

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



1099

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 Stone City Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 12828-12573 Stone City Rd., 12392-12340 Dearborn Rd., 12381-12551 County Rd. X28 N/A not for publication

city or town Anamosa vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Jones code 105 zip code 52205

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).

Barbara A. Mitchell, DSHPO 10/09/08
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

State or 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 certifying 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): _____

Signature of the Keeper
Sandra W. Mitchell

Date of Action
11/21/08

Stone City Historic District
Name of Property

Jones County, IA
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	
23	39	buildings
6	0	sites
7	3	structures
2	0	objects
38	42	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

2

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- COMMERCE/TRADE/department store
- EDUCATION/school
- RELIGION/religious facility
- INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/
extractive facility
- LANDSCAPE/natural feature
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- COMMERCE/TRADE/business
- SOCIAL/meeting hall
- RELIGION/religious facility
- VACANT/NOT IN USE
- LANDSCAPE/natural feature
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

- LATE VICTORIAN
- OTHER: Gable-front-and-wing
- OTHER: Gabled cottage
- LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation STONE/Limestone
- walls STONE/Limestone
- WOOD/Weatherboard
- roof ASPHALT
- other

Narrative Description

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

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Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 1**Stone City Historic District
Jones County, Iowa****7. Narrative Description**

Stone City is located three miles west of Anamosa in Fairview Township at the west edge of Jones County, Iowa. The village is nestled in a narrow section of the Wapsipinicon River valley, with the river bisecting the former town informally into east and west sections. The two sections are connected by a bridge, which spans the river and carries the main road through the village. The road system winds through the hilly topography, with most worker houses and other buildings lining the roadway and, in many cases, built very close to the road because of the narrow constraints of the hilly topography. There are two small areas of nearly level alluvial plain on both sides of the river where houses, a school, and a commercial building still stand and where other buildings, such as the railroad depot and two hotels once stood. Other commercial and public buildings were situated on the higher slopes overlooking the river valley along with the quarry owner estates and their stone quarries. The nature of the landscape was the town's lifeblood, which provided the natural resources from which a major industry arose and provided the inspiration for the town's name. At its peak, Stone City boasted three major quarry operations owned and operated by Henry Dearborn, John Ronen, and John A. Green. The presence of the quarries provided the raw materials from which the town was built and constituted the driving economic force of the town. Stone City was in essence a company town, and its architecture still reflects this history to the present day.

The boundaries of the Stone City Historic District encompass the majority of the historic village including the estates of quarry operators, John A. Green and John Ronen, and the farm and residence of quarry operator Henry Dearborn. It also encompasses both the east and west sides of the village and includes all of the standing historic buildings and structures remaining from the town's heyday. The district also encompasses one of the historic quarries: the Champion Quarry No. 1 of John A. Green's operation. The historic locations of the Ronen and Dearborn quarries were excluded from the district boundaries because both locations have been impacted by ongoing stone quarry operations. While archaeological significance is not claimed for the current district nomination, there is certainly potential with more research within the district boundary for archaeological sites of significance associated with former buildings and structures that are no longer standing and within the Champion Quarry No. 1 site. There are two previously listed National Register properties within the Stone City Historic District boundary: St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and the John A. Green Estate, which was listed as a district and encompasses the standing buildings and structures formerly associated with Green's quarry operation and residence as well as the Champion Quarry No. 1 site.

An additional aspect of the district's history, reflected in the extant resources of the district and its landscape, involves artist Grant Wood's association with Stone City. This association is through a famous painting of the same name and through the establishment of his Stone City Art Colony within the district boundaries. Grant Wood's association with Stone City dates from the early 1930s and, while of short duration, his tenure in the community brought lasting fame to this small village. The fact that the village landscape in the 1930 painting is still recognizable in today's landscape reflects the high integrity of the district as a whole.

Contributing resources in the Stone City Historic District include: 23 buildings, 7 structures, 6 sites, and 2 objects, including the two previously listed resources of the John A. Green Estate Historic District and St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. The resources all date from the period of significance for the district, which extends from 1850 to 1933 and reflect the history of this community as a stone quarry company town and its association with the Stone City Art Colony. Non-contributing resources include: 39 buildings and 3 structures, with the majority considered non-contributing because they were built after the period of significance for the district. Only a few properties were considered non-contributing because of impacted integrity. While the count of non-contributing versus contributing is high (i.e., 42 to 40), 54% (number = 21) of the 39 non-contributing buildings consist of modest-sized detached garages and two mobile homes that are impermanent at their current locations, all of which have a low impact on the overall integrity of the district.

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**Stone City Historic District
Jones County, Iowa**

COUNTING SYSTEM FOR PROPERTIES

The counting system for properties within the boundaries of the historic district followed the guidelines of the National Register of Historic Places. Specifically, all primary buildings, such as dwellings, barns, and commercial buildings, were counted as single buildings, with any attached buildings or structures, such as modern garages, considered part of the primary property and not counted separately. Consideration was given to the impact of later additions on the overall integrity of the primary resource. Secondary detached buildings, such as garages, were counted as separate buildings, with detached structures, such as water towers and retaining walls, counted as separate structures where appropriate. Small sheds were not counted unless they contributed significantly to the history or architecture of the associated property. Buildings are defined as any construction created principally to create shelter for any type of human activity, with structures being constructions created for purposes other than human shelter.

A problem was encountered with the way in which resources were counted in the previously listed John A. Green Estate National Register nomination. When this district was listed in 1978, all of the standing buildings, sites and structures within the district boundary were not counted (Bowers 1978). The uncounted resources included: the foundation ruin of Columbia Hall, the stone reservoir, the historic dwelling at 12461 County Road X28, the site of Green's Champion Quarry No. 1, and the REA electrical substation located in the northeast corner of the district by the mid-1950s. For the current nomination, these resources were counted separately in the overall Stone City Historic District as either contributing or non-contributing, as appropriate. In addition, two of the ruin sites that were counted in the 1978 nomination were incorrectly identified in that nomination. Their correct historic functions are identified in the current nomination.

PROPERTY TYPES

Type I: Residential Properties in Stone City

Farmsteads

Farmsteads constitute one of the earliest, extant residential property types in Stone City. These properties emerged as the early settlers of Stone City sought to earn livelihoods from agriculture, sometimes coupled with the opportunities offered them by nature to quarry limestone.

Stone City possesses two such farmsteads, both dating from at least the 1860s. The Henry and Martha H. Dearborn Farmstead stands near the foot of North Hill and the north bank of the Wapsipinicon River and encompasses 8.6 acres of land. The John Walsh Farmstead stands near the foot of South Hill and the west bank of the river.

The Walsh Farmstead functioned more typically as an agricultural property because Walsh was not involved in the town's quarry industry. This farmstead originally encompassed 120 acres and featured barns, a corncrib, and shed and dates from the 1860s, if not somewhat earlier in its establishment. It also functioned as a working farmstead throughout its history and into the present day. Both of these farmsteads feature buildings and structures constructed of locally quarried limestone and provide insights into how locally quarried limestone could be manipulated for agricultural use. Outbuildings associated with the farmstead property type in Stone City include: barns, corncribs, water towers, garages, and sheds. The outbuildings are primarily of wood construction with stone foundations, although some all-stone construction is present.

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The Dearborn Farmstead dates from the early 1870s and served as the residence for Henry Dearborn and his family. During their occupation of this farmstead, the family's main livelihood was not farming but rather the stone quarry operation that Henry established adjacent to the farmstead. However, the presence of a banked barn in association with this residence and the 1885 Iowa state population census, which lists the occupation of Henry's 17-year-old son, George, as "farmer" while residing in his father's household, suggest an agricultural component to the family's occupation of this property.

Examples of the Farmstead/Residential Property Type in Stone City Historic District:

12623 Stone City Road	built c.1870	contributing (Dearborn Farmstead)
12598 Stone City Road	built c.1860	contributing (Walsh Farmstead)

Worker Housing

At one time, many small frame cottages dotted Stone City Road. These simple dwellings, built by the quarry operators as worker housing for their employees, predominated other types of buildings in the village. This type of housing in Stone City generally conformed to a typical format, which included: an 18 by 24 foot footprint, frame construction, height of 1.5-stories, a front-gabled roof design, centered front door, and centered window in the half story above. Within the local vernacular, these cottages became known as "18 by 24s" because of their dimensions (Robert D. Hatcher, informant interview with Will C. Page, 2005).

However, the 18 by 24 cottages did not necessarily conform to exact dimensions and height. The cottage at 12388 Dearborn Road, for instance, featured a 24 by 24 foot plan originally. The core unit of the cottage at 12351 Dearborn Road, now engulfed, is similar, although the centered door on the first floor, centered window in the half-story, and front-gable roof design conform to this property type. These cottages contained four rooms, two on the first floor and two on the second floor—"two up and two down." As many as 13 people could (and did) live in such a cottage (Robert D. Hatcher, informant interview with Will C. Page, 2005).

Because of their diminutive size, these cottages were often enlarged. The addition of a wing to the side of the cottage was the most frequently employed method. The cottages at 12388 Dearborn Road and 12573 Stone City Road illustrate this phenomenon. The latter example has been so extensively enlarged, that its original footprint remains barely visible.

The identification of construction dates for worker housing is difficult. The dates provided by the Jones County Assessor's Office for frame buildings in Stone City are generally estimates; however, some of these dates, such as 1877 for the cottage at 12388 Dearborn Road and 1872 for the cottage at 12589 Stone City Road, appear to be actual dates of construction. Few newspaper or other sources documenting the construction of worker housing in Stone City have been discovered to corroborate or challenge such dates. Still, given Stone City's period of boomtown growth during the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century, some degree of certainty can be assumed when dating the construction of most of these structures to that period of time.

Examples of Worker Housing in Stone City Historic District:

12388 Dearborn Road	built c.1877	contributing building
12351 Dearborn Road	built c.1890	contributing building
12361 Dearborn Road	built c.1893	contributing building
12381 Dearborn Road	built c.1887	contributing building

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12589 Stone City Road	built c.1872	contributing building
12583 Stone City Road	built c.1893	contributing building
12573 Stone City Road	built c.1877	contributing building
12755 Stone City Road	built c.1893	contributing building

Management-Level Housing

Although far fewer in number than worker housing, other types of single-family dwellings were erected in Stone City during the late nineteenth century. These houses were probably erected for the management-level employees at the quarries or for other local residents with fixed salaries like the postmaster or railroad stationmaster. These houses tended to be larger and more architecturally ambitious than worker housing, with notable examples sited along Stone City Road, where it climbs North Hill adjacent to the Dearborn property, and on the Green property on the west side of the village, suggesting that the occupants of these houses were employees of the Dearborn and Green quarries.

Some of these houses were associated with family members of the "Big Three" stone quarry owner/operators (i.e., Dearborn, Ronen, and Green), some of whose descendants became involved in the stone quarry industry and/or in the economic and socio-cultural development of Stone City in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As such, these houses were on a "management-level" type of association given the higher economic and social status of their occupants.

Typical characteristics of this property type include: gable-front-and-wing design, frame construction with stone foundations, one to 1.5 stories in height, and some elaboration of stylistic details such as Late Victorian porch posts, bay windows, and decorative window details. There are two exceptions to this typical description including houses at 12599 and 12595 Stone City Road. Both houses were built c.1893 by John A. Green and are of identical design. Both houses are two stories in height, hip-roofed, and constructed of stone from the Champion quarries. The overall form of each house is essentially a four-square type of design. One of the houses may actually have been first used as a hotel for quarry employees but was later donated to St. Joseph's parish for use as a rectory. The other house appears to have been a single-family dwelling meant for management-level employees of the quarry.

Examples of Management-Level Housing in Stone City Historic District:

12769 Stone City Road	built c.1877	contributing
12784 Stone City Road	built c.1893	contributing
12748 Stone City Road	built c.1869	non-contributing
12599 Stone City Road	built c.1893	contributing (later became rectory for St. Joseph's Church)
12595 Stone City Road	built c.1893	contributing
12461 County Road X28	built 1893	contributing

Estates

Private estates and the improvements on their grounds exhibit the most sophisticated architectural designs in Stone City. Estates are large, residential properties with picturesque sites and views, vast expanses of lawn, big houses, and grounds often improved with ancillary buildings and structures to promote a comfortable life style, such as carriage houses, ice houses, and water towers. Estates provide property owners the opportunity to build an environment commensurate with their financial capability and demonstrate their position in the community.

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Stone City possesses two such historic estates: the John A. and Ellen Green Estate, which stands near the crest of South Hill above the west side of the Wapsipinicon River, and the John Ronen Estate, which stands on North Hill on the east side of the river. A modern estate owned by the current quarry owners, Michael and Jennifer Deutmeyer, stands near the crest of North Hill but is located outside of the current National Register boundaries for the Stone City Historic District. These estates provide insights into how locally quarried stone could be manipulated stylistically in accord with popular taste.

The Green Estate dates from the 1880s with continued improvements stretching to the turn of the twentieth century. The Ronen Estate dates from circa 1900. Both are (or were) showplaces. Fire and subsequent demolition destroyed the Green mansion.¹

In Stone City, the estate residential property type is associated with the quarry owners and reflects the financial means and social status of these persons in the Stone City community. These estates were meant to impress but may also have served a practical purpose of imposing some physical control over the daily operations of the owners' respective quarries, which were within sight of each estate. Whether one could really oversee the operations from the respective estate houses was somewhat irrelevant to the possibility that one could see what was going on and the effect that might have for maintaining some level of control just by the mere presence of the imposing houses.

Examples of Estates in Stone City Historic District:

12828 Stone City Road	built 1903	contributing (John and Mary Ronen Estate)
12381 County Road X28	built 1882	contributing (John A. Green Estate)

Landscape Architecture Associated with Residential Properties

Stone offers a most utilitarian and aesthetically pleasing material for landscape architecture. Some residents in Stone City explored these opportunities with practical, long-lasting, and visually pleasing results. The Henry and Martha H. Dearborn House at 12623 Stone City Road uses locally quarried limestone for a series of retaining walls, with vertical stone posts marking the front driveway entrance. Two of these walls separate the home grounds of this property from Stone City Road. Another set of retaining walls abuts the east elevation of the house and provides for a walkout basement.

The quality of Stone City limestone lent itself to decorative manipulation. To publicize its potentials (and always attuned to exploit publicity) John A. Green entered two decorative objects, fashioned from his quarry stone, at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. One of the entries featured a basket of fruit resting on a pedestal, and the other featured a basket of flowers resting on a pedestal. Both were carved from Stone City stone (Iowa Columbian Commission 1895: 178). Although the present status of these objects is unknown, a historic photograph from the 1930s pictured the basket of fruit on the front steps of the Green mansion. Another photograph showed decorative stonework featuring Celtic designs, referencing John A. Green's native Ireland and taken somewhere on the estate grounds. An advertisement block in the photograph reads "From/Champion Quarries/Stone City/Iowa." Perhaps Green included this block in his display at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. Two blocks inscribed with "From Champion Quarries Stone City Iowa" are still on site and now flank the entry drive into the former Green Estate carriage house, which has been converted to a dwelling. These blocks are very near their original location along the sidewalk to the Green mansion (non-extant).

¹ The John A. Green Estate was previously listed as a historic district in the National Register of Historic Places (Bowers 1978). The boundaries of this estate district are within the Stone City Historic District.

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Examples of Landscape Architecture in Stone City Historic District:

- 12623 Stone City Road stone retaining walls (three contributing structures)
- 12755 Stone City Road stone retaining wall (one contributing structure)
- 12381 County Road X28 stone markers (two contributing objects)

Type II: Commercial/Industrial/Institutional Properties in Stone City

In addition to residential properties, a number of commercial, industrial and institutional properties were part of the Stone City landscape during the historic period of significance and into the present day. The buildings were all built of locally quarried limestone and included a range of small to large-scale buildings. The smaller buildings were largely devoid of architectural styling and were primarily functional in design. However, the larger buildings provided opportunities for stylistic expression and a more extravagant use of the local product. Historically these buildings included several hotels, two company stores, the railroad depot, and a variety of quarry-related buildings such as offices, scale houses, and power houses. In addition were Columbia Hall,² which was a massive three-story stone building built by John A. Green. This building housed an opera house, hotel and business block but is no longer standing although a remnant of its stone foundation is extant. A large horse barn, also built by Green, for housing the horses used to transport the stone from the Champion quarry to the railroads and other livestock raised on the estate, is still extant and is a significant individual building. Institutional buildings included St. Joseph's Church and the public school, both of which are still extant. Many of the industrial buildings and structures once standing in Stone City are no longer extant and included a lime kiln, stone crushers, and engine houses in the Champion quarries, the office for the Dearborn quarry, and the railroad depot. St. Joseph's Church was architect-designed.

Examples of Commercial/Industrial/Institutional Properties in Stone City Historic District:

Private Road	Dearborn Store/Blacksmith Shop	built c.1869-75	contributing
12376 Dearborn Road	Stone City Schoolhouse	built 1898	contributing
12612 Dearborn Road	Dearborn's Store	built 1897	contributing
12472 County Road X28	St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church	built 1913	contributing
12599 County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1 Horse Barn	built 1888	contributing
12557 County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1 Office & Garage	built 1889	contributing
County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1 Power House (ruin)	built c.1890	contributing
County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1 Scale House (ruin)	built c.1890	contributing
Wapsipinicon River	Milwaukee Railroad bridge (ruin)	built 1904	contributing
County Road X28	Columbia Hall foundation (ruin)	built 1893	contributing

² Completed in 1893 and named in honor of the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago the same year, Columbia Hall was erected by John A. Green to house a hotel, opera house, and retail stores. Its auditorium, where Jenny Lind and Tom Thumb performed, could seat 400. For a while, St. Joseph's church conducted worship services in the building. The largest edifice ever erected in Stone City, Columbia Hall was dismantled, beginning in 1935, and its stone largely hauled away and reused (Page 2005a).

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Type III: Properties Associated with the Limestone Industry in Stone City

Properties specifically associated with the limestone industry in Stone City include: the historic quarry sites, such as the remains of Champion Quarry #1; quarry buildings and structures; properties associated with persons important to the development of the quarry industry locally (i.e., with the Dearborn, Green and Ronen families), and buildings, structures and objects made of locally quarried limestone. The local stone was used in a variety of ways including construction of foundations, entire buildings and structures, retaining walls, and decorative objects. It is particularly noteworthy that every historic building and structure in the village used the local limestone for some component of construction.

Examples of Properties Associated with the Limestone Industry in Stone City Historic District:

12599 County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1	established in 1869	contributing
12381 County Road X28	John A. Green Estate	built 1882-89	contributing
12828 Stone City Road	John Ronen Estate	built 1903	contributing
12623 Stone City Road	Henry Dearborn Farmstead	built c.1870	contributing
12755 Stone City Road	Wm. Dearborn House	built c.1893	contributing
Private Road	Dearborn Store/Blacksmith Shop	built c.1869-75	contributing
12612 Dearborn Road	Dearborn's Store	built 1897	contributing
12599 County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1 Horse Barn	built 1888	contributing
12557 County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1 Office & Garage	built 1889	contributing
County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1 Power House (ruin)	built c.1890	contributing
County Road X28	Champion Quarry #1 Scale House (ruin)	built c.1890	contributing

Type IV: Properties Associated with Grant Wood and the Stone City Art Colony of the 1930s

In the early 1930s, renowned American Regionalist artist, Grant Wood, put Stone City on the national map. He first accomplished this by dedicating one of his paintings to a landscape of Stone City that featured a panoramic view of the village from the hill at the southwest edge of town across from the Green Estate. Historically, the vantage points from which he stood to paint both the field study and the final 1930 version of this painting were on the Walsh farm. A number of buildings that are still extant were featured in the painting as well as a working view of the Dearborn quarry. These include: the back wall of St. Joseph's Church, the Walsh farmstead, Dearborn's 1897 store and his c.1861 store and blacksmith shop, a house northwest of the Walsh farm, and Dearborn's barn. Non-extant properties represented in the painting include a small house in-between the Walsh farm and the church, the water tower near Dearborn's store, the barn and windmill on the Walsh farmstead, and the bridge over the Wapsipinicon River. The two stone four-square houses on the north side of Stone City Road just west of the bridge were present in 1930 but were not represented in the painting.

Then during the summers of 1932 and 1933, Wood utilized the former Green Estate for his Stone City Art Colony using the mansion and other buildings for classrooms, studios and residences for the artists and students. Wood himself remodeled the old ice house on the Green Estate for a studio. In addition, Dearborn's Store in the village proper was used to exhibit works produced by the colony. Of the buildings used by the Stone City Art Colony, several are still standing including: Dearborn's Store and the ice house, water tower, and carriage house on the Green Estate.

Examples of Properties Associated with Grant Wood and the Stone City Art Colony in Stone City Historic District:

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12381 County Road X28	John A. Green Estate	built 1882-99	contributing
12612 Dearborn Road	Dearborn's Store	built 1897	contributing
Private Road	Dearborn Store/Blacksmith Shop	built c.1869-75	contributing
12472 County Road X28	St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church	built 1913	contributing
12598 Stone City Road	Walsh Farmstead	built c.1860	contributing
12623 Stone City Road	Dearborn Farmstead	built c.1870	contributing
Stone City	vantage point & viewshed for <i>Stone City</i>	painted 1930	contributing

Type V: Modern Properties in Stone City

These properties were all added to the historic district after the period of significance for the district (i.e., after 1933). Most were added within the last 50 years and are considered modern in age. These properties are all considered non-contributing to the Stone City Historic District because they were built or added after the period of significance.

Modern properties include residential and public buildings and structures that were added to the village in the last 50 years. House types include both impermanent mobile and modular homes and more permanent homes. Mobile homes lend an impermanent feeling to historic neighborhoods and visually distract from a sense of place. However, their impermanence at their current locations lessens the impact to the overall integrity of the district. Modular homes are more permanent at their locations but can have less of an impact depending upon their scale and design relative to their setting.

The modern homes of permanent construction include types that can be termed Split-Level or described by their overall form. Some may be architect-designed. Notable examples incorporated locally quarried stone into one or more wall facings, lessening the impact of these modern dwellings on the overall integrity of the historic district.

The other modern properties include: a modern public building used to house activities for the annual Grant Wood festival, and patterned after the design of the American Gothic house from Wood's painting of the same name; the current concrete bridge carrying Stone City Road over the Wapsipinicon River; and what was originally an REA booster station at the intersection of County Road X28 and Stone City Road.

Examples of Modern Properties in Stone City Historic District:

12351 Dearborn Road	mobile home	built 1975	non-contributing
12371 Dearborn Road	mobile home	built 1993	non-contributing
12340 Dearborn Road	modular home	built c.2005	non-contributing
12392 Dearborn Road	split-level house	built 1985	non-contributing
12382 Dearborn Road	one-story frame house	built 1985	non-contributing
12577 Stone City Road	split-level house	built 1980	non-contributing
12551 County Road X28	side-gabled house	built 2000	non-contributing
Stone City Road over River	bridge	built early 1970s	non-contributing
12550 County Road X28	Grant Wood festival building	built c.1985	non-contributing
County Road X28	electrical booster station	built mid-1950s	non-contributing

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INDIVIDUAL BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS

The following descriptions discuss each of the buildings in the Stone City Historic District.

#53-00094

Contributing

Address: Private road near Wapsipinicon River

Date of Construction: c.1869-75

Historic Name: DEARBORN STORE/BLACKSMITH SHOP

Property Type: II, III and IV

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building

Comments: This two-story limestone building has a side-gable roof, symmetrical window arrangement, double wooden doors, and 1/1 double-hung windows with stone lintels and sills. The building is set into side of a hill, on which is located the Henry and Martha H. Dearborn Farmstead. Rough-faced stone is used for the exterior walls, with smooth-finished stone for the lintels and sills. The contrasting textures provide visual interest to an otherwise simple design. The symmetrical formation of the front façade—with its double door and windows—lends further architectural simplicity to the composition and harkens to I-house traditions in the Middle West. The construction date for this building has been variously listed as 1861, 1868, or 1875, depending on the source. Two 1960s sources give the date as 1875 (Carstens 1961; Hermann 1966:85). Given the history of Dearborn's quarry operations in Stone City, it appears likely that this building would have been built around 1869 or in the early to mid 1870s after Dearborn's main quarry opened on the north side of this location in 1869. Prior to 1869, it appears that Dearborn was quarrying for a time at another location in Stone City and lived in Anamosa until December 1870 (*Annals of Iowa* 1936; Corbit 1910:20-21; Western Historical Company 1879:458).

History: Henry Dearborn initially built this building as the company store for his quarry operation, although the 1961 newspaper article claimed that the store was on the second floor, with the blacksmith shop on the first floor at the same time as the store (Carstens 1961). Then in 1897, when the new Dearborn store was built, the upper floor was converted into a carpenter shop (*ibid.*). The building was shown on an 1893 plat map of Stone City as a "store," and would have served as the company store for the quarry workers. The blacksmith shop was needed to service the draft animals and wagons used in the Dearborn Quarry operation to transport the cut stone.

Significance: Building is significant under Criterion A for its historical associations with Dearborn Quarry, first as a company store and later as a blacksmith shop, and Criterion C for the building's use of locally quarried limestone showing how that material could be manipulated in the construction of a commercial structure. The property was also pictured in Grant Wood's 1930 *Stone City* painting and is contributing under Criterion B for this association with painter Grant Wood as a notable feature in the viewshed of his painting.

#53-00583

Contributing

Address: 12623 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: 1870-73

Historic Name: HENRY AND MARTHA H. DEARBORN FARMSTEAD

Property Type: I, III and IV

Evaluation: 2 Contributing buildings, 4 Contributing structures, 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This is a 1.5-story single-family dwelling of compound gable-front-and-wing design with moderately steeply pitched gabled roof. The south and north elevations are mirror images of each other. The dwelling is built of locally quarried limestone. A banked barn of limestone and wood construction with a gambrel roof is located northwest of the house. Both the house and barn are counted as contributing buildings. A water tower with a limestone base and a wood-stave tank covered with a cone-shaped frame roof is located near the barn and is considered a contributing structure. Three limestone retaining walls situated along the south and east boundaries of the property and adjacent to the farmhouse are considered

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contributing structures. Two vertical stone posts flank the driveway entrance off of Stone City Road. A three-bay frame detached garage located west of the house and built in 1965 is considered a non-contributing building, while a small modern utility shed located near the garage is not counted as a resource because of its small size.

History: Henry Dearborn came to Cass Township in Jones County in 1856 where he worked as a farmer. In 1858, he moved to Anamosa where he worked as a stone cutter and bridge builder. Reportedly, in 1859 he opened a quarry at Stone City but lived "from some time" in Anamosa walking back and forth between Anamosa and Stone City. In the 1860 U.S. Population Census, the Dearborns were listed in the Town of Anamosa, with Henry's occupation listed as "mason." Dearborn was listed in the 1870 U.S. Population Census in Anamosa, with the 1910 Jones County history reporting that Henry Dearborn moved his family in December 1870 to Stone City to be near "the field of his operations" (Corbit 1910:20-22).³ This move was prompted by the opening in 1869 of the H. Dearborn Quarry in Stone City, a large operation that obviously required his presence on site at all times. The house and farmstead that he built in Stone City was at the southeast edge of this quarry, which was one of three big operations in the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries in Stone City. The house was reportedly built in two stages: the first portion faces west and the second portion is an addition that faces south (Carstens 1961). The first village post office was located in the basement of this house in 1873 (ibid.). In 1880, the Dearborn household was composed of Henry, his wife, Martha, and children: Franklin (age 20 and listed as a stone cutter), William (age 19 and also listed as a stone cutter), Sarah, George, and Mary. In addition were three boarders who worked as a stone cutter, blacksmith and laborer, all likely for Dearborn's quarry operation.⁴ In 1885, the Dearborn household consisted of Henry A., Martha, and children: Sarah, William, George, and Mary. Others boarding in the household at that time were a teamster, laborer, and a house servant, Barbara Wolfsmith (1885 Iowa State Population Census). The teamster and laborer were likely quarry employees. By 1885, Henry and Martha's son, Henry F. (better known as Frank or Franklin as listed in the 1880 census) Dearborn, had his own household in Stone City where he lived with his wife Anna and their two sons. Frank was listed as a "stone dealer" in 1885, with Henry listed as a "stone contractor" (ibid.). Later censuses would list all of the "Big Three" quarry operators--Dearborn, Ronen and Green--as "quarrymen."

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A for its historical association with Henry Dearborn, one of the three main quarry owners in Stone City, and his descendents, who continued to play leadership roles in the industrial, commercial, political and social life of the community, and under Criterion C for its representation of how locally quarried limestone could be manipulated for a variety of purposes including: a large dwelling, barn, and water tower as well as for landscaping purposes. The house is a fine example of a gable-front-and-wing design with a wall dormer window centered on the south elevation. A full-length porch is situated within its ell and the wing, with this design repeated on the north elevation. The west elevation features a gabled wall dormer situated above another entry porch. In essence, the farmhouse features three primary facades, rather unusual and sophisticated for a rural stone house of this early construction date in Iowa. This design reflects the status of the Dearborn family in the Stone City community. The barn on this property was also depicted in Grant

³ Some other sources give an early 1860s date of construction for this stone house, with the first section built in 1861 and the addition made in 1863 (Carstens 1961). However, given that Dearborn's main quarry operation did not open in Stone City until 1869, the construction of his family's home prior to that date appears less likely. Further supporting this conclusion is the 1896 accounting by John A. Green of his experience in Stone City upon his arrival in Stone City in March 1868. He claimed that there were only a few buildings then standing in Stone City: a frame building and lime kiln at the Crouse, Shaw & Weaver quarry, a stone house at Haines & Lewis' quarry (still standing in 1896 and used by John Ronen for his residence but now non-extant), and a board shanty boarding house and two log houses at Parsons & Webb's quarry. There was no mention of a Dearborn house in this account (*Annals of Iowa* 1936). Additionally, a written account by Lois O'Donnell, great-granddaughter of Henry and Martha Dearborn gives a date of construction for the original section of 1870 but noted that it took "three years to build" (O'Donnell 2008).

⁴ Interestingly, Henry Dearborn was listed in the 1880 U.S. Population Census as a "stone cutter," while John A. Green was listed in the same census as a "quarryman." Both were operating quarries in Stone City at the time, so the distinction is an interesting one and without explanation.

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Wood's 1930 *Stone City* painting and is considered contributing under Criterion B for this association with painter Grant Wood as part of the viewshed of the painting.

#53-00584

Contributing

Address: 12755 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1893

Historic Name: WILLIAM DEARBORN HOUSE

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building, 1 Contributing structure; 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This 1.5-story frame single family dwelling is of gable-front-and-wing design. It has a moderately steeply pitched gabled roof, and enclosed (not original) one-story porch within the ell of the gable-front-and-wing. The house has a limestone foundation, with the exterior walls clad with aluminum siding. The house is one of a few surviving examples of the worker housing house type in the Stone City community, with the original portion of the building, an 18 by 24 cottage, containing four rooms, two on the first floor and two on the second. The original section of the house is still apparent despite later additions. A limestone retaining wall is built into the side of the hill behind the house and garage. The garage is a modern building having been built in 1964 and is considered non-contributing, while the house and wall are considered contributing.

History: Built by 1893, this house was reportedly associated with William Dearborn, grandson of Henry A. Dearborn; however his association would have been in the twentieth century because this grandson was only 8 or 9 years old in 1893 having been born in 1884 (Page 2005b). The house was shown along the west side of Stone City Road on the 1893 plat map of Stone City on property owned by Henry Dearborn just north of Henry's residence (see above). It may be that this house was first occupied by William N. Dearborn (born 1861), son of Henry A. Dearborn, who was listed in the 1900 U.S. Population Census as living in Stone City with his wife, Ora Belle (Thompson) and working as a "quarryman" (see also Corbit 1910:20-21). Since William N. was living with his parents in 1885 at the Dearborn farmstead, it is possible that the subject house was built sometime between 1885 and 1893 by or for William N. and his wife. William N. first learned the quarry trade as a stone cutter in his youth, becoming a stone dealer by age 24 and a full-fledged "quarryman" by age 39.

Significance: Criterion A for its historical association with a descendant of Henry Dearborn, local quarry owner, and the importance of the Dearborn family to the Stone City community; and Criterion C as an example of worker housing. The location of this house close to Stone City Road and near the foot of North Hill is also significant for community development. The location illustrates the tight confines of the valley floor and how the restrictions of space and level ground required property owners to site their homes close to the road.

#53-00585

Contributing

Address: 12769 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1877

Historic Name: MANAGEMENT-LEVEL HOUSING

Property Type: I

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building

Comments: This two-story frame, single-family dwelling is of gable-front-and-wing design and is one of the largest frame houses in the village dating from the late nineteenth century. The house has a limestone foundation and features 1/1 double-hung windows and a one-story frame front porch. The design of its two-story bay window, porch detailing, and clipped front-gable roof call attention to the influence of Late Victorian styling. A two-bay frame garage of modern construction is attached to the house by a breezeway. The garage features a clipped front-gabled roof, replicating that of the house. Because the garage is attached to the house, the two buildings are counted as a single contributing resource. The property is situated on North Hill and abuts the former Dearborn Quarry to the west (now Weber Stone Co., Inc.).

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History: The house was built around 1877 and is shown on the 1893 plat map of Stone City on property then owned by Henry Dearborn, whose own residence was located to the south on the same side (west) of the Stone City Road. The size of this dwelling suggests that it was built for occupation by management-level employees in Dearborn's quarry or for a Dearborn family member.

Significance: The house calls attention to the up-building of Stone City during its time of industrial expansion in the late nineteenth century through the stone quarry industry and is considered contributing under Criterion A for that reason. It is also considered contributing under Criterion C as one of the few late nineteenth century frame buildings in Stone City. It is likely that the building was originally built and occupied by a person of importance in the community.

#53-00588

Contributing

Address: 12828 Stone City RoadDate of Construction: 1903Historic Name: JOHN AND MARY RONEN ESTATEProperty Type: I and IIIEvaluation: 2 Contributing buildings, 1 Contributing structure, 1 Contributing site

Comments: A large two-story single-family dwelling built of locally quarried limestone, this house features a gable-front-and-wing design influenced by eclectic architectural styling. These influences include Queen Anne heavy braces under the first story bay window on the façade, belt courses around the building, steeply pitched gabled rooflines, and Colonial Revival-influenced cornice returns on the front-gable end. This is the largest extant stone dwelling in Stone City and was designed and built as a showplace residence. The property also includes a multiple-bay, hip-roofed frame garage or carriage house built in 1903 and a water tower also built circa 1903. The water tower has a limestone base topped by a tank of vertical wood staves held together by metal bands. The property as a whole includes 10 acres of wooded, sloping land overlooking Stone City.

History: This estate was built in the early 1900s on the outskirts of Stone City by John Ronen, Sr., one of the "Big Three" quarry owners in the village in the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. The Ronen Quarry was located on the east side of Stone City and just southeast of the Ronen estate and provided the stone used in the house construction. Ronen operated the quarry until 1915 when it was abandoned following Ronen's death on December 28, 1915 (Carstens 1961).⁵ John Ronen, Sr. was born in Ireland in 1846 and immigrated with his family to the United States in 1852 settling first in Buffalo, New York. The family later moved to Kankakee, Illinois, and then relocated to Waterloo, Iowa. In 1880, they moved to Viola, Iowa, where in 1898, John's father passed away. His father was a stone cutter, with John first working in the stone construction business in Waterloo. In 1875, John Ronen settled in Stone City, where he leased a quarry for ten years before purchasing Martin Heisey's quarry at the east edge of Stone City and southeast of his later estate (Carstens 1961; Corbit 1910:53-54). The Ronen quarry prospered and enabled John and his wife, Mary Gleason, to construct their beautiful estate in 1903. Prior to the construction of his estate, it appears that the Ronens were living in a stone house in the vicinity of his quarry (*Annals of Iowa* 1936). That house is no longer standing, with the former location outside of the Stone City Historic District boundary. The Ronens had seven children including a daughter Mary, who married the son of John A. Green, and a son, John Moses Ronen, who served for a time as postmaster of Stone City (Corbit 1910:54).

Significance: The Ronen Estate is considered contributing under Criteria A for its association with John Ronen, Sr., one of the "Big Three" stone quarry owner/operators in Stone City and one of the village's most prominent residents and employers. The property is also contributing under Criterion C because of its architectural design and function. The Ronen House calls attention to the influence of eclectic architectural styling in the early 1900s and to the manipulation of locally quarried limestone for the construction of a showplace residence. The water tower further illustrates the use of limestone for

⁵ The Ronen Quarry was later reopened in the modern era and is part of the Weber Stone Co., Inc. operation in the present day. The historic quarry has been largely obliterated by the modern quarry operation and is not included within the district boundary for that reason.

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a utilitarian purpose. The garage/carriage house contributes along with the house to the estate's architectural significance. Finally, the Ronen property calls attention to the establishment of estate properties in Stone City. While the estate of John A. Green was the largest in the number of its improvements, the Green Mansion itself is no longer standing. As such, the Ronen Estate more accurately conveys the feeling of this property type in Stone City.

#53-00611

Contributing

Address: 12784 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1893

Historic Name: MANAGEMENT-LEVEL HOUSING

Property Type: I

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building; 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This one-story single-family frame dwelling is of gable-front-and-wing design. It is clad with aluminum siding and has a limestone foundation. The roofline is a moderately steeply pitched gable with closed soffits. A front porch is situated in the ell between the gable and wing. The fenestration of this house is among the best developed among the frame buildings in Stone City and includes two front doors, paired windows, and a one-story bay window on the façade. Late Victorian stylistic influence is seen in the arched hoods above the windows, the cornerboards, an oculus window in the front-gable end, and details of the bay window. When first built, an open one-story porch was situated within the ell. The integrity of this property is considered to be high despite the cover-up siding, and the dwelling is contributing to the district as a result. A two-bay frame detached garage is located behind the house. This garage was built in 1976 and is considered non-contributing because of its modern construction.

History: The house was built by the early 1890s close to Stone City Road near the foot of North Hill and appears to be represented on the 1893 plat map of Stone City along the east side of the road. According to the 1893 plat, the house was situated on property owned by Henry Dearborn, whose own residence was on the west side of the road to the southwest of the subject property. The design of this dwelling suggests that it was built for management-level employees of Dearborn's quarry or for a Dearborn family member.

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A because its location so close to the road illustrates the tight confines of the valley floor in Stone City and how the restrictions of space and level ground impacted community development in the village and for its association with the Dearborn quarry operations as management-level housing. It is also contributing under Criterion C as a fine example of late nineteenth century frame dwelling in the village influenced by Late Victorian styling.

#53-00589

Non-contributing

Address: 12748 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1869

Historic Name: MANAGEMENT-LEVEL HOUSING

Property Type: I

Evaluation: 2 Non-contributing buildings

Comments: One-story frame single-family dwelling showing a series of side-gabled rooflines. Synthetic siding now covers the exterior, with the original dwelling further obscured by numerous changes, additions, and alterations to this building through the years. These modifications have impacted the overall integrity of this dwelling making it non-contributing to the district. A long, one-story frame porch is on the façade. A detached two-bay pole-type garage was added to the property in 1989 and is counted as a non-contributing building because of its modern construction.

History: According to the Assessor's records, this house was built in 1867. The dwelling was shown at this location on the 1893 plat map of Stone City on property then owned by Henry Dearborn, whose own residence was across the road to the southwest of the subject property. This suggests that the house may have been built for management-level employees of the

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Dearborn quarry or for Dearborn family members. As such, a construction date of at least 1869 is more likely because Dearborn's quarry was not established until that year.

Significance: The location of the property does reflect an important aspect of community development in Stone City being situated very close to the road (Stone City Road) near the foot of North Hill. This illustrates the tight confines of the valley floor and how the restrictions of space and level ground required property owners to site their homes close to the roadways. It also is notable for its association with the Dearborn quarry operations. However, the property is considered non-contributing because of the extensive modifications to the dwelling, which have impacted its overall integrity.

#53-00590

Non-contributing

Address: 12392 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: 1985

Historic Name: ERWIN W. LOWE HOUSE

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This modern split-level single-family dwelling features a gabled roofline and vinyl siding.

History: Built in 1985 by local historian and long-time resident, Edwin W. Lowe, of Stone City. Lowe moved into the community as a boy in the 1930s. In the 1980s, the Lowes operated a gift shop from these premises.

Significance: As a modern dwelling, this property is non-contributing to the district. However, the house is not large and fits into the overall scale of single-family dwellings in the village.

#53-00591

Non-contributing

Address: 12382 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: 1985

Historic Name: ERWIN W. LOWE RENTAL HOUSE

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 3 Non-contributing buildings

Comments: This one-story, single-family frame dwelling rests on a concrete slab and features a gable front façade. The walls are clad with aluminum siding. An enclosed entryway is on the façade. Two detached single-bay frame garages are located on the south side of this lot. Both are of modern construction, with all three buildings considered non-contributing because they are less than 50 years of age in their construction.

History: Located just south of the main Lowe House at 12392 Dearborn Road, this dwelling was also built in 1985 by Lowe as an investment and rental property.

Significance: While considered non-contributing as a modern property, the house is not large and fits into the overall scale of single-family dwellings in Stone City.

#53-00592

Contributing

Address: 12388 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: c.1877

Historic Name: JOHN A. GREEN COTTAGE/WORKER HOUSING

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building; 2 Non-contributing buildings

Comments: This 1.5-story single-family frame dwelling has a limestone foundation and front-gable design. It features cornerboards, a front-gable roof of moderate pitch, and wide eaves. The size of the original cottage was not the standard 18 by 24 foot cottage, but rather measured 24 by 24 foot in plan. The centered window in the half-story is a standard characteristic of company town cottages in Stone City. An enclosed porch is an addition to the building along with an

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extension to the rear. The additions to the original cottage are covered with a low-pitched front-gable roof. Two detached pole buildings are located to the west of the cottage. One was constructed in 1968 and the other in 1994, with both considered non-contributing as a result of their modern construction. The property includes a large front yard, which extends to the bank of the Wapsipinicon River. The rear of the property abuts the former Milwaukee Railroad right-of-way, which has since been converted into a private haul road for the modern quarry to the east, which is now part of the larger Weber Stone Co., Inc., operations in Stone City.

History: The Assessor's records give a date of construction of 1877 for this cottage. It appears to be represented on the 1893 plat map of Stone City on property then owned by John A. Green, whose first quarry was located on the southwest side of Stone City. Oral tradition holds that John A. Green himself once lived in this cottage (Erwin A. Lowe, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2002; Robert D. Hatcher, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2005). Green came to Stone City on March 17, 1868. Reportedly, he worked for Henry Dearborn for a few months before opening his own quarry at the southwest side location and known as the Champion Quarries, or subsequently as Champion Quarry No. 1., although a letter written by John Green in 1896 of his early experiences in Stone City make no mention of working first for Dearborn (*Annals of Iowa* 1936). Green came to own a great deal of property in the Stone City area and opened several other quarries in the vicinity. Little is known as to where exactly he lived between his arrival in 1868 and the construction of the mansion on what became the Green Estate in the early 1880s. He married Ellen Kane of Illinois in 1875 and brought her to Stone City to live following the marriage. It is plausible that Green lived in several locations in the Stone City area between 1868 and the 1880s, before and after his marriage, including the subject cottage.

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A, this property calls attention to the limestone quarry operations in the village and is notable for its association with one of the important quarry owners in the late nineteenth century.

#53-00593

Contributing

Address: 12376 Dearborn Road**Date of Construction:** 1898**Historic Name:** STONE CITY SCHOOLHOUSE**Property Type:** II and III**Evaluation:** I Contributing building

Comments: Built of locally quarried limestone, this school building is two stories in height and features a hip-roof. Originally, the roof had a steeply pitched hip-roofed belfry at the roof apex, which was removed in 1962 when the building was reroofed (Hermann 1966:85). The windows are 1/1 double-hungs. An iron fire escape is on the north side of the building. Several low frame additions are at the rear of the building but do not seriously detract from the overall integrity of the school building. The stones for the building are of square-cut ashlar limestone with a rock (or quarry) face finish. The stone is laid in regular courses with natural-colored mortar joints.

History: The school building was built in 1898 on land donated by John A. Green (Hermann 1966:85). This was a public school in a Catholic community where one would typically expect a parochial school. While some Stone City children attended St. Patrick's School in nearby Anamosa, most children in the community attended public school in the village. St. Joseph's parish in Stone City never had a parochial school. The stone for the school building "was furnished gratis by the quarrymen" (Carstens 1961). The school had two teachers and offered eight grades of instruction. In 1911, there was an enrollment of 43 students, with Grace Balch and Kate Walsh, the instructors. The school was discontinued in 1947. Subsequent uses of the building have been for exhibits of the Paint 'n' Palette Art Club and its current use as a community center and polling place (*ibid.*).

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A for its representation of the public versus parochial debate concerning the education of children in the Stone City community, which was largely settled by Irish Catholics. Also contributing under Criterion C for its architectural significance as an institutional building constructed of locally quarried limestone.

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#53-00594

Non-contributing

Address: 12340 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: c.2005

Historic Name: MODULAR HOME

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 2 Non-contributing buildings

Comments: This property includes a modern modular house which replaced a mobile home on this site around 2005 and a detached one-bay frame garage also of modern construction. Both buildings are considered non-contributing because of their modern construction. A small wooden shed is not counted as a resource and is also of modern construction.

History: Added to this property around 2005, this modular home replaced a mobile home on this site which had been added to this lot in 1957.

Significance: Non-contributing to the district because of modern construction.

#53-00595

Contributing

Address: 12351 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: c.1890

Historic Name: WORKER HOUSING

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building; 2 Non-contributing buildings

Comments: This 1.5-story frame single-family dwelling is of gable-front-and-wing design, although it is likely that the wing of this cottage was not original but is an older addition. The roof is moderately steeply pitched with wide eaves and enclosed soffits. The siding is weatherboard. The cottage generally retains good integrity and is considered contributing to the district. A mobile home of metal construction is located north of the cottage and was placed at this location in 1975. A detached one-bay frame garage is located at the rear of the lot and features a front-gable roof. The garage is also of modern construction. Both the garage and mobile home are considered non-contributing but do not seriously detract from the district's integrity because of their small scale and impermanence at this location.

History: Built around 1890, this cottage is a good example of worker housing in Stone City. This cottage was represented on the 1893 plat map of Stone City on property then owned by Henry Dearborn, whose residence and quarry operations were located to the north and northwest of the subject property.

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A because it calls attention to the limestone quarry operations in Stone City and under Criterion C as a good example of the worker housing in this village. The centered entrance on the first floor and window in the half-story were standard characteristics of company town cottages in Stone City.

#53-00596

Contributing

Address: 12361 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: c.1893

Historic Name: WORKER HOUSING

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building

Comments: This 1.5-story frame single-family dwelling is of gable-front-and-wing design. The roofline is steeply pitched with moderately wide eaves and closed soffits. A wing to this cottage may have been built slightly after the original construction of the main core but is an older addition. The wing was subsequently enlarged. Vinyl siding now covers the building exterior; however, it is of a width that is compatible in type with the original weatherboard siding. The original siding may remain extant beneath the siding. The double windows on the façade are alterations to the cottage's original configuration, and the building likely possessed a front door centered on the façade directly under the upper floor window.

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Despite these alterations, the cottage is considered to retain sufficient integrity to be considered contributing to the district.
History: This cottage is a good example of the worker housing in Stone City associated with the limestone quarry operations. This house appears to be represented on the 1893 plat map of Stone City on land then owned by Henry Dearborn, whose own residence and quarry operation were located north and northwest of the subject property.
Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A because it calls attention to the limestone quarry operations in the village and under Criterion C as a good example of worker housing in Stone City. This example is 14 by 20 feet in plan, which is not the standard 18 by 24 foot dimension, but it does have the centered window in the half-story which was characteristic of worker housing in Stone City.

#53-00597

Non-contributing

Address: 12371 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: 1993

Historic Name: MOBILE HOME

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 2 Non-contributing buildings

Comments: This mobile home was added to this lot in 1993. It features a linear design, side-gabled roof, and a front entrance covered by a gabled roof. A detached metal pole-type garage is located to the rear of the property and is also modern in construction. Both buildings are considered non-contributing to the district because of their modern construction.

History: This mobile home was added to this lot in Stone City in 1993.

Significance: The property is considered non-contributing because of modern construction; however, because of their relative impermanence at this location, both buildings do not seriously detract from the overall integrity of the historic district.

#53-00598

Contributing

Address: 12381 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: c.1887

Historic Name: WORKER HOUSING

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building

Comments: This one-story frame single-family dwelling is of gable-front-and-wing design. Its configuration on the 1893 plat map of Stone City suggests that the wing is a later addition. A shed-roofed addition was later added to the rear wing. The dwelling has a moderately steeply pitched roof. Vinyl siding clads the exterior, although the original weatherboard may be intact underneath. According to oral tradition, this cottage originally possessed a half-story above its front-gabled core, which would be in keeping with the typical worker housing types in Stone City from this era.

History: Built c.1887, this cottage appears to be represented on the 1893 plat map of Stone City on property then owned by Henry Dearborn, whose own residence and quarry operation were located north and northwest of the subject property. The quarry was within easy walking distance of this cottage making it a good location for worker housing.

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A because it calls attention to the history of Stone City as a company town based on the limestone industry and the need for worker housing. Also contributes under Criterion C as one of the few surviving examples of worker housing in the village, with this example lacking the half-story above the main core, although it may have possessed this feature originally. Although the later additions and the vinyl siding detract from the cottage's historic appearance, the original footprint and roof configuration of the building remain discernable.

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#53-00599

Contributing

Address: 12612 Dearborn Road

Date of Construction: 1897 (date plaque on pediment)

Historic Name: H. DEARBORN & SONS BLOCK

Property Type: II, III, and IV

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building

Comments: This two-story limestone commercial building faces east and abuts the bank of the Wapsipinicon River on the west. The façade features four bays, two occupied by storefront windows and the other two by doors. The door on the north accessed the first floor retail space, while the door on the south accessed the upper floor. Pilasters demarcate the façade bays, with the façade capped with a denticulated cornice and pediment. The second floor of the façade features four 1/1 double-hung windows. A series of wooden balconies are later additions to the rear of the building but do not seriously detract from the overall integrity of the building. The stone walls of the building feature square-cut ashlar limestone with a rock (or quarry) face and laid in regular courses with natural-colored mortar joints. The cornice above the first floor has a smooth-finished face, which is echoed at the top of the building by the cornice and pediment. The design of the building was influenced by Late Victorian architecture, which is evident in the denticulated cornice, the pediment, and the overall conception of the façade with its four bays. The canted northeast corner provides another example of an architectural conceit frequently encountered in commercial buildings situated at the corners of intersections.

History: Built in 1897, this building was built by the Henry Dearborn family as a general store for workers of their nearby quarry operation. The block building also housed a public hall and the Dearborn Quarry offices on the second floor (Carstens 1961; Hall c.1898). This store building replaced the original company store located to the north. The 1897 store building also functioned as the village post office and later as a polling place. In 1933, it served as the polling place for the referendum to establish Stone City as a municipality. The store was operated from 1910 to 1959 by Clayton Dearborn, grandson of Henry Dearborn. The post office was discontinued in 1954.

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A because of its role as a company store, owned and operated by the Dearborn family, for workers at their nearby quarry. It is also contributing under Criterion A for the role it played in the Stone City Art Colony, with the building serving as a gallery for artists to display their works during the 1930s. One source also reports that Grant Wood lived in an upstairs room for "several summers during the early '30s" and that "his favorite workshop was the platform in front of the store" (Carstens 1961). After 1959 and into the 1960s, the store was operated by Lawrence La Barges, who converted the second floor into living quarters. A photograph from 1961 shows two gasoline pumps just off the canted corner of the building (ibid.). The property was also depicted in Grant Wood's 1930 *Stone City* painting and is considered contributing under Criterion B for this association with painter Grant Wood as part of the viewshed of the painting. The building is further contributing under Criterion C as an outstanding example of Late Victorian-influenced commercial architecture in Stone City and for its use of locally quarried and nicely finished limestone. This store building represents the only surviving commercial building in the village.

#53-00600

Non-contributing

Address: Stone City Road over Wapsipinicon River

Date of Construction: early 1970s

Historic Name: BRIDGE

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 1 Non-contributing structure

Comments: Reinforced concrete bridge carries Stone City Road over the Wapsipinicon River. This is a modern structure and is considered non-contributing for that reason. The center pier of the bridge is constructed of stone and is in keeping with the history and architecture of the district.

History: Built in the early 1970s, this bridge replaced the 1882 iron bridge depicted by Grant Wood in his 1930 *Stone City* painting. In his painting, Wood omitted the railroad bridge, which stood just south of the iron road bridge. Both historic

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bridges are now non-extant, although the metal plaque from the 1882 bridge is now a marker at the entry to the community center (formerly the Stone City School).

Significance: As a modern structure, this bridge is considered non-contributing to the district, although the use of stone for the center pier construction is compatible with the history and architecture of the district.

No Inventory #

Contributing

Address: Wapsipinicon River south of Stone City Road crossing and bridge

Date of Construction: 1904

Historic Name: CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILROAD BRIDGE (ruin)

Property Type: II

Evaluation: 1 Contributing site

Comments: The two concrete piers, the center stone pier, and the east stone abutment for the former railroad bridge spanning the Wapsipinicon River are still extant along the banks and within the channel of the river just south of the road bridge but are counted as one site as the ruins of the railroad bridge structure. This site retains fairly good integrity despite the loss of the bridge superstructure. That bridge was the second at this crossing. It had been built in 1904 and was a four-span, 253 foot long steel girder bridge (Holzinger 2008a).

History: Built as a replacement bridge for the Milwaukee Railroad over the Wapsipinicon River, it was removed on April 17, 1981. In removing the bridge, the east concrete pier was tipped over to the east where it came to rest close to the east approach stone abutment. The west stone abutment was leveled and buried along the riverbank during the 1981 reconstruction of Stone City Road (Holzinger 2008a).

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A for its association with the railroad in Stone City and for the railroad's association with the stone quarry industry. This site is also contributing under Criterion C as the only structural vestige of the railroads in Stone City.

#53-00601

Contributing

Address: 12599 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1893

Historic Name: HOTEL/RECTORY

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building; 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This two-story limestone dwelling has a hip and deck roof. The stone for this dwelling came from Champion Quarry No. 1 located west of this property. A one-story frame wing is attached to the rear of the dwelling with a wood deck added to the east elevation. A detached one-bay frame garage built in 1970 is located on this property and is considered non-contributing because of its modern construction.

History: This house was built by John A. Green c.1893 using limestone from his Champion quarries. Green also built a twin to this house directly to the west at 12595 Stone City Road. The house and its twin are depicted in the painting of Stone City commissioned by Green for the stage curtain of his opera house in Columbia Hall, which was built in 1893. A reproduction of this painting was also printed in the 1894 and 1895 *Iowa Geological Survey* (Hermann 1966:79). The viewshed of this painting is from the bluff above the Dearborn Quarry looking towards the Green Estate and the Champion quarries. The 1893 plat of Stone City appears to show these two buildings, with the subject house further labeled as a "hotel" (North West Publishing 1893). It appears that Green may have built this building for use as a boarding place for quarry employees; however, he subsequently donated the house to St. Joseph's parish for a rectory.

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A for its association with John A. Green and the Champion quarries in Stone City and as a reflection of Green's philanthropic contributions to the village in his donation of the house to the parish. Also contributes under Criterion C for its use of locally quarried limestone and for its architectural design. While simple in

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execution, the design has visual interest in the use of smooth-finished stone lintels and sills and contrasting rough-faced stone block walls.

#53-00602

Contributing

Address: 12595 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1893

Historic Name: MANAGEMENT-LEVEL HOUSING

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 2 Contributing buildings; 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This two-story limestone dwelling has a hip and deck roof. The stone used in its construction came from John A. Green's Champion quarries located to the west. A one-story enclosed porch and wood deck are attached to the rear of the building. The property also includes a two-bay frame detached garage built in 1970 and a stone shed built c.1893. The stone shed is considered a contributing building, while the modern garage is considered a non-contributing building.

History: Built by John A. Green c.1893 using limestone from his Champion quarries. Green also built a twin to this house directly to the east at 12599 Stone City Road. The house and its twin are depicted in the painting of Stone City commissioned by Green for the stage curtain of his opera house in Columbia Hall, which was built in 1893. A reproduction of this painting was also printed in the 1894 and 1895 *Iowa Geological Survey* (Hermann 1966:79). The viewshed of this painting is from the bluff above the Dearborn Quarry looking towards the Green Estate and the Champion quarries. The house at 12599 Stone City Road was labeled as a "hotel" on the 1893 plat map, with the subject house appearing to be a single family dwelling throughout its history. The size of this dwelling strongly suggests it was intended for occupation by management-level employees of Green's quarry operations.

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A for its association with John A. Green and the Champion quarries in Stone City and for its representation of Green's position as a community leader and his efforts to improve the village. Also contributes under Criterion C for its use of locally quarried limestone and for its architectural design. While simple in execution, the design has visual interest in the use of smooth-finished stone lintels and sills and contrasting rough-faced stone block walls. The survival of a stone outbuilding further adds to the property's architectural significance.

#53-00603

Non-contributing

Address: 12589 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1872

Historic Name: WORKER HOUSING

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 4 Non-contributing buildings

Comments: This one-story single-family frame dwelling has a front-gabled roof and is flanked on both sides by substantial wing additions that have converted the cottage into a larger scale house. Both wings have side-gable roofs. The size of the wing additions has overwhelmed the original cottage core to the point that the building is considered non-contributing because of impacted integrity. Further impacting the integrity is the modern addition of vinyl siding. A three-bay detached frame garage and two frame utility sheds are located to the rear of the property. The garage was built in 1995, with the sheds also of modern construction. These outbuildings are considered non-contributing because of their modern construction.

History: The Assessor's record gives a construction date for this cottage of 1872, which may be somewhat early for frame dwellings in the Stone City village; however, it is certainly within the realm of possibility given the dwelling's association with worker housing for the late nineteenth to early twentieth century limestone quarries in the area. The dwelling does appear to be represented on the 1893 plat map for Stone City and was one of many small cottages that once lined the north side of Stone City Road in two rows paralleling the river bank in this area. Sources note that John A. Green built a series of

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“stone houses—35 in all” where his foremen and workers lived (e.g., Cron 1932b). The c.1893 painting of the area of Stone City west of the river and commissioned by John A. Green for his opera house, shows a double row of small houses in the same area of those depicted on the 1893 plat, although the map only depicts about a dozen houses in that area. Except for the two, two-story stone houses noted above, the other extant worker houses along the north side of Stone City Road are frame construction (see below).

Significance: The core of this dwelling does remain visible as the primary entry to the building and calls attention to the dwelling’s origin as a workers cottage in Stone City. However, the later additions have impacted the overall integrity of the property to the point that it no longer possesses sufficient integrity to be considered contributing to the district.

#53-00604

Contributing

Address: 12583 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1893

Historic Name: WORKER HOUSING

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building; 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This 1.5-story frame single-family dwelling is of front-gable design with a one-story side-gabled wing attached to the east elevation, which may be somewhat later in construction than the main core of the cottage. The roof of the dwelling is moderately steeply pitched. A wing projects from the façade and is covered with a shed roof. This wing likely originally served as an open front porch and was subsequently enclosed. Vinyl siding has been applied to the dwelling’s exterior. The house likely also originally had a front door centered on the façade beneath the upper floor window. A detached two-bay frame garage built since the 1960s is located to the rear of the property. The garage is considered non-contributing because of its modern construction, with the dwelling retaining sufficient integrity to be considered contributing to the district.

History: This dwelling may be represented on the 1893 plat map of Stone City and certainly is in keeping with similar housing built around the same time in the community. It would have been built as worker housing for stone workers in the nearby quarries and was likely built by John A. Green for his employees.

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A as one of the few surviving examples of worker housing in the village calling attention to the importance of the limestone quarry operations in Stone City in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is also considered contributing under Criterion C as a fairly good example of the workers cottage type in Stone City, with this example retaining the centered window in the half-story, which was a standard characteristic of worker housing in the village.

#53-00605

Non-contributing

Address: 12577 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: 1980

Historic Name: CHARLES AND JOHANN MAY HOUSE

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 2 Non-contributing buildings

Comments: This single-family side-gabled dwelling is of split-level design. The dwelling features wood siding and limestone facing on the facade. An attached garage is on the east side of the dwelling and is not counted as a separate resource. A wood deck is also attached to the rear of the dwelling. A detached garage built in 1959 is located on this property and features narrow wood siding and a gable roof. Both the dwelling and the detached garage are considered non-contributing to the district because of their modern construction.

History: Built in 1980, this split-level dwelling is a modern addition to the Stone City village.

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Significance: While considered non-contributing to the district because of its modern construction, the use of limestone as a facing material for the façade of this dwelling is compatible with the history and architecture of the district.

#53-00606

Non-contributing

Address: 12573 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1877

Historic Name: WORKER HOUSING/FARMSTEAD

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 5 Non-contributing buildings, 1 contributing building, 1 contributing structure

Comments: This one-story single-family frame dwelling consists of a front-gabled cottage core flanked by substantial side-gabled wings which have converted the original cottage into a larger scale dwelling. The scale of the wing additions have overwhelmed the original core of the house, which has also been impacted by the application of aluminum siding. As a result, the dwelling is considered non-contributing to the district. The property also includes a series of dependent buildings including: a detached garage (built in c.1900), two pole sheds (1975), a loafing shed (1983), a corncrib (c.1900), and a utility shed (1987). The sheds are all considered non-contributing because of their modern construction. The two c.1900 outbuildings are contributing to the district and lend the air of a small farming operation in the village.

History: According to the Assessor's records, this house was built in 1877. The house may be represented on the 1893 plat map of Stone City along the north side of Stone City Road and south of the Wapsipinicon River. The original core of this house is typical of the worker housing associated with the village's stone quarries in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It would have been built as worker housing for stone workers in the nearby quarries and was likely built by John A. Green for his employees. The property also appears to have functioned as a small farmstead in the early twentieth century once the quarry operations had declined.

Significance: The core of this dwelling is a workers cottage and calls attention to the significance of the limestone quarry operations in Stone City in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. However, later additions and modifications have impacted the overall integrity making most of the property non-contributing as a result. The two older outbuildings do retain sufficient integrity and are considered contributing under Criterion C for their association with historic Stone City construction within the district's period of significance.

#53-00608

Contributing

Address: 12461 County Road X28

Date of Construction: c.1893

Historic Name: MANAGEMENT-LEVEL HOUSING

Property Type: I and III

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building; 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This 1.5-story single-family frame dwelling is of gable-front-and-wing design. The roof is steeply pitched. Originally, a porch stood within the ell of the wing and the main block of the house. The wing appears original to the house design making it larger than the typical workers cottages in Stone City suggesting a foreman's or other authority's house. A modern detached utility shed located at the far rear of the property is considered non-contributing because of its modern construction.

History: While the Assessor's records give an estimated date of construction of 1900 for this house, it does appear to be represented on the 1893 plat map of Stone City and would have been constructed by that date. In 1893 it was located on land owned by John A. Green, with his Champion No. 1 Quarry located just west to northwest of the subject house. The size of the house suggests company housing but one built for or by a management-level employee.

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Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A for its association with the village's limestone quarry operations, specifically John A. Green's Champion quarries as employee housing, and under Criterion C as a good example of company housing in the village, likely for a management-level employee.

#53-00376

Contributing

Address: 12472 County Road X28

Date of Construction: 1913

Historic Name: ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Property Type: II, III and IV

Evaluation: 1 Contributing building

Comments: Late Gothic Revival style church built of locally quarried limestone and designed by Dubuque architect, Guido Beck. This building is located on the east side of County Road X28 across from where the John A. Green Estate and Champion quarries were once located. The church retains a high degree of integrity and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2005. It is considered contributing to the Stone City district.

History: Designed by Dubuque architect Guido Beck, this stone church was built in 1913 by contractor Otto Brown. This Catholic Church served a predominantly Irish Catholic population in early twentieth century Stone City. These Irish immigrants had settled in Stone City in the late nineteenth century to work in the area's limestone quarries.

Significance: This property is already listed in the National Register under Criterion C for its architectural significance as an architect-designed edifice in Stone City and for its use of locally quarried limestone reflecting the area's quarrying history. As such, it is considered contributing under the same criterion to the Stone City Historic District. It also contributes under Criterion A for its representation of the Irish ethnic heritage of many of Stone City's residents in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and under Criterion B for its association with Grant Wood for its depiction in the 1930 *Stone City* painting where the rear of the church served as part of the left edge of the painting.

#53-00610

Non-contributing

Address: 12550 County Road X28

Date of Construction: c.1985

Historic Name: GRANT WOOD FESTIVAL BUILDING

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 1 Non-contributing building

Comments: This one-story frame building was designed to evoke the *American Gothic* cottage in Eldon, Iowa. Built around 1985, this building is considered non-contributing because of its modern construction.

History: It was built c. 1985 to serve as an office building and exhibition hall for the local Grant Wood Art Festival.

Significance: Building is considered non-contributing because of its modern construction.

#53-00607

Contributing

Address: 12598 Stone City Road

Date of Construction: c.1875

Historic Name: JOHN WALSH (WELCH) FARMSTEAD

Property Type: I, III and IV

Evaluation: 3 Contributing buildings; 1 Non-contributing building; 1 Non-contributing structure

Comments: This farmstead is located in the midst of the Stone City village on the southwest side of the Wapsipinicon River. The single-family dwelling on this property consists of three units built in a linear configuration, the west side-gabled unit of which is built of locally quarried limestone. The center unit is a 1.5-story frame building covered with a front-gabled roof and has a one-story wing at the rear. The east unit is also a 1.5-story frame building that features a shed-roofed wall dormer

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on the façade. An open front porch spans the façade of the east unit. Of the three units, the eastern unit was a later addition in the early twentieth century. Outbuildings include: a one-bay frame detached garage, which was an older dwelling moved onto this farmstead and converted into a garage; a front-gabled frame combination barn/corncrib, which replaced an older barn in the 1950s; and a frame shed of pre-1900 construction (Holzinger 2008b). Of these, the garage and the shed are considered contributing to the farmstead property and the historic district, while the 1950s barn is considered non-contributing because it post-dates the period of significance for the district. A 1939 Milwaukee Railroad caboose (No. 01809) has been placed in the front yard of the farmstead on track installed along the former railroad's right-of-way. This caboose has been restored to resemble its original appearance. While the presence of the caboose does enhance the historic look and feel of the district and calls attention to the importance of the railroad in Stone City and to the location of the original tracks, it is considered a non-contributing structure simply because it was added to the district in the modern era.

History: This farmstead was historically associated in the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries with John Welch, or Walsh as his name consistently appears in the property abstract and several other sources ("Welch" appears primarily on plat maps and census listings). The farm holding at its maximum totaled 120 acres and extended from the intersection of present-day County Road X28 and Stone City Road to approximately one-half mile south to 120th Street. The east property line paralleled the Wapsipinicon River bank and terminated downstream across the river from where the original Ronen Quarry was located. The property line then extended south to join up with the 120th Street east-west fenceline. The north property line bordered the Milwaukee Railroad right-of-way along the south side of Stone City Road. In 1963, the property was reduced in size to its current 16 acres including the farmstead. Walsh resisted the sale of his landholdings to the quarrymen in Stone City at the height of the stone quarrying in Stone City in the 1880s-90s. He was successful in this resistance, with the property remaining primarily a farm property into modern era. However, Walsh appears to have cashed in on the quarrying boom to some extent as indicated by the 1885 census when his occupation was listed as "boarding house keeper" and his household included two young men employed as laborers, most likely in the stone quarries (1885 Iowa State Population Census). By 1900-10, Walsh was listed as a farm operator and was nearing retirement age in 1910 (1900 and 1910 U.S. Population Censuses).⁶ The west and center units of the house were built in the late nineteenth century, possibly around 1875 according to the Assessor's records, or even earlier as suggested by the abstract where an 1860 transaction for railroad right-of-way noted that a farm crossing would need to be built and maintained by the railroad. This suggests that access was needed across the railroad tracks to the farmstead proper further suggesting that buildings were present at this location by this early date. It is possible that the original stone section of the standing house could date from this early period. While this early date precedes the big-three quarry operations in Stone City, the Mt. Hope Quarry was less than a mile to the west and was in operation in the early 1850s and could easily have provided the stone for this dwelling. The wood frame portion of the house was added to the east end of the stone house in the very early 1900s, while the second wood frame section was added in 1932. A single story addition was built on the north-center portion of the house in 1999 (Holzinger 2008b).

Significance: Considered contributing under Criterion A because the property calls attention to farming as a land use in the area, which co-habited with the emergence of quarry operations in the village, and for Walsh's resistance against the sale of this property to the quarry operators and village entrepreneurs despite being situated in the center of what became Stone City. The property also is significant under Criterion B for its association with Grant Wood's 1930 *Stone City* painting, which showed the Walsh farmhouse and some of the extant outbuildings along with a windmill, now non-extant, as the centerpiece of the viewshed of the painting. The barn represented in the painting was replaced in the 1950s with the extant barn. The property is also contributing under Criterion C for the architectural significance of the use of locally quarried limestone.

⁶ The 1900 census had the spelling of his name as "Walsh."

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No Inventory #

Contributing

Address: West side of County Road X28 just south of the intersection with Stone City Road

Date of Construction: 1893

Historic Name: COLUMBIA HALL (foundation ruin)

Property Type: II

Evaluation: 1 Contributing site

Comments: This site consists of a remnant of the stone foundation from Columbia Hall, which was a massive three-story building constructed at this location in 1893. The hall was torn down gradually beginning in 1935, with the stones hauled off for use in buildings as far away as Cedar Rapids. An electrical substation was later built over part of the original hall's site just north of the foundation remnant. The stone foundation is visible from the public road.

History: Completed in 1893, Columbia Hall was named in honor of the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago the same year. It was erected by John A. Green to house a hotel, opera house, and retail stores and was referred to as Green's Opera House on a historic-era postcard. Its auditorium, where Jenny Lind and Tom Thumb performed, could seat 400. For a while, St. Joseph's congregation conducted worship services in the building. The largest edifice ever erected in Stone City, Columbia Hall was dismantled, beginning in 1935, and most of its stone hauled away for use in homes and retaining walls in Cedar Rapids (Page 2005a). Today, all that remains of this grand building is a section of the stone foundation.

Significance: The remnant stone foundation wall section is considered a ruin and therefore is counted as a contributing site to the historic district. While a ruin, it is the last physical reminder of the largest stone building in Stone City and is contributing under Criterion C for that association. Technically, this foundation is located within the boundary of the previously listed John A. Green Estate Historic District but was not counted as a resource in that nomination (Bowers 1978).

No Inventory #

Non-Contributing

Address: At the southwest corner of the intersection of County Road X28 and Stone City Road

Date of Construction: mid-1950s

Historic Name: REA BOOSTER STATION

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 1 Non-contributing structure

Comments: This property consists of the metal structure of what began as the REA booster station in the mid-1950s (Zook 1954-55:47). The station was built on the northern portion of the site of the former Columbia Hall and is just north of the stone foundation remnant from that building (see also above). The electrical substation has since been updated with more modern equipment. While it is technically within the boundary of the previously listed John A. Green Estate Historic District, it was not counted among the resources of that district (Bowers 1978).

History: This structure was built in the mid-1950s as a booster station by the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) (Zook and Ballantyne 1954-55:47).

Significance: It was added after the period of significance for the Stone City Historic District and is considered non-contributing as a result. The structure's location on part of the former site of Columbia Hall also had an impact on the north portion of that site.

#53-00609

Non-contributing

Address: 12551 County Road X28

Date of Construction: 2000

Historic Name: LANDIS K. AND LOIS M. THOMPSON HOUSE

Property Type: V

Evaluation: 2 Non-contributing buildings

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Comments: This modern single-family dwelling is of side-gable design with an attached garage on the south side and a one-story turret on the northeast corner. The house and garage are clad with wood siding and limestone face rock. An open porch, covered with a shed roof, is along the façade in-between the garage and the turret. A one-bay frame detached garage is located southwest of the house. Both the house and detached garage are counted as non-contributing to the district because of their modern construction.

History: Built in 2000 for Landis and Lois Thompson on the west side of County Road X28 on land that was formerly part of the John Green Estate and technically within the National Register boundaries of the John A. Green Estate Historic District.

Significance: Considered non-contributing because of modern construction; however, the use of limestone as a face rock is sympathetic to the historic architectural context of Stone City. Furthermore, the house is situated in a wooded area and is not readily visible from any of the roads in Stone City.

#53-00092

Contributing

Address: 12381 County Road X28

Date of Construction: 1882-1899

Period of Significance: 1869-1933

Historic Name: JOHN A. GREEN ESTATE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Property Type: I, II, III, and IV

Evaluation: 1 Contributing district (which enumerated 7 contributing resources) and 2 Contributing sites, 2 Contributing objects, and 3 Non-contributing buildings (not listed in original Green Estate historic district nomination)

Comments: This historic district was previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 (Bowers 1978). At that time, the district consisted of the following resources: the ruin of the Green Mansion, the ruin of the Champion Quarry #1 Scale House (misidentified in the nomination as the depot), the ruin of the Champion Quarry #1 Power House (misidentified in the nomination as a blacksmith shop), the Champion Quarry #1 Office and Garage (correctly identified in the nomination as the office and since converted into a single-family dwelling), the Champion Quarry #1 Horse Barn, a water tower, an ice house, and a carriage house. All of these buildings were built either wholly or partially of locally quarried limestone. The boundary of the estate district encompassed 35.88 acres and was bounded by County Road X28 on the east and Stone City Road on the north, with the south and west boundaries essentially arbitrary straight lines drawn to encompass the extant buildings. In the process, the majority of the former Champion Quarry #1 was also included within the district boundaries but was not listed as a contributing resource in the 1978 nomination.⁷ An additional site, not counted in the 1978 nomination but within the boundaries of the current district and considered a contributing site, is the ruin of the stone water reservoir located just southwest of the stone water tower.⁸ The mansion was a standing ruin in 1978 but the walls and foundation have since been completely removed from the surface of the site, although its former location remains a potentially contributing archaeological site.⁹ For the current nomination, the location of the former mansion is not counted as a resource and is recommended for future study to determine if significant archaeological remains are present. The stone carriage house, ice house, and water tower are all still extant, along with the power house and scale house ruins and the horse barn. These are certainly contributing resources to the Stone City Historic District but are counted in the current nomination

⁷ This quarry is the only one of the "Big Three" quarries that was not extensively quarried in the modern era. As such, it is considered to retain sufficient integrity to be considered contributing to the Stone City Historic District.

⁸ The reservoir is quite large, and only recently, the vaulted roof of the structure collapsed. However, the stone walls and floor of the reservoir along with some of the plumbing fixtures are still intact. Historically, this reservoir was part of the water system that supplied the mansion with water. The reservoir had been most recently restored in the late 1970s (Finn 1977).

⁹ There are some scattered stone blocks from the mansion ruin that have been placed along the side of the driveway into the property and as garden features on the former house site. None of these stones appear to be in their original location. Two of the blocks now flank the driveway into the carriage house, which has been converted into a dwelling. These blocks originally flanked the sidewalk to the Green Mansion and are both inscribed "From Champion Quarries Stone City Iowa." These two blocks are considered contributing objects.

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as only one previously listed resource--the Green Estate Historic District.¹⁰ Since 1978, several buildings have been added to the Green Estate district boundaries including the house at 12551 County Road X28 (built in 2000 and counted separately from the estate district herein); a modern machine shed located on a wooded ridge near the northeast corner of the district; and two pole buildings built west of the stone barn built in 1984 and 1987, although technically one or both of the pole buildings are actually situated outside of the 1978 Green Estate district boundary. The two pole buildings are within the boundary for the Stone City Historic District and are counted as non-contributing buildings to that district. Likewise, the former REA booster station in the northeast corner of the property was present in 1978 but was not counted as a resource (Bowers 1978). It was first built in the mid-1950s and its current structure is considered a non-contributing structure to the Stone City Historic District but as a separate property from the Green Estate district.

History: The Green Mansion was built in the 1880s by John A. Green, who "was one of three men whose massive quarrying operations along the Wapsipinicon River created Stone City and supplied much of the Midwest with building stone for more than thirty years" (Bowers 1978:8-1).¹¹ Green was born in Ireland in 1844 and immigrated to the United States in 1852, settling first in Boston. In 1865, John Green relocated to Joliet, Illinois, where he met and eventually married Ellen Kane in 1875. Prior to his marriage, Green worked in Rock Island, Illinois, as a stone cutter for the construction of the arsenal, and in Wyoming, where he cut stone for the Union Pacific Railroad. He returned to Joliet in 1867, but on March 17, 1868, he moved to Stone City where in 1869 he opened the Champion Quarries (later referred to as Champion Quarry #1) (Corbit 1910:461). He may have worked for a short time in 1868-69 for Henry Dearborn, but this is uncertain and somewhat questionable. Ellen Green moved to Stone City with John upon their marriage in 1875, and the couple had ten children (ibid.). The extension of the railroads to Stone City in the late 1870s allowed for great expansion of the quarries, with five in operation by the 1880s in the Stone City area. A sixth had opened by the 1890s. Green eventually had two quarries, Champion #1 and #2 as well as other quarries in the region and in Minnesota and Missouri. Green was an innovator in the industry and was believed to have been an early user of hydraulic power for stripping quarries and of black powder for blasting. Green's estate, which included a stylish stone mansion, reflected the extent of his prosperity and influence. However, by 1900, the growing preference for concrete and Portland cement eclipsed the stone industry, with the quarries, including Green's Champion quarries eventually closing. An additional economic factor in the decline was the overall decline of the railroad industry, a major consumer of stone products. A blasting accident in the Champion quarries in the early twentieth century helped force Green completely out of business. For a time, he turned to full-time farming and livestock raising at Stone City but was eventually forced to sell his estate and extensive landholdings. The family moved to Cedar Rapids in 1919, where John Green died the following year. The estate was purchased by Frank Nissen in 1920 prior to John Green's death. Nissen used the mansion as a summer home (Corbit 1910; Finn 1977). Green's estate saw another rebirth in the early 1930s when it became the site for Grant Wood's Stone City Art Colony, with the artist adapting the buildings on the grounds for living quarters, studios, classrooms, and recreational facilities. In 1937, the estate once again reverted to a summer residence, this time for Paul and Mary (Nissen) Engle. The mansion was gutted by fire in November 1963 during their tenure and was not rebuilt. The ruined walls of the mansion stood for many years as a local landmark; however, eventually most the stone elements were removed from the site. In 1976, there was an attempt to restore the mansion and estate to its former glory for use again for an art colony (Finn 1977). Some restoration work was completed

¹⁰ Technically, the boundary of the 1978 district also included the dwelling located along the west side of County Road X28 at 12461 County Road X28 and the foundation remnant of Columbia Hall; however, neither property was counted as a resource in that district nor were they shown on the district sketch map in the nomination. The dwelling is now considered a contributing building to the Stone City Historic District separate from the estate district, with the foundation remnant also considered a separate contributing site to the Stone City Historic District. Likewise, the two contributing sites identified herein within the boundary of the Estate District--the quarry and the reservoir ruin--are counted as contributing sites to the Stone City District separate from the Green Estate district.

¹¹ Sources vary on the construction date for the Green Mansion, with the 1978 nomination using the date of 1882. The cornerstone for the mansion was inscribed with the date of 1883, along with the names "J.A. & E. Green" (Hermann 1966:63). Another source indicated that the mansion was begun in 1882 but was not completed until 1887 (Finn 1977).

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by Anamosa native, James Juilfs; however, the fully proposed project was never completed. Since that time other buildings have received restoration work including: the stone barn, which serves as a private residence but has also been used by the owner for a social and tourism center for the Stone City village; the former office and carriage house, which were also both converted to private residences; and the water tower, which is now being refurbished for use as a retail shop.

Significance: The Green Estate is already listed as a historic district in the National Register. The entirety of this listed district is within the Stone City Historic District boundary. This estate is considered significant under Criterion A for its representation of the importance of the limestone quarrying industry to the history of Stone City and for the contributions to that industry, and the development of Stone City, by quarry owner/operator, John A. Green. It is also significant under Criterion A for the role that the Green Estate and its buildings played in Grant Wood's early 1930s Stone City Art Colony, which was headquartered on the estate grounds. This property is considered significant under Criterion B for this direct association with Grant Wood. The estate is also significant under Criterion C for the limestone architecture of its standing buildings and ruins and for the Champion #1 Quarry site, which constitutes the only former quarry encompassed by the Stone City Historic District boundary. Both the buildings and the site call strong attention to the importance of the limestone industry in Stone City in the late nineteenth and very early twentieth centuries. In summary, the previously listed resources associated with the Green Estate include: the horse barn (contributing building), the scale house ruin (contributing site), the power house ruin (contributing site), the water tower (contributing structure), the ice house (contributing structure), and the carriage house (contributing building). In addition, the following resources are now added to the Green Estate list of resources and considered resources within the Stone City Historic District: two modern pole buildings located west of the stone barn (2 non-contributing buildings); one modern machine shed (1 non-contributing building); two inscribed stone blocks flanking the driveway to the stone carriage house (2 contributing objects); the ruin of the stone water reservoir (1 contributing site); and the remains of Champion Quarry #1 (1 contributing site).

No Inventory #**Contributing**

Address: Stone City, Iowa

Period of Significance: 1850-1933

Historic Name: LANDSCAPE

Property Type: I-IV

Evaluation: 1 Contributing site

Comments: The Stone City Historic District is also considered to include the locations from where Grant Wood painted his initial *Study for Stone City* and his final 1930 *Stone City* painting and the landscape represented in the viewshed of the painting, which is framed by the rear wall of St. Joseph's Church and shows the Dearborn Quarry, the Dearborn stores and farmstead, and Stone City Road as it winds through the village. The Walsh farmstead is a focal point at the center of the painting. The locations from which Grant Wood painted both his study and the final painting are located on the east side of County Road X28 across from the Green Estate and south of both the church and the Walsh farmstead. These vantage points constitute the outdoor "studio" of the artist and are considered important components of the historic landscape represented by this famous painting. In addition to the viewshed of the painting, the contributing landscape is considered to include the entirety of the area encompassed by the Stone City Historic District because this area reflects the historical development of the village and still contributes a strong sense of time and place to the district. This landscape includes: the Green and Ronen estate grounds; the viewshed of Grant Wood's painting; and the winding roads and river, hilly terrain, and narrow floodplain on which Stone City was built. The landscape is considered a single contributing site.

History: This area was first settled in 1850 and grew into an industrial town based on stone quarrying in the late nineteenth century. The area declined after the quarries shut down in the early twentieth century but experienced a rebirth in the mid-

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twentieth century through Grant Wood's *Stone City* painting and art colony and through the reopening of two of the quarries, which continue to operate into the present day.

Significance: The landscape of the district reflects all aspects of this history and presents a strong sense of time and place. It is considered significant under Criterion B for its association with and depiction in Grant Wood's 1930 *Stone City* painting, which prominently featured Stone City's landscape as the viewshed of the painting.

INTEGRITY OF THE STONE CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Stone City Historic District retains good integrity and conveys not only a strong sense of time and place of Stone City as a company town based on the limestone industry but also the local materials available, the variety of ways in which this material could be manipulated, and the craftsmanship and design skills of the stone cutters and masons working and living in this community. As such, the district retains a high level of the following seven aspects of integrity: 1) location--the district encompasses the entirety of the residential and commercial portion of the historic village; 2) design--demonstrated in the surviving collection of stone buildings and structures within the district; 3) setting--the historic setting of Stone City from its heyday as a company town and from its subsequent life as the site of Grant Wood's Stone City Art Colony remains largely intact; 4) materials--the presence of so many buildings and structures built in part or wholly of the locally quarried limestone; 5) workmanship--conveyed by the surviving stone buildings and structures and their reflection of the skills of the local craftsman; 6) feeling--the surviving landscape and extant resources still convey a strong sense of time and place; and 7) association--the district contains a number of resources that were directly associated with the quarrymen and the stone industry as well as resources associated with the later use by the Stone City Art Colony and with Grant Wood's 1930 *Stone City* painting.

Stone City Historic District
Name of Property

Jones County, IA
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)

INDUSTRY _____

ART _____

ARCHITECTURE _____

Period of Significance

1850-1933 _____

Significant Dates

1850 _____

1869 _____

1885 _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Wood, Grant _____

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Beck, Guido _____

Green, John A. _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _____

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Significant Dates (continued):

1930
1932-33

8. Statement of Significance

The Stone City Historic District is significant at the state and local levels under Criterion A for its history and development as a stone quarry company town in the late nineteenth and very early twentieth centuries and as the site of Grant Wood's 1930s Stone City Art Colony. It is also locally significant under Criterion C for the architectural use of the locally quarried limestone in a variety of buildings, structures, and objects. The Stone City Historic District also achieves state significance under Criterion B for its association in the early 1930s with well-known Iowa Regionalist artist, Grant Wood, who depicted Stone City in a 1930 painting of the same name. A pivotal painting in Wood's career, *Stone City* heralded the artist's mature style. Two years later, Wood chose Stone City as the site for his Stone City Art Colony and School, which Wood founded and led for two summers in 1932 and 1933. Wood made use of the old limestone mansion on the Green Estate and other stone buildings on the estate and in town for his art colony leaving behind a legacy in the sculptures, paintings, and poetry produced during the colony's tenure. The painting *Stone City* reflects not only Grant Wood's regionalist vision and philosophy but the nation's cultural turn inward during the early years of the Great Depression. The period of significance for the district extends from 1850 to 1933. Important dates include: 1850 when the first limestone quarry was opened in Stone City; 1869 when Henry Dearborn and John A. Green opened their quarries at Stone City; 1885 when John Ronen established his Anamosa quarry; 1930 when Grant Wood painted *Stone City*; and 1932-33 when Grant Wood's Stone City Art Colony was in residence in the village during the summer months.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF STONE CITY, IOWA (1850-1933)

Throughout its history, Stone City has been shaped by two constants: the presence of readily quarried limestone of outstanding quality and the village's setting in a sheltered valley of great natural beauty. The limestone and the scenery are central to the series of historic eras in Stone City. Beginning in the 1850s, settlers attracted by the area's limestone outcroppings set the stage for the community's growth and prosperity. As demand for quarried limestone for railroad beds, street paving, and building materials increased in the late 1870s and 1880s, Stone City flourished. The settlement grew into a booming "company town"—albeit still a village by most standards—dominated by three limestone quarries and the men who owned them. These wealthy men lived in the village near their quarries and built homes for themselves and their workers. As residents, they provided strong, paternalistic leadership and philanthropy for Stone City. They shared Stone City's predominantly Irish and Roman Catholic heritage and nurtured the social and educational bonds that held the community together.

The boom lasted until about 1900, when Portland cement, and the concrete it produced, replaced stone as a common building and paving material. This, coupled with local setbacks such as a blasting accident that destroyed much of the equipment at Green's main quarry operation in the early twentieth century, resulted in a period of decline in Stone City that lasted for nearly three decades. In 1930, Iowa artist Grant Wood depicted Stone City in a painting of the same name, the first in what became his familiar Regionalist style. Two years later, Wood founded an art colony and school at Stone City, making use of the old stone mansion on the Green Estate and other stone buildings on the estate and in town for his art colony and school. His student sculptors also used quarried limestone for their projects. For two summers in 1932 and 1933, the Stone City Art Colony brought national attention and thousands of visitors to the picturesque village.

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Following World War II, dimension stone regained some of its popularity as a building material and quarry operations revitalized in Stone City. Today, the major industry in town once again is stone quarrying, which is helping to build a new generation of "Stone City Stone" buildings in the region and beyond. Stone City has also become a bedroom community for residents commuting to Anamosa, Cedar Rapids, and other points for employment. The unusual juxtaposition of heavy industry and village charm suggests the feeling of Stone City during its heyday in the late nineteenth century.

TOPOGRAPHY, EARLY SETTLEMENT, AND THE LIMESTONE RESOURCES OF JONES COUNTY

Stone City lies in Sections 5 and 6 of Fairview Township in Jones County, a particularly picturesque section of Eastern Iowa. In 1895, State Geologist Samuel Calvin described the topography of Jones County as "that characteristic of loess covered regions in which the surface is ridged and billowy, with sharply rounded hills separated by steep-sided, V-shaped ravines" (Calvin 1896:40). Jones County exhibited "physiographic irregularity," over which glaciers deposited loess in mantles of varying thickness. As Calvin wrote, the loess:

washes easily, and sharply rounded hills separated by steep-sided gullies combine to render the surface over the wider loess regions a perplexing maze of swelling prominences that seem at first to be arranged without definite order. It would be difficult to find an acre of level ground in many square miles of such areas. The hillsides are too steep for cultivation. Roadways must wind back and forth to follow ridges or descend to lower levels through tortuous ravines (Calvin 1896:40-1).

This was just the type of landscape depicted by Grant Wood in his landscape paintings set in Jones County and neighboring Linn County. Many art historians and critics thought that Wood's paintings were of "fantasy landscapes," with one observer stating that "surely these geometric and carefully constructed landscapes were not what Wood saw around him; more likely, they were what he wanted to see" (Haven 2002). However, as John Steuart Curry, one of the Regionalist artists and a friend of Grant Wood's (and a visitor to the Stone City Art Colony in the early 1930s), noted:

I used to think Grant's landscapes were too neat, too well-ordered, until I saw his part of Iowa. That's the way Iowa is around Cedar Rapids, its uncrowded trees perfectly moulded, its earth is clipped, well cared for, its hills roll just as gently, as peacefully as he painted them (as quoted in Liffing-Zug 1977:28).

The Wapsipinicon River valley travels through what Calvin described as "a rather narrow and partly rock-walled gorge." At Stone City, "the limestone rises in the sides of the valley to a height of ninety feet above the stream," with the river literally cutting the village into two halves and connected only by a bridge (Calvin 1896:44-5). One local poet around 1900 put the view into verse:

O, grand is the scene from a hilltop's view!
When rocks smile with June's latest flower,
And looking across from some high peak
Houses and trees in the distance tower.
Here comes the seeker of nature's lesson
To learn how she reigns supreme in the arts,
And to see the glow her magic imparts
To far stretching landscape on Iowa soil;
For tourists who care not for trouble and toil,
Will be amply rewarded by scenery fair,
Few places near that can compare (Gregg c.1900).

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Such was the difficult, yet picturesque terrain confronting the first settlers in northwestern Jones County.

Fairview Township was settled initially by Euro-Americans in 1837, along with other portions of Jones County. However, at the time of the General Land Office original survey plat in 1838, there was no settlement depicted in Sections 5 and 6 of this township. The other 1837 settlement areas in Jones County included: Scotch Grove, Washington, and Clay Townships. Settlement had actually begun a year earlier in Bowen's Prairie and Monticello in northeast Jones County. Anamosa, now the county seat, was first settled in 1838. Prior to the Civil War, Fairview Township remained largely rural; no towns were incorporated and most settlers farmed for a living. The Civil War effectively deterred further settlement for the duration of the war. In 1850, the first stone quarry was opened in the vicinity of what became Stone City, providing the impetus for the industrial development to come.

Limestone

Not long after the Black Hawk Purchase of 1832, early explorations of the newly acquired land revealed the presence of outcroppings of limestone along the banks of the Mississippi River and along Iowa's major interior rivers. The limestone in and around Stone City valley is of the Niagara Group formation, a bed of Upper Silurian System limestone. Limestone is a sedimentary rock, produced from fragments of igneous rock (like granite and quartzite), washed by primordial waters from land, accumulated in the growing seas and oceans, and hardened to rock. When the seas and oceans withdrew, limestone became a part of the upper bedrock of the land. Sandstone is another common sedimentary rock (Gwynne 1957:179).

Geologists divide the time, when rock was formed, into eras, which are then further subdivided in periods, systems, series, and formations. In this organization, Jones County limestone is classified within the Paleozoic group and Silurian system (Gwynne 1957:182-3, 192). Silurian stone "forms all or a part of the surface bedrock in many eastern counties, including Jones, Delaware, Jackson, Cedar, Clinton, and Scott. This has been one of the most actively quarried rocks of the state. Great quantities of building stone were secured from it, particularly from quarries in Jones County" (ibid.:192). Silurian stone, particularly from the Anamosa area, is noted for its delicate stratification, a quality whose visual prominence improves with weathering.

Limestone varies in quality, making some Iowa rock more suitable for building purposes than others. Much of the strength and uniformity of Jones County limestone derived from the lack of fossils in its composition. Fossils caused porosity which reduced the stone's durability. Trenton Limestone, which can be readily found in Winneshiek, Allamakee, and parts of Clayton Counties in Iowa, was one such limestone formation in which fossils were so abundant, "that in some places the rock is made up of a mass of shells, corals and fragments of trilobites, cemented by calcareous material into a solid rock" The mass of fossils in Trenton limestone rendered it "useless for economic purposes" (Andreas 1875:394). In contrast, Niagara limestone, a part of the Upper Silurian System of geologic classifications, was deemed to be the best quality of rock in Iowa (ibid.). The density of the Jones County limestone added to its strength and increased its durability as a building material.

Bedrock in Iowa is often layered, with limestone, shale, sandstone, conglomerate, coal, and gypsum piled layer upon layer with one another. This layering benefits the quarry operator as the joints between these layers can be split to facilitate extraction (Gwynne 1957:179). Moreover, in the eastern half of Iowa, limestone lies at or very near the surface of the land, making its extraction relatively easy using only hand tools. The earliest quarries date to at least 1840, when building (dimension) stone began being used for forts and for foundations for settlers' homes and barns (Garvin 1998:157).

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For a young and expanding nation, limestone became an important building material, and that of Jones County was reputed to be particularly superb. Pioneers recognized the utility and beauty of this material, and state geologists in the mid to late nineteenth century publicized its excellent quality. When the State University of Iowa surveyed the state's natural resources to identify and evaluate their potential for economic development and expansion, their work brought the benefits of Jones County limestone into the public eye. Dr. Charles Abiathar White, Professor of Natural History at the State University of Iowa was most likely the source of these assessments. White served on that university's faculty until 1873, when he retired. Samuel Calvin succeeded him to that professorship. These scholars added immeasurably to the knowledge of Iowa geology and provided the scientific basis that elevated Jones County limestone into prominence.

To White and his geological corps of scientists, Jones County limestone possessed three distinguishing qualities—great durability, great regularity, and great beauty. As White wrote in his 1870 report to the general assembly:

The stone is fine grained, non-crystalline, very uniformly and horizontally bedded, and in some parts of the vertical range of the strata, they split readily into thin layers, varying from half an inch to an inch or two in thickness upon long exposure to the atmosphere and frost (White 1870:310).

The slabs of limestone taken from the quarries, White observed, possessed "a wonderful uniformity of thickness," with some having "surfaces as smooth and uniform as those of a board just from the planing machine" (White 1870:310). While some layers produced "excellent shales" of any size, other layers, he wrote, "will furnish blocks four feet in thickness, if desired." From many of these large blocks, White continued, "are obtained almost perfect ashlars for caps, sills, water-tables, store front columns, etc.," with bedding surfaces so "smooth and true in many instances as not to require to be touched with a chisel" (ibid.). For building purposes, Jones County limestone was particularly excellent. Without any "clayey or other partings" between its layers, the stone was solid and homogeneous from top to bottom and layer upon layer, "their bedding surfaces [fit] almost as closely as leaves in a book" (ibid.:311). White declared this "striking peculiarity" of the limestone to be "of great advantage in their use, even in common walls, for the stones may be joined so closely that much less mortar is required, the wall will be consequently more stable, and rats cannot burrow through it" (ibid.). Finally, Jones County limestone possessed a warm and attractive light-beige color, sometimes accented by reddish striations, "the effect of which upon the eye," wrote White, "is very pleasing in any building" (ibid.). For all these reasons, Jones County limestone was "in an economic view, one of the most important in the State. . . it affords the best and greatest amount of quarry rock of any formation in the State of Iowa" (Western Historical Company 1879:324). The fact that limestone is still being commercially quarried in the Stone City area further attests to the enduring quality of, and demand for, this stone.

Finally, Jones County limestone was not only fine in quality but great in quantity. Despite the limited area in which the "peculiar stratification" occurred, White predicted "the supplies of excellent stone which may be obtained here is practically unlimited" (White 1870:311). This fact boded well for quarrying on an industrial scale. Experts judged the average stratification thickness of Niagara limestone at 350 feet—the greatest average concentration of any type of stone in Iowa (Andreas 1875:394). Thus, where found, deposits of Niagara stone were likely to be abundant and economically viable for extraction.

Pioneer Quarries in Jones County

Most sections of Jones County possessed limestone of good quality, but as industrial operations evolved, two areas in the county stood out—the quarries along Buffalo Creek above Anamosa and those in the Wapsipinicon valley west of Anamosa in and around Stone City. In 1855, an immigrants' guide to Iowa noted the abundance of its building stone (Parker 1855:149). An early history of the area reported that "The great economic value of these quarries deserves special mention"

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(Western Historical Company 1879:457). Though quarry stone was abundant, quarry ownership changed hands often. This was particularly true during the pioneer period. Any one quarry might have had several names during its course of operation.

Local history dates the stone quarry business in Stone City to 1850, when David Graham reportedly opened the first quarry there.¹² However, there is some discrepancy on who first opened this particular quarry, which was located on the east side of what became Stone City and outside of the current district boundary. While Graham is credited in some sources as the man who established this early quarry, his own biographical entry in the 1878 Jones County history book makes no mention of quarrying. Instead, his biography noted that when he came to Jones County in 1844, he located on Bowen's Prairie where he farmed and "carried on the cooper's trade" (Western Historical Company 1879:558). Then in 1856, he moved to Anamosa and helped build mills on the river before moving to a farm outside the city limits where he was still living in the late 1870s (ibid.). The 1856 Iowa State Census confirms that he was then living in Fairview Township with his occupation listed as cooper. Graham did own land in Stone City and may have had some interest in quarrying, although it is suspected that his greater interest may have been in milling along the river (Burlingame 1877).

The main source for the claim that David Graham opened the first quarry was John A. Green, one of the "Big Three" quarry operators in Stone City in the late nineteenth century. In a letter dated January 13, 1896, Green wrote that Graham had "opened the first quarry here, on the center of section 5, 84 north, 4 west" and that in 1859, Graham shipped the first stone by rail to Dubuque and Cedar Falls (*Annals of Iowa* 1936:305). Another source dating from 1879 credited Henry A. Dearborn with having the "first quarry opened to any extent in this locality" and was referring to this same quarry (Western Historical Company 1879:458). A later source credited Dearborn with having been the first to ship stone out by rail to Dubuque and Cedar Falls (Muyskens ed. 1968:262). Reportedly, Dearborn extracted stone from this quarry for his own home in Anamosa where he was living at the time and "ran it about one year" (i.e., 1859-60) (Western Historical Company 1879:553). This quarry was subsequently operated by Haines and Lewis, then Martin Heisey, and from 1885 to 1915 by John Ronen, Sr. It was not until the spring of 1869 before Dearborn opened his main quarry in Stone City, and 1870 before he actually moved to the village (Corbit 1910:22). Therefore, the early history of the first stone quarry and quarryman in the Stone City vicinity is still in question and remains for future research. It is perhaps worth noting that John A. Green and Henry A. Dearborn were competitors for dominance of Stone City quarrying in the late nineteenth century, a fact that might have colored Green's version of local history.

In 1852, a man named Haggard opened another small quarry located on the top of a hill "on the west end of the Stratified Stone Basin" and on the west side of Stone City (*Annals of Iowa* 1936:305). This quarry supplied the limestone to build the William Fletcher King Chapel (listed in the NRHP) at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. In those pre-railroad days, the stone had to be hauled overland from the quarry to the building site over 15 miles to the south. The college administration's selection of Stone City stone for this construction attested to its quality, for limestone was available at the time in Mount Vernon (ibid.). However, the Mount Vernon stone was better suited for foundations and not for a structure the size of King Chapel. Haggard sold this quarry to Dr. S.G. Matson, and the quarry became known as the "Mt. Hope Quarry." It was later sold to James and Ross, and then James and Ronen, before closing by the 1890s. John A. Green noted in an 1896 letter that the Mt. Hope Quarry was dormant at that time (*Annals of Iowa* 1936).

Another early quarry operation opened in Jones County in 1853. Located adjacent to the floodplain of Buffalo Creek about two miles west of Anamosa, the quarry there provided the stone for the construction of Fisher's Mill, a grist mill located a little farther downstream towards Anamosa (Corbit 1910:457). When John A. Green arrived in Stone City in 1868, he noted

¹² This quarry was later owned by John Ronen, Sr., one of the "Big Three" quarry owners in Stone City. It is located on the east side of the village and north of the river.

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that there were three small quarries then operating (*Annals of Iowa* 1936). Green and Dr. Clark Joslin, among others, owned land in this area, "underlaid by stone presumably as good as any; and, now that railroad facilities are furnished, will most likely be developed at no distant day" (*ibid.*:304).

In 1866, Krause, Shaw, Weaver & Co.¹³ opened a stone quarry adjacent to the first quarry noted above in the Stone City vicinity. Over the next half dozen years, the firm shipped 4,000 cars of limestone from Stone City via the Dubuque Western Railroad (a.k.a. Dubuque & South Western and later part of the Milwaukee Railroad system). In 1872, this firm sold its quarry to the State of Iowa, then undertaking the construction of the new Iowa State Penitentiary at Anamosa. In 1879, a state and local historian toured the stone quarries in western Jones County and recorded his observations, writing that the Krause quarry "took out a large amount of stone and shipped to different parts of the State. They also manufactured a considerable quantity of lime; but stone found elsewhere proved to make a better article, and it was discontinued" (Corbit 1910:457). This discontinuance was only temporary, however, and the quarry's subsequent history demonstrated that the site remained a rich source of excellent limestone. The State of Iowa operated this quarry until it was abandoned in favor of a quarry closer to Anamosa in 1878 (Muyskens, ed. 1968). This quarry was subsequently reopened by John A. Green to fill a deficiency of Green's Champion Quarry #1 and became known as Champion Quarry #2 (*Annals of Iowa* 1936; Finn 1977; Muyskens, ed. 1968).

The locations of all the earliest stone quarries in the Stone City vicinity are outside of the current district boundaries, with most sites having been greatly altered by modern quarrying, which continues to the present day.

THE "BIG THREE" IN STONE CITY

During the pioneer period, small operations came and went in Stone City, as quarry operators explored the opportunities offered by the stone extraction industry in Jones County. Some capitalists likely speculated in raw land to gain a quick profit. Others, like John A. Green, sought to position themselves by acquiring sites with potential for future quarry operations. A triumvirate of quarry operations in Stone City emerged from this welter in the late nineteenth century to dominate the local extraction industry. These operations expanded the earliest beginnings of that industry to a degree unimagined prior to the Civil War. New mechanical equipment, powered by steam engines, replaced the pick and shovel of hand labor, and new quarrying techniques expanded efficiency. As a result, the bluffs at Stone City yielded up an inexhaustible supply of quality stone, and the village flourished.

Henry Dearborn was the earliest of The "Big Three" to begin quarrying in Stone City. In 1859-60 he worked the quarry on the east side of what would become Stone City and possibly opened as early as 1850 by David Graham. In 1859, Dearborn was living in Anamosa and used the first stone that he extracted from this quarry to build his home in that city. He continued to live in Anamosa while he worked this quarry and walked back and forth between Stone City and Anamosa for a time (Corbit 1910:20-21). In the spring of 1869, Dearborn opened a quarry on the north side of the river in Stone City and went into the quarry business in a big way at that time. This quarry became known as the H. Dearborn Quarry and was later operated by Dearborn and his sons. In December 1870, the Dearborn family moved to Stone City so that Henry could be near "the field of his operations" (*ibid.*:22). This quarry is still being operated to the present day by the Weber Stone Co., Inc.

John A. Green came to Stone City on March 17, 1868, and according to some sources first worked for a few months for Dearborn in his quarry operation. However, as noted above, Dearborn did not open his main quarry until 1869 and may not have been operating his earlier quarry for more than a year (i.e., until 1860). Green's own account of his earliest days in

¹³ Krause is also spelled "Crouse" in other sources (e.g., *Annals of Iowa* 1936 and Muyskens, ed. 1968).

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Stone City also makes no mention of Dearborn (*Annals of Iowa* 1936). Regardless of what Green was doing his first months in Stone City, it is known that he was soon able to open his own quarry operation on the east side of the river in 1869. This operation was first known as the Champion Quarries, but later became known as Champion Quarry #1 and was a major employer and producer in the Stone City area.

John Ronen came to Stone City in 1875 “where he leased a quarry from Dr. Matson and engaged in cutting out stone in this way for ten years” (Corbit 1910:53). Matson’s quarry was the Mt. Hope Quarry noted previously and according to one source, Ronen must have operated this business for a time with a partner by the name of James (Muyskens, ed. 1968). By 1885, Ronen had prospered sufficiently to purchase the Martin Heisey quarry, which he named the Anamosa Quarry and operated as sole proprietor (*ibid.*).¹⁴ Ronen’s quarry operated until his death in 1915 (Carstens 1961).

Prior to the Civil War, dimension stone—material in block form—was used as a building material for the foundations and walls of buildings and structures in early Iowa settlements. Railroad construction following the war resulted in a boom for the local quarries. The railroads had an insatiable need for crushed stone, used for road ballast, and dimension stone used for bridge piers. The Milwaukee Railroad became both the dominant transporter, and consumer, of Stone City stone. Much of it was crushed and used for road ballast. The extension of what became the Milwaukee Railroad through Stone City in 1860 would provide the means for shipping Stone City stone to ever expanding markets.

Quarries of Henry Dearborn

Henry Dearborn was the first in Stone City of sufficient magnitude to deserve the name “quarry operator,” or “quarryman” as classified in the censuses. Henry A. Dearborn (1828-1908) was born in Grafton, New Hampshire. He initially learned the stonemason’s trade in Lowell, Massachusetts, beginning at age 18. In 1856, at the age of 19, Dearborn relocated to Cass Township in Jones County where he worked as a farmer. In 1858, he moved to Anamosa where he followed the stone cutting trade and helped build bridges in the area. In 1859, he opened a quarry at Stone City using the stone to build his home in Anamosa. As noted previously, this quarry was located on the east side of Stone City and later became Ronen’s quarry. He extracted stone from this quarry for “about one year,” walking back and forth between Anamosa and Stone City (Corbit 1910:20-22; Western Historical Company 1879:553).

Dearborn opened his main Stone City Quarry in the spring of 1869 on the north bank of the Wapsipinicon River (Corbit 1910:21; Western Historical Company 1879:458). By 1879, Dearborn owned 120 acres of land in and around Stone City (Western Historical Company 1879:553). The Dearborn family’s residence was adjacent to, and east of, the quarry. While some sources place the construction of the Dearborn family’s stone house in the early 1860s, the family was not actually living in Stone City until December 1870 (Corbit 1910:22).¹⁵

As the extraction industry and settlement in the area grew, the U.S. Government established a post office in the village in 1873 and named it Stone City, a suggestion offered by John A. Green. In 1874, Henry A. Dearborn was appointed the

¹⁴ Locally, the stone from these various quarries was typically referred to by the quarry name. Limestone from all the Stone City quarries later became collectively known as “Anamosa limestone.” As Stone City quarries increasingly shipped their product by railroad to points in the state of Iowa and beyond, Anamosa limestone became well-known to architects and builders. Under this name, Anamosa limestone from Stone City was discussed in trade journals and newspapers (Calvin 1895:56-7; 83).

¹⁵ Dearborn was listed in the 1860 U.S. Population Census as then living in Anamosa and working as a “mason.” He and his family were still living in Anamosa at the time of the 1870 U.S. Population Census, but by the 1880 census, Dearborn was living in Stone City and listed as a “stone cutter.”

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village's first postmaster, with his home serving as the first post office in the community. Dearborn remained postmaster for 16 years. He also operated a general store in the village. By 1896, Dearborn had shipped 27,432 cars of stone from his quarry and "furnished stone for the State Blind Asylum at Vinton; Insane Asylum, at Independence; Government Works, at Rock Island, and many buildings in Cedar Rapids and other places in the State" (*Annals of Iowa* 1936:306; Western Historical Company 1879:458).¹⁶

Dearborn's quarry operations remained a fixture in Stone City for the rest of the nineteenth century and far into the twentieth century (Briven, Inc. 1938:595).¹⁷ Today, the old Dearborn quarry is part of the Weber Stone Company, Inc., and continues to produce dimension limestone. Only a portion of the north face of the old quarry and a small stone building remain from the historic quarry operation. The modern operation has greatly expanded the quarry area and involved the addition of a number of large buildings in the floor of the east half of the quarry. As a result, the quarry is not included within the boundaries of the historic district.

Quarries of John A. Green

John Aloysius Green (1844-1920) was born in County Roscommon, Ireland. He immigrated along with his parents to the United States in 1852, locating in Boston, where he attended school. As a young man, Green worked for ten years as a cutter and letterer of stone monuments.¹⁸ In 1865, Green relocated to Joliet, Illinois, where he worked as a cutter for stone used in the Rock Island Arsenal, and, later, to the State of Wyoming, where he cut stone for Union Pacific railroad bridges (Corbit 1910:558).

In March of 1868, Green moved to Jones County and may have temporarily entered the employment of Henry Dearborn at his early quarry in Stone City but this is uncertain. Stone City at this time was still a settlement cluster without a name. According to Green, the surroundings of the village at that time were a "vast wilderness of heavy timber, yielding to the woodman's saw" (*Annals of Iowa* 1936:304).

In 1869, Green opened his own stone quarry on the west side of Stone City. This quarry operation was called the Champion Quarries and later became Champion Quarry #1. In 1875, Green married Ellen Kane of Joliet, Illinois, and the couple settled permanently in Fairview Township. Where exactly Green lived during this early period is not fully known. Local lore associates the cottage at 12388 Dearborn Road with Green as his residence (Erwin W. Lowe, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2002). Carefully husbanding his money, Green set out to acquire land in the township with potential for limestone extraction. By 1879, Green owned 90 acres of land and employed about 65 men during the season at his quarry in Stone City. According to the county history of that year, Green's "famous 'Champion Quarries,' consisted "of over thirty acres, more than two-thirds of it quarry." The history continued:

Mr. Green opened this quarry in 1868,¹⁹ and can furnish stone in any desired form or shape, either rough, or dressed and polished. In 1876, he put in a machine, run by an engine, called a *rubber*, for the purpose of polishing stone. The height

¹⁶ The quarries of Dearborn and Green each furnished limestone for the State Blind Asylum at Vinton, the Insane Asylum at Independence and the Government Works at Rock Island. See Western Historical Company (1879: 458). The Rock Island Arsenal is a National Historic Landmark. The Vinton and Independence institutions have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Vinton property is the second oldest extant building erected by the State of Iowa.

¹⁷ In the late 1930s, "H. Dearborn Co." was the only working quarry listed in the *Iowa State Commercial Directory*.

¹⁸ "Obituary of John A. Green," *Annals of Iowa* 1921:552-3.

¹⁹ Various sources are contradictory on the establishment year for the Dearborn and Green quarries, with 1868 and 1869 both listed. If Dearborn did not open his quarry until 1869 and Green worked for him first for a few months before opening his Champion

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of this quarry, from where he commenced to the top of where he is now at work, is some eighty or ninety feet. For the years 1878 and 1879, he has shipped 2,000 car loads per year; the other nine years, the average production has been 800 car loads. Mr. Green has furnished large quantities of stone for the Government Works at Rock Island; Insane Asylum, Independence; Deaf and Dumb Asylum, at Council Bluffs; Anamosa Penitentiary, railroad companies, etc. In fact, he has furnished stone at points from Chicago to Dakota, from Minnesota to Nebraska, and some to Wisconsin (Western Historical Company 1879:458).

By 1879 Green had substantially increased his production. As the largest of the stone operators in Stone City, John A. Green soon surpassed all other competitors in production. One source estimated his production to include one-third of all of that extracted at Stone City (Buck 1967-68:33-7). Champion #1 and Champion #2 were Green's biggest quarries. Champion #1 was located at the foot of South Hill on the south side of the Wapsipinicon River at the west edge of Stone City. The number of improvements Green erected at the site attests to the significance of this quarry. These improvements included a huge barn, built in 1888, to house the work animals required to move the stone and other livestock in his estate operation; an office building, built in 1889; a scale house, built circa 1898, where stone loaded onto railroad cars could be weighed; and a power house, built about the same time. The 1893 plat map shows a crusher, lime kiln, and other structures located in the Champion Quarry #1 to serve various other functions associated with the quarry (North West Publishing 1893). Champion #2 was located on the east side of Stone City at the location of the old State Quarry. Green established Champion #2 after having purchased the State Quarry in 1878 (*Annals of Iowa* 1936; Finn 1977).

Green operated another quarry, named the Johnellen, a combination of his and his wife's names. Opened in 1887 along the Buffalo River just west of Anamosa, the Johnellen quarry promised "to turn out millions of carloads, it being the highest face in this stratification and embraces several hundred acres" (*Annals of Iowa* 1936:307). At the height of his operations, Green employed several hundred men (*ibid.*:304). Green also was quick to embrace new technology and methods to his quarry operations. He was reportedly the first in the country "to employ hydraulic power for stripping quarries," and "first to load large holes with several hundred pounds of black powder, to shake the hills and loosen thousands of tons of stone in one blast" (Corbit 1910:461).

Green prized the quality of his limestone and the prestigious uses for which it was subsequently employed. As Green related to a friend:

The stone is in the finest of buildings in Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri, namely: The Boston Block, Washborn Building, Sidel Building, Congregational church, and Great Arch Double Track Viaduct in Minneapolis. In Iowa it has been used for the Arsenal, Guard House, and Barracks at Rock Island; Blink Asylum at Vinton; the Sabula, Keithsburg, and Fort Madison railroad bridges, and the Lyons, Clinton, and Muscatine highway bridges; and the insane asylum at Norfolk, Nebraska. The Iowa Hospital for Insane at Independence is also built of this stone, as well as the columns under the Rotunda in the State Capitol [NRHP] where strength is required (*Annals of Iowa* 1936:308).

The list only begins to suggest the extent of his other contracts, many of which were for staple stone products, like crushed stone used as ballast for railroad beds.

Quarry, then the 1868 date given in this reference for Green's first quarry is incorrect. By Green's own account, he opened his quarry in 1869 (*Annals of Iowa* 1936).

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Green's prosperity led him and his wife to build a grand mansion of stone in the 1880s on the hill overlooking Stone City and the Champion Quarry #1. Dependencies on their estate included a stone carriage house, stone ice house, and a water tower built on a stone base. He also reportedly built a number of dwellings for his workers and other employees, some described as "stone cottages," but only two larger stone houses and a number of frame workers cottages remain standing. Among other philanthropies, Green donated the land for the school and built Columbia Hall to serve a number of functions for the benefit of the community, including an opera house (Cron 1932b; Taylor 1932).

Green's successful enterprises at Stone City led him to open stone quarries in other sections of the Upper Midwest, including those at Wagioja, Minnesota, and Shuston, Missouri. Green also extended his business interests into other areas of the building trades. He established the Iowa Stone Company, a supply house in Cedar Rapids for stonemason products, and pioneered the dredging of sand from the Cedar River for construction purposes. Green's use of a sand pump for the latter enterprise introduced mechanization to that local industry.

In Stone City, Green saw vast water power potential and a town that was "destined to be a large city in the near future in connection with the vast quarry business, a manufacturing city of magnificent proportions, it being well suited for that purpose" (*Annals of Iowa* 1936:305). Although the water power and the manufacturing potential of Stone City failed to materialize, the extraction industry, which formed the basis of its industrial capacity, flourished largely because Green was able to increase its market share through his connections with the Milwaukee Railroad.

Green's success as a businessman and community leader translated into a political career. In 1873, Green was elected a trustee for Fairview Township in Jones County, and in 1891 he was elected a State Senator from the Cedar-Jones district. He served in that office during the 24th and 25th General Assemblies between 1892 and 1896. Green later stood unsuccessfully as the Democratic candidate for election to the U.S. House of Representatives. His defeat in this 1904 election ended his political career.

By this time, the quarry industry in Stone City was also in decline having been impacted by the growing popularity of Portland cement and the concrete products and building materials that it produced. Green's operation was further impacted by a blasting accident, which destroyed much of his equipment. For a time, Green tried to keep the estate going as a farm and livestock raising operation, but in 1919, he moved his family to Cedar Rapids and sold the estate to Frank Nissen in 1920 shortly before his death that same year. Nissen purchased 200 acres of the Green property in Stone City and used the Green Mansion for a summer residence. He leased the Champion Quarry #1 to a quarry company for a time (Finn 1977; Muyskens, ed. 1968).

In the early 1940s, Clarence DeWees of Marion purchased both the Dearborn and Champion #1 quarries. In 1952, William C. Weber of Anamosa purchased the DeWees quarries, adding the Ronen Quarry to his holdings in 1959. In 1962, Weber purchased another of Green's quarries (Muyskens, ed. 1968). Today, the Weber Stone Co., Inc., operates large quarry operations at the former Dearborn, Ronen, and Champion #2 quarry locations. The Champion #1 Quarry was not quarried into the modern era and is the only one of the "Big Three" quarries to retain any historic integrity and is considered a contributing site to the Stone City Historic District.

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Quarries of John Ronen, Sr.

John Ronen, Sr. (1846-1915) was the third big quarry operator in Stone City. Born in Ireland, Ronen immigrated to the United States with his parents in 1852, settling in Buffalo, New York. Ronen's father worked as a stonecutter throughout his career. Subsequent relocations took the family to Kankakee, Illinois, and Waterloo and Viola, Iowa. Ronen himself served as a private in the 7th Iowa Cavalry and trained as a stonecutter. In 1875, Ronen settled in Stone City, "where he leased a quarry from Dr. [Matson] and engaged in cutting out stone in this way for ten years" (Corbit 1910:53). After that, Ronen bought Martin Heisey's quarry and operated this until his death on December 28, 1915 (Carstens 1961; Corbit 1910:53).

Of the village's "Big Three" quarries, Ronen's was the smallest. Located on the eastern edge of the village and on the north bank of the river, the quarry lacked a special siding to load its products onto waiting railroad cars. Instead, the stone was loaded directly onto cars standing on the main line. Nevertheless, the quarry became one of "the leading dealers in stone in this part of the state," producing "an excellent quality of stone for which [Ronen] finds a ready sale on the market" (Corbit 1910:53).

In 1903, John and Mary (Gleason) Ronen built a showplace residence on North Hill in Stone City. Located on estate grounds and built of locally quarried limestone, the property attested to Ronen's success as a quarry operator in Stone City.²⁰ It was noted in 1910 that "the family are well known in this part of the state, and the members of the household occupy an enviable position in the social circles in which they move" (Corbit 1910:54).

Other Quarries

In addition to the "Big Three", other quarries also extracted stone in the area during the late nineteenth and very early twentieth centuries. In 1883, the partnership of Dawson & Hess had opened a new quarry at a location known as Gold Hill because of its color and value. The partners soon sold their operation to F.S. Brown & Co., which expanded the operation by opening a second quarry, the Mammoth, adjacent to Dawson & Hess' original site. In 1893, Brown held the title to at least 25 acres of land located above Crow Creek and north of John A. Green's holdings. Two railroad sidings accessed Brown's quarry. This is the likely site of the Mammoth Quarry, from which the Brown firm shipped 11,983 cars of stone. In 1912, the quarry owned by F. Ericksen & Co. donated three railroad cars of stone for the construction of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church (Page 2005c). All of these quarries are located outside of the Stone City Historic District boundaries.

Summary of Production

In 1896, at the height of Stone City's limestone extraction industry, John A. Green summarized the amount of stone taken from the village and surroundings. Green estimated the total value of Stone City limestone production to equal \$3,124,580.00 (ibid.).

The following abbreviated table lists the amounts of the major quarries:

²⁰ Ronen's quarry has long ceased to exist; later quarry operations having removed all traces of it.

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TABLE I. STONE EXTRACTED FROM STONE CITY AS OF 1896 (ANNALS OF IOWA 1936:306-7)

QUARRY	NAME OF OPERATOR	RAILROAD CARLOADS
Center of Section 5	Graham, Haines & Lewis, Heisey	5,000
Center of Section 5	John Ronen, Sr.	23,134
Dearborn Quarry	H. Dearborn & Sons	27,432
Champion Quarry #1	John A. Green	47,618
Johnellen Quarry	John A. Green	7,000
Stratified Stone Basin	Haggard, Matson, James & Ross James & Ronen	5,000
Center of Section 5 (adjacent)	Crouse, Shaw & Weaver	4,000
Crouse, Shaw & Weaver Quarry	State of Iowa	5,000
Crouse, Shaw & Weaver Quarry	John A. Green	5,000
Mammoth Quarry	F. S. Brown & Co.	14,000

THE RAILROADS AND THE QUARRIES

Before railroads, the markets for the local stone remained limited to small local jobs serviced by dray wagons. In the years immediately prior to the Civil War, railroads began building routes from the Mississippi River westward into Iowa, in quest of the nation's west coast. Various railroad companies established beachheads on Iowa's east coast, including Dubuque, Clinton (Lyons), Davenport, Muscatine, Burlington, and Keokuk. The railroads pushed westward from these points. Following the end of the Civil War in 1865, these railroad companies further expanded their lines. By the 1870s, railroad consolidation and further construction spread out in a tightly woven network across the state of Iowa, stimulating local economies through which they passed.

Before serving Stone City's quarry industry, the railroads were a major customer for Stone City limestone. Indeed, Stone City boomed as railroad expansion in the state and beyond demanded crushed and quarried stone for ballast, bridges, and buildings. During the 1860s, stone from Stone City supplied railroad construction throughout the Upper Midwest, including Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakota Territories, Nebraska, and Missouri (Garvin 1998:157).

The arrival of the Dubuque, Marion, and Western Railroad (DW) in 1860 provided the first opportunity to extract limestone in Jones County in an industrial fashion.²¹ The DW Railroad provided rail service from Dubuque, Iowa, to points south and west, as its names denotes. In Jones County, the route ran through Monticello, Anamosa, and Stone City, before entering Linn County and traveling westwards to Marion and Cedar Rapids. West of Anamosa, the DW ran along the north bank of the Wapsipinicon River, crossing the river at Stone City directly south of the present highway bridge and proceeded to Cedar Rapids, where it joined several other lines.

²¹ This railroad was known by two other versions of this name in its early days, including: Dubuque, Marion & Western and Dubuque and South Western (Corbit 1912:212).

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In 1878, the DW Railroad became part of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad (or the Milwaukee Railroad for short) and made Stone City a major stop on its route (Corbit 1910:212). The Milwaukee provided railroad-related jobs for local citizens, boosted the export of Stone City limestone, and encouraged outside capital to invest in the community. An evolving network of railroad lines and spurs stimulated new growth in Stone City during the 1860s and 1870s. In turn, the layout of the railroad's tracks, combination depot, and ancillary buildings in the village profoundly affected its land use. After 1881, the Milwaukee transported most of the stone west to Marion, Iowa, a division point on the Milwaukee, where the loaded cars were shunted and sent on to other destinations.

The 1890s witnessed the zenith of the Milwaukee's expansion at Stone City. This expansion paralleled the village's production of stone. The 1893 plat map of Stone City shows the railroad's presence in Stone City but misidentifies the rail line as the Chicago & North Western not as the Milwaukee Railroad (North West Publishing 1893). The map shows the numerous spurs and sidings that served the Dearborn, and Green quarries and the main line that extended along the Ronen Quarry. The number of spurs and sidings and the length of this trackage varied from quarry to quarry. Although actual statistics at this time are lacking of the village's stone output, the output of the quarries compared to each other can be judged from the number and length of the spurs and sidings each quarry possessed. Ronen's operation was the smallest of the three, with only one short siding branching off the railroad's mainline. Dearborn's Quarry was the second largest and was served by a spur line that ran north from the railroad's mainline directly into the quarry. This spur forked to form two shorter spurs. Each of these three spurs fanned out into the quarry and extended more than a quarter mile into it. The Green quarries, particularly Champion Quarry #1, were the largest and possessed the most fully developed rail system in Stone City. Champion #1, the quarry directly north of Green's estate, featured an extensive network of spurs and sidings. The spurs branched off the Milwaukee's mainline a short distance west of today's intersection of Stone City Road and County Road X28. Some spurs penetrated the quarry deeper than others. In addition, two sidings straddled the mainline a little to the west of where the spurs branched off.

QUARRYING METHODS

Up until the mid-nineteenth century, stone quarrying methods had changed very little since ancient times. To quarry dimension stone:

[t]he surface of the bed was cleared, holes were drilled by hand at intervals along a line, and then pressure was applied in the holes until finally the rock split along the line. The depth to which the holes were drilled depended upon the thickness of the bed. Large blocks were removed in this manner (Gwynne 1957:189).

As late as 1906, when dimension stone quarrying had peaked and was in decline, State Geologist Samuel Calvin discovered that most quarries in Iowa still used hand tools (Table 2). In the early years, Stone City's quarries were no exception in their use of traditional quarry methods and tools. When John A. Green installed a rubbing machine in his quarry in the 1870s, its novelty caused considerable comment (*Annals of Iowa* 1921:533).²² By 1906, however, Stone City quarries were "state of the art" (see Table 2). Out of 287 limestone quarries surveyed in 1906, only 28 (10 percent) used steam-powered quarry machinery, such as steam channelers, drills, derricks, and crusher plants. Of these 28 "modern" quarries, five (the most in anywhere in the state) were located in Fairview Township in Jones County. One (the Penitentiary Quarry) was located near Anamosa and four were in Stone City (Calvin and Lees 1907:560-84).

²² A rubbing machine removed the rough or high spots on the exposed stone surface, leaving a certain amount of natural surface along with smoothed areas.

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Table 2. IOWA LIMESTONE QUARRIES USING MODERN QUARRY METHODS IN 1906
(Source: Calvin and Lees 1907)

COUNTY	FIRM NAME	LOCATION	KIND OF STONE	QUARRY METHODS	PRODUCTS
BREMER	Cedar River Stone Co.	Waverly	magnesian limestone	crusher plant, steam drills	rubble & crushed stone
CEDAR	Cedar Valley Stone Co.	Cedar Valley	evenly bedded, vesicular dolomite	channelers, steam drills, crusher plant, dressing plant	building (rough, dressed), bridge, rubble, riprap, crushed stone, etc
DECATUR	Davis City Stone Crusher Co.	Davis City	white limestone	crusher plant	building, rubble, crushed stone
DES MOINES	E. G. Kemper	Burlington	white, buff, yellow limestone	crusher plant	rubble, crushed stone
DUBUQUE	Eagle Point Lime Works	Dubuque	granular, hard dolomite	crusher plant, lime kilns	building, rubble
FAYETTE	Wilkes Williams	Postville	Massive dolomite	steam drills, derricks	dimension stone, rubble
HARDIN	Barber Asphalt Paving Co.	Iowa Falls	hard, white limestone and sugary dolomite	crusher plant	crushed stone
HARDIN	Ellsworth Stone Co.	Iowa Falls	hard, white limestone and sugary dolomite	crusher plant	dimension, rubble, crushed stone
JACKSON	Alfred Hurst & Co.	Maquoketa	massive dolomite	lime kilns, steam drills	lime, macadam
JONES	Penitentiary Quarry	Anamosa	evenly bedded, vesicular dolomite	steam drills, derricks	dimension (rough & dressed), flagging, rubble, curbing, riprap
JONES	H. Dearborn & Sons	Stone City	evenly bedded, vesicular dolomite	steam channeler, drills, derricks, crusher plant	dimension (rough, dressed), bridge, rubble, riprap, crushed stone, etc.
JONES	F. Erickson & Co.	Stone City	evenly bedded, vesicular dolomite	steam channeler, drills, derricks, crusher plant	dimension (rough, dressed), bridge, rubble, riprap, crushed stone, etc.
JONES	J. A. Green & Sons	Stone City	evenly bedded vesicular dolomite	steam channeler, drills, derricks, crusher plant	dimension (rough, dressed), bridge, rubble, riprap, crushed stone, etc.
JONES	John Ronen	Stone City	evenly bedded, vesicular dolomite	steam channeler, drills, derricks, crusher plant	dimension (rough, dressed), bridge, rubble, riprap, crushed stone, etc.
LEE	McManus & Tucker	Ballinger Station	sub-crystalline, grayish blue limestone	crusher plant, steam drills, derricks	building, rubble, riprap, crushed stone
LEE	Cameron & McManus	Keokuk	sub-crystalline, grayish blue limestone	crusher plant, steam drills, derricks	building, rubble, crushed stone
LINN	J. J. Snouffer, Jr.	Cedar Rapids	magnesian limestone	crusher plant	crushed stone
LINN	Mt. Vernon Stone Co.	Mt. Vernon	dolomite	steam drills, derricks	building, rubble
MADISON	Earlham Land Co.	Earlham	white to buff, compact limestones	steam derricks, drills, crusher plant	dimension, rubble, crushed stone
MADISON	S. A. Robertson	Earlham	white to buff, compact limestones	steam derricks, drills and crusher plant	dimension, rubble, crushed stone
MARION	John J. Oftus	Tracy	compact, white limestone	steam derricks, steam drills	building, rubble, macadam, riprap
MARSHALL	LeGrand Quarry Co.	Quarry	oolite, magnesian limestone, subcrystalline limestone	steam derricks, crusher plant, air drills	dimension (rough, dressed) rubble, riprap, crushed stone
SCOTT	Linwood Quarries Co.	Buffalo	argillaceous limestone	steam drills, derricks, crusher plant	crushed stone, riprap
SCOTT	Gromoll Stoll Co.	Bettendorf	-----	steam drills, derricks, crusher plant	building, rubble, crushed stone
SCOTT	LeClaire Stone Co.	Bettendorf	compact, white lime stone and dolomite	steam drills, derricks, crusher plants	dimension stone, rubble, crushed stone
SCOTT	Rock Island Crushed Stone Co.	Buffalo	compact, argillaceous limestone	steam crusher plant, hoist, and air drills	crushed stone
WAPELLO	Andrew Lames	Dudley	hard, compact white limestone	crusher plant	crushed stone, rubble, riprap
WAPELLO	Charles Chilton	Ottumwa	hard, compact white limestone	crusher plant	building, rubble, crushed stone

Source: Calvin and Lees 1907

As railroad expansion increased demand for railroad ballast and as markets for dimension stone decreased, quarries shifted from traditional methods that produced blocks of stone to breaking rocks apart with blasting powder. To blast rock free, “[h]oles were drilled to depth back of the rock face, and charges of powder set in the holes. A blast, and a pile of broken rock was produced. Pieces too large to be conveniently handled could be drilled and blasted with a small charge. The broken rock was hauled to the crusher for processing, i.e., for rusing, screening, and grading” (Gywnne 1957:190). The presence of a crusher at the Champion #1 quarry and a historic photograph of a crusher at Champion #2 prove that crushed stone produced by blasting formed an important component of John A. Green’s quarry operations. In 1906, Calvin noted the other Stone City quarries possessed “crusher plants,” as well (see Table 2).

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DAILY LIFE IN A QUARRY TOWN

In 1885, 83 men in Stone City relied on the quarries for their livelihood. In addition to five "stone contractors" (or quarry owners), Stone City claimed 19 stone cutters, 55 quarry laborers, and two stone dealers (Iowa Population Census 1885). Almost half of all in the quarry industry were immigrants from Ireland and Sweden. Other immigrants in the quarry industry were German, Scottish, Canadian, English, Italian, French, Swiss, and Norwegian. Young single men, most of who worked as quarry laborers, often boarded with families of the same ethnicity (1885 Iowa State Population Census).

At the height of his operations in 1896, Green estimated that he employed about 200 workers (*Annals of Iowa* 1936:304). Many of these men lived in Stone City in houses and hotels that Green built, while others lived in the surrounding rural areas and in Anamosa. By 1900, the number had already declined. That year, about 120 men were employed in the quarries, almost half of them day laborers. In addition to renting the worker housing built by the two largest quarry owners, most day laborers and some stone cutters chose from a number of other housing options, including several boarding houses and hotels, and many private families who took in boarders (1900 U.S. Population Census).

The life of the stone cutters and quarry laborers in Stone City was hard, dangerous, and without security as workers aged or were injured. A souvenir booklet from circa 1900 contains a twelve stanza poem written for and about the quarry workers of Stone City. Entitled *The Quarries, or "From Sun to Sun" at Stone City*, the poem, compliments of quarry owner John Ronen, Sr., and written by Warren B. Gregg, a schoolteacher in Anamosa,²³ gives a sense of daily life for quarry laborers and stone cutters in Stone City during its heyday, as in the following stanza:

When the morning bell gives out its call
The men and boys, both large and small,
Commence the daily, weary task,
Sometimes with heavy powder blast
To break the solid rocks apart
And give the workmen a better start.
The click, click, steel strikes the stone,
The derricks swing 'round, the cables groan,
The lazy horse winds up the thread
Until the stone is high in the sled;
Then swinging the boat o'er truck or car
The stone falls down with a heavy jar.
And oftentimes the workman's hurt
By caving in or rocks and dirt;
Lame shoulders, bruised hands and feet,
Are everyday the laborer's treat.
Thus the early hours are passed in work,
The foreman shouting to those who shirk (Gregg c.1900).

In addition to backbreaking labor and injuries, dust from quarry operations and smoke from the railroads, lime kilns, and steam-powered machines hung in the air within the narrow confines of the Stone City valley. During the early years, the quarries burned wood, harvested from nearby timber tracts and owned by the quarry operators, to power their steam equipment. After the Civil War, the quarries shifted to coal shipped in by railroad. The 1875 engraved view of Champion #1 shows the quarry's lime kiln and powerhouse belching thick, black smoke. Workers quarried in all seasons and extremes.

²³ Information obtained from the 1900 U.S. Population Census.

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Unlike Indiana limestone, Stone City limestone did not shatter in cold weather, thus allowing quarries to operate in winter. Still, snow, ice, freezing rain, and other inclement weather could stop production, causing loss of wages for the quarry laborers.

In addition to work, there was a special camaraderie shared by the residents of this single-industry community. At the end of the day, quarry workers met at the rail station to get their mail or organize a baseball game. They took their families to Columbia Hall, built by John A. Green for the community in 1893. On Sundays afternoons, workers went to the racetrack in the West Village (also built by Green) and watched horse races spiced with on-track betting (Erwin W. Lowe, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2002).

The community also came together for civic and other celebrations. In 1894, for example, Stone City hosted a Fourth of July celebration attended by at least two thousand people, several hundred of which came on the train from Anamosa. A community effort, the village "was in gala attire yesterday and every resident was considered a committee of one to endeavor to make the visitors feel themselves at home, and to fitly celebrate this the greatest of national holidays. All the residences and places of business were beautifully decorated and the national colors were everywhere displayed in great profusion" (*Anamosa Eureka* 1894). According to the *Anamosa Eureka*, "Senator John A. Green had general supervision of the entire celebration and all in attendance were unanimous in their expressions of satisfaction at the royal manner in the which Senator and his estimable wife entertained their friends, as did also Mr. John Ronen," who was president of the day. The Fourth of July parade started at Green's new opera house, "led by the Oxford cornet band and the Stone City military company, who acted as an escort to the Goddess of Liberty and thirteen beautiful young ladies who represented the thirteen colonies." The parade crossed the river and returned to Deer Park "where the exercises were held." There, F.O. Ellison of Anamosa "congratulated Stone City on this, her first celebration, and thought it showed a high spirit of patriotism on the part of her people." Afterwards, dinner was served in "Senator Green's new opera house, where huge tables were spread with all the tempting viands of the season, presided over by accommodating ladies." The long afternoon was spent in sport or leisure, during which "[l]arge numbers of people visited Senator Green's palatial residence," as well as his large barn. There, Green kept "his large number of fine horses, imported and domestic," and his little Shetland ponies. Many more people visited the quarries (ibid.).

As a company town, Stone City differed from other company towns established in Iowa and the Upper Midwest during the late nineteenth century. Most towns associated with coal mining, such as Buxton and Hiteman in Iowa, were the creations of a single company.²⁴ Although these companies established worker housing, company stores, and other services for their labor force, the companies operated them as monopolies within the confines of isolated communities. In Stone City, the circumstances of the community's evolution forced multiple entrepreneurs into competition with one another. John A. Green and Henry Dearborn established worker housing on their respective sides of the Wapsipinicon River within a stone's throw of each other. Both John A. Green and Henry Dearborn operated general stores, where workers could purchase staple foods and goods. Green's store was located in Columbia Hall. Dearborn operated his first store from his house, then from a building near the entrance to his quarry. In 1897, he built the store at 12612 Stone City Road. Once again, Gregg's poem provides a vivid picture of the quarry town:

²⁴ See for example Dorothy Schwieder (2003) and Rosalie Sweeden Mullinix (1983).

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When strangers inquire for the town
'Tis pointed out on the hills around:
For nestling closely in cozy shade,
Or near the ledge's rugged glade,
The workmen's homes so bright and free
Far as the eye has power to see
Dot the hills and valleys afar
And shine at night like the evening star.
When nearing town from an eastern side
Through rocks and quarries the train doth glide,
Then dashing out in an open space
A large store meets the engine's face.
In a half-circle to the right
Great stone ledges appear in sight.
The tank and bridges on the river
As trains pass over shake and quiver.
The word "Columbia" meets the eye
In the sunlight on a building high;
This structure as a monument stands
Erected by the workmen's hands,
Taken out of the solid rock
It stands secure 'gainst any shock
Of raging storm, or tempest blow,
And will stand as years come and go (Gregg c.1900).

Lights from workers' homes, Dearborn's store, the railroad bridge, stone outcroppings, and Columbia Hall punctuated the train passenger's view of Stone City as both a thriving quarry town and peaceful village.

With three competing companies vying for workers, Green, Dearborn, and Ronen sensed that cooperation more than competition was in their best interests. One quarry operator, for example, might lend a group of his employees to another operator, if the production demands at the latter quarry were pressing (Erwin W. Lowe, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2005). Thus, promotion of Stone City limestone, rather than individual quarry limestone, benefitted all three companies.

The strong sense of community over competition motivated the quarry operators in Stone City to improve the quality of village life for themselves and their workers. The local Catholic parish served as a social gathering place, where immigrants worshipped while assimilating American culture. Originally, the religious needs of Stone City's immigrants were served by Catholic priests from Cedar Rapids and Anamosa, who conducted services in private homes in Stone City. In the 1890s, Rev. R. McCormick, a new pastor at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Anamosa obtained permission to use Columbia Hall as a chapel. Fr. McCormick also established Holy Cross Cemetery in Anamosa, which has continued to serve the Stone City parish to the present day. By 1901, the Stone City congregation warranted the creation of a parish independent of Anamosa and with a resident pastor (Hoffman 1938; Kurt 1990). Quarry owner Green, one of the founding members of the parish, donated one of two identical stone houses built c.1893 on the west bank of the Wapsipinicon River. He subsequently transferred the title to the one nearer the river to the archdiocese. By 1913, the members of St. Joseph's parish numbered 250 and constituted most of Stone City's residents. The Irish members totaled 150, the French 60, the Bohemians 30, and the Germans 10. Only one parishioner could not understand English (Page 2005c). The size of the congregation warranted the construction of a new church building to serve the parish.

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Completed in 1913 from a design by architect Guido Beck of Dubuque, Iowa, this church was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2005 (Page 2005c). The church tied the community together through religious, social, and educational bonds and served as a means for the village's ethnic groups to assimilate the values of American citizenship (*ibid.*). Set above the village on South Hill, St. Joseph's Church dominated the landscape and visually symbolized the primacy of the church as an institution in a community that included Irish, Swedes, and Germans. The fact that the stone operators resided in Stone City and worshiped at the local church encouraged philanthropy, and these men showed themselves to be generous to the community.

LEGACY OF STONE CITY'S QUARRY FAMILIES

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Stone City benefited from strong, albeit paternal leadership. The operators of Stone City's three big quarries, who employed many of Stone City's residents, actually lived in the village. With such vested interests, Henry Dearborn, John A. Green, and John Ronen contributed generously to community life and participated in local events and improvements. When these three passed on, their legacies endured in stone and the accomplishments of their descendants.

Although John A. Green's family left Stone City with his passing in 1920, the quarry owner left an enduring legacy in Stone City. He built substantial housing for his workers, donated a rectory to the parish, built a massive community building that included an opera house, and provided the building stone for St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church (Cron 1932b; Muyskens, ed. 1968). Some of these buildings are extant. The limestone buildings of the former Green estate eventually became home to Grant Wood's famous art colony and school in 1932-33. A few of the buildings, such as Green's mansion, ice house, and water tower became memorable features of the picturesque artists' retreat.

John Ronen's children continued to reside in Stone City. They included: William, Mary, John, Jr., Charles, Anna, and Walter. The family belonged to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Stone City. Mary Ronen married J.J. Green, son of John A. Green, but was widowed when her husband was killed in a tragic train accident. John Ronen, Jr., served as Stone City's postmaster for a time (Corbit 1910:54).

The extended Dearborn family members remained in the Stone City quarry industry and were involved in civic life. Henry F. (a.k.a. Frank or Franklin) Dearborn (b. 1859), eldest son of Henry and Martha H. Dearborn, entered into partnership with his father in 1903. Henry F. married Annie Farrell, and the couple had ten children, many of whom remained residents of Stone City all their lives. In 1933, Henry F. was elected the first mayor of the newly incorporated town of Stone City. William N. Dearborn (b. 1861), second son of Henry and Martha H. Dearborn, attended public school in Anamosa and began learning the stonemason's trade in his father's quarry at age 19 (Corbit 1910:590). When William came of age, his father and elder brother, Henry F., made him a partner. In 1903, H. Dearborn & Sons became associated with M.S. Jackson of Cedar Rapids in the general contracting business. The Dearborns then expanded, and with offices in Cedar Rapids and Waterloo became one of the foremost building and paving contractors in east central Iowa (*ibid.*). Clarence Henry Dearborn (a.k.a. C.H. or Clayton), third son of Henry F. and Annie Dearborn, continued to operate the family's general store at 12612 Stone City Road into the 1950s (Carstens 1961). He also served as Postmaster in Stone City until January 1954, when the federal government closed the office permanently. In 1933, J.W. Dearborn, along with Walter Ronen, Joe Howe, George Drumbarger, and J.E. Dearborn, was appointed to supervise a referendum to incorporate the village as a town. Later that year, George Franklin Dearborn (known as G.F.), another son of Henry F. and Annie Dearborn, was elected Stone City's first town treasurer (Jones County Recorder's Office, Anamosa, Iowa). The timing of incorporation was not good given that the town unincorporated just two years later.

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The long-time residence of this prominent family in the village is a point of considerable pride among its residents. The death of Maxine Porter, née Dearborn, in 1998 became an occasion of historical note, as mourners from throughout the area paid their respects to her memory. The size of her funeral required a change of venue from St. Joseph's Church (capacity 100-125) to St. Patrick's Church in Anamosa. Today, Charles F. Porter, her son and a fifth generation member of the Dearborn family in Stone City, lives in the family home at 12623 Stone City Road. In recognition of this family, the Jones County Board of Supervisors named a principal road in Stone City's East Village "Dearborn Road."

Despite the endurance of the Dearborns and their quarry, Stone City declined throughout the 1920s into the 1950s. John A. Green, who had promoted the village so much, suffered financial setbacks, and was forced to sell his property just before his death in 1920 (*Annals of Iowa* 1921:534). Local leadership, so pronounced and effective in the late nineteenth century, faltered. Railroad trackage so vital to the quarry industry was abandoned and then removed (Gary L. Holzinger, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2004). The number of parishioners at St. Joseph's Church dropped (Archives, Chancery, Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa). Many of the village's stone and frame residences were razed, while the village's most monumental stone edifices were pulled down and their stone hauled away to Cedar Rapids and other points for use in other construction projects (Erwin W. Lowe, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2002). Although H. Dearborn Co. remained as a business entity in the community, the production of stone from this quarry had greatly declined from its earlier activity (Briven, Inc. 1938:595).

Then, beginning in the 1950s, Stone City's limestone quarries resumed operations, with the Weber Stone Co., Inc., currently operating the former Dearborn, Ronen, and Champion #2 quarries. A new family to the area, Michael J. and Jennifer Deutmeyer, now own and operate the Weber Stone Company and continue the tradition of their predecessors by living in Stone City. In 1993, the Deutmeyers built an estate property above the historic Dearborn Quarry on North Hill in Stone City. This estate is located outside of the Stone City Historic District boundaries. Today, the local quarry business, revitalized by the Weber Stone Company, has propelled an economic resurgence in Stone City. This resurgence, combined until 2006 with the village's yearly Grant Wood Art Festival, resulted in a unique blend of rugged American enterprise and cultural life.

GRANT WOOD'S SIGNIFICANT ASSOCIATION WITH STONE CITY

Almost three decades after the decline of the quarry industry, Stone City, Iowa, received international attention thanks to Iowa artist and renowned Regionalist painter, Grant Wood. Born and raised on farm in Jones County near Anamosa, Wood used the beautiful landscape that he knew so well of the Wapsipinicon River valley in Jones and Linn counties in a number of his Regionalist landscape paintings during his career. In 1930, Wood chose the sleepy village as the setting for *Stone City*, the painting that heralded the artist's mature style. Two years later Grant made Stone City the home of an art colony and school dedicated to his regionalist vision and philosophy. The four years surrounding his association with Stone City proved to be the most productive of Wood's career. The success of both Wood's painting and art colony brought into national prominence the rustic beauty of Stone City. According to Wood's sister, *Stone City* was named one of America's eight favorite paintings in 1944 (Graham 1993:84). The timeless image of rural settlement depicted in *Stone City* continues to resonate with the American people and color their image of Iowa.

Though seemingly distinct, the two periods of significance in the Stone City Historic District share continuity in Stone City's setting and limestone quarries. With the conviction that "a true art expression must grow up from the soil itself," Grant Wood saw in Stone City the seclusion, scenery, and "native materials" with which to nurture an indigenous Midwestern and wholly American art (Wood quoted in Whiting 1932:337; Wood 1936:41). Photographed frequently in overalls amidst the village's scenery and limestone buildings, Grant Wood brought art and place together in Stone City.

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Photographs

Name of Property: Stone City Historic District
County and State: Jones County, IA
Name of Photographer: Leah D. Rogers, Tallgrass Historians L.C.
Date of Photographs: March 20, 2008
Location of Original Digitals: Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2460 S. Riverside Drive, Iowa City, IA 52246

Photograph Views:

- #1 View of Stone City from near Grant Wood's vantage point for his studies for his 1930 *Stone City* painting, looking to the NE
- #2 View of Stone City from County Road X28, looking to the ENE
- #3 View of St. Joseph's Church and 12461 County Road X28, looking to the SSW
- #4 View of 12550 County Road X28 (Grant Wood Festival Building) and St. Joseph's Church, looking to the SE
- #5 View of Champion Quarry #1 horse barn and ruins of power house and scale house, looking to the WSW
- #6 View of Champion Quarry #1 office/garage and corner of scale house ruin, looking to the SSE
- #7 View of cottages properties along north side of Stone City Road on west side of river, looking to the SE
- #8 View of Walsh Farmstead and St. Joseph's Church from bridge, looking to the West
- #9 View of Stone City bridge crossing of the Wapsipinicon River, looking to the ENE
- #10 View of Stone houses at 12595 and 12599 Stone City Road, looking to the East
- #11 View of rear of Dearborn's Store and Milwaukee Railroad bridge ruin at the Wapsipinicon River, looking to the SE
- #12 View of Stone City Road at the Wapsipinicon River crossing with Dearborn's Store to left, looking to the WNW
- #13 View of Stone City Road where it curves to the north with Dearborn Farm in foreground, looking to the North
- #14 View of properties along west side of Dearborn Road, looking to the SSW
- #15 View of properties along west side of Stone City Road with Dearborn Farm in background, looking to the SW
- #16 View of 12784 and 12748 Stone City Road, looking to the South
- #17 View of the Henry A. Dearborn house on the Dearborn Farmstead, looking to the NE
- #18 View of Dearborn's Store, looking to the SW
- #19 View of Dearborn Store/Blacksmith Shop, looking to the ENE
- #20 View of Stone City School, looking to the ESE
- #21 View of 12388 Dearborn Road, looking to the ENE
- #22 View of Columbia Hall foundation ruin on west side of County Road X28, looking to the WNW
- #23 View of St. Joseph's Church, looking to the North
- #24 View of Green Estate ice house (left) and carriage house (right), looking to the WNW
- #25 View of Green Estate water tower, looking to the NW

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THE PAINTING *STONE CITY* (1930)

In 1930, Grant Wood (1891-1942) completed *Stone City*, his oil painting of the little quarry village in its picturesque setting. Art historians now credit this picture as a turning point in the artist's career. As Wanda Corn has written: "*Stone City* is a seminal painting; it sets a style the artist would refine and modify, but never fundamentally alter, for the rest of his life" (Corn 1983:74). Corn goes on to describe the painting's central role in Wood's artistic development:

... in 1930, when he painted *Stone City* and was on the threshold of creating a new style, the self-realization that his "natural" tendencies, as he put it, "were toward the extremely detailed" helped him change course and reject the impressionist brushwork he had been using. It was the first time the artist had seriously taken stock of his own proclivities and limitations, rather than taking his cues from others. His excitement in working out a personal style generated a burst of activity, and a stream of memorable canvases came off his easel, one after the other, for three years (1930-32). These were the most productive years of his life (ibid.:72).

Grant Wood's unique and familiar style included: a return to one-point perspective, three-dimensional form, and realistic proportion; the simplification of volumetric forms and schematic representation; the inclusion of selected minute detail; an aloof point of view; a hard-edged, sharp delineation and modulation of form; and the use of local color and its stark delineation (Roberts et al. 1995:20).

A comparison of the completed painting and a preliminary sketch for *Stone City* reveals this transformation. The sketch, an oil-on-composition board now owned by the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, pictures a landscape of loosely conceived shapes, mostly focused on the hills above the village (Czestochowski 1989:211; Roberts et al. 1995:21-2). The completed picture features sharply delineated patterns and a wealth of detail, including prominent depictions of features of the village, both past and present. Hinting at *Stone City*'s abundant natural resource and past industrial glory, Henry Dearborn's Store stands front and center, while a quarry hoist peaks over a tree-lined ridge. On the left, a hint of St. Joseph's Catholic Church appears as a gothic window in a stone wall. The rolling hills, bulbous trees, and precise crop rows are rounded, simplified forms that shelter and contain the buildings of little village. Wood's idealized version of *Stone City* was simple and decorative, as well as solid and timeless.

Grant Wood's depiction of *Stone City* did idealize the village. The artist chose to ignore the railroad bridge, which linked the two halves of the village, and the two square stone houses near the bridge on the north side of *Stone City* Road. The deep slashes of the quarry across the face of the north bank are flattened, the derrick crane almost hidden by the hill of trees. Many improvements in the village are not shown but the painting is framed by the rear of St. Joseph's Church on the left and the Dearborn stores and farmstead on the right. In the center is the Walsh farmstead. A feeling of "two-ness" is hinted at by shadows on the west side and sunshine on the east side of the river.

By extension, the *Stone City* viewshed, which Wood depicted, possesses historical significance because of its association with this turning point in the artist's career. The National Register of Historic Places nomination for "Grant Wood's *Fall Plowing* Rural Historic Landscape District" analyzed the viewshed used by Wood in *Fall Plowing* and provides an excellent model for the use of Criterion B to nominate the viewshed and the artist's vantage point for *Stone City* (Rogers and Nash 2003). Specifically, the landscape represented in the 1930 *Stone City* painting is also still largely intact and recognizable as the inspiration and vantage point for this important painting by this very significant artist. The landscape served as the outdoor studio of the artist, with the artist's vantage point included within the boundary of the district. As such, this

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landscape is contributing to the district under Criterion B for its association with Grant Wood and because it embodies and conveys the historic character of this association in the physical resource of the landscape. This association is achieved at the state level of significance because of Grant Wood's importance in the art world and as an Iowa icon. While his *American Gothic* painting is his most nationally recognized work, *Stone City* is certainly among his top recognized works.

GRANT WOOD'S STONE CITY COLONY AND ART SCHOOL, 1932-33

Grant Wood's nostalgic and idealized view of Stone City served as both the private inspiration and public image of the art colony he founded there in 1932 in partnership with Adrian J. Dornbush, who was formerly the director of the Flint Institute of Art. Dornbush served as Director, with Wood serving as Faculty Director. As the artist's sister, Nan Wood, later wrote, "the little village was in his mind as the idea of an art colony took shape" (Graham 1993:98). And the painting appeared in the colony's catalog along with a description of Stone City as an "Ideal Location." The aim of the Stone City Colony, the pursuit of an indigenous American and specifically Mid-Western art (or Regionalism) fit perfectly the ideals on which the original mid-nineteenth century European art colonies were founded. At the same time, the irony of Grant Wood's Regionalism lay in his outspoken rejection of European art, from which Wood and his fellow Regionalists – John Steuart Curry and Thomas Hart Benton – borrowed freely. In Wood's case, not only his mature style of art, but also his art colony owed much to earlier European models (Roberts et al. 1995:1).

Just as the Stone City Colony was motivated by a desire to free American art from European precedents, the first European art colonies in the mid-nineteenth century grew out of a similar dissatisfaction with the dominance of Rome and traditional academic training. Until then, an artist's education required time spent in Rome and an acceptance of "the supremacy of historical and mythological painting, and forced the artist to copy from the antique and work indoors, often in artificial light" (Jacobs 1985:10).

Rejecting both Rome and academic training, young artists increasingly turned to nature for inspiration, painting *en plein air* (in the open air); a radical notion that "constituted initially almost an act of rebellion among the young" (Jacobs 1985:10). *Plein-air* painting lent itself to the communal culture of the artist colony, the first of which was located 40 miles south of Paris, in Barbizon and included the influential painter Jean François Millet. By the 1870s, Paris had superseded Rome as the artistic capital of the Western world. Soon colonies of artists gathered together in various locales to be inspired by the natural setting, the indigenous culture, the rustic inhabitants, and each other (ibid.:10). In the United States, similarly motivated art colonies (some planned, others spontaneous) arose in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in various picturesque locales, such as Woodstock in New York, Gloucester on Cape Cod, Taos, New Mexico, and Laguna Beach and La Jolla in California.

The Stone City art colony coincided with a similar dissatisfaction, in this case with the European dominance of American art. During the 1920s, Grant Wood made three trips to Paris, where he experimented with Impressionist and neo-Impressionist styles, particularly that of French painter Georges Seurat (1859-1891). In a fourth and final trip to Munich in 1928, Wood encountered early Renaissance art, Northern Gothic painting, and Neue Sachlichkeit (a 1920s realist art movement). Upon his return to Iowa, Wood drastically altered his method and style of painting, resulting in his 1930 painting, *Stone City* (Roberts et al. 1995:1-3; 21; 24). With this painting, the artist found both his "definite message" and "most adequate means of expressing it" (Corn 1983:72).

Instead of crediting his European experience in his maturation as an artist, however, Grant Wood, upon returning to Iowa, espoused a rejection of all foreign influence. He famously told one newspaper in 1935, "all the really good ideas I'd ever had came to me while I was milking a cow. So I went back to Iowa" (Wood, quoted in Roberts et al. 1995:32). The Great

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Depression had produced widespread isolationist sentiment across America, resulting in a fascination with rural and folk culture. In keeping with the mood of the country, Wood made "the development of an indigenous expression" the aim of his Stone City Art Colony and School:

If American Art is to be elevated to the stature of a true cultural expression, it cannot remain a mere reflection of foreign painting. A national expression cannot be built upon the activity of a few solitary individuals or be isolated in a few tourist-ridden or metropolitan centers. It must take group form from the more genuine and less spectacular regions (Dornbush and Wood 1933).

Just as the original art colonies had sought to develop an authentic art in the French countryside, Wood's experimental Stone City colony advocated a literal return to the soil to inspire an authentic Midwestern vision (Jacobs 1985:12-13). Regionalism, with its reassuring images of America's heartland, thus emerged in the early 1930s as a serious American art movement, with Grant Wood its leading practitioner and Stone City its cradle (Roberts et al. 1995:1).

Though it seemed to represent a move toward realism in art, however, open-air painting as practiced in artist colonies disguised artists' romantic notions of rural culture that viewed natural and agricultural landscapes as arcadian visions and peasants as noble savages (Jacobs 1985:12). Such anti-modern views of rural life underpinned life in the colony, where "artists fancifully saw their surroundings in terms of a primitive world far removed from modern civilization." Within these colonies, artists "enjoyed communal activities, the Bohemian life-style, wearing peasant costume, and, perhaps to a lesser extent, the simple country existence," much like the utopian communities of the same era (ibid.:12-13).

Artists at Stone City enjoyed a lifestyle very similar to that of the early art colonies, including wearing native garb and bunking in unusual accommodations. At Stone City, Grant Wood presented himself for the camera as the simple Iowa farmer wearing his signature overalls. When fellow Regionalist John Stuart Curry visited the Stone City colony in 1933, he too donned overalls for the camera, visually reinforcing the public image of Stone City, Regionalism, and its leading practitioners. In 1932, Wood sketched his self-portrait wearing his iconic overalls. For the painting, he painted over the straps, but left the shirt and the portrait unfinished, never able to resolve his decision to rid himself of the overalls.

Faced with a shortage of student and faculty accommodations, the colony accepted a donation of seven or eight obsolete ice wagons and transported them from Cedar Rapids to Stone City, where they lined them up along the crest of South Hill on the Green Estate. Each wagon housed a student or faculty member, including Grant Wood, for the summer term. Edward Rowan painted his wagon white, accented the rims of its wheels and hub caps in color, hung flower boxes on the site, and called it his "chalet." Grant Wood fixed up one side of his ice wagon like a stage with proscenium, curtains, and elaborate backdrop of hills and mountains. The decorated ice wagons suggested a gypsy lifestyle that reinforced public perception of the art colonists as Bohemians. Some of the artists even dressed the part, donning the folk costumes of Bohemian (Czech) immigrants to Jones County. The ice wagons, rich with art colony connotations, thus became icons of the Stone City art colony (Corn 1983:39).

Wood and his colleagues made the most of Stone City's picturesque features as they marketed their summer art colony to potential Midwestern art students. Included in the second course catalog was a centerfold montage of faculty and Stone City views, highlighting the bucolic scenery, the quarries, the Green mansion and estate, and the colony's famous ice wagons. With such images, potential students could imagine themselves in one of Wood's outdoor courses or atop a hill capturing the view on canvas (Dornbush and Wood 1933). Other photographs taken at the time by professional photographer John W. Barry show an idyllic setting, clement weather, and enthusiastic students engaged in group discussions and artistic creation.

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For the heart of the colony and school, Wood leased ten acres of land in Stone City from Frank C. Nissen, then owner of the former John A. Green estate. Buildings on the estate, built solidly of Champion quarry limestone, provided living accommodations for the students. Male students occupied the third floor of the Green mansion, female students the second floor. The house also provided classrooms, a kitchen, living and recreational areas, and quarters for the school's director. The basement was used for lithography and a frame shop. Columbia Hall became an exhibition gallery for student work. Adrian Dornbush selected as his residence at the colony the stone water tower on the Green Estate, dubbing it "Adrian's Tomb," a reference to Hadrian's Tomb²⁵ (Erwin W. Lowe, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2002).

Since the nineteenth century, art colonies had held certain advantages for young artists. The group offered aspiring artists criticism, encouragement, and opportunities for socializing. Art colony life was usually exceedingly affordable, with locals keeping prices low and extending credit in exchange for the increased business and attention (Jacob 1985:12). Stone City was no exception. Tuition cost \$36.00 for the full eight weeks. Rooms ranged from \$1.50 per week in the school dormitory to \$2.00 per week for a room in the village. Board was \$8.50 per week (Dornbush and Wood 1933). Far from alienating the native population, Grant Wood's art colony awakened Stone City from its decades-long slumber, bringing international attention and weekly crowds of visitors to the little village. In short, Stone City welcomed the art colony and the artists.²⁶ The Dearborn family lent the upper floor of the General Store at 12612 Stone City Road for the show and sale of artist work. Located at the head of the vehicular bridge across the Wapsipinicon and dubbed the "Paint and Palette Shop," this gallery provided a highly visible tourist attraction for visitors to the village (Erwin W. Lowe, personal communication to Will C. Page, 2002). Charles Mercer, an "oldtime quarry worker," helped students collect limestone slabs from the quarries and taught them to carve stone bird baths and house number plates to sell to the Sunday visitors. The proceeds of the sales helped students pay their tuition, the cost of which many students had trouble paying during the depression (*Cedar Rapids Gazette* 1933; Graham 1993:98).

Of Art and Stone

The selection of Stone City, Iowa, as the venue for Wood's Midwest art colony has been credited mainly to the village's picturesque surroundings. A careful examination of the town in the 1930s, Wood's background and regionalist philosophy, and the presence of the quarries and the sturdy stone buildings show Stone City to have been more than just a peaceful rural setting. Though Grant Wood "was an adult when he first saw Stone City," everything about the little village spoke to the artist as a cradle in which regionalism could be nurtured to maturity (Graham 1993:98).

The art colony did more than simply occupy the buildings leftover from Stone City's heyday. Grant Wood and his partner, Adrian Dornbush, saw in Stone City the raw materials of inspiration. Beneath a reproduction of his painting, *Stone City*, Wood's art school catalog praised the village as an "Ideal Location:"

It enjoys perfect seclusion in the cool and sheltered valley of the Wapsipinicon River; yet it is only three miles from the paved highway and connected with it by an all-weather gravel road.

Back in the '80s, Stone City was a flourishing community. The bluffs above the Wapsie are of a fine grade of limestone then in great demand. The quarry owners erected many imposing buildings. Among them is a large mansion on a hill commanding a view of the whole country, and in the town below is a combined hotel and opera house that was the

²⁵ The pun referenced Rome as a citadel of Western art, as well as art colonists' rejection of such traditions.

²⁶ In 1933, perhaps buoyed by the success and attention of the art colony, Stone City voted to incorporate as a town. When the art colony folded later that same year, the townspeople voted to un-incorporate in 1935 (Page 2005a:E-23-27).

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envy of all the neighboring settlements. These buildings, like all the others, the mill, the church, the store, the depot and private homes, were solidly built of stone from the quarries.

The turn of the century, with the introduction of Portland cement, brought blight upon the community and Stone City settled down in its sheltered valley to the oblivion of rural life.

The mansion, perched high above the village, has been well preserved. The large rooms with their full-length windows, carved marble fireplaces and ornamental ceilings retain the dignity and flavor of the Victorian period. This mansion is headquarters of the Colony (Dornbush and Wood 1933).

Grant Wood made Stone City limestone—extant in its quarries, buildings, scenery, and history—central to the setting of his art colony, to his curriculum, and to “the development of an indigenous expression” (ibid.). Artists in the colony not only made use of the stone buildings on the Green estate and in the village for studios, classrooms, communal gathering spots, and living quarters, some found inspiration in the limestone quarries themselves. Sculpture classes included stone carving with traditional stone cutting tools. In 1933, stone chiseling was officially added to the course catalog (Dornbush and Wood 1933). As the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* reported:

Some of the 100 artists living in tents, ice wagons and the deserted Green mansion for summer study are gathering inspiration from the quarry cliffs for painting, others are using stones from these cliffs to execute their inspirations. Chiseling is a new study in this second summer session of the colony. . . . With a wood mallet and a steel chisel [artists] chip figures and heads from the snowy rocks (*Cedar Rapids Gazette* 1933).

Behind the ice house, on an earth-mounded platform was the chiselers’ studio. There, reported the *Gazette*, “the carvers chip their subjects beneath shady trees with unobstructed views of the high wooded hills around them” (ibid.).

The Faculty and Curriculum

To promote the colony, Grant Wood and Adrian Dornbush put together a catalog announcing the “aim of the colony” and the courses offered and disseminated it throughout the Upper Midwest. Although the Great Depression had taken hold in America, they reasoned that an art school in the United States would benefit from artists who wanted art education but could not afford the traditional trip to Europe to obtain it. Wood, Dornbush, and the rest of the faculty intended the school to be self-sustaining, but considered profit unimportant (Corn 1983:39).

Wood and his faculty structured the 1932 term so that students could attend one or more of the summer school’s six weeks of session. Summer school in 1933 included an eight-week course accredited through Coe College in Cedar Rapids. Dornbush was an art instructor at the Little Gallery, a Cedar Rapids center for the arts founded in 1928 through a grant from the Carnegie Foundation. As the director of the Little Gallery, Edward Rowan brought business experience to the fledgling art colony. Wood’s fame drew the students. Cedar Rapids artists Marvin Cone (who taught art at Coe College), Arnold Pyle, and David McCosh agreed to help teach classes, and all volunteered to work without pay. Florence Sprague, a Des Moines sculptor, later joined the team. Cone taught figure drawing. Dornbush taught painting. Rowan lectured on art history. Pyle taught painting and frame making, a popular sidelight to graphic art in the 1920s and 1930s. Sprague taught sculpture (Dornbush and Wood 1933).

Dornbush became the art school’s director for the 1933 term. The emerging national fame of Grant Wood and the success of the school’s first term had garnered so much public interest that its second term drew 120 students. The sponsorship of the school by the American Federation of Arts and the Iowa Artists Club lent the colony further luster. The 1933 term offered

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“stone chiseling” and lithography taught by Francis Chapin of the Art Institute of Chicago. John Steuart Curry, the Kansas regionalist painter, visited the school during this term, and his national fame added yet more luster to its program. The school held open houses on the weekends, and visitors to the school could view and purchase artists’ work at exhibitions. A variety of entertainment was also offered at the open houses, including “country programs” with accordion and dulcimer music, fiddle duets, and poetry readings (Garwood 1944).

Although all parties thought the summer schools of 1932 and 1933 quite successful, subsequent terms did not take place. By 1934, professional pressures had mounted on Grant Wood’s time. In 1934, he was named the director of Public Works of Art Project (PWAP) in Iowa and in September of that year joined the faculty of the University of Iowa. Lack of funding for the school had plagued the colony, and by 1934, the colony was bankrupt. Wood decided to end his brief but widely acclaimed experiment (Garwood 1944).

GRANT WOOD AND STONE CITY TODAY

Stone City, the painting, continues to resonate with the American people and remains one of Grant Wood’s most readily recognizable works. A retrospective exhibition of Grant Wood’s work, sponsored by the Davenport Museum of Art in 1995, featured *Stone City* on its cover (Roberts et al. 1995). *Stone City* was also featured on the cover of the 1974 Northwestern Bell Telephone Company phone book; on the dust jackets of Willa Cather’s novels; and Douglas Brinkley’s 1998 *History of the United States*, published by American Heritage. Accessible to the unsophisticated eye, the painting’s vision of a world ordered and shaped by man and yielding up the promise of fulfilled work, conveys a feeling of optimism and nostalgia. The rural setting of the picture harkens to an earlier age and continues to appeal to an innate conservatism in the American character.

During the late twentieth century, Iowans began to realize that tourism offered great potential for economic development, and the State of Iowa established the Iowa Department of Economic Development in part to prime the pump for tourism opportunities. Residents in Jones County quickly recognized the national name-recognition of Grant Wood, their native son, and the attraction that his contributions to American art and personal associations with Jones County might offer. To honor him and promote the community, the Grant Wood Art Festival was founded in 1972. Originally held in downtown Anamosa, the festival was relocated to Stone City in 1978.

The Stone City festival, which took place annually, offered artists the opportunity of a juried exhibition to sell their art and brought visitors from throughout the Upper Midwest. They saw replicas of the ice wagons used by students at Grant Wood’s summer school in Stone City, as well as other local attractions and entertainment. The tour of a working stone quarry in Stone City left visitors with a memorable impression. The festival was held each year on the second Sunday of June, and attracted close to 8,000 visitors. Sunday tourists crowded into Stone City each summer to sample the works of Iowa artists. The Grant Wood Art Festival brought renewed prominence to Stone City and contributed to its revitalization; however, in 2007 the festival returned to Anamosa (Erwin W. Lowe, personal communication with Will C. Page, 2002).

THE LIMESTONE ARCHITECTURE OF STONE CITY

STONE CITY AS A HISTORIC DISTRICT

Stone City provides several unique aspects that strongly contribute to its architectural significance as a historic district. These include: the ability of the standing resources to reflect the village’s history and important role in the state’s limestone quarry

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industry in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; the siting of key resources to take advantage of the area's landscape to enhance the stature and beauty of a property in the village; and the ability of the standing resources to convey many different aspects of Stone City's history and associations with the village's important people. The district not only encompasses the entirety of the historic village, including standing residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings and structures, but also one of the actual stone quarries—John A. Green's Champion Quarry #1. The other two of the "Big Three" quarries—the Dearborn Quarry and the Ronen Quarry—were excluded because they are being actively quarried in the modern era and little remains of the historic quarries.

While Stone City is not the only small community in Iowa to display a number of locally quarried or manufactured masonry buildings—Amana with its brick and sandstone buildings and Franklin with its collection of stone buildings are but two examples—Stone City is the only industrial company town in Iowa to survive with so many representative stone buildings and structures intact.²⁷ Stone City's architecture includes not only dwellings, a church, a school, two company stores, and several other quarry industry buildings built entirely of the locally quarried limestone, but also includes dwellings constructed primarily of wood frame on limestone foundations. Even these frame dwellings reflect the local stone industry because most were built to house the quarry workers and the management-level employees of the quarries.

This collection of buildings conveys not only a strong sense of time and place of Stone City as a company town based on the limestone industry but also conveys the local materials available, the variety of ways that this material could be manipulated, and the craftsmanship and design skills of the stone cutters and masons working and living in the community.

BUILDING WITH STONE

The architectural resources of Stone City feature a rich medley of property types. These types include farmsteads, estates, worker housing, and facilities designed to serve commercial, industrial, transportation, educational, and religious purposes. All of these property types stand cheek to jowl in the deep and narrow valley along the Wapsipinicon River. While architectural style is detectable, style plays only a supporting role to the mostly vernacular design of buildings in the village.

Still, this mix of property types and building materials is anything but a welter. Indeed, a sense of architectural harmony is pervasive. The numerous locally quarried stone buildings link together in color, texture, and massing. The setting of Stone City forms another visual bond. Upon cresting the approach hill from the north or the south, the traveler views in a glance the sweep of the village laid out in the valley below. Grant Wood's picture *Stone City* captures this sense of visual unity. Added to all of this, the gashes in the bluffs, extracted by the historic and contemporary quarries, lend further variety to the scene.

Cut, Finish, and Course

Stone City's buildings of stone exhibit a limited range of cut, finish, and course methods. These preparation and construction techniques remained constant throughout the historical development of the village. Stone City limestone is noted for certain qualities. Andreas (1875:458) noted that this stone:

is fine-grained, non-crystalline, very uniformly and horizontally bedded, and is easily worked. It readily splits into thin layers, with smooth surfaces, and makes most excellent flagging. Some of these layers will furnish blocks three or four

²⁷ The former industrial village of Hurstville, located in Jackson County, Iowa, still retains the large lime kiln stone structures from this industry but little else remains here from that operation. The lime kilns were listed in the National Register as the Hurstville Historic District in 1979.

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feet thick and of any desirable length for sills, caps, water tables, and even for columns. The color is light buff, and does not change by action of the atmosphere (Andreas 1875:58).

The ease of splitting helped determine how the quarriers would cut and shape Stone City limestone. Most stone buildings in the village feature walls of uniform-sized, ashlar blocks. This simple treatment is commensurate with the ease of splitting inherent in the stone itself. The uniformity of the quarried and cut block in turn predetermined its placement in regular courses.

This uniformity of size and course conveys a sense of neat and decent order to buildings. As befits the no-nonsense atmosphere of a company town, these preferences for stone shapes and texture conformed both to the temperament of the village and the physical attributes of the local limestone. Other masonry methods—arrangements of no course or irregular course walls—were eschewed. The use of rubble stone, either uncut or rough-cut, is also largely absent from the Stone City scene. Even in a structure as utilitarian as a retaining wall—the south retaining wall at the Dearborn Farmhouse is one example—features regular courses of square cut ashlar. This repetition of shape and texture, coupled with the consistent color of Stone City stone, lent uniformity to the architectural resources of the village.

Stone City limestone was finished with a rough-faced and a smooth-faced surface. Blocks with rough-faced surfaces were typically employed for structural elements like walls and columns. Blocks with smooth-faced surfaces were typically employed for architectural detailing. The St. Joseph's Rectory at 12599 Stone City Road exemplifies the combination of these two types of finish. Its walls are constructed of rough-faced block. Its door and window lintels and window sills are constructed of smooth-faced block. The smooth-faced detailing accents the rough-faced walls and relieves them of a feeling of heaviness.

The depth of the rough-faced finish varied. Most of the stone produced for local construction exhibited a shallow-textured face. For special jobs, local stone was faced with deep texture. St. Joseph's Rectory, mentioned above, provides a good example of shallow texture. St. Joseph's Catholic Church exemplifies a building with heavy texture. More stone and work were required to produce a deeply textured face than a light one.

The Henry and Martha H. Dearborn Farmhouse at 12623 Stone City Road provides an outstanding example of this type of design. Built c.1870, its walls feature square-cut stone with a rough quarry face laid in regular courses. Its window lintels and sills feature smooth, polished stone. The steep pitches of its main roof and three wall dormers lift the eye upward and visually lighten the mass of the building.

By the 1870s, John A. Green had installed up-to-date equipment at his Champion Quarry #1 to polish limestone. This rubbing machine made a polished finish more readily available locally and reinforced its usage in the village.

Institutional buildings in Stone City rarely varied from the standard masonry typology described above. The Stone City Depot, for example, was a simple, rectangular building, made significant by the beauty and visual strength of its stone. Columbia Hall, the largest stone edifice ever erected in Stone City, employed square-cut stone with a rough quarry face laid in regular courses for all three of its stories. As a variation, however, it employed rough-faced (instead of smooth-faced stone) for its belt courses, sills, and other decorative detailing. This detailing lent an even greater monumental quality to the building's appearance.

As time advanced, more sophisticated architectural expressions arose. The John and Mary Ronen House at 12828 Stone City Road is an outstanding example. The finish of this stone varies and adds visual interest to the architectural design. The Ronen

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House features walls of quarry-faced stone. To achieve visual interest, however, rubbed (or polished) stone is frequently used for architectural detailing. The Ronen House also provides an example of this. It features belt courses, lintels, and sills of smooth, polished stone. This works as an accent to the rough texture of the building's walls.

Stone City's preference for square-cut and regularly coursed stone was occasionally laid aside but only for the sake of utility. The Carriage House and Ice House on the Green Estate provide examples. These two buildings feature exterior walls of standard design but with courses of stone block with broken finishes and jagged projections. These facing and coursing techniques were designed to protect the interiors of the buildings from the heat of the summer sun. The jagged projections were said to shade the walls, and, hence, lend protection from the sun.

STONE BUILDINGS IN STONE CITY

Of all the buildings in Stone City, those constructed of stone strike the observer as most architecturally arresting. The nature of stone lends itself to an appearance of massive dignity. This quality strikes the observer of architecture in Stone City, not because these buildings predominate in terms of their number in the village, but because they constitute the largest structures in it. Stone was also used as foundation material in the rest of the historic buildings in the village as well as several landscaping features such as retaining walls, thus tying all of the historic properties to the town's main industry and lifeblood.

The stone buildings in Stone City exhibit a variety of architectural types. They include single-family dwellings, a church, a schoolhouse, a blacksmith shop, two company stores, a horse barn, three water towers, an office building, and stone ruins. In terms of their numbers, single-family dwellings predominate among these property types. Most single-family dwellings constructed of stone in Stone City were located above the Wapsipinicon flood plain. John A. Green built two exceptions, the stone dwellings at 12595 Stone City Road and 12599 Stone City Road, in conjunction with his business interests.

The most elaborate of these stone dwellings—the Henry and Martha H. Dearborn Farmhouse and the John and Mary Ronen House—were those built by two of the “Big Three” quarry operators for their own use. The John A. and Ellen Green House, perhaps the most elaborate of all, does not appear on this list. As discussed elsewhere, fire destroyed all but the walls of this house in 1963. The remaining stone was subsequently hauled away for salvage. This residence also stood on high ground at 12381 County Road X28 and was part of the Green estate.

When a glimmer of revived interest in new residential construction began in Stone City in the 1970s, new homeowners incorporated limestone in their design. The Charles and Johann May House at 12583 Stone City Road, for example, featured local stone as partial facing on the façade of their split-level house. This trend has persisted. When Michael J. and Jennifer Deutmeyer built their new home at 12819 Stone City Road in 1993, the entire structure was built of stone. This seemed only appropriate, as Mr. Deutmeyer serves as the operator of his family-owned Weber Stone Company, Inc. Most recently, the Landis K. and Lois M. Thompson House at 12551 County Road X28 features a façade partially faced with stone and an attached garage completely stone-faced. This house was built in 2000.

If stone were considered preferable for residential construction, it was considered *de rigueur* for most institutional properties in Stone City, such as the school, Columbia Hall, and St. Joseph's Church.

Several notable stone buildings are no longer extant in Stone City including Columbia Hall, the Green mansion, the depot, and the lime kiln associated with Green's quarry operation. Doubtless, other stone buildings were built in Stone City. Indeed, the 1893 map of Stone City might picture some of their footprints (North West Publishing 1893). The information contained on this map is unclear. Some buildings known to be constructed of stone (Columbia Hall is one example) are shown colored

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black; however, other stone buildings—such as the Green and Dearborn residences—are not colored black. The reader is left guessing what the black color-coding indicates.

Built over a period of some years, Columbia Hall was completed in 1893. This massive undertaking by John A. Green became a landmark in Stone City. It served several practical purposes, including a hotel, retail outlet, opera house, and social center. The material of its walls is magnesium limestone with a rough face. The style of architecture was composite, blending many of the nice features of the old schools with the airiness and grace of the more modern styles. A slate roof covered it (*The Anamosa Eureka* 1894). In the 1930s, the J.F. Hasbel Company of Cedar Rapids purchased Columbia Hall, and, in 1935, began systematically dismantling the building to sell its stone. Some of the stone went to Cedar Rapids, where it was used for new construction.

A similar fate befell the Green Mansion after it burned in 1963. For many years, its ruined stone walls stood as a local landmark, but the stone was gradually removed from the site for use elsewhere leaving little behind at the original site.

Numerous stories abound in Stone City about a vast number of nonextant buildings. The accuracy of these statements can neither be proved nor disproved at this time, although comparing today's resources with those represented on the 1893 plat map in the village accounts for many of the missing buildings and structures (North West Publishing 1893). The painting that John A. Green commissioned for the stage curtain in the opera house of Columbia Hall does show a double row of small cottages in-between the river and what is now Stone City Road to the northeast of Champion Quarry #1, which is also depicted in the painting. While some of dwellings are still standing, most are non-extant. Several sources also made note of "stone houses—35 in all" built by Green for his foremen and quarry workers (Cron 1932b). None of the extant cottages are built of stone, other than their foundations; however, the two larger two-story square houses built of stone and located in this same area are still standing and were built by Green for the benefit of his employees. These two larger dwellings are also depicted in the opera house stage curtain painting.

FRAME BUILDINGS IN STONE CITY

By all accounts of those who can remember Stone City prior to World War II, frame buildings predominated over those constructed of stone in the village. Few, if any, frame buildings appear to have been used for industrial, commercial, or institutional purposes. When people talk of frame buildings in the village, they talk of houses. Most frame buildings provided worker housing, although some were larger frame dwellings that housed middle class residents. However, even the frame dwellings utilized the area's limestone resources in the construction of their foundations and in the construction of some associated outbuildings and structures, such as retaining walls.

DESIGN SOURCES

Architectural designs in Stone City are mostly of local origin. Among the village's earliest buildings, the Dearborn Farmhouse stands out as the most architecturally ambitious, but it is highly unlikely to have been architect-designed. The next most ambitious building, chronologically, is the John A. and Ellen Green house. This building is said to have been designed by John A. Green himself (Page 2005a:E-57). Given Green's predilection and talent it may have been unlikely for him to employ an architect for the many industrial facilities he erected for his quarries.

The dearth of architect designs in Stone City should not come as a surprise. For important buildings in the village, the preference for stone construction was pre-ordained. Local talent and skill sufficed and probably precluded the need for

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architectural services. The quarriers possessed all the qualifications needed to cut and dress the stone, and the local preference for vernacular architecture required no professional assistance.

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, located at 12472 County Road X28, is the exception. Dubuque-based architect Guido Beck designed this building. It was completed in 1913. Beck's designs for St. Joseph's and four other northeastern Iowa churches contributed to a high point of ecclesiastical architecture in the Archdiocese of Dubuque during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As the National Register of Historic Places nomination for this property notes:

All of Beck's churches show the influence of Late Gothic Revival styling to one extent or another. St. Joseph's, Stone City, is distinctive in this regard because its massing and squat tower recalls those of many parish churches in Germany. Late Gothic Revival detailing, such as the lancet windows and their tracery lighten the mass of the composition and relieve St. Joseph's from oppressive weight, but the building forcefully projects the appearance of an edifice securely rooted to the ground, rather than soaring to the sky, as is typical of Beck's other ecclesiastical designs (Page 2005c).

St. Joseph's is also notable for its amenities, including a significant series of stained glass windows, created by Flanagan and Biedenweg, a nationally known art glass studio based in Chicago, Illinois. This firm, working in the early twentieth century, was noted for its Munich-style stained glass (Page 2005a). The windows at St. Joseph's depict, among others, St. Patrick, St. George and the Dragon, John the Baptist, the Crucifixion, and Christ's Ascension. St. Joseph's is also linked to another work of art: Grant Wood's 1930 *Stone City* painting, which uses the monumental massing of the rear wall of St. Joseph's as a visual anchor and helps frame the left side of the painting.

USE OF LANDSCAPE

The extant architectural resources of Stone City are further significant because of the way in which they were sited on the local landscape. Bisected by the Wapsipinicon River, with the best stone sources on either side of the narrow valley's hillsides, this locale presented a number of challenges to the local builders who had to both live and work in this constricted landscape. Because of the steepness of the surrounding hills, dwellings had to be sited on whatever level spaces could be carved out next to the existing roadways or on the flat areas of the river's floodplain.

Several notable dwellings were placed on the high hilltops surrounding the village. These dwellings were built by and for the town's "Big Three" quarry owner/operators, Henry A. Dearborn, John A. Green, and John Ronen. The siting of their large homes was obviously intentional and meant to impress and to convey their owner's prominence in the village's economic and social scene. However, there also could have been a practical side to the siting of these particular homes, with each overlooking their respective owner's quarry operations and the goings-on of the village below where their commercial and other investments were located. Perhaps this was one way of keeping an eye on their interests or at least giving the appearance that they were keeping an eye out.

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- Hatcher, Robert D., with Will C. Page, April 19, 2005. Hatcher, a resident of Stone City, shared oral traditions about village life and history.
- Holzinger, Gary L., with Will C. Page, October 22 and November 27, 2004. Holzinger, who is a trustee of the St Joseph's Oratory and a next-door neighbor of the church, shared information about it and the Milwaukee Railroad, which served Stone City.
- Lowe, Erwin W., with Will C. Page, February 27, 2002. Mr. Lowe has lived in Stone City since his boyhood in the 1930s. He shared information about the community's history from his many years of residency.
- Mitchell, Jim, with Will C. Page and Rose Rohr, February 27, 2002. Mr. Mitchell, who heads operations at the Weber Stone Quarry Company in Stone City, conducted Page and Rohr on a guided tour of the mine, explained its operations, and outlined some of the company's current projects.
- Shover, Kenneth, with Will C. Page, April 19, 2005. Shover, a resident of Stone City, shared oral traditions about village life and history.

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GEOGRAPHIC DATA

UTM REFERENCES CONTINUED:

(NAD 83; Zone 15)

Point 5 = 636014 easting, 4663277 northing
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The boundary line of the Stone City Historic District is shown as a dashed line on the accompanying map entitled "Aerial Map showing district boundary for Stone City Historic District."

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundary encompasses the entirety of the historic village of Stone City and the former Champion #1 Quarry of John A. Green and also includes the artist's vantage point and the historic landscape depicted in Grant Wood's 1930 *Stone City* painting. Excluded from this boundary were the former Dearborn and Ronen quarries because of the modern quarrying being conducted at those locations and the impact of that activity on these historic quarry sites.

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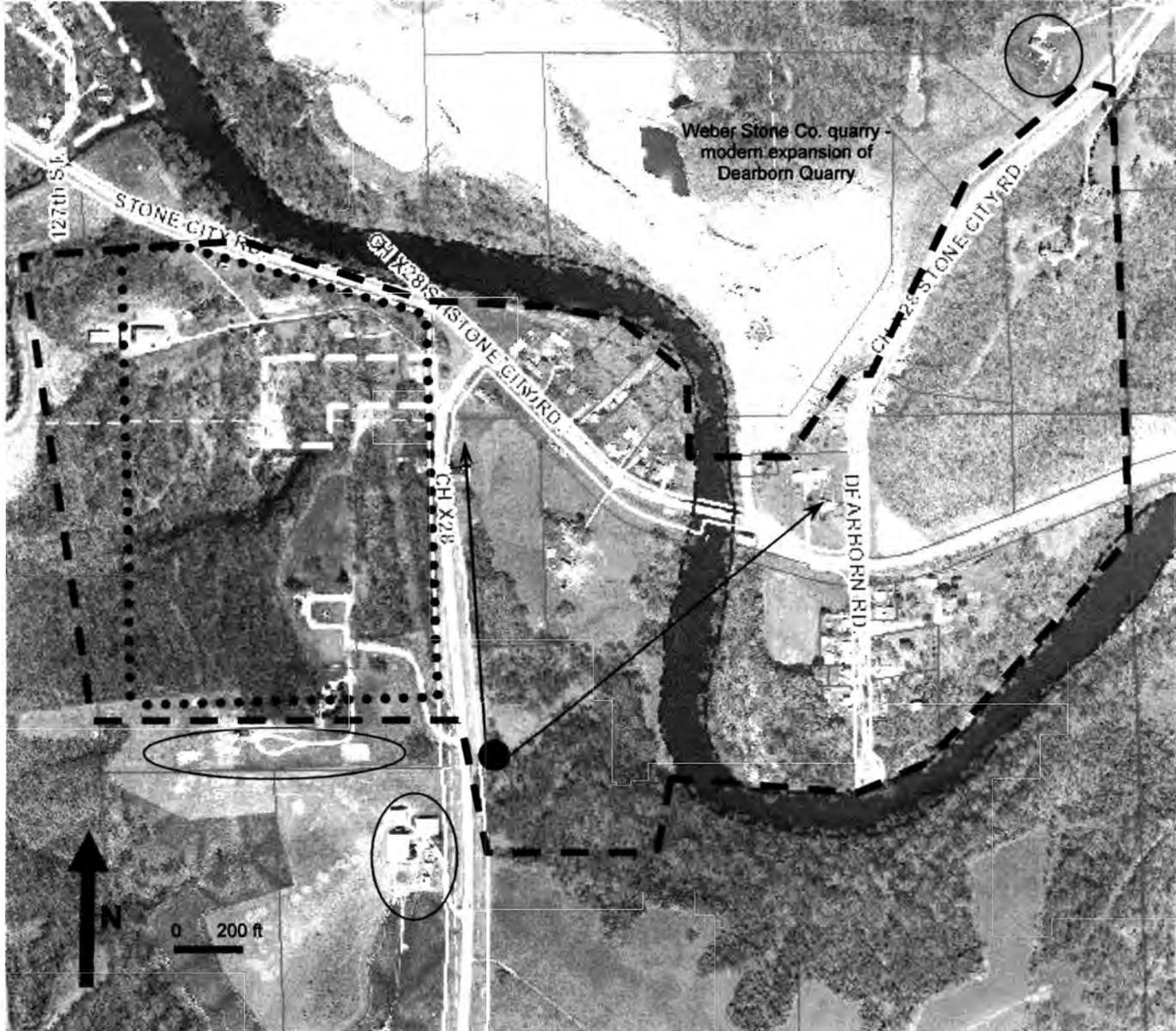
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Aerial Map showing district boundary for Stone City Historic District

(Source for aerial map: Jones County GIS Maps accessed at <http://www.sidwellmaps.com/website/jonesco/php/>)



Black dashed line = proposed boundary for Stone City Historic District based on legal parcel boundaries

Black dotted line = National Register boundary for John A. Green Estate Historic District

Black dot and arrows = vantage point from which Grant Wood's *Stone City* painting appears to have been executed and viewed of painting

circled properties = modern properties just outside of district boundaries

[light gray dashed line inside of Green Estate Historic District boundary represents a parcel subdivision]

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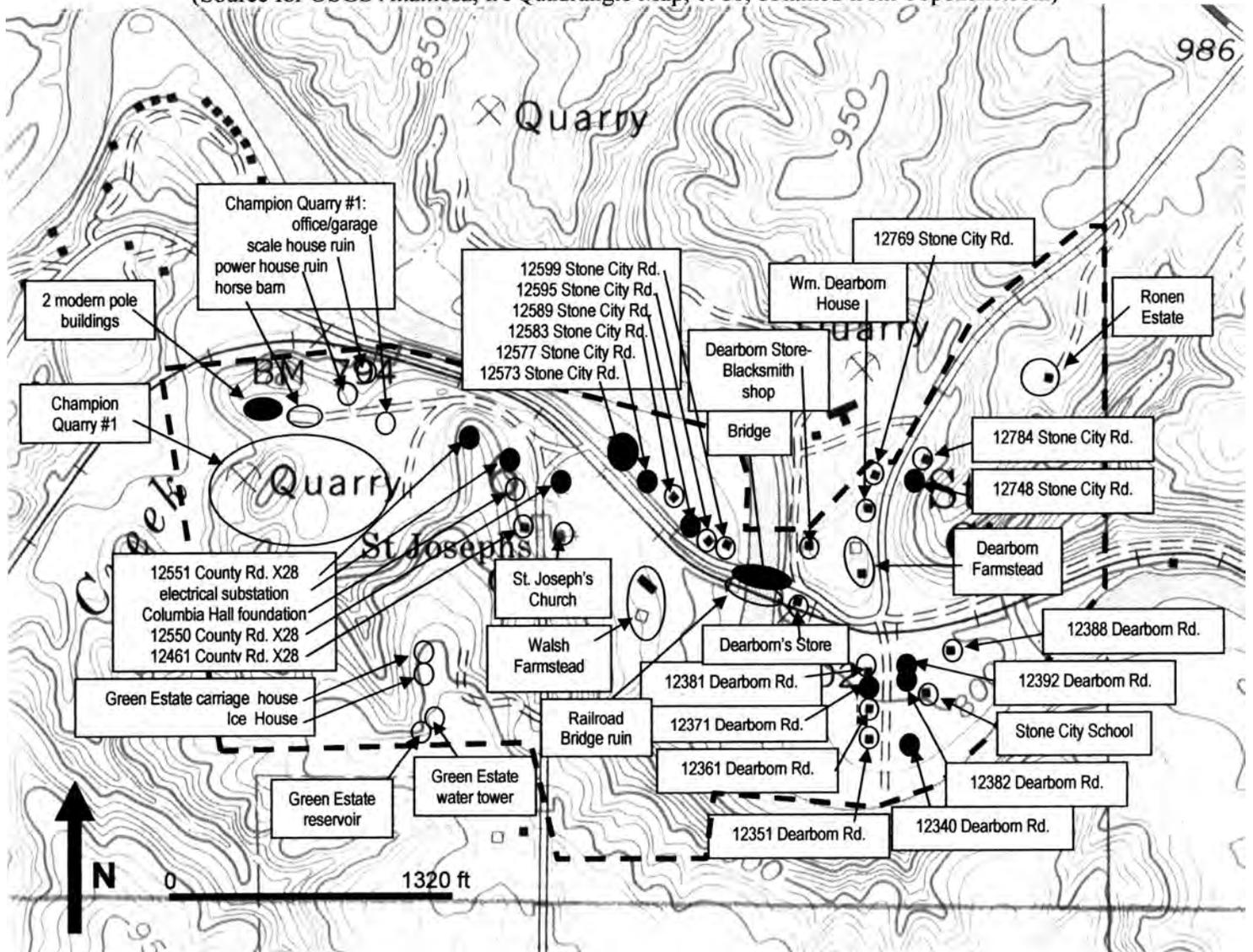
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Topographic map showing district boundary and location of contributing and non-contributing resources
(Source for USGS Anamosa, IA Quadrangle Map, 1980, obtained from Topozone.com)



- - - (dashed line) = National Register boundary for Stone City Historic District
- (circled properties) = contributing resources
- (circled with black shading) = non-contributing resources

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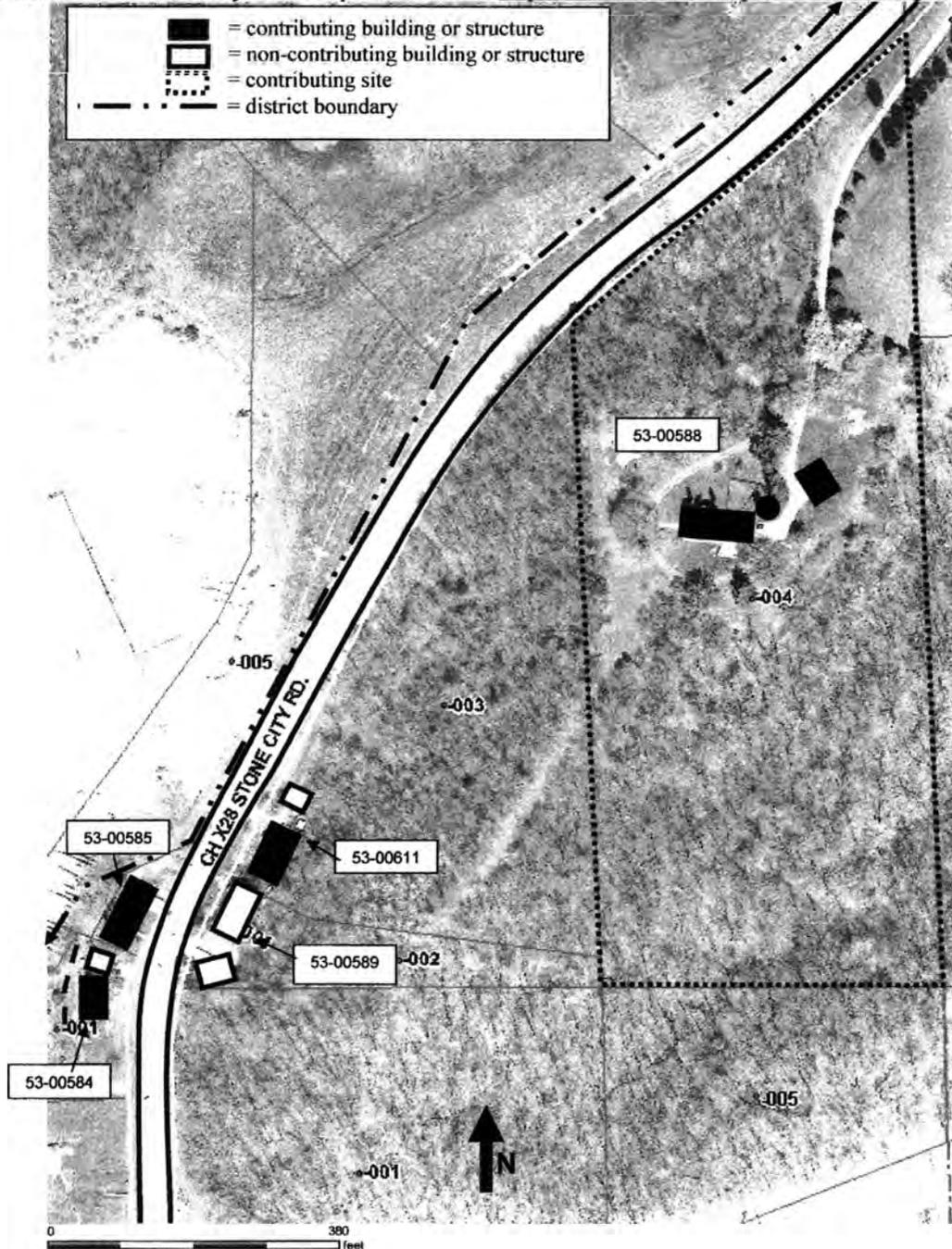
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Aerial map of NE portion of district showing location of contributing and non-contributing resources
(Source for aerials: Jones County GIS Maps accessed at <http://www.sidwellmaps.com/website/jonesco/php/>)



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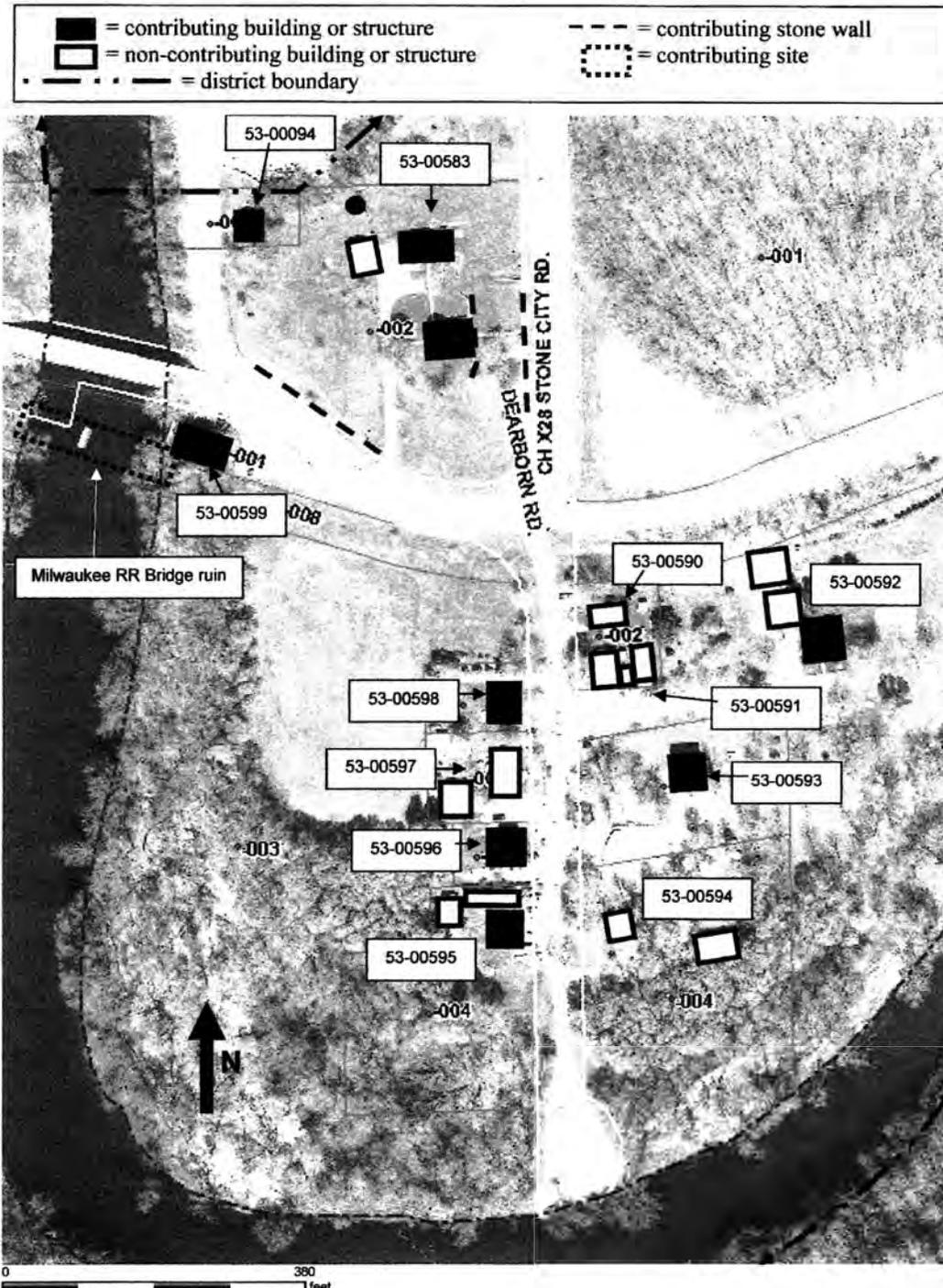
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Aerial map of east-central portion of district showing location of contributing and non-contributing resources
(Source for aerials: Jones County GIS Maps accessed at <http://www.sidwellmaps.com/website/jonesco/php/>)



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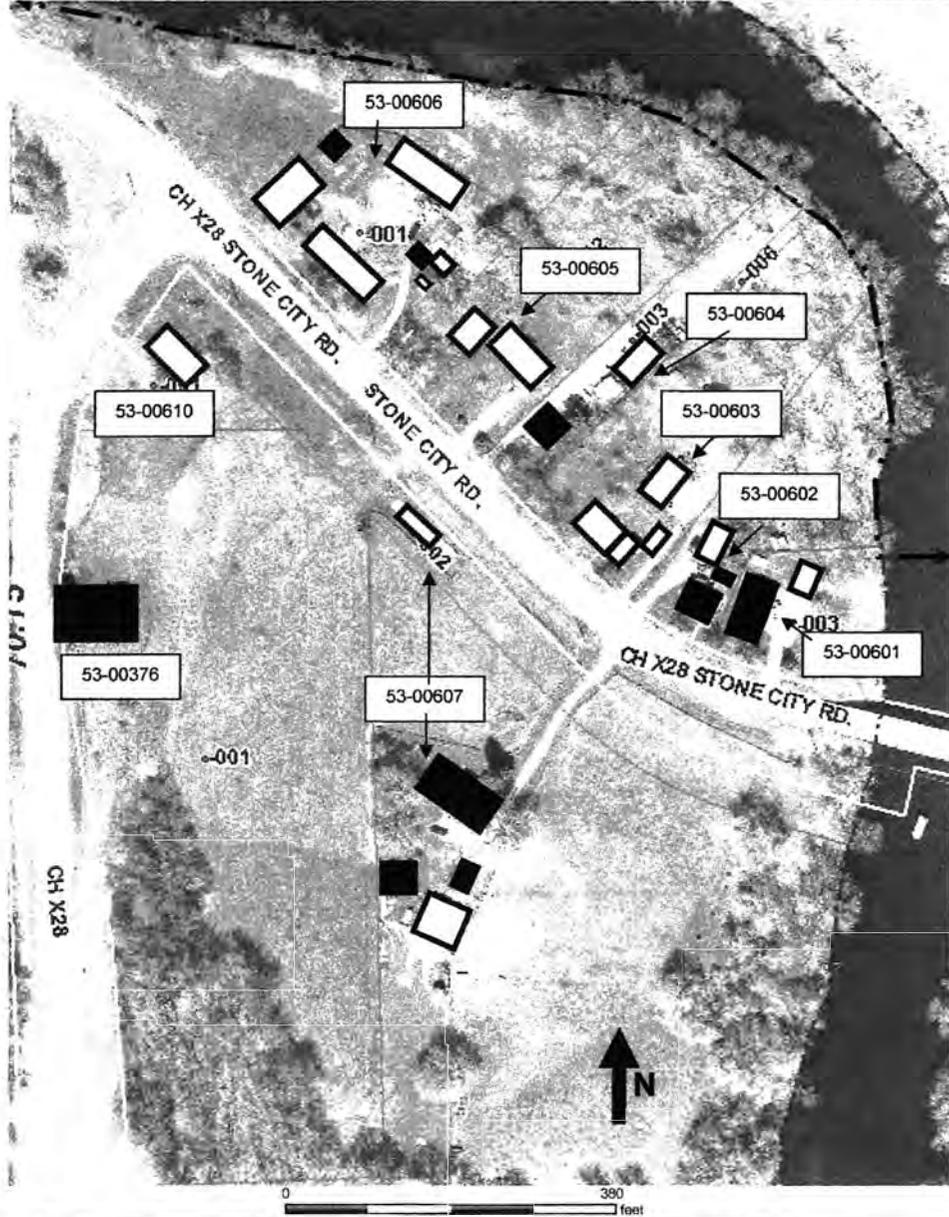
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Aerial map of west-central portion of district showing location of contributing and non-contributing resources
(Source for aerials: Jones County GIS Maps accessed at <http://www.sidwellmaps.com/website/jonesco/php/>)



	= contributing building or structure		= contributing stone wall
	= non-contributing building or structure		= contributing site
	= district boundary		

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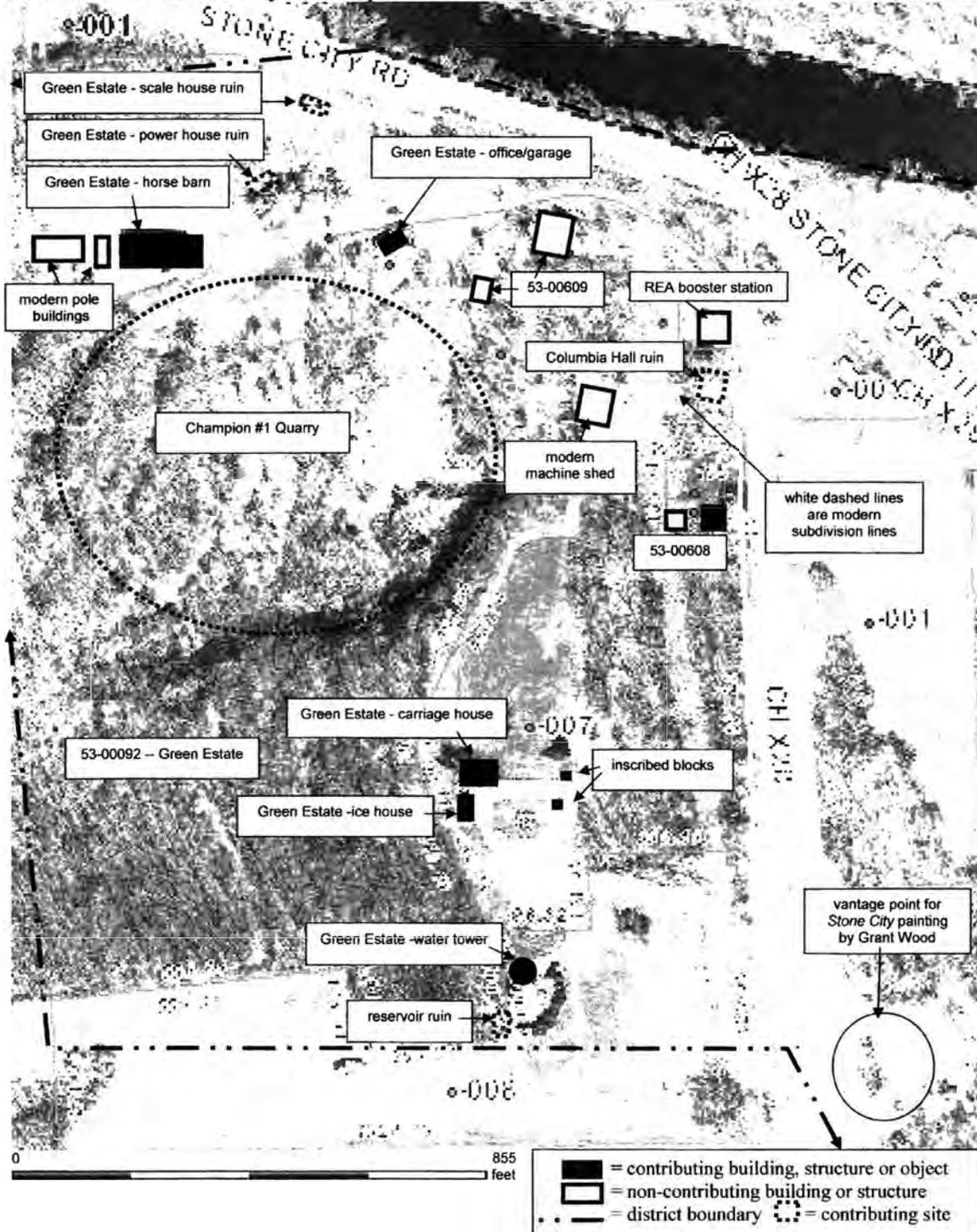
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Aerial map of southwest portion of district showing location of contributing and non-contributing resources
(Source for aerials: Jones County GIS Maps accessed at <http://www.sidwellmaps.com/website/jonesco/php/>)



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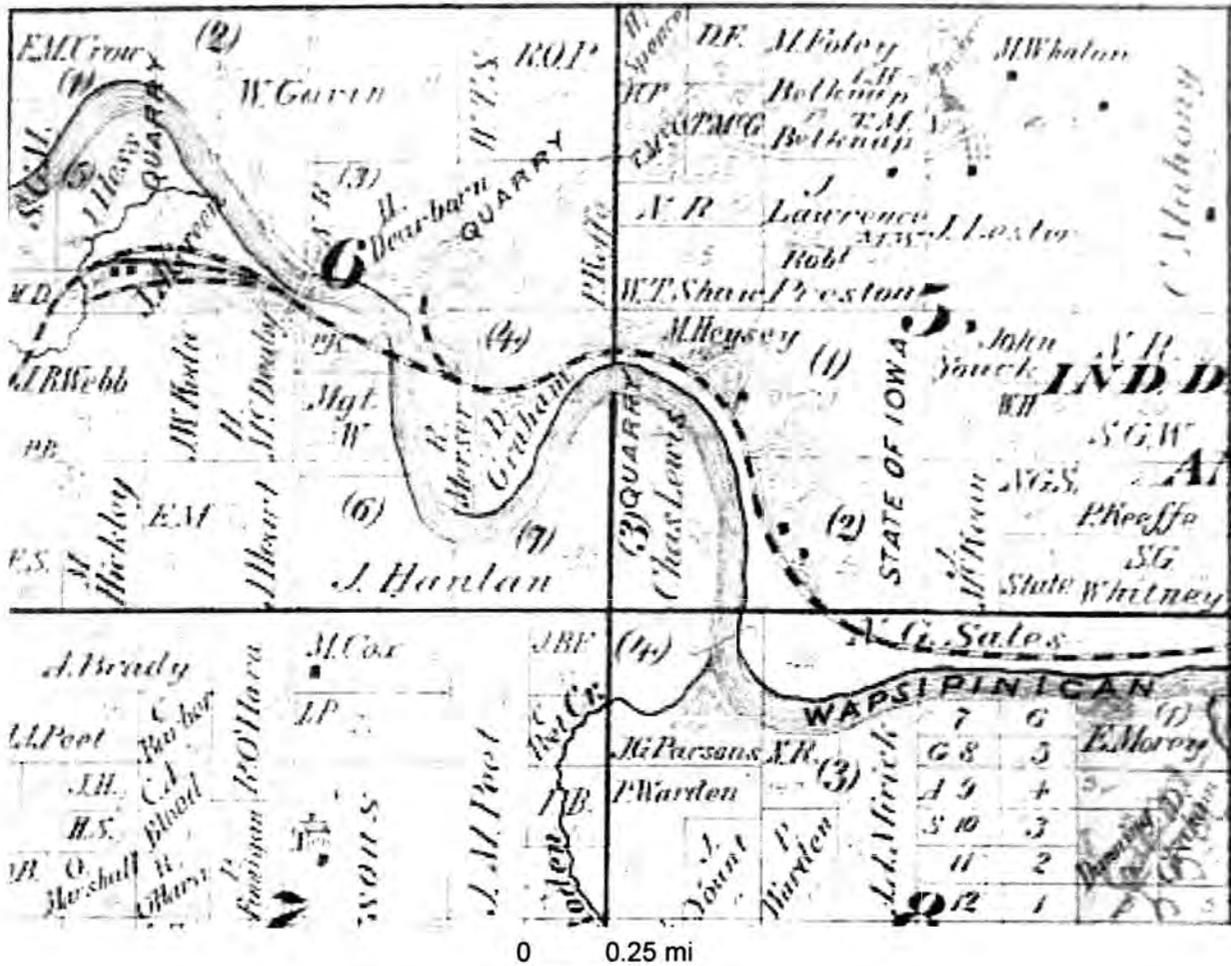
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1877 Plat map of Stone City, Iowa
(Source: Burlingame 1877)



Shows the quarries of H. Dearborn on north side of river in Section 6, those of "M. Heysey" and State of Iowa in SW1/4 Section 5, and J.A. Green's Champion Quarry No. 1 on south side of river in Section 6.

[Note spur tracks into Dearborn and Green quarries but only main line track through the quarries in Section 5. The State of Iowa quarry in Lot (2) of Section 5 on this map later became J.A. Green's Champion Quarry #2.]

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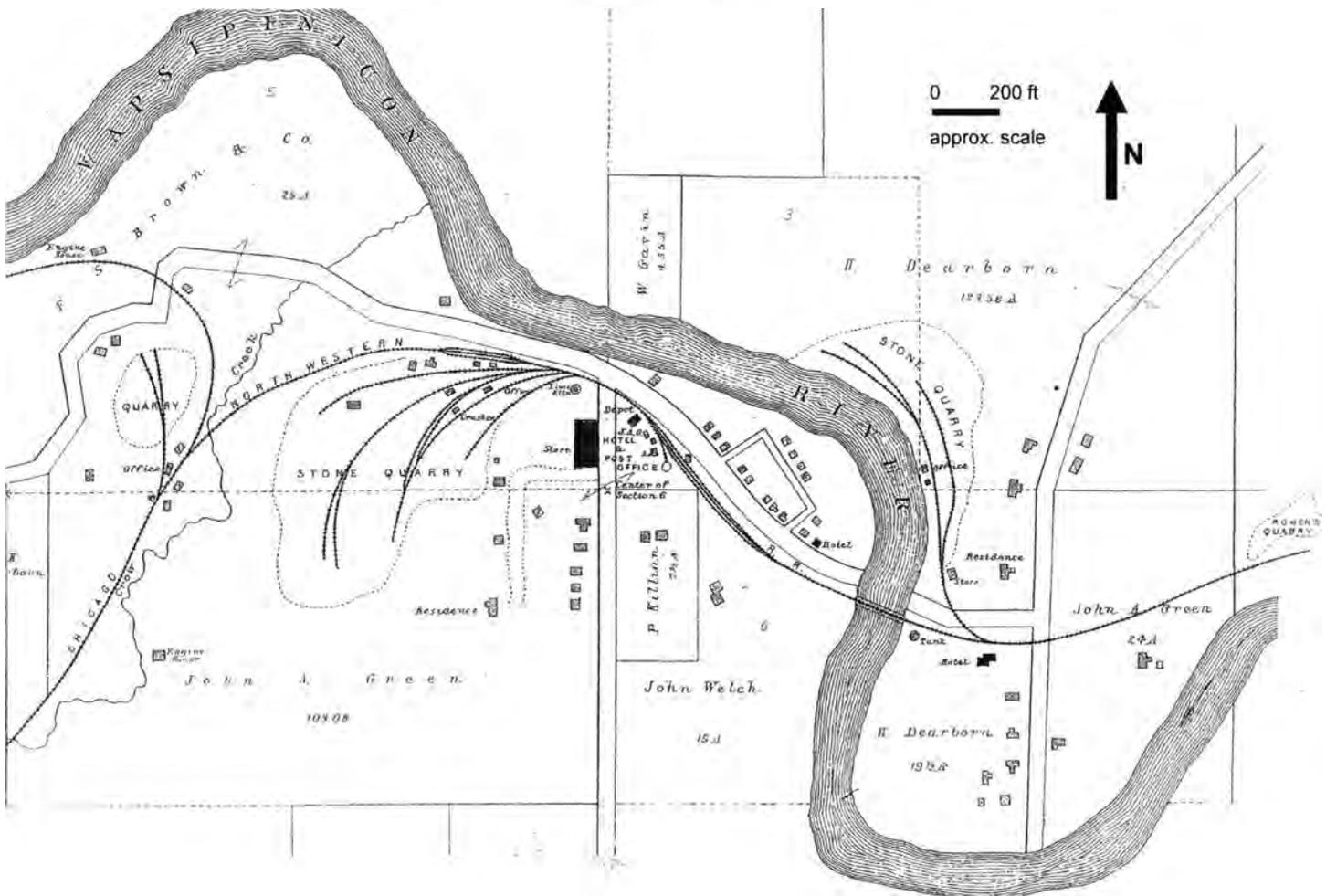
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Jones County, IA

1893 Plat map of Stone City, Iowa
(Source: North West Publishing 1893: 26)



The west section of Stone City was heavily developed for J. A. Green's Champion quarry operations, as the rail line and spurs indicate. The east half of Stone City contained most of the workers' housing. The Dearborn Quarry is above the loop in the Wapsipinicon River, and Ronen's Quarry is show on the far right.

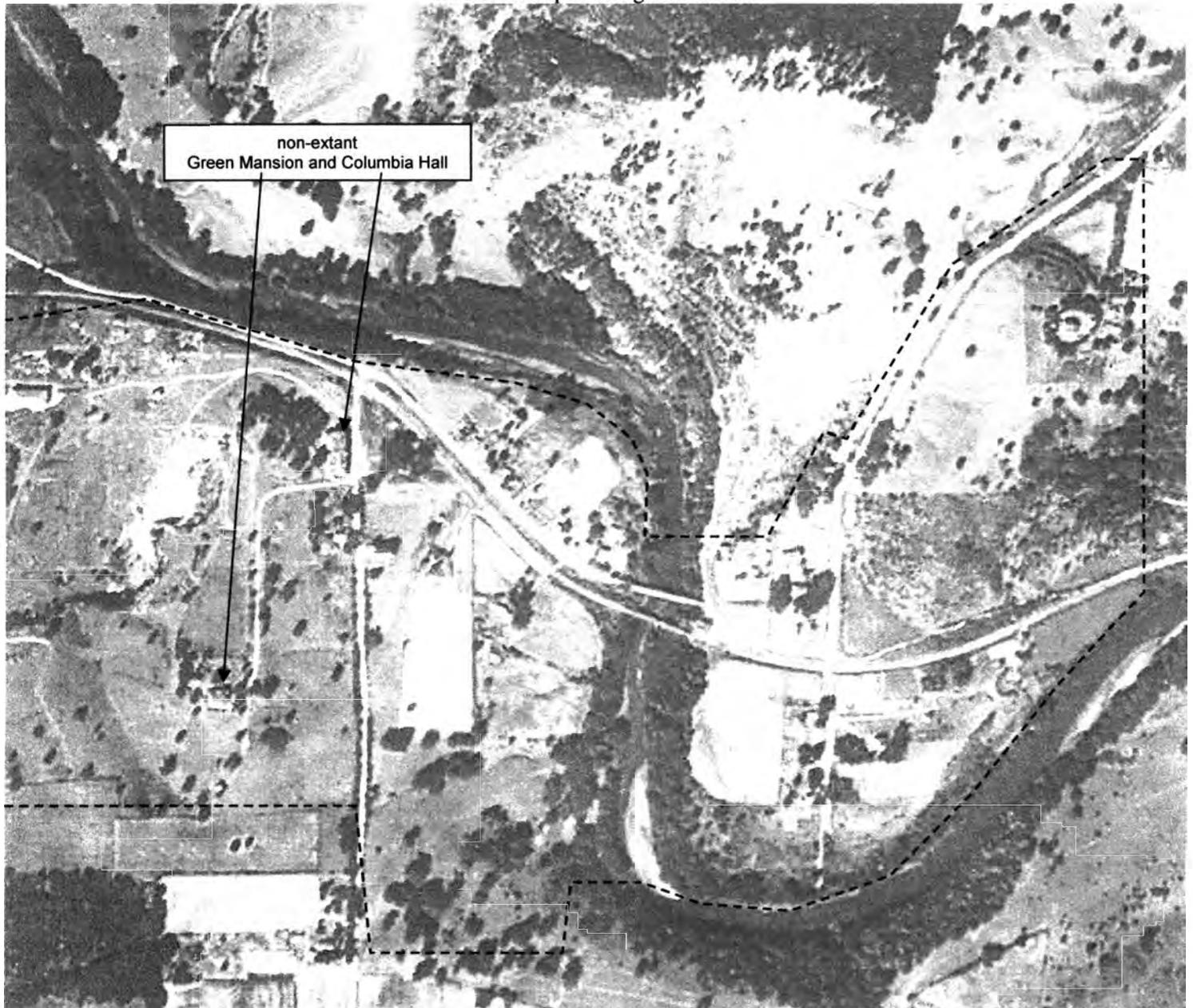
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Late 1930s aerial photograph of Stone City (Iowa Geographic Map Server 2008)
accessed at <http://ortho.gis.iastate.edu/>



black dashed line = approximate boundary of historic district (west edge of district is not shown in this photograph)

0 200 ft



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Historic Photographs of Property Types in Stone City Historic District



Henry Dearborn Farmhouse
(Collection of Robert D. Hatcher, Stone City, Iowa)



Green Estate Water Tower

(Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa)



Green Estate Mansion (non-extant) c.1930

(Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa)

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Historic Photographs of Property Types in Stone City Historic District



Ronen House (Hermann 1966:57)



Water tower on Ronen Estate
(Hermann 1966:59)



(Shane 1967)

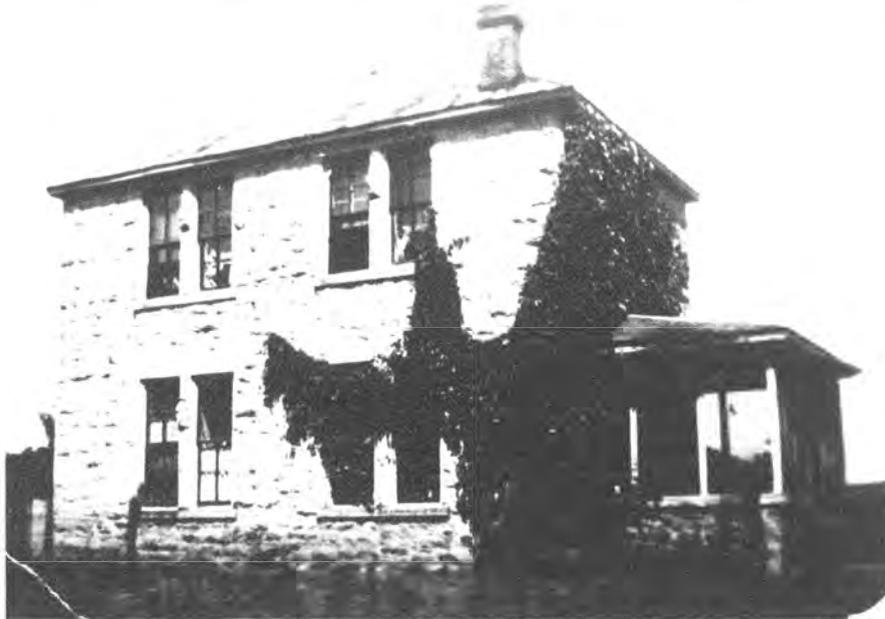
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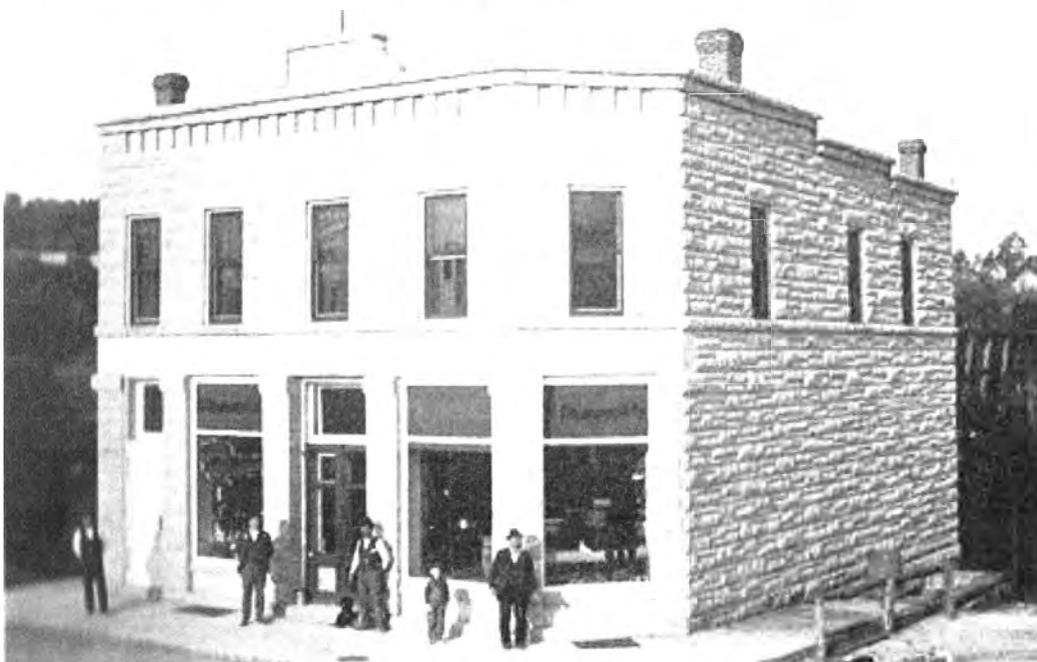
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Stone City Historic District
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Historic Photographs of Property Types in Stone City Historic District



One of the two stone houses built by Green on Stone City Road
(Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa)



Photograph of H. Dearborn and Sons' Block (Hall c.1898)

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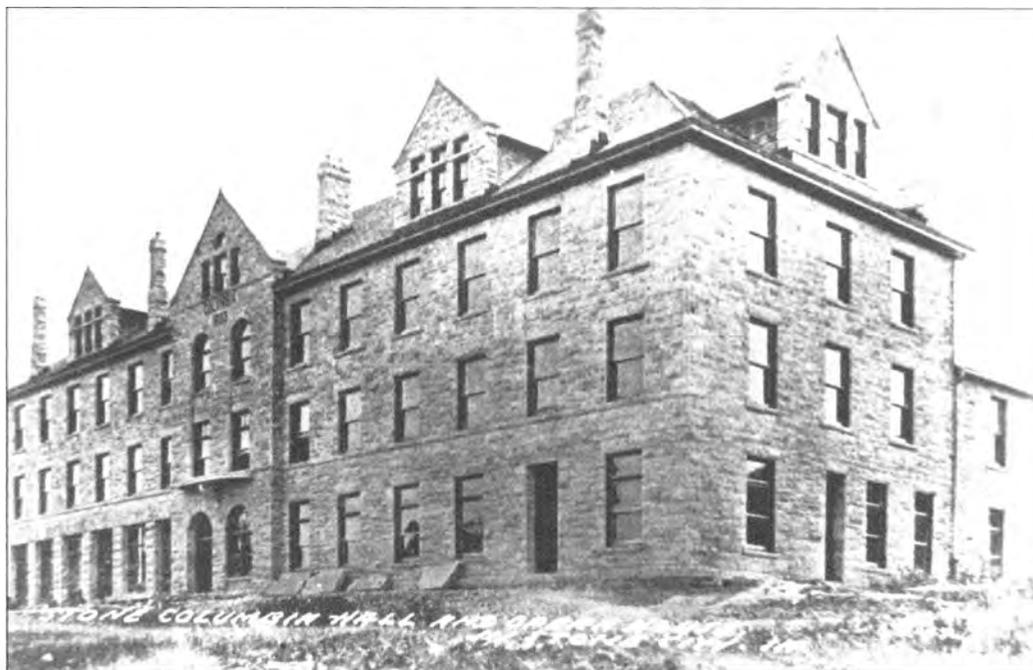
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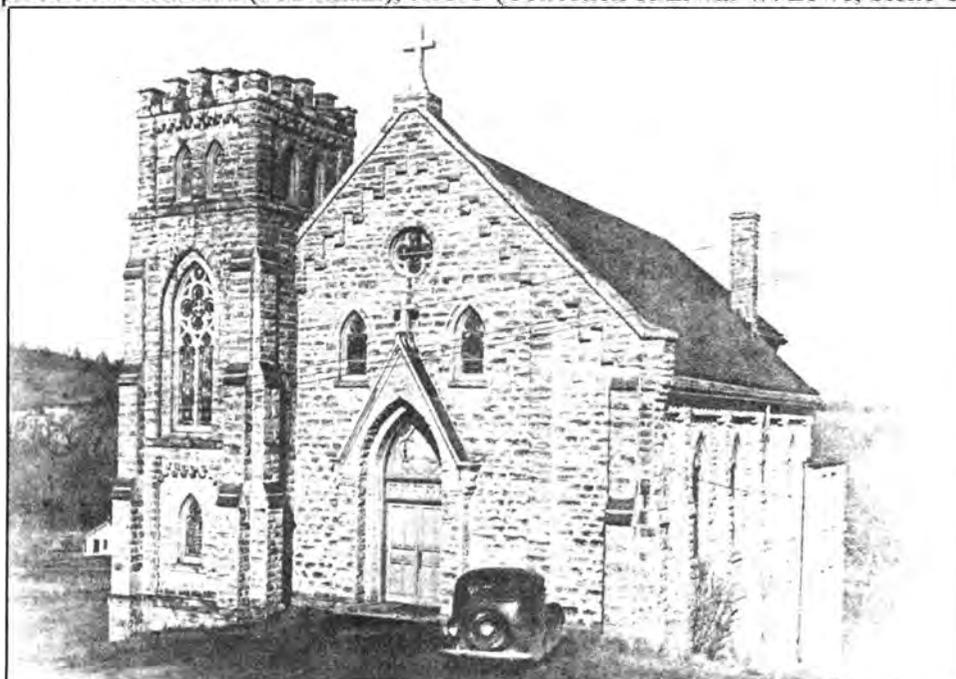
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Stone City Historic District
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Historic Photographs of Property Types in Stone City Historic District



Photograph of Columbia Hall (non-extant), c.1893 (Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).



Photograph of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Stone City, c.1935
(Archives and Historical Records, Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa).

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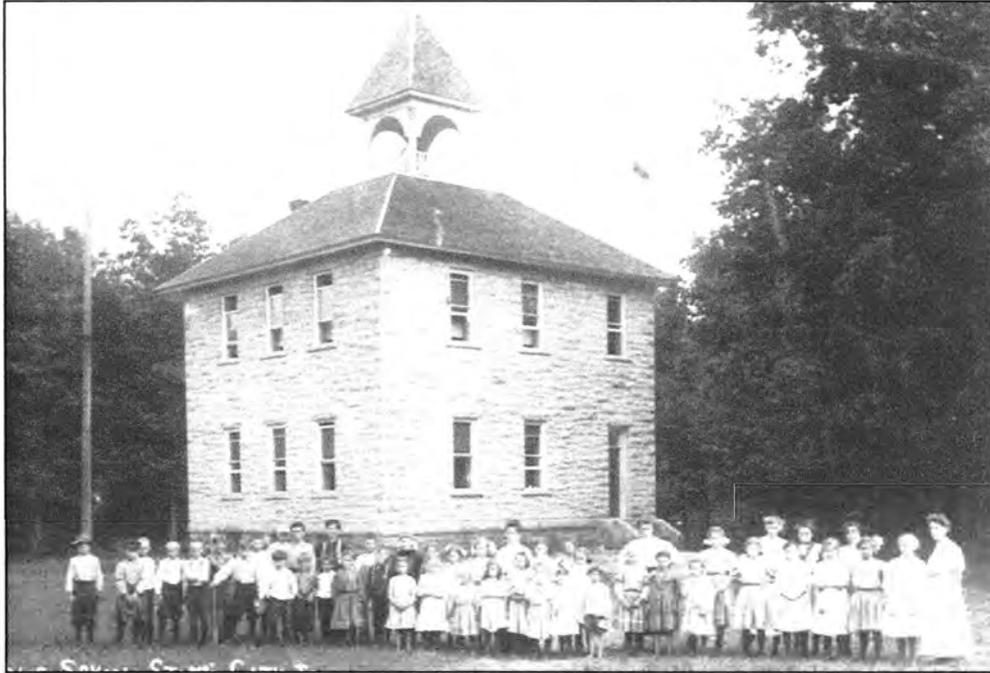
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Historic Photographs of Property Types in Stone City Historic District



Photograph of Stone City Schoolhouse, circa 1905 [The schoolhouse remains extant but without the belfry]
(Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).



Pre-1909 photograph of the Office and Horse Barn at Champion Quarry #1
along with several other non-extant buildings and structures in-between
(Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).

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Historic Photographs of Property Types in Stone City Historic District



Champion Quarry #1 Horse Barn 1890s-early 1900s (Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).



Stone City Depot (non-extant) c.1900 (Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).

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Historic Photographs of Property Types in Stone City Historic District



BRIDGE, WAPSIPINICON RIVER, STONE CITY IOWA,

Bridge (non-extant) over Wapsipinicon River in Stone City in the early 20th century
(Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Additional

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Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA

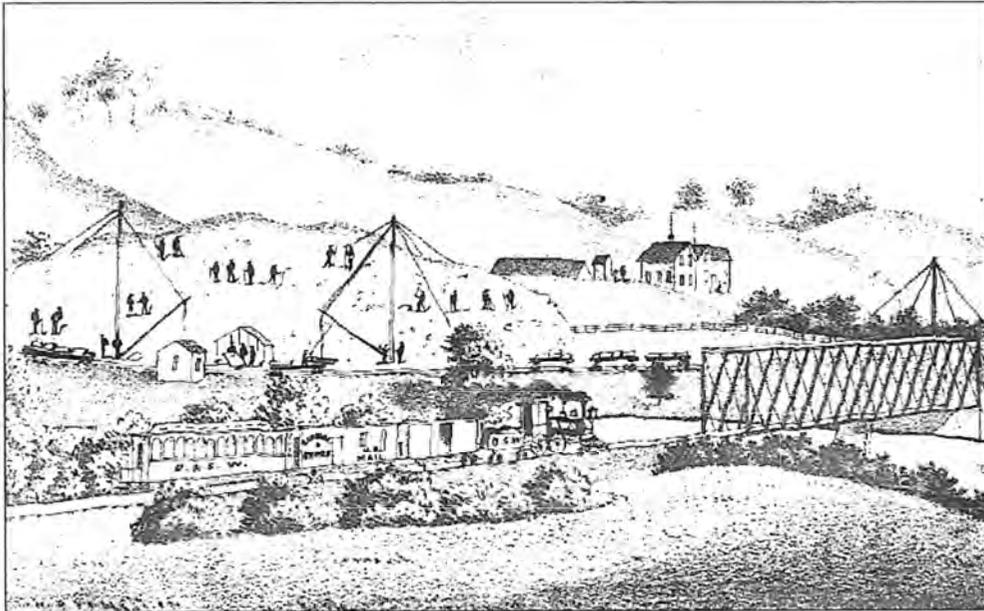


Illustration of Dearborn's Quarry Operation in 1875 showing railroad bridge over river looking northeast (Andreas1875:154).



c.1895 photograph of Dearborn Quarry (Photograph No. 174, Calvin Photographic Collection, University of Iowa. Obtained at http://www.uiowa.edu/%7Ecalvin/quarry_7.htm on 11/13/2007).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Additional

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Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



Photograph of Dearborn Quarry, circa 1900. (Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).
[Henry Dearborn stands on a platform surrounded by his employees and railroad crew.]

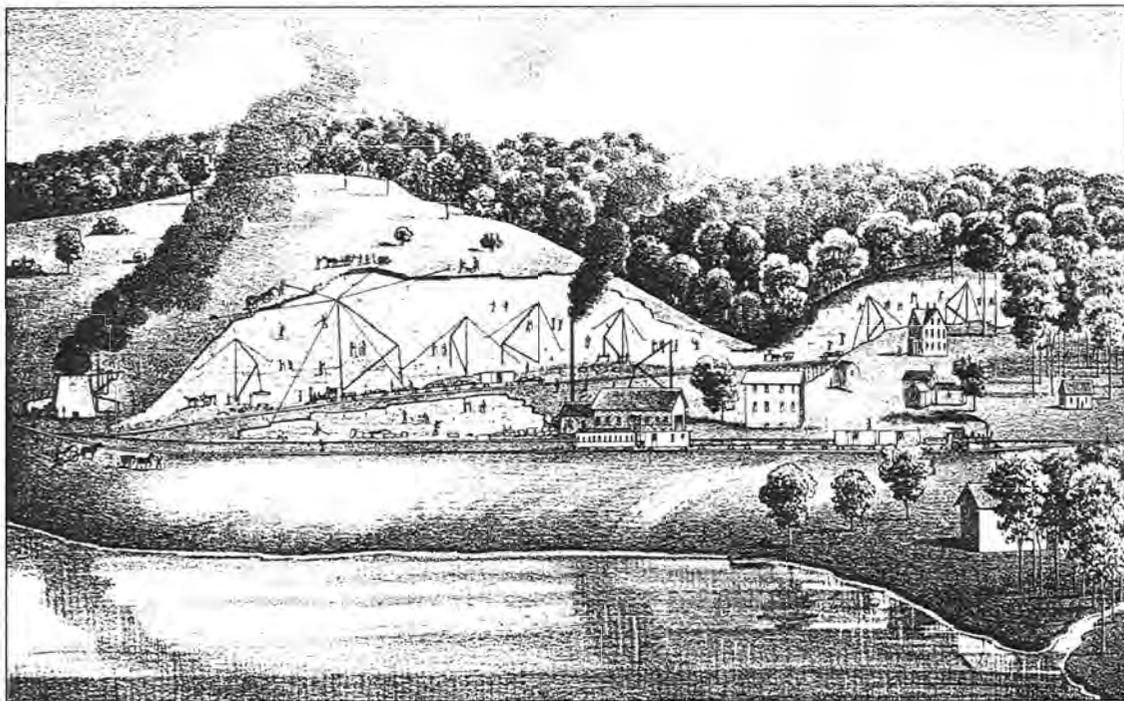


Illustration of John A. Green's Champion Quarry #1 in 1875 looking southwest (Andreas 1875:153)
[The view looks to the south with Crow Creek visible at the far right, the Wapsipicon River in the foreground,
and a lime kiln at the far left]

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 84

Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



Painting of Green Estate and Champion Quarry #1 looking across the river from the bluff above Dearborn's Quarry (Believed to be the painting commissioned by J.A. Green from the Cox Brothers of New Orleans for the stage curtain in the Columbia Hall opera house and taken from Hall c.1900. This same painting was reproduced in the 1895 *Iowa Geological Survey* as shown in Hermann 1966).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Additional

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**Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA**



Photograph of Champion Quarry #1 in 1895 (Photograph No. 184, Calvin Photographic Collection, University of Iowa. Obtained at http://www.uiowa.edu/%7Ecalvin/Jones_Co.htm on November 13, 2007).



Photograph of Anamosa Quarries owned by John Ronen, Sr. circa 1885 (Hall c.1898)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Additional
Section number Documentation Page 86

Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



Stone City painted in 1930 (Reproduced from Corn 1983; original courtesy Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska).

NOTE: original painting is in color.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Additional
Section number Documentation Page 87

Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



Photograph of viewshed from the south hill, c. 1930 [This photograph pictures Stone City and the Wapsipinicon valley about the time Grant Wood created the painting *Stone City, Iowa*] (Corn 1983).



Photograph of the viewshed from south hill, circa 1930 [The Dearborn Store stands front and center in this photograph with the earlier Dearborn Store-Blacksmith Shop to the left. Since this photograph was taken, the growth of mature trees has blocked this view] (Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Additional

Section number Documentation Page 88

**Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA**



Viewshed of *Stone City* painting in present day
(Photograph taken from South Hill on March 20, 2008)

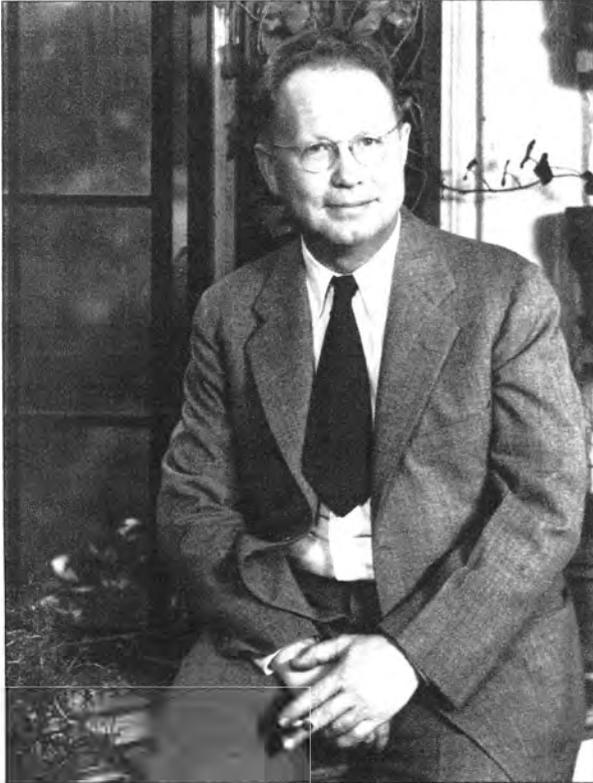
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Additional

Section number Documentation **Page** 89

**Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA**



Photograph of Grant Wood, c.1933



John Steuart Curry and Grant Wood at Stone City, Summer 1933

(Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa)

Professional photographer John W. Barry took the portrait of Wood and the study of Curry and Wood when he photographed others at the Stone City art colony. Barry later reprinted the photographs for Erwin W. Lowe. The negative of the Wood portrait is now preserved in the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art. The photograph of Curry and Wood shows them in front of Curry's sketch of Wood.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

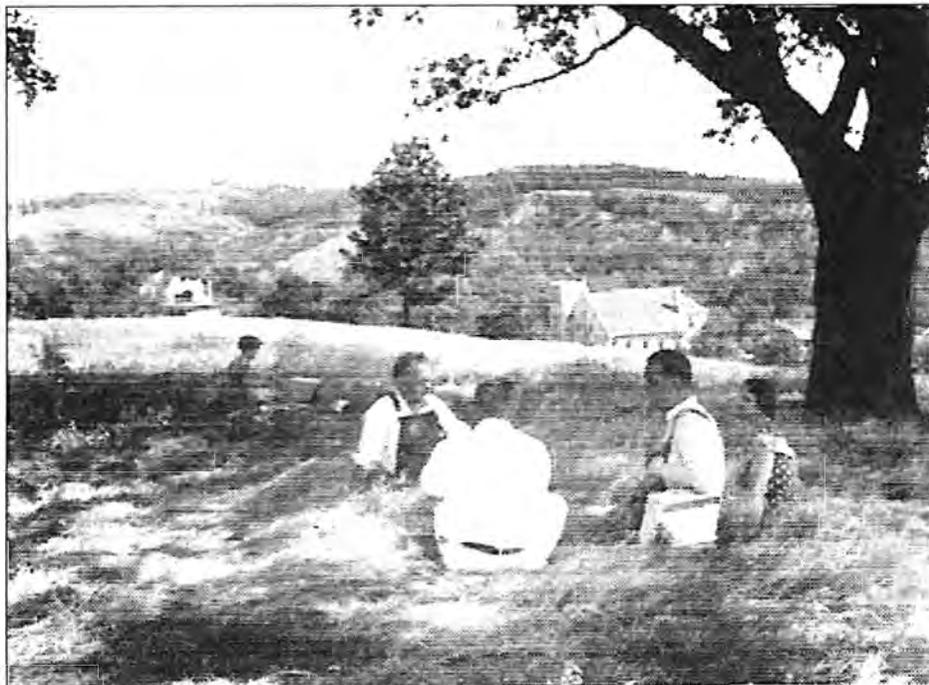
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 90

Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



Photograph of stone carving by the Stone City Art Colony, 1932
[Here students choose limestone blocks in the quarries to carve] (Whiting 1932)



"Talking It Over," Stone City Art Colony, 1932 [Grant Wood in his familiar denim overalls talks with students amid the picturesque scenery of Stone City. St. Joseph's Church is visible near the center of the photograph] (Whiting 1932).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Additional

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**Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA**



Sculptors at work behind the ice house, Stone City Art Colony, 1932

[Stone carving was officially added to the curriculum in 1933. These sculptors are using traditional quarry tools]
(Photo by John Barry. Joan Liffing-Zug Collection, State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City).



Icons of the Colony, likely 1933 [A string of horse-drawn wagons line up along a ridge above Stone City. Originally used to deliver ice, they were lent to the summer colony in Stone City to house participants. Artists decorated the wagons as they wished.] (Corn 1983).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

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Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



Plein Air Art Class, Stone City, 1933

[Adrian Dornbush stands center among the three men. Marvin Cone stands to his right. The man in bib-overalls affecting farm life might be Edward Rowan] (John W. Barry, Photographer; Collection Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).



"Visitors' Day," Stone City Art Colony, 1932. [Sunday crowds gather to hear Grant Wood (right center) speak from the front steps of the Green Mansion] (Whiting 1932).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

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Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



Art Faculty and Decorative Stonework, c.1932 [The faculty of the Stone City art colony poses on the steps of the Green House in Stone City. Grant Wood sits to the left of the decorative stonework piece that John A. Green exhibited at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. A mate to this object featured a similar column surmounted with a basket of flowers] (Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).



Decorative Stonework, c.1900 [Taken in front of the Green Mansion, this photograph pictures four of the Green children. The stonework features Celtic designs, referencing Green's native Ireland. Advertisement block reads "From/Champion Quarries/Stone City/Iowa." Perhaps Green included this block in his display at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893] (Collection of Erwin W. Lowe, Stone City, Iowa).

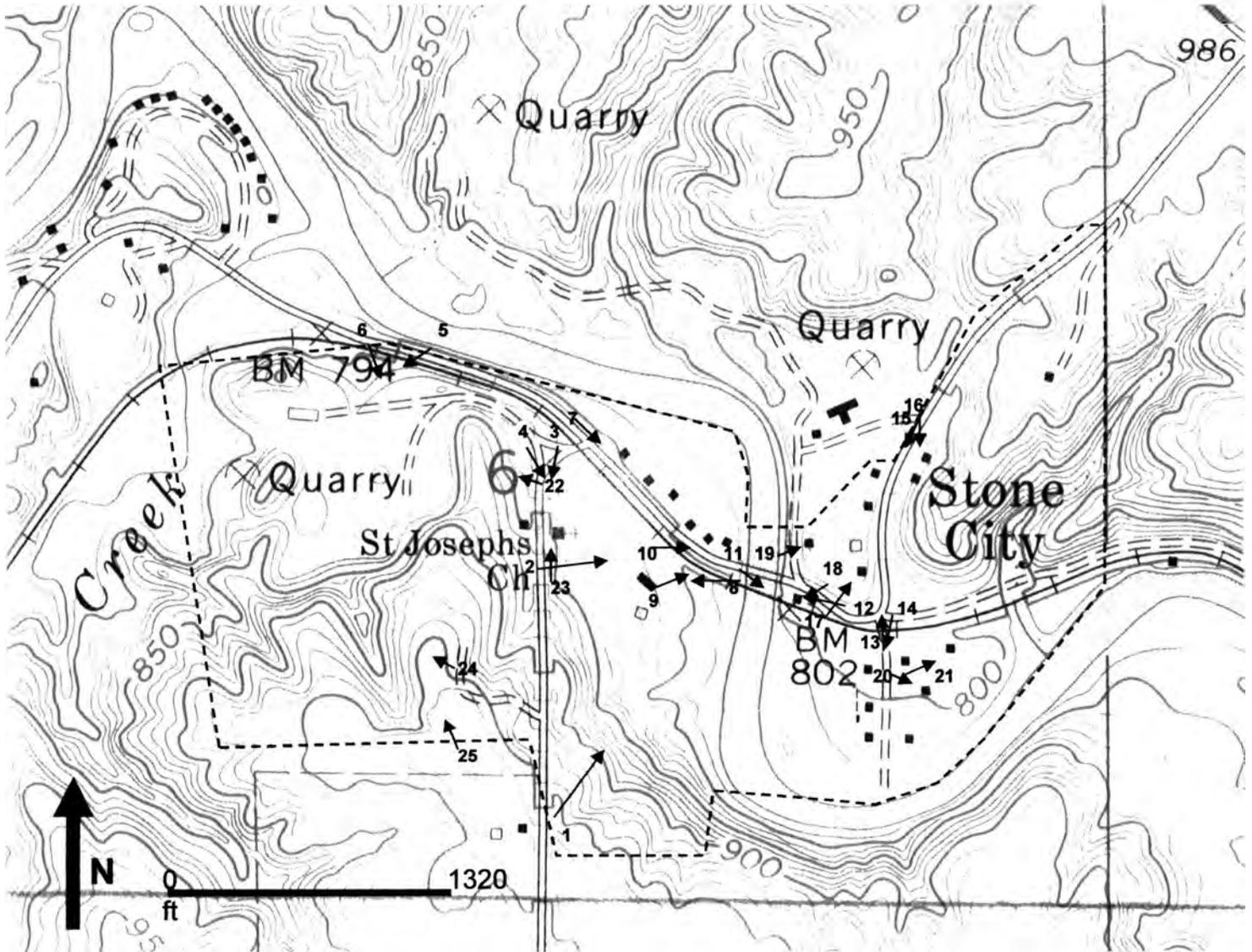
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Additional
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Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA

Direction of Photograph Views (keyed to number on Page 90)



**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Additional
Section number Documentation **Page** 96

**Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA**

List of Property Owners:

Charlie & Jane Porter
12623 Stone City Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Gary & Loretta Holzinger
12598 Stone City Road
Anamosa, IA 52205

Bob & Doris Hatcher
12388 Dearborn Road
Anamosa, IA 52205

Robert Null
12351 Dearborn Road
Anamosa, IA 52205

Cheryl Linse
12381 Dearborn Road
Anamosa, IA 52205

Donald Connelly
12589 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Jack Colehour
12573 Stone City Rd C-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Kenneth Shover
12755 Stone City Rd
Anamosa, IA 52205

Bryan & Geri Conley
12769 Stone City Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

David DeWitte
12784 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Rodney Smith
12748 Stone City Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

David Stills
12599 Stone City Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Roger Smith
12595 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Jim Carpenter
12461 Stone City Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Stuart & Shelley Adams
12828 Stone City Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Tad Larson
12612 Stone City Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Stan & Deb Berberich
12559 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

William Crawford
12557 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Pip Noyes
24816 Stone City Rd
Anamosa, IA 52205

Gerald & Nicki Boge
12155 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Donald & Linda Stickle
12381 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Additional

Section number Documentation **Page** 97

**Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA**

List of Property Owners (continued):

Ivan Waloker
12371 Dearborn Rd
Anamosa, IA 52205

Erwin & Betty Lowe
12392 Dearborn Road
Anamosa, IA 52205

Johann & Charlie May
12577 Stone City Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Landis & Lois Thompson
12551 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Stone City Schoolhouse
% Ken Shover
12755 Stone City Rd
Anamosa, IA 52205

Sister Susan
St. Patrick's Church
215 N. Garnavillo St.
Anamosa, IA 52205

Allen Giza
12352 Dearborn Rd
Anamosa, IA 52205

Fran Overett
12557 Cty Rd X-28
Anamosa, IA 52205

Tris Langdon
4105 Buffalo Ridge Rd
Anamosa, IA 52205

Tom Rogers
12583 Stone City Road
Anamosa, IA 52205

Jon & Cecilia Hatcher
125 South Ford
Anamosa, IA 52205

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Section number _____ Page _____

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

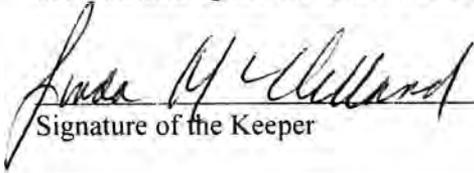
NRIS Reference Number: 08001099

Property Name: Stone City Historic District

County: Jones State: Iowa

Multiple Name: N/A

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



November 21, 2008

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 5: Classification

The Count of Resources is, hereby, corrected to indicate 18 contributing buildings, 4 contributing sites, 5 contributing structures and 2 contributing objects for a total of 29 contributing resources. "Eleven" is, hereby, given as the number of resources previously listed on the National Register in keeping with the data entries for the John E. Green Estate (10) and St. Joseph's Church (2) in the NRIS database. This correction should, furthermore, be noted on pages 7.2 & 7.26-28.

The staff of the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this correction.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Stone City Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Jones

DATE RECEIVED: 10/16/08 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/03/08
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/18/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/29/08
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001099

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Stone City H.D. is significant at state and local levels under Crit. A for its history and development as a stone quarrying center in late 19th and early 20th centuries and as the site of Grant Wood's Stone City Art colony of the 1930s. Wood immortalized the town in his Regionalist masterpiece Stone City and the district is significantly associated with his summer art programs (under Crit. B). District is also significant under Crit. C for its fine examples of limestone architecture, including

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A, B + C

REVIEWER J McClelland DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 11/21/08

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.

CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

MAY 07 2008

CLG Name Jones County Date of Public Meeting

Property Name Stone City Historic District, 12828-12573 Stone City Rd., 12392-12340 Dearborn Rd., 12381-12551 County Rd. X28, Anamosa, Jones County

1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

- Recommendation of National Register eligibility
- Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Rose Repp Date 4/28/08
 Print Name Rose Repp
 Title JCHPC Chair

Reason(s) for recommendation:
The Stone City Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, and C.

2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- Recommendation of National Register eligibility
- Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Leo Cook Date 5-6-08
 Print Name Chairman Leo Cook
 Title Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Reason(s) for recommendation:

3. Professional Evaluation:

- Recommendation of National Register eligibility
- Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Ralph J. Christian Date 5/7/08
 Print Name RALPH J. CHRISTIAN
 Title HISTORIAN

Reason(s) for recommendation:





#1
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#2

Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA





#3

Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA





#4
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA





#5
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



HP Premium

HP Premium

HP Premium



HP Premium

HP Premium

HP Premium



#6
Stone City Historic District
Jones Canal



#7
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#8
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#9
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#10
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA





#11
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA





#12
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA





STONE CITY RD 229

#13
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#14
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#15
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA





#16
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#17
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



HP Premium

HP Premium

HP Premium





#18
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA





BLACKSMITH
SHOP
1885

#19
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



1882 WROUGHT IRON BRIDGE CO
BUILDERS
CANTON OHIO
1971

STONE CITY
COMMUNITY CENTRE

12376

#20
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



HP Premium

HP Premium

HP Premium



HP Premium

HP Premium

HP Premium

#21
Stone City Historic District
Jan 2011



HP Premium

HP Premium

HP Premium



HP Premium

HP Premium

HP Premium

#22
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#23
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA

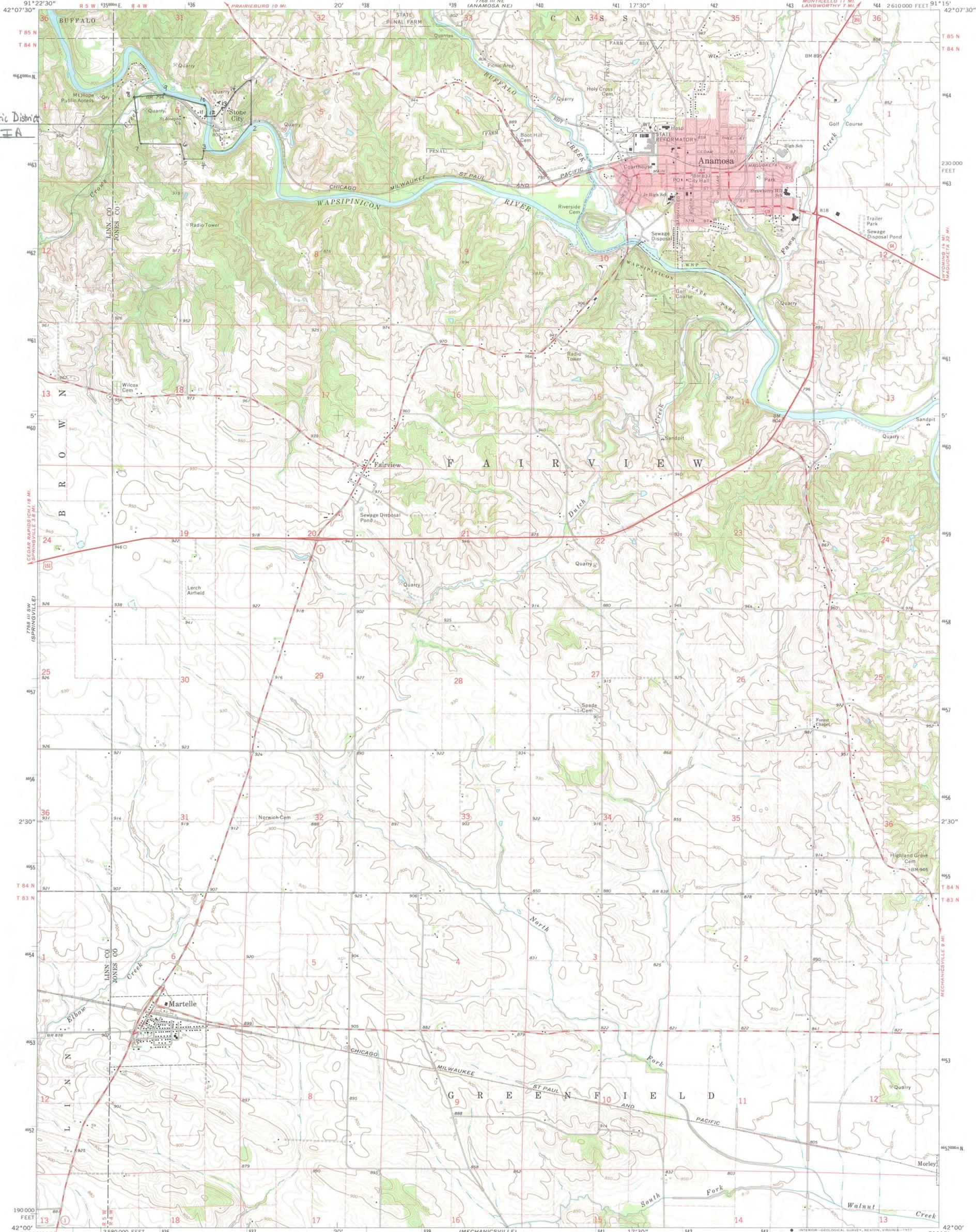


#24
Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



#25

Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA



Stone City Historic District
Jones County, IA

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 1973

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Iowa coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)

1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fences and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

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

ANAMOSA, IOWA
N4200-W9115/7.5

1973

AMS 7768 III SE-SERIES V876

State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Name: Donald Stickle Date: 5-22-08
 Name: [Signature] Date: 5-22-08

Address: 123 23 Co. Rd. X 28
Anamosa, Ia 52205



Carol S. Wink

JUN 03 2008

State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Name: Anthony A. Kipp Date 5-30-08

Name: Cara Ann Kipp Date 5-30-08

Address: 12346 Dearborn Rd
Anamosa Iowa 52205

Notarized at Linn Area Credit Union
by Heather R. Ossman.

May 30, 2008

State of Iowa
County of Linn



State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Name: John L Walker Date 6-2-08

Name: Jana Walker Date 06-02-08

Address: 12371 Dearborn Rd
12361 Dearborn Rd

	CAROLE BEEBE
	Commission Number 718279
	MY COMM. EXP. <u>9-4-08</u>

State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

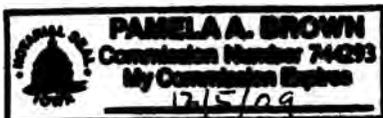
We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Name: *James W. Cayenta* Date: *6-3-08*
Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: *12461 Co. Rd. 128*
Amosia Iowa 57205

Pamela A. Brown 6/3/08



State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

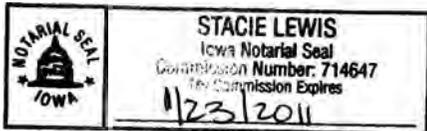
We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Name: Robert W Hatcher Date 6-3-08

Name: Lois E Hatcher Date 6-3-08

Address: 12388 Dearborn Rd
Aransas, Iowa 52205



Stacie Lewis

JUN 06 2008

State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Name: Charles J. Porter Date 6-4-08

Name: Jane E. Porter Date 6-4-08

Address: 12623 Stone City Rd X28
Anamora, IA 52205

Subscribed and sworn before me
this 4 day of June, 2008
Tamara K. Brown
Notary Public



JUN 16 2003

State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Name: Cheryl R. Daise Date 6-12-08

Name: _____ Date _____

Address: 12381 Dearborn Road
Anamosa, Iowa 52205
(Stone City)



State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Name: [Signature] Date 6/16/08
LANDIS K THOMPSON

Name: [Signature] Date 6-16-08
Lois M THOMPSON

Address: 12551 County Road X28
Stone City (ANAMOSA), IOWA 52205

Acknowledgment

State of IOWA
County of LINN
This instrument was acknowledged before me on June 16, 2008
Date
by LANDIS K THOMPSON
Name(s) of Person(s)
[Signature]
Signature of Notary Public
Title (or Rank for Military Personnel)
SUSAN A. BOYENS
Notarial Seal - Iowa
Commission No. 724036
My Commission Expires 8-15-09 (Seal or Stamp)

Jurat (Verification)

State of _____
County of _____
Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on _____
Date
by _____
Name(s) of Person(s)
Signature of Notary Public

Acknowledgment

State of IOWA
County of LINN
This instrument was acknowledged before me on June 16, 2008
Date
by Lois M Thompson
Name(s) of Person(s)
[Signature]
Signature of Notary Public
Title (or Rank for Military Personnel)
SUSAN A. BOYENS
Notarial Seal - Iowa
Commission No. 724036
My Commission Expires 8-15-09 (Seal or Stamp)

Jurat (Verification)

State of _____
County of _____
Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on _____
Date
by _____
Name(s) of Person(s)
Signature of Notary Public

JUN 18 2008

State Historical Society of Iowa
600 E. Locust
Des Moines, Iowa 50313

Barbara Mitchell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

We who have signed this letter certify we are the owners of the property in
Stone City, Iowa (Jones County) at the address listed below our names.

We object to this property being listed on the National Register of Historic
Places.

(Seal or Stamp)
Title (or Rank for Military Personnel)
Signature of Notary Public
Name(s) of Person(s)
Name: [Signature] Date: 6/16/2008
LANDIS K THOMPSON - PRESIDENT STONE CITY FOUNDATION

This instrument was acknowledged on the me
Name: _____ Date: _____
County of
State of

Address: 2613 Stone City Road X28 Blacksmith Shop
Stone City (Anamosa), IA 52205

Acknowledgment

State of IOWA
County of LINN
This instrument was acknowledged before me
on June 16, 2008
Date
by Lanois K Thompson
Name(s) of Person(s)
Susan A Boyens
Signature of Notary Public

Title (or Rank for Military Personnel)
(Seal or Stamp)

SUSAN A. BOYENS
Notarial Seal - Iowa
Commission No. 724036
My Commission Expires 08-19-09



October 13, 2008

J. 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 listed if acceptable.

- Burlington Depot, 210 West Main Street, Ottumwa, Wapello County, Iowa
- Stone City Historic District, 12828-12573 Stone City Road, 12392-12340 Dearborn Road, 12381-12551 County Road X28, Anamosa vicinity, Jones County, Iowa

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Foster Hill".

Elizabeth Foster Hill
Tax Incentive Programs Manager/
National Register Coordinator

Linda McClelland
12/02/2008 05:25 PM
EST

To: beth.foster@iowa.gov
cc:
Subject: Stone City Historic District

Beth--

I just wanted to let you know there's some confusion in the nomination about the count of contributing resources already listed (the NRIS lists ten contributing resources for the Green Estate, and one for the church) so I am going to have to do an SLR to correct Section 5 (18 C. buildings, 4 C. Sites, 5 Structures), 2 C. objects for a total of contributing resources, 29.

Also, the following images on the disk have been corrupted: 1, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 16, 19. I was wondering if you could provide a replacement disk for these images in the next few weeks.

Best wishes--Linda

*Hold for new
disk*

*New disk en route
M/C
12/11/08*