

# Iowa Site Inventory

Office of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
East 12th & Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Site Number W - PI - W2.2  
District Name Legacy In Stone TR  
Map Reference # 89

## Identification

1. Site Name C. D. and Eliza Heath Bevington Privy
2. Village/Town/City Winterset Township \_\_\_\_\_ County Madison
3. Street Address 805 South 2nd Avenue
4. Legal Location 75N 28W 1 NE1/4 NE1/4\*  
Urban: subdivision Rural: township block range parcel section ¼ section of ¼ section
- (Map 3A \_\_\_\_\_)
5. UTM Location: zone 15 easting 415,160 northing 4,574,520; Acreage less than one acre
6. Owner(s) Name Madison County Historical Society
7. Owner(s) Address 515 Fremont Street Winterset IA 50273  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Exhibit Original Privy

## Description

9. Date of Construction c. 1856 Architect/Builder unknown
10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling  industrial  other institutional  religious  
 multiple-family dwelling  educational  public  agricultural  
 commercial
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other native limestone
12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site: \_\_\_\_\_
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other farmstead

18. Map



19. Photo

Roll \_\_\_\_\_ Frame \_\_\_\_\_ View \_\_\_\_\_

\*Nomination boundary:

A circle, 50' diameter, with center point located at center point of privy. Includes only subject building.

## **SIGNIFICANCE**

### **20. Architectural Significance**

--a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register

--b. Contributing structure \_\_\_\_\_

Theme(s): Vernacular Architecture

Subtheme(s): \_\_\_\_\_

The C. D. Bevington Privy is an early example of a vernacular privy built of limestone. It is the only extant stone privy and is the only extant single cell stone building with entrance centered under the eaves. The most notable feature is the six foot deep stone vault beneath the entire privy. There are also stone chimneys at the gable peaks.

The 7'6" x 10'4" one story gabled privy is constructed of locally quarried very roughly squared limestone rubble. The privy is oriented toward and is to the east of the large brick residence. The west main entrance facade has a door centered under the eaves. The north and south gable facades each have a window toward the front of the building and the east facade has no openings.

All facades are constructed of very roughly squared quarry faced rubble laid with two against one bond. Joints have been repointed. Quoins and jambs are of finished cut quarry faced stone. Lintels are of dimension stone with draft lines, margin lines, and with the face vermiculated so that it is almost smooth. Protruding sills are dimension stone with axed surface texturing. The door sill has draft lines, margin lines, and vermiculated face. Windows and doors are recessed and have undecorated wood paneled reveals. Eaves and verges do not overhang and the ends of the rafters are visible. There are two stone chimneys, one at the gable peak at each end of the building. There is no evidence of a flue, and it is unclear whether the chimneys were used as a flue, a vent or were simply decorative. The roof is of single rafter construction with no ridge beam or collar beam. It has wood shingles.

The interior of the privy is a very spacious "three holer". The walls and ceiling are as carefully plastered as a house interior. Seating across the entire east wall is built of wainscoting with a finished wood top.

The two against one broken bond, the decorative treatment of the lintels and the windows to the side of the gable ends suggest the the privy may have been built by David Harris.

### **21. Historical Significance**

--a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register

--b. Contributing Structure \_\_\_\_\_

Theme(s) Early Settlement

C. D. Bevington was one of the organizers of Winterset, a land speculator, real estate agent, livestock dealer, and banker. He was a very wealthy and influential man who built a large expensive brick mansion and this associated large stone privy.

### **22. Sources**

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