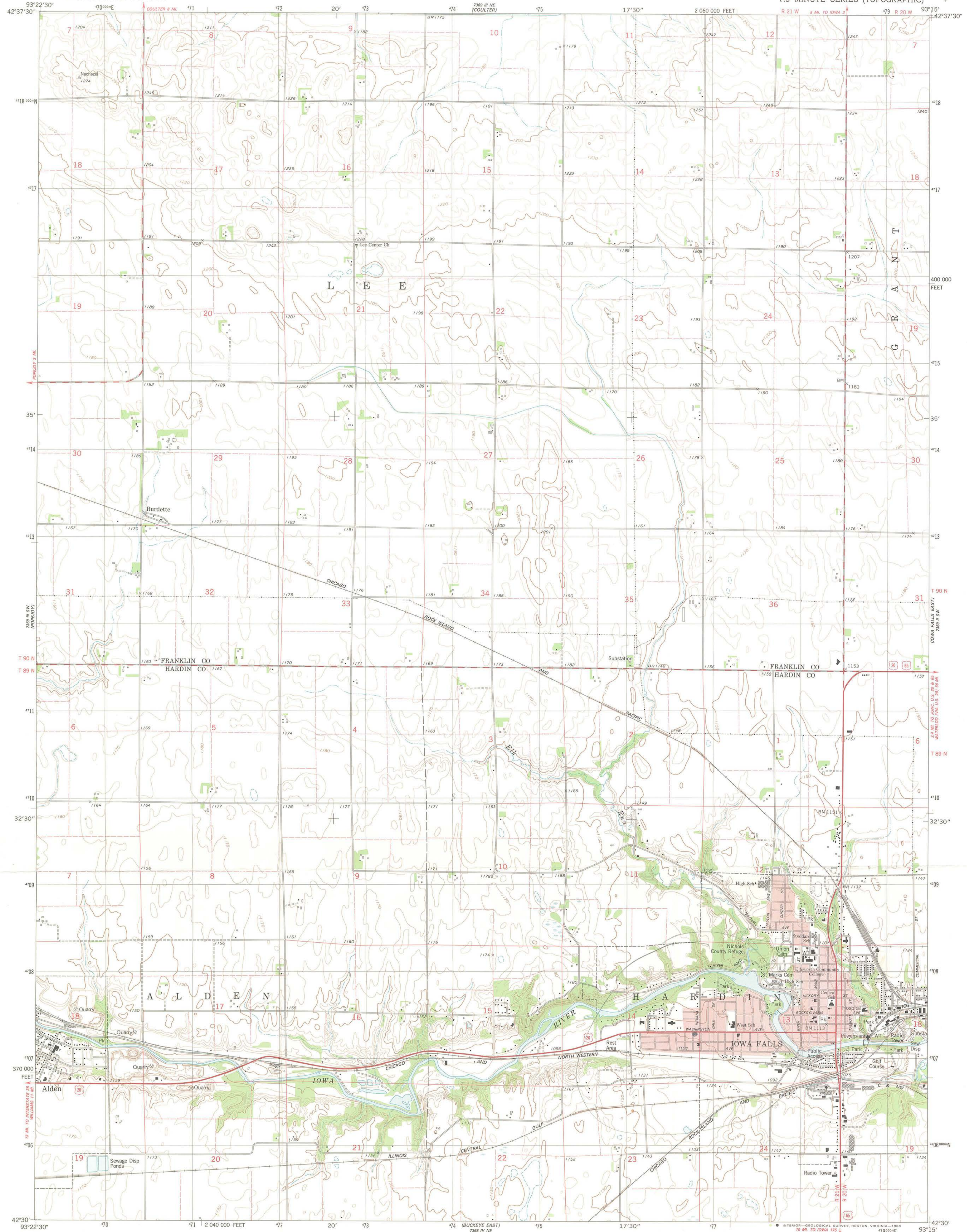


508 FEDERAL ST. SOUTH, HAMPTON, FRANKLIN CO.,
IOWA, UNOCCUPIED, DAMAGE TO ROOF & SIDING

HAMMAN LUSTON HOME #01237
HARDIN COUNTY, IOWA

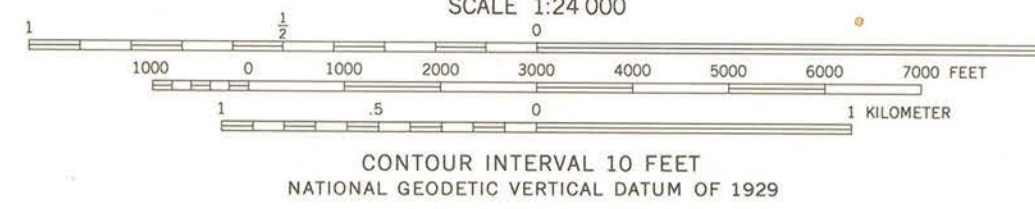
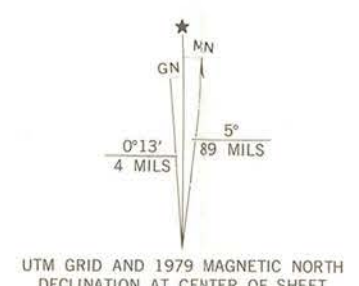
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

IOWA FALLS WEST QUADRANGLE
IOWA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1973. Field checked 1974. Map edited 1979
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Iowa coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15
1927 North American datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 5 meters north and 18 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

IOWA FALLS WEST, IOWA
N4230-W9315/7.5

1979

DMA 7369 III SE-SERIES V876























THE *LUSTRON HOME*
T.M. REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

A NEW STANDARD FOR LIVING
MODEL 02-1 SERIAL 01234

U.S. PAT. 2,416,240 OTHERS PENDING

CALL YOUR DEALER FOR SERVICE







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Kurtz, Glenn and Nell, Lustron Home and Garage

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Hardin

DATE RECEIVED: 10/17/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/12/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/28/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/03/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000971

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12-2-14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MARY COWNIE, DIRECTOR
CHRIS KRAMER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR



IOWA
ARTS
COUNCIL

PRODUCE
IOWA

STATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF IOWA

STATE HISTORICAL
MUSEUM OF IOWA

STATE HISTORICAL
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

STATE
HISTORIC
SITES

STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
OFFICE OF IOWA

IOWA
HISTORICAL
FOUNDATION

October 13, 2014

Paul Loether, Chief
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, N.W.-- 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The following National Register nomination(s) are enclosed for your review and listing if acceptable.

- Kurtz, Glenn & Nell, Lustron Home & Garage, 2017 Washington Avenue, Iowa Falls, Hardin County, Iowa

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Foster Hill

Elizabeth Foster Hill
National Register

*DVD-R
Geological Survey*