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

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979

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

DEC 0 4 2015
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: Dupont, John, House
Other names/site number: Milburn House
Name of related multiple property listing: **N/A**
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location
Street & number: 130 W 5th St
City or town: **New Burnside** State: **Illinois** County: **Johnson**
Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

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** ✓ **local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___**A** ✓ **B** ✓ **C** ___**D**

11/24/15

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

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

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**

John Dupont House
Name of Property

Johnson, Illinois
County and State

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 W. Beall 1.19.16

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	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	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_____
_____
_____
_____

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.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD-weatherboard, BRICK, STONE-sandstone, ASPHALT

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 John Dupont House, 130 W 5th St., New Burnside, Johnson County, Illinois, is a 2½- story dwelling with partial basement and unfinished attic clad in weatherboard with a cross footprint designed in Victorian Italianate style with both Italianate and late Gothic Revival exterior detailing, constructed when the village was founded in 1872. The house was built by John Dupont, a wealthy businessman who owned flour and grist mills in the village and surrounding area. The house is the only contributing building on the property. Its footprint measures at extremes 36 by 72 feet. The 2,450-square foot house faces north. Constructed of poplar wood, the house rests on a sandstone foundation, with a steeply pitched, intersecting cross gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. There are three brick chimneys and a single-story front porch with chamfered posts and three arched windows with hoods anchored by a heavy Italianate door with transom. The porch extends across the full width. The house presents itself today as it did then.

Narrative Description

Setting

John Dupont's frame house, centered on a hilltop setting, rests on a well-landscaped, secluded three-acre lot carved from a nearly 14-acre parcel surrounded by pasture and woodlands. The house, facing north, is positioned so that the sun sweeps across from the east in the morning to

the west in late afternoon. Evergreens and large maple trees dominate the front yard. On the west of the lot is a towering southern Magnolia and on the east is a large tulip tree with black walnuts trees, honey locusts and white oaks. The south section of the lot displays boxwoods, mature cypress trees, and a small pond. Flowering shrubs, English walnut and ginkgo trees are placed across the lawn. To the east, a long gravel driveway parallels a creek and winds up the hill to the rear of the house where ample parking is provided. To the north, at the front of the lawn, mature cedar trees paired in two rows outline a path up the steep hillside providing access to the front of the house from the street below. The house is located at the end of a quiet lane and is concealed from street view by the surrounding trees much of the year.

General Description

The John Dupont House, which boasts nearly 11-foot ceilings on each floor, is a frame Victorian Italianate structure built in a cruciform pattern with a steeply pitched roof of four intersecting gables, one centering on each elevation. The porches have chamfered posts, drip molding, rounded windows, flattened arches, Gothic brackets and Italianate doors with transoms and hoods. The exterior walls are finished in weatherboard. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. The foundation and porch piers are of native sandstone. The chimneys are of brick. Large sandstone steps lead to the front porch and are shaped to anchor each adjoining step. The flat roof of the front porch is accessible through two tall, narrow windows on the second elevation that serve the main bedroom and alcove. An illusion of height is increased by windows on the second floor that are slightly shorter than those on the main floor. The peaks in all but the south gable overhang Gothic trefoil windows. Although the trefoil represents the Trinity when incorporated into church designs, it is unknown what was intended in this construction.

North (Primary) Elevation

The north facade features a front facing gable with decorative verge boards, a full-width porch with slender chamfered columns and decorated brackets. Four sandstone steps lead to the front porch. Each step is between 38 and 42 inches wide. They brace one another without additional support. The massive front steps are accented with black wrought iron railings as a safety precaution. The porch retains its original tongue and groove wood ceiling, also found on two additional porches, and its Italianate roof is flat with access to the interior through the tall, arched second level windows. The main entry is off-centered and located in the northwest corner. The Italianate style door, with transom, has a heavy rectangular hood. To the east of the door are triple-paired full arch one-over-one double hung windows with heavy decorative window hoods constructed of poplar wood. The second level fenestration consists of two one-over-one double hung windows with decorative poplar hoods. The gable end holds rounded paired windows in a trefoil arch with decorative hoods. The cornice line is emphasized with a wide, divided band of unadorned trim which surrounds the house. Located at the corners are narrow pilasters that wrap to the east and west elevations, and can be found at all corners of each elevation.

West Elevation

The west elevation features a screened porch, with a shed roof on the first level at the south corner. The porch is repeated on the east elevation. Entrance is gained off the south elevation of the porches. A door with transom at the north end of the porch provides entrance to the south side of the dining room and an identical door at the south end of the porch provides entrance to the west side of the kitchen. A tall, arched, hooded window on the north end of the porch provides light to the west side of the kitchen. Directly to the north is a bay window located below the projecting cross gable, displaying four tall rounded arch windows with heavy decorative window hoods constructed of poplar wood. The northern section of the west elevation has no openings on the first level. A single fenestration on the second level features a tall, arched window. Directly over the bay at the attic are paired arched windows with a trefoil arch identical to the north and east elevations. The southern section of the west elevation at the second level has one window centered over the porch below. All windows feature heavy decorative window hoods constructed of poplar wood. The gable end features decorative verge board that mirrors the gable end located on all elevations.

East Elevation

Located on the first level of the East elevation, centered in the north section, is a tall, narrow double hung one-over-one window, and a bay window in the projecting cross gable, mirroring the west bay. The porch is screened and has a shed roof. Both bays expand their rooms and present four windows. The door on the north end of the porch enters the rear parlor. A kitchen window is on the south end of the porch and the door entering the kitchen from the east is at the north end. The second level is identical to the west elevation except the northern section window is centered. The door on the north end of the porch enters the back parlor. The windows on the east and west sides of the kitchen are reversed, as are the entry doors to the kitchen from the porches.

South Elevation

The south elevation has a centered projecting basement entrance with a gable front that leads to a six-glass-pane wood door with a framed screened door. Located on the west corner of the second level is a tall, narrow arched window with a heavy decorative window hood constructed of poplar. Entrances to the dwelling are through the south end of the porches at the west and east corners of the south elevation. Also on the south elevation is a cistern that provided running water to the kitchen. The cistern is no longer in use, replaced by a public water system.

INTERIOR

On the first floor through the main door off the front porch, a long hallway toward the dining room, in the central part of the house, forming the right arm of the cross footprint. An arch above the hall marks the beginning of the curved wall to the left toward the back parlor, which forms the left arm of the cross. The curved wall continues across the north end of the dining room. In the hallway, its curve is matched on the opposite side by the curve extending toward the parlor, a design repeated on the second level opposite the entry from the staircase.

There is a hanging lamp in the first-floor entry that is original to the house after electrical service was made available using knob and tube wiring, which required updating, last completed in 2008 when the service lines from the electric company were buried underground. To the right inside the vestibule the staircase clings to the west wall, with steps shaped to adapt to a curve at the top to join the stairs to the second level. The stairway layout requires 19 steps to gain access from the first to the second floor. The carved balustrades and rows of balusters, custom steps and newel post retain the original dark stain.

The first door to the left, topped by a transom, enters the front parlor opposite the stairway. Double pocket doors, which have the original dark wood finish accented by the white framing, separate the two parlors. Both rooms feature crown molding and large window displays. There are three one-over-one windows at the front, or north side, of the large parlor, and a single one-over-one window to the east. A fireplace with marble mantel and surround centers the inside wall in the back parlor, flanked by built-in book shelves. The back parlor features a bay, with four windows providing ample light and a view of the east lawn and pastures. On the south wall, a door opens to the east side porch which also has an entrance to the kitchen.
Four heavy doors, each with four panels, are positioned at first floor exits, in addition to the main entry door. All have transoms with surrounding drip molding. The interior doors also have transoms. The dining room has a plaster center molding that is original to the house. Upstairs in a small bedroom another center molding survives, with a plaster border sectioning off the ceiling. The dining room and parlors have wood crown moldings which replaced the failed original plaster in the 1960s. The north wall in the dining room is curved. The kitchen also has crown molding and an updated hanging fixture featuring farm scenes suspended above a round table in the French Henri II style. The kitchen stairway to the servant's quarters on the second floor has been closed off. A small bathroom is located there. Also on the south wall a large pantry opens from the kitchen, both displaying the original wainscoting. The kitchen has a chair rail. All interior doors on both floors opening to rooms have transoms. All doors display four panels.

Second Floor

At the top of the stairs at the front, or north, of the house is the master bedroom, which separates itself from the others by having a large walk-in closet, a second closet lined with shelves, and an alcove. The woodwork is the original dark finish. The alcove is on the west end of the bedroom. The upstairs hallway wall curves as it leads toward the large bedroom immediately across from the stairway. The room fills with daylight from windows on three of the four walls. The closet is large. At the south end of the hall is a third bedroom that doubles as a sitting room, with a coal-burning fireplace. A closet with a tall, narrow window is on the west side. A small closet is to the east, next to the fireplace.

The fourth bedroom provided servants' quarters, directly above the kitchen, and opens to the closed-off stairs, with current access through the bedroom/sitting room on the second floor. Stairs in the servants' quarters give access to the large attic. The bathroom below was installed when electricity became available to power the water pump for the cistern.
Floors throughout are original wood, although carpets are installed on the main floor. As the plaster walls started to fail, wallboard was used for stability and some plaster crown molding was

replaced by wood. In the dining room, the plaster molding surround for the light fixture was saved. The same is true for the center molding and accent molding in the small bedroom on the west side of the second floor. The parlors and dining room have molding where the ceiling and walls join.

Integrity

The Dupont House is well preserved and retains the essential architectural features that characterize the Italianate style, with late Gothic Revival influences on the exterior. There are 29 original one-over-one double hung windows, each with drip moldings of poplar wood. The 1870s brass doorbell, manually operated with a lever, remains in working condition. Rectangular hood molding covers the top and sides of the transom above the front door. Original hardware is in place throughout. Verge boards, with dragonfly cutouts, trim the four Gothic Revival gables. Hardware used throughout the house is typical of the era, some carrying dates of manufacture. The interior displays its original woodwork, hardware and curved walls. The dwelling is well preserved and retains the essential architectural features that represent Victorian Italianate and late Gothic Revival styles, and it effectively conveys its significance for architecture.

Since its original construction the house has had an addition of a small interior bathroom (1939), screening-in the rear porches and removal of balustrades on the second level of the north façade and over the bay windows (early 1900s). Two custom black wrought-iron railings were placed beside the steps in 2013. Floors in three bedrooms were refinished in the early 2000s; the downstairs flooring in the hallway and three rooms is covered by carpeting but the original wood floors remain underneath. Although not original to the building, these minor changes do not diminish the historic character of the building and are the only alterations to the dwelling.

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.
- [x] 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.)

POLITICS & GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1872-1891

Significant Dates

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

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Dupont, John

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 John Dupont House in New Burnside, Johnson County, Illinois is locally significant under the National Register of Historic Places Criterion C for Architecture and Criterion B for John Dupont's participation in Politics/Government. Dupont was an effective politician recognized as such through his election to county offices and participation in governmental organization in Reynoldsburg[1] and again in New Burnside and Creal Springs, where he took leadership roles while living in these communities. The house is the only known elaborate, 2½-story Italianate structure to have survived from the 1870s in Johnson County or to have been built there at that time. It also is the only remaining Dupont residence. The period of significance for the Dupont House would be the decades when John Dupont and his family were in residence, from 1872-1891.

Dupont and his family lived in the house for two decades, during which time Dupont increased his net worth, operating several mills and expanding into coal mining, and building his reputation as a government, political and business leader in the local community and region. His Colchester Coal Mine was the top producer in the area, at 43,000 tons. A Republican, he was elected to countywide offices. He started civic organizations and gave money and land for construction of churches and cemeteries in the new village. No one made more generous donations to construction of the Methodist Church, still in existence, than John Dupont.

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

John Dupont

The John Dupont House in New Burnside is the most important contribution that John Dupont made in his lifetime to Johnson County, Illinois. It appears today much as it did when Dupont built it in 1872. Dupont chose an isolated setting for his home two blocks from downtown New Burnside, a remote village in the northeast corner of the county. The man who built the house left behind an inspiring legacy that could belong to any one of a number of immigrant American families today. A Frenchman, he came in 1847 as a young boy of 8 with his parents and nine siblings to the United States because they, like so many others, might starve if they remained in their homeland. His was the French Alps. His father needed work and knew he would find it through family and friends in America. When Bartholdi started the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor in 1875, a gift to this country from the people of France, the Duponts' needs were being met in the Midwest. As a young man, John Dupont would strike out on his own, building a

[1] Barnwell, D.H., *Once Lively Village, Now No More*, Republican Herald, Metroplis, Illinois, July 13, 1932.

life that would benefit his family and create opportunities for others. His home in the heartland was a symbol of his prosperity that would continue to draw comment from those who experience it for the first time nearly a century and a half after his handiwork was completed.

John Dupont had a family history of a contributing life in the French Alps and a supporting role in the court of Napoleon, the first Emperor of France, by serving his favorite sister, Princess Pauline.[2] His family left for America because of miserable living conditions in France in the mid-1840s.[3] Gifts from the Emperor's Court that survived to arrive from France with the Andre and Dupont families in Ste. Genevieve, Mo., are preserved by the families.[4] John was one of 10 children of Jean Francois Dupont and Francoise Adam Dupont who left their home in Thônes, Haute-Savoie, along with many other families from France, for Ste. Genevieve where they had relatives or shared bonds through marriages. After arriving in November 1847 aboard the *Howard* in New Orleans, the family stayed for a time at a major plantation on the banks of the Mississippi River owned by Billon Delhommer. John was 8-years-old when he began experiencing for himself an elegant southern plantation life style, with generous personal service and furnishings fit for royalty. When most people think of the antebellum South they envision ornate mansions surrounded by lush gardens, cotton gins or sugar mills, and other outbuildings. Louisiana had many of these plantation complexes. By 1852, the Dupont family had left the Louisiana plantation and bought property in Ste. Genevieve,[5] as other French settlers they knew had done.

John Dupont and his wife, Lucinda Fairless Dupont, were active in the development of Johnson County and the village of New Burnside. Married on May 1, 1865, he was a Civil War veteran, a corporal in the 1st Regiment, Illinois Light Artillery, Batt'y K,[6] and she was the widow of a Civil War soldier, with one surviving young son.

Dupont left his home across the Mississippi River in Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, and settled in Southern Illinois. His career choice made "Little Egypt" – as the southern end of the state is called – an ideal fit. The area was older and better cultivated. It was anchored by the confluence of the Mighty Mississippi with the Ohio River at Cairo, Illinois. Corn was gathered "as the sand of the sea," wrote Grace Humphrey in her Illinois history.[7] Wheat reached for the sky, so tall it blocked the view of those who walked through it. The region was perfect for a man in pursuit of one flour mill after another, before undertaking the expansion of his business into Kansas, near where his brothers had relocated, and become farmers.

John and Lucinda built The Dupont House in 1872. He chose an isolated setting two blocks from downtown New Burnside, a remote village in the northeast corner of the county. It was the first

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[2] Becker, Alida, *Twisted Sister*, New York Times, March 22, 2009, BR 10.
[3] Wade, Louise, *To Sing of These,* Second Edition, The Andre Family, online, 2009
[4] Ste. Genevieve newspapers, Nov. 5, 1955,
[5] Wade, Louise Vorst Sheppard, *To Sing of These*, November 2009.
[6] National Park Service, U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865, Ancestry.com
[7] Humphrey, Grace, *Illinois: A History of the Prairie State*, Bobs-Merrill, Chicago, 1917, 78

house constructed when the village was founded.[8] Dupont was not an architect but he came from a family of carpenters and laborers. While he was building his home and his mill in New Burnside, waiting for the latest in mill equipment he ordered to arrive by rail from New York State and trying his hand at coal mining, John Dupont had the companionship and assistance of two brothers, Francis and Evariste. Francis had stayed in Ste. Genevieve after their father died in 1857. At one time he was listed as mill manager in New Burnside on a county report.

Shortly after the large, two-story frame house was completed John Dupont became a Johnson County Commissioner in January 1877[9], one year after the new Illinois State Constitution was fully in place. Johnson County had enacted a form of county government, approved by the voters, which replaced the township form. Dupont was one of three men elected to the new office of Johnson County Commissioner, organizing the commission form of government which is still in place today. Jan. 4, 1877, page 3, in the Cairo Bulletin:

Election for County Commissioners

"Johnson County, having voted down the system of township organization, an election for three county commissioners took place on last Monday and resulted in the election of P.G. Thacker, John Dupont and Elisha Webb – two Republicans and one Democrat. All of the new commissioners are good men, and all having been members of the board of supervisors are posted in county matters."

In Johnson County, Dupont owned mills in George's Creek, Reynoldsburg, New Burnside, Buncombe, Vienna and West Vienna, as well as mills in Creal Springs and Marion in Williamson County. Add to that two coal mines near New Burnside. He would be considered an entrepreneur today. Dupont was regularly mentioned in local newspapers for his business and civic affairs. Johnson County Commissioners Record Book B, in the Circuit Clerk's office, shows Dupont as an active participant in decisions made by the commissioners; he was the first to sign up to support a performance bond required for his friend, newly-elected County Clerk F.M. Jones.[10] He and Jones had a light-hearted banter that ran in the Johnson County Journal when Jones was then the editor, and supplies for both Dupont's new mill and the construction of his home were arriving by rail. The Dupont family received media attention as well. In addition to his professional pursuits, he and his wife initiated several civic organizations in New Burnside. Charley Dupont, as he was known in New Burnside, also received occasional attention in the newspaper. On Wednesday, Nov. 14, 1877, for example, Charley made the list of top New Burnside students for deportment and study.[11]

Dupont was respected in the community. He stood for fair treatment for all, proved by his actions such as riding his horse alone into the night to confront the Ku Klux Klan -- men hooded,

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[8] Walley, O.R., *New Burnside, scenic Ozark village*, Southern Illinoisan, May 7, 1972, 10.
[9] Cairo Bulletin, *Johnson County Commissioners Elected*, Jan. 4, 1877,3.
[10] Johnson County Commissioners' Records, Book B, 16 March 1818 – 2 June 1928, Circuit Clerk's Office, Johnson County Courthouse, Vienna, 143
[11] Johnson County Journal, Nov. 16, 1877, 1

masked and clothed in white sheets extended to drape over their horses and mules -- as they terrorized people whom they saw as different. Dupont remarked the dozen men and horses were so completely disguised as to render it impossible to recognize them. In addition to confronting actions of the Ku Klux Klan, Dupont opposed the sale of alcohol on the frontier. Liquor use remains restricted today in what was once his area of influence in Johnson County. He did what he could to have a safe environment in the rapidly expanding communities in Johnson and later Williamson County where he moved in 1891 and served as an alderman in Creal Springs.[12]

When Dupont left New Burnside, it was a loss to Johnson County that was worthy of the notations in newspapers and books. He would continue his government, political and commercial dealings in Williamson County. In addition to becoming a village alderman, he took over the large flour mill. A street was named Dupont. Creal Springs had other benefits for Dupont. It offered mineral waters that drew crowds of tourists for the newly discovered medicinal treatments which were praised for their significant health benefits. Dupont was known to have been injured in the war. The village was booming, with had a resort hotel, public bathhouses and a college, along with Dupont's large flour mill downtown beside the railroad tracks. His stepson also was involved with the expanding Dupont-Fairless Mills and had taken up residence in Creal Springs. Dupont continued his crusade against alcohol as well. Liquor sales were banned in 1903, before Prohibition became the law of the land, and he pressed to prevent liquor sales in Williamson County, as he had in Johnson County.

In New Burnside, the Dupont House was bought in October 1891 by John M. Keltner, a local merchant. Of Keltner, the biographer wrote:

"He bought his present fine home, which is the elegant house erected by John Dupont, on thirteen and one-half acres of land, with fine ornamental shade and fruit trees. He has lost one daughter, Nora A., who died at the age of eight years, in April, 1892. One son, Lewis O., a young man of eighteen, is living at home and attending school."[13]

The newspaper noted: *"Uncle John became a full-fledged resident of Creal Springs."*[14]

The Dupont House would have several owners after Keltner, until it was purchased by Roy Milburn in January 1926.[15] Under Roy and Ora Milburn's ownership, the house would play an important role, becoming a gathering place for the community. Historic photographs taken with a rolling camera have emerged from The Great Depression showing the villagers, dressed in their Sunday best, lined up on the lawn on the west side of the house in the 1930s. Clubs met for afternoon tea or played table games in the parlors in the evening.

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[12] Wilcox, J.F., 1905 Historical Souvenir of Williamson County, LaCrone Press, Effingham, Illinois, 10.
[13] *The Biographical Review of Johnson, Massac, Pope and Hardin Counties*, Illinois Biographical Publishing Co., Chicago, 1893
[14] Johnson County Journal, New Burnside News, October 1891.
[15] Johnson County Warranty Deed Book, 79, Jan. 4, 1926, 296.

The house was a short walk around a pond bank to the New Burnside School, now shuttered. Girls who stayed in the home during winter when rutted, icy lanes prevented them from reaching school from the countryside, were given room and board and training in social graces, music appreciation, Bible lessons, and civic responsibilities, as well as household skills. For decades after Roy Milburn bought the house in 1926, his wife opened their home to meetings of women's clubs she helped organize. She became president of the 24th District, Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs. The graciousness of the house itself made it easy to respond to community needs. It became known as The Milburn House during those years.

Architectural History

Both Victorian Italianate and late Gothic Revival styles started in England as part of the Picturesque movement, a reaction to the formal designs of the previous 200 years.[16] The Italianate style flourished from 1850 to 1890, and was usually found in homes of two- to three-stories, with flat or hip roofs, corniced, widely overhanging eaves, corner boards, elaborate windows crowns, arched windows and bays. Windows often were curved at the top and had elaborate moldings. Stone and brick were used by those who could afford it and everyone else used wood siding. Downing featured this style in his books. His career lasted only 15 years, ended by his death in a riverboat explosion, but his influence continues even today. Italianate would eventually overshadow Gothic Revival style.[17]

Excluding the Dupont House, examples of Italianate styles, and to a lesser degree, late Gothic Revival, are not found in the small village of New Burnside. Examples are found in other locations. Two are the Robert W. Hamilton House in Murphysboro, Jackson County, a small Carpenter Gothic built in 1867, and the Ambrose Hopkinson House in Olney, Richard County, an Italianate built in 1874. Robert Hamilton was a Civil War veteran who became post master of Carbondale, Illinois, in 1867, and circuit clerk of Jackson County from 1872 to 1880, when he retired. Ambrose Hopkinson was a brick mason and owned a brickyard in Olney. The main floor plan for his house is very similar to the plan chosen by John Dupont for his house in Johnson County.

Carpenter Gothic is a form of Gothic Revival style, a frame home put together by carpenters with some freedom for expression in the details. Elaborate Gothic architecture flourished in Europe from the 12th to the 16th centuries. The term Gothic Revival meant the style had to have started somewhere else to be revived.[18]

Italianate dominated American houses built between 1850 and 1880, especially in growing towns and cities of the Midwest. In America, original models of the Picturesque movement were

[16] McAlester, Virginia and Lee, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, Alfred A. Knopf, 1985, 212
[17] McAlester, 214
[18] Steffani Cameron, BuildDirect Blog, *Life at Home*, Aug. 18, 2014

modified and made more elaborate. Italianate was popular in two forms, with elaborate styles dominant in the 1850s and simpler designs presented in the 1870s.[19]

The Hamilton House is compact and features clapboard siding, instead of the traditional board and batten siding expected on Carpenter Gothic. The prolific wooden trim has no two pieces finished the same, an unusual feature. The house, smaller than the Dupont House, opens to a front room that serves as a reception area. The Hamilton House is now set up to carry out the business of the Murphysboro Chamber of Commerce, which occupies it under a lease. Fine detailing on the exterior reflects an appreciation for the Carpenter Gothic style.

Both the Hamilton and Hopkinson houses are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Hamilton House in 1982, and the Hopkinson House in 2001. The Hopkinson House is used as a Richland County museum. It is a large Italianate brick home built near the railroad tracks in Olney. The application for the National Register introduces the house this way:

The two-story red brick house is designed in the Italianate style. The wraparound porch on the front of the house is supported by chamfered columns and has balustrades on both stories. The entrance bay projects slightly from the house; the main door is decorated with red glass panels and circular moldings. The house's cornice is composed of decorative panels separated by brackets.

The Italianate front door is positioned to the right side. Stepping inside shows the layout on the first floor is much the same as the John Dupont House with the main hallway parallel to the stairway to the right, and opens to two parlors on the left. The dining room in the original plan was straight ahead at the center of the house, and the kitchen is on the far end of the structure. Sleeping quarters are upstairs.

Also of interest is Magnolia Manor, an elaborate four-story Victorian Italianate brick home built in Cairo, Illinois, over three years from 1869 to 1872. Flour mill owner Charles Galigher designed the 14-room structure and built it with the help of his sons. Galigher had sold flour around the world and capped his business by selling flour to the Union Army. He was a friend of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, and entertained Grant at Magnolia Manor when President Grant left office. In touring the manor guided by Tim Salpinski, the curator, of special interest was the servants' stairs, identical in design to Dupont's servants' stairs, except for the smaller scale for the Dupont House. Magnolia Manor is listed on the National Register.

The John Dupont House in New Burnside is an excellent example of Italianate architecture with some late Gothic Revival detailing on the exterior, both styles important to a national movement in architecture that prevailed in the United States into the late 1880s, particularly in the Midwest. Dominant in height and width, the John Dupont House in New Burnside today remains alone in the village representing high style architecture from the founding of the village. The original exterior walls, windows, wood hoods for windows and doors, hardware, sills and cut sandstone

[19] McAlester, 214

foundation are intact. The house reflects a period when well-to-do families from northern states, recovering from the Civil War, wanted the comforts of more elaborate homes.

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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:
____ 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 _9.75__

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)
1. Latitude: 37.577212 Longitude:-88.771243

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

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

The property is bounded by West 5th Street to the North, farmland to the South, the neighborhood surrounding the abandoned New Burnside School to the West, and structures to the East on South Main Street. Three sides are outlined by woods.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The lot historically associated with the property.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Richard and Nancy Darnell
street & number: 2608 Grand National Drive
city or town: Edmond state: OK zip code:73034
e-mail_NHDarnell@sbcglobal.net; RichardHDarnell@msn.com
date: June 30, 2015

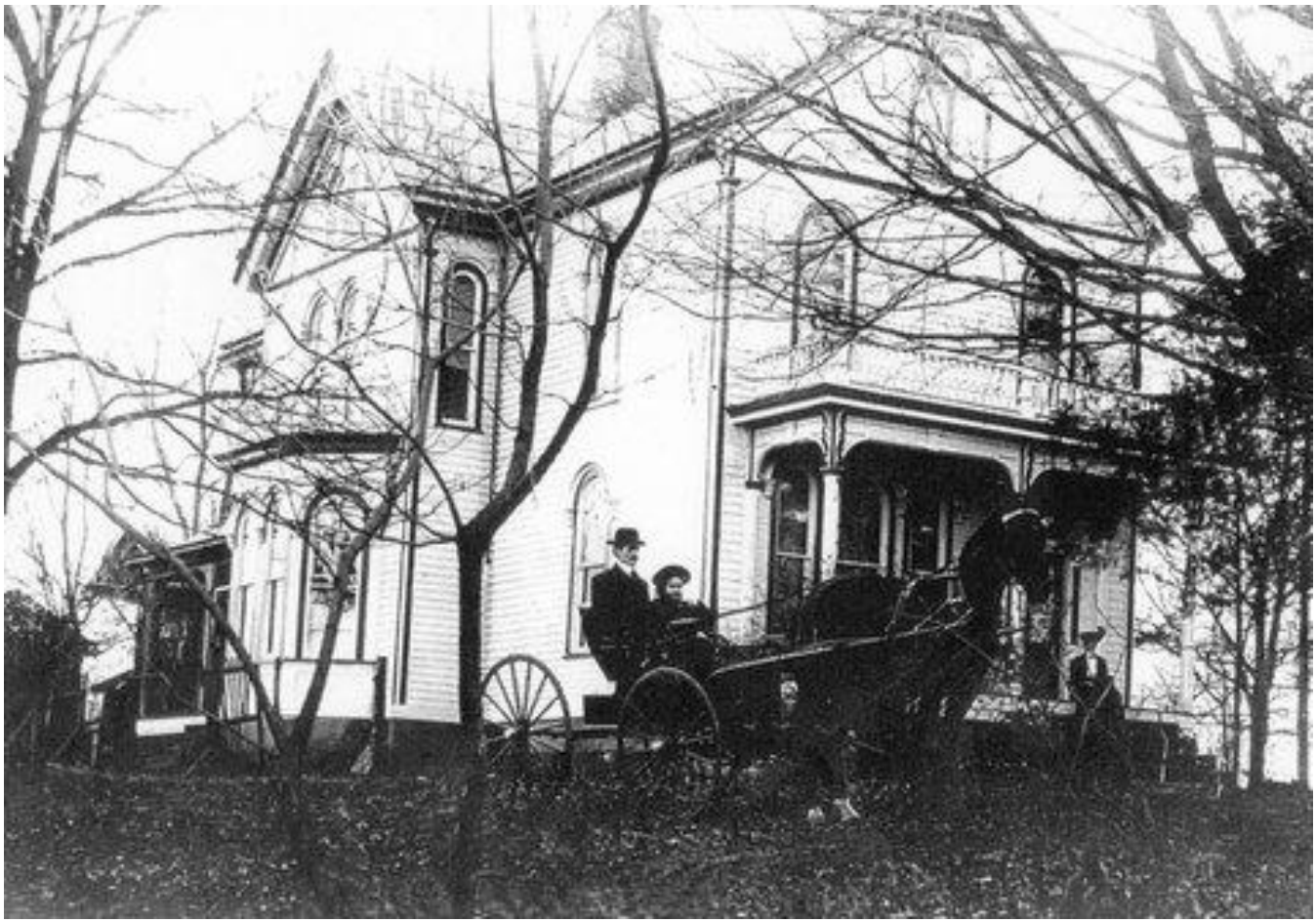
Photo Log

Name of Property: John Dupont House
City or Vicinity: New Burnside
County: Johnson
State: Illinois
Name of Photographer: Dave Darnell
Date of Photographs: July 23, 2014
Location of original digital files: 1870 Snowden Avenue, Memphis TN
Number of Photographs: 15

Photo #1

Northwest elevation, camera facing southeast.
Photo #2
West elevation bay windows, camera facing east.
Photo #3
South elevation, camera facing north.
Photo #4
Northeast elevation, camera facing southwest.
Photo #5
North porch elevation, camera facing east.
Photo #6
North parlor, camera facing north.
Photo #7
South parlor bay windows, camera facing southeast.
Photo #8
South parlor fire place, camera facing northwest.
Photo #9
Dining room, camera facing west.
Photo #10
Dining room ceiling plaster medallion, camera facing northwest.
Photo #11
Stairway from 2nd floor hallway, camera facing north.
Photo #12
Ceiling plaster medallion and molding second floor west bedroom, camera facing northwest.
Photo #13
West bedroom 2nd floor, camera facing north.
Photo #14
Curved wall 2nd floor hallway, camera facing north.
Photo #15
North alcove bedroom, camera facing northwest

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.



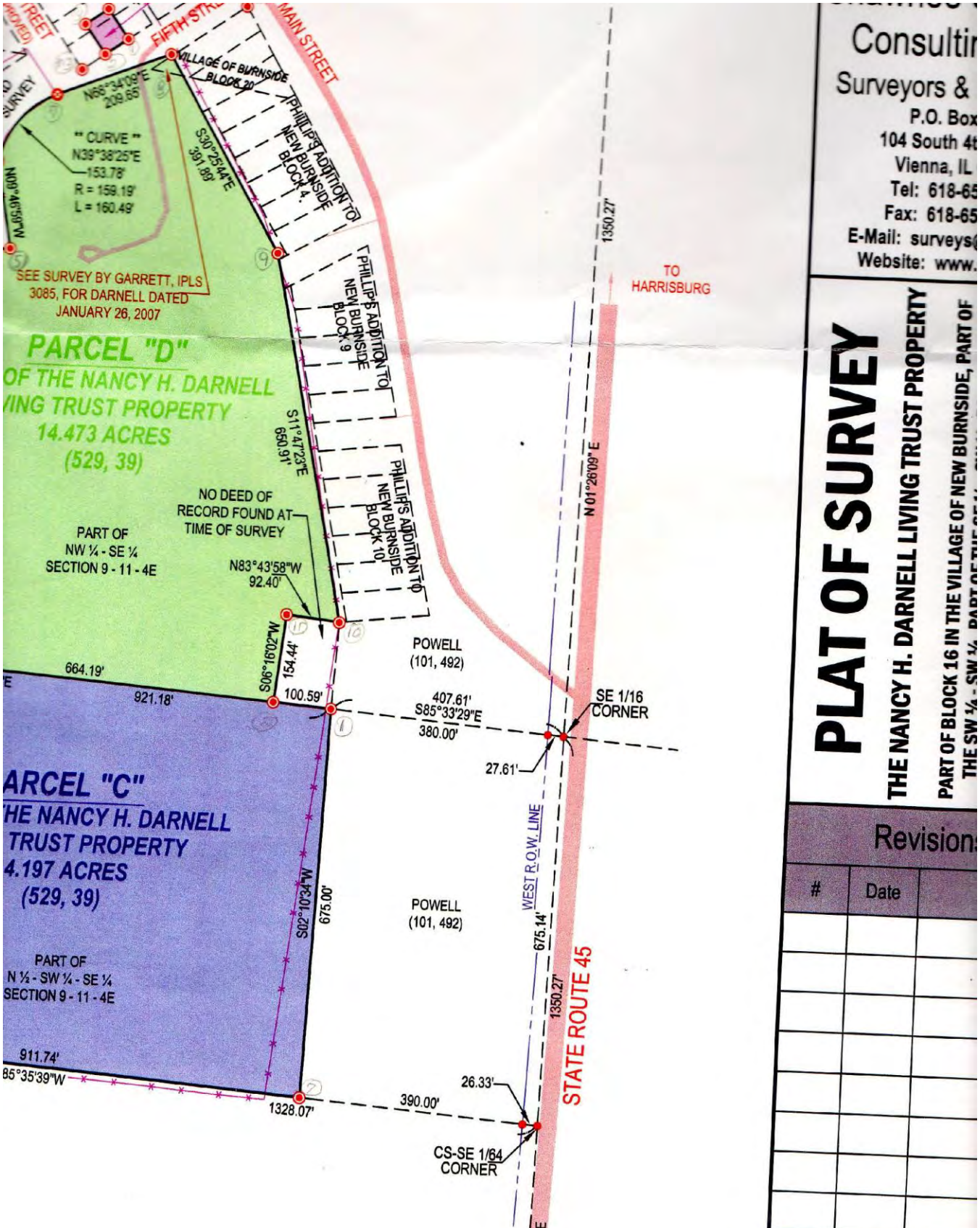
John Dupont House
The house at it appeared in the early 1900s after John Dupont had sold the home he built in 1872 in New Burnside, Johnson County, and moved with his wife, Lucinda, to Creal Springs, Williamson County, Illinois.

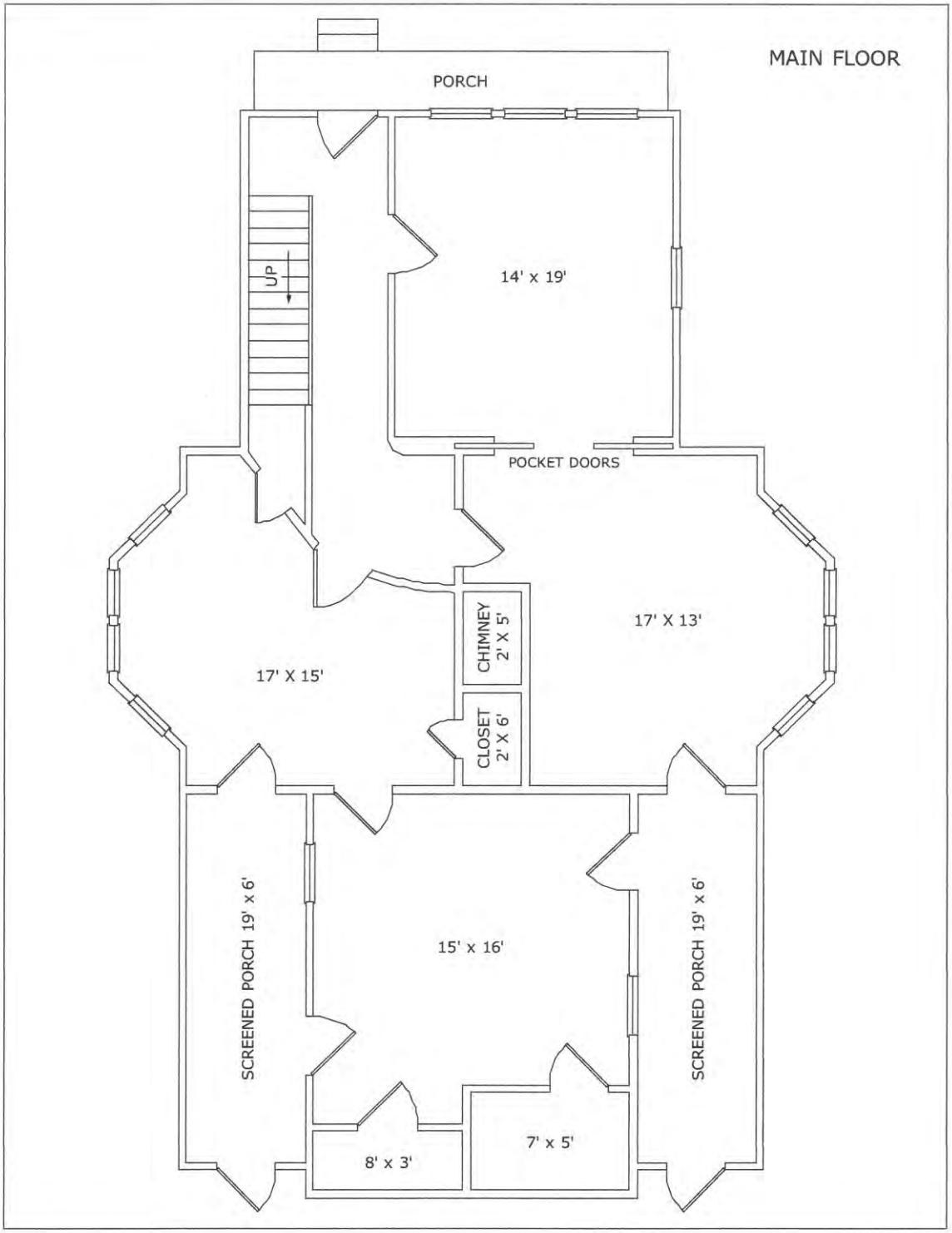
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

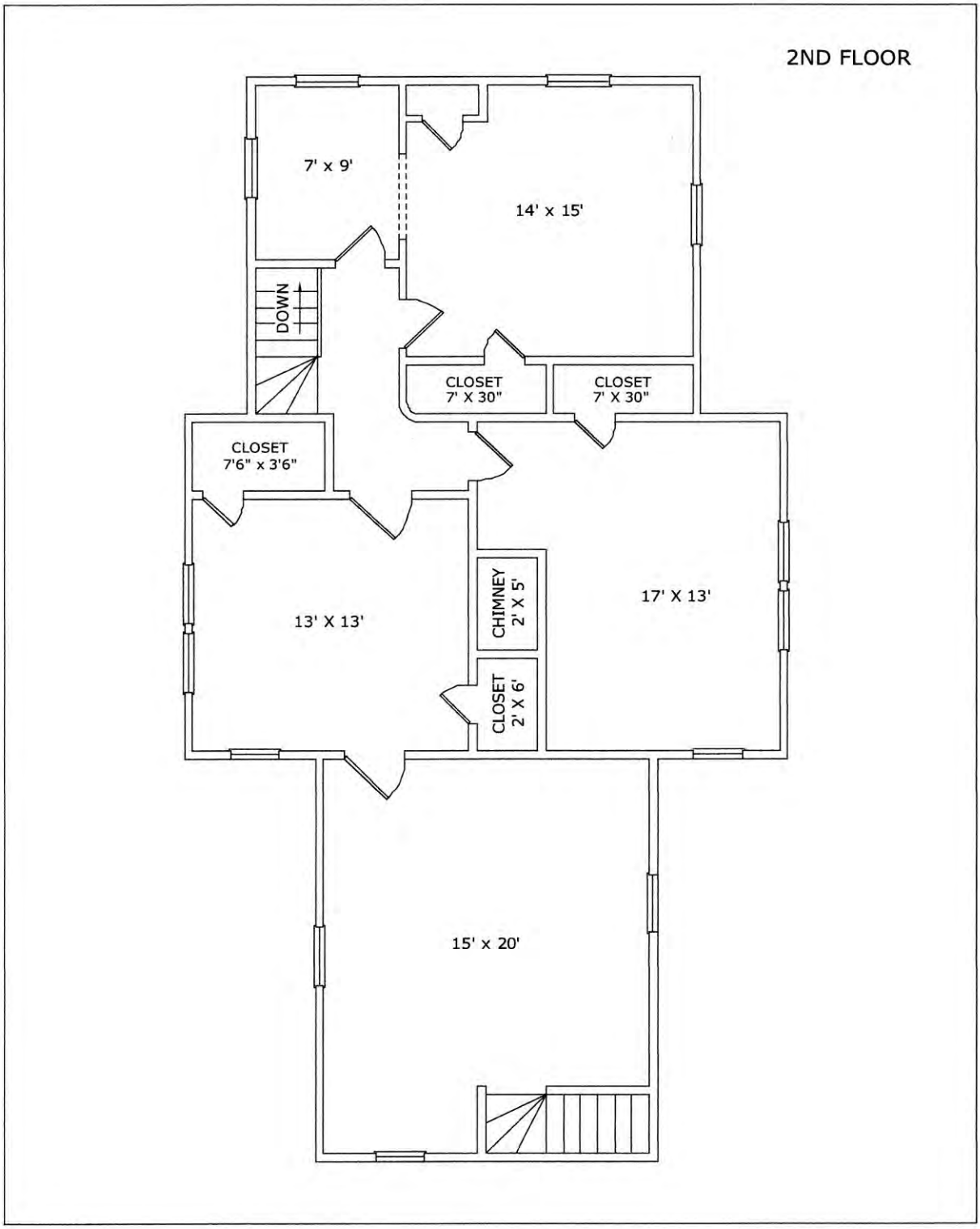
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Dupont, John House
Name of Property
Johnson, IL
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number ____ Page ____

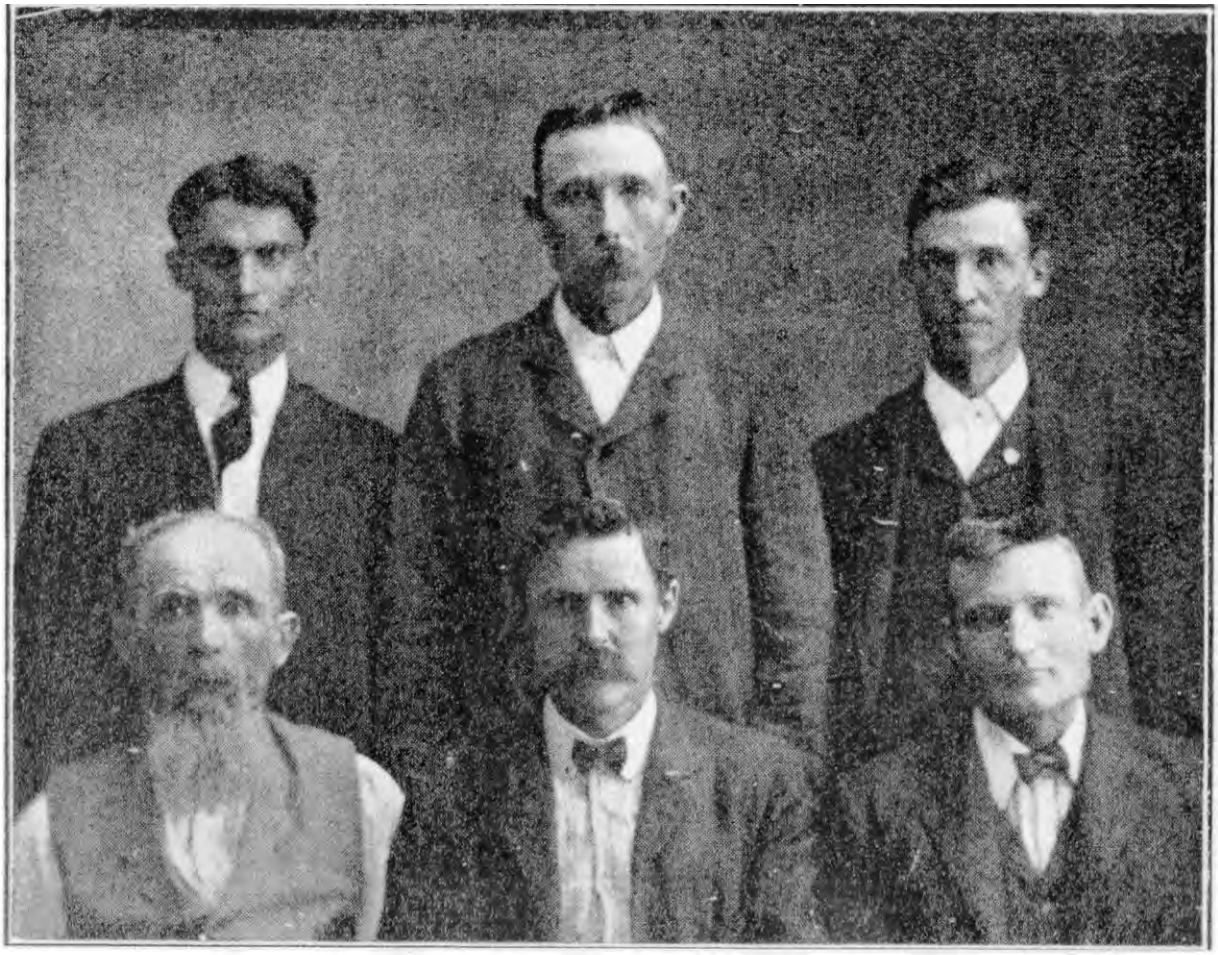



MAIN FLOOR
PORCH
UP
14' x 19'
POCKET DOORS
17' X 13'
CHIMNEY
2' X 5'
17' X 15'
CLOSET
2' X 6'
SCREENED PORCH 19' x 6'
15' x 16'
SCREENED PORCH 19' x 6'
7' x 5'
8' x 3'


2ND FLOOR
7' x 9'
14' x 15'
DOWN
CLOSET
7' X 30"
CLOSET
7' X 30"
CLOSET
7'6" x 3'6"
13' X 13'
CHIMNEY
2' X 5'
17' X 13'
CLOSET
2' X 6'
15' x 20'

Dupont Mill
John Dupont placed his New Burnside Mill, left, on 3rd Street. The mill is one of eight he owned in Southern Illinois. By locating the mill beside the tracks, shipping was easy to customers nearby or as far away as Chicago.

Wedding Portrait
Wiley C. Fairless, John Dupont's stepson, grew up in the Dupont House in New Burnside. In January 1900, Fairless married Nola Farrell of Creal Springs. They are shown on their wedding day. Their daughter, Violette Fairless Crisp, married Harry Crisp in 1927. The Crisps own the largest privately-owned Pepsi Company.



Elected Officials

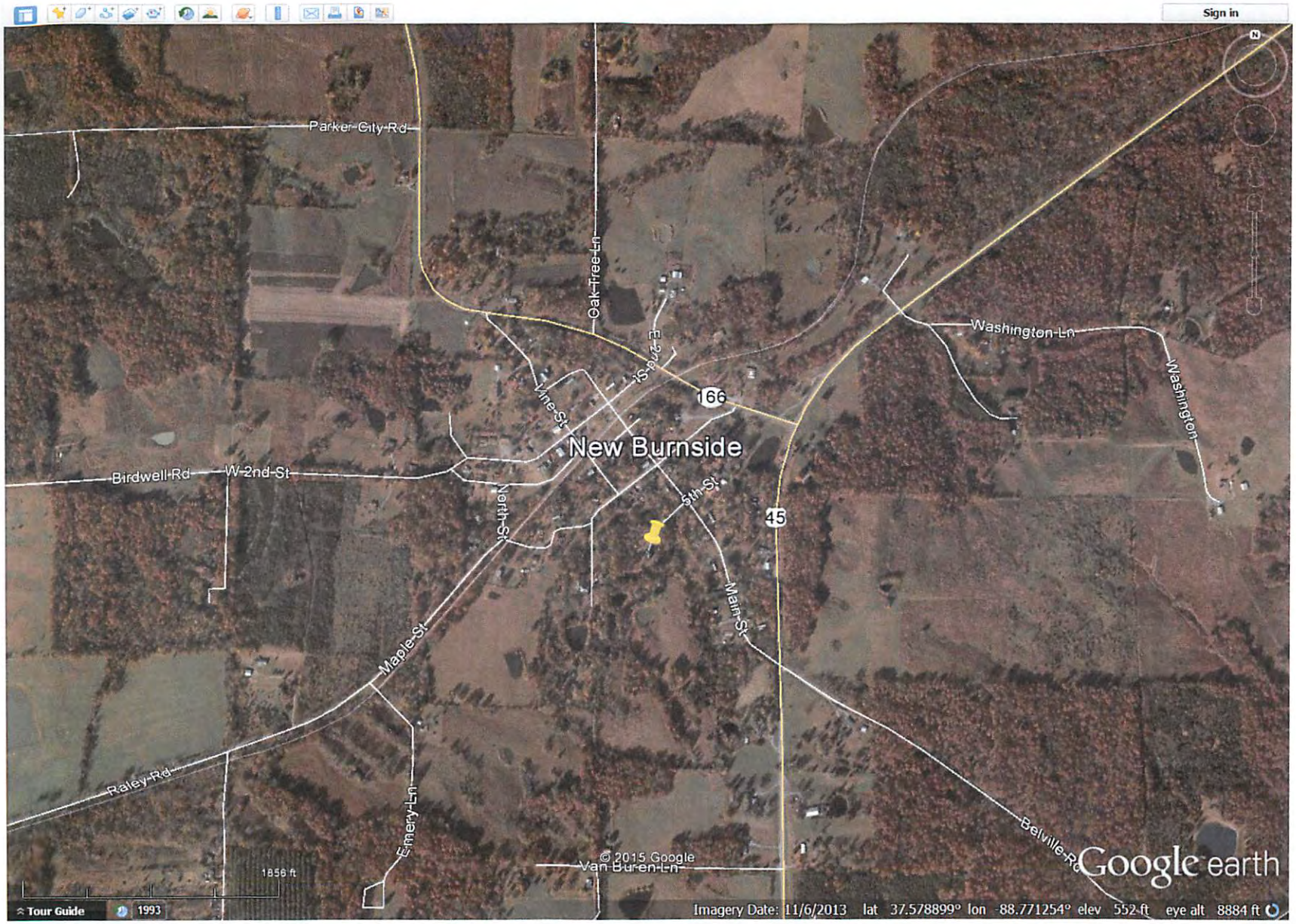
John Dupont, left, bottom row, was an alderman in Creal Springs, Illinois, circa 1900. Dupont previously had served as a Johnson County Commissioner, beginning in 1877. Before that he was a member of the Board of Supervisors in Johnson County. The electorate voted in favor of the commission form of government in 1876. The system is still used today in Johnson County. In the final decade of the 19th century, Dupont moved to Creal Springs and became the owner of the flour mill in the Williamson County community, which was experiencing boom times created by the town's mineral springs used in treatments for ailments. The photo is from the J.W. Wilcox book, *1905 Historical Souvenir of Williamson County*.

CPL John Dupont,
Portrait of a Soldier

Artist: Wheat Elder
Salem, Illinois

John Dupont House

Johnson, Illinois



Lat: 37.577212, Long: -88.771243

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