United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service by SHPO

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Edwards, Joseph A. and Lydia A. (Frazier), House

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 1735 Salem Road | N/A | not for publication

city or town Salem | x | vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Henry code 87 zip code 52649

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _x_ 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 _x_ 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

Steve King 4 SEPT 2015

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historical Society of Iowa
State Historic Preservation Office

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 K. Beall 10·23·15

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House
Name of Property

Henry County, Iowa
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [x] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [x] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	**Total**

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

N/A

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

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN / Italianate

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE / Limestone
walls: STONE / Limestone
roof: METAL
other:

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

The Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House sits at 1735 Salem Road in the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 in western Jackson Township, about 2.5 miles east of Salem and .6 miles west of the current route of Highway 218 through southern Henry County (Figure 1). Salem Road (County Road J20) historically connected Salem with Lowell to the east in Henry County and Burlington further to the east on the Mississippi River by 1839, and thus it has been a well-traveled route across southern Henry County for over 175 years. The house faces Salem Road to the south (Figure 2). The setting of the house was historically and is currently within a rural section of southern Jackson Township, continuing to be dominated by farms as it was historically. The house thus stands out as a large stone house and landmark for local residents that travel the road. The Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House appears to have been built in the middle of the 1860s, likely completed in 1866. The stone Italianate house sits on a stone foundation, and the roof was clad in metal around 1998. The stone was reportedly quarried from the creek bed along the north edge of this property (northern portion of Section 20), with a quarry indicated here on the 1870 historical atlas. Few stone houses are found in Henry County, and the stone on this house has a more refined, tooled appearance than the other stone houses. The façade has narrower courses of cut limestone, in comparison to the side elevations. Two courses of façade stone are the same height as one course of the stone on the sides. A water table also extends around the house above the level of the basement windows. The house reflects basic details of the Italianate style, with the overall cubical form and hip roof, symmetrical three-bay façade with center entries, and decorative paired brackets under the eaves. Typical "rectangular" windows were utilized for the home rather than arch windows often associated with this style, as noted on other stone Italianate houses built in southeast Iowa in this period. A historic sketch of the house from 1870 shows that a cupola originally sat on the center of the house, which is believed to have been removed in the early-middle 20th century (Figure 6). While other smaller cubical Italianate houses remain in southern Henry County, none are known to retain a cupola. Windows have wide stone lintels and narrower stone sills. In comparison with the handful of other stone houses in southern Henry County, the Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House stands out for the refined nature of the stone construction. No other house is noted with the narrow courses of cut limestone, and the typical stone construction of the area reflects more vernacular coursed rubble construction. Thus, the stone construction itself reflects a more "high style" design for this significant stone house.

Narrative Description

The Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House faces Salem Road to the south. As noted, the façade stone is laid in narrow courses, and the cut stone is decidedly refined with a tooled facing. While it is unknown if this block was utilized for stylistic or practical reasons, the use of larger blocks on the east elevation suggests a deliberate choice for style and refinement on the façade. The main entry is centered on the three-bay façade (south elevation), with a later door, sidelights, and transom. A second story door is located above the main entry, though the 1870 sketch of the house does not show a porch (Figure 6). It may have been planned but not constructed. Double-hung windows are located on either side of the center doors on both stories. The first story openings have vinyl clad wood windows installed around 1998, and the second story openings have vinyl clad windows installed in 2007. One-over-one-light double-hung wood windows in poor condition were removed at those times. Basement windows are located under each set of windows as well. Paired decorative scroll wood brackets are located under the eaves of the house.

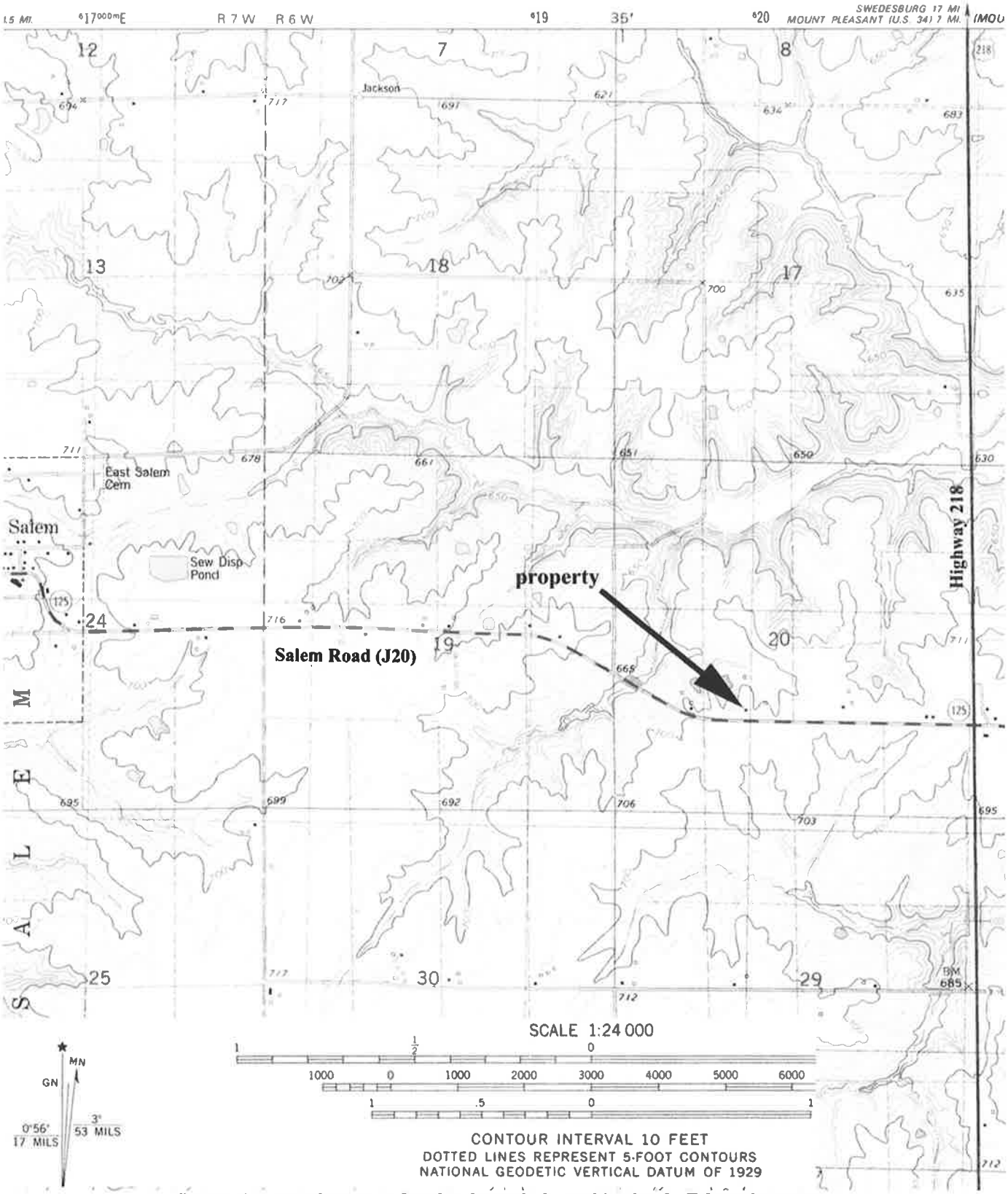

Figure 1. Location map for the Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House. (Salem, USGS topographic quadrangle map, 1981)

Figure 2. Site plan for Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House, with National Register boundary indicated (McCarley 2014). ***Map scale – 1"=100'***
(Base aerial photography from April 2013 from Henry County Planning/GIS)

The east elevation of the house has stone that appears quarried from two different sources or veins, with a more yellow-brown stone on the first story and stone matching the color of the gray façade stone on the second story. The stone on this side of the house has a refined cut face similar to the façade, but the blocks are larger, double the height of the narrow façade stone. Two windows are found on each story, typically matching the façade windows in date and style. The front/south window on the first story is shortened for the interior kitchen in this location, with paneling in the lower portion of this window rather than adjusting the stone opening. Basement windows are found under each of these bays, with the exterior basement entry at the north/rear end of this side. This entry is shown as covered on the 1870 sketch of the house. Paired decorative scroll brackets are located under the eaves of this side of the house as well.

The stone on the west elevation is the least refined of the stone on the house, more similar to other stone houses in southern Henry County and northern Lee County. Less effort was made for a smooth cut surface appearance and courses appear more irregular. Thus, the appearance is more similar to coursed rubble construction. The overall design of the west side is similar to the east side, with two double-hung windows on each story and a basement window under each bay. Paired decorative scroll brackets are located under the eaves of this side of the house as well.

Two metal tie rods extend through the house near the ceilings on both stories, with large rectangular plates on the east and west elevations. The Hourihan family descendants reported being told that these were installed after construction, the result of damage to the house from an earthquake to reinforce the structural integrity (per Elsie Ross, Doris Septer, and Joyce McElwee). However, no known earthquakes from the 1850s to 1870s are known to have caused damage in this section of Iowa. Tie rods were typically utilized in masonry construction for structural reasons, and it is possible that they were installed after construction to reinforce the structural integrity, if they had not been incorporated originally.

The rear/north elevation of the main section of the house does not appear to have had any openings originally, with two windows later added near the center of the second story (currently bathroom and laundry room). The stone construction is similar to the west elevation – more of a course rubble stone construction appearance with some large cut stones particularly along the northeast corner. The one-story kitchen ell extends from the west half of the north elevation. The kitchen ell has a mix of stone, with some large cut stone blocks (perhaps not utilized in the main house) and some rough cut stones of smaller sizes. A large stone chimney is located at the north end, and two windows are found on the west side. The roof was replaced in 2007, including repairs to some rafters. A porch originally extended along the east side, and a cistern sat at the open corner off of the porch. The porch was in poor condition and removed in 2008, replaced with the sun room addition and wrap-around deck. The cistern was also filled in.

The interior of the house has undergone several periods of remodeling. Historically, the first story was finished, while the second story was unfinished and treated as "attic" space. The stairs to the second story in the center hall were enclosed, with a door to access the second story. Wide wood floor boards were found in the large open space of the second story, and the stone walls were exposed. This space remained unfinished from construction until 2006. In the early 20th century, the layout of the first story included a room on either side of the center stairs in the south/front half, three rooms across the north/rear half (center room with no windows), and the kitchen in the rear ell. The interior layout shifted originally in the late 1940s to move the kitchen to the front parlor, with some later modifications in the 1980s and 1990s. After purchasing the house in 1984, the Frarys completed a remodel of the kitchen (historically moved to the southwest/front corner) and opened it up to the room to the north (bedroom at one point), which then became the dining room. Tony and Connie Kramer bought the property in July 1996. They installed a new metal roof, installed vinyl clad wood Pella one-over-one-light double-hung windows on the first story, installed a new furnace, and remodeled the bathroom in 1998-99. They lived solely on the first story, and the second story remained unfinished through these owners.

The current features and appearance of the interior of the house primarily dates to the significant remodeling undertaken by current owners Jeff Cleere and his mother Brenda Bundy after they jointly purchased the property in 2006, with many original/historic features remaining intact. The main center entry was left intact, and the stairs were opened up to create typical stairs to the second story. The original wood treads were left intact, and a simple banister was installed in place of the removed walls. The historic four-panel wood door and trim to the southwest room was left intact, as well as the trim on the main entry. A door from the hall to the southeast room had been covered, likely with the earlier kitchen relocation/remodel. The interior wood trim on the first story appears to perhaps date to remodeling in the 1910s or 1920s, trim with a slight rounded profile edge and beadboard installed on the sides of the window openings. A door salvaged from another property was been added at the north end of the hall. The southwest room was remodeled to a living room, with historic wood trim remaining intact. The kitchen, historically moved to the southwest/front corner, had been previously remodeled and opened into the room to the north, now used as a dining room. This large room spans the area north of the kitchen and entry hall. The bathroom to the west was remodeled. The original kitchen at the rear was remodeled for a bedroom. The fireplace remains on the north wall, with a gas insert installed previously and metal cooking crane (hook) reportedly remaining intact behind it. Two windows were retained on the west wall, and the original exterior door with transom was retained on the east wall. Stairs to the basement from this room were removed, and a door added in the south wall to the bathroom. Stairs to the basement under the main set of stairs were reworked to improve accessibility, with an added closet at the top removed. The exterior stone stairs on the east side of the house to the basement were retained. A new furnace and air conditioning were installed, with a second unit for the second story. The basement previously had concrete poured for the floor under the main section, with the section under the rear kitchen ell remaining dirt. Parts of large hooks (meat hooks) remain on the joists in the basement (remodeling per Brenda Bundy, Jeff Cleere).

The second story was divided into rooms, with woodwork salvaged from the Hoaglin house (c.1883) on the west side of Hillsboro that was being demolished. Work on the second story was generally completed in 2007. The stairs were opened up to the second story, and a simple banister was installed in the second story hall. The wide rough boards of the second story were covered by a new oak floor. The exterior stone walls and brick chimney were left exposed to reflect the historic unfinished nature of the space. A new exterior door was installed at the south end of the second story hall. Currently, a bathroom and laundry room are located at the north end of the hall, with two children's bedroom on the east side. The west side has a master suite, with a large bedroom in the southwest corner and a bathroom in the northwest corner. All doors, door trim, window trim, and baseboard installed in these rooms on the second story is from the salvaged wood in the Hoaglin house (remodeling per Brenda Bundy, Jeff Cleere). Access to the attic remains from a second story hall closet. The attic is open space, with a chimney extending through the roof near the center platform (location of a cupola, per the 1870 atlas). No particular bracing for a cupola structure was noted, with typical roof rafters. A historic wood ladder remains in place near the chimney, leading to an access panel in the flat roof.

The house currently sits on a small parcel of land, separate from the larger farm property. This house lot was partitioned off from the larger farm in 1973 by Maurice and Marjorie Hourihan. The garage to the east of the house is the only building on the same parcel as the house. It is a hip-roof frame building clad in wood siding. It appears to date to the 1920s, with a later side addition. It is counted as non-contributing to the property. The National Register boundary for the property follows the house parcel line (Figure 2). Three other historic buildings are found on the larger farm property, including a large gable-roof barn to the east of the garage and a large gable-roof barn to the north of the house. Both of these barns are visible on the historic 1930s aerial of the farm. The 1950s aerial photograph also clearly shows the large chicken coop immediately to the north of the house. These farm buildings fall outside the National Register boundary for the property. A telecommunications tower was built to the west of the north barn in the 2000s, and it likewise falls outside the boundary for the property.

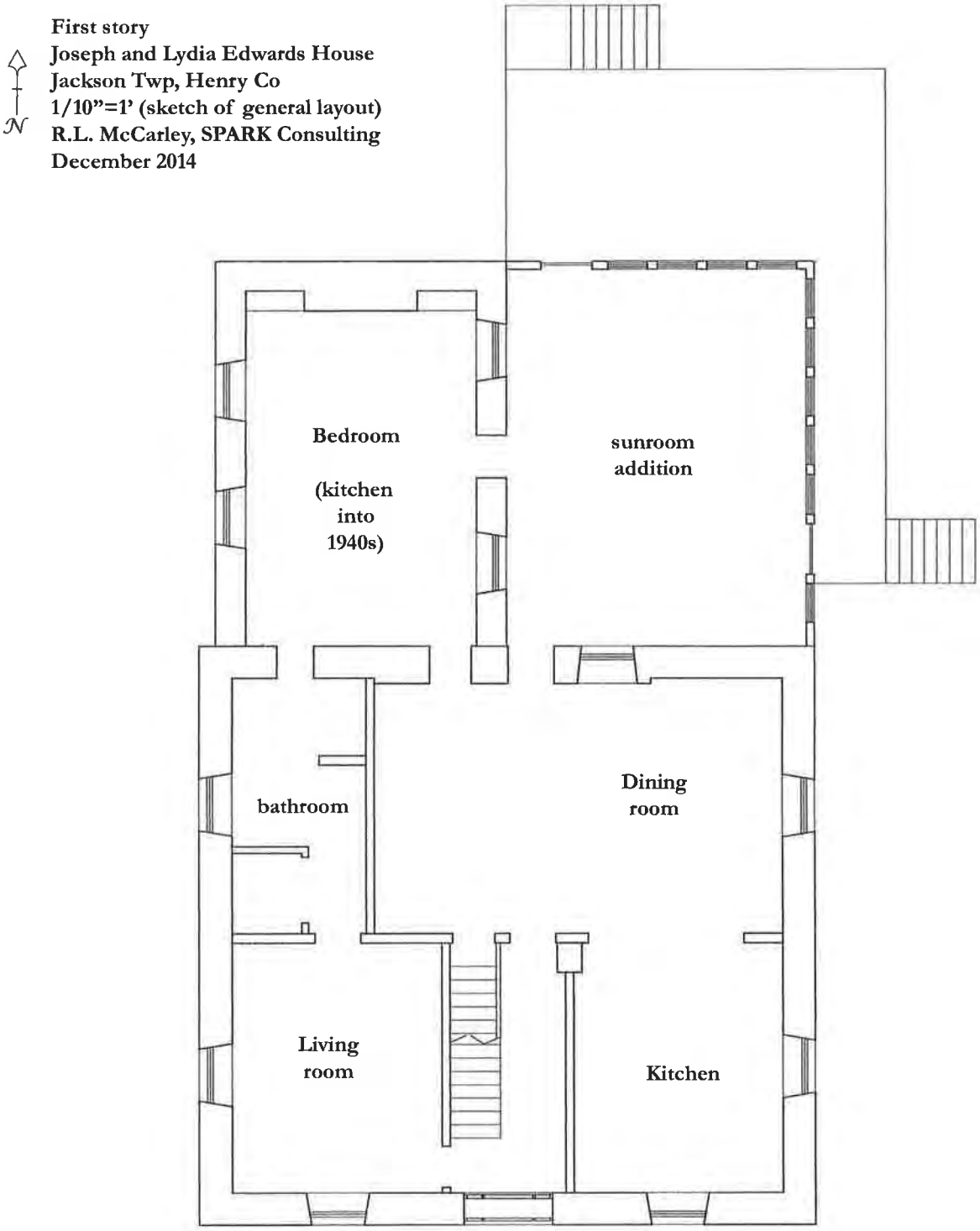

Figure 3. First story of the Edwards house.

Second story
Joseph and Lydia Edwards House
Jackson Twp, Henry Co
1/10"=1' (sketch of general layout)
R.L. McCarley, SPARK Consulting
December 2014

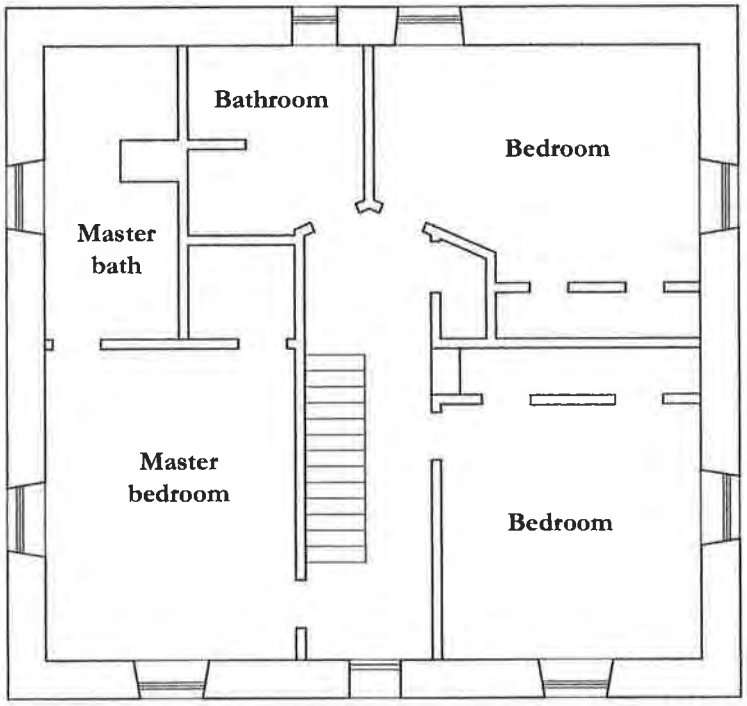

Figure 4. Second story of the Edwards house.

Integrity

The Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House retains good historic integrity. The house is significant for its stone architecture, and this original material design and workmanship remains clearly visible and communicates this significance. The house remains on its original site, located within the rural agricultural setting of Jackson Township along Salem Road. The overall integrity of the exterior design, materials, and workmanship of the house to the travelers down this road is good, and the house continues to clearly communicate the feeling of a mid-19th century house and association with the early history and development of Jackson Township. The house clearly communicates its early prominent status as one of a handful of stone houses found in Henry County. Specific aspects of the integrity of the property include:

Location: The house remains on its original site in Section 20 of rural southern Jackson Township in Henry County, located on Salem Road (County Road J20) about 2.5 miles east of Salem.

Setting: The setting of the Edwards house historically and currently is agricultural, with a number of farms surrounding the property. These farms have a mix of older and newer buildings. The house continues to stand out as a landmark home along this route from Highway 218 west into Salem. A telecommunications tower is located on the property immediately to the north of the house, visible behind the house. While the tower is a modern intrusion within the setting of the house, it does not significantly detract from the understanding of the house for its significant stone architecture.

Design: The overall Italianate design and stone construction of the Edwards house remains intact. The house reflects the early traditional cubical Italianate form, with a hip roof, three bay façade with a center entry, and wood scroll brackets. It also stands out among 19th century houses in southern Henry County for its stone construction. The refined quality of the narrow cut façade stone is a key design feature for this house, and it remains intact. These key design elements remain intact and clearly communicate the mid-19th century design of the Edwards house. While the cupola appears to have been removed at some point in the 20th century, this alteration appears common among other local Italianate houses as well, or they originally existed without this feature. Other changes to the house, such as the replacement of the windows and the interior remodeling/finishing, have impacted the integrity of design to some degree. However, the unfinished second story walls continue to reflect the historic unfinished nature of this story, preserving this aspect of the history of the house while permitting an adaptation of the design for additional bedrooms. Though the windows have been replaced, the original opening sizes and placement have been retained, retaining the original overall design of the stone house. The new windows reflect the same style as those pictured historically, and they do not detract from the overall understanding of the house as a stone Italianate house built in the middle of the 19th century.

Materials: The house retains excellent integrity of its key historic materials, namely the stone construction. The façade stone reflects a refined quality in the narrow dimensions and facing, and this stone construction stands out as significant among other stone buildings constructed in this area in the 19th century. The side elevations reflect varying levels of cut stone and facing, with the stone on the east elevation historically facing the side drive into the property at a more refined level than the basic rough cut stone used on the west elevation. Thus, the stone of the house reflects the significance of the method of construction for this property. The wood scroll brackets likewise remain intact on the exterior, reflecting this historic material and Italianate design element. Historic materials on the interior, such as wood trim and flooring, likewise remain intact. The metal roof reflects a non-historic material on the exterior, but it does not detract overall from the understanding of the building as a significant stone house.

Workmanship: The historic workmanship of the house continues to be strongly reflected in the overall historic design elements and materials, as noted above. The workmanship of the cutting and facing of the stone construction, including the refined quality of the narrower façade stone and varying quality of stone construction on the remaining elevations, is significant for this house, and it remains unaltered.

Feeling: The overall feeling of the Edwards house is that of a rural 19th century stone house built as a prominent house along Salem Road.

Association: The Edwards house retains good association to the middle of the 19th century and development of Jackson Township.

Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House
Name of Property

Henry County, Iowa
County and State

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.)

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

circa 1866

Significant Dates

circa 1866

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

n/a

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.)

The Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House is nominated at a local level of significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for the significance of the architecture of the house. The stone house reflects the traditional cubical Italianate design, and it stands out as a landmark historic house along Salem Road in southwest Jackson Township. The house is one of only a handful of stone buildings in Henry County, and the stone architecture reflects a distinctly refined quality, particularly in comparison with other buildings. The house appears to have been completed in 1866, and thus this date is noted for the period of significance and as the significant date for the property.

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

The Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House is nominated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for the significance of its architectural design and construction. The stone house appears to have been completed in 1866 on land in western Jackson Township owned by Joseph A. Edwards since 1841. An earlier house was located further to the west on his land, and it was replaced with this stone Italianate house. This construction thus reflects the pattern of residential construction during the settlement period, with an earlier, typically less substantial house replaced by a larger and more refined home. It is one of the earliest and most substantial homes in Jackson Township, and its importance was highlighted by inclusion of a sketch in the 1870 atlas. It was the only home in Jackson Township included in this atlas. The architecture clearly reflects a substantial house in the settlement period of Henry County. The stone house simply reflects the Italianate style, with a symmetrical façade, cubical form with hip roof, flat stone lintels and sills, and a wide frieze with paired brackets. The overall design of the original home remains readily discernible. Few other Italianate houses remain in rural southern Henry County, with modern siding and some historic features removed on nearly all of them. Among these Italianate houses, the Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House stands out as the most substantial house following the early traditional cubical form, with a hip roof and three bay façade with a center entry. In addition to the large two-story design, stone was chosen as the construction material for this substantial residence. Only three other stone houses have been identified as extant in Henry County, all located in southern Henry County as it was the section of the county with the earliest and most substantial buildings. Local oral history states that the stone was quarried from the creek bed along the north edge of the farm for the Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House, which may account for the variation in stone found on side walls of the house. The façade stone is laid in narrow courses with a distinctly cut facing, reflecting a more refined quality than utilized on the other stone buildings. Cut stone, though wider courses, was utilized on the east elevation, historically and currently facing the drive into the property. Rough cut stone was then utilized on the least visible west and rear elevations. This overall method of stone construction is significant. The use of the refined narrow façade stone likely reflects the desire of the early Jackson Township settler and successful famer Joseph A. Edwards to construct a prominent rural home for his family, and it continues to clearly communicate this status in comparison with other houses in this area.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Settlement of Jackson Township and construction of the Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House

Joseph A. Edwards was among the earliest settlers in Jackson Township in south-central Henry County, and he acquired the 80 acres in the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 in October 1841. The stone Italianate house sits on the north side of Salem Road near the center of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20, with Salem Road running through the center of the south half of Section 20 following an earlier trail rather than along the edge or midpoint. While some local history sources date construction of the house to the 1840s, other local history sources date the construction to the 1860s. A review of the historical records and assessment of the construction/design of the house support the later construction date in the 1860s, with the house appearing to have been completed in 1866. Thus, the construction of the house reflects the settlement pattern of a larger, substantial home being built after the success of an early settler who lived in an initial, smaller home. The stone construction reflects the resources available within Jackson Township, though not utilized by a large number of settlers. The construction technique of this house is unique within the framework of other nearby stone construction, with more refined narrow ashlar courses rather than the coursed rubble style typically utilized. The Italianate style became popular in southeast Iowa in the 1850s, and it continued to be built through the 1880s in many areas. The style was more popular in towns, with fewer identified extant examples of rural Italianate homes. The use of this style and the refined stone construction for this substantial and prominent house likely was designed to reflect the success of Joseph A. Edwards.

Per the 1888 history of Jackson Township, "James Richie was the first settler in this township, locating on section 6 in 1836. Soon after him came Larkin Johnson, William Williamson, Elijah Burton, Robert Price, J. C. Garrison (Garretson), Jonathan Russ, A. Walter, J. Maxwell, George Jones, T. Frazier, John Johnson, and J. A. Edwards (*Portrait and Biographical Album of Henry County* 1888: 680). Joseph A. Edwards was born on August 20, 1816 in Suffolk County, New York. He married Caroline Snook (or Snooks) on January 25, 1836, and their first child, daughter Mary, was born in New York. The family moved west from Sag Harbor, New York to the new town of Andover, Illinois, which was founded by Presbyterian minister Ithamar Pillsbury who wished to create a colony on the western prairie (New York Association, town concept was patterned after New Haven, CT, name taken from Andover, MA, town plat was filed on May 17, 1838). Their son William Henry was then born here. The family lived here for two years, and then they moved to the Salem vicinity in southern Henry County, Iowa, along with other families from Andover ("Joseph A. Edwards," *Daily Tribune*, Florence, Colorado, April 14, 1903, 3; "Return of Mr. Edwards," *Sag-Harbor Express,* Sag Harbor, NY, May 13, 1897, 2). His later obituary notes that John P. Edwards, son of Joseph A. and Caroline Snook Edwards, was born three miles east of Salem, Iowa, on May 11, 1840. Thus, the family was here by this date, and they were then among the earliest settlers in Jackson Township.

The original land grant for this portion of Section 20 was awarded to George Miller, Jr., officially filed in December 1841 when land records were completed. Prior to this point, on October 20, 1841, George Miller Jr sold the 80 acres in the east half of southwest quarter of Section 20 to Joseph A. Edwards for $137.50 (Land Deed book B: 247). Joseph Edwards also acquired additional land in Section 20. Interestingly, on March 6, 1844, he sold these 80 acres to John Edwards for $210 (Land Book D: 208). John and Deborah Edwards were the parents of Joseph A. Edwards, and they lived in Sag Harbor, Suffolk County, New York. It does not appear that they ever lived in Iowa, though it was not uncommon for eastern relatives to hold land as an investment in this period. The elder John Edwards died on December 22, 1858 in New York, though the deed to transfer the 80 acres in the east half of southwest quarter of Section 20 from John Edwards back to Joseph Edwards for $540 was not filed until October 5, 1863. While it is possible that it was not Joseph's father but another John Edwards, it is not likely. Throughout this period, local assessor records list Joseph A. Edwards as the owner/payer of taxes of this land in Section 20, and the tract appears to have been farmed by Joseph Edwards, regardless of legal deed ownership.

Historically, Jackson Township was located between two early prosperous townships in southern Henry County, Salem Township to the west and Baltimore Township to the east. Hiram C. Smith is noted to have settled on the south bank of the Skunk River in Baltimore Township to the east in summer 1833. Smith and James Caudill then built a saw and grist mill on the south bank of the Skunk River in 1837, across from the future town of Lowell. Settlement began in Salem Township to the west in 1835 with the arrival of Isaac Pidgeon. The town of Salem was then platted on the prairie in the eastern portion of the township, and this community grew as the first Society of Friends (Quaker) settlement west of the Mississippi River in the 1830s and 1840s. A number of Friends then also settled to the east in western Jackson Township. Two roads were authorized through southern Henry County in 1839, and both passed through Jackson Township. The first was the military road from Burlington to the Indian agency on the Des Moines River to the west in Van Buren County, entering Henry County east of Lowell and crossing the Skunk River at Lowell, and then continuing along the southern edge of the county (currently 335th Street) through Hillsboro. As this road bypassed Salem, a second road was authorized, splitting west of Lowell and following a slightly more northerly route across southern Henry County to Salem. This road continued northwest to Fairfield, and it is currently known as Agency Road to the west of Salem (Jaynes 1976: 9; HCBC 1982: 15; Naumann 2001: 8). Salem Road followed the earlier trail from Burlington to Salem, and it thus extends through the southern portion of Section 20 rather than along the edge or midpoint of the township, as was typical with roads platted after land surveys were complete. Thus, Joseph Edwards' tract of 80 acres in the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 spanned both sides of the Salem Road, with the stone house later built on the north side.

While the Skunk River extends from Baltimore Township northwest through the northern portion of Jackson Township, no town was platted along the river or within the township. In eastern Jackson Township, Hugh Boyle started a mill on the river in Section 25 in the mid-late 1840s, which served as the only center of commerce in the 1850s and 1860s. A post office was established here in 1868 to serve residents in eastern Jackson Township, with western Jackson Township served by the route from Salem. Per later sources, early settlement in Jackson Township was concentrated south of the Skunk River, with this land more fertile and conducive for agriculture. By 1850, Henry County reached a population of 8,707. The population of Jackson Township was 555, the fourth smallest in population among the 12 townships in Henry County. Despite promising early growth, Baltimore Township to the east was similar with a population of 553. The townships with the largest populations were located to the immediate north (Center Township, with Mt Pleasant, 1,595) and immediate west (Salem Township, with Salem, 1,418) (Jaynes 1976: iv). Thus, Jackson Township was historically and is currently primarily rural, with the later route of Highway 218 south out of Mt Pleasant rerouted straight south through Jackson Township in the 1920s rather than jogging west through Salem.

Tax assessor records consistently list Joseph Edwards as owning the land in Section 20 with the stone house from the 1840s until the 1870s, and he is the only Edwards noted as owning land in Jackson Township through this period. The 1846 records indicate that Joseph Edwards had property valued at $921. He owned the southwest quarter (160 acres), east half of northwest quarter (80 acres), and west half of northeast quarter (80 acres) of Section 20, with a total real estate value of $800 for the 320 acres. Additionally, he owned one horse ($35), 8 cattle ($75), and 6 hogs ($6). By comparison, another early Jackson Township settler, Joel C. Garretson, owned 240 acres nearby in Section 33 along Agency/Military Road (335th St), with a total real estate value of $680. Family records indicate that he had built a one-and-one-half-story, five bay, side-gable frame house by this date that was utilized by the family through the end of the 19th century. The comparable real estate values indicate that the Edwards family likely lived in a similar home in this period, rather than a significantly larger stone house. The 1849 records indicate that the Edwards' 160 acres in the southwest quarter of Section 20 were valued at $700, with his other 80 acre tracts valued at $200 and $160, indicating construction on the larger tract. Garretson's 160 acres in the southeast quarter of Section 33 were valued at a comparable $800. Edwards also owned one horse ($30), three cows ($24), ten sheep ($10), and 18 hogs ($18), while Garretson owned two horses ($80), seven cows ($54), five sheep ($5), two hogs ($2), and one

wagon. Joseph Hoag is also known to have a comparable house to Joel C. Garretson by the late 1840s, and his 160 acres in the southwest quarter of Section 33 were likewise valued at $800. Thus, the stone house does not appear to have been built in the 1840s, per the real estate assessments.

The 1850 federal census lists Joseph A. Edwards (35 years old, farmer, born in New York) with a farm valued at $2,000 (census real estate values and Henry County assessor records are consistently not corresponding). His family includes wife Caroline (30, born in England), daughter Mary A. (13, born in New York), son William H. (11, born in Illinois), son John P. (8, born in Iowa), son Samuel D. (7, born in Iowa), daughter Ellen A. (5, born in Iowa), and daughter Elizabeth (3, born in Iowa). The agricultural census notes that Joseph A. Edwards had 65 improved acres and 185 unimproved acres. He owned $150 in machinery and implements. His livestock was valued at $500 and included 2 horses, 10 working oxen, 16 other cattle, 30 sheep, 30 swine. He had produced 100 bushels of wheat and 1,000 bushels of Indian corn in the last year. Their youngest son, Wesley T. Edwards, was born later in 1850, and Caroline Edward died on December 3, 1850. Joseph A. Edwards, with seven children, quickly remarried, wedding Lydia Ann Frazier on October 10, 1851 ("Joseph A. Edwards," *Daily Tribune*, Florence, Colorado, April 14, 1903, 3). The 1856 census lists Joseph A. Edwards (38, farmer) with wife Lydia (27), William H. (18), John (16), Samuel D. (14), Ellen (11), Eliza (8), and Thomas (7). The 1860 census lists Joseph A. Edwards (44, farmer) with $3,500 in real estate and $500 in personal property. His household was again growing, with wife Lydia (33), daughter Mary (24), son William H. (21), son John P. (20), son Samuel D. (18), daughter Ellen (15), daughter Eliza (12), son Thomas (10), daughter Ida (4), daughter Claudia (2), son Byron (2 months), as well as Jonathan Way (54, born in NC) and domestic servant Martha Frazer (24, born in IN).

Real estate values in comparison between Joseph A. Edwards and Joel C. Garretson remained similar through the 1850s, supporting later construction of the stone house in the 1860s. In 1852, Joseph A. Edwards continued to own the same 320 acres in Section 20, which were then assessed at $2,080. Garretson's 240 acres in Sections 33 and 27 were assessed at $1,920. In 1853, Edwards' 159 acres in the southwest quarter of Section 20 were assessed at $8 per acre ($1,272) and Garretson's 160 acres in the southeast quarter of Section 33 were assessed at $7 per acre ($1,120). Other land tracts were assessed at $4 or $5 per acre. Edwards' farm and personal property was increasing, with two horses ($40), 20 cattle ($322), 19 sheep ($19), seven swine ($23), and two carriages ($40) listed. In 1856, both quarter section tracts with houses were then assessed at $10 per acre, with Edwards' additional 80 acres in the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 20 assessed at $4 per acre and Garretson's additional land assessed at $6 per acre.

The 1859 map of Henry County shows Joseph Edwards as owner of these 239 acres of land in Section 20 (Figure 5). The map indicates a house on the property, but located to the west and north of the current stone house's location. It is believed that this placement is accurate (as the map generally has been correct) and thus indicates an earlier house on the property. This stone house would have then been built in the center of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 after 1859, as also supported by the tax assessment records. The recorded transfer from John Edwards back to Joseph A. Edwards in 1863 then may be associated with clearing of the title for the construction of the new house. Joseph Edwards also sold the west portion of the southwest quarter of Section 20 to John Masden for $756 in February 1864 (as seen on the 1870 atlas, Figure 7), which may have provided additional funds for construction of a new house. If so, the construction of the house would have coincided with the Civil War and may have spanned multiple years. The three oldest sons of Joseph from his first marriage (William, John, Samuel) enlisted in December 1861, serving together in Company D of the 14th Infantry Division. Samuel died of pneumonia on January 26, 1862 at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, MO (buried in Salem South Cemetery), and William H. Edwards died in Illinois on March 27, 1862 in Savannah, TN (buried in Shiloh National Cemetery). John P. Edwards was honorably discharged on March 3, 1863 and returned home, marrying Martha Ellen Joy on August 25, 1864 and living in Henry County for the remainder of his life (buried in Salem South Cemetery in 1916).

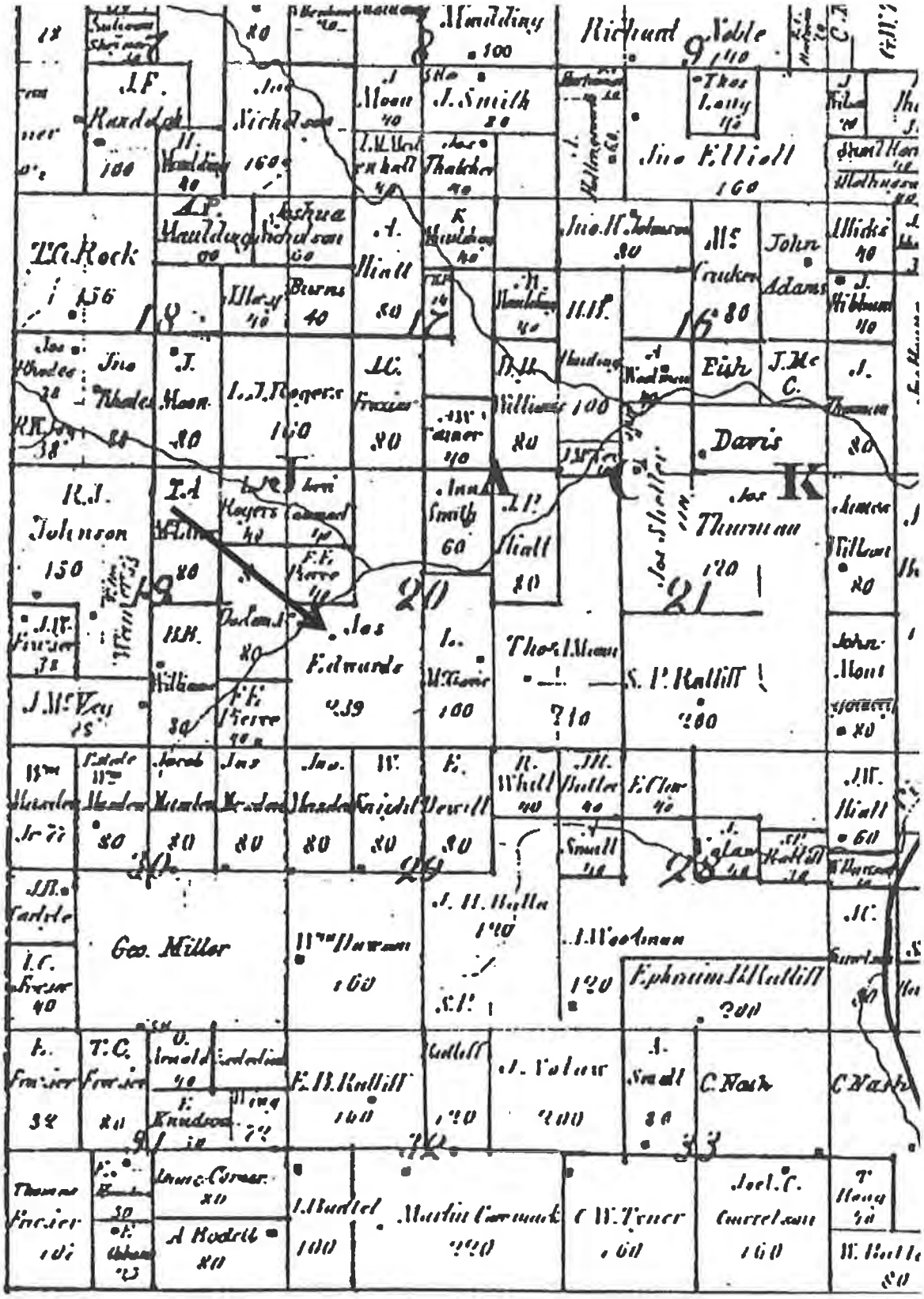

Figure 5. 1859 map of Jackson Township, with Edwards property indicated (*Map of Henry County* 1859: 10).

The natural resources of Jackson Township were sketched in sources from the 1850s to 1870s, with stone indicated in each of them. The 1859-60 county directory notes that Jackson Township is "one of the finest in the county" with numerous industrious and thrifty farmers (Bowron 1859: 84). The population of the township in 1860 was 1,081, the fifth smallest township, with the total population of Henry County reaching 18,071 (Jaynes 1976: iv). The *Iowa State Gazetteer* in 1865 notes that in general: "Building stone is abundant in nearly all parts of the county, costing only the labor necessary to quarry and remove it to the places where it is wanted" (Hair 1865: 207). Keokuk limestone was plentiful on various streams, but it was more argillaceous so not so well suited for building. Concretionary limestone was available for building as well as for lime for mortar, with light grey or dove colored beds typical (Hair 1865: 207). An article for the start of the centennial year in 1876 outlined the resources of Jackson Township specifically: "Building stone of an excellent quality is found in many parts of the township. The stratas which crop out along the smaller streams at a considerable height above the river bed are of the celebrated Concretionary, or St. Louis Limestone. A large portion of this rock is almost pure Calcic Carbonate, and when burned affords a superior quality of lime. The stone which makes its appearance along the margin of the river is of a different nature, being more or less shaly, and not so well suited for building purposes. The well known Geode beds make their appearance at several points. Sandstone of a good quality is also found" ("Jackson Township," *Mt Pleasant News,* January 6, 1876). The 1870 atlas indicates a quarry on the north portion of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 owned by Joseph A. Edwards along a branch of Fish Creek, a tributary to the Skunk River (Figure 7).

The tax assessor records in the early 1860s continue to indicate comparable real estate holdings through the early 1860s, with an increase then indicated in 1867. This construction date also coincides with the emergence of the Italianate style in Iowa, starting in larger cities in the 1850s and then built throughout towns and rural areas from the 1860s to 1880s. The 1861 assessor records list Joseph A. Edwards with $235 in personal property and $1,112 in real estate (197 acres), with the 80 acres in the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 valued at $600. By comparison, Joel C. Garretson had $529 in personal property and $1,818 in real estate (247 acres), with the 160 acres in Section 33 with his house valued at $1,400. Values were uniformly lower in 1862, likely due to the Civil War, and then more comparable to 1861 by 1864. In 1864, Joseph A. Edwards had 187 acres valued at $1,146, including the east half of southwest quarter of Section 20 ($594, 80 acres, $7.425/acre), east half of northwest quarter of Section 20 ($424, 80 acres, $5.30/acre), east part of northwest of southwest quarter ($117, 22 acres, $5.32/acre), and northwest part of northeast quarter of southeast quarter of Section 22 ($11, 5 acres, $2.20/acre). The 160 acres of Joel C. Garretson in the southeast quarter of Section 33 was valued at a $1,354 ($8.46/acre). In 1866, the 80-acre tract of Joseph A. Edwards in the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 was valued at a similar $588 ($7.35/acre), with Garretson's 160 acres in Section 33 valued at $1,680. In 1867, then real estate values shifted between the two properties, likely indicating the construction or completion of the stone house for Joseph Edwards. The same 80 acres in the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 were then valued at $774 ($9.675/acre), with additional land in the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 20 valued at $581 ($7.26/acre). Garretson's 160 acres in Section 33 were then valued at $1,355 ($8.46/acre). Land values were identical in the 1868 assessment records though personal property of both men increased, with Joseph A. Edward at $426 and Joel C. Garretson at $470. Personal property values increased again in 1869, with real estate values holding similar. Joseph A. Edwards owned 179 acres valued at $1,159 in 1869, including the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 20 ($739, 80 acres, $9.2375/acre), east half of the northwest quarter of Section 20 ($317, 80 acres, $3.96/acre), northwest part of northeast quarter of southeast quarter of Section 22 ($17, 6 acres), and east 13.3 acres of southwest of southwest of Section 20 ($86, 13.3 acres). Joel C. Garretson owned 416 acres valued at $1,858 in 1869, including the 160 acres with his house in the southeast quarter of Section 33 ($1,056, 160 acres, $6.60/acre).

The 1870 atlas of Henry County verifies that the stone house was constructed prior to 1870, with an illustration included of the house (Figure 6). The map of Jackson Township shows the house in its current location, with the quarry noted at the north end of his property (Figure 7). The house of Joseph A. Edwards was included

among the selected views of homes in Henry County in this atlas. It is the only property depicted in Jackson Township, indicating its and his status within southern Henry County. The sketch shows the large two-story cubical stone house with center entry, eaves with brackets, cupola, side entry to basement, and rear kitchen ell with side porch. The property has a fence around it, and a lane runs into his land on the east side of the house. Horses and cows appear within the fenced area to the east, and a shed-roof building sits behind the house. The 1870 census lists Joseph Edwards (age 55, farmer) with $10,000 in real estate and $2,000 in personal property, a significant increase over the $3,500 listed in 1860 and likely associated with the construction of this house. The 1870 census shows several additional children in his household, which included wife Lydia (42), son Thomas (21, works on farm), daughter Ida (14), daughter Claudia (12), son Byron (10), daughter Lola (8), son Lindly (6), son Edgar (3). The unfinished second story may have served as a large sleeping loft for the children. The agricultural census shows that Joseph Edwards had 120 improved acres plus 60 acres of woodland. His farm was valued at $10,000, and he owned $150 worth of implements. His livestock was valued at $1,394, and it included six horses, four milk cows, eight other cattle, 34 sheep, and 80 swine. He had produced 54 bushels of spring wheat, 400 bushels of winter wheat, 800 bushels of Indian corn, and 200 bushels of oats in the last year. Thus, the substantial nature of this home reflects his prominent status as a farmer in Jackson Township.

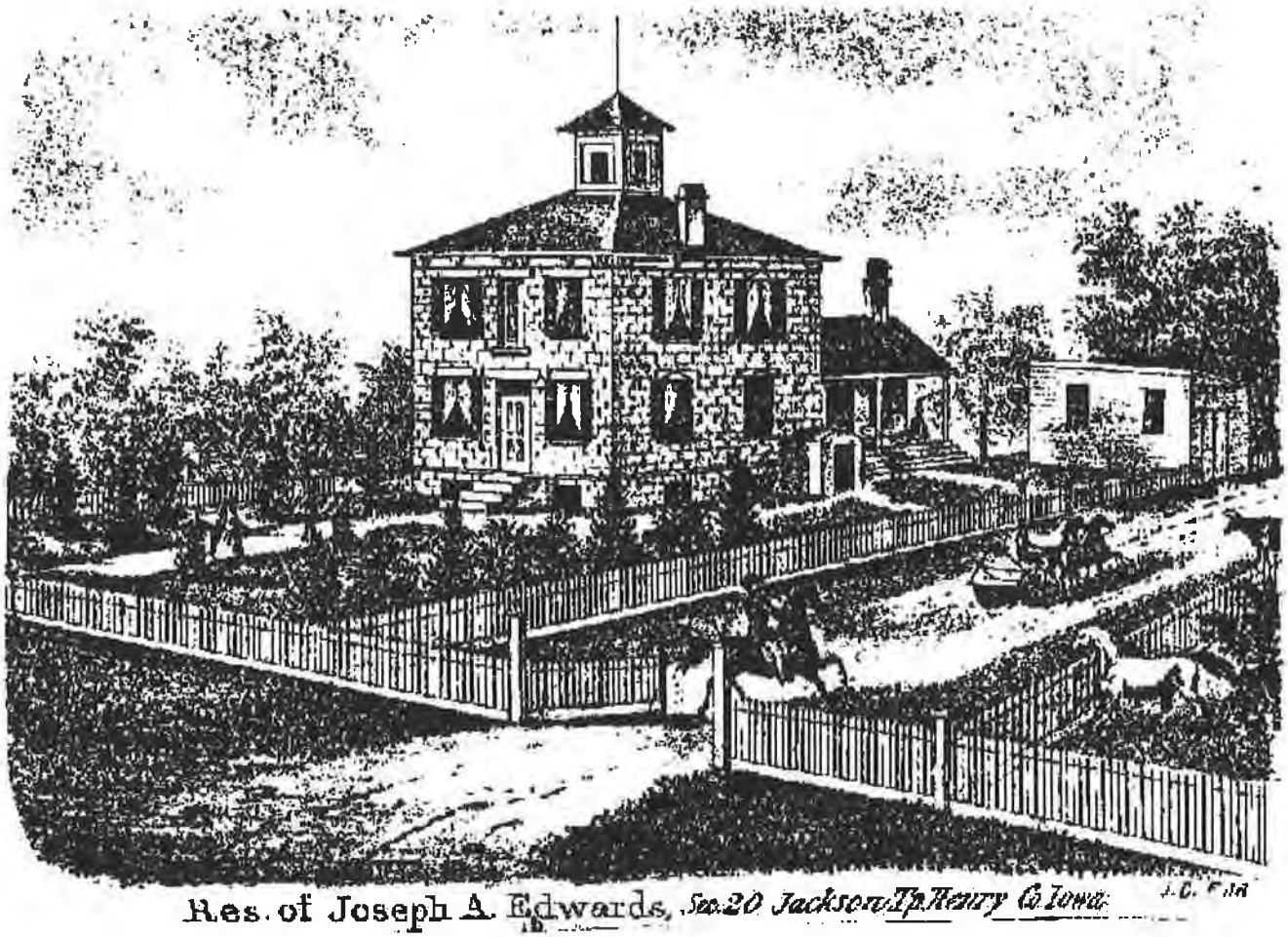

Figure 6. Sketch of house in 1870 atlas of Jackson Township (Thompson and Everts 1870:).

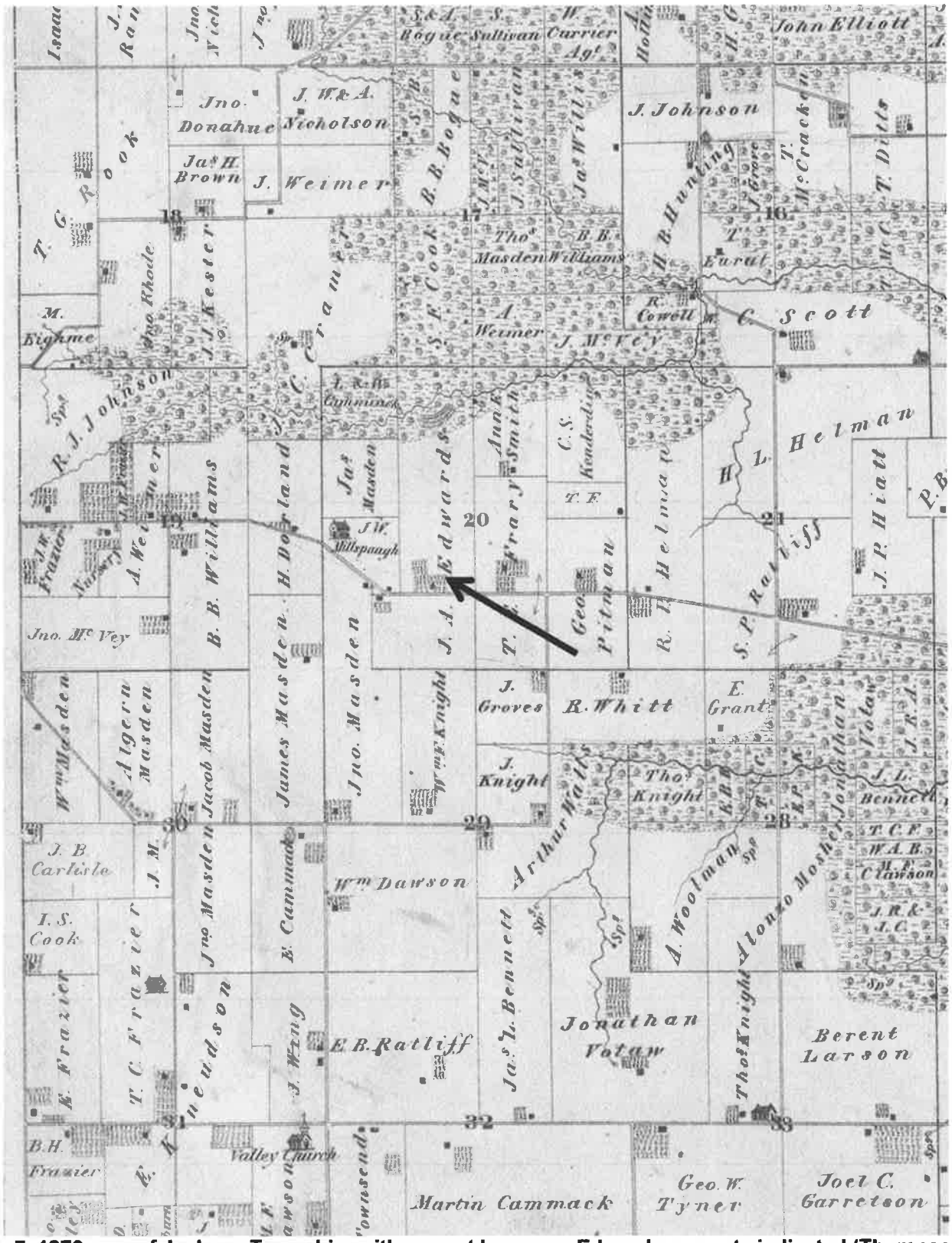

Figure 7. 1870 map of Jackson Township, with current house on Edwards property indicated (Thompson and Everts 1870: 27).

Figure 8. Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House in 2014 (McCarley, December 2014).

As noted, the stone construction of the Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House stands out as significant in comparison with other stone houses and buildings of this area. The earliest documented stone house that is extant in Henry County is the Henderson Lewelling House in Salem, about three miles west of the Edwards House. The house was built circa 1842, utilizing coursed ashlar sandstone construction (Figure 9). The house reflects the Greek Revival style in the symmetrical design, front porch, six-over-six-light double-hung windows, wide frieze boards, and gable returns. This house is the most refined in design and construction among the other identified stone houses in Henry County, reflective of the status of Henderson Lewelling with his nursery business in the growing town of Salem. Stone was also utilized for a handful of other buildings in Salem, all of which have been demolished. The Hugh and Matilda Boyle House was completed around 1850 further east along Salem Road, east of the current Highway 218, in Section 25 of Jackson Township (Figure 10). Hugh Boyle owned a grist and saw mill on Skunk River to the north, and he built this house overlooking his operations. Later, a store and the Boyleston post office were located in the basement level, serving the small hamlet that supported the mill operations. The house was built with coursed rubble construction, defined as rough cut stone of varying sizes laid in courses that likewise varied in size. This "vernacular" stone construction technique was utilized for the large pottery building of Dennis Melcher, built circa 1850 to the east in Baltimore Township, on the border of Henry and Des Moines counties (Figure 11). This simple coursed rubble stone construction was likewise used for the numerous stone buildings built in the 1840s and 1850s in Franklin, about 12 miles to the south in Lee County. The Leonard Farr House, located in Section 5 of Salem Township to the northwest of Salem, reflects similar cutting and tooling of its sandstone construction as the

Figure 9. Henderson Lewelling House, 401 S. Main, Salem, Salem Township, circa 1842, coursed ashlar sandstone construction, listed on NRHP (McCarley, December 2014).

Figure 10. Hugh and Matilda Boyle House, Salem Road, Section 25, Jackson Township, circa 1850, coursed rubble limestone construction, currently nominated to NRHP (McCarley, December 2014).

Figure 11. Dennis Melcher Pottery, Agency Road, on line of Section 36, Baltimore Township (Henry Co) and Des Moines County, circa 1851, coursed rubble limestone construction, listed on NRHP (McCarley, October 2014).

Figure 12. Leonard Farr House, on 286th St off of Agency Road, Section 5, Salem Township, construction date unknown, coursed ashlar sandstone construction (McCarley, December 2014).

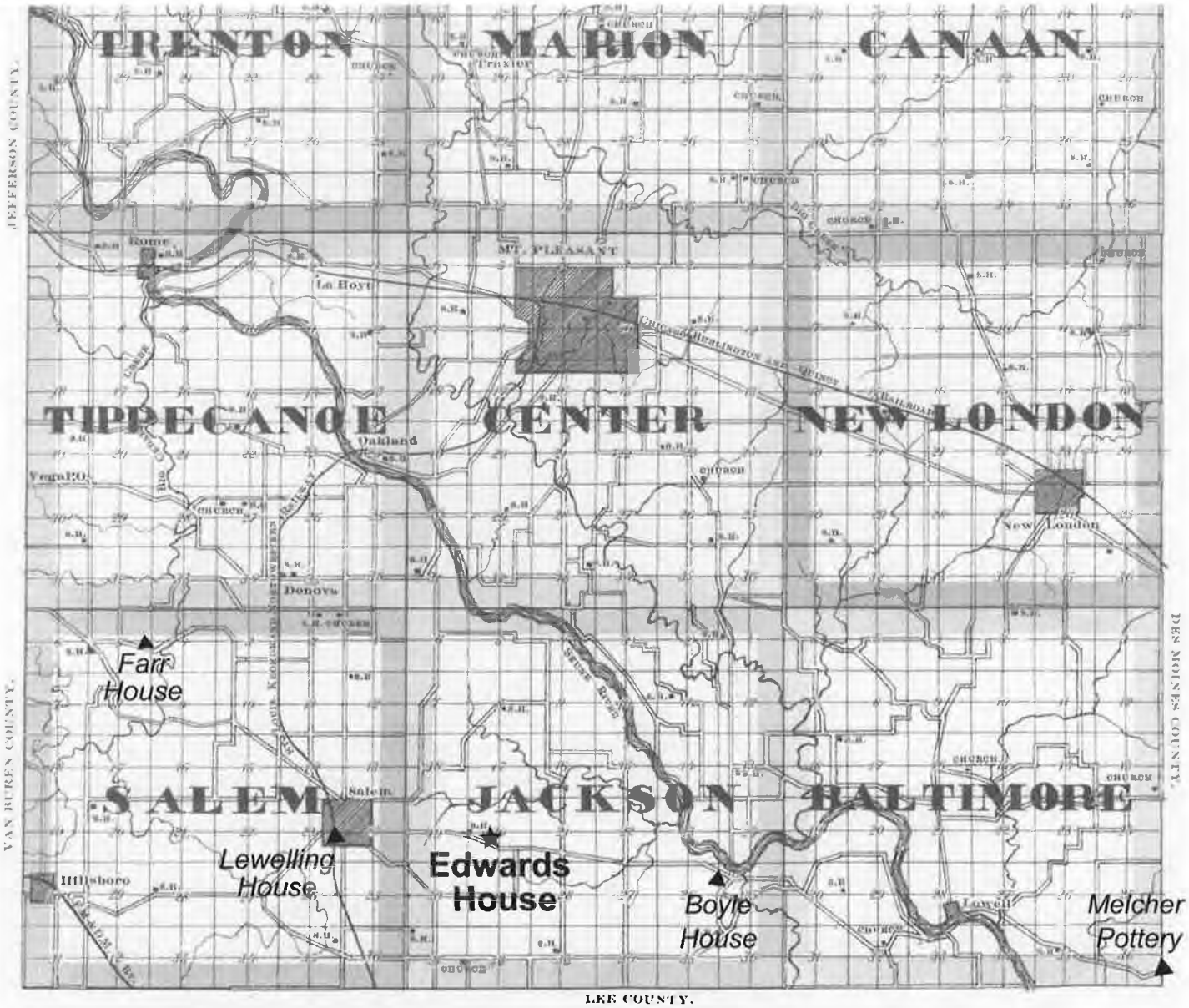

Figure 12. Locations of identified extant stone buildings in southern Henry County (McCarley, December 2014).

Lewelling House in Salem, though reportedly built decades later (Figure 12). Care was taken for a finished rough face for the stone on both of these buildings, particularly in comparison with the coursed rubble limestone construction of the Boyle and Melcher properties. These properties with stone construction in southern Henry County are linked by Salem/Agency Road, noting the use of stone for buildings along an early prominent route. At this time, no other extant 19th century stone houses have been identified in Henry County.

The Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House then stands out as unique for its stone construction among these properties. The narrow limestone blocks with cut faces on the façade of the Edwards House are unlike any identified house in Henry County (or northern rural Lee County). While it is unknown if this block was utilized for stylistic or practical reasons, the use of larger blocks on the east elevation suggests a deliberate choice for style and refinement on the façade. The carefully cut and tooled stone blocks on the east elevation are likewise more refined than the rougher cut ashlar construction of the Lewelling House. This elevation faced a

drive that historically entered the property, as seen on the 1870 atlas depiction (Figure 6). On the less visible west and north elevations, stones with a rough cut face were then utilized, requiring less time for quarrying and construction. The level of refinement for the stone may indicate the later date of construction, with time and skilled craftsmen available for the construction. The Italianate style of the house is also unique among the other stone houses in southern Henry County and northern Lee County, also indicating and confirming construction in the 1860s. The overall style of the house may reflect the influence of Joseph Edwards' New York roots, or the influence of larger homes in larger communities to the east along the Mississippi River. Two extant stone Italianate houses have been identified in Burlington as built in the 1850s (2441 S. Main, Iowa Inventory #29-01338; Gilbert House, 1210 Jefferson – Iowa Inventory #29-01159), similar per the overall hip-roof cubical form, three-bay façade, and wood brackets. Neither house has a cupola currently, and both houses have an entry porch that appears original. However, both houses have the more typical rough cut stone facing for their coursed ashlar construction, rather than the level of refined cut facing of the stone on the Edwards House. One other stone building has been identified constructed in Mount Pleasant in this period, the State Insane Asylum on the south side of town. The main building was a large four-story building constructed with brown stone procured near the town, began in 1855 and opened in 1861 (completed in 1865, not extant). No detailed images of the construction of the main building have been identified to determine the facing of the stone, and the images of the smaller stone buildings have rough cut stone construction.

A large survey of stone buildings in eastern Iowa was completed by Molly Myers Naumann in Jackson County in east-central Iowa in the early 1990s, culminating with the listing of a Multiple Property Document entitled "Limestone Architecture of Jackson County." The county is located on the Mississippi River, and thus it also includes early settlement in Iowa in the late 1830s and 1840s. With an abundance of limestone in the area, quarries were in operation by the 1850s (Naumann 1991: E1-E3). The identified stone buildings were concentrated in the northeast portion of the township near Bellevue and the Mississippi River. Naumann notes that most of the stone architecture was vernacular in form as well as material, with only a few buildings with "high style" details added. Coursed ashlar or coursed rubble construction was the most common construction techniques, with rough facing on the stone. Various sizes of stone blocks were observed, with several schools in the southwest corner noted with narrower block no more than six inches in height. Naumann speculated that this might have been dictated by the stratification of stone in the area (Naumann 1991: E6). Overall, 101 stone houses were surveyed in Jackson County. Only 12 were identified with the cubical form with a hip roof, and several of these were clad in stucco. Most of the stone houses surveyed were substantial two story homes (Naumann 1991: E18-19). In terms of integrity considerations, Naumann noted: "In all cases, the most important integrity consideration is that the building retain a strong sense of being constructed of limestone. Any changes in terms of stonework, repointing, blocking in of openings, additions, must be carefully reviewed." (Naumann 1991: F4). Additionally, "The basic shape and proportion of the house should be intact. Windows and doors should not have been moved or substantially changed. Porches should be sympathetic if not original" (Naumann 1991: F5). The Joseph A. and Lydia Edwards House meets these integrity considerations outlined for stone houses in Jackson County.

This Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House is also one of a handful of extant Italianate houses in southern Henry County. Italianate houses were built in rural Henry County from the late 1850s into the early 1890s. The handful of other Italianate houses in and around Salem are generally frame with a narrower two-bay cubical form and hip roof, and replacement siding has resulted in the removal of characteristic features of the style. This is the largest identified Italianate house in southern Henry County built in the 1850s to 1870s, and the only one with the broad three-bay façade utilized for Italianate homes in larger communities. Italianate houses identified in the east half of Salem Township in a 2008 survey included six frame houses in Salem and two rural frame houses. Among these Italianate houses, the Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House stands out as the most substantial house following the early traditional cubical form, with a hip roof and wide three bay façade with a center entry. While the cupola was removed on the Edwards House at some point in the first decades of the 20th century, this alteration appears common among other local Italianate houses as well, or

they originally existed without this feature. No surveyed Italianate houses in southern Henry County retain a historic cupola. The Isaac and Agnes Reeves House in Salem is an excellent example of a later Italianate brick house built in 1883, retaining several characteristic features of the style such as windows with decorative hoods and brackets (209 S. Main, listed on the NRHP, Iowa Inventory #44-01557). The overall form of this later Italianate house includes a projected front section, reflecting the Italian villa subcategory of Italianate houses. Thus, this house reflects a different style of Italianate design than the Edwards House.

While the 1870 census indicates that Joseph Edwards ran a successful farm on the property with his new stone house, the desire to move westward apparently urged the family to move on. On October 28, 1875, Joseph Edwards sold his farm (east half of NW quarter, east half of SW quarter, and east part of the SW SW) to Antrim Lester of Salem (Transfer Book 1A: 146). Joseph and Lydia Edwards moved to Kansas with several children. The 1880 census lists the family in Big Creek Twp, Ellis County, Kansas – Joseph Edwards (63, born in NY, farmer), wife Lydia (54, born in IN), son Wesley (Thomas) (31), daughter Claudia (22), son Byron (20), daughter Eola (18), son Linly (16), son Edgar (12), and daughter Eva (10). Lydia died in Hays, Ellis County, Kansas on January 2, 1884. Joseph A. Edwards married a third time, to Mary Wright, who died in Kansas by 1897. He returned to his home town of Sag-Harbor, NY in spring 1897, with a note in *The Republican* in Hays City the he was one of the oldest and best citizens of Buckeye, "gentleman whose character is above reproach, honest, kind, and beloved." He had 12 living children (of 18) at the time ("Return of Mr. Edwards," *Sag-Harbor Express,* Sag Harbor, NY, May 13, 1897, 2). He apparently then again moved west, this time to Colorado. Joseph A. Edwards died on April 13, 1903 in Florence, Fremont, Colorado (Edwards family website: reocities.com/Heartland/Pointe/8663/photo_and_notes_joseph.html).

Later development history of the property, 1875-1984

Over the next century, few changes were made to the stone house built by Joseph Edwards as it passed through several owners and then remained in one family for several decades. The Lester family from Salem owned the house and farm from 1875 to 1901, though it is unclear if any member of the family lived in the stone house for any length of time. Byron Dawson then owned the property from 1901 to 1911, moving here from another property in Jackson Township. He sold it in 1911 to Charles Martin, who then sold it the following year to Owen and Dora Hourihan. They lived here until their deaths in 1949 and 1953, raising four children in the house. Owen Hourihan was a prominent Jackson Township farmer and Democrat, involved in county and township organizations. Their son Maurice Hourihan then lived here with his family until 1984. Some remodeling on the first story was completed in this timeframe, with the second story remaining unfinished throughout this period.

While Antrim Lester bought the property in 1875, it is unclear if he ever lived in the house or farmed the land. The 1879 county history lists Antrim Lester as a merchant and farmer in Salem Township. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1813, moved to Jacksonville, IL in 1840, to Lee County, IA in 1844, and to Salem in 1848. It notes that he has been in the mercantile business most of the time since he moved to Salem, though continues on to note that he "owns a fine farm of 200 acres in Sec. 20, Jackson Twp" (*History of Henry County* 1879: 600-601). The 1880 census lists Antrim Lester (65, retail merchant) with wife Harriet (52) in Salem, and their household includes son Albert (19, no occupation) and daughters Hattie L. (15) and Maggie B (8). Antrim died on June 27, 1881. The 1885 Iowa census lists Harriet (55) as a widow in Salem on N. Main St, with son George B. (33) as a merchant and son Albert (24) as a laborer. So, Albert may have originally or by this time been farming the land on this property in Jackson Township. On November 16, 1893, the heirs of Antrim Lester officially transferred interest in the property to Albert Lester, and the 1895 atlas shows Albert as the owner of the east halves of the northwest and southwest quarters of Section 20, along with 23 acres in the east part of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter (Figure 13). Both George (48, dry goods merchant)

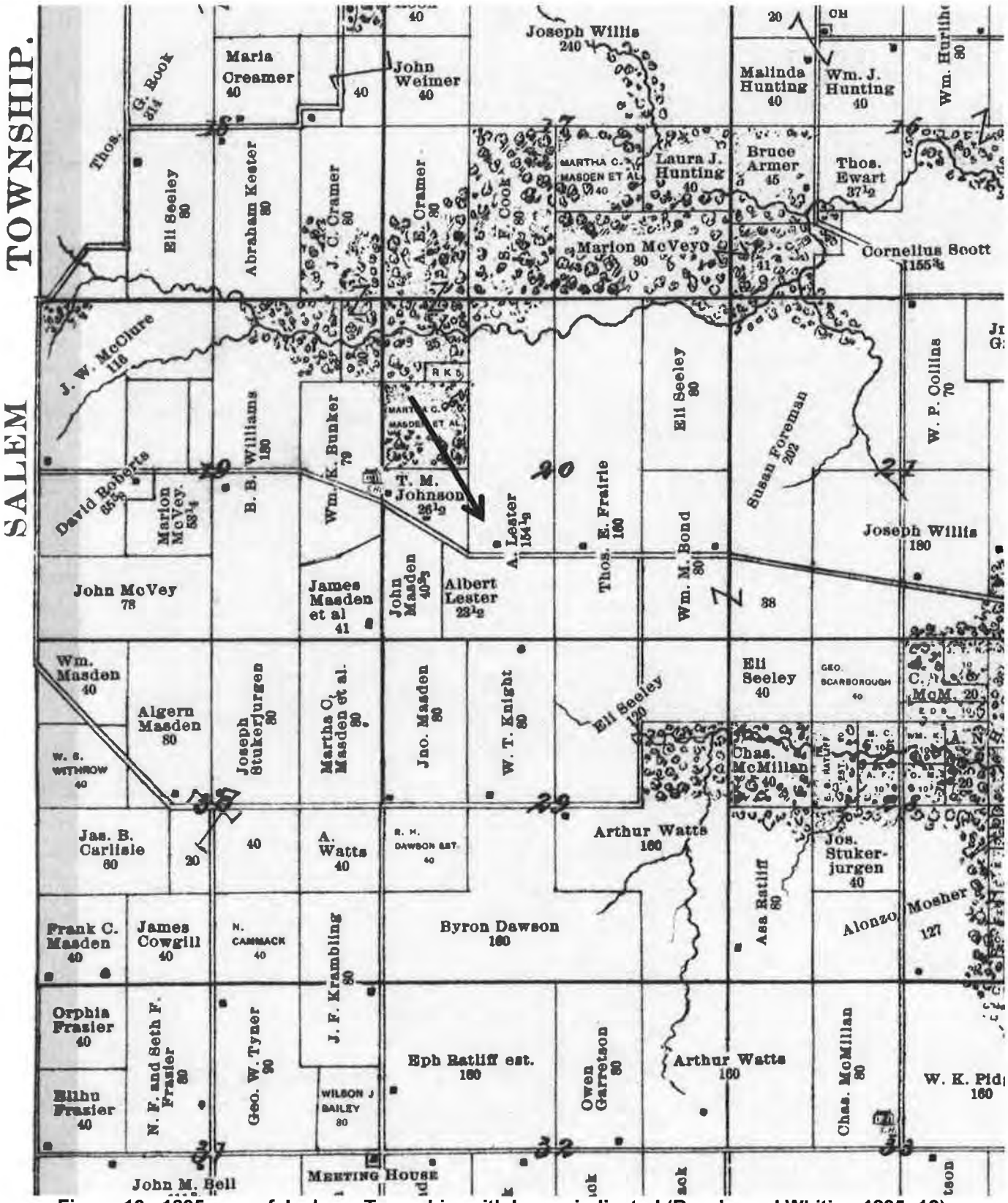

Figure 13. 1895 map of Jackson Township, with house indicated (Brooks and Whiting 1895: 12).

and Albert (39, farmer) continued to be listed as single and living with their mother Harriet (73, widow) in Salem in the 1900 census, along with sister Margaret B. (27, music teacher). Thus, it appears that no one lived in the stone house through this period, and that Albert likely farmed the land. It is possible some of the family lived here for some of the time. The lack of residents may have contributed the lack of need to further finish the second story. Harriet Lester died on June 8, 1910, and her obituary noted that she had lived in Salem since December 1848 ("Mrs. Harriet Lester," *Mt. Pleasant Daily News,* June 15, 1910, 2).

On February 18, 1901, Harriet Lester et al sold this property in Section 20 to Byron Dawson. The 1900 census shows Byron Dawson (44, no occupation) in Jackson Township with wife Leni (42) and daughters Sylvia (15) and Jessie (12). They were not located in the 1910 census. On February 24, 1911, Byron Dawson sold the farm (189.5 acres) to Salem clothing store owner Charles H. Martin, who also then bought property to the west from the Masden heirs. A note from Salem in the *Mt Pleasant Daily News* on March 8, 1911 states that Byron Dawson was loading a car of household goods and farm implements to move to his new farm near Burlington, and C.H. Martin was moving to the Dawson farm ("Salem Letter," *Mt Pleasant Daily News,* March 8, 1911, 2). Charles and Ada Martin lived in their country home for slightly over a year, and then they moved back into Salem and sold most of the Edwards farm (149.5 acres) to Owen Hourihan on August 31, 1912 – all of the east half of the northwest quarter (80), northeast quarter of the southwest quarter (40 with stone house), and east 29.5 acres of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter. Thus, a tract was removed from the west edge of the farm on the south side of Salem Road, which is then shown as owned by A. Lester on the 1917 atlas (Figure 14). The sliver in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter was later bought by Owen Hourihan (prior to 1931).

Owen and Dora Hourihan then owned the stone house and farm from 1912 until 1946. Owen was born on a farm in Jackson Township on August 21, 1872, son of John and Sarah Hourihan. He married Dora Shannon on November 16, 1898 ("Funeral Held for Owen Hourihan," *Mt. Pleasant News,* May 16, 1949, 4). The 1910 census lists Owen (37, farmer) in Jackson Twp with wife Dora (44) and daughters Mildred S. (10), Louva M. (7), and Alice M. (3). In the early 20th century when the house was originally occupied by Owen and Dora Hourihan, the layout of the first story include a room on either side of the center stairs in the south/front half, three rooms across the north/rear half (center room with no windows), and the kitchen in the rear ell. In the 1930s, the southeast corner room was a parlor, southwest corner room was the master bedroom, and center room in rear half was a living room, with children's bedrooms to either side and a kitchen to the rear (per Elsie Ross, Doris Septer, and Joyce McElwee). The 1920 census lists the family: Owen (46, farmer), wife Dora (55), daughters Mildred S. (20, teacher), Louva M. (17), and Alice M. (13), and son Maurice (8). The 1930 census lists the family living here as well: Owen (57, farmer), wife Dora (65), daughters Louva M. (27, teacher) and Alice M. (23), and son Maurice (18, farm laborer). Owen's obituary notes that he was a leader in the betterment of the community and county. He served as postmaster in Salem for four years, served for decades as secretary of the Jackson Township school board (Dorland School was less than a mile to the west of the house), served as a member of the Inheritance Tax Appraisal Board of Henry County, and served on the original AAA committee ("Funeral Held for Owen Hourihan," *Mt. Pleasant News,* May 16, 1949, 4). His granddaughter Joyce McElwee recalls that he was more of a community leader/politician than farmer, and that he traveled to Mt. Pleasant once a week for meetings of the Inheritance Tax Appraisal Board. Newspaper articles from the 1910s to 1940s show that Owen Hourihan was also an active leader in the local Democratic party as well as an advocate for various political issues.

During the 1930s and 1940s, son Maurice Hourihan farmed the property, and they had cows, chickens, and guineas. Maurice Hourihan married Marjorie Harrison on May 4, 1932. They initially lived in the stone house with Maurice's parents, with their oldest daughters Elsie (Ross) and Doris (Septer) born in the house in 1933 and 1934. After this time, Owen Hourihan built a "little house" – a white frame house – about "a block" to the west of the stone house on his property. Maurice and Marjorie moved here with their daughters, and they had two additional children while living in this house, Joyce in 1939 and Charles in 1943. The children grew up

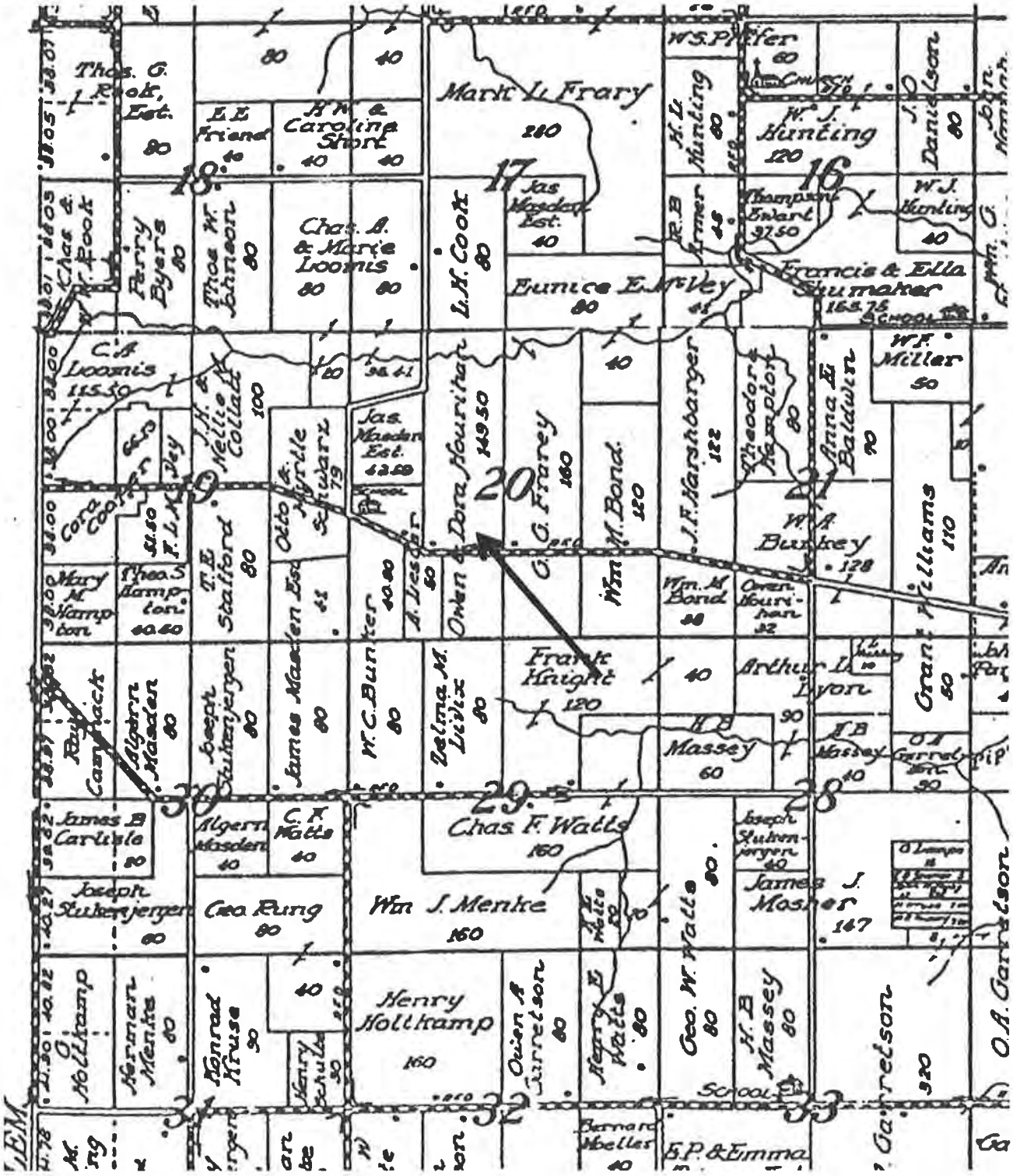

Figure 14. 1917 map of Jackson Township, with property indicated (Ogle 1917: 25).

Figure 15. Photographs of Elsie Hourihan (Ross) in 1934 and 1949 showing details on the façade of the house (Elsie Ross collection).

close to their grandparents and spent much time at the stone house (per Elsie Ross, Doris Septer, and Joyce McElwee). A small tract of land of the farm in Section 20 was transferred from Owen Hourihan to Maurice Hourihan on July 31, 1937, and this might have been associated with the "little house." The 1930s aerial photograph of the property does not appear to show this house, and then it is visible on the 1950s aerial photograph. The 1940 census lists the two families next to each other. Owen (67) and Dora (75) owned a house valued at $1,500, and they had lived in the same house in 1930. Daughters Alice (32) and Louva Forbes (36, widow, teacher) also lived with them. Maurice (28) and Marjorie (26) also owned a house valued at $1,500, but had not lived here in 1930. They are listed with three daughters, Elsie (6), Joyce (4), and Doris (11 months). In addition to farming, Maurice also worked as a school bus driver for Dorland School to the west in the 1940s. His children, however, lived too close to school for the bus and had to walk (per Elsie Ross, Doris Septer, and Joyce McElwee). Maurice also served on the Jackson Township school board in this period.

Maurice and Marjorie Hourihan then moved back into the stone house in the late 1940s, buying the property from Owen and Dora Hourihan on July 3, 1946. They remodeled the house to move the kitchen from the rear of the house to the southwest corner (parlor). The bedrooms and living room remained in their earlier locations, and the old kitchen was used primarily for storage. A large register (5-6') was located in the living room, which provided heat from the furnace in the basement to the first story. The bathtub was then placed on this register on bath nights. The second story of the house remained as unfinished space through this period (per Elsie Ross, Doris Septer, and Joyce McElwee). Owen Hourihan died on May 11, 1949, leaving his wife Dora, four children (Mildred Files of Cleveland, OH; Louva Forbes, Mt. Pleasant; Alice Hourihan, Salem;

Maurice Hourihan, Jackson Twp), and four grandchildren (Maurice and Marjorie's children - Elsie, Joyce, Doris, and Charles Hourihan ("Funeral Held for Owen Hourihan," *Mt. Pleasant News,* May 16, 1949, 4). After Owen's death, Dora Hourihan then lived in the "big house" during the week, with Maurice and Marjorie and their younger children Joyce and Charles. The "aunts" – Louva Forbes and Alice Hourihan – lived in Mt. Pleasant, but they stayed at the "little house" on the weekends with Dora. The teacher for Dorland School to the west would also stay here during bad weather (per Elsie Ross, Doris Septer, and Joyce McElwee). Dora Hourihan died on November 4, 1953 after a fall sent her to the Mills Nursing Home, a couple weeks short of her 89th birthday. She left four children - Mildred Files of Denver (Albert Files), Louva Forbes (Hollis Forbes) of Mt. Pleasant, Alice Hourihan of Mt. Pleasant, and Maurice, who farmed the Hourihan home place east of Salem, as well as four grandchildren (Elsie Louise Ross, Joyce, Doris, Charles Hourihan) and one great grandchild (Rebecca Diane Ross) ("Mrs. D. Hourihan Taken By Death," *Mt. Pleasant News,* November 5, 1953, 1). Elsie married Robert Ross in June 1952, and they later moved west to Colorado. Maurice Hourihan continued to serve on Jackson Township school board through this period.

Figure 16. Photograph of the house around 1980 (Elsie Ross collection).

Maurice and Marjorie Hourihan then continued to live in the stone house until they sold it in 1984. The land on the south side of the road was sold to Bob Frary, who also rented the land on the north side of the road around the house to farm. Maurice Hourihan suffered from health problems resulting from rheumatic fever, and he was unable to work the land by the 1950s. He continued to drive a "school bus" for the school system, which was the family car with a sign displayed on it (per Elsie Ross, Doris Septer, and Joyce McElwee). Ads in the *Mt Pleasant News* in the mid-1950s also list him as the dealer in Salem for McAllister Seed products, including Iowa 13 Hybrid Seed Corn and Iowa Certified Seed Oats (*Mt Pleasant News,* December 13, 1954, 6). After the deaths of Dora, Alice, and Louva, there was no need for the "little house" that had been built to the west of the stone house, and it was moved to the road about a mile to the south. While it appears in the 1950s aerial photograph, it no longer sits in this location on the 1960s aerial photograph. This photograph shows the stone house with a drive along the east side that extends north to the barn. A garage is located immediately east of the drive and house, with the second barn further to the east. A large pond also appears to the northwest of the house. The 1970s aerial photograph shows the same set of buildings on the property – house, garage to the east, chicken coop to the north, barn to the east, and barn to the north. In August 1972, a parcel of about one acre was platted around the house, with the remaining land sold on contract to Robert and Esther Frary. On June 12, 1984, Maurice and Marjorie Hourihan sold the house parcel to John Frary (son of neighbor to east) for $14,250, and they moved into Mount Pleasant. Maurice died in October 1985, and Marjorie died on May 14, 2007. Survivors per her obituary included three daughters, Elsie and her husband Bob Ross of Sun City, AZ, Joyce and her husband William McElwee of Mt. Pleasant, IA, and Doris and her husband, George Septer of Salem, IA; one son Charles Hourihan and his wife Linda of Mt. Pleasant, IA; thirteen grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren, and six great great-grandchildren.

Recent remodeling and current history of the Edwards House

As noted, the land associated with the stone house was rented and farmed by the Frary family by the 1950s, with the current house parcel partitioned off from the larger farm in 1973. John and Laura Frary (son of family farm to east) then bought one-acre parcel with the stone house on May 12, 1984. They completed a remodel of the kitchen, historically moved to the southwest/front corner, and opened it up to the room to the north (bedroom at one point), which then became the dining room. On July 12, 1996, John and Laura Frary sold the stone house to Tony E. and Connie L. Kramer. They installed a new metal roof, installed vinyl clad wood Pella one-over-one-light double-hung windows on the first story, installed a new furnace, and remodeled the bathroom in 1998-99. They lived solely on the first story, and the second story remained unfinished through these owners.

On March 17, 2006, the house parcel was then sold to Jeff Cleere and his mother Brenda Bundy. They retained many original/historic features and completed extensive remodeling of the first story, finished the second story, and built the sunroom addition and deck. The main center entry was left intact, and the stairs were opened up to create typical stairs to the second story. The southwest room was remodeled to a living room, with historic wood trim remaining intact. The original kitchen at the rear was remodeled for a bedroom. Stairs to the basement from this room were removed, and a door added in the south wall to the bathroom, which was also remodeled. Work on the second story was generally completed in 2007. The second story was divided into rooms, with woodwork salvaged from the Hoaglin house (circa 1883) on the west side of Hillsboro that was being demolished. The exterior stone walls and brick chimney were left exposed to reflect the historic unfinished nature of the space (remodeling per Brenda Bundy, Jeff Cleere). Jeff Cleere currently lives here with his family. The current parcel with the stone house includes the garage to the east, following the same lot lines laid out in the 1973 survey. The surrounding farm land historically associated with the house is owned by James Frary, with the exception of the north 40 acres owned by John Frary. Jeff Cleere and Brenda Bundy plan to continue to own and use the house, and they intend to maintain and restore the historic exterior of the stone house.

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Joyce (Hourihan) McElwee, Mt. Pleasant, July 9, 2013
Doris (Hourihan) Septer, Salem, July 9, 2013
Tony and Connie Kramer, Salem, July 10, 2013
Brenda Bundy, Hattiesburg, MS, July 10, 2013, Salem, IA, September 10, 2014
Jeff Cleere, Salem, IA, July 11, 2013, September 10, 2014

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Preparation of this nomination is supported financially in part by the State Historical Society of Iowa, Historical Resource Development Program (Resource Enhancement and Protection program).

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): Iowa Inventory #44-01768

Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House
Name of Property

Henry County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

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	3	Latitude	Longitude
2	Latitude	Longitude	4	Latitude	Longitude

or

UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map): ____ NAD 1927 or _x_ NAD 1983

1	15 (Zone)	619960 (Easting)	4522760 (Northing)	3	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	Zone	Easting	Northing	4	Zone	Easting	Northing

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

The National Register of Historic Places boundary is depicted on the map below. It follows the house lot plat from 1973, which serves as the current parcel boundary for the property, without the section (50 feet) that falls within the right-of-way and north half of Salem Road. The boundary starts at the intersection of the west parcel boundary and right-of-way for Salem Road, extends north for 232.8 feet, east for 158.1 feet, south for 87.7 feet, southeast for 82.4 feet, south for 87 feet, and west for 216.5 feet to the point of beginning.

Map depicting National Register boundary (1"=100')
(base aerial photography from April 2013 from Henry County Planning/GIS)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The National Register boundary for the property includes the house parcel partitioned and platted from the larger farm in 1973, which is the current legal parcel for the stone house. The significance of the property is tied directly to the architecture of the stone house, and thus this boundary was selected.

Any potential historic archeological sites have not been evaluated within this project though may contribute to the significance of the property. It is noted that a quarry was depicted on the 1870 historical atlas at the north edge of the larger property associated with the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rebecca Lawin McCarley, Architectural Historian

organization SPARK Consulting date August 12, 2015

street & number 17 Oak Lane telephone 563-324-9767

city or town Davenport state Iowa zip code 52803

e-mail sparkconsulting@octaspark.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

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

Property owner info (as requested to be completed by SHPO):

name Jeffrey Cleere and Brenda Bundy

street & number 1735 Salem Road telephone n/a

city or town Salem state IA zip code 52649

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.

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: Joseph A. and Lydia A. Edwards House

City or Vicinity: Salem vicinity

County: Henry State: Iowa

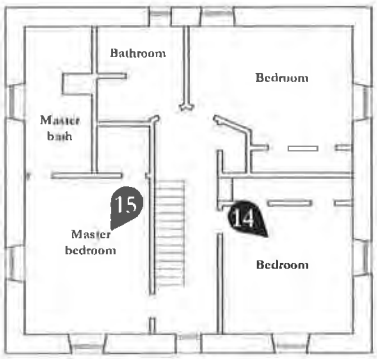
Photographer: Rebecca Lawin McCarley

Dates Photographed: September 10, 2014, December 11, 2014

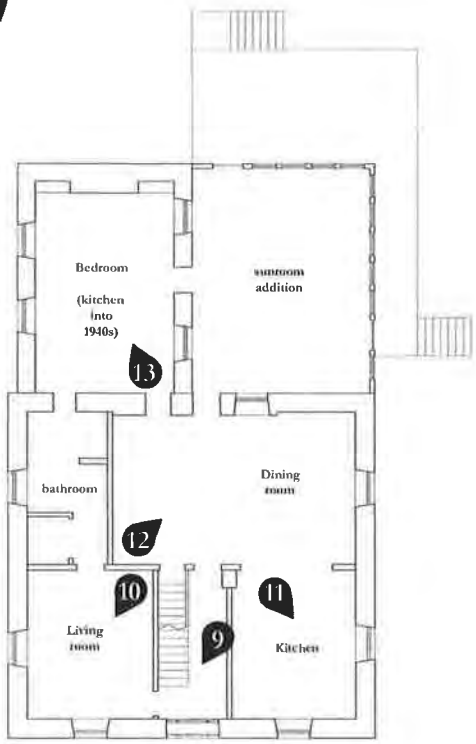
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. Setting of Edwards House, camera facing northwest.
2. Façade (south elevation) of house, camera facing north.
3. Façade and east elevation, camera facing northwest
4. Detail of stone and brackets, camera facing northwest.
5. East elevation, camera facing west.
6. West elevation of main section of house, camera facing east
7. North and west elevations of rear kitchen ell, camera facing southeast.
8. Rear (north) elevation of house, camera facing south.
9. Entry hall, camera facing southwest.
10. Southwest parlor, camera facing southwest.
11. Kitchen, camera facing southeast.
12. Dining room, camera facing northeast.
13. Rear bedroom on first story (original kitchen), camera facing northwest.
14. Bedroom on second story, camera facing southeast.
15. Bedroom on second story, camera facing southwest.
16. Attic with ladder to roof, camera facing east.

Photograph key
Joseph and Lydia Edwards House
Jackson Twp, Henry Co
1/20"=1' (sketch of general layout)
R.L. McCarley, SPARK Consulting
December 2014



Second story



First story

8
4
7
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SALEM QUADRANGLE
IOWA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1973. Field checked 1976. Map edited 1981

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Iowa coordinate system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 1 meter north and 13 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

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

UTM GRID AND 1981 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
(MN, GN; 0°56' 17 MILS; 3° 53 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
AND BY THE IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

IOWA
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface — Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface — Unimproved road
Interstate Route — U. S. Route — State Route

USGS
HISTORICAL FILE
NATIONAL MAPPING DIVISION

SALEM, IOWA
N4045—W9130/7.5

1981

DMA 7665 I SE—SERIES V876

JUL 20 1981
1900