

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

DEC 27 1982

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Clark-Blackwell House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 206 Cherry Street _____ not for publication

city, town Muscatine _____ vicinity of

state Iowa code 19 county Muscatine code 139

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Harry Bowsman

street & number 206 Cherry Street

city, town Muscatine _____ vicinity of state Iowa 52761

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Muscatine County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Muscatine state Iowa 52761

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title n/a has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes _____ no

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Clark-Blackwell-Bowsman House is a well-preserved example of a Victorian eclectic style mansion. The house incorporates many stylistic elements into its exterior ornamentation.

Located on a double lot at the corner of Cherry and Second Streets, the house with its matching carriage house occupies the edge of a prominent elevated setting which overlooks the Mississippi riverfront to the east, and which visually anchors the southern end of older Muscatine. A massive stone retaining wall surrounds the base of the property and dates from 1882.

The house employs a variety of materials, including Baltimore pressed brick (laid in running bond), red granite columns and limestone capitals (which flank the main entrance), limestone sills and lintels, tin and limestone cornice, and a slate roof.

The basic plan is that of a rough rectangle, with two-story angled square-cut corner bays projecting from the southwest and southeast corners, and a two-story chamfered bay which projects from the eastern half of the north face. The westernmost corner bay is topped with a pyramidal roof (with paired roof vents) and the easternmost corner bay has a hexagonal turret roof. Chateausque features include the general massing of the house, the elaborate ornamentation, the irregular silhouette, the steeply pitched hip roof and towers and the tall elaborate chimneys (three are well preserved). Queen Anne elements include the irregularity of form, the recessed porch in the southwest corner bay, the shell motifs in the dormer facade, and the vertical division of the wall surfaces. Egyptoid design elements include the use of the phoenix wing around the porch capitals, and the slightly tapered granite columns which flank the main entrance.

Built upon a raised limestone foundation, capped with a stone water table, the exterior wall surfaces which are rendered more regular by the use of running brick bond, are broken up vertically on each floor by the inclusion of a narrow stone belt course even with the window sills and a wider stone belt course even with the window lintels. The corner bay facades continue these horizontal dilineations around the corners of the house. A bracketed stone cornice is topped with a decorative tine cornice of elaborate design. Gabled dormer facades are nearly all glass due to the use of a palladian-like window (which substitutes a centered shell design for the central arched light).

The interior of the house features well-preserved cherry and oak wood trim and wainscoting on the first floor. The cherry wood staircase features ceiling paneling and a large art glass depiction of a Hiawatha theme on the stairwell landing. Seven fireplaces retain decorative tile and in some instances, had painted design work. The front entrance includes an air lock entry system. Additional art glass is also to be found in the inner set of doors in the main entrance and on a back door.

The one and a half story, two bay carriage house, of rectangular plan, is set on a very high foundation alongside the bluff edge. Stone sills and lintels and the brickwork match those in the house, but ornamentation is restricted to a simple corbelled bracketed cornice of brick and an ornate belvedere-type vent with a heavy bracketed hip roof cap. Two plain shed roof dormers are on each side above the cornice line, and a wider hip roof dormer is centered on the facade with stone sill and lintel, the former being incorporated into the cornice line.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 2

Physical Description Continued;

The interior of the house features well preserved cherry and oak wood trim and wainscoting on the first floor. The cherry wood staircase features ceiling paneling and a large art glass depiction of a Hiawatha theme on the stairwell landing. Seven fireplaces retain decorative tile and in some instances had painted design work. The front entrance includes an air lock entry system. Additional art glass is also to be found in the inner set of doors in the main entrance and on a back door.

The one and a half story two bay carriage house, of rectangular plan, is set on a very high foundation alongside the bluff edge. Stone sills and lintels and the brickwork match those in the house, but ornamentation is restricted to a simple corbelled bracketed cornice of brick and an ornate belvedere-type vent with a heavy bracketed hip roof cap. Two plain shed roof dormers are on each side above the cornice line, and a wider hip roof dormer is centered on the facade with stone sill and lintel, the former being incorporated into the cornice line.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1882–1930 **Builder/Architect** Lorenzo D. Cleveland, arch., Geo. Magoon, builder.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Clark-Blackwell House exemplifies the residential tastes of the late 19th Century wealthy elite in a midwestern river town setting. The new house with its prominent location and high retaining wall reminded a local newspaper editor of "the heights of Quebec." Notable locally for its prominent location, style, and size, the house is significant today for its relative integrity, as well as for its association with a notable architect, noteworthy local artisans, and occupants.

Lorenzo D. Cleveland (1820–1905) practiced his architectural trade from a Chicago office (Cleveland and Jay) 1870–1892, and was responsible for the Lindell Hotel (Springfield), and the Old State Savings Bank (1874, Chicago). As Commissioner of Buildings for the City of Chicago (1879–1893) he was in charge of building the City Hall, supervised the erection of two of the World's Fair buildings, and lastly supervised the construction of the Auditorium Hotel Annex. In 1882, Mr. Cleveland designed and supervised the construction of the nominated property in Muscatine, Iowa.

William A. Clark (1841–1895), the original owner, was born in Muscatine County, and became a local real estate and loan broker. He purchased the Cherry Street property in 1871 and lived in a preceding structure until the present house was built in 1882. He then resided in this house at least through 1886, and was living in New York City by 1889. Clark is representative of the new wealth that was a by-product of local economic development and growth.

The construction of the house involved noteworthy local craftsmen in addition to a regionally significant architect. George D. Magoon (1825–1909) was the contractor, and was responsible for erecting many local churches, schools, and commercial structures. Josiah P. Walton (1826–1899) was a local architect and builder, known throughout central and eastern Iowa for his ability to move or underbuild large brick and frame structures. He moved the preceding structure from the site.

John Scott Blackwell (1862–1930) occupied the Clark House from 1902 until his death (his widow Edna Blackwell lived there through 1943). A local real estate agent and landowner, Blackwell was most notable for his association with the Muscatine Bridge Company. He served as its head from 1915 until 1930. He was also a director of the German-American Savings Bank for many years.

Harry F. Bowsman, local merchant occupied the house between 1946 and 1963. His widow continues to own the property.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see Continuation Sheet, Item #9, page 1.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Muscatine Iowa-Illinois

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	6	6	2	6	8	0	4	6	8	6	6	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 4 and 5 in Block 41, City of Muscatine, including house and carriage house.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state Iowa code 19 county Muscatine code 139

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

organization Iowa SHPO

date December 9, 1982

Historical Building

street & number East 12th and Grand Ave.

telephone 515-281-4137

city or town Des Moines

state Iowa 50319

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Adrian A. Anderson

title Executive Director Iowa State Historical Department

date 24 November 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 1/27/83

Delores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET BIBLIOGRAPHY ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Withey, Henry F. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects Deceased. Los Angeles: New Age Publishing Company, 1956.

Muscatine County, Iowa, Graves Registration. Des Moines: Work Progress Administration, 1939 (?)

Portrait and Biographical Album of Muscatine County, Iowa. Chicago: Acme Publishing Company, 1889, pp. 277-8, 412-4, 455-6.

American Institute of Architects Proceedings, 38, (1905), p. 266.

Muscatine Daily Journal, 28 January 1881; 11 May 1882; 12 May 1882; 20 February 1930.

Muscatine Daily Journal Annual Review, 16 December 1882, p. 1.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Clark-Blackwell House
Muscatine County
IOWA

Working No. 12/27/82-3274
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84
Date Due: 1/27/83 - 2/10/83
Action: ACCEPT 1/27/83
 RETURN
 REJECT
Entered in the National Register
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Entered in the National Register
Federal Agency: _____

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Clark-Blackwell House

206 Cherry Street

Muscatine, Iowa

Photo No. 1

By: Eric J. Wagner

Date: November 14, 19 81

View: to north



Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
Photo No. 2
By: Eric J. Wagner
Date: November 14, 1981
View: to northwest



Blackwell
Clark House

Clark-Blackwell House

206 Cherry Street

Muscataine, Iowa

Photo No. 3

By: Eric J. Wagner

Date: November 14, 1981

View: to north

PHOTO



PHOTO #4

Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
Photo No. 4
By: Eric J. Wagner
Date: November 14, 1981
View: to north

PHOTO #4



Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
Photo No. 5
By: Eric J. Wagner
Date: November 14, 1981
View: to north



Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
Photo No. 6
By: Eric J. Wagner
Date: November 14, 1981
View: to west

PHOTO #6



Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
Photo No. 7
By: Eric J. Wagner
Date: November 14, 1981
View: to east

PHOTO #7



Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
Photo No. 8
By: Eric J. Wagner
Date: November 14, 1981
View: to west



Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
Photo No. 9

By: Eric J. Wagner

Date: November 14, 1981

View: to west



Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
Photo No. 10
By: Eric J. Wagner
Date: November 14, 1981
View: to southwest



Clark-Blackwell House

206 Cherry Street

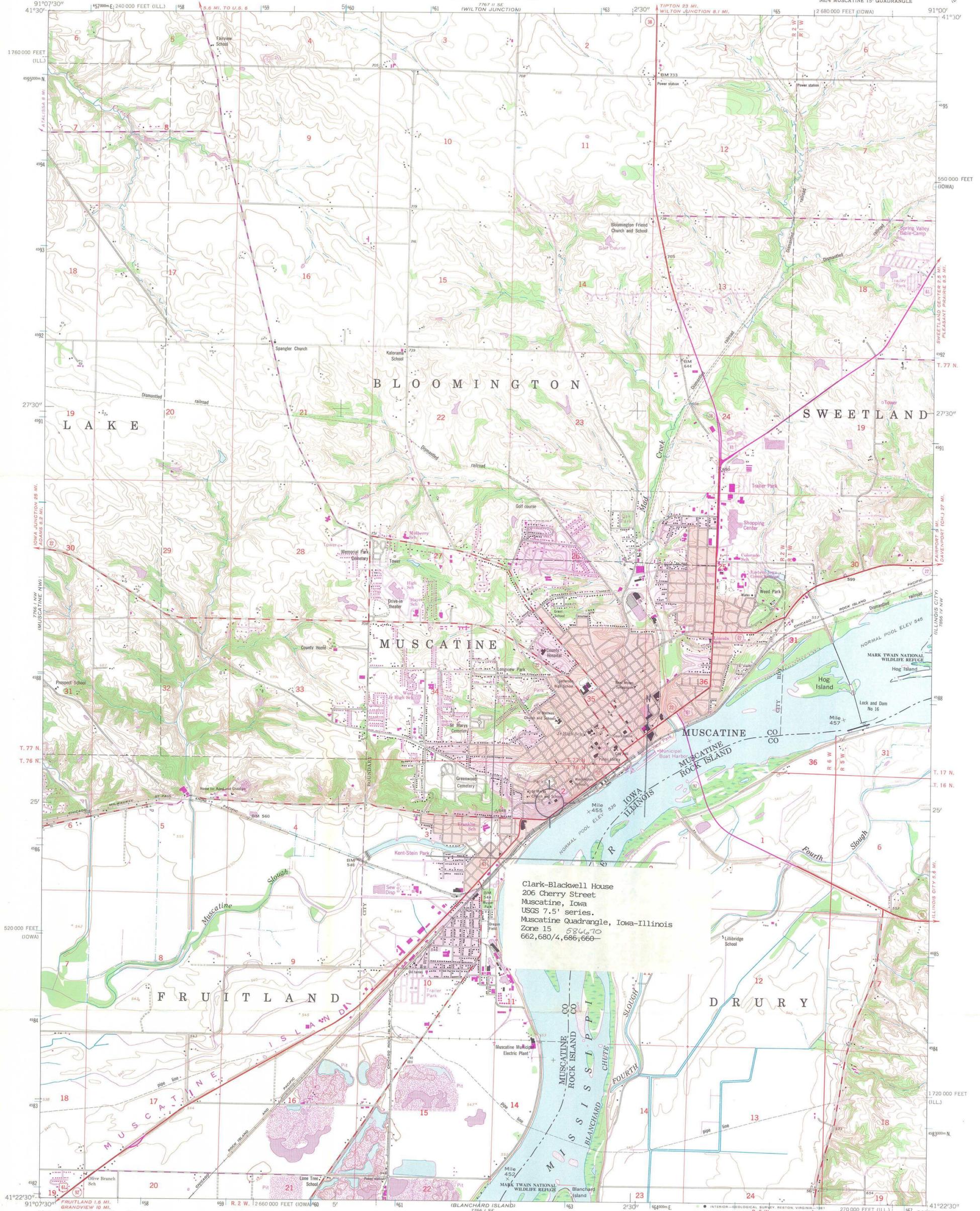
Muscatine, Iowa

Photo No. 11

By: Eric J. Wagner

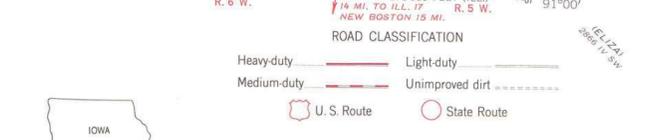
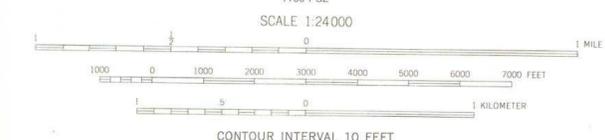
Date: November 14, 1981

View: to west



Clark-Blackwell House
206 Cherry Street
Muscatine, Iowa
USGS 7.5' series.
Muscatine Quadrangle, Iowa-Illinois
Zone 15 526,670
662,680/4,686,660

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Published for civil use by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
Aerial photographs taken 1952-1953. Field check 1953
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Iowa coordinate system, south zone
and Illinois coordinate system, west zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 2 meters north and
12 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks



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

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological
Survey from aerial photographs taken 1970 and 1979
Map edited 1980. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban area

MUSCATINE, IOWA-ILL.
NE/4 MUSCATINE 15' QUADRANGLE
N4122.5-W9100/7.5
1953
PHOTOREVISED 1970 AND 1980
DMA 7766 I NE-SERIES V876

IOWA STATE HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ADRIAN D. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

15 December 1982

Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places
DOI
W434
Washington, D.C. 20243



Dear Keeper:

Enclosed are the following National Register nominations which are ready for your review and approval:

County	Property
Buchanan	Illinois Central Railroad Depot, Independence
Cerro Gordo	John L. Etzel House, Clear Lake
Des Moines	Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Freight House, Burlington
"	Starker-Leopold Historic District, Durlington
Fayette	Hotel Mealey, Oelwein
Floyd	Rockford Mill, Rockford
Henry	Brazelton House, Mt. Pleasant
Ida	Bell House, Ida Grove
Jefferson	George A. Wells House, Fairfield
"	Montgomery House, Fairfield
Johnson	Boerner-Fry Company/Davis Hotel, Iowa City
"	Van Patten House, Iowa City
Lee	Primrose Mill, Primrose
Louisa	Springer House, vic. Columbus Junction
Muscatine	Clark-Blackwell House, Muscatine
Polk	Crawford House, Des Moines
Scott	Joseph E. Bettendorf/St. Katherines/St. Marks School, Bettendorf
"	Stone House, LeClaire
Tama	Hope Fire Company Engine House, Toledo
Van Buren	Meek's Mill, Bonaparte
Warren	Farmsite Origin of Polled Hereford Cattle Breed, Jackson Twp.
Winneshiek	Master's Hotel, Burr Oak
"	Winfield Smouse House, Washington
Woodbury	Martin Hotel, Sioux City

Historical Building-East 12th and Grand Ave.-Des Moines, IA 50319-(515) 281-5111

These nominations were all approved at our November 23, 1982 SNRC meeting.

Yours truly,



James E. Jacobsen
National Register Coordinator