NPS Form 10-900
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018

NOV 12 2013

1076

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

RECEIVED 2280
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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House

Other names/site number: White House

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

2. Location

Street & number: 713 North Main

City or town: Burlington State: IA County: Des Moines

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B X C ___D

Terry G Brunett DSHPO 11/14/2013

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

for Edson M. Beall 1.15.14

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	x
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	x
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
2		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single dwelling

Domestic/Multiple dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Vacant/ work in progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Early Republic/Federal

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: Limestone, wood, brick, asphalt roofing

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

This building is the largest Federal style building located in Burlington, Des Moines County, Iowa. It is located at the north end of Main Street one block from the west shore of the Mississippi River and is constructed of brick on a tooled limestone foundation.

The building was completely pointed and repainted in 2008. Restoration of the exterior porches was completed in 2010 (front porches) and 2011 (side porch) replicating the columns when necessary.

Narrative Description

This very imposing building rises four stories (three floors and an attic space) from the lowest level which can be entered directly from Main Street. Sometime prior to 1960 the brick exterior was painted white, so for many decades local folks have referred to it as "the white house" with no knowledge that the building was built for and, probably, by Abiathar White and his family.

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.
- [x] 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.)

- [ ] 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture

Period of Significance
ca 1840 - 1852

Significant Dates
ca 1840
ca 1849

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Unknown

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Abaithar White left Massachusetts and was received into membership in the Methodist Church in Burlington, Iowa, in 1836. He was a carpenter by trade and, probably, saw great potential in the new territory. He and his family operated a sash and door factory on lot 214 directly adjacent to the lot on which they lived. Mr. White died in 1849, and family ownership of the property ceased by 1852. This house is the largest Federal-style building in Burlington, Iowa, and is the first house visible to people entering the state via U.S. 34.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The building is the largest (four storey) example of the Federal-style in Burlington. Four smaller buildings (two storey) of this style are in the 600 block of North Main and two are located across from the Amtrak station on South Main. The Jonathan C. Hall house at 418 Columbia is also a two story structure similar to the others located on Main.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Please see attached list

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 # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

___x_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property __Less than one acre_____

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: Longitude:
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 15	Easting: 660200	Northing: 4519692
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Lot 213 in the Original City of Burlington except the south ten feet

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes the parcel historically associated with the Abiathar and Nancy (Corey) White house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kay Weiss

organization:

street & number: 124 South Seventh

city or town: Burlington state: Iowa 52601

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House

City or Vicinity: Burlington

County: Des Moines State: Iowa

Photographer: Dennis Fraise

Date Photographed: 3 November 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 10 North side of brick house and original frame house (camera facing southward).
2 of 10 East side of brick house (camera facing westward).
3 of 10 South side of brick house (camera facing northward toward the bluff).
4 of 10 West side of brick house (camera facing eastward toward river).
5 of 10 South side of original house (camera facing northward).
6 of 10 Interior, southeast corner of formal parlor (camera facing southeastward).
7 of 10 Interior, southeast corner of bedroom, second level (camera facing southeastward).
8 of 10 A view from the second level (camera facing eastward).
9 of 10 A view showing hand-split lath in the original house.
10 of 10 A view of the walnut siding on the upper west side of the original house.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Summary:

Since the 1850 Federal Census, the building located at 713 North Main Street, Burlington, Iowa, has been a multiple-family dwelling although it was built as a single family home. Located on the west side of the street at the base of the limestone bluff on Original Lot 213 in the City of Burlington, just one block from the Mississippi River, the east wing of the building is the first house visible in Iowa when one uses the Main Street exit from the Great River Bridge on U. S. 34 coming west into Iowa. If one stays on U.S. 34 going west, the south side of the building shows a vernacular style (and earlier) section of the house located to the west of the Federal style section. This building was first owned by Abiathar and Nancy (Corey) White and had been painted white for more than sixty years; therefore, it is commonly referred to as "the white house."

The south-facing section of the building was built ca. 1840. It is a post and beam frame building (17' x 20') with a center chimney and a deep porch 8' x20' that is supported with three Doric columns. The railings have been replaced. Evidence of a former half column located at the west end of the porch against the house was uncovered. At the east end of the porch is a rear entrance to the east-facing Federal-style brick section which was built as an addition to the original frame house prior to 1850. This sequence is evidenced by the fact that the west wall of the brick addition is a post and beam wall attached to the smaller house with pegs while the three remaining walls are of limestone and brick.

The building is currently vacant and secured because inspectors of the City of Burlington declared the building unfit for habitation in 2006. Plumbing failures and a lack of exterior maintenance by previous owners contributed to major water damage to the entire building interior and mortar failure in the Federal style section.

Exterior:

The east side of 713 North Main is certainly the most imposing view of the building. Because it is built into the limestone hillside, the building rises four stories (three floors and an attic space) on this Main Street side. The brick section of the house, which includes gables with parapets between the chimneys on both the north and south ends, is painted (Diamond Vogel Paint H-114, Waverly Ridge). The dentiled brick cornice across the front has been painted a contrasting color to match the limestone lintels and sills (DV, H-102, Hennepin White).

The lower, street level entrance is protected by a porch floor which serves the second (main) level of the brick portion of the building. The porch which rises from the Main Street level was repaired in July, 2010, replicating the original posts and restoring the upper railing outside the windows of the third level) that was shown in an early painting and in a photo taken ca 1910..

The entrance to the lower level is in the center of the tooled limestone front face between two large double-hung (six over six, 42" x69") windows. This entrance is completely sheltered by the large porch structure which is topped with a balustrade. To the right of the entrance is a rough-cut, limestone wall that extends twenty feet to the east in line with the north wall of the house foundation. This wall serves as a retaining wall for the part of the hill that was not excavated for the construction of the house itself. The entrance steps to the second (main) level of the house are located to the north of this wall. This retaining wall is being counted as a contributing structure in this nomination.

On the second level, the brick face includes a wide doorway to the entry hall located at the north side of the porch (to the right when viewed from the east). The door, which is 34 ½" wide, is surrounded by 16 lights; the side lights are 11 ½" x 16 ½" each, and the upper lights are 16 ½" x 9 ½". The entire door way is framed in wood and recessed 20" in the east facing wall. A limestone lintel tops the door opening.

Two very large double-hung windows (six over nine, 45" x 102" with lights that are 11 ½" x 16 1/2") are evenly spaced to the south of the entrance. Following the pattern of the Federal style, these east-facing windows are elongated to reach the floor and provide a view of the river from the interior. The room appears to have been the formal parlor.

The three double-hung windows (six over six 42" x 75" with lights 11 ½" x 16 1/2") on the third level are located directly above the openings on the second level. All windows in this brick section have stone lintels and sills. Above the upper windows, the brick on this face of the house is topped with a dentil band that appears to support the timbers that carry the roof structure. The present architectural shingles were chosen to replicate the wooden shingles (which were still visible in the attic spaces in 2008) when the rotten roof structure was replaced.

The south side of the building clearly shows the two different construction periods. When one faces the south side of the house, the right section clearly represents the Federal-style. The tooled limestone foundation consists of blocks which are between 8 ½" and 9 ½" high and fourteen inches deep; the stones vary from twelve to fifty inches in length. This foundation wall disappears into the hill approximately twenty feet west of the front wall. There are two

double-hung windows (six over six, 32" x 69") fairly evenly spaced in the exposed wall. Directly above, the brick level extends farther to the west where it abuts the porch of the earlier section. This second level has four double-hung windows (six over six 42" x 75"), two above the windows in the limestone wall and two others evenly spaced farther to the west. The third level also has four double-hung windows (six over six, 42" x 75") directly above those located on the second level. The fourth level has just one double-hung window (six over six, 36" x 60") located in the center of the wall between the two chimneys that rise from this wall between the pairs of windows on the lower levels.

When viewed from the south the frame section to the left has a rough limestone foundation that is concealed by the porch floor. Three solid wood Doric columns support a sloping porch roof which is attached to the frame house directly below two double-hung (28" x 44") windows in the upper story. Two double-hung (28" x 55") windows (on the wall behind the porch in the lower story) are equidistant from the center door opening. The face of this section of the building is covered with a tongue and groove type of wooden siding which has been painted. These boards are 5 ½" wide with 1/4" bead near the tongue of each board. Above the level of the door frame a conventional beaded board has been used as siding, indicating that the roof structure may have been enclosed at one time. The wall above the porch is covered with lap siding.

Farther to the west (left) was a frame addition which appeared to have been built over a porch. This section had no stable foundation and was separating from the rest of the building. There were three broken rafters. In addition some upper floor joists were compromised where a support beam had been removed sometime in the past, and three lower level joists were rotted off at the north end where the northwest corner of the addition abutted the slope of the adjacent hill. This addition was removed in 2009.

The exterior west facing wall of the Federal-style section is a post and beam frame wall shared with the smaller frame house. It is covered with the same type of tongue and groove siding used on the front of the frame section below the porch roof of that section. Above the porch roof of the earlier section, the west side of the Federal-style section is faced with painted lap siding.

The exterior west facing wall of the frame section rests on rough cut limestone and is covered with painted lap siding which was revealed intact when the west addition was removed. Two upper window locations were revealed, covered over by lath and plaster, but with early shutter

latches remaining on the sills. Replacement windows (28" x 44") were installed in these openings. An additional window (28" x 55") was installed on the lower level in a doorway space that opened between the frame sections.

On the north side, the original section of the house is built on a foundation of rough limestone. The post and beam frame is covered with painted lap siding. Three double-hung windows are located in the north wall of this section of the structure. A rough limestone foundation also anchors the north side of the Federal-style structure which is brick above ground. There is a window well at the northeast corner to allow for a double-hung window on the Main Street level in the Federal style section.

On the second level (which is ground level on the north side because of the slope of the hill) there are two double-hung windows (six over six, 36" x 60") that flank the chimney at the west end of the Federal section. On the third level two more double-hung windows (six over six, 36" x 60" with lights 9 ½" x 13 1/2") are located above the lower ones. The north facing double-hung attic window (six over six, 36" x 60") is centered on the brick wall between the two chimneys that ascend the north wall. Each of the windows on this less public side of the brick section has a lintel of vertically placed bricks and a limestone sill.

According to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Burlington, Iowa, dated 1886, the footprint of the building at 713 North Main remained unchanged for over 100 years. Two small out-buildings (probably privies) have disappeared from the site, but the steps up to the alley, the retaining wall at the rear of the lot (at the edge of the alley way now privately owned), and the stone wall on the north side of lot 214 still exist. The greatest change to the property occurred in the late 1960s when lots to the south and the south 10 feet of the original lot 213 were purchased by the State of Iowa to expand the right-of-way for the U. S. Highway 34 corridor. Consequently, this historic house is now just 60 feet north of this busy roadway.

Few substantive changes have been made to this building since 1900 except for the addition of interior plumbing and electricity. (A former resident has told us that as late as 1942 there was just one interior bathroom for the entire structure which was divided into ten living units at that time.) There had never been a central HVAC system; heating had been provided by individual stoves and space heaters throughout the building's history. Work is currently underway to install modern plumbing and a whole house heating and cooling system.

Interior

The lowest level of the Federal style section of this house opens at the Main Street level. There were three rooms on this level that were used most recently as a small apartment. The exterior door opened into the southeast room which has an exterior window facing Main Street and a window in the exterior south wall as well. A small room that extends into the basement area behind the front room has been used as a small kitchen. This area has a window which is located directly next to the hill side outside. The northeast room, which has been used as a sleeping room, is entered through the wall located between the two front rooms. This room also has two windows, one facing Main Street and one in the north wall in the northeast corner. The north wall in this room showed scarring from the removal of an interior stair that once went up to the next level. The non-supporting wall dividing this space was removed in 2011 and a replacement stair was installed in the fall of 2012. The lower entrance and four windows now enhance the large open space. The ceiling height in this level is 9 feet.

Behind this room is the basement area (13'6" x 14") which contains the electrical service panels, the new furnace, and a water heater. A door in the west wall leads to the basement of the original frame house. At the west end of the basement of the original house, a small limestone structure (36 square feet, walls 1 foot thick) can be found. The interior of this small space has been plastered. This room has an east facing doorway and is topped with large split logs. The four west floor joists for the frame building above and around it rest on these logs. It has been suggested that this structure may have served as a small shelter between the time the White family came into the Iowa Territory (they were received into membership in the Methodist Church in Burlington in 1836) and the construction of the frame house directly above.

The primary entrance to the building is located on the second level of the east face. This entry (consisting of a central door with glass transom and side-lights) leads into a side hall (15'6" x 8') with an interior stairway up to the next level. To the left of the entry door is the formal parlor (16'6" x 16') located in the southeast corner of this level. There are four large windows in this room. The two windows on the east wall (Main Street side) are double-hung, six over nine, units that are 8'4" inches tall. The two south facing windows are six over six and also double hung. They flank a chimney which has been pierced in several locations for stove pipes over the years. The ceiling height in this room is 10'3".

A doorway in the southwest corner of the formal parlor leads into a smaller room (14'6" x 11") located behind it. This room, which was once used as a kitchen for an apartment in these three

rooms, has two south facing, double-hung windows (six over six) which flank the southwest chimney. There is an exterior door on the west wall. On the north wall of this room is a doorway which leads into another room. The ceiling height of these two rooms is also 10'3".

The third room (14' x 13') also opens into the far end of the entry hall, completing the circle in this section of the house. This room has two windows on the north wall flanking the northwest chimney. In addition to the doorways into the hall and the former kitchen there are two more doorways. One in the east wall goes into a stairway to the lower level. The fourth doorway is located in the west wall of this room and leads into the main level of the original frame section of the house. In January, 2008, this doorway was uncovered by removing the paneling nailed on each side to divide these three front rooms of the house into an apartment.

The frame section of the original house is one large room (22' x 15'6") with a central chimney. Paneling nailed over 2x2s had been used to divide this space into three small rooms for another apartment. A case study of a Massachusetts house presented in **Paint in America** (Moss) suggested that there would have been a staircase located in one corner of the original living space in a house of this age and type leading to the sleeping loft above. The removal of even more paneling uncovered the location of this stairwell in the northwest corner of this room. Apparently it had been removed to make room for small bathrooms for two of the apartments when interior plumbing was required. A stair case was reinstalled in this location in 2010. The ceiling height of this room is 8 feet.

Returning to the east entry hall, the stairway is located against the north wall. The newel post, spindles, and banister are of very simple design and appear to be walnut (although they are covered with several coats of paint). Fifteen steps lead up to the next level of the house. At the top of the stair case are scorch marks on the floor indicating the position of a stove with a stove pipe tied into the northwest chimney.

The upper hall is filled with doors that lead into four double-stacked rooms and into the stairway to the attic space above. The doorway farthest to the left from the head of the stairs leads into a room (7' x 8') that is located in the northeast corner above the major entry. This room was converted to the first bathroom when interior plumbing was introduced into the house. This small room contains one east facing, double-hung window, six over six.

Directly adjacent to this room is the largest room (17' x 15'6") on this level. Here, in the southeast corner of the building, the room has four double-hung windows, six over six. Two windows are on the east wall; the other two are on the south wall flanking the southeast chimney. Again, there is evidence of a variety of stoves used over the years as multiple holes to accommodate stove pipes were made in this chimney. The ceiling height is 8 feet, 8 inches in this space.

The third room (12' x 11') which opens off the upper hall was probably used as a bedroom at one time. Most recently, it had been used as a kitchen adjoining the larger front room. It also has two double-hung, six over six, windows flanking the southwest chimney. Because of substantial leaking in the attic roof above this room, the plaster behind the melamine paneling had failed exposing the framing of the original house in this west side of the addition.

The fourth room on this level (8' x 12') was similar in size to the first room discussed. However, in recent time, this room served as the "front room" of yet another apartment. A double-hung window is located in the north wall of this room. A doorway in the west wall is equipped with three steps that lead down into the room that appears to have been the sleeping loft of the original house. In preparation for the installation of a bathroom, this room has been divided into a smaller north room and a hall.

The upper room in the frame house had been divided into two spaces – one to serve as a kitchen (13' x 13'6") and one (8' x 13'6") to serve as a bedroom and bathroom. The ceiling height in this space is 7'6". The bathroom for this apartment (now removed) had been built into the landing area created when the stairway from the lower level was removed. When the paneling in this space was removed, the opening for an original window on the west was uncovered. Further exploration revealed the original siding still in place on this exterior wall.

Returning back to the stairwell in the brick section, the steps to the attic space (24' x 14') can be accessed. During World War II, this space was also used as living space because the need for housing for Iowa Ordnance Plant workers was extreme. The steps enter the space near the south end of the floor. There is one double-hung window in each end of this room. There is evidence that small stoves were used in both the northwest and southeast chimneys. The 77 inch ceiling of this room slants to knee walls on the east and west sides of the space.

Throughout the building the wall surfaces were plaster over lath except on the inside of the three brick walls where the plaster was applied directly to the brick surface. The ceilings were plaster applied over lath as well, but the ceilings and some walls have suffered extensive damage because the roof was not maintained and substantial leaking occurred in many areas.

During the years of its existence, many interior changes have taken place to this interesting house. Interior doorways were both opened and closed to create apartments of varying sizes. Evidence of the interior stairways (removed to allow for the installation of interior plumbing) has been uncovered and staircases reinstalled. In the west wall of the original house, window openings and doors (minus their door handles) were found under sheet paneling which covered layers of wallpaper applied over the wooden doors, cardboard boxes, and, in one case, linoleum tacked over an empty window opening. Hand split lath still covers much of the inside of the original section of the house. We would like to believe that Abiathar White, who was a carpenter by trade, would be proud to know that the house he built in Iowa so long ago still stands.

Archeological Statement

An archeological investigation was not a part of this nomination. Additional research may identify archeological sites that could contribute to the overall historical significance of the property.

Integrity

The building is intact and has good historic integrity. The only exterior alteration appears to be the painting of the exterior brick. Interior alterations include the installation of heating and plumbing necessitating some interior space modifications.

1. Location: the building is in its original location.

2. Design: The exterior appears unchanged.

3. Setting: The surrounding neighborhood has undergone considerable change. At one time Main Street ended near the front of the house. Over time, the road to the north was extended east

along the side of the bluff and then widened which brought it closer to the house. On the (facing the Mississippi River) the buildings located on Front Street were removed to make way for the first public bridge built to cross the river into Illinois in 1917. To the south and west, buildings were purchased and razed (in the period from 1969 through 1976) to build the four-lane iteration of U.S. Highway 34 with exit ramps. In the early 1980s three professional buildings were built up the hill (behind the house) on Third Street (to the west and north); they are currently occupied by a dental practice and social service agency offices. In 1993 the Great River Bridge opened to replace the original two-lane toll bridge across the river.

4. Materials: The exterior materials are original with the exception of new lumber needed to stabilize and repair the porches and windows.

5. Workmanship: The workmanship employed in this building reflects the skills and tools available at the time of construction. Many beams are hand hewn, and evidence of vertical saw cuts can be seen on others.

6. Feeling: The building has very good exterior integrity. The interior currently reflects the decades of abuse and neglect that caused the City of Burlington to declare the building unsafe and uninhabitable.

7. Association: The only residential buildings nearby are a modern home at the top of the bluff (with access from Spring Street above and two blocks to the north) and a short row of four two-story Federal buildings one block to the south and on the east side of Main Street. These buildings house commercial offices on the Main Street level and apartments above. The Burlington Public Library (opened in 2006) occupies the space to the south between the highway and the Des Moines County Court House.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

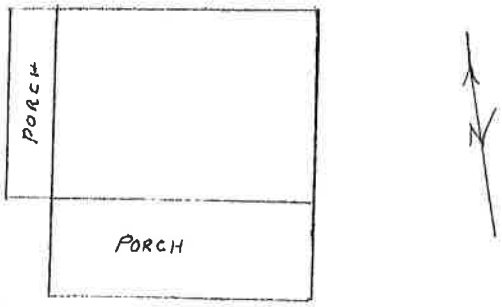
Section 7, page 10

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

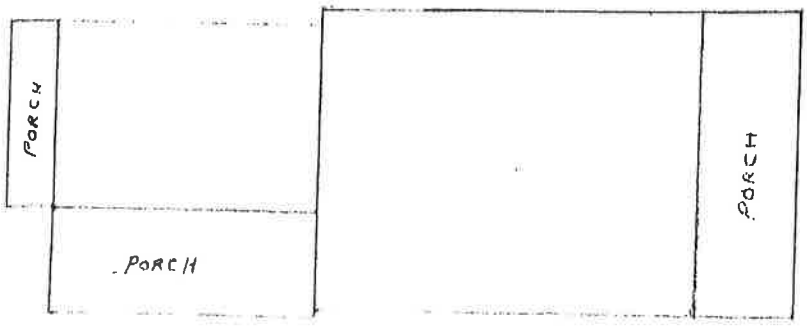
Footprint:

(Measured and drawn by J. David Weiss, February, 2008)

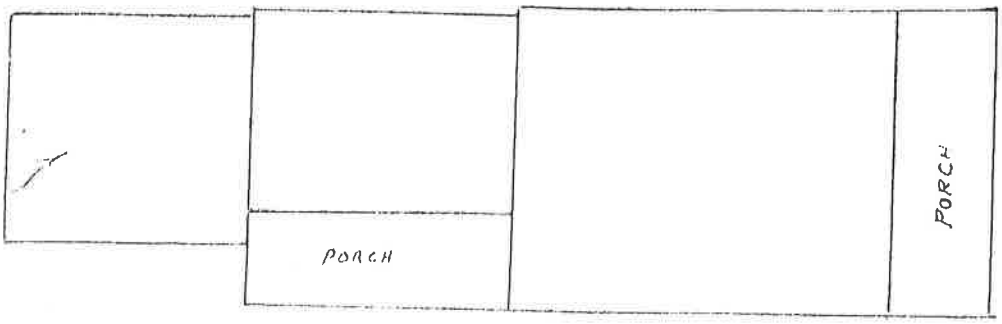
ORIGINAL FRAME HOUSE
PRIOR TO 1844



ORIGINAL HOUSE WITH BRICK ADDITION
TO EAST - PRIOR TO 1850

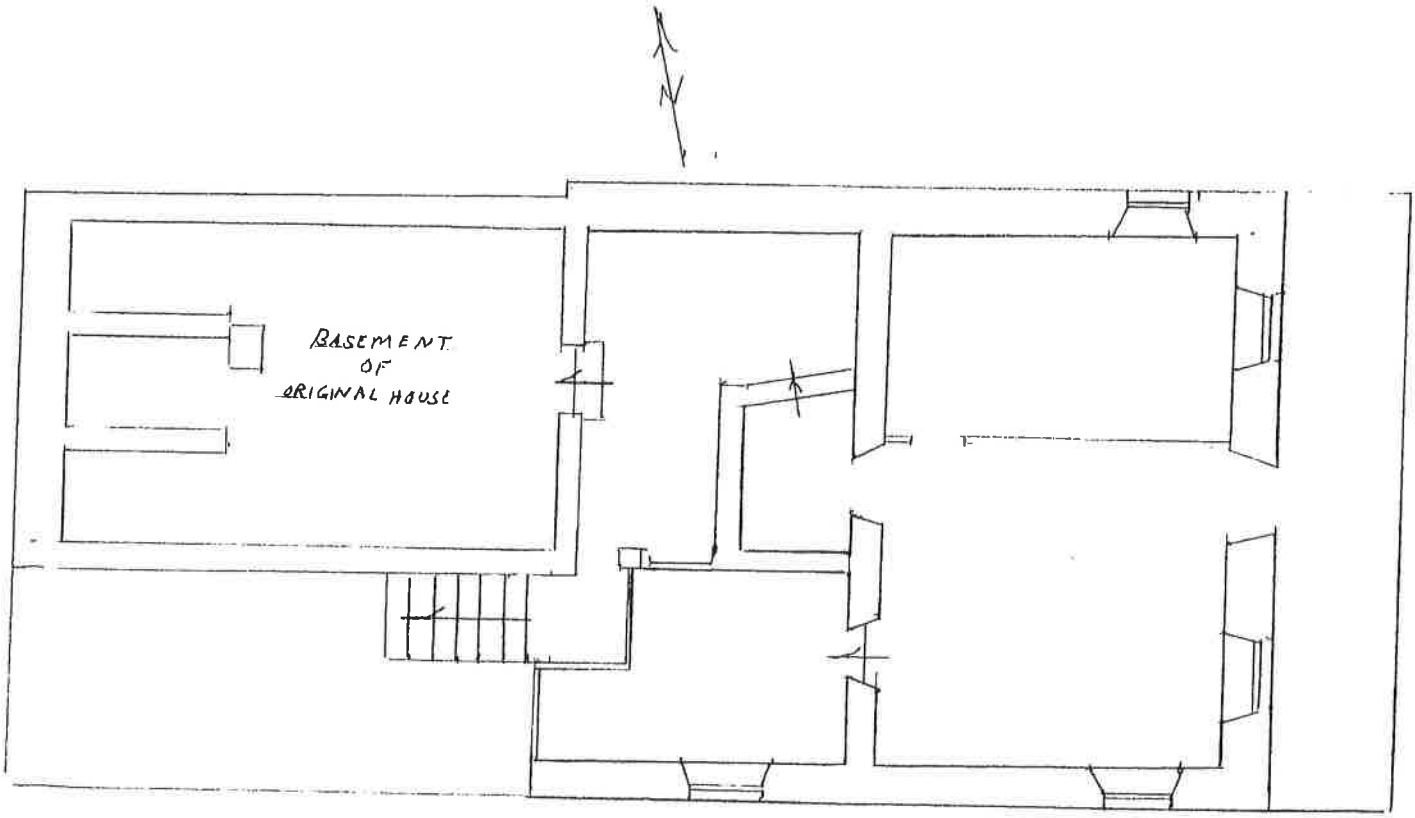


ADDITION TO WEST
PRIOR TO 1875
DEMOLISHED 2007



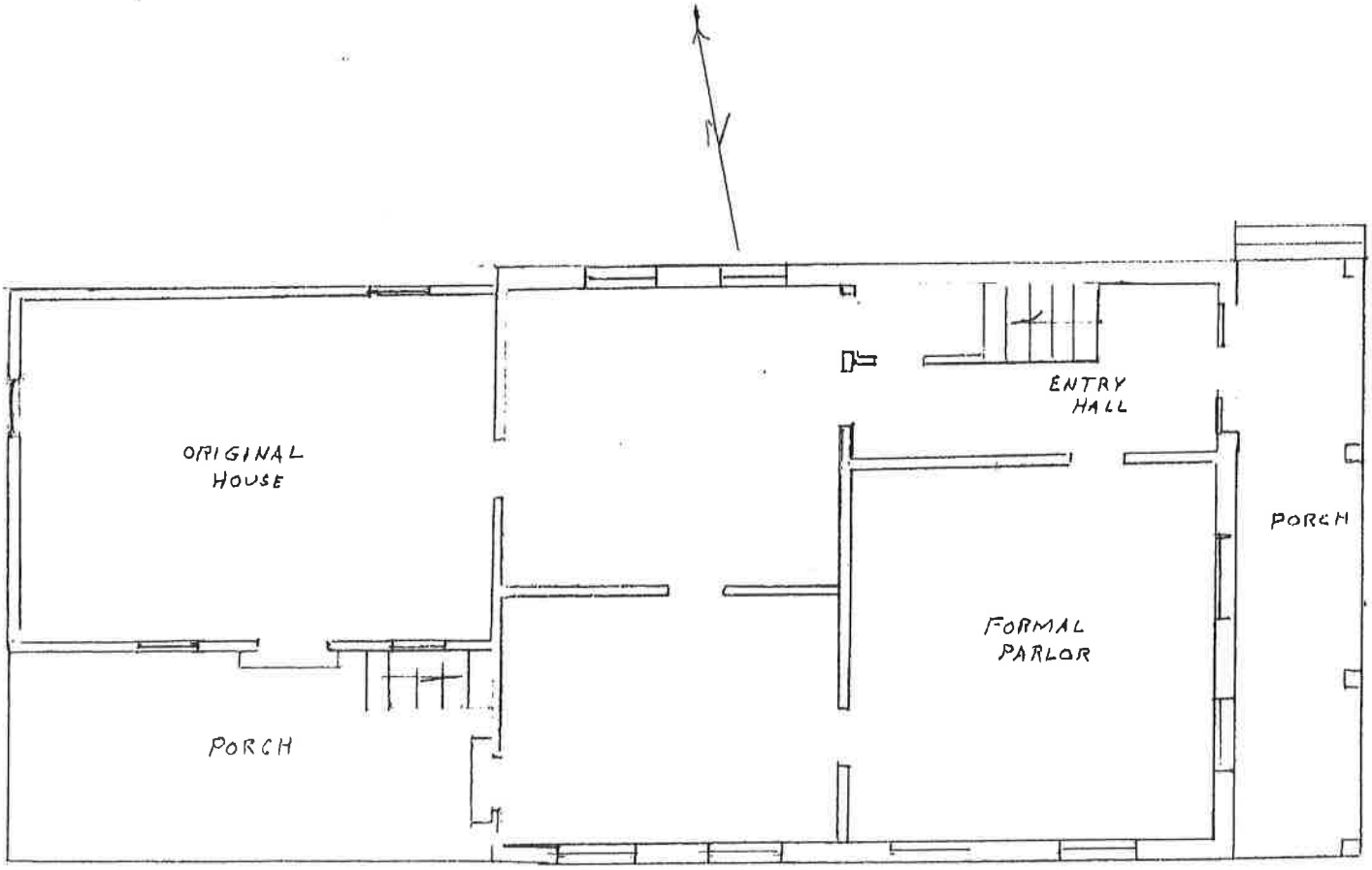
Floor plan:

(Measured and drawn by J. David Weiss, February, 2008; scale 1" = 8 feet)



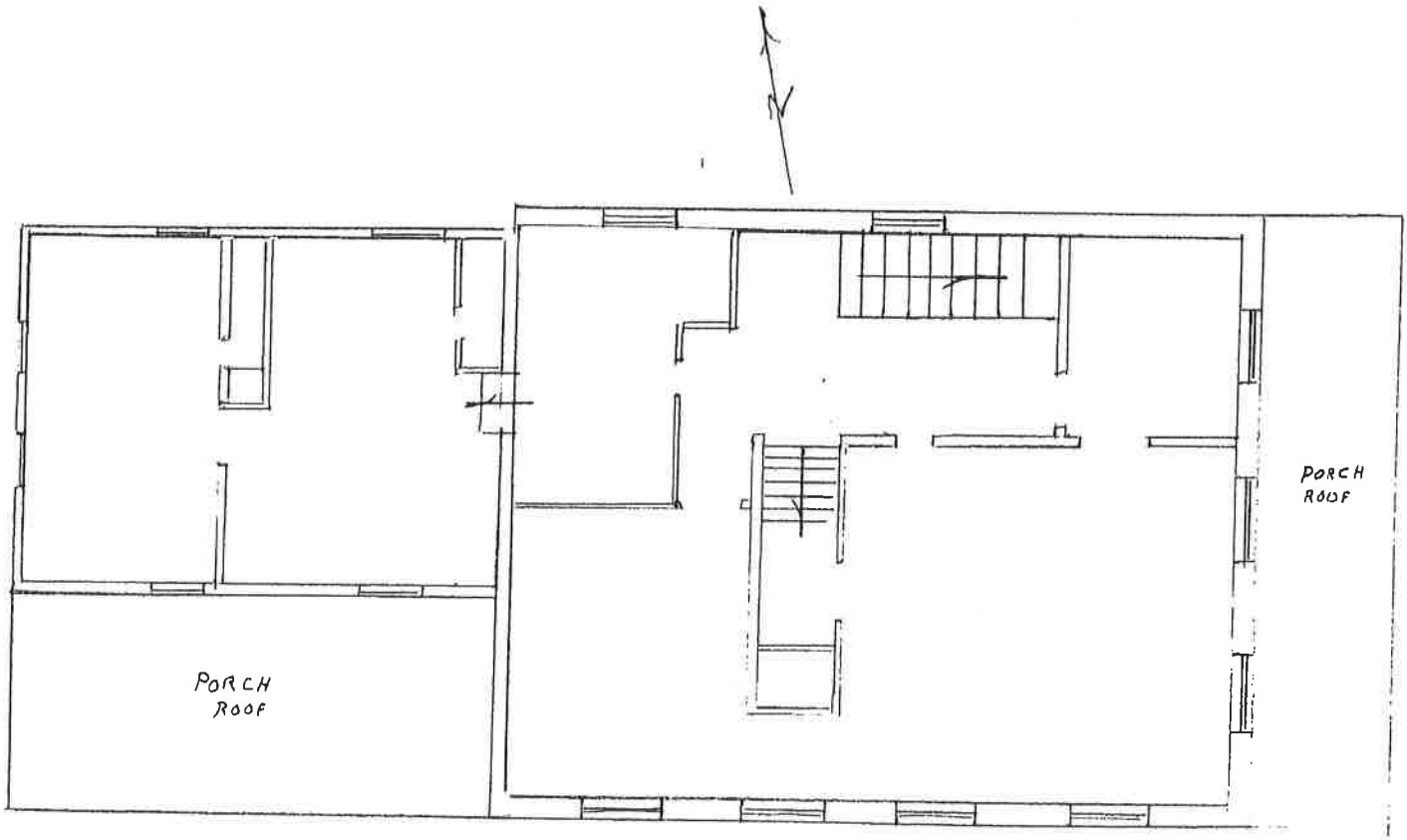
MAIN STREET LEVEL

Current Floor plan:
(Measured and drawn by J. David Weiss, February, 2008; scale: 1" = 8 feet)



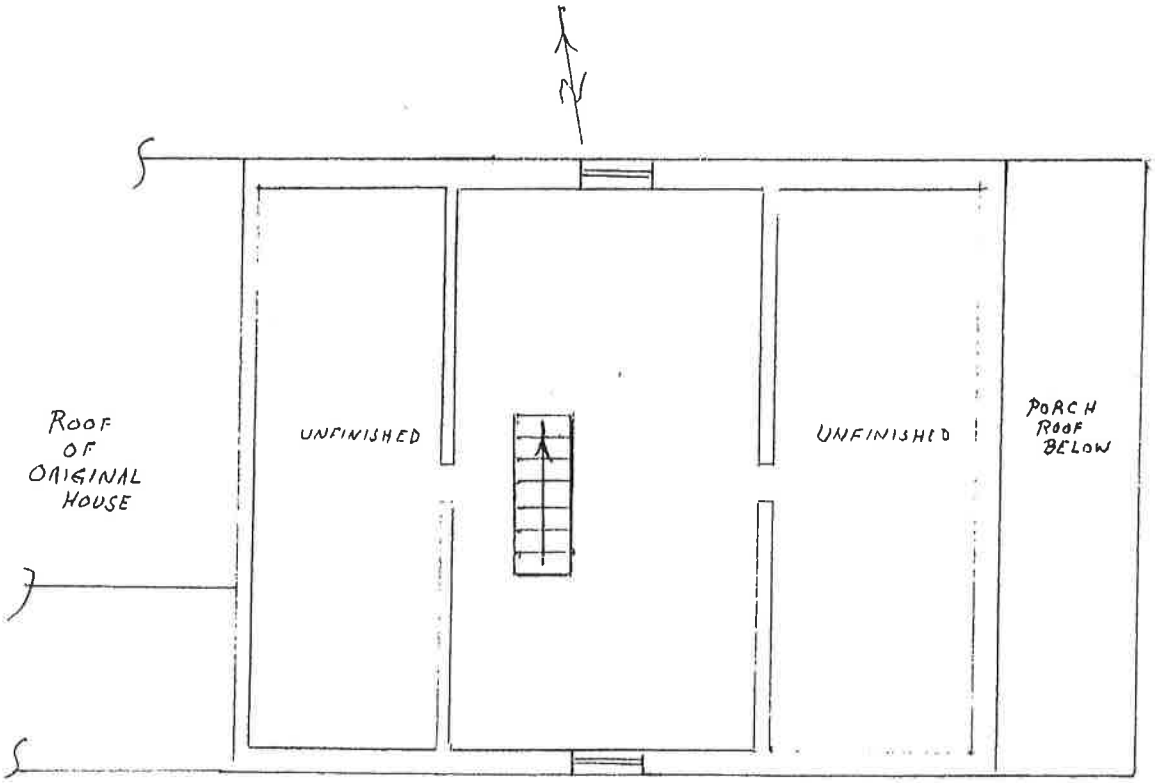
2ND LEVEL FLOOR PLAN

Current Floor plan:
(Measured and drawn by J. David Weiss, February, 2008; scale: 1" = 8 feet)



3RD LEVEL FLOOR PLAN

Current Floor plan:
(Measured and drawn by J. David Weiss, February, 2008; scale: 1" = 8 feet)



ATTIC FLOOR PLAN

Statement of Significance:

The building at 713 North Main, Burlington, Iowa, is locally significant under Criterion C because it is the largest example of the Federal architectural style in the city. It is one of seven remaining Federal-style buildings on Main Street in Burlington. A cluster of four is located on the east side of the 600 block of North Main Street approximately one block to the south of the White house. These two-story buildings are used for small businesses on the Main Street level and house residents on the upper levels. A pair of buildings of this style also remains on South Main Street across from the Amtrak station approximately one mile to the south of U.S. Highway 34 and are used for housing. Another similar property is the Jonathan C. Hall House at 416 Columbia Street, constructed circa 1848. This two-story brick house, currently vacant, also has raised, stepped-parapet side gable walls.

Determining the exact age of the brick structure has been a challenge. Although the *Burlington Hawk Eye* of August 23, 1849 (page 2), states the "the heirs of Abiah White are erecting a handsome brick house," a fragment of another newspaper, *The Dew Drop*, (a temperance paper printed in Bristol County, Massachusetts) dated February9, 1847, was found in an interior frame wall in 2009 when new electrical wiring was being installed in the brick section. When pointing on the chimneys was done in 2008, bricks marked "JA" were found. Further research in Des Moines County Land records indicates that John Albright, brick maker, operated a brickyard near Osborn Street from 1847 to 1852. The Des Moines County Historical Society has, in its collection, a photograph of a painting of the neighborhood. This depiction is said to have be painted in 1845, and it clearly shows the completed White house in the foreground and the White's Sash and Door Factory directly to the north on lot 214. What is certain is that the construction of such a substantial home without the use of power tools did not occur quickly and probably took a number of years.

This building was the home of Abiathar White, one of the earliest settlers in Burlington, one of the founding members of the Methodist Church and one of the founders of the Aspen Grove Cemetery Association, chartered by the Iowa Territorial Government in 1844. This was also the boyhood home of Dr. Charles Abiathar White, an early paleontologist who published over 200 books and articles about the geology of the United States.

In 1838, Abiathar and Nancy Corey White (married 20 April 1823 in Dighton, Massachusetts) left Massachusetts with their family, John Wesley White (born 7 April 1824), Charles Abiathar White (born 26 January 1826), Mary White (born 1 May 1827), Sarah White (born 10 August 1829), and Albert White (born 23 October 1833). (Another daughter, Caroline, was born 23 August 1831, but she died before her first birthday and is buried in Dighton, Massachusetts.)

Abiathar White was a carpenter who probably saw great potential for his trade in the opening of the west. This young family came to the Iowa Territory and purchased Lot 213 in the Original City of Burlington, Iowa Territory. The purchase certificate number 203 is shown on the map certified and filed by William W. Coriell, the Federal land commissioner, on 6 February 1839 (Iowa Territorial Papers). In 1840 the citizens of Burlington, Fort Madison, and Dubuque petitioned Congress for clear title to the purchases they had made, citing evidence that they had installed improvements and that it was becoming more and more difficult to manage the properties they owned without the proper paperwork. This action was repeated in 1841 and in 1842. It appears that the land officers were more interested in selling the large parcels of acreage to open Iowa than they were in filing the certificates for city lots. It was not until 1844 that hundreds of purchases of city lots were entered into the deed records for several days in succession.

In the meantime, Abiathar White's son, Albert, died 16 August 1839 in Burlington. By 1843 "there was demand for a regularly established cemetery" (*Brief History of Aspen Grove Cemetery*) and Abiathar White, Arthur Bridgeman, George Temple, and Levi Hager placed notices in the December, 1843, issues of the **Burlington Weekly Hawk Eye** indicating that they had finally obtained permission from the Legislature of the Iowa Territory to create a corporation called "Aspen Grove Cemetery Association." The first public meeting of this Association was held 3 January 1844. Albert White's burial in this newly established cemetery is listed in the cemetery's *Old Internment Book.*

The White house (which we believe was built by Abiathar White and his family) still stands on Original Lot #213 in the City of Burlington, Iowa. The building is located less than one block from the bank of the Mississippi River and approximately 75 feet from a very prominent limestone outcropping that must have fascinated the young Charles as he worked with his father learning the skills of carpentry in the sash and door factory they operated on lot 214 and which was sold by Charles White to R. H. Washburn in 1856. In 1911, William H. Dall published the following comment in The National Academy of Sciences biographical memoirs of Charles A.

White (Vol. VII, pp. 225-226):

> *There, subject to the hard conditions of pioneer life and with small and irregular opportunities for education, the boy grew to manhood. Doubtless the bias toward the study of nature was inborn, but the life in a new country full of birds and animals differing from those to which he had been accustomed in earlier years in Massachusetts must have been full of interest to the youth entering on his teens. The richness of the rocks of the region in well preserved and attractive fossils may well have been a stimulus toward the career on which he finally entered.*

On 19 January 1849 Abiathar White died after a short illness. The **Burlington Hawk Eye** reported that Mr. White "emigrated from Massachusetts and came to this town in its infancy, where he gained for himself the esteem and respect of a large circle of friends. He was an active and worth member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of this place, and his loss to that body will be seriously felt." (25 January 1849, page 3). The property at 713 North Main Street, Burlington, left the control of the White family in 1852 after the deaths of Nancy Corey White and Mary White Prugh.

Before the Civil War, paleontology did not have a prescribed course of study. To further his scientific interest and understanding, Charles studied in Burlington with Dr. Seth Ransom and Dr. Horace Ransom while working full time to support his growing family. He also took a "course of medicinal lectures" and chemistry at the University of Michigan and followed that with a second course of medical lectures at Rush Medical College where he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

As early as 1847, Charles A. White was writing about fossils for publication. **The Burlington Hawk Eye** reported on December 19, 1858, that Charles had been elected the Corresponding Secretary of the Iowa Historical and Geological Institute for 1859.

There were several other people in the Burlington area who were also interested in geology. Two of these individuals were the grocer, Charles Wachsmuth, and Frank Springer who, together, developed a method for categorizing crinoids. In 1864 Charles A. White moved to Iowa City to pursue his geological work and a medical practice. After he was appointed the Iowa State Geologist, Charles A. White encouraged Frank Springer to come and work with the materials and collections in Iowa City.

In 1866, the Iowa State Legislature established funding for a state geological survey, and Dr. White, who was then residing in Iowa City, received the appointment of state geologist in April of that year. In 1885 the United States Geological Survey named a peak in the northeast corner of Yellowstone Park Abiathar Peak in honor of this esteemed paleontologist. During his lifetime, Charles Abiathar White worked with geological surveys in Iowa, Maine, New York, the Rocky Mountain region, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, His 1910 obituary in the journal **Science** (29 July 1910, pp. 146 - 149) attributes over 200 publications to his name. It also notes that his papers were deposited with the State Historical Department of Iowa.

> *He made that disposition of those papers because he grew up to citizenship in Iowa, and always continued to regard himself as a citizen of that state.*

Charles A. White was a respected scientist within Iowa. He taught geology at Iowa State University (the name of today's University of Iowa as it appears on the catalog of 1867) for several years. In 1873, he was recruited to teach at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. It was while he was there that he became involved with Federal government projects including the U.S. Geological Survey of the Rocky Mountain Region and the U. S. Geological Survey of the Territories. In 1879, Charles A. White was appointed Curator of Paleontology in the U. S. National Museum. Charles Abiathar White died 29 June 1910 and is buried in Rock Creek Cemetery, Washington, D. C.

According to the Federal Census records, the Main Street building has been used as a multiple family dwelling since at least 1850 when it was occupied by Charles A. White and his young family, his brother-in-law's brother and his family, his mother, Nancy, and his unmarried sister, Sarah. By 1860, the house had a new owner and people of four different surnames occupied the premises. In 1942, during World War II, when the Iowa Ordnance Plant was operating around the clock west of the City of Burlington, the City Directory compilers made no attempt to list the names of all the residents but simply recorded that Charles and Carrie Phillips and 32 others lived at 713 North Main.

On December 31, 2007, 713 North Main Street, Burlington, Iowa, was purchased by David and Kay Weiss. The intent is to restore the building to a safe and usable environment as a single family dwelling.

Aspen Grove Cemetery, 100th Anniversary, 1844-1944. Burlington, Iowa, 1944.

Baker, John Milnes. *American House Styles: A Concise Guide.* New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1994.

Biographical Review of Des Moines County, Iowa: Containing Biographical and Genealogical Sketches of Many of the Prominent Citizens of To-day and also of the past. Chicago: Hobart Publishing Company, 1905. pp. 1065 - 1068.

Burlington Hawk Eye newspaper, various issues between 1841 - 1858.

Cartographic Records Relating to the Territory of Iowa, Roll 31, Target 73, Entry 46

"Charles Abiathar White," *Science*, 29 July 1910, pp. 146-149

"Charles Abiathar White, 1826-1910," *National Academy of Sciences Biographical Memoirs*, Vol VII, pp. 223-243

City of Burlington, Iowa, City Directories. Various publishers, 1856 to 1956.

Des Moines County, Iowa, Deed Books, Des Moines County Court House.

Des Moines County, Iowa, Will Book 1& 2

Federal Census Records, Burlington, Iowa, 1840 to 1930

History of Bristol County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of many of it pioneers and prominent men. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis, 1883.

Iowa Territorial Papers (Microfilm roll 31, entry 46 and Microfilm roll 47, frames 219 and following)

Larkin, Jack. *Where We Lived.* Newtown, CT: Taunton Press, 2006.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlexter. *A Field Guide to American Houses.* New York: Alfred Knopf, 1989.

Moss, Roger. *Paint in America: The Colors of Historic Buildings.* Washington, D. C.: Preservation Press, 1994.

Rifkind, Carole. *A Field Guide to American Architecture..* New American Library, 1980.

Stocking, C. H., Rev. *History of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Burlington, Iowa, from 1832 to 1889 with Year Book for 1889-90.* Burlington, Iowa: Acres, Blackmar & Co. Printers, 1889.

Walker, Lester. *American Shelter: An Illustrated Encyclopedia of the American Home.* Woodstock, New York: Overlook Press, 1981.

Web sites:

www.glorecords.blm.gov/PatentSearch
Accession IA2930; document number 203
accessed 12 December 2007

www.nysm.nysed.gov/collections/biology/crinoids/preface/index.html
Information on the work of Charles A. White in New York State Museum
accessed 2 June 2008

www.santanager.net/SanFamHist/CAWntesOnLine.htm
Autobiography of Charles A. White
accessed 20 February 2008

www.yellowstone-online.com/history/yhtwo3.html
Names of mountain peaks in Yellowstone Park
accessed 20 February 2008

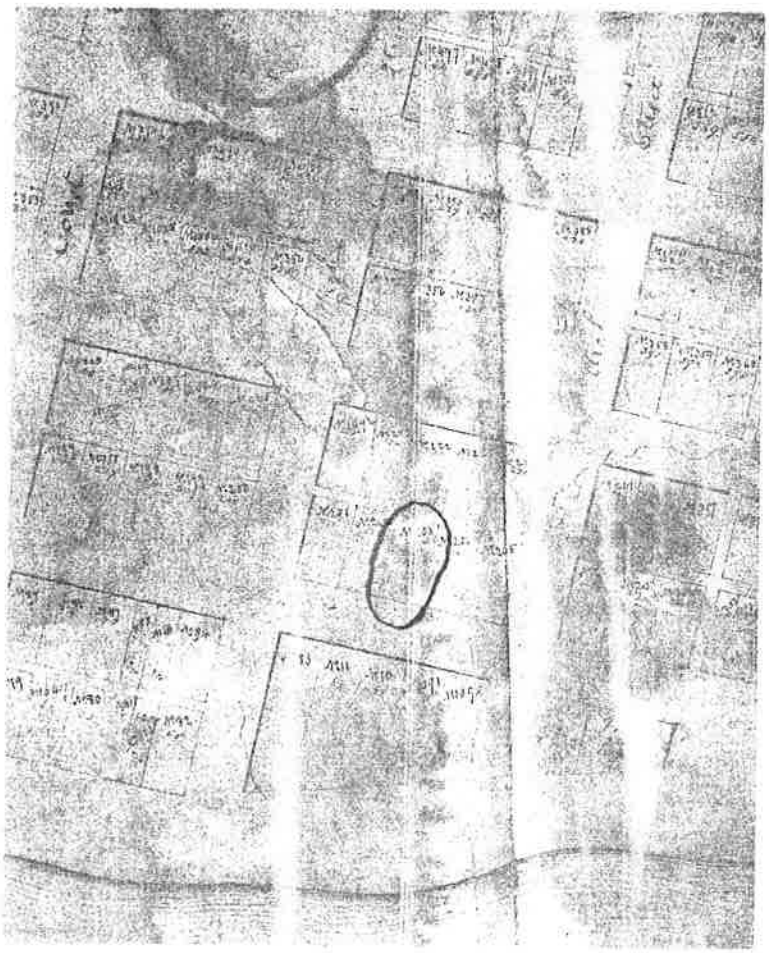
Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot 213 in the Original City of Burlington except the south ten feet

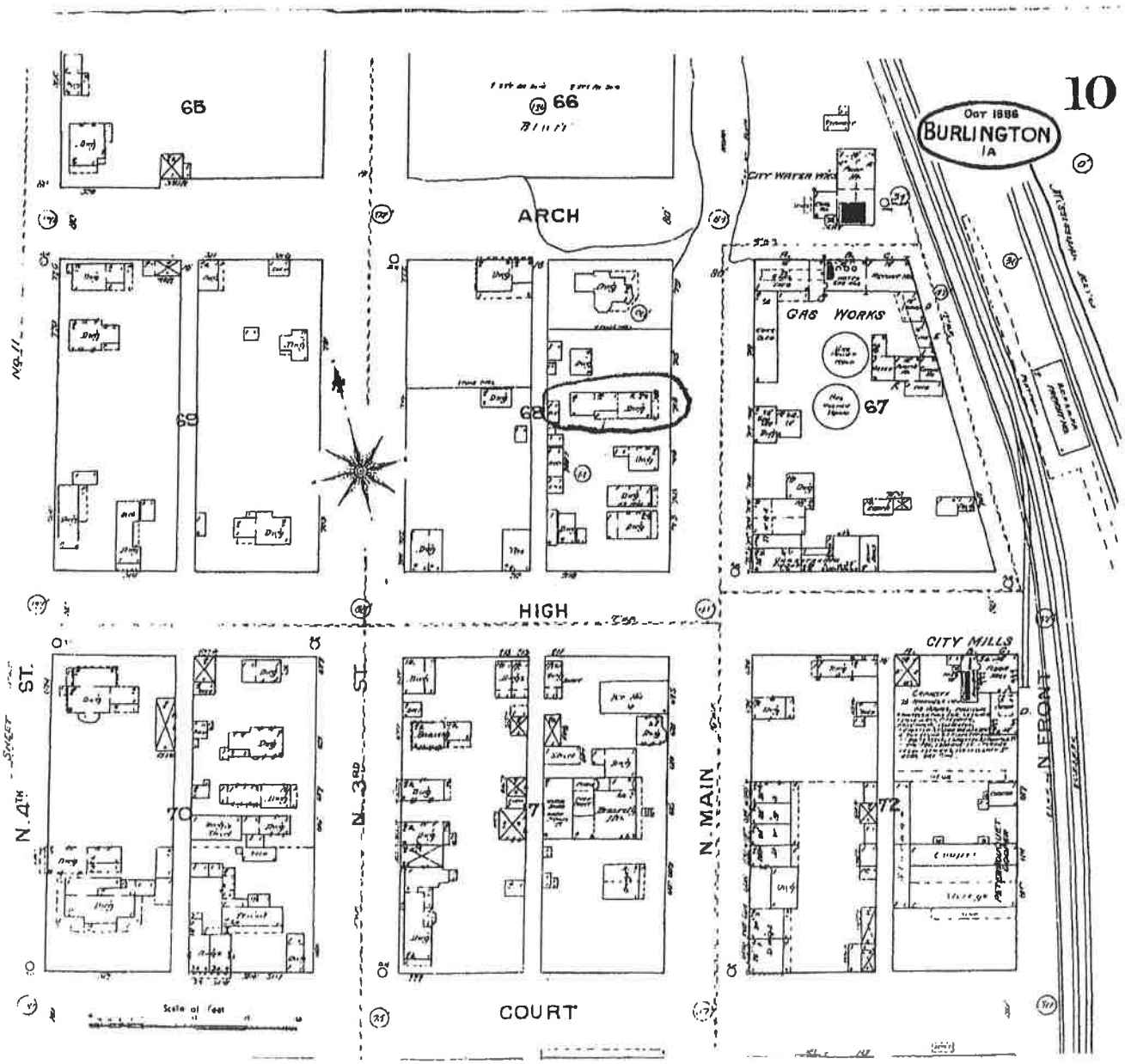
Boundary Justification:

The nominated property includes the parcel historically associated with the Abiathar and Nancy (Corey) White house.

Map showing the lots in the area and the preemption certificate numbers assigned to those who were purchasing the lots between the Mississippi River and the public square. Abiathar White had certificate number 203, located near the center of this section of the map. Source: Iowa Territorial Papers (Microfilm roll 31, entry 46); map certified by William W. Coriell, 6 February 1839:

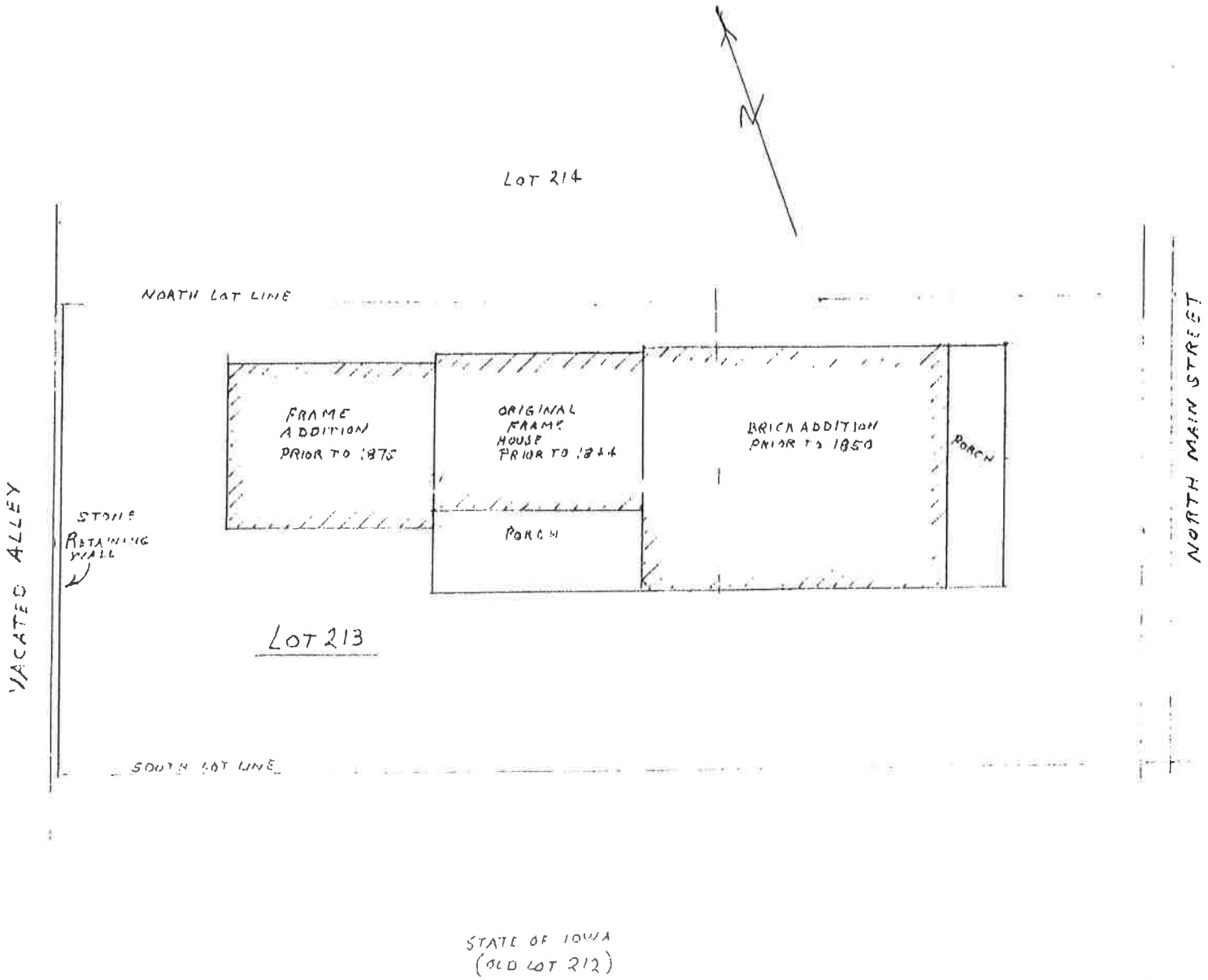


Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Burlington, Iowa, October, 1886, page 10:



Plot plan:

(Measured and drawn by J. David Weiss, February, 2008; scale 1" = 16 feet)



Photographs

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

Photographer: Dennis Fraise
Images and More
2601 Summer Street
Burlington, Iowa 52601

All photographs were taken 3 November 2008. (CD-R also enclosed.)

1. North side of brick house and original house
2. East side of brick house
3. South side of brick house
4. West side of brick house
5. South side of original house
6. Southeast corner of formal parlor
7. Southeast corner of second level
8. A view from the second level
9. Hand split lath in original house
10. Upper west side of original house

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(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

Photo of a painting from the Des Moines County Historical Society, dated 1845. This view shows the White House with its tall porch structure and the sash and door business directly to the north between the house and the limestone retaining wall at the edge of the bluff.

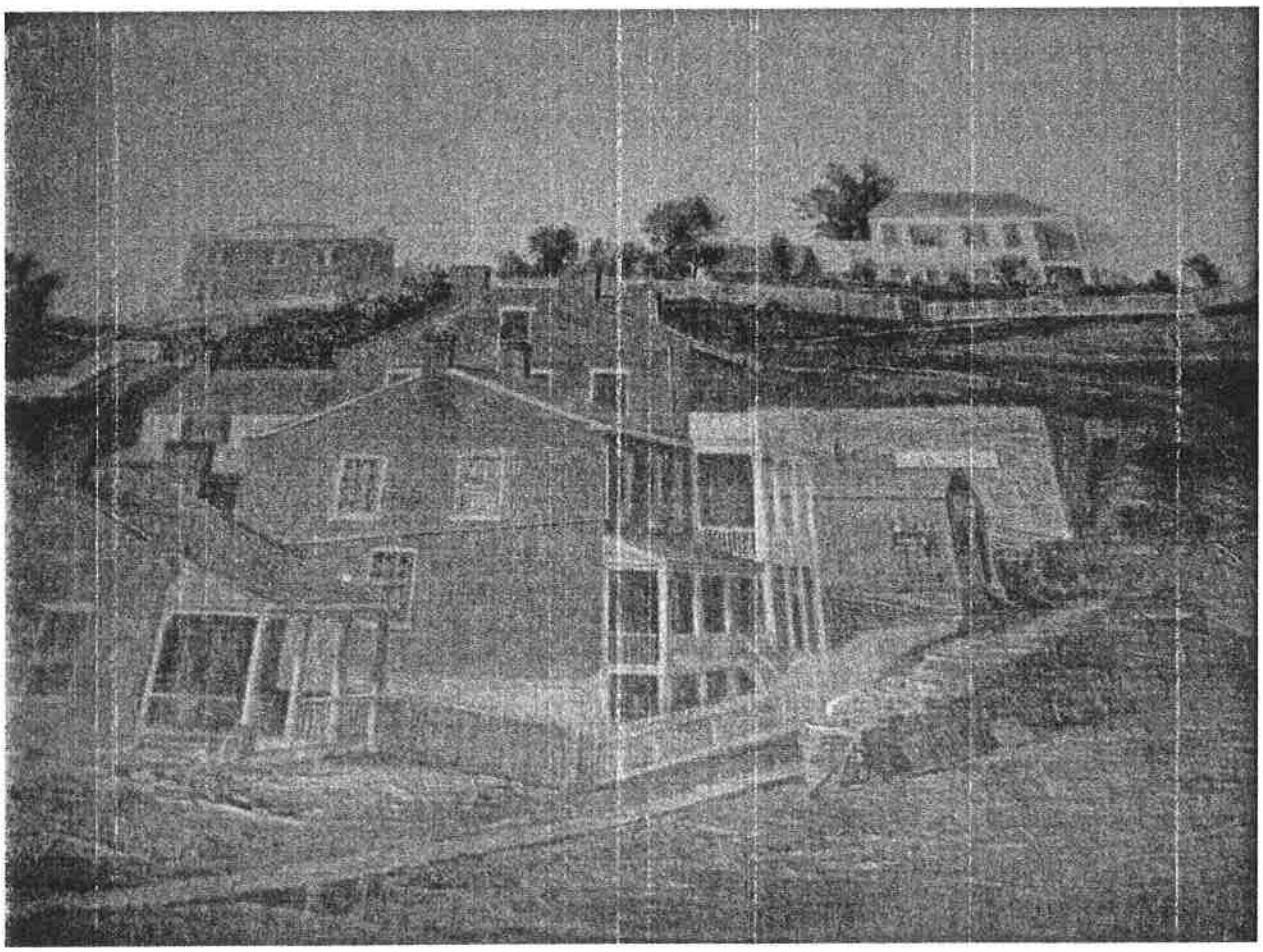
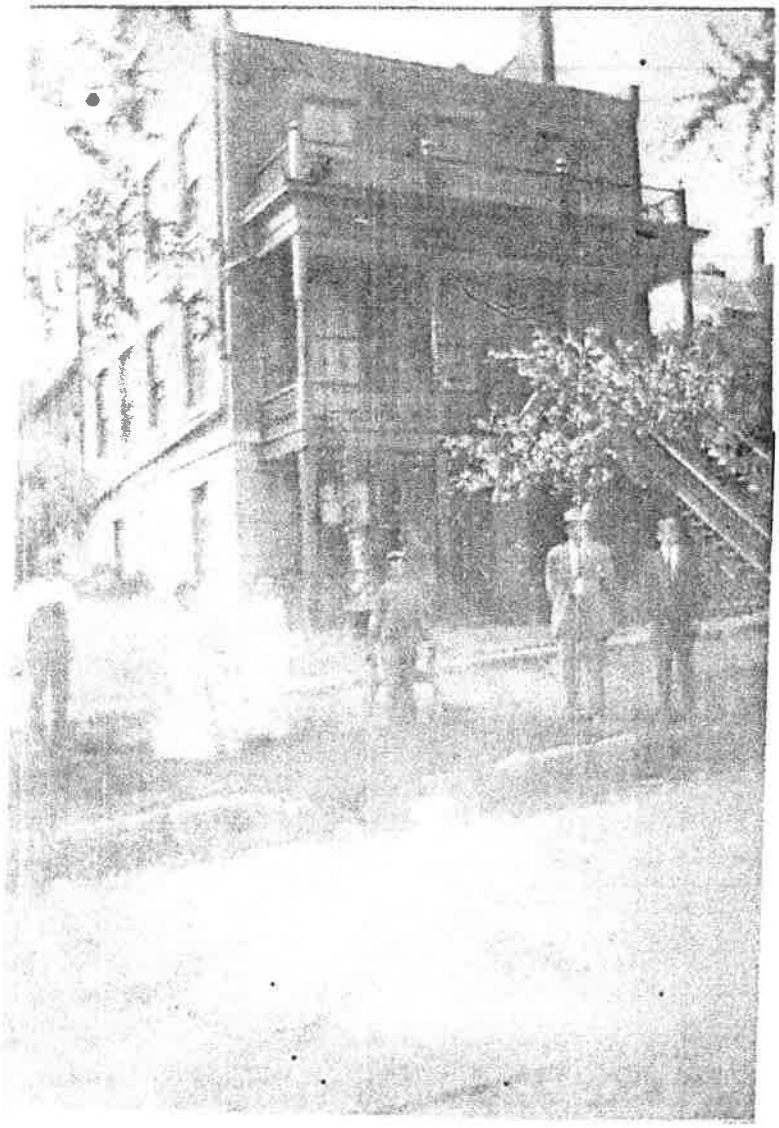


Photo of the Sidney Thompson family taken in front of the White House circa 1905.



Postcard view, postmarked 1913

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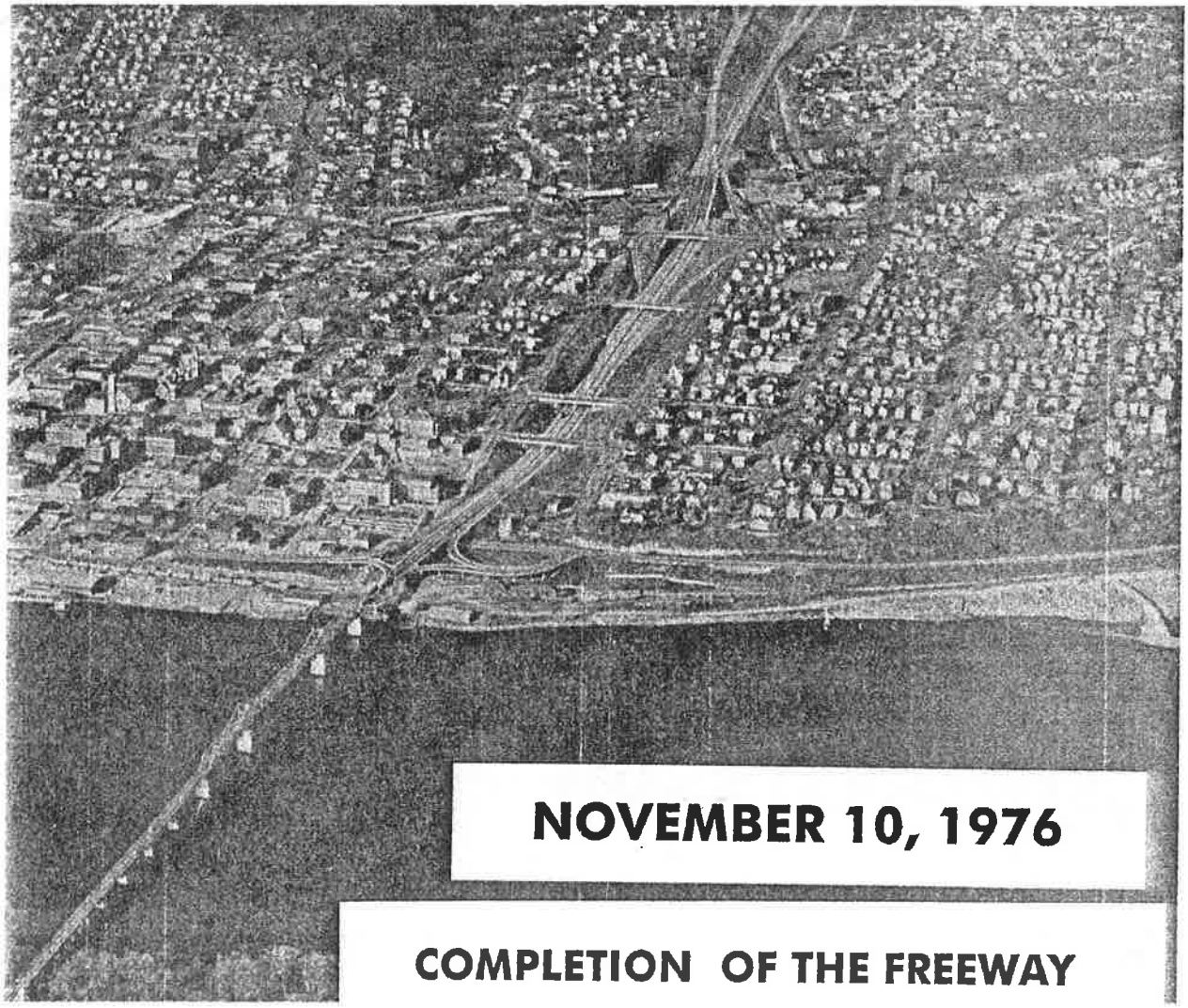
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

Photograph from the Des Moines County Historical Society collection showing the White House standing nearly alone in the highway corridor.



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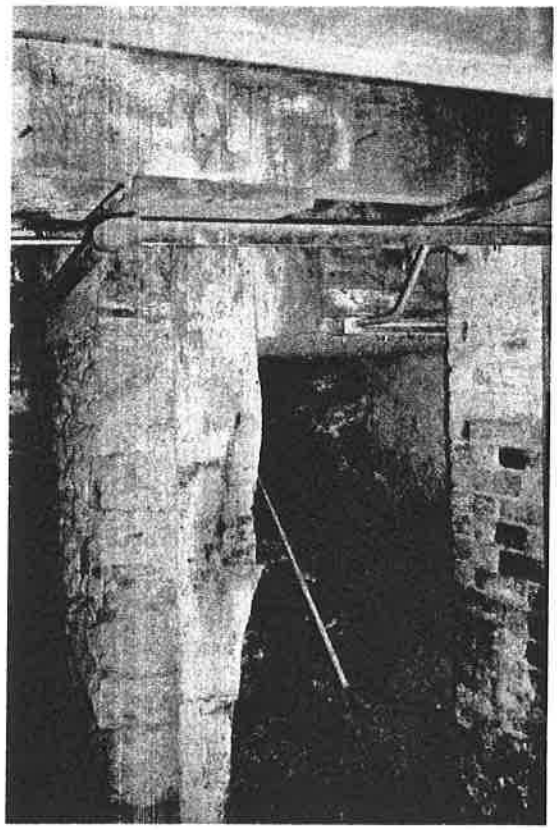
National Park Service

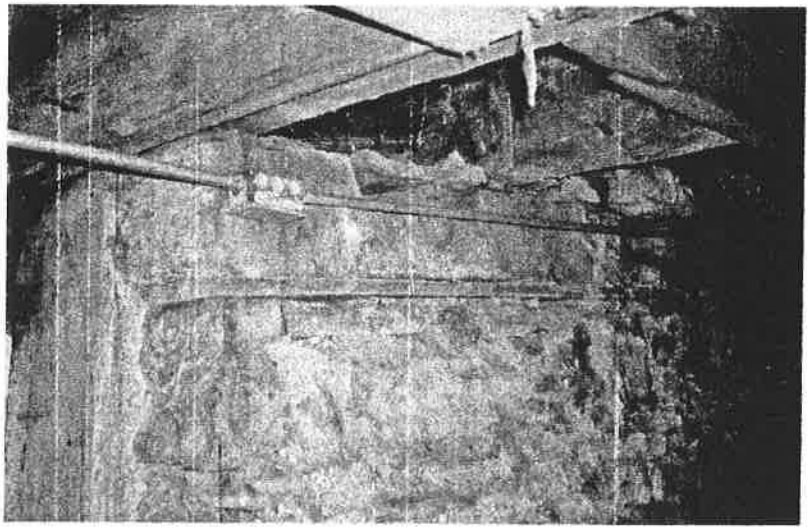
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

Details of small limestone and log structure located under the frame section of the White House showing wide, east-facing opening and floor joists supported on logs topping the two limestone walls





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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum
Des Moines County, Iowa

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House

Copy of deed record, Des Moines County Courthouse, Burlington, Iowa

198

U. S. PATENT RECORD, No 101.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
TO
Abiathar White

Filed for Record the 19th day of November A. D. 18 8,
at 3 o'clock P. M.
J. A. Yarnell Recorder
Alma B. Pugsley Deputy

RECEIVER'S RECEIPT and REGISTER'S CERTIFICATE.
No. 2 5

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
To All to Whom these Presents Shall Come, Greeting:

Whereas, Abiathar White
has deposited in the **General Land Office** of the United States, a Certificate of the **Register of the Land Office**
at Burlington whereby it appears that full
payment has been made by the said Abiathar White according
to the provisions of the act of Congress of the 2nd of July 1836, entitled "An
Act for laying off the towns of Fort Madison and
Burlington in the County of Des Moines and the town
of Dubuque and Cora in the County of Dubuque and Mineral Point in the County of Iowa Territory of Wisconsin and for
other purposes" and also of the act supplementary of the same date
2nd March 1837 for the lot numbered Two Hundred and Twenty of the
First class in the town of Burlington in the said Territory of
Iowa, containing One hundred and [illegible]

according to the official plat of the survey of the said town returned to the General Land Office

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(8-86)

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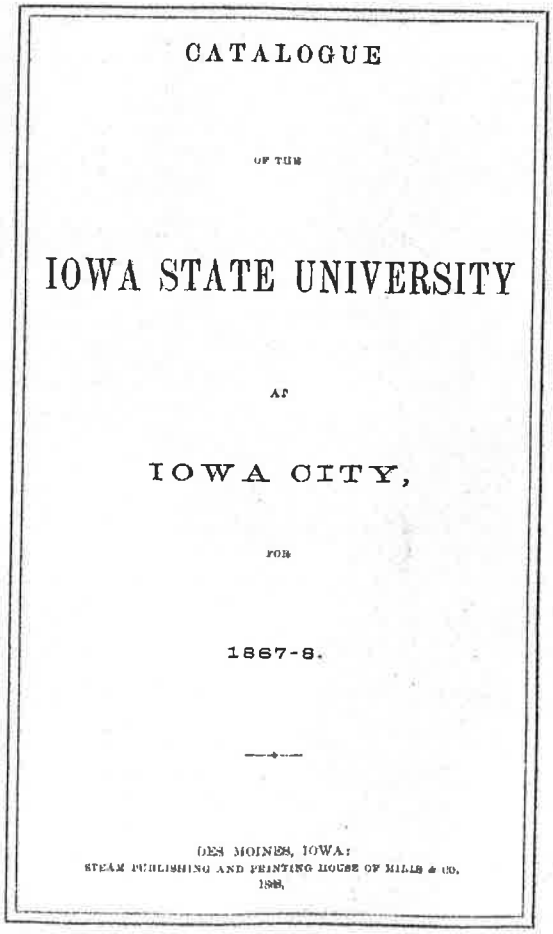
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

Catalogue showing Dr. Charles White's position on the faculty at Iowa City



CATALOGUE

OF THE

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

AT

IOWA CITY,

FOR

1867-8.

DES MOINES, IOWA:
STEAM PUBLISHING AND PRINTING HOUSE OF MILLS & CO.
1868.

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(8-86)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

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PROFESSOR OF HISTORY.

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RUSH EMERY, PH. D.,
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY AND CHEMISTRY.

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PRINCIPAL OF PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT.

MISS SUSAN E. HALE, A. M.,
PRECEPTRESS AND TEACHER OF LATIN.

MISS LAVINIA DAVIS,
ASSISTANT IN NORMAL DEPARTMENT.

MISS ELLEN A. MOORE, A. M.,
TEACHER OF LATIN AND MATHEMATICS.

MISS CELIA A. MOORE,
TEACHER OF ENGLISH.

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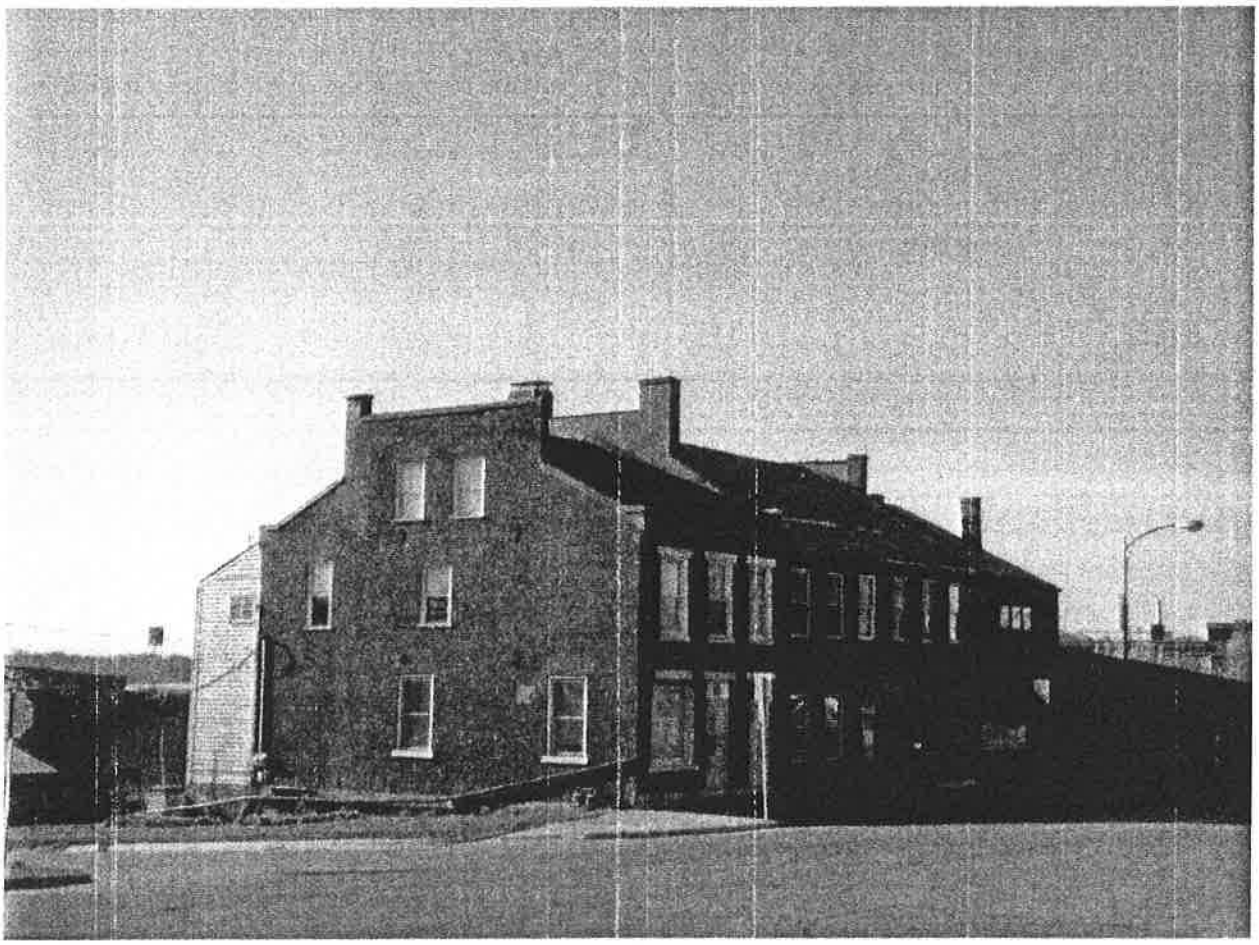
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

Federal-style buildings, 600 block North Main, Burlington, Iowa



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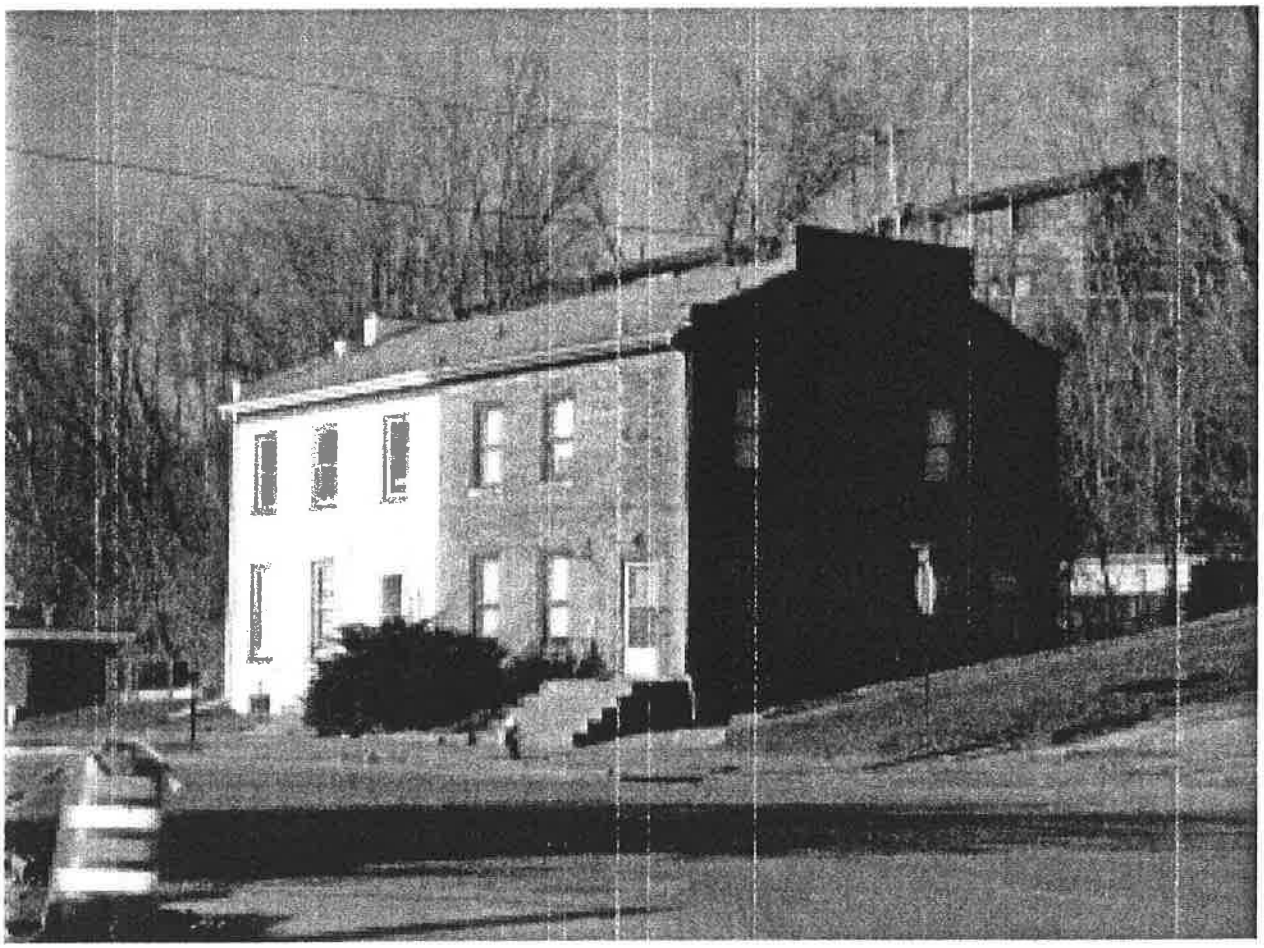
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum

White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

Federal-style buildings across from the Amtrak station, South Main Street, Burlington, Iowa



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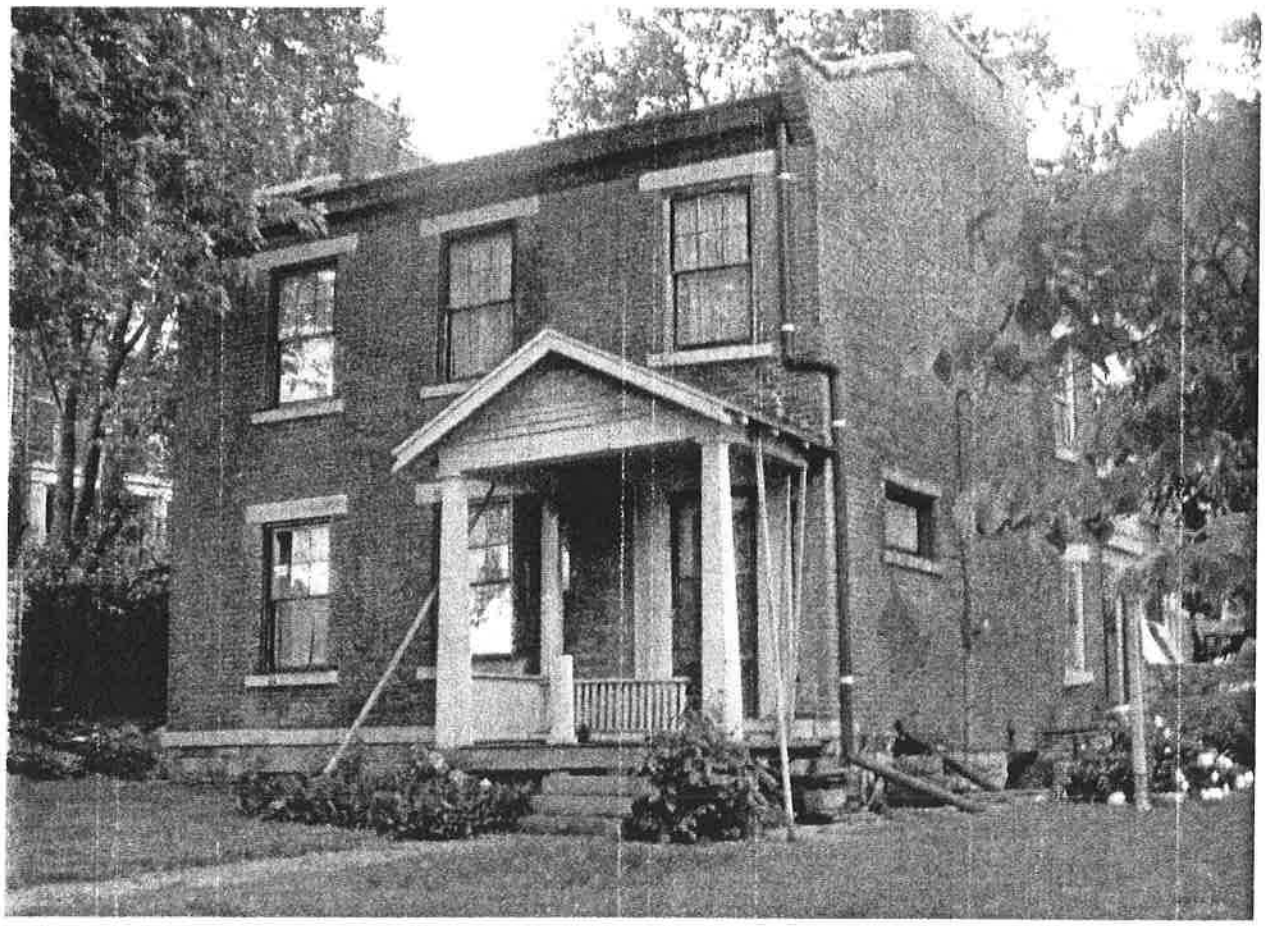
CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs, Addendum

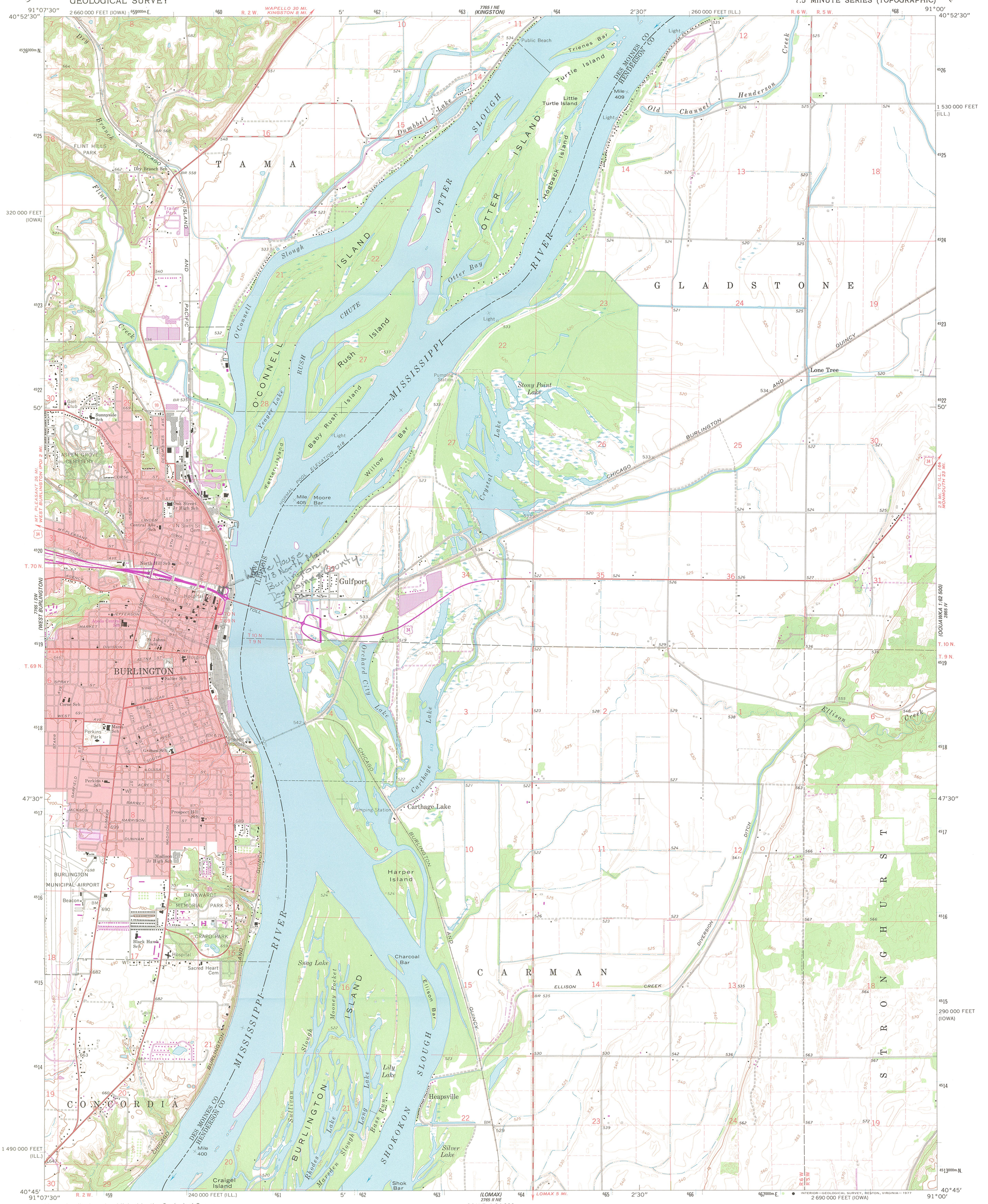
White, Abiathar and Nancy (Corey), House
Des Moines County, Iowa

Jonathon Hall House, 413 Court Street, Burlington, Iowa



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

BURLINGTON QUADRANGLE
IOWA—ILLINOIS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1962 and planetable surveys 1964

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Illinois coordinate system, west zone, and Iowa coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

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

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1976. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

UTM GRID AND 1976 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
MN GN 1°16' 22 MILS 3½° 62 MILS

SCALE 1:24 000
1 ½ 0 1 MILE
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 .5 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801,
AND IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

IOWA
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route — State Route

BURLINGTON, IOWA-ILL.
N4045—W9100/7.5
1964
PHOTOREVISED 1976
AMS 7765 I SE—SERIES V876

#1 - WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA

#2 - WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA

3.- WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA

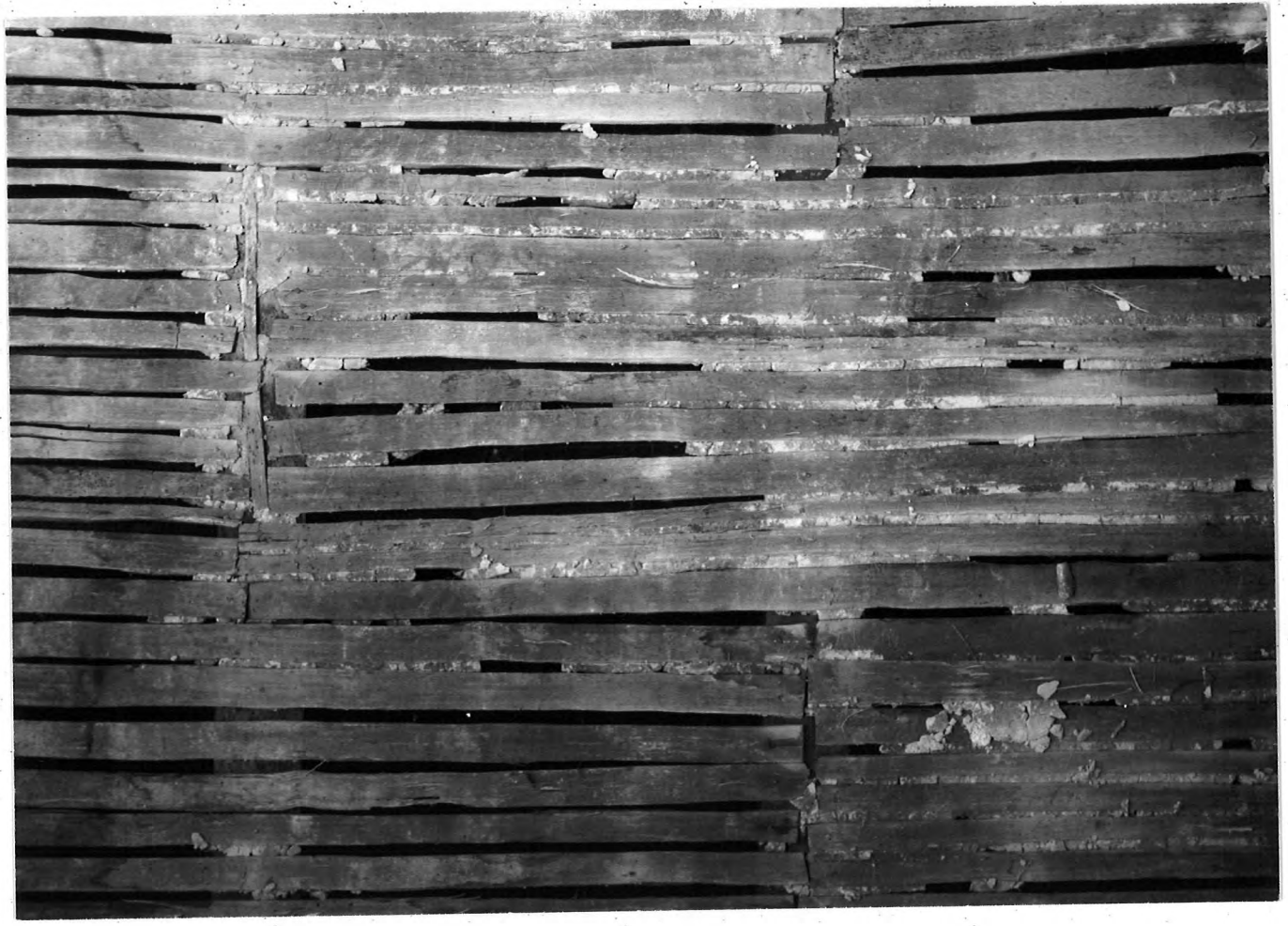
4. WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA

5. WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA

6. WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA

7. WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA

8. WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA



9. WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA

10. WHITE HOUSE
713 NORTH MAIN
BURLINGTON
DES MOINES COUNTY
IOWA