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

### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received JUN 9 1983 date entered

.

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

# 1. Name

historic	Upper Sto	one Schoo	l House		
and/or common	Scott Hou	ıse			
2. Loca	ation E	Sof	Vintom		
street & number	· · · · · · · ·			t, Benton County 🚬	not for publication
city, town	,			ton	
state Iowa		code	019 county	Benton	code 01/
3. Clas	sification	1			
Category district X>building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisitie in process being conside n/a		atus × occupied unoccupied work in progress cessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park xx private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Pro	perty	·····		
name	Russell D. a			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
street & number	R.R.#2, Box	169			
city, town	Vinton		vicinity of	state	Iowa 52349
5. Loca	ation of L	egal	Descriptio	n	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	County	Clerk's Office		
street & number		Bento r	County Courtho	lse	
city, town		Vinton		state	Iowa 52349
6. Rep	resentati	on in	Existing S	Surveys	
title n/a	а		has this prop	perty been determined eli	gible? yes no
date				federal state	e county local
depository for su	irvey records				
city, town				state	

# 7. Description

excellent	<u> </u>	<u>x</u> unaltered
<u>x</u> good	ruins	altered
fair	unexposed	

Check one \_x\_\_ original site \_\_\_\_ moved date .

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

**Check one** 

The Upper Stone School House is an intact and early example of the uncommon use of stone for the construction of a one-room country school house in Iowa.

The Upper Stone School House is rectangular on plan (18' by 24'), is a single story in heigth and has a gable roof. The load bearing walls are built in random coursed ashlar style using light colored local limestone. Corners are as would be expected sharply drawn and utilize larger and more regularly worked stones.

Each side of the building has symmetrical fenestration, three double hung sash (2/2) penetrate each sidewall. An exterior cellar door entrance is located at the rear of the building, and an off-center (right-hand side) door is the only opening on the front wall. Plain stone lintels set flush with the wall surface and thinner projecting stone sills frame each window. The entrance has a similar sill and a more elaborately carved lintel with a raised central panel upon which the date "1875" is incised.

A chimney flue is built into the front wall and the chimney projects from the ridge line. The cornice and frieze are plain. Alterations include the addition of a concrete front stoop, an interior metal flue alongside the existing in-wall flue, an exterior planter along the west side wall, and recent tuckpointing work. The original single room interior has been altered into a residence and now contains a combination kitchen-living room, bathroom, and a bedroom.

The building is located in eastern Benton County, one mile south of the Cedar River, on the east side of the section road which separates Sections 15 and 16 in Benton Township. The setting is one of rolling and sparsely timbered farmland.

#### 8. Significance

**Specific dates** 

Period A	Areas of Significance—C	heck and justify below		
14001499 15001599 16001699 17001799 18001899	archeology-prehistoric     archeology-historic     agriculture     xx architecture     art     commerce     communications	conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	Indscape architecture law literature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)

Unknown

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

1875

The Upper Stone School House is an early surviving example of a single room country school, unusual due to its being made of stone. It is the oldest of two similar stone school buildings in the county, both of which were constructed in the same township in the years 1875-76.

**Builder/Architect** 

According to early Benton County plat maps, the original frame school in the area of the Upper Stone School House was located one half mile south and one eight mile west of the present building site. That school originally served the educational needs of fully eight rural sections of farmland which were located south of the Cedar River. The construction in 1875 and 1876 of two limestone school houses, the subject property in Section 15, known then as school house #7, and school house #2 in Section 23, two miles to the east, and one half mile south, divided this large area between the new schools.

The builder(s) of these schools is not identified. Stone lintel dates provide the only evidence for their construction dates. A county history of 1877 states that by that year the county had 188 school houses, including three made of brick, and only two of stone. It is interesting to note that only Benton Township briefly utilized this material for school house construction.

The school is located on the northwest corner of a twenty acre plot of land which is located in the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 15, Benton Township, Benton County. This land was owned successively by J. Inman (1872), Sarah Brumwell (1885-1917), and finally by the Scott family. The last named purchased the school house when it finally was closed c. 1910-20.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Refer to Continuation Sheet 9-2

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Continuation sheet	Bibliography	Item number	9	Page 2

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