

**CITY OF LISBON, LINN COUNTY, IOWA,  
PLANNING FOR PRESERVATION PROJECT**

**Certified Local Government Grants Project 2006.02  
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*Submitted to*

**Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission  
and the State Historical Society of Iowa**

*Submitted by*

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FINAL REPORT

prepared for

Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission



South side of Lisbon commercial district east of Washington Street in the late 19th century  
(Postcard reproduction for Lisbon Centennial in 1975)

by

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## **Abstract**

The Planning for Preservation program is specifically geared to assist recently certified or inactive commissions in receiving basic training and guidance in preservation planning, survey, and inventory development as well as experience in project development, management, and completion. Such projects also introduce HPCs to working with a professional historic preservation consultant. By design, Planning for Preservation projects are limited in both scope and budget; therefore, these types of projects do not include a survey component, although a windshield survey assessment is often conducted as part of the planning project.

The Lisbon Planning for Preservation project provided broad historic preservation training to the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission, with additional objectives including public education, providing a better understanding of the Commission's role within the community and its role in historic preservation activities in Lisbon, and providing information on different preservation activities including reconnaissance and intensive level survey, property evaluation, inventory development, and local and federal registration of historic properties. The project also included a reconnaissance level "windshield"-type survey of Lisbon to pinpoint potential historic properties and possible historic districts for future planning purposes but did not involve the inventory of any properties.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## **Introduction**

The following project was conducted by the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) under a grant-in-aid agreement with the State Historical Society of Iowa (SHSI) through a Certified Local Governments' (CLG) Planning for Preservation grant. The project was conducted with the aid of local volunteers and HPC commission members. The Principal Investigator for the project was Leah D. Rogers of Tallgrass Historians L.C. of Iowa City. Research Assistants, Clark Rogers and Eric Lana, compiled the historic maps and other materials for the report. Project Administration and assistance with research and the reconnaissance survey was provided by members of the Lisbon HPC including Rebecca Hess (Project Director), Bethany Campbell Tvedt, Betty Weimer, and David Zahorik (Chair).

## **Goals and Objectives**

The Planning for Preservation program is specifically geared to assist recently certified or inactive commissions in receiving basic training and guidance in preservation planning, survey, and inventory development as well as experience in project development, management, and completion (State Historical Society of Iowa 2007:8). Such projects also introduce HPCs to working with a professional historic preservation consultant. By design, Planning for Preservation projects are limited in both scope and budget; therefore, these types of projects do not include a survey component, although a windshield survey assessment is often conducted as part of the planning project.

Preservation Planning has been defined as "planning for continued identification and evaluation of historic properties and for their protection and enhancement" (U.S. Department of the Interior 1985:61). The ultimate goal of any local preservation plan should be to preserve and protect the significant cultural resources of the community or county in question. However, in order to achieve that goal, the HPC must have an understanding of what those resources are and their significance. While a property need only be 50 years of age to be considered potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), a property no matter its age or significance must retain sufficient integrity to be considered potentially eligible. Thus, there are a number of factors that must be examined and considered before a property--be it architectural or archaeological--is determined eligible for the NRHP. The only way to determine this eligibility is to inventory and evaluate the community's or county's historic properties. Once an inventory is complete, then recommendations concerning individual, district, or multiple property nominations can be made. It is also through the inventory and evaluation process that the HPC will come to understand what is important in their community, and thus worth their attention and support. It may be a strange preservation principle, but not every building or every site is worth saving. Preservation efforts should be focused on those properties that are worth preserving for generations to come and that represent an important context in the community's or county's history. Hard decisions often have to be made, and other public needs may take precedent over the preservation of a particular resource. There are steps, however, that can be taken to avoid complete loss of historic properties including relocation, recordation, and, in the case of archaeological sites, data recovery (ibid.:65).

The primary goal of the proposed Planning for Preservation project was to provide broad historic preservation training to the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission, with additional objectives including public education, providing a better understanding of the Commission's role within the community and its role in historic preservation activities in Lisbon, and providing information on different preservation activities including reconnaissance and intensive level survey, property evaluation, inventory development, and local and federal registration of historic properties.

To achieve these goals and objectives, public meetings were held to provide information and training and recruit local volunteers, review the draft report, and finally to present the results at the end of the project. The results of the project were summarized in draft and final reports that include an annotated



bibliography of previous historic preservation work in Lisbon and useful historic and documentary resources, a narrative account of potential historic contexts and possible associated historic properties, and a discussion of issues critical to the future development of Lisbon's historic preservation program. The report also prioritizes future preservation activities in Lisbon and presents a research design in the form of a CLG grant application for the City's next recommended project.

This project also included a reconnaissance level "windshield"-type survey of Lisbon to pinpoint potential historic properties and possible historic districts for future planning purposes but did not involve the inventory of any properties or any photography.

The Principal Investigator led all project activities and public meetings and completed the draft and final reports and all required end products for the project.

## **Project Activities**

The project began with a workshop led by the Principal Investigator and held in Lisbon on November 11, 2006. The workshop was attended by members of the Lisbon HPC, the Mt. Vernon HPC, and interested members of the public. This workshop included an introduction to the project including a discussion of what the CLG program is about in general and the mission of the Lisbon HPC as well as a description of the goals and objectives of the Planning for Preservation project. The workshop continued with an introduction to the National Register of Historic Places including what it is, how it works, its limitations and benefits, and misconceptions about the register. The workshop concluded with a slide show presenting a basic introduction to architectural styles and vernacular types common in Iowa communities. Handouts concerning the CLG program and the NRHP were given to participants.

The Principal Investigator attended all of the scheduled Lisbon CLG meetings where possible throughout the project's duration to update commission members on project activities and to gather additional information concerning local resources and properties. The commission members were also asked to compile lists of properties in Lisbon that they considered of historical or architectural significance. Those properties included the following:

- 414 N. Jackson Street – House designed by Cedar Rapids' architect, Charles Dieman, for the Fiala family
- 515 N. Jackson Street – Brick house built by the Auracher family (cashier at first local bank)
- 339 W. Main Street – One of Lisbon's oldest brick homes built in 1848 in an area of town developed first because of a fresh water spring in the vicinity
- 303 W. Main Street – The original post office/mercantile built in 1850
- 227/223 W. Main Street – Twin brick homes built by John Neidig in 1850 and his son-in-law Daniel Runkle in 1850.
- 122 W. Main Street – Opera House/IOOF Hall built in 1893. Also used for a gym by the public school and later by the American Legion for a meeting hall.
- Legion Block – Commercial block built in 1894 after the original buildings built in 1875 burned to the ground.
- Downtown commercial properties – Buildings and blocks built in 1870-1890 as the town developed.
- Residential neighborhood on S. Washington Street south of Highway 30 – row of similar houses built in the early 1900s by same builder/developer
- Additional individual properties of note at 233 N. Jackson; 215, 218, 302, 310, and 314 E. Market; 507 N. Jackson; 126 W. Main; and others on East and West Main streets.

Reconnaissance ("windshield") survey was conducted by the Principal Investigator and members of the Lisbon HPC on December 14, 2006, and March 3 and 10, 2007. The surveys covered the entirety of the corporate limits of Lisbon and involved a walk-through of the commercial area along Main Street and a drive-through of the residential areas around town. The Principal Investigator made note of individual

properties of interest as well as potential historic districts or multiple property groupings in the community.

Finally, the Principal Investigator visited the Lisbon History Center to identify local research materials and gather further information concerning notable properties in Lisbon. This visit was conducted on March 10, 2007. Members of the Lisbon Historical Society including Beryl O'Connor provided assistance with this review.

A final public meeting was held on July 2nd at the Lisbon History Center to present the results of the project. This meeting was held during the regular meeting of the History Center and was well attended. The presentation included a slide show on architectural styles and a discussion of National Register listings and preservation funding opportunities.

## **Historic Contexts**

The historic context is considered the framework for making decisions about National Register eligibility and is the cornerstone of the preservation planning process. Without historic contexts, the significance of archaeological and architectural sites cannot be adequately evaluated. Historic context is defined as “a body of thematically, geographically, and temporally linked information that provides for an understanding of a property’s place or role in prehistory or history” (National Park Service 1993:25).

The following should be considered a beginning point for the compilation of the historic contexts that identify and represent Lisbon’s historical development. Future intensive surveys and National Register nominations will expand and complete the contexts relevant to the town’s history. The contexts presented herein were based on secondary sources including the various Linn County history books, R.M. Radl’s 1974 history of Lisbon, the Lisbon Centennial booklet, and recent brochure information compiled by the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission (see also Appendix A). In addition, the historic contexts developed for Linn County by the 1992 Comprehensive Planning Project were utilized for the current study (Rogers 1992). The historic period contexts also complement those developed for Mount Vernon, a nearby town, which shares a common history with Lisbon (Long 1988). The prehistoric contexts were compiled from various sources including Benn 1983; Benn and Hovde 1976; Fishel 1996; Green 1996:39; Morrow 1996a, 1996b; Schermer 1992; and Schermer et al. 1995.

## ***Environmental Setting***

The town of Lisbon is located within the landform region known as the Iowan Surface where it intersects with the Southern Iowa Drift Plain (Figures 1-2; Prior 1991). The Iowan Surface is characterized by level to gently rolling terrain with stepped topography toward drainage divides and well established, dendritic drainage systems. Stream gradients are often low, and areas of poor drainage and wetlands can occur. Scattered areas of large fieldstones or glacial erratics across the ground surface are also typical of this region. In the southern third of the Iowan Surface region, slopes are steeper in the larger river valleys and prominent, elongated ridges and isolated, oblong hills, known as “paha,” are characteristic features of the landscape (ibid.:72). Paha are erosional remnants of the once higher and older Pre-Illinoian glacial plain and are preserved by thick windblown loess deposits. The nearby town of Mount Vernon is situated on a paha, along which the main street (1st Street) extends. Lisbon is specifically situated on a broad, nearly level upland interfluvium in-between two stream valleys that flow into the Cedar River. The stream on the west side flows to the southwest where it joins Spring Creek, which is the stream on the east side of Lisbon. As Spring Creek, the joined streams around Lisbon drain into the Cedar River, which is located several miles south of town.

The Iowan Surface was “last visited by glaciers in Pre-Illinoian time and since then has lain exposed to various episodes of weathering and soil development, erosion, and loess deposition” (Prior 1991:69). A variety of Pleistocene sediments, including Wisconsinan-age loess, mantle the near-surface limestone

bedrock of this region. The accessibility of this bedrock has made quarrying a common activity in this region (ibid.).

Stone quarrying was an early industry in the Mount Vernon-Lisbon area, with most of the local stone best suited for foundations and railroad ballast. The clay deposits of this region were also found suitable for brick making, producing a reddish-orange soft brick suitable for chimney and wall construction. However, most of the face brick for the commercial building facades and any bricks used for street pavement were likely shipped in on the railroads from higher quality brick manufacturing facilities, such as those in St. Louis and other parts of Missouri, where clay deposits produced a brick that could withstand higher temperatures and fire to a harder consistency or could be pressed for a more refined and finished type of look preferred for face brick.

## ***Prehistoric Period Settlement of the Cedar River Valley***

### **Paleoindian Period**

The first documented evidence of humans in eastern Iowa dates from around 11,000-11,500 years ago. While the glacial ice had receded from the state, this region was still a colder, wetter place than it is now. Vegetation was dominated by spruce and larch trees, with only scatterings of deciduous trees. Paleoindians shared this post-glacial landscape with large mammals, many of which are now extinct including mammoth, mastodon, camel, horse, and giant bison, as well as a variety of smaller animals.

Archaeological evidence suggests that Paleoindians were highly mobile, nomadic people, who focused much of their attention on the hunting of big game but also hunted and collected other animals and plant resources. Because of the climate in Iowa at that time, actual occupation of this region by Paleoindians was sparse. However, this may be something of a misconception on the part of archaeologists. It is feared that because little of the Paleoindian landscape has been preserved, having been destroyed by erosion, with Paleoindian sites destroyed in the process. Perhaps some sites remain to be discovered in deeply buried contexts yet to be identified.

Much of what we know about Paleoindian culture has been found in isolated surface finds in local collections. The typical Paleoindian artifacts are large, fluted projectile points that were likely used to hunt large mammals. The wide distribution of such distinctive point types has led archaeologists to conclude that Paleoindians moved around a lot and shared a common subsistence economy and technology. The later years of this period were characterized by Dalton points and unfluted, lanceolate points. Additional characteristics of Paleoindian artifacts identified to date include chipped stone knives, choppers, and scrapers, and bone awls, most of which would have been used to process meat and animal hides. Other tools were probably fashioned from wood and bone but few of these items survive in the archaeological record because of the passage of time and the acidity of Iowa soil.

Evidence of Paleoindian occupation in Linn County is sparse, with only a few fluted spearpoints of this period found on the uplands along the margins of the Cedar River valley.

### **Archaic Period**

The transition between the earlier, post-glacial Paleoindian period and the beginning of what archaeologists call the “Archaic” period was a gradual one. It appears, in fact, that the period between 10,500 and 8,000 years ago in Iowa was characterized by two different regional traditions. In western Iowa, the traditions best defined as Late Paleoindian on the Great Plains persisted into this time period, while in the eastern woodlands, the cultural tradition is better defined as Early Archaic. In western Iowa, unstemmed and stemmed lanceolate point types associated with Late Paleoindian traditions dominated during this time period, while in eastern Iowa, lanceolate, stemmed, and notched points more typical of Early Archaic traditions predominated. Bison hunting still appeared to be important in the western region, while bison do not appear to have been present in large enough numbers to have been a staple in eastern

Iowa at that time. Thus, life in the eastern region was characterized by a more diversified subsistence economy relying on deer, smaller mammals, birds, fish, fruit and nuts.

The climate during this early transitional cultural period was also in transition. Around 10,000 years ago, the region's climate began to warm resulting in a retreat of the coniferous forests and the growth of a more mixed coniferous-hardwood forest. Trees such as fir, ash, birch, elm, basswood, and oak became abundant. As the vegetation became more diverse, so did the numbers and types of animals in the region. It was during the transition from a colder to a warmer climate that the mammoth, mastodon, and giant bison became extinct. It is uncertain whether it was the change in climate and vegetation that made life untenable for these megafauna and made these mammals more vulnerable to diseases, or if humans contributed to their disappearance by overhunting, or if it was a combination of both. But once these large mammals were gone, humans had to find other ways of surviving. As their focus shifted, humans began to hunt more bison, elk, and deer. They became more productive hunters using less effort and time to hunt an animal, the majority of which could be used in some useful manner for food and clothing.

Towards the end of the Archaic period, the population had increased as well as interaction between groups. Subsistence strategies became very similar over broad areas as a result. There was also an increase in territoriality, localized differences in artifact types and styles, and development of trading networks. Settlement patterns became more sedentary setting the stage for the Woodland period to follow where increased sedentism was coupled with the rise of early agriculture. Late Archaic peoples began burying their dead in large ossuaries, which are communal cemeteries containing multiple burials. The burials were flexed and often turned on their sides.

In general, Archaic period stone tools are typified by side-notched and expanding-base projectile points and knives, side-notched scrapers, drills, and a variety of pecked and ground stone tools such as axes, abraders, and manos and metates. Ground stone tools were used for chopping, crushing, and grinding. A distinctive type of ground stone tool called a bannerstone has been identified on Archaic sites. Bannerstones appear to have been used as weights on atlatls, or spear-throwers to provide proper leverage and enable greater force and accuracy in the throw. Other tools included bone awls, needles, scrapers, and fish hooks, with some items hammered from raw copper obtained in the Great Lakes area. The stone and bone tools would have been used to butcher meat and dress hides that were then used for shelters and as clothing. Archaic people probably also used traps and snares to capture small animals, but these items would have been made from materials—bone, wood, fiber—that rarely survive in the archaeological record.

The basic social unit during the Archaic period was probably a small group of a few families, much as it had been in earlier times, with larger groups coming together to cooperate in the hunting of game such as bison. While the smaller groups were still mobile, they tended to stay in one region where they were familiar with the resources and their availability. They would migrate around within this region on a seasonal basis taking advantage of the various resources as they came to maturity. Base camps likely served as areas to store items and would have been a camp site that was returned to on a regular basis.

Archaic period housing consisted of temporary structures used during hunting and collecting forays similar to those suspected for the Paleoindians—wood or bone frames over which animal hides were stretched. However, in the winter we know that in Iowa and much of the Midwest, Archaic peoples took shelter in natural rock overhangs, called rockshelters, and caves where the natural cavity would provide some measure of insulation and protection from the harsh elements. Rockshelter sites are known from the Cedar River valley including several in the Palisades area just west of the Mount Vernon-Lisbon area.

## **Woodland Period**

The Woodland period, dating from around 500 B.C. - A.D. 1000, was marked by the introduction of several major social, economic, and technological developments that included the introduction of the bow and arrow, the manufacture of pottery vessels, the domestication and cultivation of plants, and the construction of burial mounds. It was during this period that climatic conditions stabilized to something

approaching our modern environment, with vegetation patterns climaxing in the mix of forest and prairie that greeted the first surveyors and Euroamerican settlers of Linn County. It was also during the Woodland period that native populations achieved their highest density in Iowa and achieved a standard of living and refined their adaptation to the environment in a way that would never be seen again by Native Americans. In many ways, the Woodland period was the pinnacle of prehistoric occupation in Iowa. Woodland peoples were hunters and gatherers, with cultivation of domesticated varieties of native plants becoming an important part of their economy by the late years of this period. It was not until the Late Prehistoric period that corn and beans became dietary staples. Woodland peoples also hunted deer, bison, small game, and waterfowl. They gathered fish and clams from the rivers and streams and fruit, nuts, and berries from the forests. It is believed that people of this time lived in small, seasonally occupied settlements, subsisted as hunters and gatherers, built large burial mounds similar to some found in Ohio, and interacted with other groups throughout the Midwest as suggested by artifacts found in Iowa but made from exotic materials that originated elsewhere.

Archaeologists sub-divide the Woodland period into three general sub-periods: Early Woodland (500-100 B.C.), Middle Woodland (100 B.C.-A.D. 300), and Late Woodland (A.D. 300-1000). The Early Woodland period is not well known in the interior of Iowa—most of the better known Early Woodland sites have been found along the Mississippi River Valley. It is believed that people of this time lived in small, seasonally occupied settlements, subsisted as hunters and gatherers, built large burial mounds similar to some found in Ohio, and interacted with other groups throughout the Midwest as suggested by artifacts found in Iowa but made from exotic materials that originated elsewhere. Early Woodland artifacts typically include straight-stemmed or contracting-stemmed spear points made from chipped stone and pottery vessels that were either thick and flat-bottomed or thinner and bag-shaped and decorated with incised geometric patterns.

The Middle Woodland period is marked by evidence of extensive trading networks, the development of an elaborate mortuary tradition, and the production of refined artworks. Middle Woodland settlements in Iowa appeared to be linked to a network centered in Ohio and Illinois that archaeologists call the Hopewell Interaction Sphere. This interaction sphere involved trading of items and raw material gathered from far-flung locations including obsidian from what is now Yellowstone National Park, marine shell from the Gulf, copper from the Great Lakes region, mica from Appalachia, pipestone from Minnesota, Ohio, and Illinois, and galena from the present-day Dubuque-Galena vicinity. Middle Woodland populations in Iowa concentrated along the Mississippi River where trade interactions were made easier by the great transportation corridor of the river with smaller settlements at locations along the interior rivers of eastern Iowa.

Most visible of Middle Woodland sites in eastern Iowa were the large mound groups constructed as part of their mortuary complex. Excavations of many of these mounds, particularly in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, resulted in the recovery of elaborate and exotic grave goods in addition to skeletal remains. Unfortunately because collectors were attracted by the presence of exotic items in these mounds, most were destroyed by looting and vandalism years ago. Other Middle Woodland mound groups located along the Mississippi River were destroyed by urban development. Toolesboro Mounds State Preserve in southeastern Iowa is a good example of a Middle Woodland-Hopewellian mound group and is one of the few Middle Woodland mound groups in eastern Iowa that remains fairly intact.

Typical artifacts found on Middle Woodland sites in eastern Iowa include corner-notched, chipped-stone spearpoints; thick-walled, cone or bag-shaped pottery vessels, and exotic goods and raw materials reflecting their trade interactions. Their pottery vessels were decorated with patterns of incised lines, raised nodes, and zones of stamping using a cord-wrapped or shaped stick.

For some reason, Hopewellian cultural influence diminished noticeably after A.D. 200. As social relationships changed so did the artifact types and styles of the indigenous population in Iowa. This change ushered in the Late Woodland period, which would also see great changes in technology and subsistence adaptations. While the exotic and far-flung trade network of the Middle Woodland Hopewellian period began to break apart, people during the Late Woodland period still interacted with other communities within certain regions. This was a time of great population growth in Iowa, where

some Late Woodland peoples began to congregate in large, nearly permanent villages. However, most Late Woodland peoples lived in small, dispersed settlements and began to occupy and utilize the uplands and small interior valleys to an extent unknown in previous times. It was during the Late Woodland period that the bow and arrow came into use. The typical Late Woodland lifestyle continued to emphasize hunting and gathering but farming began to take on increased importance, with corn introduced to many groups in the Midwest around A.D. 800.

Typical Late Woodland artifacts include the chipped-stone arrow points—some notched and others unnotched; continued production of a variety of chipped and ground stone tools and corner-notched projectile points; and thin-walled pottery vessels exhibiting simple decoration including stamping with a plain or cord-wrapped stick and cord-impressing using a twisted cord or woven fabric pressed into the soft clay before the vessel was fired.

Mounds continued to be built during the Late Woodland period, but these mounds are generally smaller in size and less elaborate in construction than those of the Middle Woodland period. Past excavations in Late Woodland mounds have revealed only sparse and comparatively simple grave goods suggesting rituals and customs markedly different from those of the earlier Hopewell culture.

Archaeological evidence of Woodland occupation in Linn County is much more plentiful than evidence from the previous prehistoric periods. A number of Woodland-age sites have been recorded in the Mount Vernon-Lisbon vicinity particularly in the Palisades-Kepler State Park, which has been the focus of several professional archaeological investigations. A mound group located just inside the entrance to the campgrounds is marked by an interpretive sign and was first examined by Charles Keyes, a professor at Cornell College in the early twentieth century and the founder of the Iowa Archaeological Survey, which was responsible for the recording of most of the known burial mound groups in the state of Iowa. It should be noted that ancient burials and mounds are protected by Iowa Code and should be respected as cemeteries.

## **Late Prehistoric**

The Late Prehistoric period in eastern Iowa was dominated by what archaeologists call the Oneota culture. The name “Oneota” was assigned to this culture by Charles Keyes in the early twentieth century to categorize ceramics that he had found along the Upper Iowa River, a river that was originally called the “Oneota River.” Through the years, archaeologists have accepted this term to refer to several post-Woodland groups that appeared in Iowa about A.D. 1000 and persisted in some areas into the Proto-Historic and early Historic periods. However, archaeologists have no idea by what name or names the “Oneota” referred to themselves. Archaeologists consider the Oneota as ancestral to several known historic tribes including the Ioway, Oto, Missouri, and Winnebago.

The Oneota lived throughout the Midwest between A.D. 1050 and 1700 in large villages that were fairly permanent. Their houses ranged in size from small family-sized dwellings to large longhouses sheltering many families. They subsisted by fishing, hunting, gathering plants and nuts, and by planting crops. The Oneota relied heavily on the planting of maize, but other plants such as squash, beans, amaranth (pigweed) and chenopodium (goosefoot) were also important cultigens. The favored meat sources of the Oneota were bison and deer, although they also hunted and ate elk, many varieties of birds and fish, and occasionally dog. Seasonal bison hunts appear to have been annual or biannual events involving whole villages.

While Oneota sites are plentiful in parts of the Mississippi, Illinois and Des Moines river valleys, large portions of eastern Iowa including the Iowa and Cedar river valleys contain only a few such sites. In eastern Iowa, the Oneota appeared to live in distinct groups widely separated by territory, with each group having a core location where villages were densely packed on the landscape and sited along the major rivers. The surrounding territory for each core was used for hunting, plant gathering, fishing and raw material collection, with the smaller, interior valleys of the region used only for occasional hunting. Typically, their core village would be semi-permanent, with smaller groups moving away for summer and

winter bison hunts. This settlement pattern appears related to their subsistence: corn was their staple crop, a type of economy that encouraged a more settled existence because occasional crop surpluses eased the need for extensive hunting and gathering forays and because the need to tend crops required more on-site attention. While widely separated, these groups appear to have had among them a good deal of interaction and cohesion.

The Oneota did not build mounds in which to bury their dead, although sometimes they used an older mound, built by previous Woodland groups, in which to bury someone. More typically, they would bury their dead in extended positions much as Europeans and Euroamericans bury their dead. Burials often included pottery, chert flakes, bone whistles, copper and brass bracelets and beads. Ceremonial items often found on Oneota sites include pipes, inscribed tablets, and effigies carved out of the soft red stone known as catlinite.

Artifacts commonly found on Oneota sites in eastern Iowa include shell-tempered pottery vessels having globular shapes and incised with distinctive geometric patterns; small unnotched, triangular arrow points, drills, and small thumbnail end scrapers often fashioned from white Burlington chert; abraders made from sandstone; ground stone manos and metates used for grinding corn and crushing nuts; pipes and other items fashioned from catlinite; and bone tools including bison scapula hoes and deer mandible sickles, both used for agriculture. Their village sites are often marked by numerous deep, bell-shaped pits used for storage of foodstuffs and post-hole patterns forming oval, square or long, rectangular-shaped houses.

Previous studies in the Pleasant Creek reservoir area in Fayette Township in Linn County have produced only sparse evidence for Late Prehistoric occupation or utilization of this area. The most compelling evidence was the recovery of fragments or sherds of shell-tempered pottery from site 13LN44 and small triangular points from five other sites. Both shell-tempered pottery and small triangular arrow points are characteristic of Oneota artifact assemblages. A single sherd of shell-tempered pottery was also recently recovered from a site in the Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center on the east side of the river from the Pleasant Creek Reservoir northwest of Cedar Rapids. A third site, 13LN262, was recorded as an Oneota site in southeast Linn County in the Mount Vernon-Lisbon vicinity. At present, it appears that any Oneota presence in this area consisted of temporary camp sites likely used on a seasonal and sporadic basis.

## **Proto-Historic Period**

This period dates from around A.D. 1640-1700. It was during this period that European influence in the form of trade goods such as gunflints, metal trinkets, and glass beads began trickling into the region but before Europeans themselves began having prolonged face-to-face contact with Iowa's native occupants. Thus, Europeans were beginning to have an effect on Native American culture but in a more indirect manner.

Native Americans then in Iowa were either living here full-time or coming into Iowa on a seasonal round of hunting and gathering or other activities. These groups included the Ioway, Oto, Omaha, Middle and Eastern Dakota, and the Missouri. They lived essentially a sedentary life-style, tending to live in villages at specific locations, often along major river valleys, making only seasonal trips into interior valleys to hunt and gather, or in times of warfare.

Native Americans in Iowa during this period used and made many of the same items that were typical of the previous Late Prehistoric and Late Woodland periods, such as the bow and arrow; however, their arrow points were small triangular and notched points and their pottery was tempered with grit or crushed shell and incised with geometric designs. However, Proto-Historic sites could also show some form of European influence through the presence of trade goods like glass beads made in Italy, arrow points cut from sheets and kettles of brass or iron, religious medallions and finger rings made of silver, and gunflints made from dark brown or yellow flints brought over from England and France. But these European items should be few, with the site assemblage composed primarily of Native-made goods such

as stone and bone tools and pottery. It was not until the early Historic period that native groups began to adopt more of the European-made goods at the expense of their traditional chipped-stone and pottery crafts.

As Native American groups farther east in North America began to be physically dispossessed by Europeans and Euroamericans, those that survived moved into the Upper Mississippi River Valley including the Sauk, Meskwaki, Winnebago, and Potawatomi. Among the new groups, the Meskwaki are by far the best known in Iowa and still maintain a strong presence in their settlement in Tama County. Meskwaki means *people of the red earth*, with their tribe originating in the lower Great Lakes. When the Meskwakis first came into contact with Europeans, specifically the French, the tribe had just recently moved from Michigan to Wisconsin. In the early 1700s, they moved again because of conflicts with the French. This time they moved into Illinois and by 1750 had come to consider Iowa as their new homeland. Unfortunately, their selection would eventually place them squarely in the face of the westward expansion of the United States in the early nineteenth century. By 1845 the Meskwaki had been officially removed from Iowa to reservations in Kansas and Oklahoma. However, in the 1850s, those of the Meskwaki who had refused to leave Iowa and many of those that had gone on to live on the reservations but could not bear life on the reservation, came back together and purchased land in Tama County. In 1856 the Iowa Legislature gave legal status to their settlement, which thrives to the present day.

In Linn County, evidence of the Proto-Historic and Late Prehistoric periods is sparse compared to other periods of prehistory. It is known that the Ioway Indians were living in northern Iowa in the late 1600s and early 1700s. Archaeological studies in Linn County have identified only a few sites with possible Proto-Historic and Late Prehistoric artifacts, suggesting that the Ioway and possibly the Oto could have used the Cedar Valley on occasion while living in villages to the north.

By the time that the Meskwaki began moving into the Linn County area in the late 1700s, the Ioway had relocated to the west and south. Why the Ioway were not more of a presence in the Cedar Valley between ca. 1100 and 1700 remains a puzzle yet to be solved. It was primarily the Meskwaki, who newly-arrived pioneers encountered in Linn County in the early 1800s. It was also during this transitional Proto-Historic to Historic period that the horse was first introduced into Iowa. The impact of the horse on native culture was immense—it would provide a mobility that would have a dramatic impact on native hunting, warfare, and settlement patterns.

The Cedar River valley meant a great deal to the Meskwaki, some of whom used the steep ravines with never-freezing springs of the Wickiup Hill region (upriver from Cedar Rapids) as a favored winter camping ground. In the summer, the Meskwaki would congregate at their large villages along the Mississippi River where crops would be planted and tended. From these villages, smaller groups would forage out into the interior regions to hunt and collect other resources such as game, waterfowl, berries, nuts as the seasons demanded, and the materials from which tools would be fashioned such as chert. In the winter months, small family groups would travel to favored locations in the more protected interior valleys, such as Wickiup Hill, where they could live more comfortably through the winter. In early spring they would tap the maple trees in the groves of Linn County to gather the sweet sap and make maple sugar much the same way that the pioneers would later do. The Winnebago were also a strong presence in Linn County during the early historic period.

## ***Early Settlement Era***

The main attractions for early historic period settlement in Linn County were its water and timber resources. The Cedar and Wapsipinicon rivers and their tributaries afforded the necessary water flow to power the saw, grist, and flours mills, which were vital to successful frontier settlements. These watersheds also supported stands of timber sufficient to supply the building and fuel needs of the early settlers. Therefore, the population distribution of the Early Settlement Era was concentrated in and near the groves and waterways, with the open prairies between the rivers and to the southwest largely unsettled



during this period. Besides the attraction of the timber and water resources, another reason that the prairies remained unsettled was the difficulty in breaking the sod with the implements then available. It would not be until after the Civil War that the availability of John Deere's mass-produced steel plow would make the rich soils of the prairie accessible to widespread cultivation.

The first permanent Euroamerican settlements in Linn County were made in the late 1830s to early 1840s. By 1840, there were 1,342 inhabitants noted in the census for Linn County (U.S. Population Census 1840). The original land survey conducted by the General Land Office was completed in the county in 1842-43 opening the way for legal land sales, and by 1850, there were 5,444 residents in the county (U.S. Population Census 1850). The 1856 Iowa State Census listed 14,702 total residents, of which 7,911 were males and 6,791 were females, with six listed as "colored" (Brewer and Wick 1911:332). This census also enumerated 2,518 dwelling houses, 2,612 families, and 1,824 landowners in the county (*ibid.*).

The first towns established in Linn County were Westport and Columbus, both established in 1838 along the Cedar River. Westport never amounted to much, while Columbus became the nucleus for the city of Cedar Rapids, which was platted in 1841. Marion was established in 1838 and served as the county seat from its establishment until 1919, when Cedar Rapids was finally successful in wresting the designation away from Marion (Brewer and Wick 1911:42-43; Western Historical 1878:343-344).

Mount Vernon was laid out in 1847 along the Military Road and in 1853 became the site for the Iowa Conference Male and Female Seminary, which grew into present day Cornell College. In 1851, the town of Lisbon was laid out one mile east of Mount Vernon, a most unusual situation given that towns situated in such close proximity had overlapping and competing market spheres, typically resulting in the failure of one or both communities. However, in this case, both have survived to the present day as separate, distinct communities, with Mount Vernon the larger of the two, but Lisbon managing to survive and even grow through the years. A member of the Lisbon History Center remarked at one of the public presentations for this project that he thought that the reason for the two towns surviving in such close proximity was that one had a rural focus and the other a college focus, thus for some services and markets they were not always in competition with one another.

While the town of Lisbon was not officially platted until 1851, this area had been settled at an earlier date, with the settlers attracted by the natural resources of its location including a large grove, springs, and creeks. This early settlement became known as "Yankee Grove," because the initial settlers hailed from New York. The first of these settlers was Charles C. Haskins, who settled along Spring Creek in this vicinity in 1838. In the 1840s-50s, the settlement was known variously as Yankee Grove or Yankee Town. Haskins' settlement was soon followed by others including William Chamberlain, John J. Gibson, A.J. McKean, Robert Dean, and John Donohue. Simon Archer soon settled on land within the subsequent Lisbon town plat where Robert Dean and John J. Gibson also had early claims. William Young was another important early settler of the Lisbon vicinity having set up a saw mill on Clear Creek about four miles south of Lisbon in the 1840s. In 1857, Young erected "a companion enterprise – the Golden Sheaf Mill, a three story frame building with a stone basement and three runs of stone" (Radl 1974:3). By 1859, despite the proximity of Mount Vernon, the population of Lisbon had risen to 583 (Western Historical 1878:568-569).

The nativity of the Early Settlement Era population in Linn County was largely composed of American-born settlers, who migrated to Linn County from other regions of the United States. According to the 1856 Iowa State Population Census, the nativity of American-born settlers in Linn County were primarily from Ohio, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and New York, with lesser numbers from Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Connecticut, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Missouri, South Carolina, Delaware, Rhode Island, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, and Alabama, in descending order of frequency (Brewer and Wick 1911:332).

Part of Linn County's Pennsylvania contingent was a colonizing group from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, who migrated to Lisbon in the spring of 1847, when it was still known as Yankee Grove. This group initially consisted of 60 United Brethren members led by their pastor, Christian Hershey.

Their settlement gave a tremendous boost to the fledgling community and encouraged other Pennsylvania United Brethren to follow in their wake. The influence of this “Pennsylvania Dutch” group in the settlement of this community is reflected in the town’s later nickname of “Dutch Town” (Radl 1974:3-4).

Christian Hershey was a United Brethren preacher and, “soon after settling down in Lisbon, he began to hold services in private homes or, in pleasant weather, in the shady groves around town” (Radl 1974:3-4). The Rev. Christian Troup, the first regular United Brethren preacher in this area, assisted in these early meetings (ibid.). In addition to Hershey and members of his family, the original colony included the families of J.E. Kurtz, Michael Hoover, Jacob Breneman, J.H. Eby, and Jacob S. Pfautz. Many of these members purchased the claims and farms of earlier settlers including some where dwellings had already been built.

Many of the earliest homes in Lisbon were located on what is now West Main Street. It was estimated that the first house probably built on what became the Lisbon town site was that of Simon Archer, whose house was built on the north side of West Main Street and was subsequently purchased by Michael Hoover. J.H. Eby was reportedly the first of the Pennsylvania colony to actually build a house on the town site, a dwelling which he constructed in 1848. Eby was a cabinetmaker and opened the first cabinet shop in the area (Western Historical 1878:568-569).

The members of this first colonizing group wrote enthusiastic letters to friends back home in Pennsylvania encouraging them to migrate. In the following years, many of these friends made their way to Lisbon adding to the growing United Brethren congregation in this community. Included in the second migration were Fred W. Rabenau and David Dorwart, who brought along a large stock of general merchandise, with which they opened a store upon arriving in Lisbon. “Their business place, sold to J.E. Kurtz and Son in 1852, was for a long time known as the Dutch Store” (Radl 1974:4). Other early businesses included D.G. Ziegenfus’ blacksmith shop established in 1850 and operating for 27 years; Alexander Renfrew’s wagon shop; and J.H. Eby’s cabinet shop (Western Historical 1878:569).

In 1850, a post office was established at this location with David Runkle the first postmaster. Runkle was a new arrival in town, having come to Lisbon from Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, as part of the company of 84 persons who comprised the second “colony” of United Brethren to make the journey to this spot. They traveled by river to Bloomington (later called Muscatine) and then overland to Lisbon on the Bloomington to Marion Road, or the Bloomington Road for short. The following year, the town of Lisbon was platted by John E. Kurtz, John H. Eby, and Michael Hoover, all three members of the Pennsylvania colony and all three sons-in-law of Christian Hershey (Centennial Committee 1948:23; Radl 1974:4). One mystery remains unsolved, how the name “Lisbon” was selected for the platted town, when no obvious connection to Lisbon, Portugal, is known among the early settlers. However, there is a Lisbon, Pennsylvania, which might be a connection worthy of further research.

Important roadways also played a role in the establishment and settlement of early towns in Linn County. This first of these roads was the Military Road, which was established in 1839 by Lyman Dillon, who was hired by the government to lay out the road by plowing a furrow along the route between Iowa City and Dubuque (Figure 3). Mount Vernon was established at a point along the Military Road where the route had to climb up a steep hill (geologically a paha) to avoid low marshy areas on either side of the hill. A well was dug at the apex of the hill where travelers on the road could water their horses. Other road-side services, such as stores and a saloon, soon followed resulting in the birth of the town of Mount Vernon.

The second important roadway in this area, one that benefited both Mount Vernon and Lisbon, was the establishment of the Bloomington to Marion Road, an early road that connected the early Mississippi River port of Bloomington (later known as Muscatine) and Marion, the county seat of Linn County (see Figure 3). This road began in territorial days prior to the establishment of the State of Iowa and intersected with the Military Road in Mount Vernon.

Both early roadways developed into major post and stage roads in the county, with the Military Road largely followed in later years by what is now part of State Highway 1 and U.S. Highway 151. The Bloomington Road became better known in later years as Mount Vernon Road and was followed in part

in the southeast part of Linn County in the early twentieth century by the Transcontinental Route, later known as the Lincoln Highway.

Therefore, Lisbon owed its early viability to its location in a grove that offered fuel and building materials for early settlers; along several streams that offered springs and running water sufficient to operate early saw and grist mills; along a road that connected the location to a Mississippi River port town, the county seat of Linn County, and the Military Road; and to a major influx of a cohesive group of settlers who shared an ethnic and religious history that bound them together and to this location. These factors helped Lisbon early on to survive the highly competitive environment of its too-close rival of Mount Vernon, which also possessed desirable locational features of its own. Lisbon grew slowly in its early days and has always lagged behind Mount Vernon in population and size, but it would also come to benefit from another major industry that would, of course, also benefit Mount Vernon—that of the Chicago and North Western Railroad, which arrived in both towns in 1859 with depots established at both locations (Figures 4-5). The arrival of the railroad signaled the end of the Early Settlement Era in this region, with the railroad effectively ending the frontier economy and environment and ushering in new industrial and commercial development.

As noted above, the Early Settlement Era buildings in Lisbon concentrated along Main Street, particularly in what is now the west side of Lisbon and encompassed the original town plat as established in 1851. Many of the important early buildings are, of course, no longer standing including most of the original commercial and industrial buildings; however, a notable number of dwellings, including at least one that served as an early commercial building are still standing and constitute a possible historic district or multiple property submission to the National Register of Historic Places. These buildings include the following:

126 West Main Street – One-story Greek Revival-inspired cottage located on the north side of Main Street. The original section of the house was reportedly made of logs and built in 1850. The house was later covered with siding and received an addition to the rear. In 1871, this dwelling became the home of Dr. Burd, who had his office and home here until 1890. It then became the home of Al Floyd (Long 1975).

225 and 227 West Main Street – Identical two-story, side-gabled brick dwellings built in 1850 by John Neidig and David Runkle, Neidig's son-in-law. Neidig's house subsequently became the United Brethren parsonage until 1903 when it was purchased by the William Leyh family. Leyh was a blacksmith and scrap iron dealer in town. The Runkle home was subsequently owned by Donald Frink, who converted it into two apartments, and then by the Charles Wagaman family (Long 1975).

336 West Main Street – Small two-story, side-gabled building built in 1850 of native oak logs and used as a hotel from 1850 to 1860. It was then used for a few years as a broom factory. Afterwards it was converted into a dwelling and a large room was added to the rear. The log exterior was also covered over with siding. It was later occupied by Ed and Anna Wetherall and then the Courtney family (Long 1975).

425 West Main Street – Two-story, side-gabled frame dwelling built next to one another in 1848 by John Eby. In the early 1900s it was sold to the George Rose family, who lived here many years. An unusual original feature of this home is the front entry which abuts the public sidewalk, with the porch actually extending out over the sidewalk (Long 1975). This reflects the construction of this house prior to the establishment of sidewalks and public street right-of-way, with the house set as close to the front of the lot as possible in order to make the most of the rear of the lot for household activities and outbuildings.

SE Corner of West Main Street and Chestnut Street – This two-story, side-gabled brick house was built in 1848 by Michael Hoover. It was later owned by David Heller and family (Long 1975).

NW Corner of South Street West and Penn Street – Building constructed in 1851 was either the first or second school in Lisbon. Local sources conflict on the subject, with the original United Brethren Church building also listed as a school between 1855 and 1862 (Long 1975). The building on Penn Street was reportedly also used as a church and Sunday School. It was built by contractor, Daniel Gravel. It subsequently became a dwelling until 1940 when it was converted into a generator shop (ibid.).

NW Corner of South Street West and South Jefferson – This two-story square house with hipped roof was built in 1862 as an Evangelical Church. It remained a church until 1888 when it was converted by George Hanaway into a dwelling. It was later converted into two apartments (Long 1975).

Among the early non-extant buildings is the original United Brethren Church, which was reportedly the first built west of the Mississippi River. This brick gabled cottage was still standing into the late twentieth century but has since been demolished. It was located at 9 South Washington Street, just one block south of Main Street, and had been built in 1850 by the Rev. Christian Hershey. It was used as a church for five years and was then used as a school until 1862. In 1870 it was converted by Jonathan Hoover into a blacksmith shop, and around 1900, it was converted into a dwelling (Centennial Committee 1975).

The original town plat of Lisbon was located in the SE1/4 of Section 11, T82N-R51W, Franklin Township, Linn County, Iowa (Figure 6). The plat was centered on Main Street and was bounded on the east by what is now Washington Street and on the west by Eby Street. It extended north to Market and south to South Street. Subsequent small additions to the original plat included Graul's Additions on the northwest and southwest sides, Eby's Addition on the west side, Ringer's Addition on the northeast, and Ringer's 2nd Addition on the southeast side. Several larger additions were made to town east of Washington Street, including: Pfautz' Addition, Neidig's 1st and 2nd additions, Barkley's Addition, and Gauby's Addition. When the Chicago & North Western Railroad was built through this area, a large parcel of land the north side of town was platted by Mr. Kurtz and the Iowa Land Company as the Iowa Land Co.'s Addition (Western Historical 1878:569).

### ***The Expansion Era – The Chicago & North Western Railroad***

The Expansion Era in Linn County begins with the arrival of the railroad into the county in 1859, which signaled the end of the frontier conditions of the Early Settlement Era by linking Cedar Rapids and other Linn County towns, including both Mount Vernon and Lisbon, with regional and national markets. During this era in the late nineteenth century, the settlement of Linn County expanded beyond the groves and watershed out onto the open prairies until every parcel of land had been entered in the county by 1869. Many of the early towns continued to grow and expand into the late nineteenth century. New communities were also added that were, for the most part, added directly as a result of the expanding railroad system, which included a total of eight railroads and four interurban rail lines crisscrossing the county by 1913. Industry also expanded as the Industrial Revolution took hold of the nation in the late nineteenth century. Agriculture changed during this era as well, with the easier access to markets afforded by the railroads resulting in increased emphasis on market commodities, particularly corn, hogs, and cattle. Added to this agricultural change was the rise of the dairy industry in the county in the late nineteenth century. The Expansion Era in Linn County is considered to extend from 1859 until 1913, the year that the Lincoln Highway, the nation's first transcontinental highway, was established through the county. While this development could be viewed as another aspect of expansion, the actual result of the

highway development was a movement towards consolidation of markets, services, and industries ushering in a new era of historical development in Linn County (Rogers 1992:42).

The Chicago and North Western Railroad began as the Chicago, Iowa and Nebraska Railroad, which was built between Clinton, Iowa, and Cedar Rapids in 1859. It was the first railroad to be built through Linn County entering from the east and siting a stop first at Lisbon. The railroad achieved a Mississippi River to Missouri River connection by 1867, when it was completed as the Cedar Rapids and Missouri Railroad all the way to Council Bluffs on the west side of the state. This line was the first to link the cities of Chicago and Council Bluffs. It eventually became the Iowa Division of the Chicago & North Western Railroad having been absorbed into that system by the late 1870s. This rail line represented one of two main line railroads to cross Linn County, the other being the Milwaukee Railroad, which extended through Marion and Cedar Rapids (Conard and Cuning 1990:E1-6, 11; Rogers 1992:61; Western Historical 1878:515).

The population of Linn County expanded during the late nineteenth century from a total of 18,947 in 1859 to over 60,000 by 1910. The highest settlement concentrations were in Rapids Township (including the City of Cedar Rapids), Marion Township (including the City of Marion), and Franklin Township (including the towns of Mount Vernon and Lisbon) (Rogers 1992:43). These areas still represent the most densely settled areas of the county, although the urban center of Cedar Rapids-Marion has expanded into surrounding townships in all directions.

The population increases in the Expansion Era were assisted by an influx of foreign immigrants from Bohemia, Germany, Ireland, England, Canada, Scotland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, France, Wales, and Holland, in descending order of frequency. By far the largest group to settle in the county hailed from the Slavic regions, most notably Bohemia. The largest concentrations of foreign immigrants settled in the urban center of Cedar Rapids, although Bohemians, in particular, settled the rural areas in the southern portion of the county and in the Mount Vernon-Lisbon vicinity.

During the Expansion Era, Lisbon was the fourth largest community in Linn County behind Cedar Rapids, Marion, and Mount Vernon. Like Mount Vernon, Lisbon benefited from its location along the Chicago and North Western Railroad line established through the southern part of the county in 1859 (Figures 6-8). The railroad built a depot in Lisbon, to which was added a water station and turntable by the 1880s. The growth spurred by this direct rail connection allowed Lisbon to achieve incorporation in 1875. By the 1880s, the town's population had risen to over 700, and by 1890, the town's population peaked at 1,079 residents. The population gradually declined after 1890 to 846 by 1910 (Radl 1974:7; Rogers 1992:52).

The primary reason for the later population decline in Lisbon was the inability to compete with the growing urban and industrial center of Cedar Rapids and with its more successful neighbor, Mount Vernon. It was during the Expansion Era that the close proximity of the two towns would take its greatest toll on Lisbon. Mount Vernon had the distinct advantage over Lisbon in having Cornell College, an academic institution that still contributes to the economic viability of Mount Vernon to the present day. The citizens of Lisbon did make a concerted effort in the 1880s to obtain Western College, a United Brethren College established in southcentral Linn County (in the former town of Western); however, the town of Toledo, Iowa, became the college's new home leaving Lisbon once again at a disadvantage with Mount Vernon (Radl 1974:17). However, as noted above, if Lisbon had been successful in obtaining a college, it would have changed the focus of the community from rural to college and might have actually increased its competition with Mount Vernon, which was already the college center.

Despite this competition with Mount Vernon, Lisbon did prosper and grow during the Expansion Era, just not to the same degree. Important businesses and industries established in Lisbon included: a creamery along Main Street where the creek intersects with the street within the original town plat; the Samuel A. Kurtz logging operations, which were established in 1875 and cleared 3,000 acres within a six mile radius of Lisbon; two agricultural implement manufactories established in the 1870s; two brickyards, including the Dawson and Meakin brickyards; the nearby Golden Sheaf Mill, which was then being operated by A.E. and D.H. Kurtz and expanded into the early 1880s; and the William Cook woolen mill. Civic improvements in Lisbon included street lights, board sidewalks, a water system, and the

macadamization of the business district streets. A chicken processing plant was also among the late nineteenth to early twentieth century businesses established in Lisbon (Hirst 1988; Radl 1974; Western Historical 1878:569-575; Rogers 1992:52-53).

Like so many of the communities in Linn County during this era, Lisbon also suffered setbacks from disastrous storms and fires, the largest of which occurred in 1894 burning down an entire block of businesses along the south side of Main Street west of Washington Street. This block was rebuilt, with the resulting Legion Block representing a stylish addition to Lisbon's Main Street. Tornadoes also impacted the community including one on June 3, 1860, which "nicked the west edge of town, damaging two residences, destroying a stone house, the railroad station, and an elevator," and another on June 7, 1908, which destroyed farm buildings around the edge of town and almost completely destroyed the brick building housing the Lisbon waterworks and light plant (Radl 1974:11). A third tornado on May 28, 1956, damaged trees in the cemetery and a number of farm buildings in the vicinity (ibid.:11-12).

In 1878, Lisbon businesses boasted "four general stores, two furniture, two hardware, two boots and shoes, two millinery, two meat markets, two drug stores, two hotels, two confectionery shops, two harness shops, three blacksmiths, two agricultural implement factories, two brick yards, a lumber dealer, dentist, grain dealer, stock dealer, bank, barber, wagon shop, livery stable, marble shop, printing office and billiard hall" (Western Historical 1878:574). In addition were one lawyer and three physicians. The woolen mill and three flouring mills located on the creek south of town rounded out the major Lisbon enterprises (ibid.).

Contractor builders, carpenters, and stone and brick masons who operated in and around Lisbon and had an obvious impact on the surviving built environment of Lisbon during the Expansion Era included: A. Armentrout, who settled in Lisbon in 1868; John H. Eby, carpenter and cabinetmaker, who came with the United Brethren Colony in 1847; Benjamin Gauby, a stone mason in Lisbon; Jonas Gauby, a carpenter and builder in Lisbon; H. Goodman, a brickmason; John F. Hahn, stone quarry operator in Mount Vernon; Levi Halderman, a carpenter in Lisbon; Daniel and Peter Lees, brickmakers in Lisbon; B.R. Weber, a stone mason in Lisbon; and John R. Wetherell, a contractor and builder in Lisbon, who settled here in 1855 (Radl 1974:12). The brickyard of George M. Meakin of Lisbon was a notable enterprise in the area and supplied the bricks for the construction in 1885 of Bowman Hall on the Cornell College campus (ibid.:70).

While the United Brethren Church dominated the religious development of Lisbon during the Early Settlement Era, it was joined by seven other churches in the Expansion Era to bring an amazing eight churches to this small town by the twentieth century. The other denominations included the Methodist Episcopal, Reformed, Catholic, Lutheran, Evangelical, Advent, and Radical United Brethren. Most were located along Market Street, one block north of Main Street, with the Evangelical Church located along West Main Street and the Advent Church on 2nd Avenue and Monroe Street (Long 1975; Radl 1974; Western Historical 1878:570-571).

One of the notable impacts of the dominance of the United Brethren and Methodist churches in Lisbon and Mount Vernon in the Early Settlement and Expansion eras was their advocacy of temperance and prohibition. Both towns fought efforts to establish saloons in these towns, and in 1868, when the state of Iowa passed a law prohibiting the sale of alcohol within two miles of any incorporated town, Lisbon and Mount Vernon residents played a role in its passage. In fact, Lisbon was incorporated in 1875 in part to try to control their perceived saloon problem. The strength of the United Brethren and Methodist churches in these two communities was the driving force for both towns becoming essentially "dry towns" through the Expansion Era (Radl 1974:7-11; Rogers 1992:71).

The end of the Expansion Era in Lisbon was marked by the establishment of the Lincoln Highway along the Main Street of this community on its transcontinental route between New York City and San Francisco. Lisbon, Mount Vernon, Marion, and Cedar Rapids were the original Linn County towns along the Lincoln Highway, with Marion subsequently cut off the route when what is now Mount Vernon Road was extended to the west directly into Cedar Rapids. The interurban rail line from Cedar Rapids was also extended out to Lisbon in 1914 where the line terminated and cars were turned around for the trip back to Cedar Rapids. As with Mount Vernon, these improvements served for a time as a boon to the town's

economic growth and survival but eventually contributed to a loss of services and population to the urban center of Cedar Rapids as this larger city became more readily accessible by car and by rail (Rogers 1992:53).

Expansion Era buildings Lisbon survive in greater numbers than the Early Settlement era buildings, with notable examples including the following:

Majority of commercial buildings along Main Street – These include primarily brick buildings constructed in the 1870s-90s east of Washington Street, such as the Union Block, and the large brick block building constructed on the south side of Main Street east of Washington Street in 1894 to replace a block of buildings that burned that year. The older buildings exhibit influence from the Italianate style of architecture, while the 1894 Legion Block shows details from the then-popular Romanesque Revival and Classical Revival styles of architecture.

IOOF Hall/Opera House – Located at 122 Main Street on the north side of Main Street in-between Washington and Walnut streets, this three story brick building was constructed in 1893 by contractors Jacob, Henry and Abe Meyers and Dick and Jess Woods. The opera house occupies the main floor, with the Oddfellows Hall on the third floor. The opera hall was also used for school activities and as a gymnasium. As with the 1894 block, this building shows influence from the Romanesque Revival style of architecture in the use of round-arched and arcaded windows and door openings.

A number of large stylish homes were built by the prominent merchants and bankers of Lisbon in the 1860s-70s in Lisbon including: the Italianate-style brick house built for Amos Runkle at 202 South Washington Street in 1877, the Italianate-style brick house built for Harrison Stuckslager House at 207 North Jackson Street in 1876-77 (listed in the National Register of Historic Places), the Italianate-style brick house built in the 1870s for Gotlieb Auracher at 515 Jackson Street, the frame Stick-style house built for W.L. Davis at 200 Washington Street in 1876, and a stylish frame Gothic Revival style or Picturesque cottage built c.1866-67 at 233 N. Jackson Street, among others including a number of Italianate-influenced brick houses and Queen Anne style frame houses. One of the brick Italianate houses on S. Washington Street also has a notable brick barn behind the house (at 302 S. Washington Street). One architect-designed, high-style Colonial Revival house was built by the Stuckslager family at 402 Jackson Street in 1900.

Extant brick churches including: the United Brethren Church built in 1880 on W. Market Street; St. John's Lutheran Church built in 1906 on E. Market Street; the Methodist Episcopal Church built in 1899 at the corner of Jackson and Market streets; and the Evangelical Church built in 1888 on W. Main Street (now used as an apartment building).

Unfortunately, the built environment of Lisbon has suffered the loss of all of the historic railroad-related buildings and structures other than the tracks, which are still used as part of the Union Pacific rail system to the present day. The brick Washington School built in 1889 is also no longer standing. Likewise, the town has lost its Expansion Era industrial buildings including all of the mills (although archaeological evidence is known from at least one of these mills and could potentially exist from the others) and the manufactories noted above.

### ***The Consolidation Era – The Lincoln Highway and Highway 30***

The Consolidation Era in Linn County began with the establishment in 1914 of the Lincoln Highway, the nation's first transcontinental highway (Figure 7). From this point, the improvement of the county's road systems to facilitate automobile and truck traffic was slow but progressed steadily forward. At first,

the improved road system was a boon to small communities where new businesses such as garages, gas stations, cafes, and motels were established to serve the new mode of transportation. However, in reality, the improved road system would make it increasingly easier to by-pass small communities to shop, trade and work in the larger cities, such as Cedar Rapids. The improved road system had the additional effect of giving rise to the trucking industry, which was destined to overtake the railroad industry and played a large role in the railroads' overall decline in the early to mid twentieth century. Added to this, were the economic impacts associated with the Great Depression, the recovery during and after World War II, and the cycles of recession and inflation in the ensuing years capped by the farm depression in Iowa in the 1980s (Rogers 1992:79).

Lisbon was impacted in many ways during the early years of the Consolidation Era. Initially, there was a boon to the local economy with the establishment of the Lincoln Highway along the town's Main Street. Road and tourist-related businesses added along Main Street included gas stations, service garages, and cafes. Shortly after the Lincoln Highway had been designated, Lisbon and Mount Vernon further benefited from the construction of an interurban rail line linking the two towns with Cedar Rapids. This line was completed in 1914 and was an extension of the CRANDIC (Cedar Rapids and Iowa City) interurban line, which had been built first between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City in 1901-02. The 1914 extension to Mount Vernon and Lisbon was built primarily for passenger service but also carried some express and small freight loads in addition to people (see Figure 7). Trains ran hourly during the day and several times at night. The interurban also connected to a branch line down to the Palisades, which had become a popular summer resort by the early twentieth century (Conard and Cuning 1990:E40; Rogers 1992:63).

However, Lisbon would also come to suffer economically from the railroad's decline, with passenger and freight service to Lisbon along the Chicago & North Western Line terminated in the 1950s and the depot and other buildings removed. The tracks are still in use today as part of the Union Pacific Rail System, but the trains no longer stop in either Mount Vernon or Lisbon.

The interurban line between Cedar Rapids and Lisbon only operated for 14 years shutting down in 1928 because it was unable to compete with the growing number of privately owned automobiles and the freedom of movement that automobiles provided to consumers. Why ride the rails when you could get in your car any time you wanted and go anywhere a tank of gas and a decent road would take you? In Lisbon and Mount Vernon, the popularity of the automobile as the main mode of personal transportation was lifted by the paving of the Lincoln Highway by 1930, which had been renamed U.S. Highway 30 by that time (Figure 8). This began a process that continues to impact both communities to the present day; that of people living in Lisbon and Mount Vernon but commuting to work in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. As a result, both communities have a strong "bedroom community" aspect to their composition, although both still maintain viable businesses and small industries within their boundaries (Long 1988:10; Thomas 1973:14-15; Rogers 1992:88).

The businesses along Main Street in Lisbon were further impacted in the 1950s, by the bypassing of the old route of the Lincoln Highway/U.S. 30 in favor of new route for U.S. Highway 30 along the town's southern boundary. The most obvious impacts of the highway relocation were the moving of businesses to locations along the new highway and the loss of trade for the businesses that remained along Main Street. Lisbon and Mount Vernon both continually struggle with maintaining viable businesses in their "Main Street" buildings.

Other milestones in Lisbon's history during the Consolidation Era included the First Sauerkraut Day celebration held in 1909 as a homecoming day and advertising feature for the town; the installation of a town sewer system in 1915 and its improvement into a modern sewage treatment plant after 1950; the installation of 24-hour electric light service in the 1910s; and the paving of the Lincoln Highway west of Lisbon all the way to Cedar Rapids in 1925. The Sauerkraut Day celebration has continued into the present day and is now a weekend-long celebration.

Notable commemorative events in the early twentieth century in Lisbon included the moving in 1916 of a large boulder from the Gettysburg National Battlefield in Pennsylvania to the Lisbon Cemetery where a memorial was established and the installation of memorial concrete markers by the boy scouts



along the old route of the Lincoln Highway in 1928. One of these markers is still located along the route in Lisbon, with another still located in Mount Vernon.

Among the businesses added in Lisbon during the Consolidation Era was the Co-op Creamery built in 1925 and Eldon Stahl's greenhouse business. Premier among the creamery's products was butter that was served on luxury passenger train dining cars. The creamery closed in 1966, and the site was built over by the current City Hall/Fire Station building.

During the twentieth century, Lisbon went from the fourth largest town in Linn County to the sixth largest before 1970. Mount Vernon remained third largest behind Cedar Rapids and Marion during this period. Population totals for Lisbon between 1920 and 1970 went from 803 in 1920 to 1,329 by 1970; however, in 1930, the population hit a low of 795 before rebounding after World War II to a total of 952 by 1950. Today the populations of both Lisbon and Mount Vernon are growing again as both communities have added a number of housing developments that continue to enhance their popularity as places to live for commuters.

Most remarkable of all is that even in the present residential boom in the Mount Vernon-Lisbon area, both towns are still able to maintain their identities as separate towns even as their boundaries become increasingly blurred. Mount Vernon still maintains the economic and population edge boosted tremendously by the continued presence of Cornell College in that community. However, Lisbon still retains a number of viable businesses including a bank, has added small industries and some larger ones to its business community, still has its own school, its own public library, and its own city government and services such as a police force and fire station. The school, under the overarching organization of the Lisbon Community Schools, includes an elementary, middle, and high school on the same campus at the south edge of town along U.S. Highway 30. The school buildings are modern in construction, although the cornerstone from the non-extant 1889 Washington School was used in the new construction.

The competition between Mount Vernon and Lisbon has not always been the friendliest through the years; however, increasingly, the two communities are coming together to share needed services and undertake joint projects that will benefit both communities. Most recently, the two towns joined together to hold a Lincoln Highway Arts Festival.

Consolidation Era buildings Lisbon include the following notable buildings:

Lincoln Highway Era gas station at 502 E. Main – Integrity issues but worthy of intensive survey.

Possible Lincoln Highway Era service garage behind 422 E. Main Street – concrete block structure set back from street.

Lincoln Highway Concrete Marker in front of 414 E. Main Street – one of the memorial markers set out by the Boy Scouts along the Lincoln Highway in 1928.

Water Tower and Brick Pump House at the east end of E. Market Street – The elevated tower has a cylindrical riveted steel tank and its original conical top and represents an early twentieth century type of water tower becoming an increasingly rare property type in Iowa. The brick pump house was also built in the early twentieth century and retains good integrity.

Two neighboring houses on E. Market Street including 215 E. Market – Built by competitive brothers each trying to outdo the other. One of the houses is an architect-designed, high-style Arts & Crafts/Renaissance Revival style house built c.1915-16. The other house was built in the early 1900s and is a very nice Free Classic type of Queen Anne style house.

Several houses designed by noted Cedar Rapids' architect, Charles Dieman, in the early 1900s-10s – 307 and 310 E. Market and 414 Jackson Street.

Stone bungalow built in the 1920s-30s at 406 W. Main Street – This is an interesting modest home built of native stone and appears fairly unique in the community during this era.

A number of early twentieth century Queen Anne, Revival, Foursquare, and Bungalow style houses were noted that could include both individually eligible properties as well as properties that would certainly contribute to a residential district if present. These homes are scattered throughout the town but include notable examples along the extension of Washington Street south of Highway 30, which appear to represent a cluster of nearly identical houses probably built by the same contractor/builder or developer; and several stylish foursquares and Dutch Colonial houses in the 400-500 blocks of N. Washington Street and other locations in town.

Several small “brooder”-type houses and Quonset huts that represent post-World War II solutions to the housing shortage and early types of prefabricated buildings for residential and industrial use. The brooder houses include two side by side at 213 and 215 4th Avenue, with the Quonset huts along Washington Street north and south of the railroad tracks.

## Recommendations

### *Previously Inventoried and National Register-Listed Properties*

To date only two properties have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places in Lisbon. These include the Stuckslager House in Lisbon proper and the Torrance House located in the rural area south of town. Table 1 is a summary of these properties from the NRHP.

Table 1. Properties in Lisbon and vicinity listed in National Register of Historic Places

STATE ▾	COUNTY ▾	RESOURCE NAME ▾	ADDRESS ▾	CITY ▾	LISTED ▾
IA	Linn	<b>Stuckslager, Harrison, House</b>	207 N. Jackson St.	Lisbon	1979-10-01
IA	Linn	<b>Torrance House</b>	S of Lisbon	Lisbon	1983-07-07

In addition to the NRHP-listed properties, a total of 43 properties in Lisbon have been inventoried in the State Historical Society’s Iowa Site Inventory. Table 2 is a listing of these properties by inventory number and address. While some properties are listed with a “Not Eligible” evaluation, it should be noted that those properties were not evaluated within the context of district eligibility or eligibility under a multiple property theme and could be found eligible or contributing by future inventory and evaluation projects. The Lisbon HPC does maintain copies of the inventory forms completed to date in the Iowa Site Inventory.

### *Reconnaissance Survey*

The Reconnaissance or “windshield” survey of Lisbon was conducted in three parts, with the first covering the commercial area along Main Street, the second focusing on the properties generally on the east and south sides of town, and the third focusing on the properties on the west side of town. General impressions of Lisbon’s built environment by the Principal Investigator include the following (Figure 9):

Table 2. Properties Previously Inventoried in Lisbon  
Source: State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines

## Lisbon

57-04755 - House 210 1st Ave E <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-04768 - House 206 E Main St <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-04756 - House 302 1st Ave E <u>SHPO - 1996</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1996</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-04769 - House 223 E Main St <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-04757 - House 218 3rd Ave E <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-04770 - House 302 E Main St <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-04758 - Brown, Leonard, House 210 4th Ave <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-07255 - Studt, Darryl and Shannon, House 319 E Main St <u>SHPO - 2006</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Consultant - 2006</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-04759 - House 219 4th Ave <u>SHPO - 1996</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1996</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-04771 - House 410 E Main St <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-04760 - House and Garage 223 4th Ave E <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-04772 - Lisbon Opera House 122 W Main St <u>Consultant - 1988</u> <u>Not Evaluated</u>	
57-04761 - House 226 4th Ave E <u>SHPO - 1996</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1996</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-06325 - Jones, Deborah, House 210 W Main St <u>SHPO - 1998</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1998</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-04763 - Stuckslager, Harrison, House 207 N Jackson St <u>SNRC - 1979</u> <u>Opinion of Eligibility</u> <u>SHPO - 1979</u> <u>Opinion of Eligibility</u> <u>NPS - 1979</u> <u>Listed on NRHP</u>		57-07258 - Gollobit House 214 W Main St <u>SHPO - 1998</u> <u>More Research Recommended</u> <u>Agency - 1998</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-04766 - House 314 N Jackson St <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-04773 - House 338 W Main St <u>SHPO - 1994</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1994</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>SHPO - 1996</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1996</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-06322 - House 514 N Jackson St <u>Agency - 1997</u> <u>Not Evaluated</u> <u>SHPO - 1997</u> <u>More Research Recommended</u>		57-07259 - Clark House 339 W Main St <u>SHPO - 1998</u> <u>More Research Recommended</u> <u>Agency - 1998</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-07270 - Dighton, Eileen, House 114 S Jackson St <u>Consultant - 2006</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>SHPO - 2007</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>		57-06318 - Bailey, Richard and Christine, House 510 W Main St <u>SHPO - 1998</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1998</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	
57-04767 - Wink and Houser's Hardware, Tinware and Notions 101 E Main St <u>SHPO - 1991</u> <u>Opinion of Eligibility</u>		57-06320 - Bohr, Don and Rita, House 835 W Main St <u>SHPO - 1998</u> <u>Not Eligible</u> <u>Agency - 1998</u> <u>Not Eligible</u>	

Table 2. Continued.

**Lisbon****57-04774 - House**

227 E Market St

SHPO - 1996 Not EligibleAgency - 1996 Not Eligible**57-06321 - Feuss, Elmer, House**

231 E Market St

Agency - 1997 Not EligibleSHPO - 1997 More Research Recommended**57-07260 - Dahn House**

210 W Market St

SHPO - 1998 More Research RecommendedAgency - 1998 Not Eligible**57-05530 - Longerbeam, Keith, House**

218 W Market St

Agency - 1998 Not EligibleSHPO - 1998 More Research RecommendedSHPO - 1999 Not Eligible**57-06475 - Lisbon School**

235 W School St

SHPO - 2003 Not EligibleConsultant - 2003 Not Eligible**57-05818 - House**

311 E South St

SHPO - 2000 Not EligibleAgency - 2000 Not Eligible**57-04776 - House**

Washington St Near corner of Washington and HWY 30

SHPO - 1989 Not EligibleConsultant - 1989 Not Eligible**57-04777 - Johnson House**

Washington St Corner of Washington and Hwy 30

SHPO - 1989 Opinion of EligibilityConsultant - 1989 Opinion of Eligibility**57-04778 - House**

Washington St NW corner of Washington and U.S. 30

SHPO - 1989 Not EligibleConsultant - 1989 Not Eligible**57-04779 - House**

Washington St NW corner of Washington and U.S. 30

SHPO - 1987 Not EligibleConsultant - 1987 Not Eligible**57-07261 - Pata House**

406 N Washington St

SHPO - 1998 More Research RecommendedAgency - 1998 Not Eligible**57-04781 - House**

519 N Washington St

SHPO - 1996 Not EligibleAgency - 1996 Not Eligible**57-06324 - Taylor, Curt and Annette, House**

215 S Washington St

SHPO - 1998 Not EligibleAgency - 1998 Not Eligible**57-06323 - Decious, Gerldine, House**

307 S Washington St

SHPO - 1998 Not EligibleAgency - 1998 Not Eligible**57-06319 - Abodeely, Paul and Kristine, House**

327 S Washington St

SHPO - 1998 Not EligibleAgency - 1998 Not Eligible**57-04782 - House**

405 S Washington St

SHPO - 1989 Not EligibleConsultant - 1989 Not Eligible**57-04783 - House**

406 S Washington St

SHPO - 1989 Not EligibleConsultant - 1989 Not Eligible**57-04784 - House**

407 S Washington St

SHPO - 1989 Not EligibleConsultant - 1989 Not Eligible**57-04785 - House**

408 S Washington St

SHPO - 1989 Not EligibleConsultant - 1989 Not Eligible

- Generally Lisbon's historic buildings and structures retain fairly good integrity, albeit with an expected amount of replacement siding, porch alterations, and window replacements.
- Particularly notable among the extant buildings are the number of Early Settlement Era buildings still standing and retaining a comparatively high degree of integrity. As expected, these properties concentrate in the Original Town Plat but include some scattered in other areas of town. They include at least two log buildings (covered over with siding), and buildings constructed of locally-made brick, and frame buildings. Most are residential properties.
- The commercial area appears to have a high potential for designation as a National Register of Historic Places District, with buildings dating primarily from the 1870s-1890s. Integrity is generally good for these buildings, although some modern intrusions will have to be taken into consideration when drawing district boundaries. If the Opera House/IOOF Hall falls outside of the boundaries for this reason, then it certainly should be considered for individual eligibility.
- There may be several National Register-eligible residential districts (discussed below); however, if intensive survey and evaluation determines that integrity is such that districts are not present, then multiple property listings based on shared historic contexts should be considered.
- There are rural properties surrounding the town that are within the current corporate boundaries. Some of these farmsteads, or portions thereof, may qualify for National Register listing and should be included in future survey and evaluation projects.
- Architectural styles represented in Lisbon include Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Church Gothic, Italianate, Stick, Queen Anne, Prairie School, and Craftsman. High-style examples of many of these are present in Lisbon including a very interesting group of high-style Arts and Crafts/Craftsman and Revival-style houses that were architect-designed and rather unusual for a town the size of Lisbon. These houses were built in the early twentieth century, with some designed by noted Cedar Rapids' architect, Charles Dieman. The history of these homes, and the reasons for their construction in Lisbon and the selection of the designs and architects, is a project worthy of further study. These homes may constitute a National Register-eligible Multiple Property submission that should be considered by future survey and evaluation projects in Lisbon.
- Vernacular architectural types represented in Lisbon include: front and side gabled cottages, gabled-front-and-wing houses, foursquares, and bungalows. Most of these homes exhibit stylistic influence from the above-noted architectural styles primarily in porch, window, and roof details.
- There are a number of interesting secondary buildings including older barns, sheds, and garages that survive throughout the town. None of these would necessarily qualify as individually eligible buildings but would be considered contributing to their historic primary buildings (if eligible) or as contributing buildings to a district.

## ***Recommendations***

The reconnaissance survey also resulted in specific recommendations for future survey and evaluation projects. These recommendations are as follows listed in order of priority:

1. Commercial District along Main Street from Jackson Street to Walnut Street– It appears likely that a National Register-eligible district encompassing the historic commercial blocks is present and should be intensively surveyed and evaluated to determine exact boundaries and to identify contributing versus non-

contributing buildings. Once a district has been defined, then the next recommended step would be listing of the district in the National Register of Historic Places. Both the survey and evaluation and the National Register listing are projects eligible for grant funding through the Certified Local Government (CLG) grants program as well as the Historic Resources Development Program (HRDP) in Iowa.

Based on the present reconnaissance survey, the biggest issue is not whether a district is present but rather where the district boundaries should be drawn. The south side of Main Street is much easier to identify and should include the buildings along Main Street from the intersection with Jackson Street west to the current post office, but excluding the post office building, which is modern in construction. Most of the buildings on the south side of Main Street appear to retain sufficient integrity to be considered contributing, with a few in the block between Washington and Jackson street requiring more intensive survey before a conclusion on their contributing status can be drawn because of some integrity issues.

The north side of Main Street, however, presents the biggest issues concerning integrity and where to draw boundary lines because of modern intrusions at several locations. At present, the north side of Main from Washington to Jackson streets may be entirely within the potential district boundary with a few non-contributing properties in this block. The north side of Main between Washington and Walnut is more problematic because of the modern Lloyd's Table building occupying the northwest corner of Washington and Main. This building occupies a notable percentage of the block and separates the Opera House/IOOF Hall from the rest of the historic commercial area. If a district boundary cannot be drawn to include this portion of Main Street, then the individual eligibility and nomination of the Opera House/IOOF Hall should be considered by the owner. The only other historic building in this block is an Early Settlement Era log house (covered with siding) at the corner of Walnut and Main streets. However, this house could be contributing to an Early Settlement Era district along West Main Street or as part of the Original Town Plat or could be eligible under a Multiple Property submission based on the Early Settlement Era context. As such, its inclusion in the commercial district may not critical to that district.

2. Potential Residential Districts – There are some interesting streets and blocks in Lisbon where National Register-eligible residential districts may exist. These include West Main Street from Walnut Street to Penn Street; Jackson Street from Market to 4th Avenue; East Main Street from Jackson Street to around Monroe Street, and South Washington Street from Main Street to around two blocks south of U.S. Highway 30. These areas should be intensively surveyed and evaluated as potential historic districts. Any districts defined as a result of these surveys, would then be recommended for listing in the National Register. As with the commercial district, these types of projects are eligible for grant funding through the CLG and HRDP programs in Iowa.

3. Individually Eligible Properties – There are a number of residential and other properties scattered throughout Lisbon that are obviously individually eligible for the National Register. To nominate these properties would require the consent of the property owners. Nominations can be accomplished by the owners or other interested parties or can be completed by professional consultants hired for that purpose. It may be that a number of the individually eligible properties could be nominated under a Multiple Property Cover Document related to commonalities in their history or architecture. The best way to identify these linkages is to complete a comprehensive survey of all the historic buildings in the town of Lisbon. A survey of the entire town may be beyond the typical limitations of CLG or HRDP grant funding; however, the town plat could be subdivided into manageable survey units that could be accomplished over a period of years, with the purpose of surveying the entire town and evaluating all historic buildings for National Register eligibility.

4) As part of the above recommended surveys, it is likely that additional historic contexts will be developed concerning Lisbon's historical and architectural development. Several potential contexts include identification and research into the properties in town designed by architect, Charles Dieman, and

others in the early twentieth century to understand why there was such a cluster of architect-designed homes in a community the size of Lisbon during this period; research into the history of the brick yards and stone quarries in the Lisbon/Mount Vernon vicinity and an identification of properties built by local contractor/builders using local materials; additional research into the reasons why and how Lisbon continued to maintain a separate town identity apart from Mount Vernon, particularly in the twentieth century; and identification of the persons, men and women, influential in Lisbon's history and properties or sites associated with those persons.

The following comprehensive survey units are recommended (Figure 10):

- A. Commercial District from Jackson to Walnut streets – This is recommended as the first priority as it is a very manageable survey project and presents a good opportunity for the Commission to take on a small-sized project and become more comfortable with the survey and evaluation process. Commercial districts also serve the community as a whole providing marketing opportunities and financial assistance opportunities for historic restoration not always available to residential property owners.
- B. Original Town Plat – This survey area would include the west side of town from Market south to South Street and from Washington west to Eby Street, excluding the commercial district along Main Street and any modern housing subdivisions.
- C. East side of town – This would include the area along Washington Street from the railroad tracks south to Cemetery Road and the blocks east of Washington over to Buchanan Street and east along Main Street to the edge of town. This would also exclude the commercial district along Main Street as well as any modern housing subdivisions, which in this area are primarily located in the southeast quadrant of the city.
- D. Farm-related properties – This would encompass the farm-related properties that surround the town and are now included within the Lisbon corporate boundaries. There are several architecturally and historically interesting properties on the town's periphery that should be surveyed and evaluated for National Register eligibility. Notable among these properties is the collection of outbuildings at the northwest corner of W. Market and N. Jefferson streets including what is likely a heavy timber frame English banked basement barn but also including two smaller barns and a shed; two farms at the west end of Lisbon's corporate boundaries on the north and south sides of W. Main Street; farm with older brick house and gabled barn at 600 E. Main Street east of town; an ornate brick Italianate farm house at 301 Hoosier street northeast of Lisbon; and an abandoned mid to late nineteenth century farmstead including an early frame house and a gabled barn at the far north end of Washington Street in the country (probably outside of the corporate boundaries).
- E. Archaeological sites – This would be a much lower priority but a potential survey project to be considered in the future, or if a known site is threatened with destruction. A number of prehistoric and historic period sites have been recorded along the south edge of Mount Vernon and Lisbon as a result of the surveys conducted for the possible U.S. Highway 30 bypass still under consideration. Among these previously recorded sites are the remains of Dawson's Brickyard (13LN282) and William Cook's (or Koch) Woolen Mill (13LN799) southeast of Lisbon (Hirst 1988; Rogers 2000). Both sites were identified as potentially eligible for the National Register and warranting further investigation if the locations were to be impacted. Recorded archaeological site locations are considered confidential, and a map of these site locations is not included in the current report for that reason. However, a generalized location map is included in Figure 11 so that the Lisbon HPC is aware of archaeological sites potentially within their jurisdiction and also to show the archaeological potential of the Lisbon vicinity. The Commission should also consider that there may be some archaeological potential within

the town proper, such as lots and yard areas once associated with Early Settlement Era properties that might contain intact archaeological evidence of some importance. For example, the location of the early creamery along Main Street might be a potential archaeological site, if the location has not been bulldozed or built over through the years. An intensive survey of the Original Town Plat area of Lisbon should consider this archaeological potential.

### ***Other Recommendations***

In compiling the initial historic contexts for Lisbon for this report, it became apparent that a lot was known of Lisbon's early history but very little has been written about its twentieth century history. Radl's 1975 book on Lisbon history extends only up to 1888. The book compiled for Lisbon's 1975 Centennial is primarily a program for the celebration and not a comprehensive history of Lisbon, nor is it an update of its history. Both books contain some photographs and maps of interest; however, there is much of Lisbon's history that has not been written down in an easily accessible format. The Lisbon History Center is pulling together this type of information and has a number of displays and notebooks containing items that could be utilized in an updated history. The collection of historic photographs should be scanned and a compilation of Lisbon's history from 1888 to the present should be put together in the near future. This is a project that should be encouraged by the Commission and perhaps could be accomplished as a website project sponsored by the Commission but requiring input from various sources and the Lisbon History Center. A grant could likely be obtained to assist with the scanning of photographs and other aspects of a website or a book production. The Lisbon History Center already has a website in progress ([www.lisbonhistorycenter.org](http://www.lisbonhistorycenter.org)). Radl's book would also be much more useful with an index. It may be that scanning Radl's book into Adobe pdf format would suffice given the search and find capability of that format.

Regardless of whether an updated history is accomplished as a website, such a site should be considered as a future project by the Commission. A website is a good venue to make available to the public, the inventory forms and photographs that will be generated by future survey and evaluation and National Register projects, and provides information to the public concerning historic preservation, technical assistance, and information about the National Register. An example is the Mount Vernon Historic Preservation Commission's website ([www.mvhpc.org](http://www.mvhpc.org)). Linkages to other related websites would also serve as an educational tool and technical resource for persons studying the area's history and architecture and for those undertaking historic restoration projects.

Additional public educational activities that the Commission should consider include walking tours or brochures of the historic districts, fundraisers for preservation activities, and holding preservation seminars and preservation month activities (such as local preservation awards). The Lisbon Commission should also consider additional joint activities and projects with the Mount Vernon Commission.

## **Research Design**

As part of the Planning for Preservation scope-of-work, it was required that a research design for a future preservation project be compiled. The research design presented herein addresses the first recommended intensive survey of the Lisbon Commercial District. The recommended boundary for such a survey encompasses the buildings on both sides of Main Street from Jackson to Walnut streets. The buildings within this area are recommended for evaluation as either contributing or noncontributing to a district, the final boundaries of which will be set as the result of the proposed intensive survey project. [A map outlining the survey area should be included along with the grant application—see Figure 12.]



## ***Objectives***

The primary objective of the proposed project is to conduct an intensive survey and evaluation of the commercial district in Lisbon, which has been identified through reconnaissance survey to have a high potential for National Register eligibility. This district is notable for the survival of some of the earlier commercial buildings as well as for buildings added in the late nineteenth century in the wake of a fire. The proposed survey and evaluation of the district was recommended by the 2007 Planning for Preservation study of Lisbon as a first priority for a Commission-led preservation project. By focusing on the commercial district, the community as a whole will have a stake in the subsequent nomination, which will hopefully result in the continued preservation of these historic buildings. A National Register-listed commercial district would also provide the community with marketing opportunities of potential economic value. Nomination of the commercial district will also provide property owners with financial assistance opportunities for historic restoration not always available to residential property owners. In order to reach the ultimate goal of National Register nomination, the district must first be intensively surveyed and evaluated. By doing so, the proposed project will achieve goals outlined in the state preservation plan including broadening knowledge about places important to Iowa history and architecture and to build and strengthen local preservation capabilities.

The end result of the intensive survey will be an inventory of all architectural properties within the historic commercial area, an evaluation of individual National Register eligibility and contributing/non-contributing status of each property within appropriate historic contexts developed out of the additional research conducted for the survey, definition of the district boundaries, and recommendations for National Register nominations of either individual properties or an identified district. Potential historic contexts that may be identified and compiled during this project include: Early Settlement Era establishment of the commercial district, Expansion Era growth and commercial development, the impact of the railroad on the architecture of the commercial district, local construction industries and their influence on the architecture of the commercial district, the impact of the 1894 fire, the impact of the Lincoln Highway on Lisbon's commercial development in the early twentieth century, and the persons of importance to the commercial growth and development of Lisbon.

The project will also further public education by conducting public meetings to disseminate information about the survey and the National Register of Historic Places and to recruit volunteers to assist with the survey and research activities.

## ***Scope-of-Work***

The intensive survey and evaluation of the Lisbon Commercial District will involve the area along Main Street (both north and south sides of the street) from Jackson to Walnut streets. This area encompasses the main business district as it existed historically and to the present day. The area totals approximately 7 acres and contains an estimated 26 buildings. A map showing the boundary of the proposed survey is presented in Figure 12.

The intensive survey and evaluation project will involve the hiring of a preservation consultant experienced in architectural surveys and National Register evaluations of commercial properties and districts. The consultant must meet the basic qualifications for architectural historians as set forth by the Secretary of the Interior and the State Historical Society of Iowa. The consultant will be responsible for the execution and completion of the survey, the National Register evaluations, and the compilation of the final end products.

The survey will be conducted under the direction of the consultant but will involve local volunteers as much as possible. Volunteers will be recruited to conduct property research, identify owners and potential contacts, gather historic photographs, and assist in the actual property survey and photography activities. It is also recommended that school and/or community groups be involved in at least some of the survey and research activities so that the widest possible local audience can be educated about the city's preservation needs and historic resources. This type of survey area, being consolidated into a relatively small area, would make an ideal classroom activity.

Site inventory forms will be completed for each of the properties surveyed. These forms will include an evaluation of National Register eligibility completed by the consultant. However, there are items on these forms that can be researched and compiled by project volunteers. Each form will be accompanied by at least one representative black-and-white photograph. Representative color slides will also be taken of selected properties to be used in public presentations of the survey results.

A project report (draft and final versions) will summarize the survey results and provide more detailed and extensive historic contexts pertinent to the development of Lisbon's commercial district. The report will be authored by the project consultant and will contain recommendations based on the results of the project. The reports must meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Identification and Evaluation*.

## ***End Products***

The specific end products of this project will include the following:

1. Two copies of each site inventory form completed for each surveyed property. Each form will be accompanied by a black-and-white photograph of the surveyed property.
2. Draft and final project reports summarizing the survey results and making recommendations for future nomination and preservation projects. The reports must meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Identification and Evaluation*.
3. Representative color slides (two copies of each) of selected historic properties in the survey area.

*For additional required end products, the HPC should consult the most recent CLG Grants Manual to determine what additional items might be required.*

## ***Potential Cost***

For a commercial district the size of Lisbon's, an intensive survey project could be easily completed within the typical cost boundaries of a CLG grant (i.e., in the \$6,000-\$8,000 grant request range). The CLG grants require a 60/40 match ratio of 60% grant request matched with 40% (of the total project cost) of in-kind or cash match. The CLG grants do not require cash match.

In-kind match can include volunteer hours (figured at current minimum wage), volunteer mileage (at current state rate), phone calls, and photocopies, among other things. Cash match can include purchase of film (estimate three rolls of black-and-white film with 24 exposures each and one roll of color slide film with 36 exposures), covering the costs of developing and printing of photographs, reproduction of the project report (copies, binding), and/or providing additional amounts of the consultant's hourly fee or mileage costs. Estimate 100 to 120 hours of Consultant time at \$65 per hour depending upon the HPC's ability to provide in-kind match. One way to insure sufficient match, beyond what individual HPC members can commit to, would be to secure a commitment from one or more school groups and/or from the Lisbon History Center members to participate in the project activities.

Generally, the grant funds are used to cover the bulk of the cost of hiring a consultant and covering the consultant's expenses. While most consultants who work on grant-funded projects in Iowa do contribute match in the form of extra hours and expense over-runs, unfortunately, this potential match source cannot be figured into the actual grant application budget because it might unfairly restrict the project to certain consultants over others who cannot provide match. Therefore, there must be a solid local commitment to project participation in order to meet the required match goals. Because the match ratios for most grant-funded projects can only be achieved through the commitment of volunteer hours to the project, the subcontract with the hired consultant must make provision for the recruitment of local volunteers and the use of those volunteers by the consultant so that the match goals can be met.

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Lisbon (article on the 1880s boardwalk between Lisbon and Mt. Vernon)

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The Mount Vernon HPC maintains a section of books on historic preservation and historic restoration in the Cole Library available to the general public.

Online Sources:

[www.lisbonhistorycenter.org](http://www.lisbonhistorycenter.org) - Website of the Lisbon History Center

[www.mvhpc.org](http://www.mvhpc.org) - Website of the Mount Vernon Historic Preservation Commission

[www.iowahistory.org](http://www.iowahistory.org) - Website of the State Historical Society of Iowa

<http://cdm.lib.uiowa.edu> - Website of the University of Iowa Special Collections, which includes the John P. Vander Maas Railroadiana Collection and several photographs of railroad properties in Lisbon

Fire Insurance Map Sources for Lisbon (on microfiche at the State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City):

1894, 1900, 1906, 1928, 1928+

Sources in Lisbon History Center, Lisbon, Iowa:

*A Walk Through the Past: Lisbon Cemetery Tour*, September 17, 2006

Historic photographs of Main Street views (including some interiors), historic houses and churches in town, and miscellaneous subjects

Plat maps and a 1950-51 aerial photograph of Lisbon

Display panels on Lisbon schools, the 1908 automobile race, Lisbon churches, the Lincoln Highway, Knights of Pythias Hall (above Lisbon Bank), timeline of Lisbon and bank history, Lisbon war veterans, Eldon Stahl's greenhouses, Lisbon businesses including the Co-Op Creamery, Sauerkraut Days, Main Street, Chicken Factory, and Lisbon houses.

Two books of original *Lisbon Sun* newspapers from the 1870s-1881

Sauerkraut Days artifacts and articles

Folders/Notebooks on Schools, Homes (2), Misc. Photos, History, Cemetery Records, Obituaries, Linn County, Townships, Mount Vernon and Cornell College, Lisbon Churches, Chamber of Commerce Minutes, the Gettysburg boulder memorial at the Lisbon Cemetery, and Sauerkraut Days. [The folders of Lisbon homes includes a collection of contemporary photographs of many of the houses in Lisbon as well as historic photographs of some homes]

Lisbon City Ledgers

Collection of artifacts related to Lisbon's history, with many on display

Oral history tape recordings and transcriptions of older residents' recollections of Main Street businesses and buildings in Lisbon

Historical reference books on Lisbon, Linn County, and Iowa history and genealogy

Sources in Lisbon Library and Heritage Center:

Historic photographs of Lisbon on display in Library

Historic Preservation Seminar Videos, Mount Vernon Historic Preservation Commission:

A series of videos of the various seminars held by the Mount Vernon HPC through the years are available for purchase from Dean Traver or to check out from file at the Mount Vernon City Hall. These videos include seminars on painting your house in historic colors, porch restoration, window restoration, design review, and the area's history. These videos are currently being transferred to DVDs and may be available online at the Mount Vernon HPC website ([www.mvhpc.org](http://www.mvhpc.org)) in the foreseeable future.

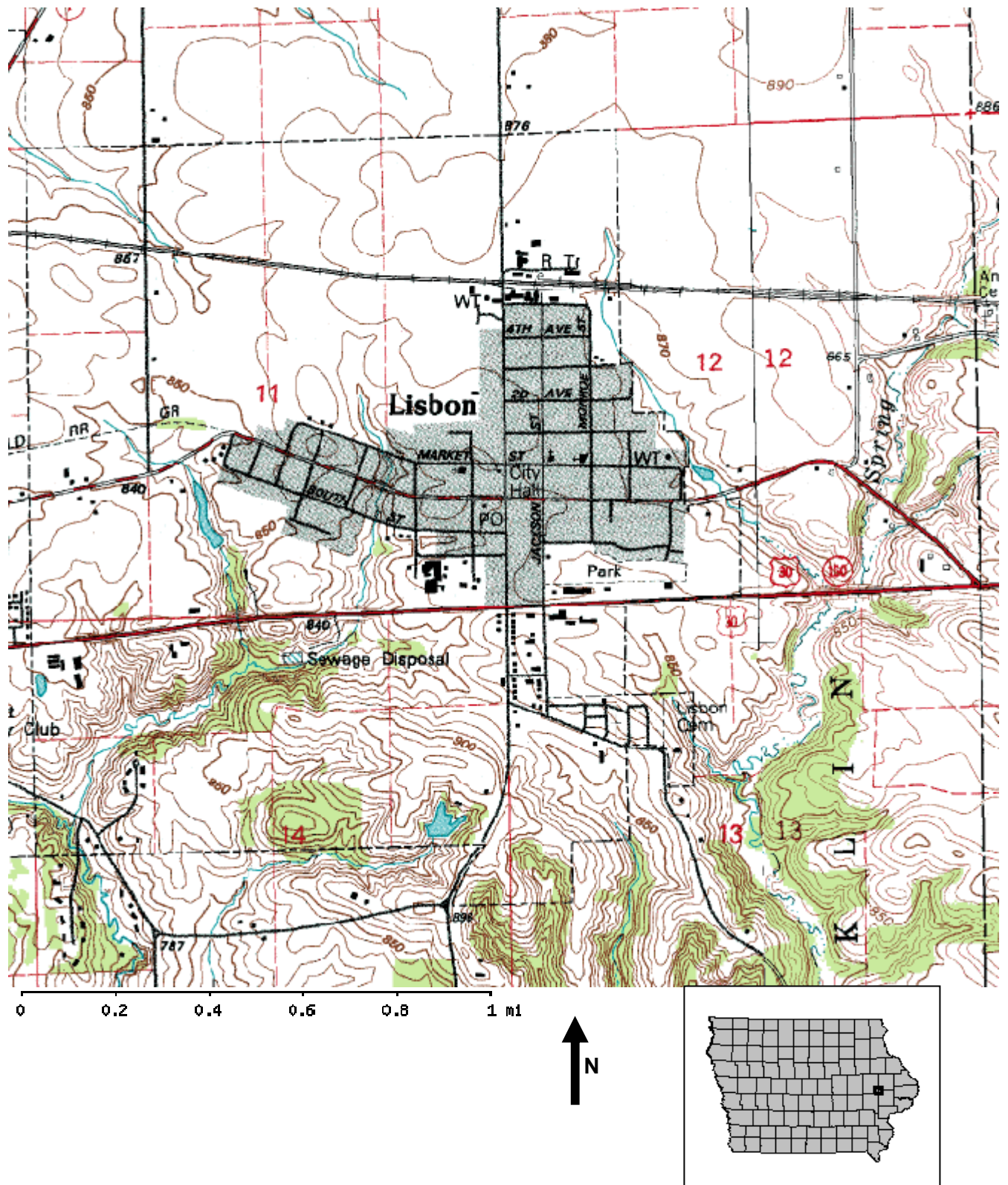


Figure 1. Topographic location of Lisbon, Linn County, Iowa  
 Source: USGS Mount Vernon IA Quadrangle Map, 7.5' Series, 1994, obtained from [Topozone.com](http://Topozone.com)



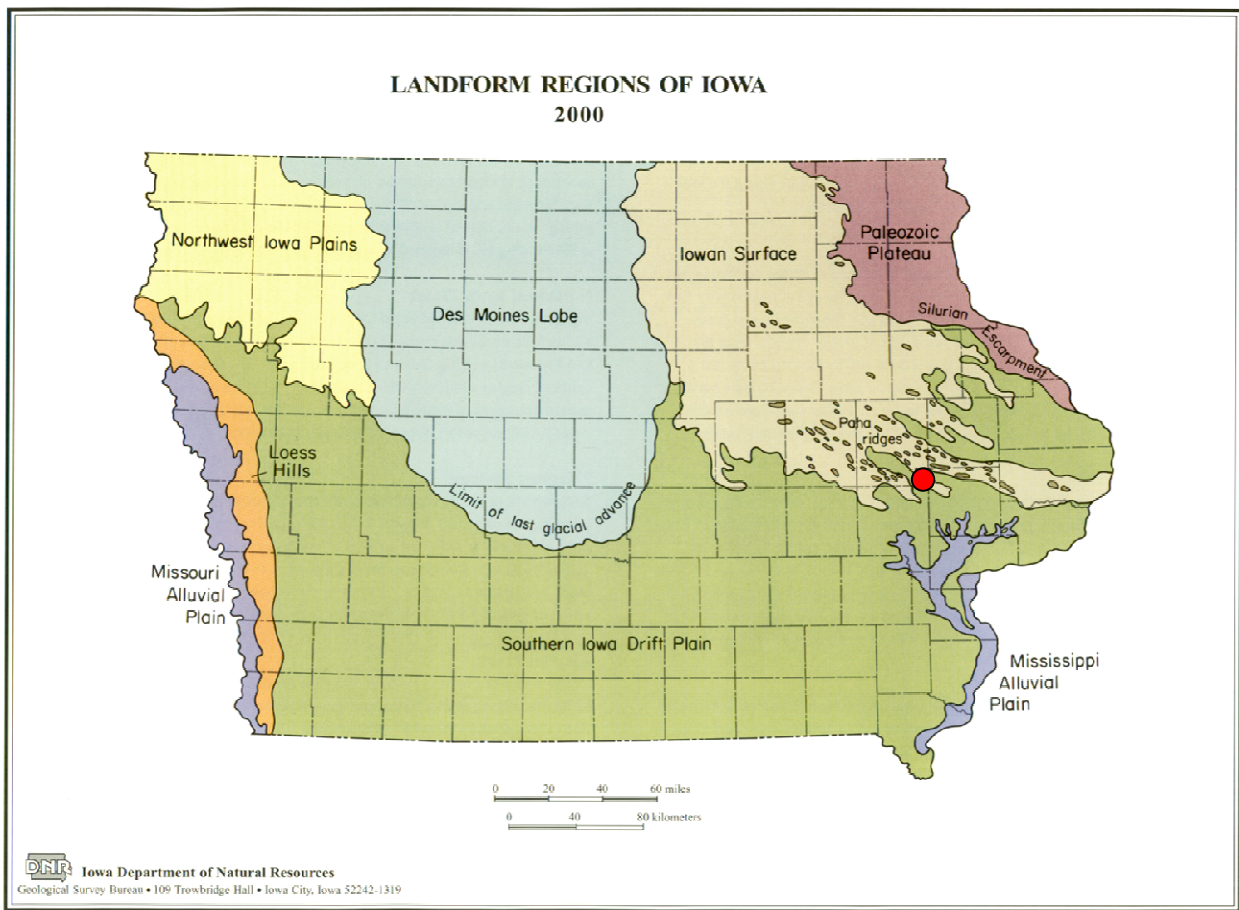


Figure 2. Landform regions of Iowa showing Lisbon vicinity in Linn County (red dot)  
Map provided by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources





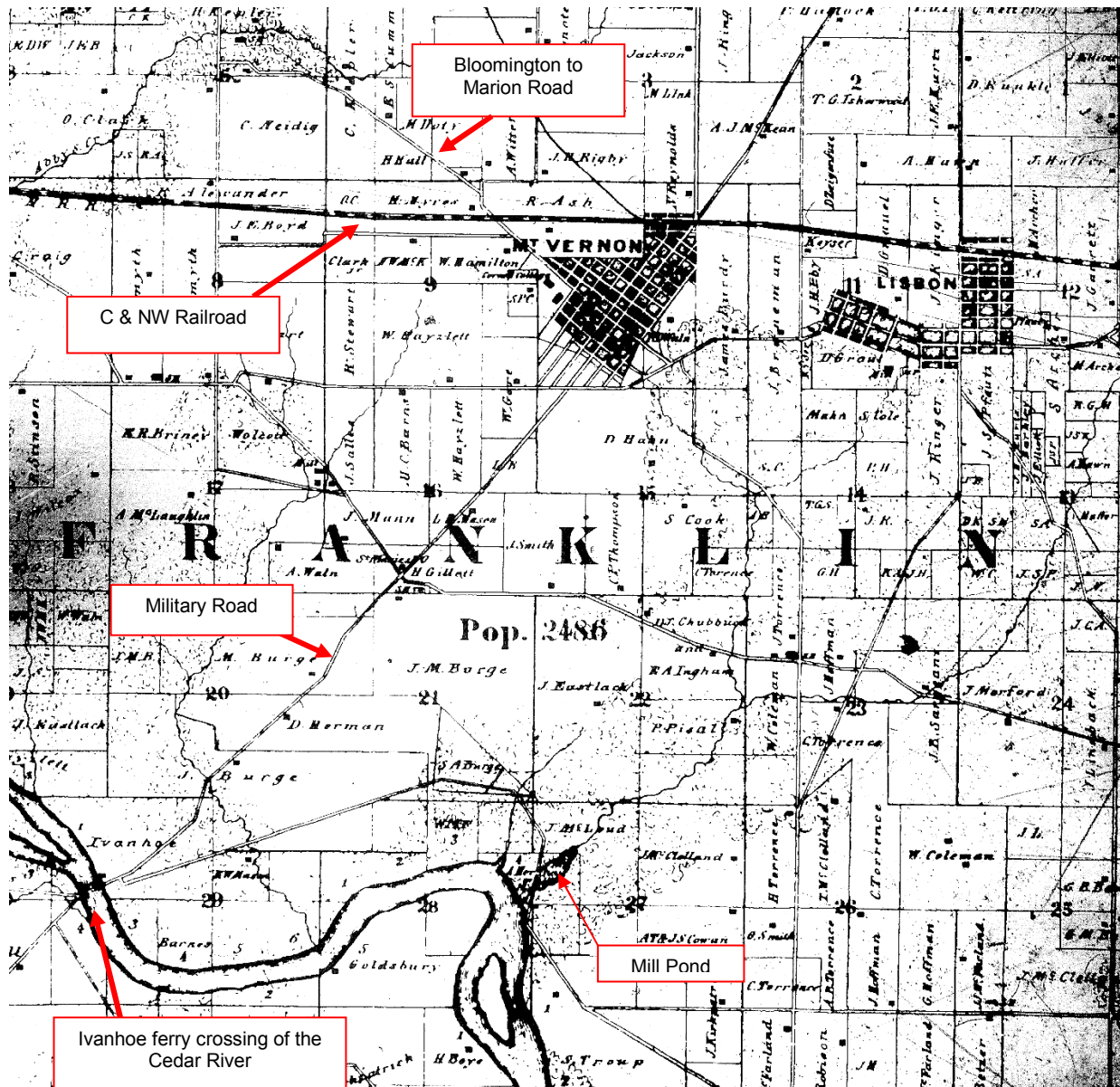
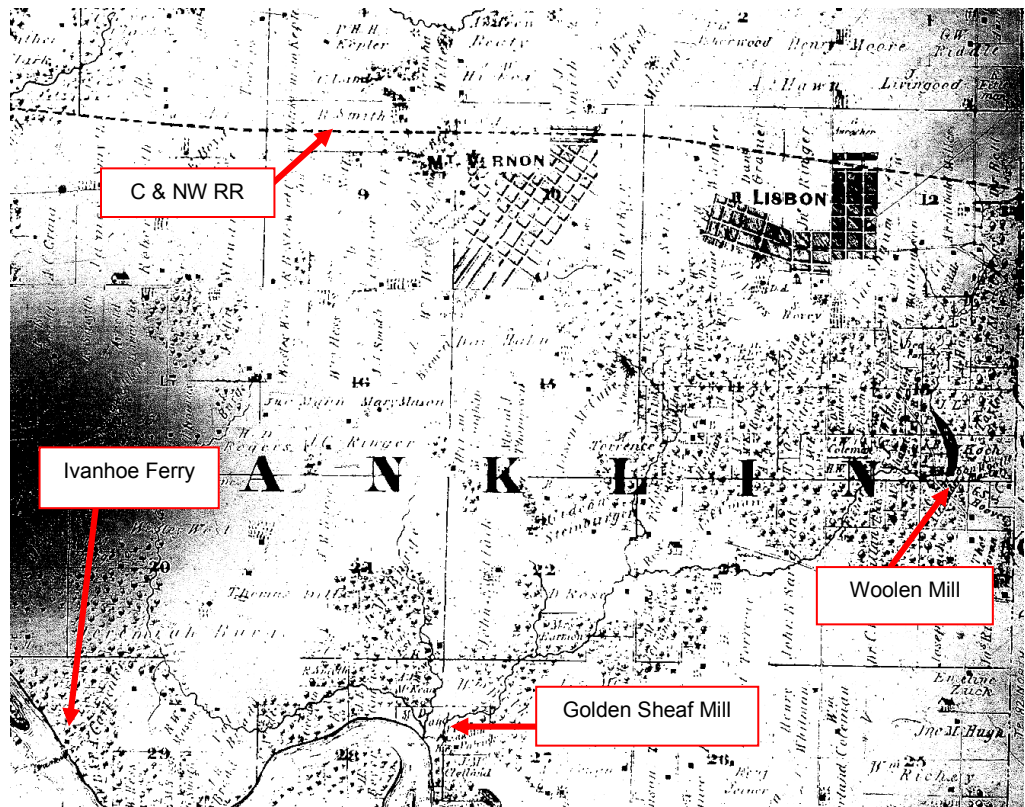
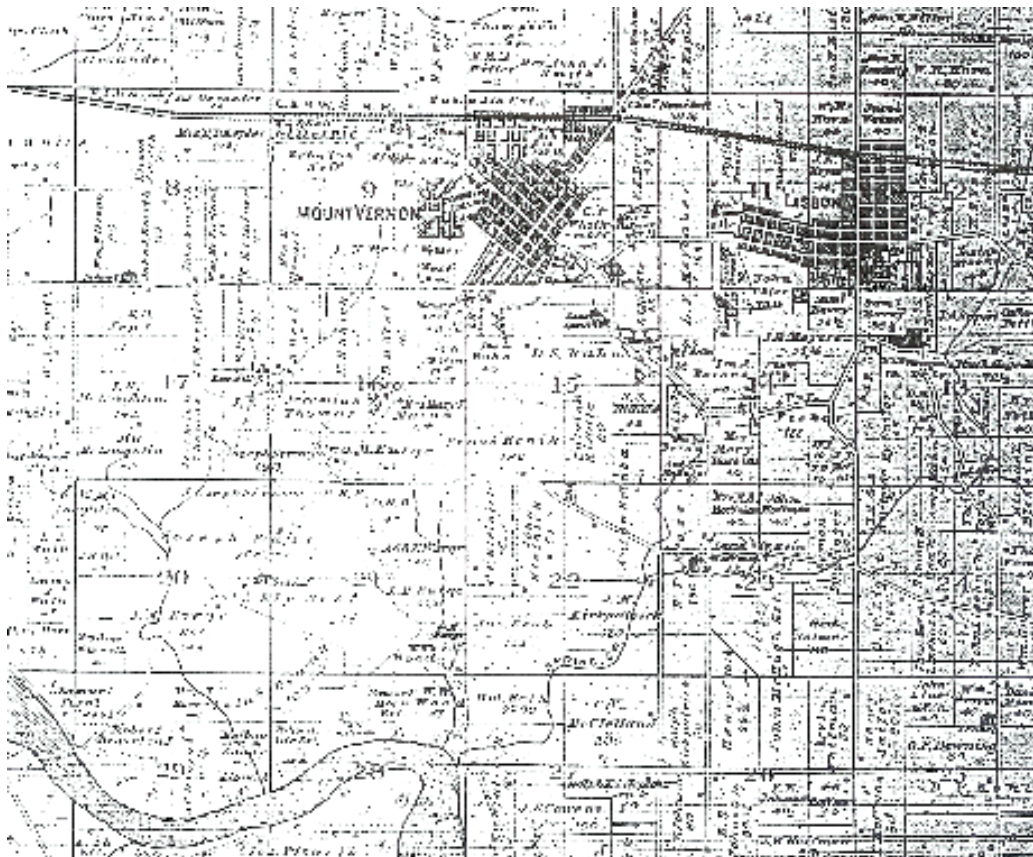


Figure 4. 1859 Map of Linn County showing location of Lisbon and Mount Vernon  
Source: McWilliams and Thompson 1859





1869 Map



1895 Map

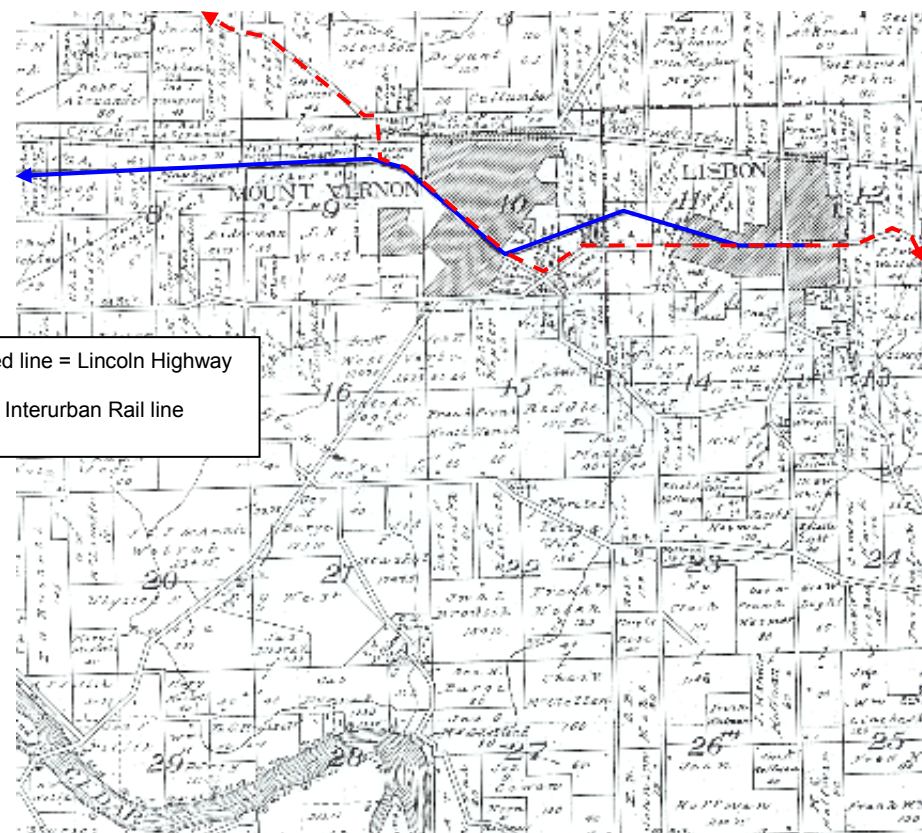
Figure 5. 1869 and 1895 Maps of Linn County showing Lisbon and Mount Vernon  
Source: Bergendahl 1895; Thompson and Everts 1869





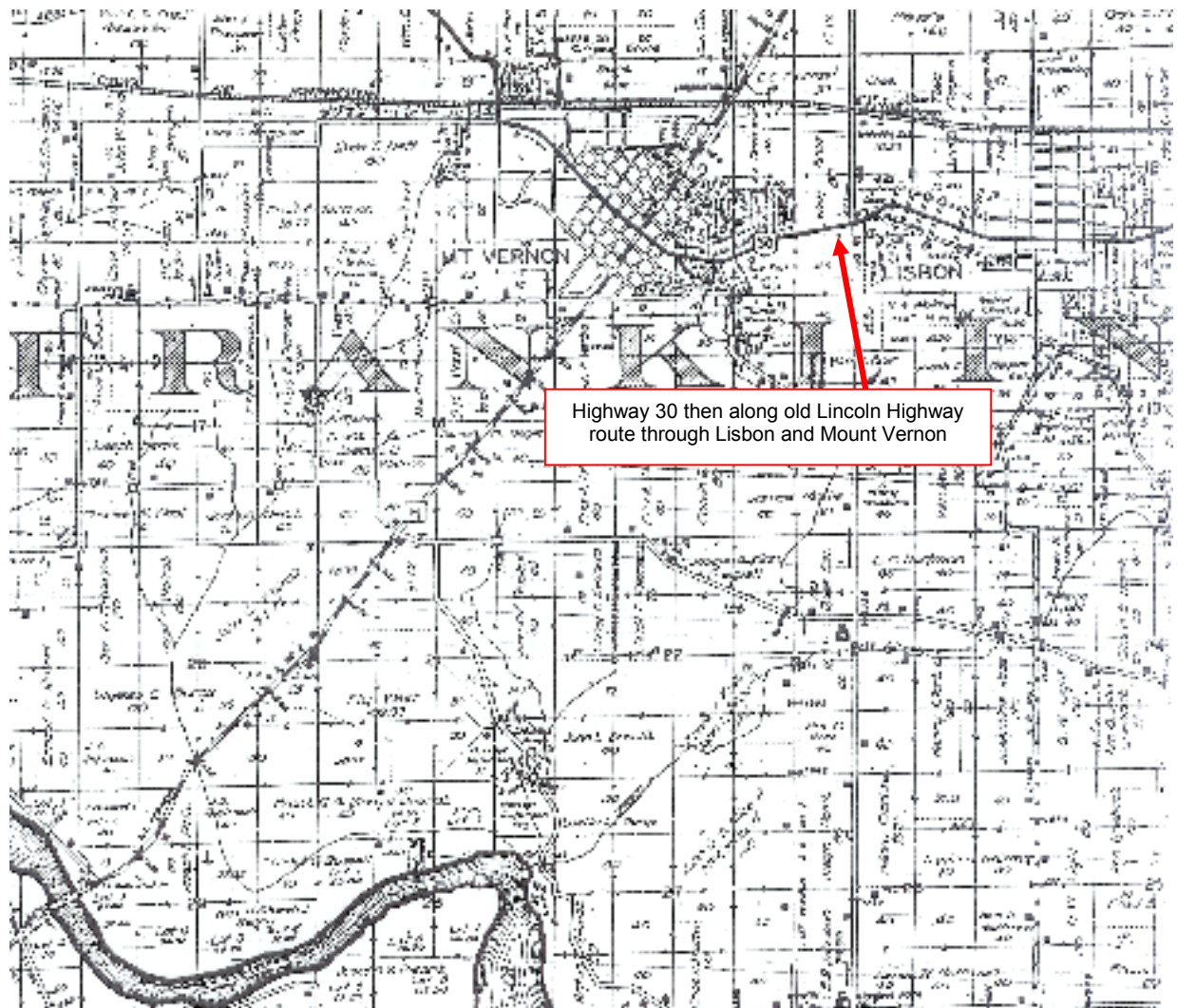


1906 Map



1921 Map

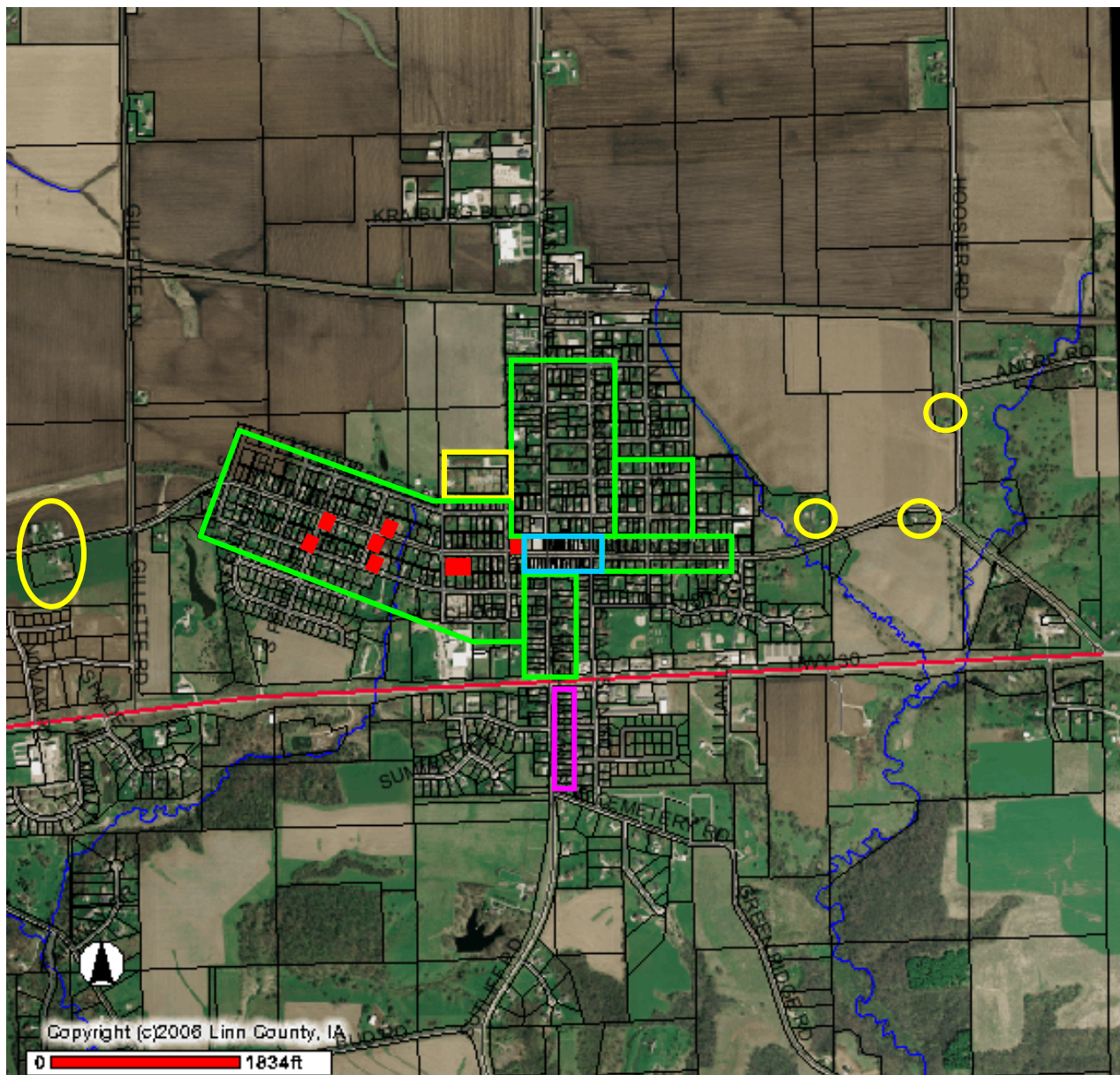
Figure 7. 1906 and 1921 Maps of Linn County showing Lisbon and Mount Vernon  
Source: Iowa Publishing 1907; Midland Map 1921



1930 Map

Figure 8. 1930 Map of Linn County showing Lisbon and Mount Vernon  
Source: Kenyon 1930





- = interesting farmsteads in Lisbon vicinity
- = concentration of similar homes built around same time and likely by same builder
- = notable Early Settlement Era properties in original town plat
- = areas where notable Expansion Era and Consolidation Era properties are concentrated
- = historic commercial district

Figure 9. 2006 Aerial map showing results of reconnaissance survey  
 Source: Linn County GIS, Auditor's Office online website accessed March 2007

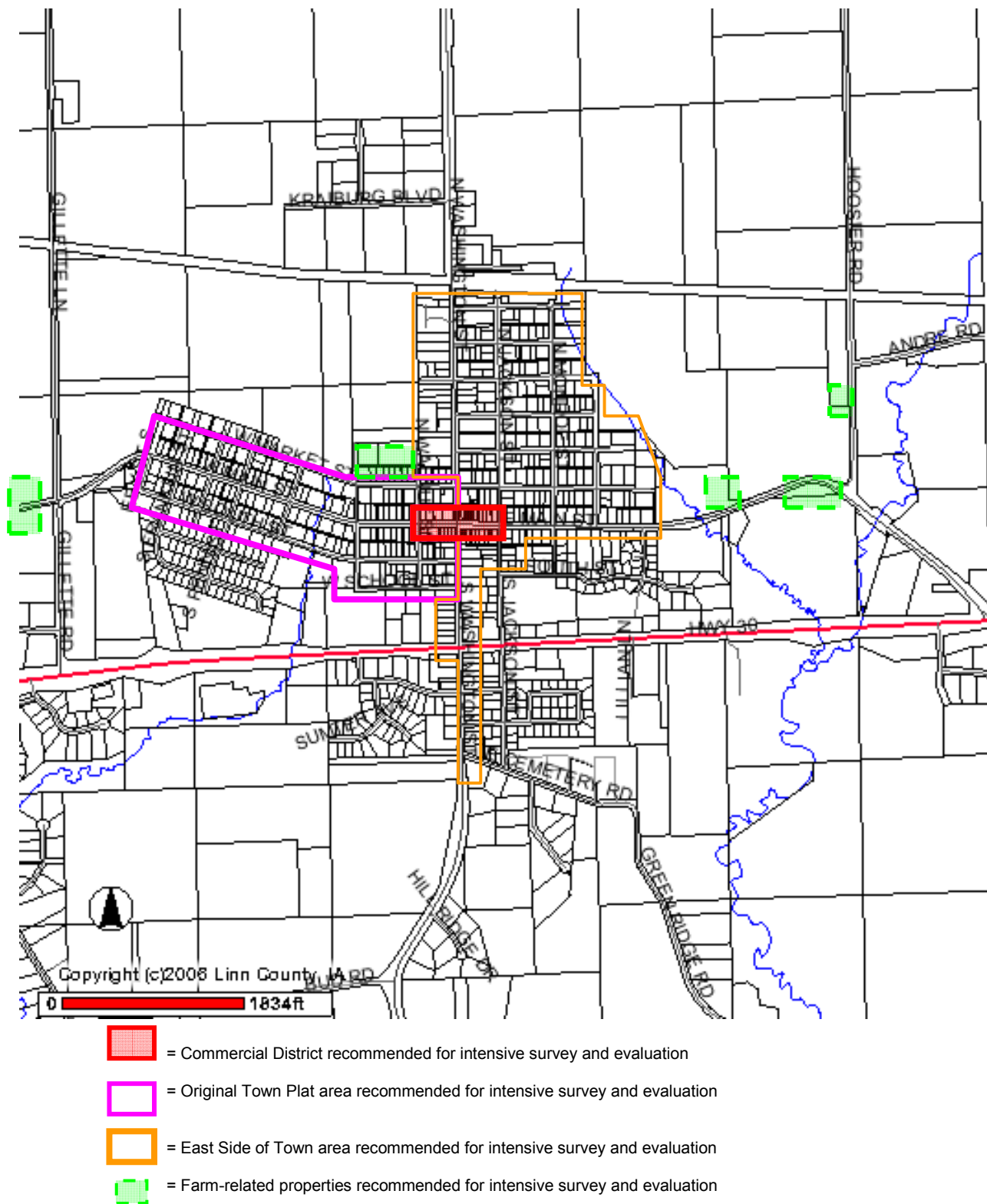


Figure 10. Plat map of Lisbon showing recommended areas for survey and evaluation projects  
 Source: Linn County GIS, Auditor's Office online website accessed March 2007



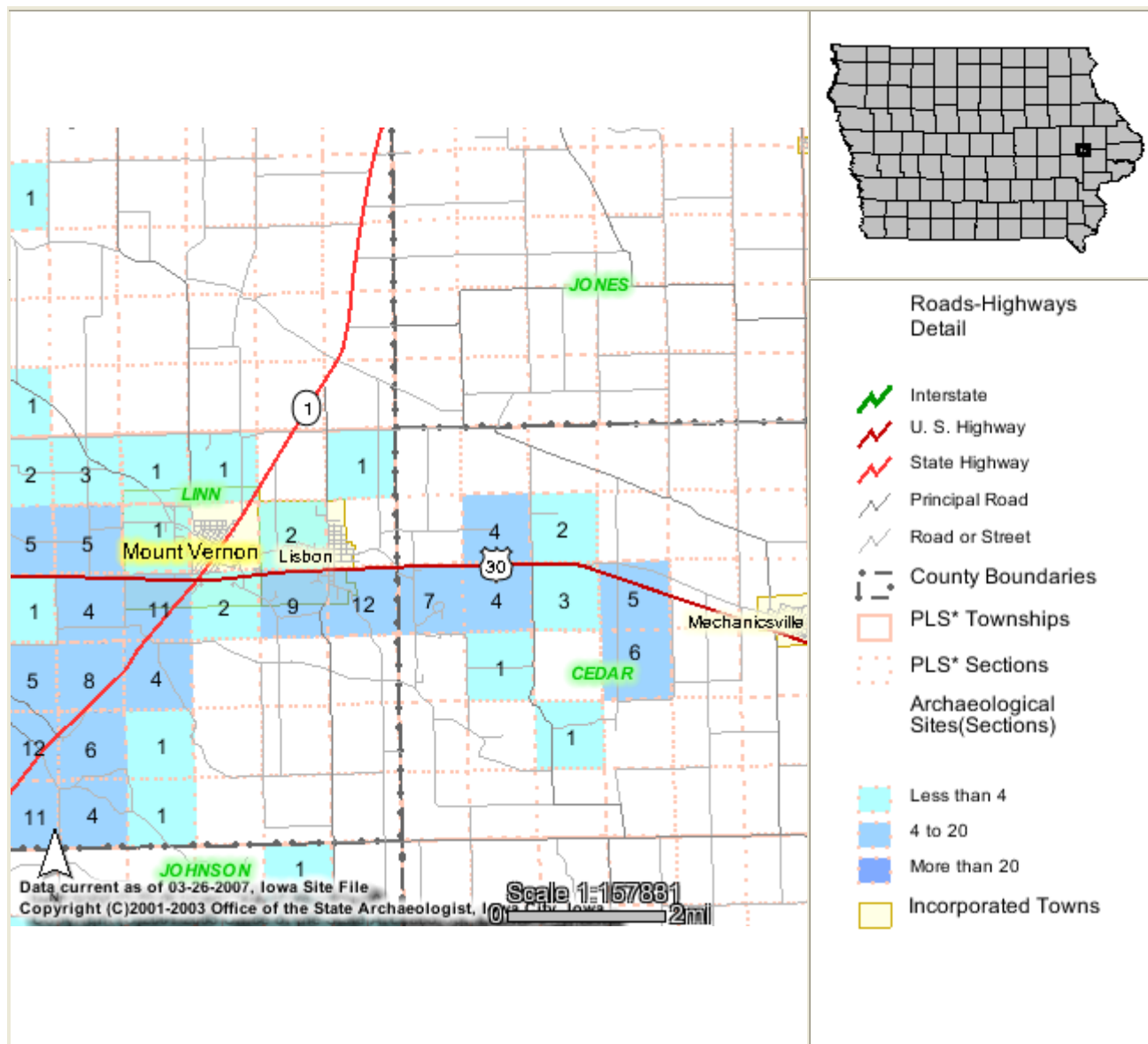


Figure 11. Map showing general location of archaeological sites recorded in state site records in Lisbon vicinity.  
 Source: I-Sites GIS and Database of Iowa Archaeology, accessed online, March 31, 2007.

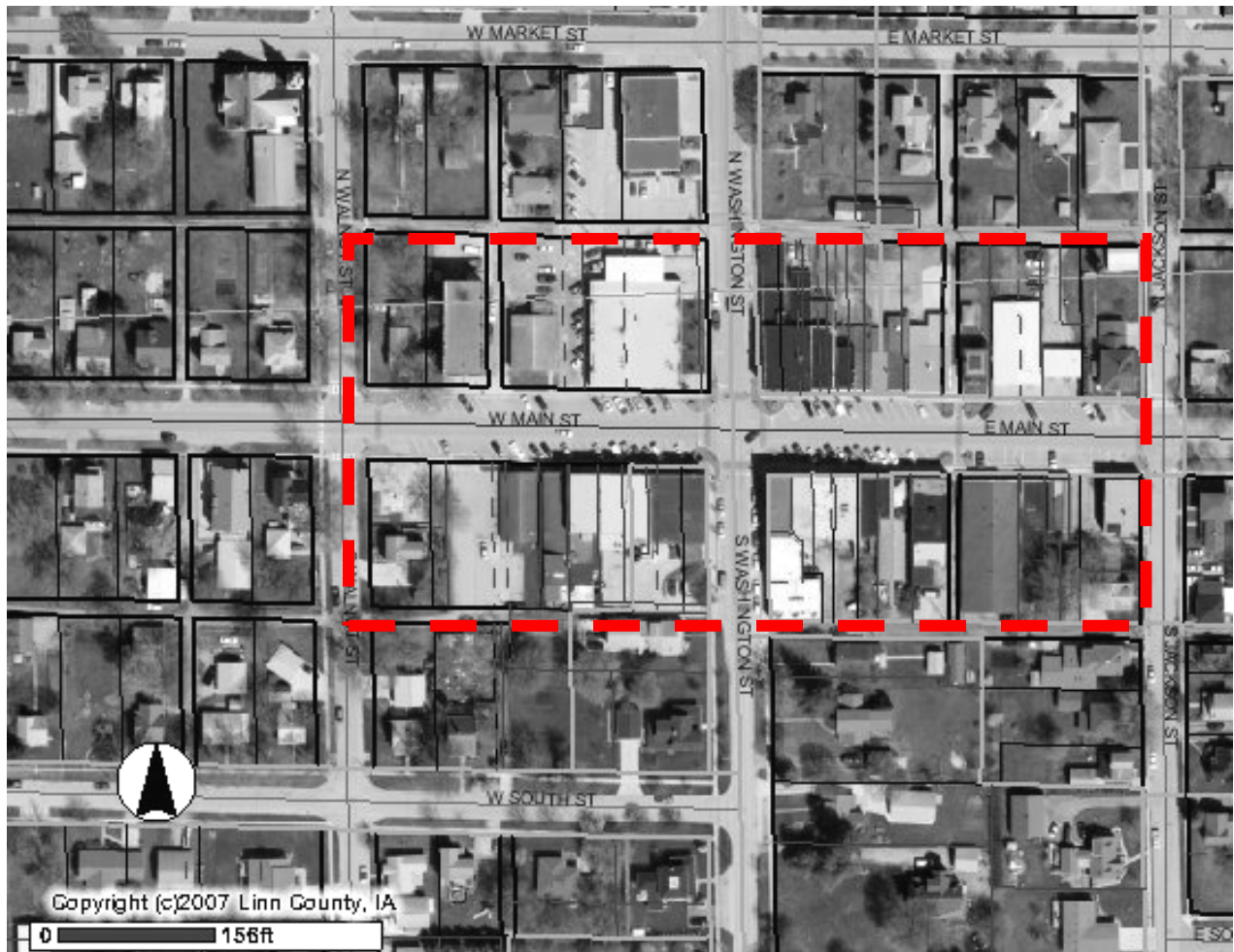


Figure 12. Aerial plat map of Lisbon showing recommended area for Commercial District Intensive Survey and Evaluation Project.  
Source: Linn County GIS, Auditor's Office online website accessed June 2007

## **APPENDIX A:**

### **Lisbon Historical Brochures**

Produced by the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission 2006

## **Lisbon Lincoln Highway Art Fair Tour Guide - 2006**

### Lisbon timeline

- 1838 – First settler Charles Haskins arrived from New York, first to call area Yankee Grove which it was called until incorporated in 1851
- 1840s – area's first brick kiln in use; many of town's soft red bricks used for homes and businesses kilned south of town with brick clay dug at kiln site
- 1845 – first area school house opened, replaced 2 years later with brick school house
- 1847 – Iowa became 29<sup>th</sup> state
- 1847 – large group of related settlers from Lancaster Co PA arrived/Dutch settlers so area came to be known as Dutch town
- 1847 – First store/mercantile opened, post office in same building opened in 1850 – located at 303 W Main
- 1851 – town platted but not yet called Lisbon (originally started settling west of present downtown near fresh water spring)
- 1859 – Chicago-Iowa-Nebraska railroad arrived, later called Northwestern RR; Lisbon had first railroad station in Linn County; town grew to north and east after RR arrived
- 1874 – first bank opened by Harrison Stuckslager and Gotlieb Auracher called First National Bank (with \$50,000 capital)
- 1875 – town of Lisbon incorporated on Feb 8, first city officials elected that same year (approximately 705 residents)
- 1878 – 4 general stores, 2 furniture stores, 2 hardware stores, 2 boot/shoe cobblers, 2 millinery, 2 meat markets, 2 drug stores, 2 hotels, 2 confectionary shops, 2 harness shops, 4 blacksmiths, 2 agricultural implement factories, 2 brick yards, 1 lumber dealer, 1 dentist, 1 grain dealer, 1 livestock dealer, 1 bank, 1 barber, 1 wagon shop, 1 livery stable, 1 marble shop, 1 printing office, 1 lawyer, 3 physicians, 1 woolen mill south of town on Spring Creek, 3 flour mills southeast of town on Clear Creek (from Linn County history)
- 1878 – Northeast side of main street (Wilson's to Becky's shop) built
- 1880 – Lisbon High School graduated first class of 4 students (although many more students attended one room schools, not many went on to high school)
- 1895 – first water tower built at corner of Jackson and Main streets; water tower foundation built of brick topped with metal water tank; corner stone listed numerous prominent businessmen/mayor; water works and electricity completed in town – cost \$16,000 – lights could be lit in evenings from 8:30pm to midnight – whistle at power plant blew when electricity turned on around 5pm daily – for a number of years lights could only be had in evening until midnight and in early morning – lights were dimmed city wide nightly at 11:45pm so residents as a warning so residents could get home and to bed by midnight; didn't have all-day power current until 1911
- 1896 – first car owned in Lisbon, purchased in Chicago
- 1900s – 8 different churches in town with most located along Market Street
- 1900 – Lisbon telephone company organized
- 1907 – 7 automobiles owned in Lisbon
- 1908 – bad tornado came through, wrecking power plant and water works
- 1909 – first Sauerkraut Day held on October 7 – leading citizens put day together as homecoming day and advertising feature for the town; since Lisbon often called Dutch Town because of town's settlers it was appropriate to call Sauerkraut Day with free sauerkraut and wieners (cooked in kettles and stirred with pitch forks) - held every year until 1950 except during war years
- 1913 – Lincoln Highway came through

- 1914 – Interurban tracks put in from Cedar Rapids to Lisbon (end of line and turned around at east of downtown Lisbon) – had hourly service during day and several trips at night – disbanded around 1928
- 1915 – town sewer system installed
- 1916 – memorial boulder removed from Gettysburg Battlefield and placed at Lisbon cemetery
- 1925 – Lincoln Highway paved west of Lisbon to Cedar Rapids
- 1927 – concrete Highway 30 paved south of original Lincoln Highway (close to present path of Hwy 30)

#### Tour route info

*Entering Lisbon from the west, heading east along Lisbon Road*

942 W Main – western boundary of Lisbon

426 W Main (red painted brick on north side) – built approximately 1850s; home's support beams and rafters are unhewn logs with bark still on them

423 W Main (house with porch over sidewalk, s side) – when town's originally built, many built up close to front property line to allow for gardens, stables and barns; when streets widened and concrete sidewalks laid many houses were located right next to walk; one of few early wood frame homes built in 1845

339 W Main – one of Lisbon's oldest brick homes built in 1848, this area of town developed first with many homes built in area (because of fresh water spring)

227/223 W Main (twin brick homes with plaque – east home Built by John and Anne Neidig 1850 and west home built by Daniel Runkle in 1850-son in law of Neidig) – identical homes

122 W Main (opera house/IOOF hall) – built in 1893 – built for Odd Fellows Lodge – known as Opera House with 3<sup>rd</sup> floor used as Odd Fellows meeting room – in 1918 lower 2 floors sold to Lisbon Public School to be used as gym (stage area with balcony on 3 sides) with 3<sup>rd</sup> floor purchased by American Legion for meeting hall

Legion block - built in 1894 after original buildings built in 1875 but burned to ground (all except bank) with just bucket brigade in 1894, buildings rebuilt as appear now in 1894

#### *Turn north onto Washington Street*

Co-op Creamery built in 1925 (closed in 1966) was located where city hall is now, butter served on luxury passenger train dining cars; milk brought in from surrounding farms and made into butter on site (butter box on display at History Center)

102 W Market – circa 1870s

423 N Washington – circa 1915

503 N Washington – circa 1911

515 N Washington – circa 1898

603 N Washington – brick circa 1870 (originally farmhouse town has built up around)

#### *Turn East onto 4th Street*

(homes in this area built 1870s to 1890s as expansion continued north towards railroad and grain elevator)

*Turn south on Jackson Street*

515 N Jackson – brick Italianate built by Banker Auracher in 1877

507 N Jackson – brick 4 square constructed by 1890

414 N Jackson – circa 1914 - built by Charles Dieman for Fiala Family (ran grain, aggregates and cement elevator)

402 N Jackson – built in 1898 by Stuckslager family (gate at corner of cast iron fence to facilitate “visiting” between families)

Stuckslager house – built 1876-77 by Harrison Stuckslager (local bank president) – cost of house, stable, woodshed and fence when built was \$10,000; always been owned by Stuckslager family until late 1980s

233 N Jackson – circa 1866 picturesque/carpenter gothic style

Methodist Church – cornerstone with ME Church 1898 – area’s first Methodist Church built in 1867 on same site, town down in 1898 when present church built

*Turn west onto East Market Street*

115 E. Market – built 1896 (homes in this area are built later than town’s original development because expansion started heading east and north towards railroad)

122 E. Market – built 1898

*Turn south on Washington street, let passengers off beside Lloyd’s Table corner*

## Lincoln Highway Art Fair Brochure – 2006

# A SKETCH OF LISBON, IOWA'S HISTORY

LINCOLN HIGHWAY ART FAIR  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

### DID YOU KNOW?

Power comes to town....

- In 1895, Lisbon's water works and electric power plant were built at the cost \$16,000.
- A whistle would blow at the power plant daily at 5pm when power came on for Lisbon.
- For many years, lights could only be on during the evening until midnight, and in early morning.
- Each night, lights were dimmed city wide at 11:45pm as a "warning" so residents could get home and to bed by midnight when the power went off.
- Lisbon did not have 24 hour power current until 1911.

Local Travel....

In 1914, Lisbon was the eastern end of the passenger railway line called the **Interurban**. It traveled from Cedar Rapids to Lisbon where it turned around. Trains ran hourly during the day and several times nightly. Due to economic conditions, the Interurban was disbanded by 1928.

Brochure information sources:

"Lisbon Centennial 1875-1975" booklet

"A Brief History of Lisbon: Important Happenings through the Years 1833-1975" by Helen Rieger Emerson

"Portraits and Biographical Album of Linn County," 1877, Chapman Brothers

"The Olden Days: A History of Lisbon, Iowa and its Surrounding Countryside 1838-1888," R.M. Radl, 1974

**LISBON HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
COMMISSION**

*-meetings monthly on first Thursday – open to all*

### WHY DID LISBON BECOME A TOWN?

- In 1838, settler Charles Haskins arrived in the area and began calling it Yankee Grove because of ties to New York
- Other families and travelers followed in the following decades and the area began to grow
- By 1860, approximately 583 residents were living in the Lisbon area
- When the town incorporated in 1875, more than 700 people were living in Lisbon
- By 1900, about 900 residents lived here
- Lisbon was first settled slightly west of the town's present downtown (near the fresh water creek)
- The first store/mercantile opened with a post office by 1850 (located at 303 West Main Street)
- The town began to spread east and north towards the railroad, with downtown "blocks" built in 1870s
- Many of the community's first buildings were constructed with locally kilned bricks. The soft red bricks were made from clay dug on site at the kiln, which was located south of present Lisbon

In **1878**, a visitor to Lisbon would see....

4 general stores	1 lumber yard
2 furniture stores	1 dentist
2 hardware stores	1 grain dealer
2 boot/shoe cobblers	1 livestock dealer
2 brick yards	1 bank
2 implement dealers	1 barber
2 drug stores	1 wagon shop
2 hotels	1 lawyer
2 harness shops	1 printing shop
4 blacksmiths	3 physicians
1 woolen mill	3 flour mills

### LISBON OVER THE YEARS....

- 1838** – First settler Charles Haskins arrived from New York, first to call area Yankee Grove which it was called until incorporated in 1875
- 1845** – First area school house opened, replaced 2 years later with brick school house
- 1847** – Iowa became 29<sup>th</sup> state
- 1851** – Town platted but not yet called Lisbon
- 1859** – Chicago-Iowa-Nebraska railroad arrived, later called Northwestern Railroad. Lisbon had the *first* railroad station in Linn County
- 1874** – First bank opened by Harrison Stuckslager and Gotleib Auracher called First National Bank
- 1875** – Town of Lisbon incorporated
- 1880** – Lisbon High School graduated first class of 4 students
- 1895** – First water tower built at corner of Jackson and Main streets, and first electrical power plant operational
- 1896** – First car owned in Lisbon (purchased in Chicago)
- 1900s** – 8 different churches in town, most located along Market Street
- 1900** – Lisbon telephone company organized
- 1907** – 7 automobiles owned in Lisbon
- 1908** – Destructive tornado came through town
- 1909** – First Sauerkraut Day held as homecoming day and advertising feature for the town. Lisbon was often called "Deutsch Town" because of town's settlers so celebration called Sauerkraut Day with free sauerkraut and wieners
- 1913** – Lincoln Highway came through
- 1914** – Interurban tracks put in from Cedar Rapids to Lisbon
- 1915** – Town sewer system installed
- 1916** – Memorial boulder removed from Gettysburg National Battlefield and placed at Lisbon cemetery
- 1925** – Lincoln Highway paved west of Lisbon to Cedar Rapids
- 1927** – Concrete Highway 30 paved south of original Lincoln Highway (close to present path of Hwy 30)



**APPENDIX B:**  
**Additional Information and Resources**

## **Potential Funding Sources for Historic Preservation Projects in Lisbon**

### Certified Local Government Grants (CLG)

This is a federal program administered through the State Historical Society of Iowa, this program offers grant funding to official Certified Local Governments (such as Lisbon) for survey and evaluation projects (both architectural and archaeological studies qualify for funding), for the completion of National Register of Historic Places nominations, for developing a system for designating local landmarks and districts, for developing local legislation and procedures to protect properties, for educational programming and materials (such as the production of brochures), and preservation planning (including the Planning for Preservation projects but also for the compilation of Design Guidelines for historic districts, for example). CLG grants require match in the form of in-kind or cash, although cash match is not required. These grants are competitive, and there is no guarantee of funding for all applicants.

### Historic Resources Development Program (HRDP)

This is a State program also administered through the State Historical Society of Iowa. This program offers to non-profits, private individuals, museums, and city and county governments (including CLGs), an opportunity for grant funding for most of the same types of projects as the CLG program but also provides an opportunity for the funding of “bricks and mortar” restoration and rehabilitation projects and museum/archival projects. This is the only funding source for building restoration available to private property owners of National Register properties, excluding Tax Credit projects. The HRDP grants are competitive, with no guarantee of funding for all applicants. This grant also requires a percentage of cash match but does allow for some in-kind match.

### Historic Site Preservation Grant Program (HSPG)

This is also a State program administered through the State Historical Society of Iowa. This program offers to non-profits and city and county governments (including CLGs) an opportunity for grant funds to acquire, repair, rehabilitate, and develop historic sites that preserve, interpret, or promote Iowa’s cultural heritage. This is a “vertical infrastructure” or “bricks and mortar” type program that requires a dollar-for-dollar match. Grant awards for this program range from \$40,000 to \$100,000.

### The Hart Family Fund for Small Towns

Grants range from \$2,500 to \$10,000, must be matched dollar-for-dollar by local funds, and cannot be used for “bricks and mortar” construction costs. Applicants must be nonprofit organizations or government agencies. Eligible expenses include professional consulting fees, planning activities, and support for preservation-based education. Because these grants are highly competitive, please talk to the National Trust’s Midwest Office staff before submitting a grant application. For further information and grant materials, please contact the appropriate Program Officer for your state (State Historic Preservation Office, Des Moines, Iowa.) Central City in Linn County received a Hart Family Fund Grant to help pay for a structural assessment of one of their historic commercial district buildings.

**For more information on these and other grants, check online at the following web address:**

**<http://www.iowahistory.org>**

**<http://www.nationaltrust.org>**

## Certified Local Government Program Information

### Certified Local Government

The National Historic Preservation Act established a nationwide program to encourage preservation and wise use of our historic resources. Among other things the Act established the National Register of Historic Places, created State Historic Preservation Officers, and created the Certified Local Government (CLG) program to support local governments' historic preservation programs.

#### The CLG Program's Purpose and Objectives:

- Encourage historic preservation at the local level through local governmental sponsorship;
- Encourage local governments to follow the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards & Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation* in their historic preservation programs;
- Provide training and technical assistance through the State's historic preservation office;
- Provide funding to underwrite various historic preservation activities.
- Create a federal, state, and local governmental partnership in historic preservation
- Each state's historic preservation office administers a Certified Local Government Program on behalf of the National Park Service.

In Iowa, the Certified Local Government program is one of the historic preservation offerings of the Community Programs Bureau, State Historical Society of Iowa.

#### For More Information about Iowa's CLG Program, Contact :

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State Historical Society of Iowa  
600 East Locust Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0290  
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#### Local Historic Preservation Programs

Local historic preservation programs deal with the built environment and encourage preservation of historic properties. Historic properties include buildings from homes to factories, structures from bridges to transmission towers, objects from gardens to statutes, archaeological sites from prehistoric to historic or districts (a concentration of buildings, structures, objects and/or archaeological sites). Historic properties have documented significance and a high degree of integrity.

Ideally, a local historic preservation program has a dual focus. First, it has an on-going process for identifying, evaluating, and recognizing historic properties within city/county limits. This is

essential for determining what properties should be preserved and providing evidence of their significance.

Second, the program has an on-going process for managing and protecting historic properties. This means planning, considering historic preservation in land use, public improvement, and development decisions. It also involves reviewing and commenting on plans for projects that will affect historic properties, such as the widening a road through a historic district, making a historic property accessible, rehabilitating a historic property, or placing a development on land containing significant archaeological sites. It involves providing technical assistance on appropriate ways to rehabilitate and use historic properties. Finally, it involves educating local officials and all parts of the city/county on historic preservation. It involves assisting the city/county in developing incentives and regulations to encourage and insure that historic properties are preserved.

### **CLG Program Purpose and Goals**

#### **Local historic preservation programs:**

- Provide technical assistance through the State's historic preservation office to Certified Local Governments
- Provide participating Certified Local Governments with funding to underwrite various historic preservation activities in their communities.

### **Certifying a Local Preservation Program**

Local government sets up a local preservation program and signs a CLG agreement with the State of Iowa, agreeing to develop and administer its local historic preservation program so that it complies with national and state preservation goals and standards.

### **Local Government Connection**

What is the connection between the historic preservation program, the historic preservation commission, and city/county government? Your local historic preservation program was established by official action on the part of your local government. Through passage of local legislation, a historic preservation ordinance, mayors and city councils or county boards of supervisors commit to a policy of supporting historic preservation and establish a local historic preservation program.

The commission is part of local government. Commissioners are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the mayor and city council or county board of supervisors. The commission is responsible for reporting regularly on their activities and projects to the mayor and city council or county board of supervisors. Any grants for which the commission applies must be approved by the mayor and city council or county board of supervisors. If the grant is awarded, the award is to the city/county and is administered by the city/county's financial officer, for example the city clerk or county auditor. Donations to the commission may be tax-deductible because they are given to the city/county.

Ideally, the mayor and city council or county board of supervisors should assist the historic

preservation commission by providing an annual appropriation, by appointing a council member to serve as liaison between the commission and city council or county board of supervisors and by assigning a staff member to help implement commission directives and take care of commission correspondence and files. In addition, the city should provide a meeting space, filing space and technical support in terms of office supplies, copying services, postage, phone privileges.

Ideally, a local historic preservation program has a dual focus. First, the program has an on-going process for identifying, evaluating, and recognizing historic properties within city/county limits. This is essential for determining what properties should be preserved and providing evidence of their significance.

Second, the program has an on-going process for managing and protecting historic properties. This means planning, considering historic preservation in land use, public improvement, and development decisions. It also involves reviewing and commenting on plans for projects that will affect historic properties, such as widening a road through a historic district, making a historic property accessible, rehabilitating a historic property, or placing a development on land containing significant archaeological sites. Finally, there should be an educational component in the program so that local officials, city/county staff as well as residents are informed about the program, obtain technical assistance, and have an opportunity participate in activities which increase awareness of local historic properties.

In Iowa, there are two steps to establishing a local historic preservation program, first the local government must pass a historic preservation ordinance, if a city, or a local historic preservation resolution, if a county. Second, the Mayor or Chairman of the Board of Supervisors appoints a historic preservation commission to develop and administer the program.

### **Meeting Certified Local Government Requirements**

To participate in the CLG program, a local government must have a local historic preservation program that complies with CLG program requirements. To qualify or obtain "certified status", the local government must demonstrate that its local historic preservation program meets certain standards. Briefly, these are as follows:

1. Operates under a historic preservation ordinance (city) or resolution (county).
2. There is a historic preservation commission to oversee the program.
3. Preservation commissioners must meet certain criteria to be appointed to commission.
4. There is a commitment to preserve the full range of properties from archaeological sites to districts.
5. Preservation activities include identifying, evaluating and registering historic properties.
6. Local government will maintain a file/inventory of properties.
7. Preservation program encourages nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.
8. Will conduct public review and comment on National Register of Historic places nominations of properties within jurisdiction.
9. Public is encouraged to participate in all aspects of the preservation program.
10. Local government will enforce all appropriate state and local ordinances for designating

and protecting historic properties.

11. There is no discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, and/or national origin in any of the local government's activities in implementing its preservation program.

### **Why Participate in the CLG Program? Some Benefits**

For the local government, its staff and Historic Preservation Commission, there are some direct benefits. There is free historic preservation training and technical assistance from the State's historic preservation staff. Participating cities and counties receive a start-up preservation reference library for use in developing and administering the program. Cities and Counties in the CLG program will qualify for REAP Historic Resource Development Program grants for rehabilitating city or county owned properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Finally, cities and counties qualify for a small, competitive, matching grant program that is open only CLG program participants. These grants can be used to underwrite all historic preservation activities except rehabilitation—that is supported by the REAP HRDP grant program.

In Iowa, cities and counties have used their local historic preservation programs as a tool to help promote downtown revitalization or to protect or stabilize and revive nineteenth and early twentieth century neighborhoods. Good examples are Albia, Ames, Bloomfield, Bonaparte, Burlington, Clinton, Davenport, Des Moines, Dubuque, Hampton, Iowa City, Iowa Falls, Mount Vernon, Oskaloosa, Ottumwa, Sigourney, Sioux City and Waterloo.

A strong local historic preservation program provides an authentic foundation for heritage tourism. Visit Adams, Clinton, Crawford, Harrison, Henry, Jackson, Madison, Linn and Shelby Counties as well as the Amana Colonies, Keokuk, Kimballton, Lake City, Fort Madison, Perry to sample Iowa history in three dimensions. Often the local historic preservation program is used to leverage preservation of an outstanding community landmark such as the depots in Atlantic, Carroll, Cherokee, Creston, Council Bluffs or the Courthouses in Davis and Woodbury Counties. Preservation of natural and historic resources is a natural partnership as exemplified by the local historic preservation program focus in Allamakee, Dallas, Clayton, and Lyon Counties where archaeological site preservation has been a primary concern.

### **Certified Local Government Program Contact in Iowa**

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## The CLG Commissions' Role

The historic preservation commission plays a number of roles. Under the ordinance or resolution it is an advisory body to local elected officials, city or county staff, other city/county commissions and to those who live and own property in the city or county. The historic preservation commission alerts and advises on the appropriate course of action to take regarding the management and preservation of historic properties. Under the Certified Local Government Agreement, the City not the historic preservation commission is responsible for fulfilling the terms of the Agreement. However, the commission reminds the local government of its obligations.

It is important have a commission spokesperson. Generally this is the Chairman or a commission member who is an effective public speaker. Whenever the commission deals with elected officials, the press, or makes public presentations, the commission spokesperson should do the presentation. This is especially true in cases when the commission is fortunate enough to be assisted by a city or county staff person. The staff person and the commission spokesperson have different roles and responsibilities within the local preservation program. Thus, to retain this distinction and maintain commission autonomy and identity, a commission member should serve as spokesperson.

The historic preservation commission may undertake historic preservation activities directly or delegate responsibility. If the commission is assisted by a staff person, the commission needs to find out how much time the staff person can give to commission work as well as establishing the activities that the commission will undertake directly and those that will be undertaken by the staff person or other personnel, departments, or commissions within the local government. If the commission chooses to undertake a preservation activity, it may recruit volunteers to assist in the effort and even appoint a volunteer as project director. Several commissions have advisory committees, composed of non-commission members, who assist in particular activities.

The historic preservation commission plays an advocacy role, encouraging the city or county to adopt policies, regulations and other measures that will encourage preservation and use of historic properties. When a historic property is threatened with demolition or inappropriate rehabilitation, the historic preservation commission may approach the property owner and advocate for appropriate treatment by outlining alternative courses of action and information about financial incentives.

The commission has an educational function. Broadly, the commission needs to educate the entire community about its preservation program, the benefits and opportunities that it offers. Specifically, the commission educates local governmental officials, staff and other commissions about their responsibilities under the **Certified Local Government Agreement**. The commission educates and provides technical assistance to owners of properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Remember, the local government through the commission and as a participant in the CLG

program, has access to two grant programs to help defray the cost of preservation activities. The CLG grant program is open only to participants in the CLG program and may be used for planning, survey/evaluation, registration, public education, and pre-development projects. The REAP HRDP grant program is open to all Iowa residents. These grants can be used to underwrite planning, survey/evaluation, registration, public education, predevelopment and rehabilitation projects.

## **Survey and Evaluation**

For the commission to fulfill any of its responsibilities, the commission must be able to locate the community's historic properties. This is done through survey and evaluation, two steps to distinguish old properties from significant ones which merit preservation.

Survey and evaluation are on-going activities because each year another group of properties becomes 50 years old and eligible for National Register listing. Consequently, the commission needs to work with the local government to set up a procedure to allow for on-going survey and evaluation. The on-going survey-evaluation process can be fairly simple involving an annual request to the public to research their properties and instructing the public on where they can get forms, instruction and additional information. The local government can commit to a policy of completing Iowa Site Inventory forms whenever it works on a publicly or privately owned property. The city could distribute Iowa Site Inventory forms to applicants for building permits, requesting and requiring them to complete the form. The city/county and commission could commit to a multi-year survey/evaluation program in an effort to cover larger areas in a relatively short period of time.

## **Historic Property Inventory**

The commission should work with the local government to develop its historic property inventory. This will entail obtaining copies of survey/evaluation project reports, National Register nominations, Iowa Site or OSA forms for properties within the local government's limits. In many cases, the local government will have much of this information; however, it may be filed in a number of different places.

## **Registration**

Under its ordinance/resolution and the CLG Agreement, the local government and the commission are to encourage nominating eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places. Again there are many ways this can be accomplished through informational mailings notifying owners of the opportunity; through informational and training workshops on preparing a nomination; through distribution of information on the National Register and the nomination forms. The commission should make sure that the local government keeps a current list of owner's names.

Whenever a property in the local government's jurisdiction is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, the commission and the chief elected official (Mayor or Chairman of the Board of Supervisors) will be asked to review the nomination. The State's national register



coordinator will send a letter and form to the commission chair or contact, notifying them of the review and providing instruction on its conduct. When the commission reviews and comments on the nomination, their review should focus on whether the nomination contains an adequate description of the property, places it within a context, and makes a solid case for its significance and integrity within the context. If there are factual errors in the nomination, the commission may correct these. The commission may also provide additional information that will strengthen the nomination.

At some point in time, the commission may recommend to the local government that it develop its own listing of historic places. This is called local designation. The local government can choose to designate single properties, typically called landmarks, and/or historic districts. If the local government wishes to designate historic districts, then it must follow the Code of Iowa, Section 303.20 et. Seq. In setting up the designation system. As a participant in the CLG program, the local government is asked to consult with the State and submit all ordinance revisions, nomination forms, and design guidelines to the State for review and comment when setting up a system for local designation.

## **Management, Protection and Preservation**

The commission will want to become familiar with the local government's comprehensive land use plan. If there is no such animal, recommend that one be developed which contains a historic preservation component. If there is a plan, review it, develop a historic preservation component for it and an implementation procedure.

The commission will want to look at local government policies, regulations, practices and incentive programs to determine how these effect historic properties. If the local government lacks a policy, regulation or incentive program, the commission might research these, develop recommendations and encourage the local government to adopt the recommendations. If the local government engages in practices that harm historic properties such as demolition of unsurveyed/unevaluated properties, the commission might make recommendation for an alternative practice that would allow for potential preservation if the property was found to be significant. Some of the local government's regulations may make it difficult to preserve historic properties, e.g. building code, parking, zoning. Again, the commission can investigate the impact of these regulations, research alternatives that would encourage preservation, and make recommendation to the local government. Finally, the commission should investigate the incentive programs that the local government uses to encourage development and revitalization. Often these focus on new construction and do not encourage recycling or adaptive reuse of historic properties. The commission could research and propose special amendments to these incentives that would make use of historic properties attractive and financially viable.

Working with the private sector (realtors, developers, the chamber of commerce, the economic development corporation, banks and contractors) is important. Often the private sector resists historic preservation efforts because misconceptions about its purpose, focus and cost. The commission could initiate educational programming on the economic benefits of historic preservation to neighborhood and downtown revitalization efforts. The commission could explore ways of training contractors in appropriate rehabilitation techniques and supporting their

use of those techniques through incentive programs. Working with realtors and financial institutions to encourage the marketing of historic properties and the provision of loans for their purchase or rehabilitation is another step the commission might take.

The commission can also work with the owners of historic properties offering the use of the commission library, directing owner's to appropriate consultants, incentive programs, state staff who can assist. Using the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation's *Land Owner's Options*, the commission can explain the various ways that a private property owner can insure preservation of his/her historic property.

Finally, the commission can help the community enjoy and appreciate its rich, historic built environment. Establishing an annual event during Historic Preservation Week in May focuses attention on the local historic preservation program, individual efforts and properties. An awards program also gives public recognition and positive feedback and reinforcement. Getting the public schools to utilize the historic preservation component in the **Prairie Voices Curriculum** brings the youth of the community into the historic preservation program as does encouraging service projects. Developing walk tours, informative publications (these can be based on National Register nominations), events at historic properties—all serve to bring community residents into the historic preservation program.

## Training Opportunities for Historic Preservation Commissions

One of the requirements of the CLG program is that historic preservation commissioners undergo historic preservation training on an annual basis. Throughout the year, the State Historic Preservation Office notifies CLGs of training opportunities including workshops and conferences on a variety of topics.

Other training opportunities are available online and provide excellent instruction for new commissioners as well as those with more experience. The following online tutorials developed by the National Park Service can be counted towards the annual training requirement for CLGs.

Please keep a record of the name of the tutorial, the names of the individuals (historic preservation commissioners, staff, and elected officials) who completed the training and the date. This information should be recorded on the CLG's annual report.

Walk Through Historic Buildings: Learn to Identify the Visual Character of a Historic Building

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/walkthrough/>

These illustrated lessons are designed to teach students how to identify the visually distinctive materials, features, and spaces of a historic building prior to undertaking rehabilitation work. Each section is followed by a checklist which students can use to develop their own inventory of character defining materials, features, and spaces. A multiple choice quiz follows the lessons with an explanation accompanying the correct answers. The entire program takes approximately 1 hour to complete.

An Interactive Web Class on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/e-rehab/index.htm>

This introductory program was designed especially for historic building owners; new members of design review and historic preservation commissions; architects, contractors, and developers; maintenance personnel and others involved in the care of historic buildings; and students in historic preservation courses. Each standard is explained and illustrated with recommended applications and not recommended applications. Two quizzes are provided on the rehabilitation of a historic commercial building and one on the rehabilitation of a historic residential building. Students are asked to choose which one of the three proposed treatments meet the Secretary's Standards. The entire program takes approximately 1 hour to complete.

The REHAB YES/NO LEARNING PROGRAM

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/rehabyes-no/index.htm> This online tutorial has been specially designed to show how careful planning prior to rehabilitation work can result in choosing approaches that preserve the character of historic buildings. Twenty illustrated case studies focus on basic issues that frequently arise in the process of making changes for a continuing or new use, including exteriors, interiors, sites, and new additions. The applicable standards are identified for each case study. The entire program takes approximately 1 ½ hours to complete.

Managing Archaeological Collections

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/collections/index.htm> This distance learning presentation reviews a range of issues pertaining to the proper curation of archaeological collections. Topics include relevant laws, regulations, policies and ethics, curation in the field and lab, repositories, access, and use. Each section is accompanied by a bibliography, links and a quiz. This presentation complements the book *Curating Archaeological Collections: From the Field to the Repository* written by Lynne Sullivan and S. Terry Childs and published by AltaMira Press in 2003. It takes a minimum of five hours to read the material, take the quizzes, and explore all the interesting links in each section.

# **CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

## **Program**

National Park Service

*"Preserving Heritage in the Community"*



### ***Publications Relating to CLG***

#### **Please Visit the HPS Free Bookshelf for information on ordering the following publications**

All publications are offered in single issue free of charge, subject to availability, from the Heritage Preservation Services Information Desk, National Center for Cultural Resources, 1201 Eye St., NW, 2255, Washington, D.C. 20005. Or phone: (202) 513-7270, FAX: (202) 513-7270 , e-mail [nps\\_hps-info@nps.gov](mailto:nps_hps-info@nps.gov)

### **Standards and Guidelines**

The Standards and Guidelines, prepared under the authority of sections 101(f)(g) and (h) and section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. They are intended to provide basic principles and useful advice about a variety of archeological and historic preservation activities and methods, from planning to treatment.

#### **The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.**

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Planning and Guidelines for Preservation Planning.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification and Guidelines for Identification.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Evaluation and Guidelines for Evaluation.

#### **The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (36 CFR 68). 1995. Leaflet.**

The Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards and Guidelines. (*The Professional Qualification Standards, define minimum education and experience required to perform identification, evaluation, registration, and treatment activities*).

### **Historic Preservation Planning**

Planning guidance has been developed to address general questions about the process of planning.

Gyrisco, Thomas H. Veech, Stephen A. Morris, Patricia L. Parker, and Jonathan P. Rak. Useful information on strategies for protecting archeological sites that can be used in local communities when there is no federal involvement in a project. Targeted to professional and avocational archeologists, local preservation commissions, planners, and developers. 133 pages. 1993. The 2000 update of this book is on-line at " Strategies for Protecting Archeological Sites on Private Lands."

**Preservation Planning: Ensuring a Future for Our Past.** Thematic issue of CRM magazine. Available on-line.

**Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning (formerly National Register Bulletin 24).** Anne Derry, H. Ward Jandl, Carol D. Shull, and Jan Thorman; revised by Patricia L. Parker. Guidance for communities, organizations, federal and state agencies, and individuals undertaking surveys of historic resources and incorporating survey results into planning. 112 pages. 1985. Available on-line.

**History on the Line: Testimony in the Cause of Preservation.** Richard W. Longstreth. Selection of testimony delivered before the Historic Preservation Review Board and other public officials in the District of Columbia between 1986 and 1996. The book can easily serve as a guide and model for preparing testimony on significance issues before government review boards throughout the country. 114 pages. 1998.

**Cultural Resources Partnership Notes** is a series of short booklets that provide information on historic preservation planning, related planning and land-use topics, and preservation strategies for federal agencies, Indian tribes, states, and local governments. This series incorporates and updates many of the titles included in the original *Local Preservation* series, and new titles will be added. Titles currently available include:

*Issues Paper: Conservation Districts.* Two short essays by Robert E. Stipe and by Carole Zellie (1993; revised 1998)

*Local Preservation Reference Shelf*<. An annotated historic preservation bibliography by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (1999)

*Subdivision and Historic Preservation.* Stephen A. Morris (1992; revised 1998)

*Zoning and Historic Preservation.* Stephen A. Morris (1989; revised 1998)

## Local Programs

The following publications were developed for certified local governments (CLGs), local historic preservation commissions, and the general public.

**Preserving Your Community's Heritage Through the Certified Local Government Program.** 16 pages. A popular program brochure, uses illustrations and graphics to explain various aspects of the CLGs to a broad audience. 2004.

**Questions and Answers About CLG Grants from SHPOs: An Introductory Guide.** Useful program information for a general audience. 8 pages. 1995. (Note that the contents of this brochure are displayed in the Frequently Asked Questions section of CLG page. Hard copies may be ordered if needed.)

## Definition of Survey and Evaluation

(taken from 2007 CLG Manual accessed at <http://www.iowahistory.org>)

**Survey/Identification** involves researching and documenting properties in order to get information on how the property was created, when it was created, how it was used, who was associated with it and to describe the physical appearance of the property, map it, photograph it. Survey/identification should be undertaken in phases with each phase focusing on a geographic area, or a particular historic context/theme, or a particular property type or an area that is experiencing change. The city or county can apply for CLG grant funds to underwrite survey/identification. In addition, the local government can encourage property owners, volunteer or service organizations, and school groups to assist in survey and evaluation. Perhaps the most effective way of identifying historic properties is to set up an on-going system to research and record properties and develop historic contexts for the city or county. Research, recordation and context development provide the information needed in order to complete the next step evaluation.

**Evaluation** is a sorting process whereby properties determined to have historic importance, significance, or determined to lack historic importance, not significant. Typically, evaluation is done by applying the significance, age, and integrity criteria of the National Register of Historic Places. Applying these three criteria results in a document containing a detailed analysis of why the property is or is not significant. Evaluation serves to focus attention on those properties that are historically significant and merit formal recognition through registration. Evaluation provides a way of locating properties that merit preservation, protection and appropriate maintenance.

**Registration** is formal recognition of a property's historic significance by placing it on a municipal or county register of historic places and/or by nominating the property to the federal government's register of historic places, the National Register of Historic Places. The historic preservation commission plays a key role in the registration process. In the case of National Register nominations, the commission can initiate and fund the process with CLG grants. In addition, as a CLG participant the Commission and chief elected officials will be called upon to review and comment on all National Register nominations of properties within its jurisdiction.

The historic preservation commission, chief elected official of the city or county, and a historic preservation professional will comment on all National Register nominations within the local government's jurisdiction. The State National Register Coordinator provides the local government with the appropriate form and guidance on completing it. If the commission lacks an appropriate preservation professional, State Preservation Office staff can perform the professional review for the Local Government.

## **Property Inventory**

The foundation of the commission's activities is its inventory--the local file of information about "identified, evaluated, and registered" properties in the city or county. This file serves as a reference for any type of planning, be it rehabilitation of a building or developing a road-widening project. The inventory informs about the location of properties, their type and, most important, their significance. It indicates which parts of a city or county have been surveyed and evaluated and for what kinds of properties. The inventory is developed through survey, evaluation, and registration projects. It is a file that consists of completed site forms with information about individual properties, survey and evaluation project reports, multiple property documents describing historic contexts, National Register of Historic Places nomination forms and local historic landmark and district nomination forms as well as maps, photographs, blueprints and other data relating to properties in the city or county.

The State maintains a state-wide inventory of historic properties that includes National Register nominations. The commission or a representative of the city or county is welcome to come to Des Moines and reproduce the State's inventory of properties in the city or county.

## National Register of Historic Places

State Historical Society of Iowa



### National Register of Historic Places: Owner Information

#### Key Points about the National Register Process for Property Owners

- Listing in the National Register honors the property by recognizing its importance to its community, State, or the Nation.
- Many property owners propose National Register nominations.
- Under Federal law, private property owners can do anything they wish with their National Register-listed property, provided that no Federal license, permit, or funding is involved.
- Owners have no obligation to open their properties to the public, to restore them, or even to maintain them, if they choose not to do so.
- To ensure public participation in the nomination process, property owners and local officials are notified of proposed nominations to the National Register and provided the opportunity to comment. In addition, once a nomination is submitted to the National Park Service another public comment period is published in the Federal Register.
- Private property owners may object to the proposed nomination of their property to the National Register. If a majority of private property owners objects to a nomination, then the property cannot be listed in the National Register.
- Federal agencies whose projects affect a listed property must give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on the project and its effects on the property.
- The powers of the SHPO staff are limited in protecting National Register properties, to reviewing those projects which are funded, wholly or in part, by the federal government and which impact, directly or indirectly, listed or eligible properties. National Register status does not mean that a property cannot be destroyed by a highway, by Urban Renewal, or some other project. It does mean that before a federal agency can be involved in any way with such a project, i.e. by

funding, licensing or authorizing it, the federal agency must consider alternatives by which National Register properties might be saved from destruction. After the review process has been completed, the agency may choose to avoid the property, or it may decide to go ahead with the project, even if a National Register property is destroyed in the process.

- Owners of listed properties may be able to obtain Federal historic preservation funding, when funds are available. In addition, Federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply.

For more information, please visit the National Register of Historic Places Web site at [www.cr.nps.gov/nr/owners.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/owners.htm).

## **LISTING A PROPERTY:** **SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **WHAT IS THE PROCESS?**

Historic places are nominated to the National Register by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) of the State in which the property is located, by the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) for properties under Federal ownership or control, or by the Tribal Preservation Officer (TPO) if the property is on tribal lands. Anyone can prepare a nomination to the National Register; generally nomination forms are documented by property owners, local governments, historical societies or SHPO, FPO or TPO staff. Nominations by States are submitted to a State review board, composed of professionals in the fields of American history, architectural history, architecture, prehistoric and historic archeology, and other related disciplines. The review board makes a recommendation to the SHPO either to approve the nomination if, in the board's opinion, it meets the National Register criteria, or to disapprove the nomination if it does not.

During the time the proposed nomination is reviewed by the SHPO, property owners and local officials are notified of the intent to nominate and public comment is solicited. Owners of private property are given an opportunity to concur in or object to the nomination. If the owner of a private property, or the majority of private property owners for a property or district with multiple owners, objects to the nomination, the historic property cannot be listed in the National Register. In that case, the SHPO may forward the nomination to the National Park Service only for a determination of eligibility. If the historic property is listed or determined eligible for listing, then the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation must be afforded the opportunity to comment on any Federal project that may affect it. (See the Results of Listing and Owner Information pages, and our publication entitled *My Property's Important to America's Heritage, What Does That Mean: Answers to Questions for Owners of Historic Properties* for further information about the meaning of National Register listing.)

The SHPO forwards nominations to the National Park Service to be considered for registration if



a majority of private property owners has not objected to listing. During the National Register's evaluation of nomination documentation, another opportunity for public comment is provided by the publication of pending nominations in the Federal Register.

Several state historic preservation office web sites also offer more information on National Register listed properties in their state. The depth of information available varies from state to state, but ranges from basic locational information to searchable databases with downloadable narrative descriptions and photos.

## **WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR LISTING?**

The National Register's standards for evaluating the significance of properties were developed to recognize the accomplishments of all peoples who have made a significant contribution to our country's history and heritage. The criteria are designed to guide State and local governments, Federal agencies, and others in evaluating potential entries in the National Register. Find help evaluating and documenting the significance of the range of diverse historic places recognized in the National Register with the National Register bulletin series.

### **Criteria for Evaluation**

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A.** That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B.** That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C.** That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D.** That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### **Criteria Considerations**

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- a.** A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or

historical importance; or

**b.** A building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or

**c.** A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life; or

**d.** A cemetery which derives its primary importance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or

**e.** A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or

**f.** A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or

**g.** A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

## **HOW OLD DOES A PROPERTY HAVE TO BE FOR LISTING?**

Generally, properties eligible for listing in the National Register are at least 50 years old. Properties less than 50 years of age must be exceptionally important to be considered eligible for listing.

## **HOW LONG DOES THE NOMINATION PROCESS TAKE?**

The process varies from State to State depending on State workload, planning, and registration priorities, and the schedule of the review board. The process takes a minimum of 90 days to fulfill all of the review and notification requirements provided that a complete and fully documented nomination form has been completed for the property. Upon submission to the National Park Service, a decision on whether to list the property is made within 45 days.