

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name John S. Dominy House
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 605 Pearl Street
city, town Sabula
state Iowa code IA county Jackson code 097 zip code 52070

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private (checked)
Category of Property: building(s) (checked)
Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 1, Noncontributing 0 buildings, 0 sites, 0 structures, 0 objects, Total 1

Name of related multiple property listing: Limestone Architecture of Jackson County, Iowa
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 (checked) does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official: David C. State Historical Society of Iowa. Date: 6/10/92

In my opinion, the property meets (unchecked) does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official. Date. State or Federal agency and bureau.

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: entered in the National Register (checked). See continuation sheet. (unchecked) determined eligible for the National Register. (unchecked) determined not eligible for the National Register. (unchecked) removed from the National Register. (unchecked) other, (explain:). Entered in the National Register. Signature of the Keeper: Allous Byers. Date of Action: 7/24/92

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)Mid-19th Century

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Vernacular

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone

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walls Limestone

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roof Composition shingles

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other \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The John S. Dominy house is a one and one-half story rectangle measuring 28' x 17', with a single story wing to the rear measuring 28' x 20'. The house is located on the east side of Pearl Street very close to the front of the lot, one block west of the Mississippi River. It is of limestone construction with a gable roof. It features a symmetrical three bay facade on the eave side. The entry is not framed by a transom and sidelights. Windows on the first floor and gable end are 6/6 double hung sash, many with what appears to be the original panes. The half windows on the upper level of the facade contain four lights each. A wooden cornice is located just below on the eaves, and the main block features cornice returns on the north and south elevations. Limestone interior end chimneys are found on the main block, with two brick chimneys in the rear wing. The stonework on this house consists of roughly cut blocks of varying sizes and shapes laid in courses. The blocks range from 6-9" in height, and from 18-32" in width. At the corners the blocks measure 10" deep. The rear wing is of more varied stones, but not rubble. Dressed stone lintels and sills are used throughout. There is clearly a line between the front and rear wing which probably indicates different construction dates. However, no information has been located on this, and the house appears in its present form on the earliest (1886) Sanborn map.

The rear (east) elevation has been covered with the simulated stone asphalt covering and has windows and a door which are not consistent with the rest of the house. On the south elevation a one car brick garage with entry door has been attached. This garage does not create integrity problems because it is set back from the facade approximately 15'.

Although interiors were not addressed in the limestone architecture survey, in some cases the owners have provided information. The Dominy house reflects the symmetry of the exterior on the interior as well. There is a central hall with stairs, flanked by a single room on each side. The rear wing varies slightly with the south room being somewhat wider and much deeper than the north.

Despite the addition of the brick garage, and the treatment of the rear elevation, this small house retains a high level of integrity.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

c.1850-60  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

c.1850-60  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N.A.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The John S. Dominy house is significant under Criterion C as a good example of a vernacular limestone dwelling from the mid-19th century in Jackson County.

This is one of 217 limestone buildings recorded in Jackson County, and is one of 101 houses identified. Of these, 89 featured a gable roof, and 76 of these had the main entrance on the eave side. This house is representative of the most common type, a one and one-half story house with symmetrical three bay facade on the eave side. It is a very simple design with half windows at the upper level, and an entrance without transom and sidelights. The only decorative element is the use of cornice returns. The stonework here is similar to that on many houses and buildings in the county, being of coursed cut stones of varying sizes and shapes. Dressed stone is used for sills and lintels.

As a river town it would seem that Sabula would have many examples of limestone architecture, just as Bellevue does. This did not prove to be the case. There are only five extant stone buildings in Sabula, one commercial, and four houses. One of the houses, the Jeremiah Wood house, is already listed on the National Register. Sabula was platted in 1837. No information has been located on exactly when John S. Dominy arrived, but it is known that he built the first blacksmith shop in Sabula at the lower end of town. In 1880 Dr. J.G. Sugg wrote an article called "Thirty-seven Years Ago" (that would be 1843) detailing the history of Sabula and describing the location of early houses and buildings. In his discussion of Pearl Street he said ".....south of this and on the east side of the street stood a one story frame building owned and occupied by J.S. Dominy, who some years later moved it to the rear and erected a stone residence in front of it....." Although no firm construction date can be established, the house appears to have been built prior to 1860. The 1856 and 1860 census each lists two stone masons residing in Sabula but no buildings can be directly attributed to any of the four.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Atlas & Plat Book of Jackson County, Iowa. 1893; 1913.  
History of Jackson County, Iowa. 1879, pp 563 & 577.  
Sabula Gazette, 31 July 1880. Article by Dr. J.G. Sugg.  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1886, 1893, 1899, 1905, 1918.

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A 

1	5	7	3	4	9	7	0	4	6	6	1	2	1	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

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D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

City of Sabula, Block 3, Lot 11, Original Plat.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the area historically associated with this resource.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

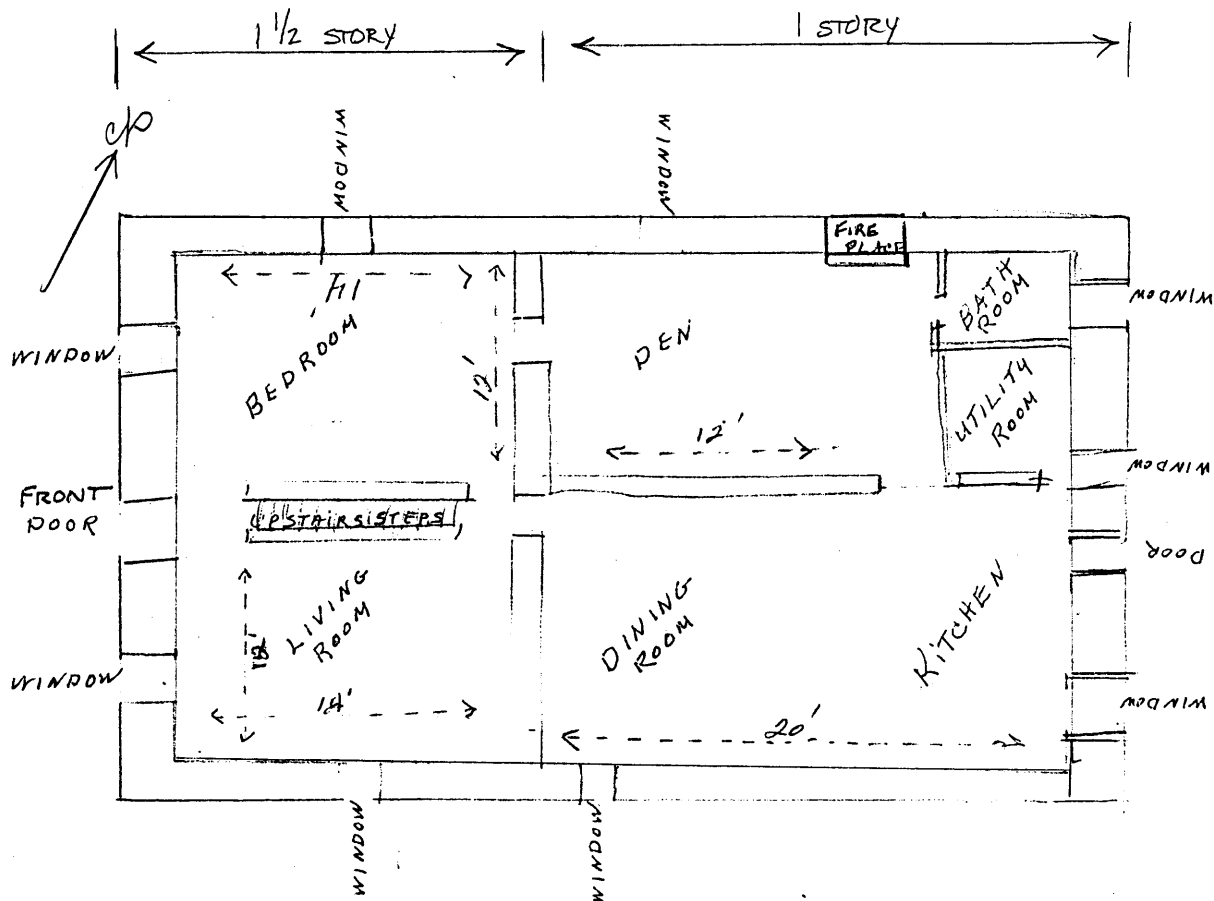
name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743  
organization Jackson County H.P.C. date May 1992  
street & number J.C. Courthouse, 201 W. Platt telephone (319) 652-3181  
city or town Maguoketa state IA zip code 52060

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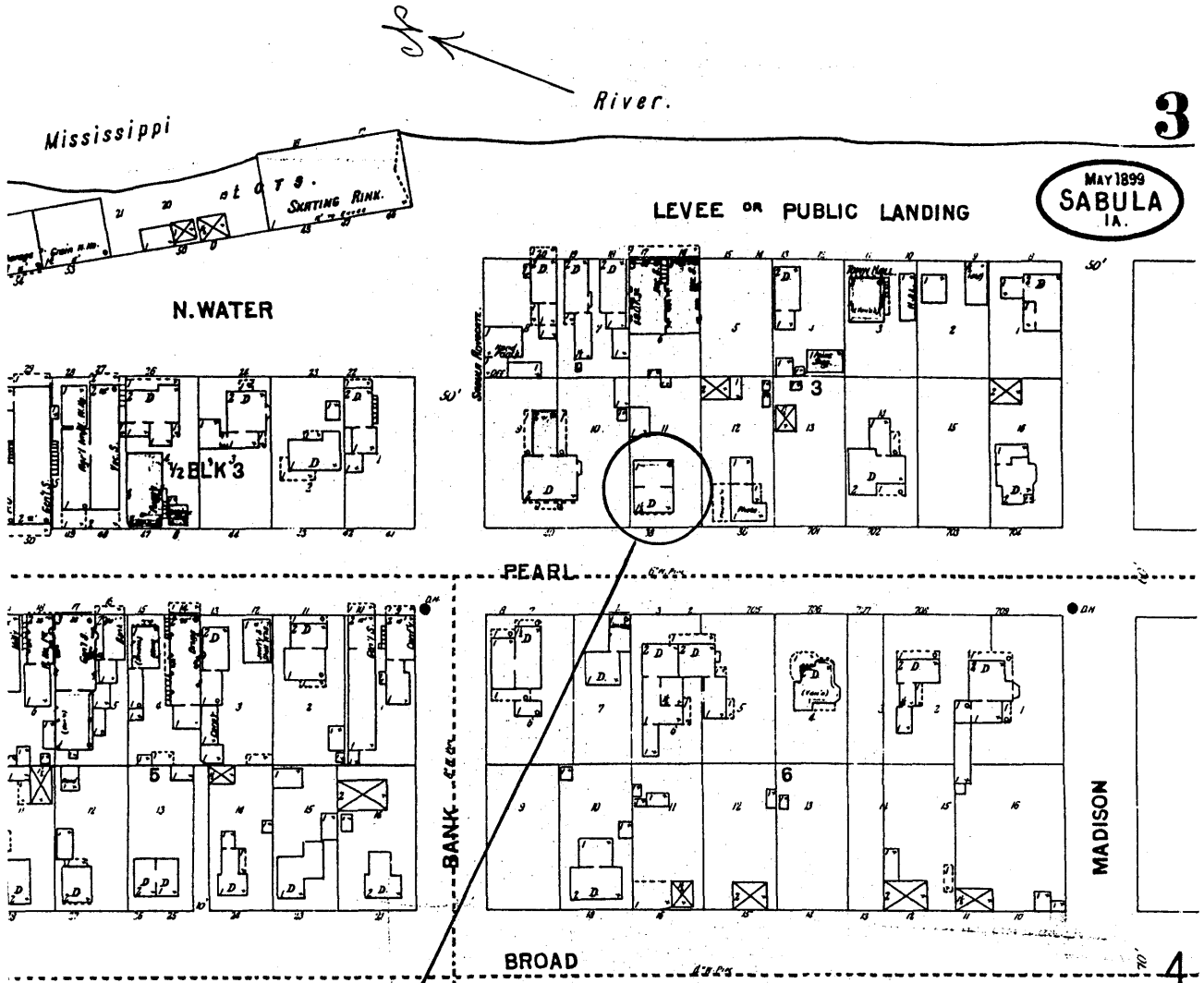
Plan of John S. Dominy House, 605 Pearl, Sabula.  
(Courtesy of owner.)

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John S. Dominy House, 605 Pearl St., Sabula

1899 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

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## SABULA

LOCATED IN UNION TWP

Scale 300 ft. to one inch.

B. A. Wood

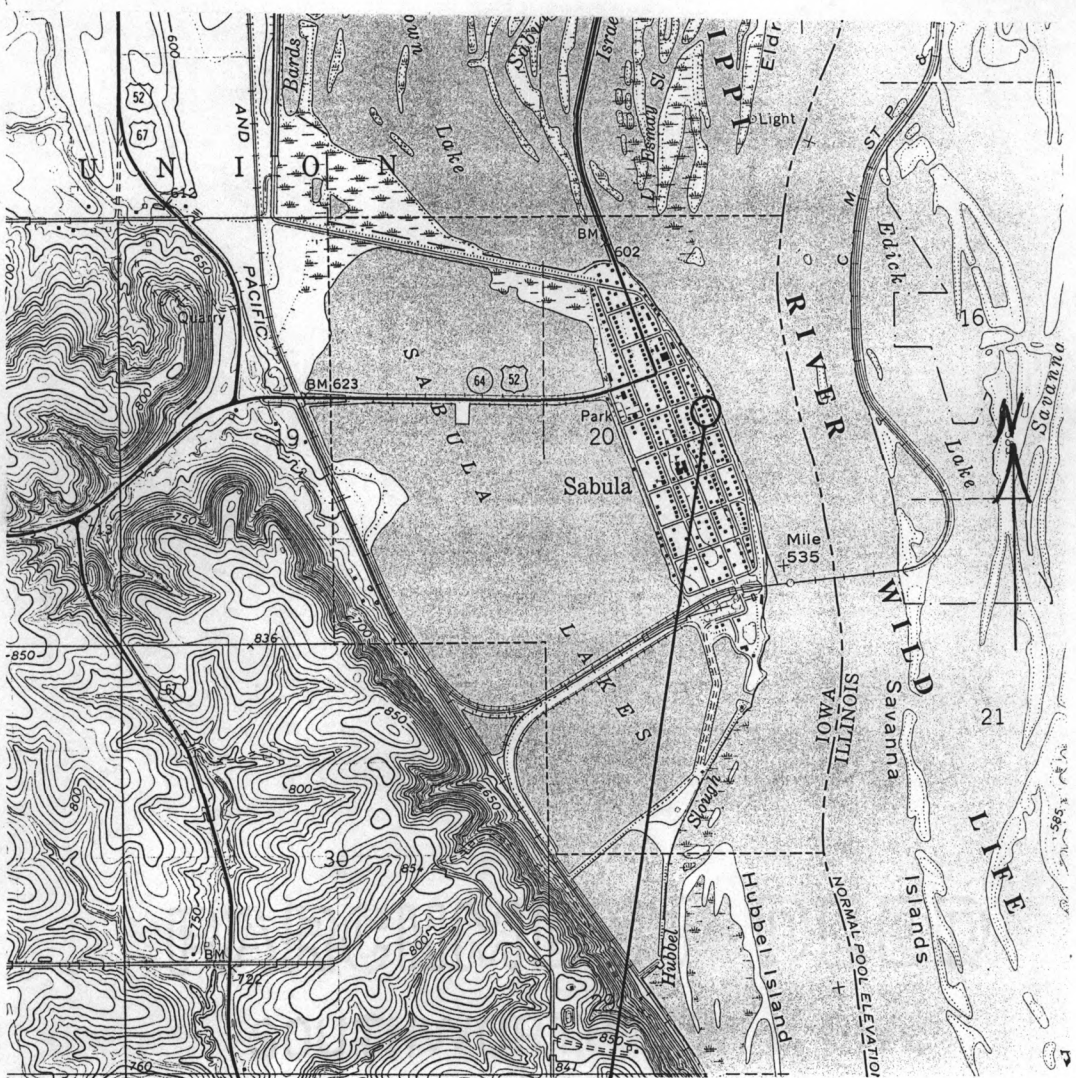
1893 Jackson County Atlas

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U.S.G.S. map of Sabula showing location of John S. Dominy House.

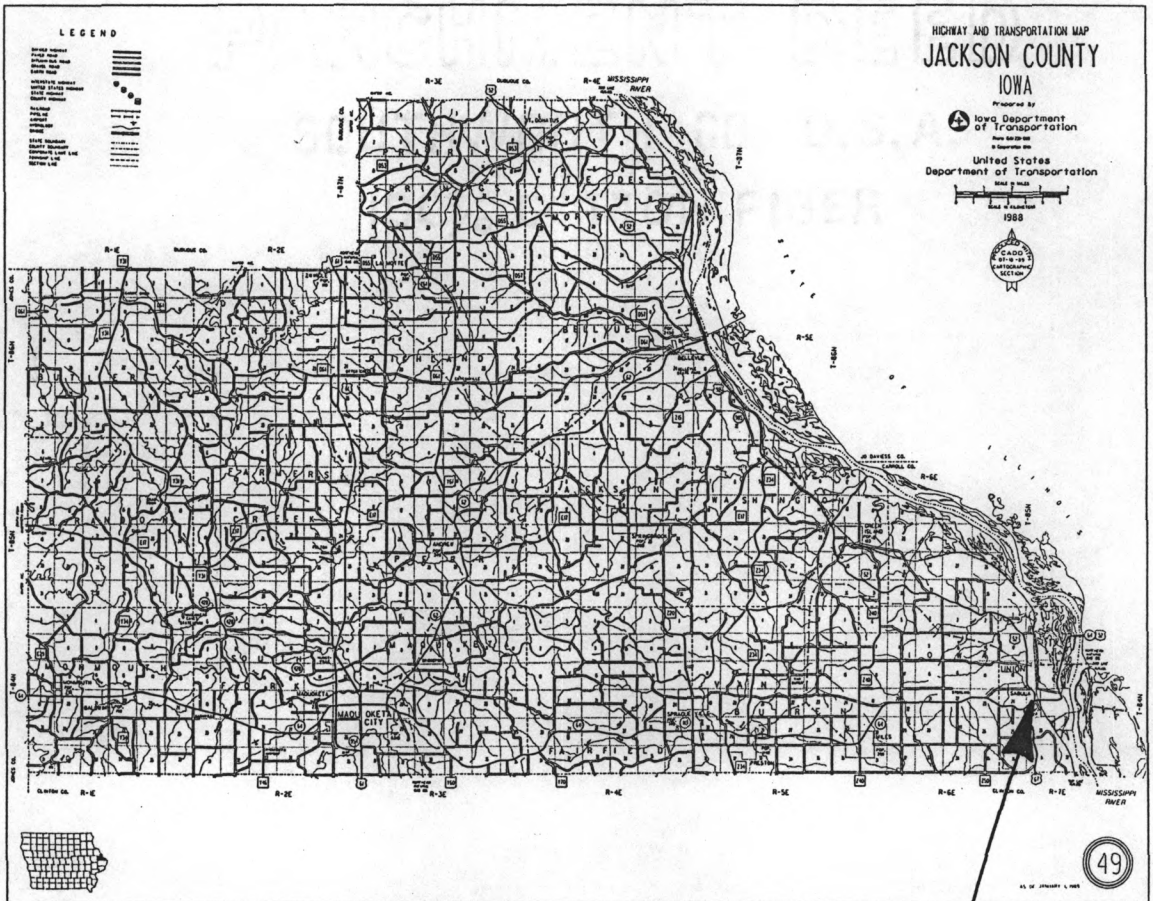


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Location of John S. Dominy House, Sabula, Union Twp.