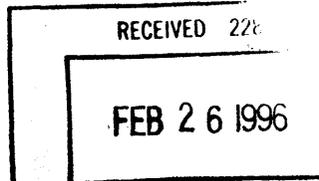


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and ~~the National Register of Historic Places~~ *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A) ~~NATIONAL PARK SERVICE~~ by marking "x" on the appropriate line 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 PROFESSOR EDGAR H. AND IRENE D. STRANAHAN HOUSE

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1001 Gurney Street N/A not for publication

city or town Oskaloosa N/A vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Mahaska code 123 zip code 52577

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.)

Patricia Orling DSHPO 2-21-96
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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)

Edson H. Beall
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

3/28/96

Entered in the
National Register

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House
Name of Property

Mahaska County, Iowa
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many lines as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one line)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

The Quaker Testimony in Oskaloosa, Iowa

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

MIXED

foundation Brick

walls Stucco

roof Asphalt

other Glass

Narrative Description

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

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House
Name of Property

Mahaska County, Iowa
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines 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" on all the lines 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

circa 1923-circa 1933

Significant Dates

circa 1923

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance - (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliography 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):

- previous determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Record
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House
Name of Property

Mahaska County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 15 | 5 29 560 | 45 72 620 |

Zone Easting Northing

2 | | | |

Zone Easting Northing

3 | | | |

Zone Easting Northing

4 | | | |

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William C. Page, Public Historian; Joanne R. Walroth

organization Oskaloosa Historic Preservation Commission date October 28, 1994

street & number 520 East Sheridan Avenue telephone 515-243-5740; FAX 515-243-7285

city or town Des Moines state Iowa zip code 50313

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs - Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items - (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name James D. and Susan A. Bryan

street & number 1001 Gurney Street telephone 515-673-4280

city or town Oskaloosa state Iowa zip code 52557

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 1

CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and D. Irene Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This is a 2-story, single-family, frame dwelling clad in stucco. It features a facade gable end, a front door with pilasters supporting a pedimented gable roof, and an enclosed, 1-story solarium on the south elevation. Windows comprise 1/1 double-hung sash. Worked into the stucco on the facade, vertical boards define pilasters, which are paired facade and support gable returns. A Moorish-type arch is also worked into the gable-end with wood. An attached garage is situated at the rear.

HOUSE

The main portion of the Stranahan House measures 32' x 32' (width by depth). The 1-story, solarium on the southern elevation measures 8' x 20'. The house also features a 2-story wing on the southern elevation, which measures 11' x 4' and is covered with a gable roof intersecting with that of the main block. A 1-story 6' x 8' enclosed porch is centered on the facade.

The house rests on a brick foundation. It is constructed of balloon frame and clad with stucco. Asphalt shingles cover the roof.

On the interior, Floors 1 and 2 feature hardwood and softwood floors, some currently covered with wall-to-wall carpeting. Interior wall finishes are plaster on Floors 1 and 2, with the new addition finished in drywall. Three rooms are situated on Floor 1 and four rooms, three of which are bedrooms, are on Floor 2. The three-quarter sized basement is finished and features a concrete floor. It contains a recreation room and a bedroom. The attic is unfinished.

The condition of this house is fine. The stucco is painted gray and the decorative wood elements on the facade are highlighted by white paint.

SITE

A modern, two-bay garage is attached at the rear of the Stranahan House. Constructed in 1977, this garage measures 26' x 24' and is attached to the house by a 6' x 23' connecting unit. Although this facility is distracting visually along Rosenberger Avenue, it is not visible from Gurney Street when viewing the facade.

The Stranahan House is situated on Lot 16 in Block 3 of the replatted Penn College Addition to the City of Oskaloosa. The parcel measures 61' x 140' (width by depth) and is situated on the northwest corner of the intersection of Rosenberger Avenue and Gurney Street.

The topography in this area is generally level or very gently rolling. Rosenberger Avenue rises slightly from North Market Street to crest at Penn Boulevard two blocks to the west. The Stranahan House is situated one block west of North Market and one block south of the William Penn College campus.

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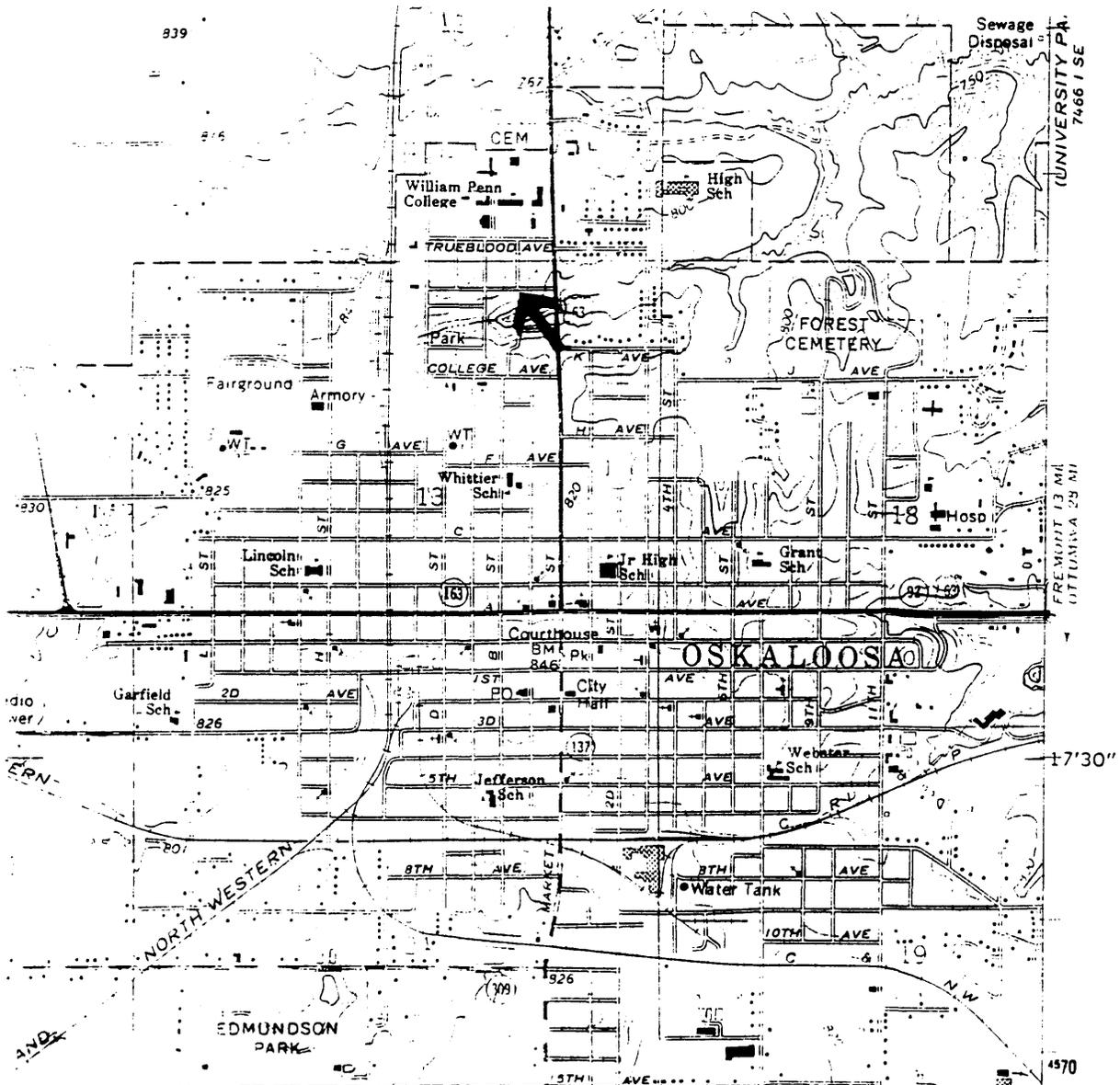
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and D. Irene Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

SITE MAP ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY



Source: U.S.G.S. Map (7.5 Minute Series), Oskaloosa Quadrangle, 1968.



United States Department of the Interior
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

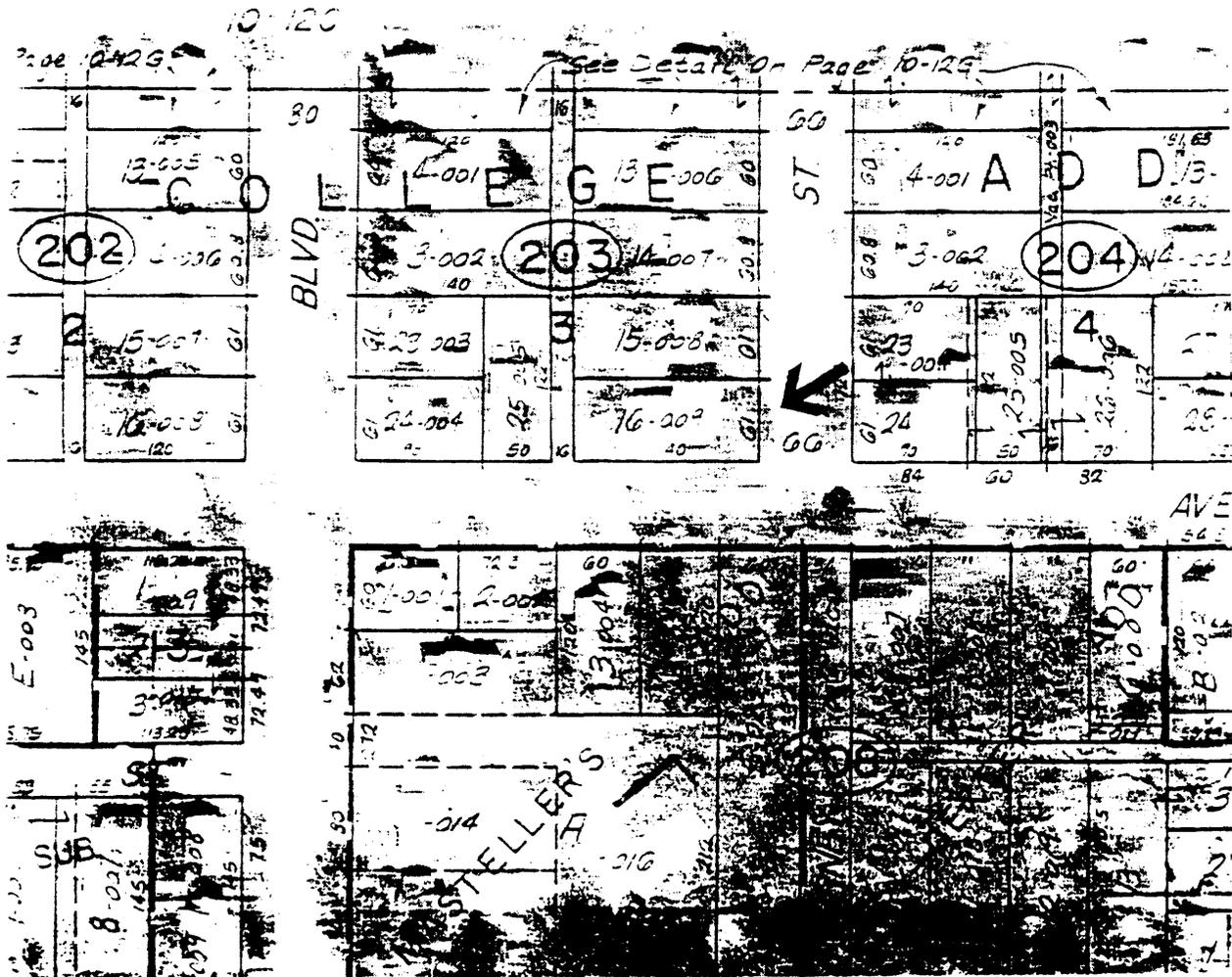
Page 3

CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

PLAT MAP

ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

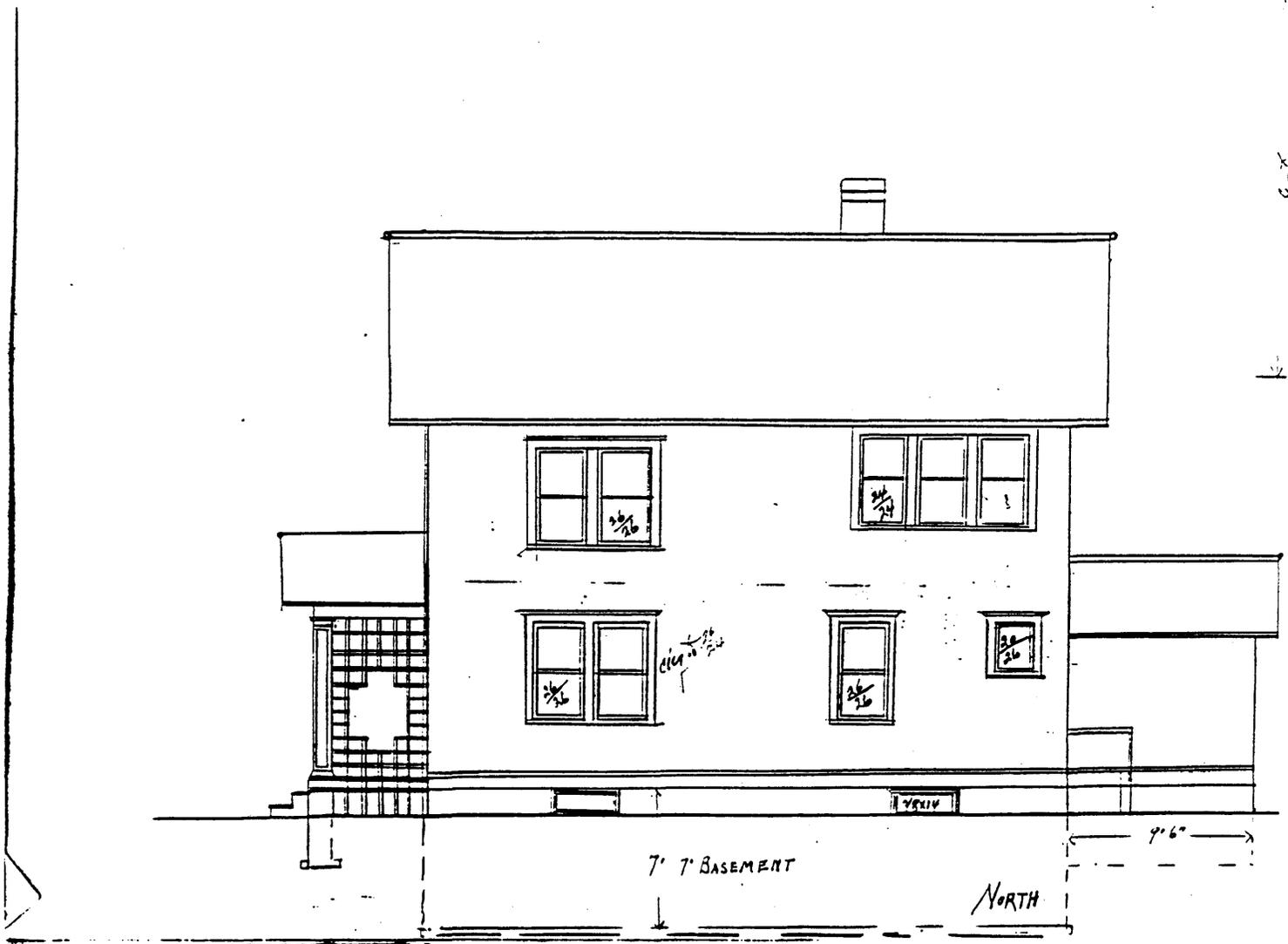
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and D. Irene Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa

NORTH ELEVATION



Source: Original Drawing, Property of James D. and Susan A. Bryan.

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CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and D. Irene Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa

SOUTH ELEVATION



Source: Original Drawing, Property of James D. and Susan A. Bryan.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

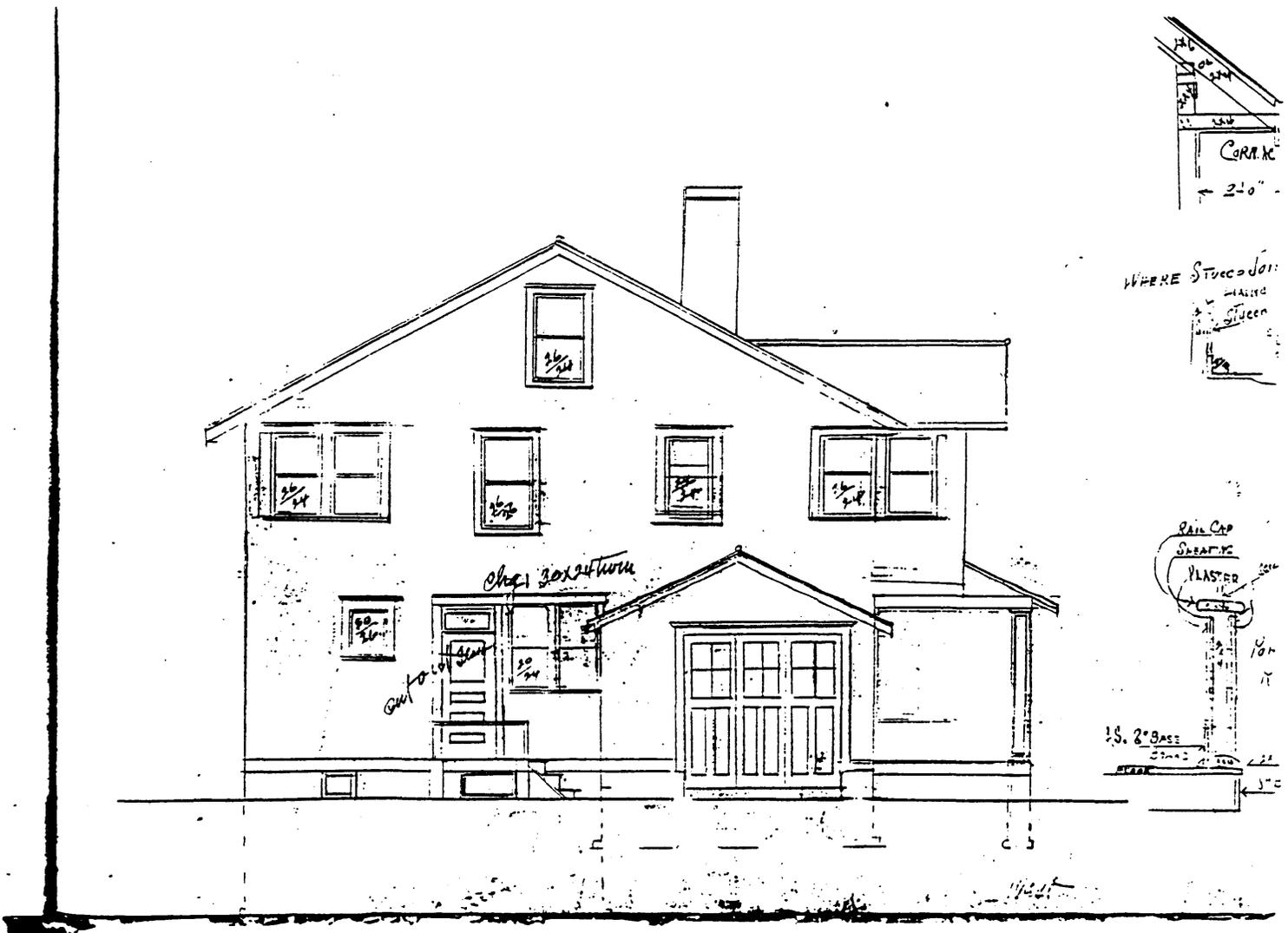
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 7

CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and D. Irene Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa

WEST ELEVATION



Source: Original Drawing, Property of James D. and Susan A. Bryan.

United States Department of the Interior
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

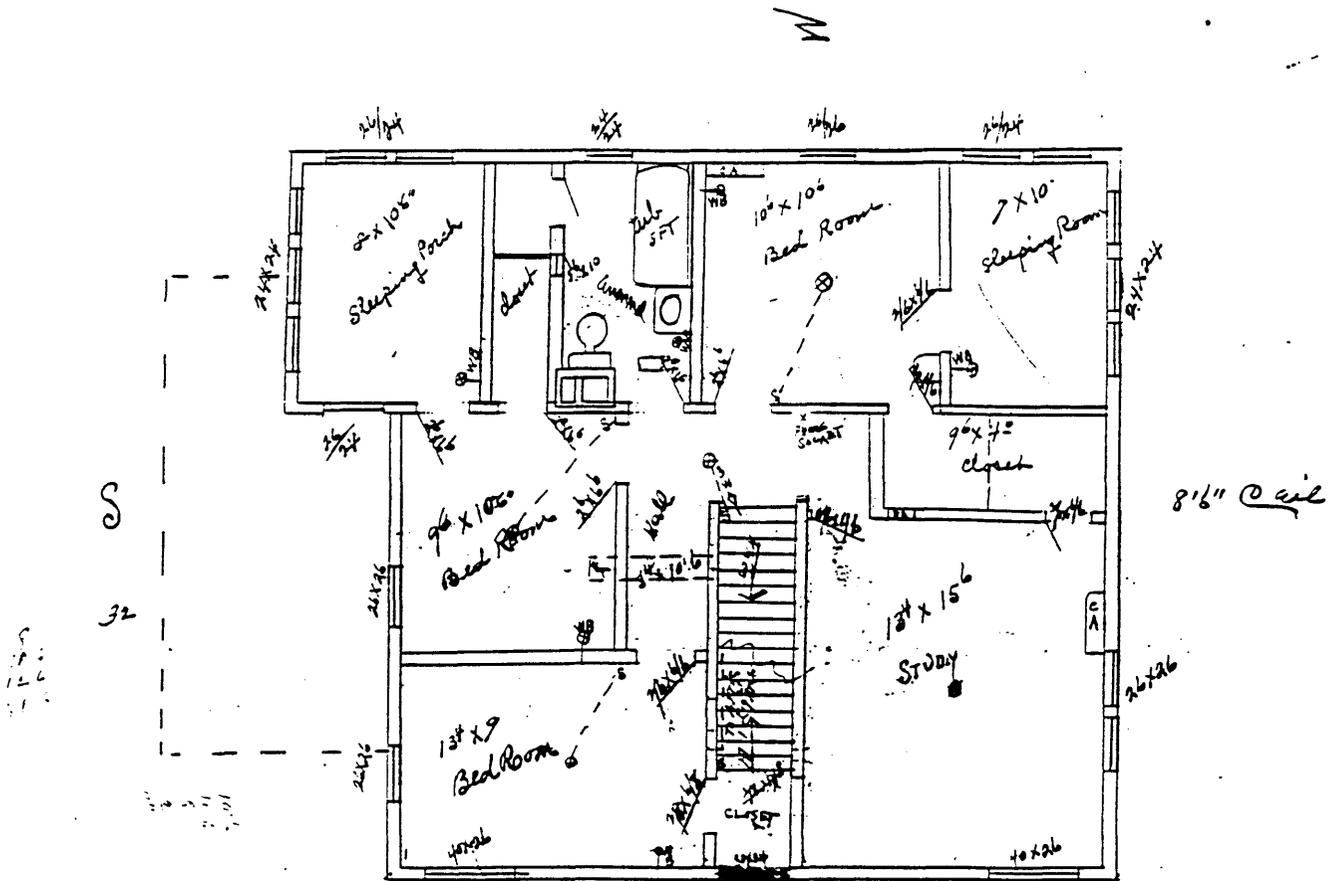
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Professor Edgar H. and D. Irene Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



United States Department of the Interior
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

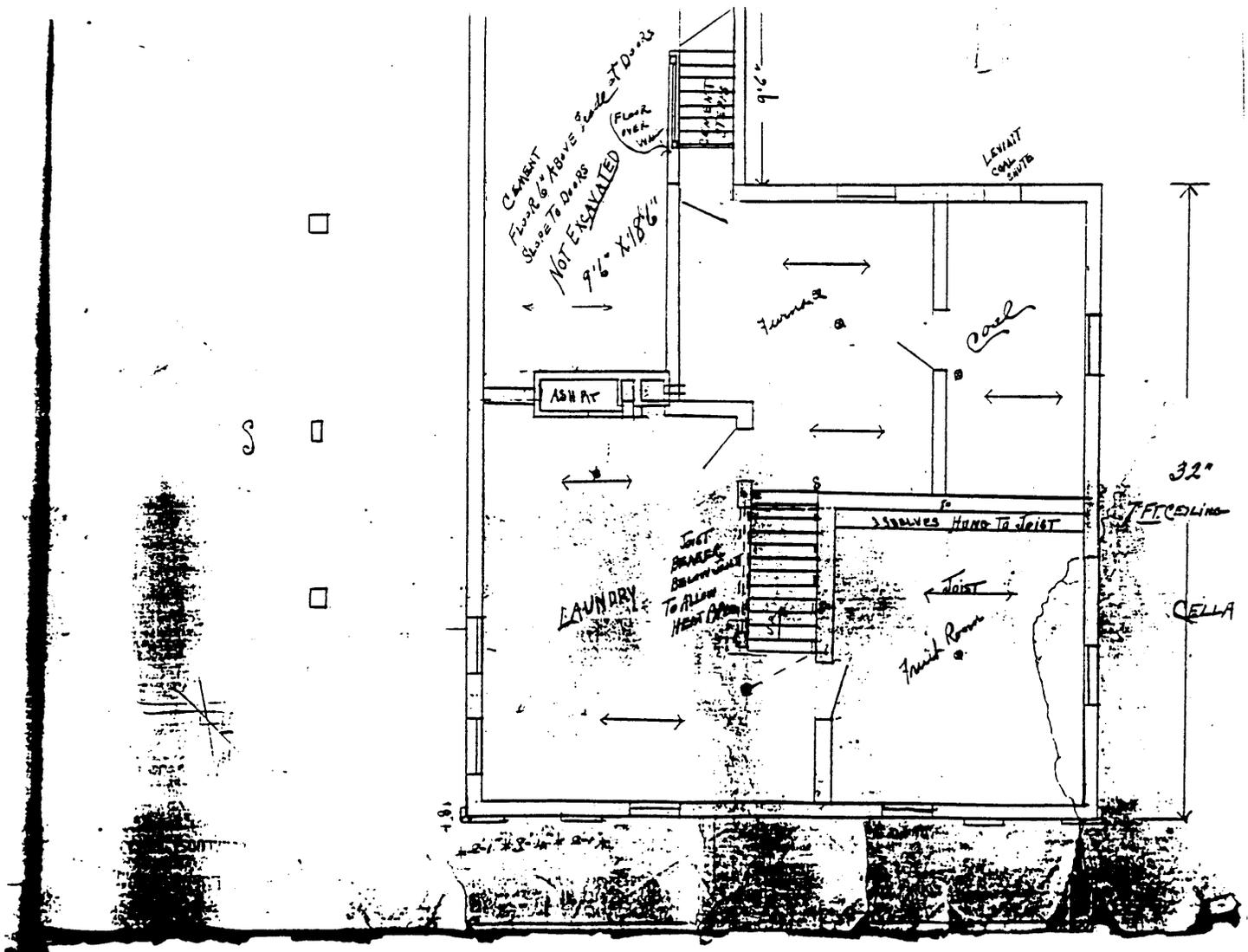
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CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and D. Irene Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa

BASEMENT PLAN



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa

PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAIT



EDGAR H. STRANAHAN
B. Lit., A. M., M. Ed.--Religious Education

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 12

CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built circa 1923 as a single-family dwelling, the Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House possesses historic significance, under National Register Criterion A, because it calls attention to events and patterns associated with the administration and faculty of Penn College within the historic context "The Quaker Testimony in Oskaloosa, Iowa." As the residence of Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan, two long-serving members of the Penn College faculty, the house calls attention to their careers at that institution and within the Oskaloosa community. The house also calls attention to the inter-generational service of this family to Penn College in the person of Esther Stranahan, their daughter. One of the earliest houses constructed in the new Penn Addition, the Stranahan House also calls attention to the Stranahans as pioneers in the development of that section of Oskaloosa.

The Stranahan House is significant, under National Register Criterion C, because it illustrates a process by which new homes were constructed locally in Oskaloosa during the first quarter of the Twentieth Century. Seven drawings for this building remain extant. They are signed by Edgar H. Stranahan and another unidentified individual and stamped with the name of the Kalbach Lumber Company of Oskaloosa (see Section 7 Page 10). It has been suggested that these drawings were prepared for submission to lumber companies for their bid on building materials. The drawings themselves show how local designers prepared new house plans. They also show the strong personal involvement of Edgar Stranahan in this unusual design. P. W. Sparks, contractor-builder of Oskaloosa, built this house.

The period of significance, under Criterion A, for the Stranahan House is circa 1923-circa 1933, the time Edgar H. and D. Irene Stranahan occupied the building. The period of significance, under Criterion C, is circa 1923, the time in which the building was constructed.

A significant date for the property, under Criterion C, is circa 1923, the period in which the house was constructed.

The property contains one contributing resource for this nomination--the house.

EVENTS AND PATTERNS

The Stranahan House is historically significant because it calls attention both to the number of faculty couples who taught at Penn and to the number of families in which members of two generations have served the college. This was the home of Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan, both of whom taught religious education at Penn College. Edgar was one of the twenty who served the college the longest, teaching from 1917 to 1933, and teaching and serving as dean from 1940 to 1943. Irene taught religion at Penn College from 1920 to 1922 and from 1925 to 1927. Esther Stranahan, their daughter, also taught religion at Penn from 1940 to 1944, so the house also calls attention to families in which members of two generations have worked for the college.

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CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

Known for his stentorian voice, Edgar served as master of ceremonies for the Oskaloosa Chautauqua during the 1920s and prior to the use of public address systems. This annual gathering, which took place on the grounds of Penn College, would have been eschewed by traditional Quakers as "worldly." Given the evangelistic tendency of the Iowa Yearly Meeting, however, the Oskaloosa Chautauqua provided an opportunity for local Friends to participate in this important local religious and education program, and Edgar's service as master of ceremonies illustrates a highly visible aspect of this evangelism.

Stranahans pioneered the development of the Penn College Addition to the City of Oskaloosa. As one of the first houses in this subdivision, its construction circa 1923 was significant because it lent credibility to this new and undeveloped residential section of Oskaloosa. As former pastor at the College Avenue Friends Church, Stranahan enjoyed wide respect among Oskaloosa Quakers. His construction in the new addition helped instill confidence in it as a financial investment and conferred social status upon it as well. Other prominent Quakers in Oskaloosa, who also pioneered the addition, included Dr. William E. Berry and Dr. William H. Klose.

ARCHITECTURE

The Stranahan House, an eclectic blend of stylistic influences, calls attention to a very personal interpretation of architectural designs. The facade of the building illustrates a creative, indeed bizarre, interpretation of residential and public building motifs. The paired pilasters flanking the facade and the Moorish-influenced arch, which they support, project a monumental feeling, more compatible to a public building than a private residence of this size. The arch suggests Mediterranean motifs popular during the 1920s (First United Methodist Church in Fairfield, Iowa, being a good example). The unique design of the facade undoubtedly attests to Edgar Stranahan's influence on this residence. It also shows the hand of an amateur architect because this styling is unintegrated with that of the other elevations, which are conventional in design. On the south elevation, for example, the solarium features wood brackets supporting flower boxes, suggesting a Craftsman influence. It appears that Stranahan was content to exert his design influence on the east elevation alone.

The size of the Stranahan House is unusually large for Penn College personnel. As discussed in the cover document to this nomination, Penn College faculty and administrators received only modest salaries. It is known that Irene D. Stranahan came from a wealthy family, the Dickinsons (Interview with Martha Berry Johnson). This heritage might have helped construct the building.

Seven drawings for this building, dated March 6, 1923, recently came to light at the Kalbach Lumber Company in Oskaloosa and were presented by the firm to the present owners of the building. They are signed with Stranahan's name (whose signature was identified by Robert Pierson). These drawings are reproduced in reduced size in this nomination. They include four elevations and three plan views. Pierson suggested that these drawings were prepared for submission to lumber companies to bid on building materials. Whatever their original purpose, these documents add to our knowledge about the process by which vernacular residential housing in Oskaloosa was planned and

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8

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CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

constructed during the first quarter of the Twentieth Century. Constructed by P. W. Sparks, major contractor-builder of Oskaloosa, the as-built house followed these plans.

REPRESENTATION IN OTHER CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEYS

The Stranahan House was surveyed in 1981 as part of the Area XV Regional Planning Commission's then comprehensive cultural resources surveys of Mahaska County. At that time, the Historical Survey did not identify or evaluate the building within the context of education in Oskaloosa. The Architectural Survey evaluated the building as not eligible for nomination, under National Register Criterion C, noting that:

This is a curious amalgamation of styles: gable roofed w/neo-classical details co-existing w/carefully delineated flat areas on the stucco surface in an almost Prairie manner. Further research on the structure might be interesting. (Naumann)

In the intervening years, more information has come to light regarding the Stranahan House and its place within the historic context "The Quaker Testimony in Oskaloosa, Iowa."

POTENTIAL FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Although the site's potential for archaeological research is, as yet, unevaluated, there appears to be little if any in this regard.

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 15

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Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

PRIMARY

Oskaloosa City Directories

1907-08
1910-11
1914-15
1919-20 Edgar H. (Irene D.) res. 149 College.
1921-22 Edgar H. (Irene) res. 652 No. C.
1924-25 Rev. E. H. (Irene D.) 1101 [sic] Gurney St.

Supplement to Penn College Bulletin, August, 1922. Contains photographic portrait of Edgar H. Stanahan. Collection Chuck Russell.

Original House Plans. Property James D. and Susan A. Bryan.

SECONDARY

Housing list prepared by Oskaloosa Monthly Meeting volunteers.

Naumann, Molly Myers; *Architectural Survey of Oskaloosa, Iowa*; Report prepared by the Area XV Regional Planning Commission and on file at the State Historical Society of Iowa; 1981.

Page, William C.; *Historical Survey of Mahaska County, Iowa*; Report prepared by the Area XV Regional Planning Commission and on file at the State Historical Society of Iowa; 1981.

Page, William C., and Joanne R. Walroth; *Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the Quaker Testimony in Oskaloosa, also including the Chicago, Rock Island, & Pacific Railroad Area*; Report prepared for and on file at the Oskaloosa Historic Preservation Commission and State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines; 1992.

Watson, *William Penn College*, pp. 310, 313.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

ORAL INFORMANTS

Johnson, Martha Berry, with William C. Page, May 22, 1995.

Pierson, Robert, with William C. Page, May 22, 1995.

United States Department of the Interior
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 17

CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 16 in Block 3 of Penn College Addition to the City of Oskaloosa, Iowa.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The National Register boundary contains all land associated historically with this resource.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 18

CFN-259-1116

Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House, Mahaska County, Iowa.

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House
1001 Gurney Street
Oskaloosa, IA 52557
Looking southwest
Patricia Pierce Patterson, Photographer
April 24, 1994

2. Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House
1001 Gurney Street
Oskaloosa, IA 52557
Looking northwest
Patricia Pierce Patterson, Photographer
April 24, 1994

3. Professor Edgar H. and Irene D. Stranahan House
1001 Gurney Street
Oskaloosa, IA 52557
Looking northeast
Patricia Pierce Patterson, Photographer
April 24, 1994