

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1202

DEC 20 2010

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 19140 U.S. Route 20 West not for publication

city or town East Dubuque vicinity

state IL code IL county Jo Daviess code 085 zip code 61025

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Anne E. Hansen
Signature of certifying official/Title

Dec. 13, 2010
Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain:)

For Edison H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

2-4-11
Date of Action

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5. Classification

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2 | 1 | buildings |
| | | district |
| 1 | 0 | site |
| | | structure |
| | | object |
| 3 | 1 | Total |

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- Domestic/single dwelling
- Domestic/secondary structure/summer kitchen
- Agriculture/chicken coup and drainage structure

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- Vacant/Not in Use
- Vacant/Not in Use
- Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian/Italianate

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Limestone
 walls: Brick

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roof: Asphalt

other: Decorative Elements/Wood

Chimneys/Brick

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Frentress Homestead is part of a five acre parcel adjacent to U.S. Route 20 and only a mile from the Mississippi River. It was purchased by the City of East Dubuque in 2008, the last remnant of an 1100 acre show farm from the 19th century. Mississippi River bluffs rise behind the home and a sandy/loam floodplain gently slopes to the river. The Frentress House is a circa 1880 2½ story brick Italianate residence with a rectangular plan. It has a gable roof with a gable-end porch on the west and a small entry porch sheltering the front entrance facing the highway to the south. Both porches, simple and relatively unobtrusive, are 1940s replacements, as are the asphalt shingles on the roof. The front entry with its rectangular transom and sidelights is original, as are the other doors and windows. The interior has a high degree of integrity with original floors, trim and stairways. In addition to the main residence, there is a contributing 1½ story limestone summer kitchen set against the bluff. This is a pre-Civil War vernacular building with rectangular plan. A cupola with dinner bell sits on a steeply pitched roof. This building was renovated about the time the home was constructed. A modern (1960s) wooden garage is located behind the house and represents a noncontributing building. All of the buildings on the site are in fair to good condition.

The farmstead sits adjacent to a frontage road (old U. S. Route 20) and extends back up the bluff to the north. A small semicircular gravel drive comes off the frontage road, between summer kitchen and house, and circles around the east side of the house and back onto the frontage road. A one story garage sits behind, or to the north of the house, with the remnants of an old drive heading along the east side of the garage and then on up the ravine northward to bluff top land that was part of the original farm. To the east of the garage is the limestone foundation of an old chicken coop, along with a small wooden outhouse. The house, summer kitchen and garage occupy the majority of level land available, as forested hillside consumes most of the five acre site. The north side of the summer kitchen is literally built against a limestone outcropping. Vegetation around the house is minimal, with several evergreen trees (white pine and Norway spruce) on the west and two deciduous trees between house and frontage road. These trees are less than fifty years of age but a white oak tree 100 feet to the east of the house may well date from the nineteenth century. Apple trees are present north of the garage and summer kitchen but are not of great age. Also to the north of the garage is the opening for an underground nineteenth-century limestone drainage structure that collects water moving down the ravine and diverts it around the house and to the current roadside ditch beyond. A woven wire fence encloses the front yard and extends along the south property line. To the south of the frontage road are four lanes of U.S. Route 20 and then the railroad ROW of the Burlington Northern. Beyond that is land that is industrial and commercial in nature. The Mississippi River is just beyond this.

Narrative Description

The Frentress Home is a 2½ story brick Italianate house built circa 1880 as the residence of a prosperous farm family. The house is a rectangular side-gable design with a front façade of three bays facing U.S. Route 20 to the south. The low foundation consists of irregular courses of ashlar limestone. The basement is not full; it extends the width of the front façade, but only to one-half the depth. A crawl space serves the rear (north-facing) portion.

Front (south-facing) Façade:

The main entry is protected by a simple hipped hood supported by knee braces; the stoop is a concrete slab. The formal entry has a rectangular transom with five-light sidelights. With the exception of one missing pane, the glass has the characteristic wavy pattern of older glass. The four-paneled door with glass panes and doorway trim are entirely original and in excellent condition. The evenly spaced windows along the front façade are also original. They are double-hung sash, two-over-two light and typical of the time period. One-over-one light wooden storm windows are currently in place. All second floor windows are eight inches shorter in height than the first floor windows, otherwise they are the same. Sills and lintels are limestone. Under the overhanging eaves are four sets of paired wooden brackets, evenly spaced along the frieze board and very characteristic of the Italianate style. These decorative elements, which grace all four façades, are complete and in good condition. The roof, originally wood shingle, is now asphalt shingle. The two interior gable-end chimneys still show modest corbelling and are original.

West Façade:

The west-facing façade served as the daily or work entrance to the house. A simple full-width porch with shed roof and four plain posts over a concrete slab replaced the original after the McCarthy family purchased the property in 1946.

Treatment of openings on this west façade is less elaborate than on the front. Limestone lintels have been replaced by flat-arched brick. The sills, while still limestone, are less substantial. Two doors are present: the north one enters into the kitchen and the south one enters into the dining room. Both are wood, each having two taller panels over two shorter panels. They closely match the main entry door, but without the additional trim molding. A small six-over-six window was placed to the left (north) of the kitchen door and appears to be original. Otherwise, windows are of the two-over-two light configuration. The window to the right of the dining room door matches in size and design the three symmetrically spaced windows along the second floor façade. With the exception of the small kitchen window to the left of the kitchen door, the openings of both floors are uniformly spaced: three windows above and one window and two doors below. A round gable-end attic light with four panes completes the gable end. Five paired brackets and rake board follow the theme of the front façade.

North Façade:

The rear façade is the simplest and most utilitarian. Only two window openings are present on the first floor and only one on the second floor. Placement of first floor windows is not symmetrical; the second floor window is centered along the façade. They are smaller than the other windows and have six-over-six light double-hung sash. The only modification since construction appears to have been to two back wall chimneys. The one is visible immediately under the eaves and to the left of the second-story window. The other, not visible from the exterior, served a first floor kitchen fireplace. Both were apparently dismantled above the roofline, perhaps when asphalt shingles replaced wood ones.

East Façade:

The east façade has a center entry door with small concrete stoop. The door has four recessed panels and is identical to the kitchen and dining room entry doors but like those, somewhat simpler in trim than the main entry door. The door is flanked by two-over-two light double hung windows. They are not symmetrically placed; the window on the right has been placed very close to the entry. The three windows of the second story are two-over-two light double hung and symmetrically spaced. A circular gable-end attic window mirrors that found on the west façade, as do the paired brackets and rake board. A cellar entrance bulkhead, consisting of two nearly horizontal, ground-level wood doors, is present to the left of the door.

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Interior--First Floor:

Upon entering the front door, one enters a small foyer area with a door on the right (to the parlor) and a door on the left (to the dining room). An enclosed stairway to the second floor is straight ahead, with a closet to the right of the stairway. As with most of the interior, this part of the house exhibits a high degree of integrity. The door, with its four recessed panels, still has its original doorbell. More importantly, the transom and sidelights all appear original except for one light that has been replaced with a wood panel. All door and window casings, moldings, and other trim throughout the house appear to be original. Only multiple coats of paint on the woodwork and linoleum on the floor mar the quality of the original space.

The doors leading to the parlor and dining room are simple with two recessed vertical panels; all other interior doors are of the same design with the exception of two closet doors on the second floor which have four recessed panels. The double-hung two-over-two light window sashes have original hardware. A chimney, with an opening for a stove pipe, is present on both of the outside (gable end) walls. Floors, mostly covered with linoleum, are made of white pine boards roughly six inches in width. It should be mentioned that nearby Dubuque, Iowa represented a huge focal point for the early lumber industry on the upper Mississippi River. Sawmills turned out huge amounts of white pine lumber from the trees of the Wisconsin pineries. Most early homes in this region are a product of this once plentiful resource, which gave out only a few years after the Frentress home was built.

The parlor exhibits the same door, window casings, moldings, hardware, and other trim as found in the foyer and dining room. A heavy baseboard with prominent molding carries the theme throughout. The opposite corner of the room has two openings: a door, with two vertical panels, to a bedroom, and an entry door to the outside (east façade). To the right of the door is a chimney with an opening for a stovepipe. All windows (here and throughout the house) were fitted with sash cords and weights.

The dining room area, off the foyer in the southwest corner of the house, is a more striking room. An open wood stairway with gracefully turned newel post, balustrades and banister greets the eye. Wainscoting, consisting of beaded, four-inch wide vertical boards, surrounds the room. It is capped by a substantial chair rail molding.

The kitchen is accessed through a doorway along the north wall of the dining room. In the kitchen is an original built-in floor-to-ceiling cupboard. Two sets of double doors (top and bottom) have recessed panels of diagonal beaded boards that match those used for the wainscoting. This bead board is used around the entire kitchen, same as in the dining room. Along the entrance wall, next to the cupboard, is a door leading onto the gable end porch. The wear pattern on the threshold of this doorway--and of the other doorway from the porch to the dining room--indicate the importance of these two entrances to the daily life of the Frentress family. The kitchen also has, along the dining room wall, side-by-side doors. One leads to a pantry/closet below the foyer staircase; the other leads down to the cellar.

The cellar has two rooms: the west half has multiple layers of whitewash on the limestone walls. A thin slab of twentieth-century concrete covers the floor. This space is where the Frentress and later McCarthy families stored large quantities of canned goods and other produce, including potatoes and carrots from the garden and fruit from the orchard. The east room of the cellar has a dirt floor, no whitewash on the walls, and the doorway/stairs to the outside. The doorway consists of two swinging wood doors, each made of vertical boards held together with a horizontal board near the top and bottom. The steps up to the bulkhead outside are limestone.

The kitchen has one other interesting feature. Along the rear exterior wall (north-facing) is evidence of a fireplace. The mantel and brick surround have been removed and the projecting brickwork of the hearth was bricked-in; it is now covered with a sheet of imitation wood paneling. A small iron door at the base was installed as a clean-out for the chimney, indicating continued use of the flue.

The remaining two rooms on the first floor were originally used as bedrooms. The McCarthys turned the smaller of the two (closest to the kitchen) into a bath/utility room. The north wall has only one small window with six-over-six lights. The doors (one at either end of the room) have the simple two vertical recessed panels found in the interior rooms of the rest of the house. The baseboard is a simple board lacking any elaborate molding on top. The second bedroom (northeast corner of the first floor), although larger, is very similar to the first. The east window is two-over-two lights, but the door, casings, trim and baseboard are the same: original and representative of the period. A doorway from this bedroom leads to the parlor.

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Interior--Second Floor:

The second floor consists of six rooms, three along the front (south-facing) façade and three along the rear of the dwelling. Three rooms are accessed by the main entry's first floor L-plan stairway. It ascends fourteen steps to a landing, where a right angle and six more steps continue to a narrow hallway. A small partition with door was added at the top of the stairway, but has now been partially removed. A plaster medallion adorns the hallway ceiling, but it was not possible to determine if it was original. Two small bedrooms are accessed through doorways on the south side of the hallway, while the third bedroom has a doorway on the north. The two rooms along the front façade of the house have similar trim and moldings to those downstairs. A kitchen sink was added at the far end of the hallway. The stove chimney from below is along the east wall of the southeast bedroom.

There are three bedrooms in the rear (north-facing) part of the house, one with a walk-in closet. Woodwork and trim are simple and unadorned, the same as the back rooms on the first floor. The northeast corner room is accessed from the hallway and has a plaster ceiling medallion, but like the one in the hallway, it was not possible to tell if it was original. This room also has a walk-in closet, with a simple wood door with four recessed panels. The closet butts up against a stove chimney along the north wall. Trim matches the first floor bedrooms. Adjacent to the closet is another doorway that takes one into the middle bedroom. This room has only a small six-over-six light window. Next to this window is the chimney from the old fireplace in the kitchen below. Otherwise, the woodwork is the same as the other bedrooms along the north side of the house. The dining room stairway leads directly into the south side of this room. An adjacent door provides access to the northwest corner room, which was converted to a bathroom shortly after World War II. It is the smallest of the upstairs rooms and now has a bathtub, lavatory and toilet. The door and window casing, baseboard and door are of the same type as the first floor, simple and unadorned.

Ascending the dining room stairway brings one to a large bedroom in the southwestern corner of the house (the same stairway also accesses the second floor bathroom). The trim around the openings in this bedroom are treated somewhat differently than elsewhere. The casings and associated moldings of windows and doors match the other front or south-facing bedrooms but have a truncated molding at the top of each corner, with only about three inches extending horizontally from each corner. The entry door also has a one-light transom. The area above the stairway has been turned into closet space with an opening matching that of the adjacent entry. The same stairway also accesses the second floor bathroom. The attic had only the smallest of a ceiling trap door and proved inaccessible.

Summer Kitchen:

The summer kitchen is a contributing building to the Frentress Homestead. It probably dates from the 1830s-40s, having been a part of the original homestead which was established in 1832. This building appears to have been remodeled about the same time the main house was built, however.

The 1½ story kitchen is of coursed ashlar limestone construction but with a steeply pitched asphalt shingle gable roof with narrow clapboards covering the gable ends. Window and door openings have wooden sills and lintels. There are three symmetrically spaced openings along the front (south-facing) façade. A four-panel door is in the middle with a two-over-two light double-hung window on either side, very similar to those found on the second floor of the main house. The west façade has only one two-over-two light window, deeply inset and centered in the top of the stone wall and the wood gable. The east façade has three openings. The stone first level has an entry door at the southeast corner; it consists of a single recessed vertical panel 18 inches in width. The second level consists of one two-over-two light double hung window and a four-panel entry door with stone stoop. The north side of the building is literally built against the limestone outcropping of the bluff; there are no openings here. A set of steep limestone steps leads up the east side to the second floor entry. A brick chimney rises above the north side of the gable ridge, between the second floor entry door and window. The cupola has a small cross-gable roof supported by four posts anchored on either side of the ridge. It houses the original dinner bell used to call in farm workers for meals. There is a well near the southeast corner of the kitchen. This well, interestingly, descends into a crevice. According to the McCarthy family its depth is too deep to measure.

The summer kitchen is a single room measuring 22'6" wide and 16' deep. The front entry door, facing south, has two recessed panels over two panels. The door's design is very similar to that used in the house for closets. The east entry door, however, is much older. It measures 26" in width and consists of a single 18-inch wide recessed vertical panel. This is a very early door design and can be seen in 1830s and 40s vintage houses in the Galena area. This part of the

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summer kitchen is not in good repair--it has been used for storage and workshop space since the 1940s. Still present, however, is a wood floor-to-ceiling, zinc-lined freezer closet used for storage of ice during the warm months. The 18" thick stone walls have lath and plaster over furring strips, but much of this is in bad repair and either falling down or missing. The windows and doorways have very simple wood trim but any baseboard has been removed. A chimney flue on the east wall serviced some type of wood cook stove.

The second floor consists of a white pine floor, window and door trim, along with windows placed in each gable end of the building. Adjacent to each window is a small built-in wall cabinet (18" deep) with doors made from diagonal beaded boards that match the cupboard doors in the kitchen of the main house. Plastered walls and baseboard are in relatively good condition. An opening for a chimney is in the east wall between the wall cabinet and door. This upper room provided boarding space for hired hands working on the farm.

Other Resources:

Chicken Coop Foundation: To the east of the house is the stone foundation of an early (nineteenth-century) chicken coup/house. It is constructed partly into the slope and measures 10' 6" in width and 18' 6" in length. The opening for a door and window are still present. This basement foundation, of coursed ashlar limestone (similar to the summer kitchen) supported a wooden structure which has since rotted away. The building shows up in an 1889 portrait and bibliographical album.

Drainage Structure: About 100 feet north of the garage, farther up the ravine, is an opening for an underground drainage structure (three feet in width and roughly four feet in depth) that collected water coming down from the bluffs beyond and diverted it to the side of the garage and house below. It is part of an underground tunnel made of limestone that diverts surface drainage, keeping it from continuing on down the ravine. This ingenious nineteenth-century structure was necessary to prevent surface drainage from inundating the house, which because of its location, effectively blocks the natural drainage of the small valley/ravine.

Wooden garage (noncontributing): A relatively modern wooden garage (circa 1960) sits behind the house. It is a noncontributing structure and apparently replaced a "shed for buggies" on the same site. It has vertical board siding and an asphalt roof. The front overhead door is fiberglass; the back section has a wood sliding door for farm equipment. The foundation is a concrete slab. Nearby, to the east, is a small outhouse (post World War II) constructed of horizontal wooden boards sitting on concrete blocks.

Integrity/Alterations:

The Frentress house exhibits a high degree of integrity. Windows, doors, trim, floors and hardware are all largely original and in good condition. The floor plan has not been altered. Some alterations are evident relative to the exterior. The main entry on the south facade now consists of a simple hood supported by brackets. This small entry porch is not original; it was rebuilt shortly after the property was purchased by the McCarthy family in 1946. The only early image of the original is a poor quality photocopy of a photograph taken about 1915-1920. Despite diligent searching, no other period photograph of the property has come to light. This photocopy, however, does reveal a very "Italianate" porch sporting a nicely elaborated entry hood supported by two square chamfered columns. Small paired cornice brackets mimic those along the cornice of the main roof above. This same picture also shows part of the main porch along the west facade. It reveals a nicely detailed Italianate porch, similar to the main entry, but extending the full width of the gable end. One of the McCarthy family members remembers that the old porch had a wooden floor, and square, chamfered posts, each supported by stone piers beneath. Two brick chimneys along the north facade have been dismantled to the roof line, probably when the original wood shingle roof was replaced with asphalt shingles in 1946-47.

The interior has experienced very few alterations. The most significant change (other than the addition of two bathrooms, plumbing and wiring--all immediately post World War II) revolves around a fireplace in the kitchen. A mantel and surround were removed at some point and covered with wall paneling. The hearth was bricked in but a small clean-out door was added to its base. It is uncertain why a traditional fireplace would have been added to a house of this vintage unless the elderly owner (Diadamia Frentress) had a fondness for such a "convenience." Otherwise, interior alterations are largely cosmetic and consist of linoleum, imitation wood paneling and multiple coats of paint.

The summer kitchen, as evidenced by its stone construction and unique, single vertical panel door, is a much older building than the main house. The evidence suggests it was remodeled about the same time the house was built.

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Evidence for this can be seen in the two-over-two double-hung window sash and the type of beaded boards used on the small doors of second floor wall cupboards and a dry sink; these closely match those of the main house. In addition, the design of the cupola is very similar to the cupolas seen on the barn in an 1889 "Portrait and Biographical" album view. The chicken coop, while only the limestone basement foundation remains, still exhibits a high degree of integrity. It is relatively stable and complete with the door and window openings still present.

The chicken coop site consists only of the stone basement foundation. The wooden structure above has completely rotted away. The original structure appears in a drawing of the property in 1889, but the stone work matches that of the summer kitchen and the structure may be older than 1889.

The limestone drainage structure is still performing the same function for which it was originally designed. Much debris (mud and gravel) has washed into the opening and needs to be removed, otherwise, it appears to be in relatively good condition.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1880-1899

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Frentress, Henry N.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance is from the approximate date that Henry N. Frentress and his mother built this Italianate farm house to the date of Henry's death, i.e., 1880-1899. It should be noted, however, that the family and site were prominent before this period. Henry, under whom the farm reached the peak of its prosperity, became the most important figure associated with the property as early as 1876. While repeatedly reduced in acreage over the years, the farm continued in agricultural use until the 1990s.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Frentress Homestead is locally significant under Criterion B for its association with Henry N. Frentress and his part in furthering agricultural innovation in and around Jo Daviess County. The Italianate farm residence, circa 1880, was built by Henry and his mother, Diadamia. Henry was a prominent and progressive farmer whose mother and father had originally settled the property in 1832 immediately following the Black Hawk War. While the farm increased substantially in acreage early on, only to decline after 1900, the farmstead and substantial acreage remained in the same family from 1832 to 1946. Over that time, it developed from a frontier subsistence homestead, with double log cabin, to one of the finest show places in the county with 1100 acres of mostly improved land and a substantial Italianate residence. Under Henry N. Frentress in the 1880s and 1890s the farm reached the height of its prosperity, serving the growing commercial markets of nearby East Dubuque, Illinois and Dubuque, Iowa to the west, and Chicago to the east. Stock raising, characteristic of the time and locale, was very important, but so, too, was commercial fruit growing. The Illinois Central Railroad, completed to East Dubuque along the Mississippi River in 1855, greatly facilitated the county's agricultural transformation, as did Henry's inventive mind and constant experimentation with new varieties, breeds and technology. But with Henry's death in 1899, and with the later encroachment of adjacent East Dubuque, the farm was gradually dismantled. The farmstead and several hundred acres were purchased by the McCarthy family in 1946; shortly before Thomas Frentress (son of Henry) died in Florida in 1950. The farm continued, but various parcels were acquired for subdivisions, recreation and industrial development. The widening of U.S. Route 20 to four lanes starting in 1964 took out most of the outbuildings, although the grand old barn, a local landmark, remained until destroyed by fire in the 1970s. Today, only the 1880s Italianate farmhouse and the 1840s summer kitchen remain, but they retain a high degree of integrity and serve as reminders of the importance of Henry Frentress to the advancement of agriculture in the county and to the nearby communities that were part of the agricultural economy of the time. Specific innovations that Henry was involved with included an early barbed wire (patented) and the machinery to make it, a large livestock barn with labor-saving design and devices, improved breeds of livestock, and experimentation in the growing of both small and large fruits for the commercial markets then expanding in growing urban centers along the railroads.

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

History of the Frentress Homestead:

The story of the Frentress Homestead goes back to the 1820s and the Galena lead mines. The first mining leases were issued in 1822 and within a few short years the influx of "would-be" miners made the little mining settlement of Galena the commercial hub of a bustling federal lead mining district.¹ Illinois settlement leap-frogged from the southern part of the state to the northwestern corner in response to this mineral rush, the first in U. S. history. As a result, most early "miners" were farmers with southern roots. Eleazor Frentress, father of Henry N., was typical.

Frentress was born in North Carolina but found his way to Galena by 1827.² He engaged in lead mining for a time but soon sold out and engaged in farming. He chose to settle near present day East Dubuque, in what would later come to be called Dunleith Township. His claim was only twelve miles northwest of Galena. There was no lead in this locale, but it was strategically located between Galena and the Mississippi River. A double-log cabin was finished in 1832 with the conclusion of the short-lived Black Hawk War. Eleazor, now with his wife, Diadamia and children, began to supply the miners coming by way of Galena and elsewhere. This first log cabin, it should be noted, was sited very close to the current circa 1880 residence, but was moved twice, the last time to the Dubuque County (Iowa) Historical Society's National Mississippi River Museum where it has been restored.

Frentress learned very quickly that the way to prosper was not through mining but through providing supplies for the miners. He grew the first crops in this part of the county, grazed the first livestock, planted the first orchard, provided teams, and ran one of the first ferries across the Mississippi to the new mining town of Dubuque, Iowa.³ All the while he was laying claim to various parcels on both sides of the Mississippi. He hoped to pre-empt this land when the federal leasing of mineral lands ended, which it did in 1846-1847. As a result of this and of some shrewd speculating, he acquired huge landholdings in a relatively short period of time.

It was also in the late 1840s that Richard Ogden, mayor of Chicago, conceived the idea of establishing the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad. It was to be largely funded by farmers along the right-of-way, who would hopefully jump at the chance to buy shares of stock in the new company and thus enhance the marketability of their crops and livestock. The Galena and Chicago Union line reached Freeport in 1853. But in that year the Illinois Central, a potential competitor with federal land grants in its favor, completed its line north to Freeport. An agreement was reached with Ogden whereby tracks to Galena and the Mississippi River would be laid by the Illinois Central. Frentress not only supplied land for the new line, but purchased seven shares of stock valued at \$700.⁴ Unfortunately, he died suddenly in December of 1853 as construction was nearing Galena. When the line reached the river it gave rise to a hopeful little village named Dunleith, renamed East Dubuque in 1879. The Frentress holdings, as with any farm located near a new railroad at this time, increased in value considerably. The beneficiaries were Diadamia and her seven children.⁵

Eleazor Frentress left his wife, Diadamia, and their children with 1100 acres of land in Illinois, 900 in Iowa, 160 in Wisconsin, and "a large amount of personal property."⁶ At this time there were two sons in California, part of the California Gold Rush. The others were still at home helping their mother run the farm. It seems that Diadamia was the

¹See the first detailed map of the lead region by R. W. Chandler: *Map of the United States Lead Mines on the Upper Mississippi River* (Galena, 1829) and *History of Jo Daviess County, Illinois* (Chicago: H. F. Kett, 1878), 448-535.

² *Jo Daviess County History*, 542-545.

³ *Eleazor and Diadamia Frentress: Family History Tidbits*, research conducted by Rhodes J. Isenhardt, Jr. for Dunleith Township, 1994.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Eleazor Frentress obituary, *Galena Weekly Northwestern Gazette*, 27 December 1853.

⁶ *Biographical Souvenir of the Counties of Delaware and Buchanan, Iowa* (Chicago: F. A. Battery & Co., 1890) 476-480.

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one who held everything together at this time. The land was in her name and she was even accorded equal status to other farmers in the 1878 county history: "Frentress, Mrs. D.; Farmer....owns an estate of 1100 acres of land."⁷

While various sons helped farm the "Home Farm" as they called it, most moved to the family's holdings in Iowa. Only Emsley and Henry remained after 1870. The City of East Dubuque was growing at this time but nearby Dubuque was becoming a full-fledged city. Galena, meanwhile, had largely become a local trade center. Clearly the market for trade and commodities had moved east (to Chicago) and west (to Dubuque, and beyond). With the sudden death of Emsley in 1876 (aged 43), Henry took over and quickly built the already substantial farm into the showplace that it became in the 1880s and 90s. In the process he worked to advance the agricultural practices of the area through innovation, experimentation and correspondence. He also served on the local township board, county board, and briefly in the state house, all the while working to improve the agricultural economy. This work continued until 1899 when he died suddenly at his home at the age of 56, leaving a wife and two children.

Area of Significance

The area of significance for the Frentress Homestead under Criterion B is agriculture. All of Eleazor's and Diadamia's seven children continued agricultural pursuits after his death. All appear to have been successful, but none more so than Henry. With inventive mind and determination, he helped Jo Daviess County move into an increasingly commercial form of agriculture following the Civil War. He made good use of the Illinois Central Railroad for shipping to stronger markets. Whereas wheat and livestock were formerly processed locally (Galena, and Dubuque, IA), increasingly he shipped to markets beyond, like Chicago. But as the East Dubuque and Dubuque markets grew, he marketed apples, berries and similar fruits locally. But his success may well have begun with his invention of a practical barbed wire, one of many developed during the 1870s.

As Henry sought to expand the quantity and quality of cattle grazed on Frentress acreage, fencing must have presented a clear challenge. The 1100 acres of the farm were not all contiguous parcels; rather, some were on the floodplain close to the river, and some were on the bluffs behind the house. Adding further to the fencing issue were two railroad lines (Illinois Central and Chicago Burlington) which bisected the farm holdings. Good lumber for fencing was expensive and presented the farmer with a constant challenge. If one wished to improve his herd, his livestock had to be kept away from the free ranging bulls that characterized rural Illinois up until herd, or range, laws ended the practice in the 1870s. Perhaps because of this Henry began experiments with barbed wire fencing. On December 14, 1875 the U. S. Patent Office issued Henry Patent No. 171008 for a "split-diamond" wire:

The diamond-shaped barb is split, according to patent specifications, "from the acute angles nearly to the center, and prongs bent at each end at an angle with each other to adapt them to be twisted into a two-strand wire cable." Comparable barbs had been tried on ribbon fencing twenty-two months before the Frentress patent was issued, but the "Split Diamond" probably was the earliest successful patent to utilize four-point sheet-metal barbs applied directly to double-strand wire fencing.⁸

Henry, along with his oldest brother Emsley, joined forces with a prominent manufacturing firm in East Dubuque to produce the wire:

A new enterprise of importance is just being started by Messrs. E. H. & Henry Frentress, in the manufacture of a peculiar barbed wire for prairie farm fences....This is a new industry, within a year or two, and is coming into rapid use.⁹

The manufacturing firm producing the wire was the Burt Machine Works, which at the time was producing perhaps more shingle-making machines than any other firm in the country. Their machines received one of the top awards at the

⁷ Jo Daviess County History, 721.

⁸ Henry D. and Frances T. McCallum, *The Wire That Fenced the West*, (Norman: Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1965) 246.

⁹ "Dunleith Industries," *The Dubuque Daily Times* (March 11, 1876) p. 8, col. 9.

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Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876.¹⁰ With ten wire making machines of their own design (designed with the help of Henry) they turned out 115 tons of split-diamond wire in 1877 with the expectation of 300 tons for the following year.¹¹

The search for better and cheaper fencing represents a strong theme in American agriculture and many have written about it.¹² The Washburn and Moen firm successfully developed a monopoly on wire production by ruthlessly gaining control of virtually all patents (there were many). Like almost everyone else, the East Dubuque firm fell victim and was forced to pay royalties on their barbed wire, but not before Henry sold his interest and concentrated on the family farm. It seems likely that proceeds from the barbed wire benefited not only Henry, but the growing village of East Dubuque and their economy, only a mile distant. Henry's part in this history reflects strongly the agricultural theme as it relates to criterion B.

Emsley Frentress died unexpectedly in November of 1876. He was only forty-three.¹³ Diadamia and sons Emsley and Henry (along with Henry's wife, Jane) had been running the farm, but now the task fell primarily on the shoulders of Henry. He seems to have been up to the task. More land was improved, livestock herds were increased with better breeds, and new buildings were constructed. The proceeds from the barbed wire patent may well have encouraged Henry to begin the construction of a number of new buildings on the farm. An 1889 *Portrait and Biographical Album* summarized his success in this way:

The barn is a model one in every respect. It is 130x70 feet, with stable room in the basement for about 200 cattle. An invention of his own takes a whole wagon load of hay off at once when drawing in, and everything about the place denotes a master hand, guided by a thorough knowledge of his business. His fences are all in excellent shape, the farm laid out in convenient fields, and everything done to make this one of the finest stockfarms in this section of the State. Mr. F. is quite of an inventive turn of mind, and many of the labor-saving devices on his place originated with himself.¹⁴

Accompanying Henry's bio was an artist's sketch of the farmstead as it appeared in the late 1880s. Typical of the time period and representative of a progressive mindset, the artist pictured the Illinois Central Railroad prominently in the foreground. It would be hard to underestimate the importance of early railroads to the region's agriculture (and business and industry, too). The Illinois Central line, running directly from Chicago to the Mississippi River, would have been especially important to a large stock farm like that of the Frentress family. This early image is significant because it shows the house, barn and other outbuildings during the early part of this property's period of significance. While an exact date of construction for the Italianate dwelling could not be found, the biographical album did report: "the pioneer mother died on the home farm December 13, 1887. The old log house, built in 1831, still stands....a large and commodious brick dwelling had taken its place several years prior to the mother's death."¹⁵

A review of tax records from the 1870s through the 1890s proved inconclusive in determining a more exact date of construction.¹⁶ The 160 acre parcel on which the house (and outbuildings) stands (NW ¼ of Section 34) was listed with a "fair cash value" of \$480 for 1870. It increased to \$625 in 1871 and jumped to \$1875 in 1872. The same parcel slowly declined thereafter reaching \$1000 in 1880. The nationwide "Panic of 1873" and changes to the way Illinois properties were assessed, along with local changes in the tax rates during this period cloud the picture.

¹⁰ *Jo Daviess County History*, 551-552.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² See, for example, Earl W. Hayter, *The Troubled Farmer: 1850-1900* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois Univ. Press, 1968) 211-263; and Joseph M. McFadden, "Barbed Wire: A Story of the West, the East, and American Ingenuity and Entrepreneurship," *Journal of Illinois History* vol. 3 (Winter, 2000), 285-302.

¹³ Notes on the Frentress family cemetery from Eleazor and Diademia Family History.

¹⁴ *Portrait and Biographical Album of Jo Daviess and Carroll Counties*, Illinois (Chicago: Chapman Brothers, 1889) 212-216.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Collector's Books* for the Town of Dunleith, Jo Daviess County, Illinois for the years 1870-1900 were consulted, available in the Historical Collections Room of the Galena, IL Public Library.

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The 1889 sketch of the farmstead reveals other improvements made by Henry. The huge monitor style barn with cupola and flag was built with huge beams made from trees cut on the property.¹⁷ Sadly, the barn was no longer in use when it burned to the ground in the 1970s. Two solid-wheel wooden windmills are also pictured in the 1889 image, one by the barn and the other on the bluff behind. The latter location is where the Frentress orchard was located. Apple and pear trees were still growing there in the 1940s when the McCarthy family purchased the property. Today the area has been reclaimed by native forest growth.

Practical windmills for farm use were just coming into use during this time and Henry appears to have been one of the first adopters. While not necessarily an accurate portrayal of the number of local farmers adopting this agricultural innovation, a review of the *1889 Portrait and Biographical Album* for the county mentioned revealed only two other farmsteads sporting a windmill. Progressive farmers in the region began adopting them because they were not only labor-saving but permitted the watering of livestock and crops on a much larger scale.

The Frentress sketch also shows the original 1831-1832 double-log cabin, now part of the Dubuque County Historical Society's National Mississippi River Museum. Also shown is the old summer kitchen, a contributing building for this property. It predates the house but appears to have been renovated about the same time that the house and barn were built. A small cupola (still with the original dinner bell), has a very similar design to that seen on the large barn. Also, windows and interior trim (as seen in the narrative description) match that of the house. A small chicken coup can be seen behind the log cabin; today only the stone foundation remains. Surprisingly, the sketch shows no barbed wire fencing. This was probably reserved for other sections of the farm because of its utilitarian nature.

While Henry was heavily engaged in stock raising and improved breeds he was also very active in horticultural innovation, another important theme during this period of time, certainly for this area. He became an active member of the nearby Dubuque, Iowa Horticultural Society. His reports and correspondence for a two-year period encompassed a wide variety of topics, including:¹⁸

"Seedling Apples for the Future"

"Strawberries: Crop of 1886"

"Small Fruits for Sandy Soils"

"Small Fruit Growing for Commercial Purposes"

"Cultivation of Blackberries, Raspberries, Currents and Gooseberries for Market, and Best Varieties"

Given the Frentress farm's proximity to the railroad and the rapidly growing urban market of Dubuque but 3 miles distant, it seems logical that an innovator like Henry would be engaged in market gardening. The sandy loam soils of much of the farm would also have given themselves to this kind of activity. From the nature of this correspondence it seems clear that Henry was actively engaged in experimentation and communication with others in the area, leading to the diffusion and adoption of agricultural innovation.

Other Individuals of Significance:

Henry N. Frentress was not the only prominent voice for the advancement of agriculture through innovation in Jo Daviess County. He was, however, the only hands-on practitioner who combined experimentation, invention and correspondence on the scale described. Galena, but 10 miles distant, developed a number of gentleman, or show, farms just west of town along current U. S. Route 20.¹⁹ Most were country estates owned by prominent Galena businessmen. They were generally run by farm managers. Perhaps the best example is the property of Richard Barrett, who was a wholesale grocer in Galena. The local paper recorded the sale of this farm in 1879:

¹⁷ Interview (October 24, 2009) with John McCarthy, whose older brother William purchased the Frentress farm from Thomas Frentress, son of Henry. Thomas died in 1950. John, somewhat of a local historian, worked the farm with his two brothers and proved an invaluable source for the farmstead's history.

¹⁸ *Transactions of the Iowa State Horticultural Society* XXI (Des Moines: Geo. E. Roberts, State Printer, 1887), 443-444; 583-584.

¹⁹ See Daryl Watson, "U.S. Highway 20 West: Galena's Historical Corridor," unpublished manuscript by the Executive Director of the Galena/Jo Daviess County Historical Society, Galena, 2005.

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Hon. Richard Barrett's farm in Rawlins [township], has been sold to Mr. William Hartwig, of West Galena, the consideration being \$90 per acre. This is the handsomest and probably the highest priced farm in this section of the country.²⁰

Barrett also had a residence in Galena, although he was living in the mansion on the farm at this time. Other fine farms in the neighborhood were all owned by Galena businessmen, including James Ryan (wholesale grocer and pork packer), Edward Bedford (attorney), William Hempstead (investor in real estate, dry goods and steamboats), and Robert Scribe Harris (steamboat owner).²¹

One other prominent individual deserves mention, James G. Soulard. This early settler developed the first and largest horticultural nursery in the county. He planted the first vineyard, imported nursery stock from Europe, and experimented with new varieties. He was also the first president of the Jo Daviess County Horticultural Society, established in 1868.²² Given the short distance between Soulard's farm and that of Henry Frentress (eight miles), and given their very similar interests in horticultural endeavors, it seems that both would have known the other well. But Soulard specialized in horticultural stock only and did not pursue animal husbandry or other agricultural endeavors. Henry Frentress seems to have combined many talents.

The source of labor for Henry's many activities is uncertain. The Federal Census for 1870 indicated that the Frentress household included the mother, Diadamia, the older brother, Emsley, Henry and his wife, Jane, and finally, Charles Turner who was listed as a "farm hand."²³ For 1880 only Henry, Jane, Diadamia and a John Eisnard are listed, the latter a "servant and farm laborer."²⁴ It seems likely that hired hands were employed on a seasonal basis. The summer kitchen close to the house served as place for room and board; the large dinner bell summoned everyone at mealtime.²⁵

Henry was also active with township, county and state government. In 1893 he was serving in the state legislature, and was a member of the Jo Daviess County Highway Commissioners when he died suddenly in 1899.²⁶ He left a wife and two children, Lois and Thomas.

The 1900 census indicates that Mary and Thomas lived in the Frentress house but by 1910 they and their two children were living in another house nearby.²⁷ A major change takes place after this period. The Frentress family around 1912 moved to Polk County, Florida where Thomas became manager of a citrus grove.²⁸ The growing citrus industry, rising land values, and a housing boom all characterized parts of Florida at this time. Also making the move were Thomas' mother and older sister Lois and her husband, George M. Davis.

Henry's will left \$1000 each to his two children and the rest to his wife Mary. When he died in 1899 his personal property was appraised at \$12,917 and he owned almost 700 acres.²⁹ When the family moved to Florida it appears that the Frentress farm was either rented or leased, possibly by relatives of George Davis. Periodic visits were made back to the homestead by the family. Mary died December 20, 1934 and left everything divided evenly between Lois and Thomas.³⁰

Between World War I and II the farm declined and shrank in acreage. Times were not good for American agriculture during this period. In 1943 the McCarthy family rented the property while living in the Frentress house. William and his wife Florence then made arrangements to buy the house and 415 acres in 1946. It was at this time that the house had

²⁰ *Galena Daily Gazette*, October 29, 1879. The mansion on the farm, built around 1850 by a previous owner, is being considered for listing in the National Register as the Miller House.

²¹ See *Jo Daviess County History* (1878) for bios on these men.

²² *Ibid.*, 427-428.

²³ U. S. Federal Census for 1870, Dunleith Township, IL; p. 82 of microfilm copy housed in the Historical Collections Room of the Galena Public Library.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, 1880, 221A.

²⁵ Interview with John McCarthy, May 21, 2009.

²⁶ Obituary in *East Dubuque Register*, 12 May 1899, p. 1.

²⁷ Federal Census, 1900 and 1910.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, Polk County, FL for 1920 and 1930.

²⁹ Last Will and Testament (June 1, 1899) and Inheritance Tax Appraisers Report (July 14, 1899), File #138, Jo Daviess County, IL Circuit Clerk's Office.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, Mary J. Frentress, Will #352.

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indoor plumbing and electricity installed. The porches were rebuilt without Italianate ornamentation and a new asphalt roof was added.³¹ Their farming operation was typical of the period for the Midwest. They replaced horses with tractors and raised corn, oats, soybeans and alfalfa. Beef cattle were also raised. Most of the outbuildings were used for the same purpose as they had been historically. The old summer kitchen, though, was used only for miscellaneous storage. The chicken coop "fell down" and the barn fell into disrepair.³² Still, the house remained the center of a family farm.

Following World War II, East Dubuque began expanding. Recreational land and water use increased along the river. Residential subdivisions were platted along the bluffs and industrial/commercial development encroached further and further along U.S. 20 eastward. Today, the Frentress Homestead is within the East Dubuque city limits and an industrial park lies to the south across the highway, extending from there to the river. Residential subdivisions are present on much of the bluff land above the highway, although the five acre homestead parcel is still relatively untouched. Perhaps because of this, the Frentress Homestead represents a poignant window into the life and times of Henry N. Frentress, an individual who furthered agricultural innovation in and around Jo Daviess County through such means as barbed wire, labor-saving barns, better breeds and better plants.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Jo Daviess County History

Jo Daviess County was part of the original Federal Lead Mine District and home to the first major mineral rush in U. S. history. The historic community of Galena (Latin for lead sulfide) was the first permanent settlement within this area and ultimately became the hub the district.³³ The first lead leases were issued in 1822 and Galena, at the head of navigation of the Fever (renamed Galena in 1854) River grew by leaps and bounds. Until this time, the northern part of Illinois was largely unsettled. But lead changed all that as "miners" moved up from the southern part of the state. Most had southern roots and were farmers; many returned south to their farms and families during the winter months.

It was estimated that the lead region, including southwestern Wisconsin, had a population of 10,000 by 1828.³⁴ The Black Hawk War of 1832 put a chill in settlement, but Blackhawk and his Fox and Sauk followers were soon swept aside and settlement resumed at a feverish pace. Most new arrivals continued to be farmers and as the lead played out (production peaked in 1845 and leasing ceased the following year), they turned increasingly to their primary occupation.

Farmers outnumbered miners by 1840 and agricultural exports exceeded those of mining by 1842.³⁵ Corn, oats, wheat and potatoes were the most important crops, and Galena was both a processing center and a shipping center through which the surplus was funneled. The rugged topography of much of Jo Daviess County proved very conducive to livestock. Hogs and cattle quickly became the animals of choice. By 1850, the agricultural census indicated a population of 3,931 "milch" cows, 5,637 "other" cattle and 13,912 swine, for a total value of \$239, 584.³⁶

During the 1840s, especially large numbers of settlers arrived from New England, New York and Pennsylvania; also many from Germany and Ireland. Some, unlike earlier subsistence settlers, brought a strong desire to improve the land and incorporate the latest agricultural practices into their farms. They paid attention to the practices and breeds being

³¹ Interviews with John McCarthy, May 21 and October 24, 2009. John, younger brother of William, was 81 years of age when interviewed, but still retained a good memory.

³² Ibid.

³³ See Carl H. Johnson, Jr., *The Building of Galena: An Architectural Legacy* (Galena: Carl H. Johnson, Jr., 1977); *Jo Daviess County History* (1878); and Kenneth N. Owens, *Galena, Grant, and the Fortunes of War* (Dekalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 1963).

³⁴ Chandler Map, and also Johnson, 178.

³⁵ Bernard H. Schockel, "History of Development of Jo Daviess County," *Bulletin No. 26* of the Illinois State Geological Survey (Urbana: Illinois State Geological Survey, 1916), 208.

³⁶ Ibid, 208.

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tried by Henry Frentress and others like him. The extension of the Illinois Central Railroad to Galena in 1854 and to the Mississippi River the following year greatly expanded agricultural and commercial opportunities. Galena lost trade to the railroad and ceased to be the largest port north of St. Louis. Chicago was the main beneficiary, but small towns--either existing or newly-platted--along the railroad also benefitted. One, in particular, was the newly-platted town of Dunleith, now East Dubuque. It was the jumping-off point for the thousands flocking across the Mississippi River to Iowa and beyond. Eleazor Frentress and his sons certainly anticipated the possibilities. The Frentress farm was ideally situated to take advantage of the improvements in transportation and commerce. East Dubuque grew rapidly and its large Burt Machine Works would manufacture Henry Frentress' barbed wire for many years. But Dubuque, Iowa was the town that grew most rapidly, and it provided Henry with both a market for his farm products and for his ideas through meetings and correspondence with horticultural and agricultural societies.

It should also be noted that the twelve miles from Galena to East Dubuque had, by the Civil War, begun to see the development of some of the finest farms in Jo Daviess County. Closest to Galena were a number of "country estates" with fine mansions.³⁷ After the Civil War (1865) these farms continued to evolve as they adopted better breeds of livestock and labor-saving implements. In addition, those closest to an urban market began to look at suitable fruits and vegetables as marketable crops. William Barrett, a wholesale grocer in Galena, was one of these. He hired extra hands to grow vegetables for the market.³⁸ Henry Frentress did the same for the nearby Dubuque, Iowa market.

Jo Daviess County saw the establishment of an agricultural society in 1855 and another devoted to horticulture in 1868.³⁹ Both were significant institutions for the advancement of agricultural pursuits for many years, just as were their counterparts in nearby Iowa. Agriculture throughout the second half of the nineteenth century was the number one industry for the county.

Livestock raising increasingly dominated the agricultural scene of Jo Daviess County as the nineteenth century drew to a close. With the invention of barbed-wire and the fencing in of livestock (rather than crops) in the 1870s and 80s, it was easier to raise and breed purebred stock. The county's topography was ideally suited to livestock and hay production.⁴⁰ A survey of farmers featured in the 1904 History of Jo Daviess County reveals the repeated use of the term "farmer and stock raiser," or "farmer and stock breeder."⁴¹ The last town to be platted in the county (1880s) was named "Stockton" in reference to the land and stock raising so prominent there.

Critical to agricultural developments in the county and elsewhere (as many of these trends were region-wide) was transportation. Those towns and farms located along the railroad were at an advantage. Galena, which during the 1860s-70s had its own very large slaughter house, was by 1900 simply one more shipping point along the railroad. After the nationwide depression of 1893, Galena became largely a local trade center, but the county's agricultural output and land values continued to climb.

Since 1900, agriculture has continued strong in Jo Daviess County and now represents one of the top two industries in the county, tourism being the other. Manufacturing is also present, but not on the scale of the other two. The diversity of topography (having not been glaciated like the rest of the region), its vibrant cultural history, and the progressive bent of prominent farmers like Henry Frentress, shaped and continue to shape the people and the land of Jo Daviess County and surrounding areas.

³⁷ See Daryl Watson, "U.S. Highway 20 West: Galena's Historical Corridor," unpublished manuscript by the Executive Director of the Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society, Galena, 2005.

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ See Jo Daviess County History (1878), 423-432.

⁴⁰ To this day, Jo Daviess County ranks in the top two counties statewide for the total numbers of all cattle grazed and in hay production.

⁴¹ History of Jo Daviess County, 1904. (reprinted by the Jo Daviess County Republican Central Committee, 1993). See for example, 701-702.

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Will and Testament for Henry N. Frentress, (June 1, 1899) and Inheritance Tax Appraisers Report (July 14, 1899), File #138, Jo Daviess County, IL Circuit Clerk's Office.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Galena, IL Public Library

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property five
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | <u>15</u> | <u>697012</u> | <u>4704918</u> | 3 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | 4 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |

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

"A parcel of land located in part of the northwest ¼ of section 34 township 29 north, range 2 west of the fourth principal meridian, Dunleith Township, Jo Daviess County, Illinois, which is bounded by a line described as follows: beginning at the southwest corner of lot 50 in the 34rd addition to presidential Manor subdivision, said subdivision is filed for record in plan hold 'C' of plats, no. 242, at the Jo Daviess County Recorder's Office; thence S81degrees27'15"E, 259.80 feet along the south line of lot 50 in said 3rd addition; thence S32degrees00'00"W, 672.57 feet to a point on the northeasterly right of way of U. S. route 20; thence N67degrees11'28"W, 141.87 feet on said right of way; thence N70degrees59'50"W, 261.26 feet on said right of way; thence N40degrees55'00"E, 633.00 feet; thence S81degrees27'30"E, 63.41 feet to the point of beginning. Said parcel contains 5.0 acres, more or less, and is subject to easements of record."

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
Name of Property

(Expires 5/31/2012)
Jo Daviess, IL
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the two contributing buildings and two site features, and one non-contributing building. In addition, the forested/bluff land area to the north and east was historically a part of the Frentress farm and conveys the property's historic setting. Property to the south (across U. S. Route 20) is now part of industrial/commercial and residential development and thus is not included.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Daryl Watson
organization _____ date 12/15/2009
street & number 4725 N. Canyon Park Rd. telephone 815-745-3306
city or town Stockton state IL zip code 61085
e-mail Wats60@gmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: **Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead**
City or Vicinity: **East Dubuque, IL**
County: **Jo Daviess**
State: **IL**
Name of Photographer: **Daryl Watson**
Date of Photographs: **March, 2010**
Location of Original Digital Files: **IL Historic Preservation Agency, One Old State Capitol Plaza,
Springfield, IL 62701**
Number of Photographs: **20**

Photograph Number and Description:

- 0001 Farmhouse, south facade, camera facing north
- 0002 Farmhouse, south and east elevations, camera facing northwest
- 0003 Farmhouse, south facade, main entry, camera facing northwest
- 0004 Farmhouse, west elevation, camera facing northeast
- 0005 Farmhouse, interior, main entry with transom and sidelights, camera facing southwest

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
Name of Property

Jo Daviess, IL
County and State

- 0006 Farmhouse, interior, living room staircase, camera facing northeast
- 0007 Farmhouse, interior, kitchen cupboard, camera facing southwest
- 0008 Farmhouse, interior, kitchen fireplace, camera facing northeast
- 0009 Farmhouse, interior, second floor master bed room, camera facing northeast
- 0010 Summer kitchen (left) and farmhouse south façade (right), camera facing northwest
- 0011 Summer kitchen, southwest and southeast elevations, camera facing north
- 0012 Summer kitchen, interior first floor, walk-in zinc-lined freezer, camera facing west
- 0013 Summer kitchen, interior first floor, northeast wall, camera facing northeast
- 0014 Summer kitchen, interior second floor, northeast wall, camera facing northeast
- 0015 Chicken coup, stone foundation walls, camera facing east
- 0016 Drainage structure (foreground) and non-conforming garage (upper left), camera facing southwest
- 0017 Garage (non-conforming), south and east elevations, outhouse on far right, camera facing north
- 0018 View from farmhouse yard across U.S. Route 20, camera facing south

Other:

- 0019 Bird's Eye view of farmstead from 1889 Portrait and Biographical Album, looking north
- 0020 Photocopy image of circa 1915-1920 photographs showing south and west elevations of farmhouse and south and east elevations of barn (the latter now gone)

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name City of East Dubuque

street & number 301 Sinsinawa Ave. telephone 815-747-3416

city or town East Dubuque state IL zip code 61025

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead

Name of Property

Jo Daviess, IL

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Accompanying Documentation Sheets

Section number ____ Pages 1-8

Page 1 - Site Map of Frentress Farmstead with Photo Locations Indicated

Page 2 - Frentress Farmhouse, Floorplan of First Floor with Photo Locations Indicated

Page 3 - Frentress Farmhouse, Floorplan of Second Floor with Photo Locations Indicated

Page 4 - Frentress Summer Kitchen, Floorplan of First Floor with Photo Locations Indicated

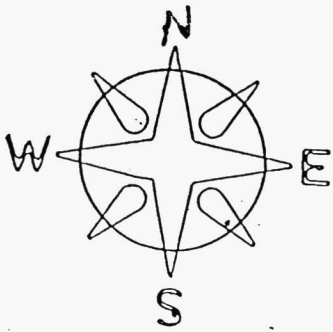
Page 5 - Frentress Summer Kitchen, Floorplan of Second Floor with Photo Locations Indicated

Page 6 - Bird's Eye View of Frentress Farmstead from 1889 Portrait and Biographical Album

Page 7 - Frentress Farmhouse and Barn, Photocopy of Photo Album Page, circa 1915-1920

Page 8 - 1893 Plat of Dunleith Township, Jo Daviess County (showing location of farmstead and extensive landholdings)

Frentress Farmstead
Photo Locations Indicated



SCALE: 1" = 100'

AREA: 5.0 AC. ±

EXISTING
ROADWAY

FORESTED
BLUFF LAND

SITE MAP
FRENTRESS FARMSTEAD
19140 U.S. RT. 20
EAST DUBUQUE, IL
61025

SUMMER
KITCHEN

DRAINAGE
STRUCTURE

GARAGE

CHICKEN HOUSE
FOUNDATION

4 HOUSE

← OLD HIGHWAY

ROUTE 20

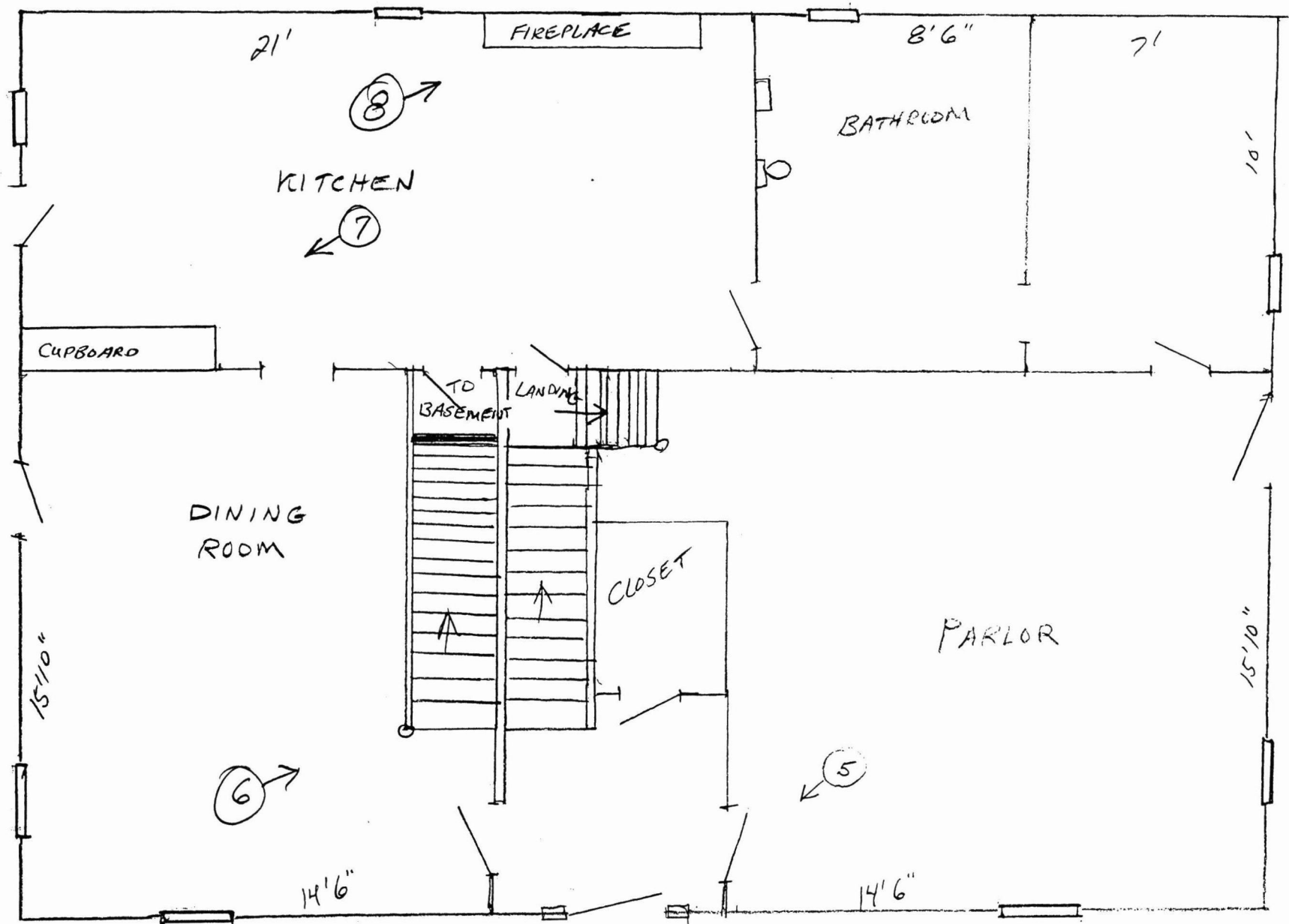
(EXISTING FRONTAGE
ROAD)

← WESTBOUND

U.S. ROUTE 20

Henry N. Frentress Farmstead
Jo Daviess County, Illinois

Floorplans - Fretress Farmhouse - First Floor
Photo Locations Indicated



Henry N. Fretress Farmstead
Jo Daviess County, Illinois

FRETRESS HOUSE
FIRST FLOOR

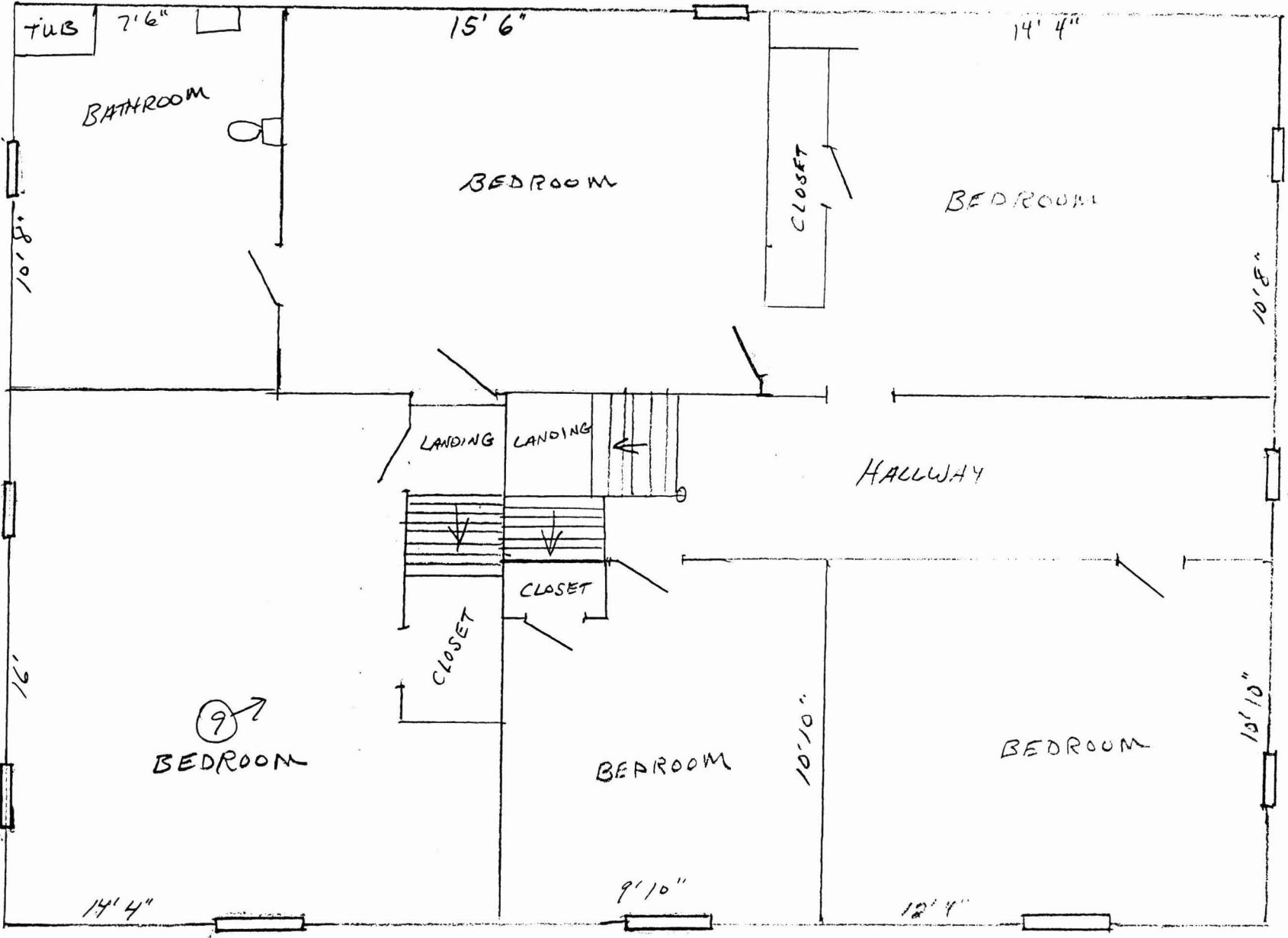
Front
Entrance

↑
NORTH

(NOT TO SCALE)

Plan 7

Floorplan - Frenthess Farmhouse - Second Floor
Photo locations indicated



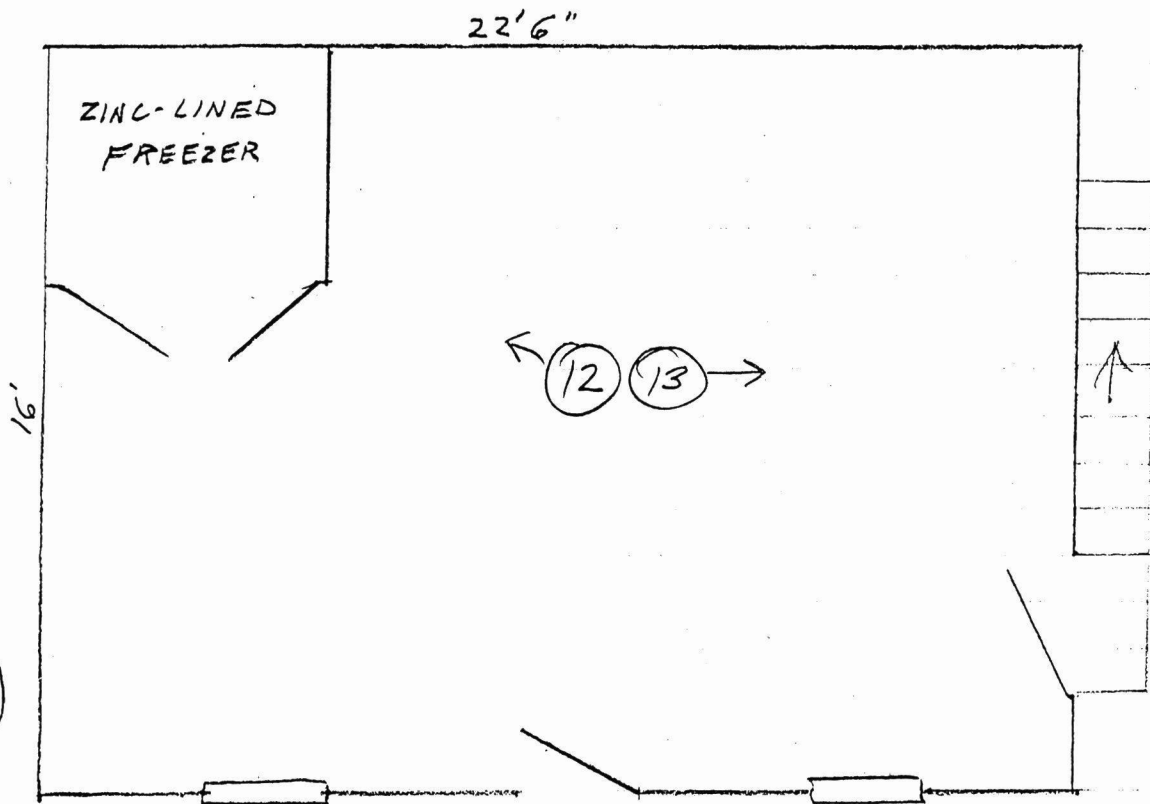
Henry N. Frenthess Farmstead
Jo Daviess County, Illinois

(NOT TO SCALE)

FRENTRESS HOUSE
SECOND FLOOR

↑
NORTH

↑
NORTH



FRENTRESS HOMESTEAD SUMMER KITCHEN
FIRST FLOOR

(NOT TO
SCALE)

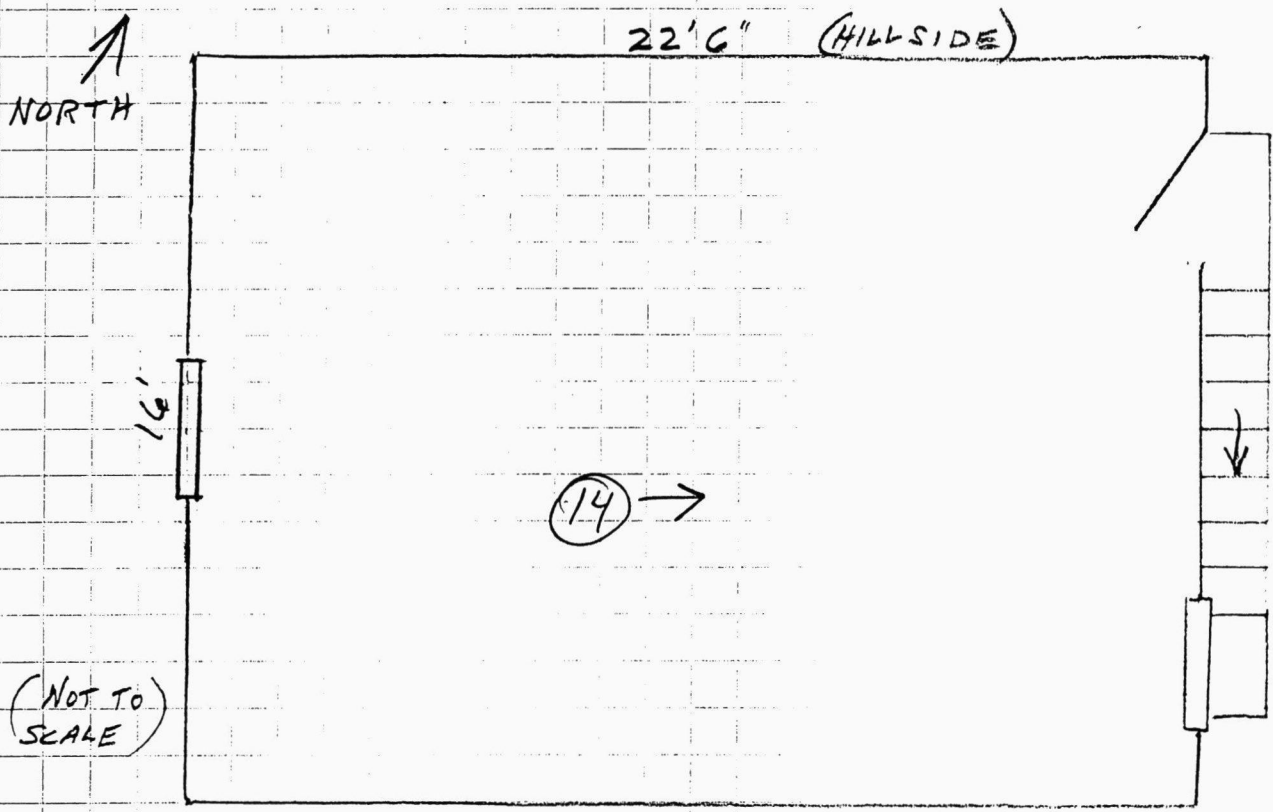
EXTERIOR
STONE STEPS
TO SECOND FLOOR

From the SS
Photo Locations
Furniture
Summer Kitchen
Judicial (First Floor)

Henry N. Frentress Farmstead
Jo Daviess County, Illinois

Frentress Farmstead Summer Kitchen
Photo Locations Indicated (Second Floor)

EXTERIOR STONE
STEPS TO FIRST
FLOOR / GROUND LEVEL



NORTH

22'6" (HILLSIDE)

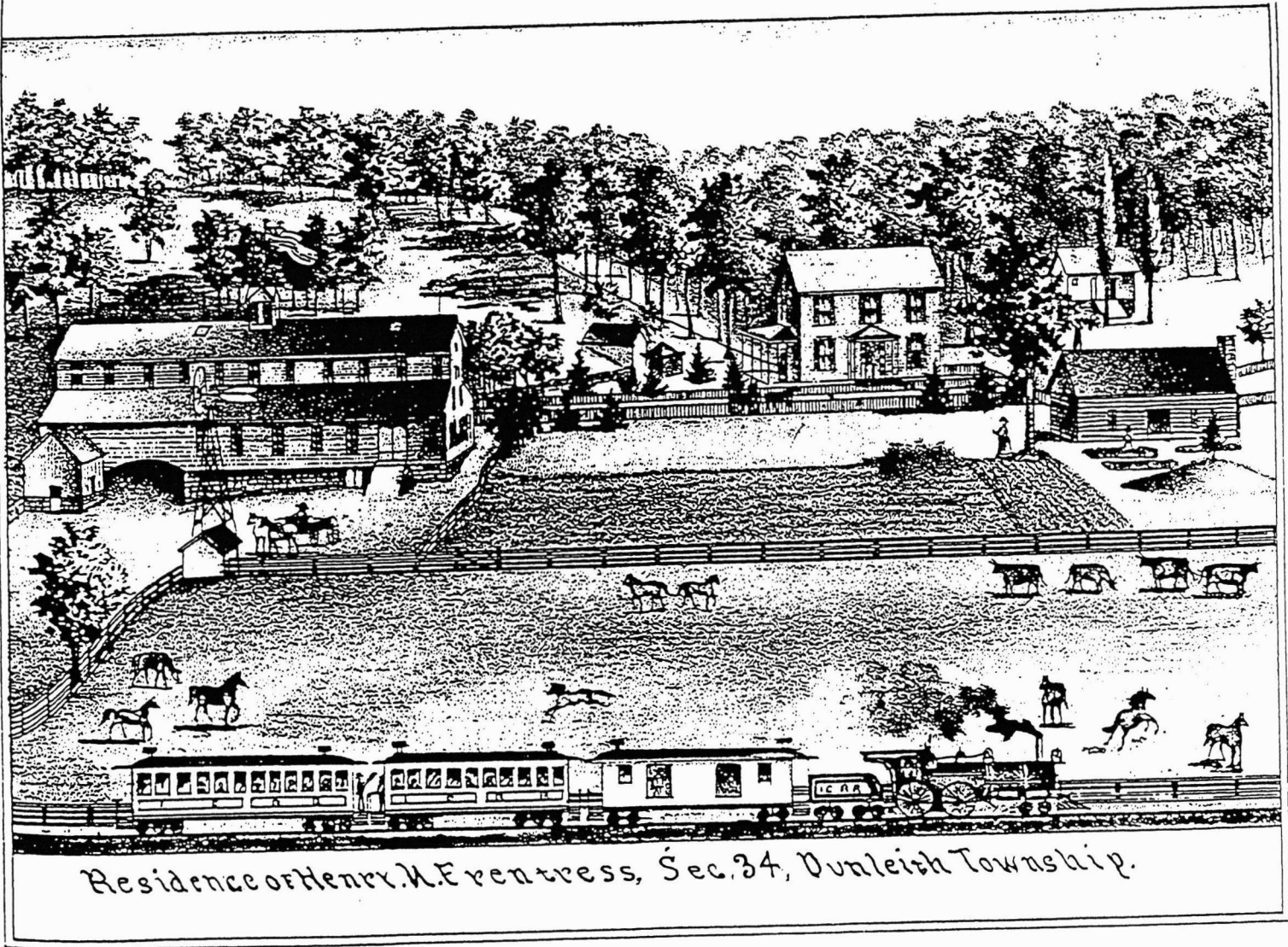
16'6"

14 →

(NOT TO
SCALE)

FRENTRESS HOMESTEAD SUMMER KITCHEN
SECOND FLOOR

Henry N. Frentress Farmstead
Jo Daviess County, Illinois



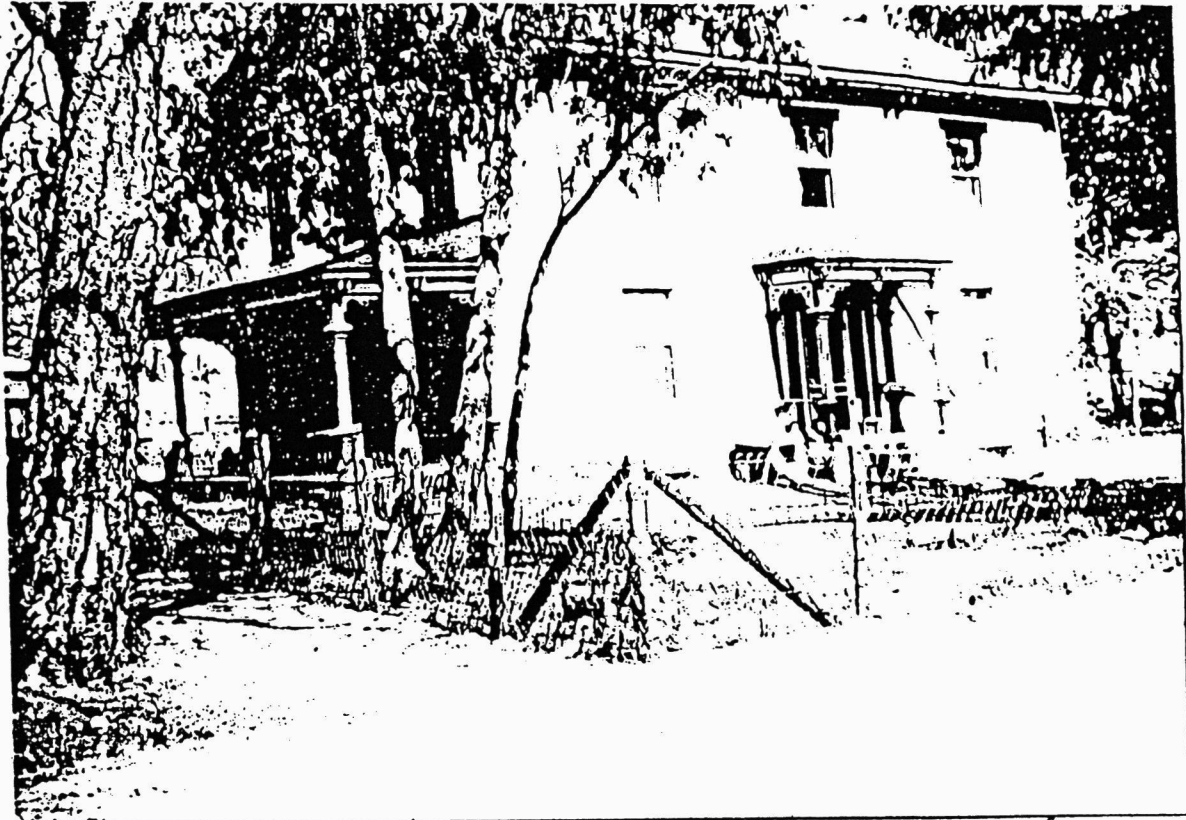
Residence of Henry M. Frentress, Sec. 34, Dunleith Township.

Henry N. Frentress Farmstead
Jo Daviess County, Illinois

Bird's-Eye View of Frentress Farmstead, 1889

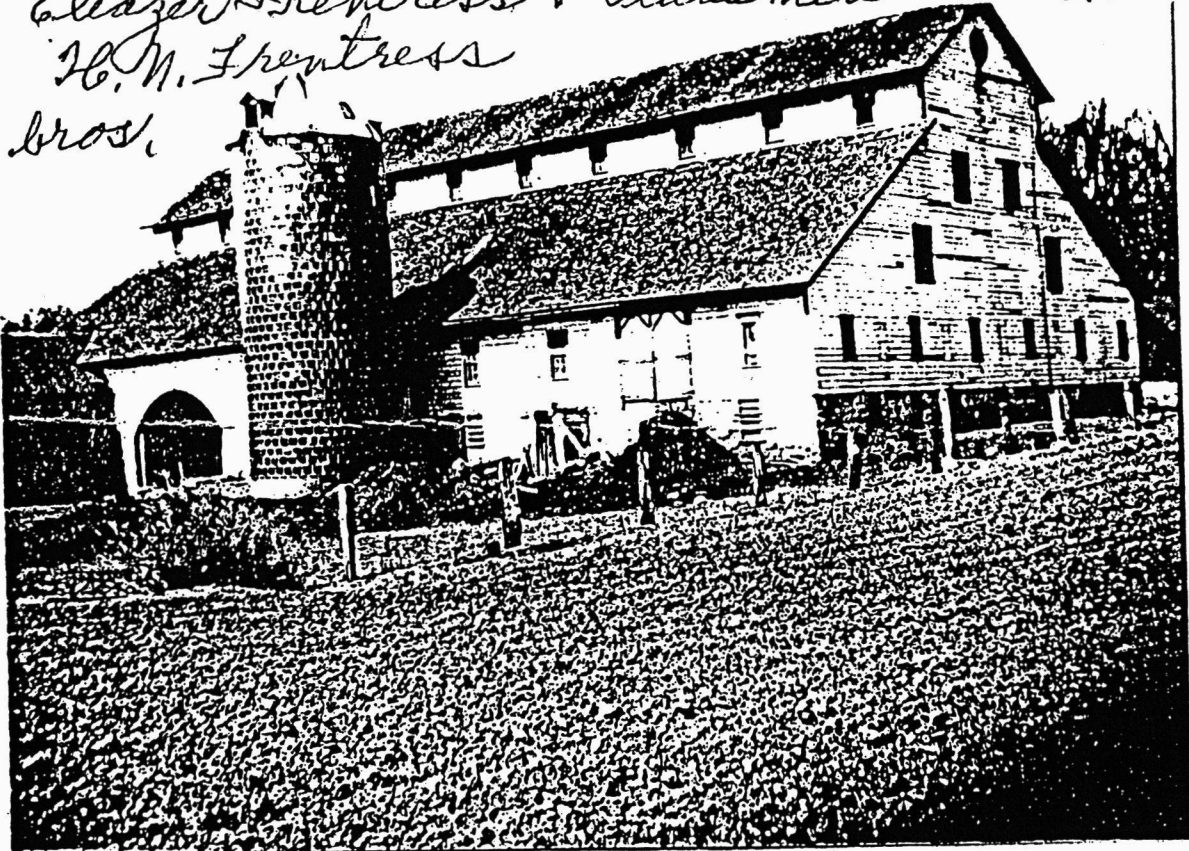
Frentress Farmhouse and Barn, circa 1915-1920

2
7H



Orig
house
still
f.
on
Farm
2 mi
Dubu

Eliazer Frentress & Madamia Frentress
son H. N. Frentress
& brosr



Be

Henry N. Frentress Farmstead
Jo Daviess County, Illinois

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Frentess, Henry N., Farmstead

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Jo Daviess

DATE RECEIVED: 12/20/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/20/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/04/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/04/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10001202

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2.4.11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



< 10/25/10

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead, To Daviess
County, IL

1 of 20

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<> 10/25/10

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead, To Daviess
County, IL
2 of 20





Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead,
To Daviess County, IL

4 of 20

< 10/25/10



Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL

5 of 20

< 10/25/10



Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL

6 of 20

< 10/25/10

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Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
to Daviess County

7 of 20

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<> 10/25/10



Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL

8 of 20

< 10/25/10



10/25/10

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL

9 of 20

0504402003205 24/42 < IL...ead0009.t11+

Frantress
HOMESTEAD FOUNDATION
PRESERVATION
AND
RESTORATION
PROJECT



Diana Frantress
1867-1878

We Need Your Support Please
CALL: 815-747-3416



0504402003205 3/42 <> <ILT. ea00010.41f>

<> 10/25/10

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL
10 of 20



Frentress, Henry W., Farmstead
To Davess County, IL

11 of 20

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Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead

To Daviess County, IL

12 of 20

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Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
Jo Daviess, County, IL

13 of 20

< 10/25/10



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Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL
14 of 20

05044022003205 16/42 < > < ILL. - ePd0014, t1+



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Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL

15 of 20

05044022003205 14/42 <> IL...ead0015.41+



Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To DeWitt County, IL
16 of 20

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< 10/25/10



10/25/10

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL

17 of 20

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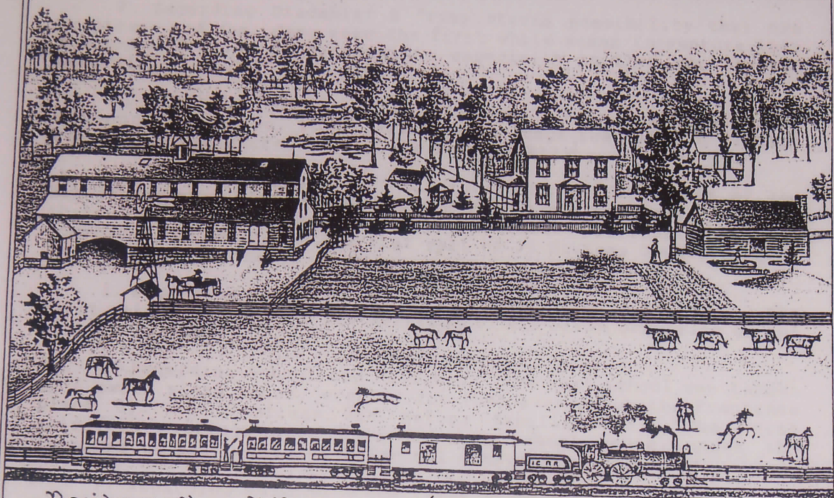


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Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL
18 of 20



Residence of Henry M. Entwiss, Sec. 34, Dunleith Township.

EXTRACTED FROM "PORTRAIT AND
BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM OF JO DAVIES
& CARROLL COUNTIES" 1889

< 10/25/10

0504402003205 6/42 < > < ILL. ead0019.tif >

Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL
19 of 20



Original
house
still
+ mile
on the
Farm
2 mi. so
Dubuque

Elmer Trentress & Diadema Trentress
H. N. Trentress
bros.



Bear

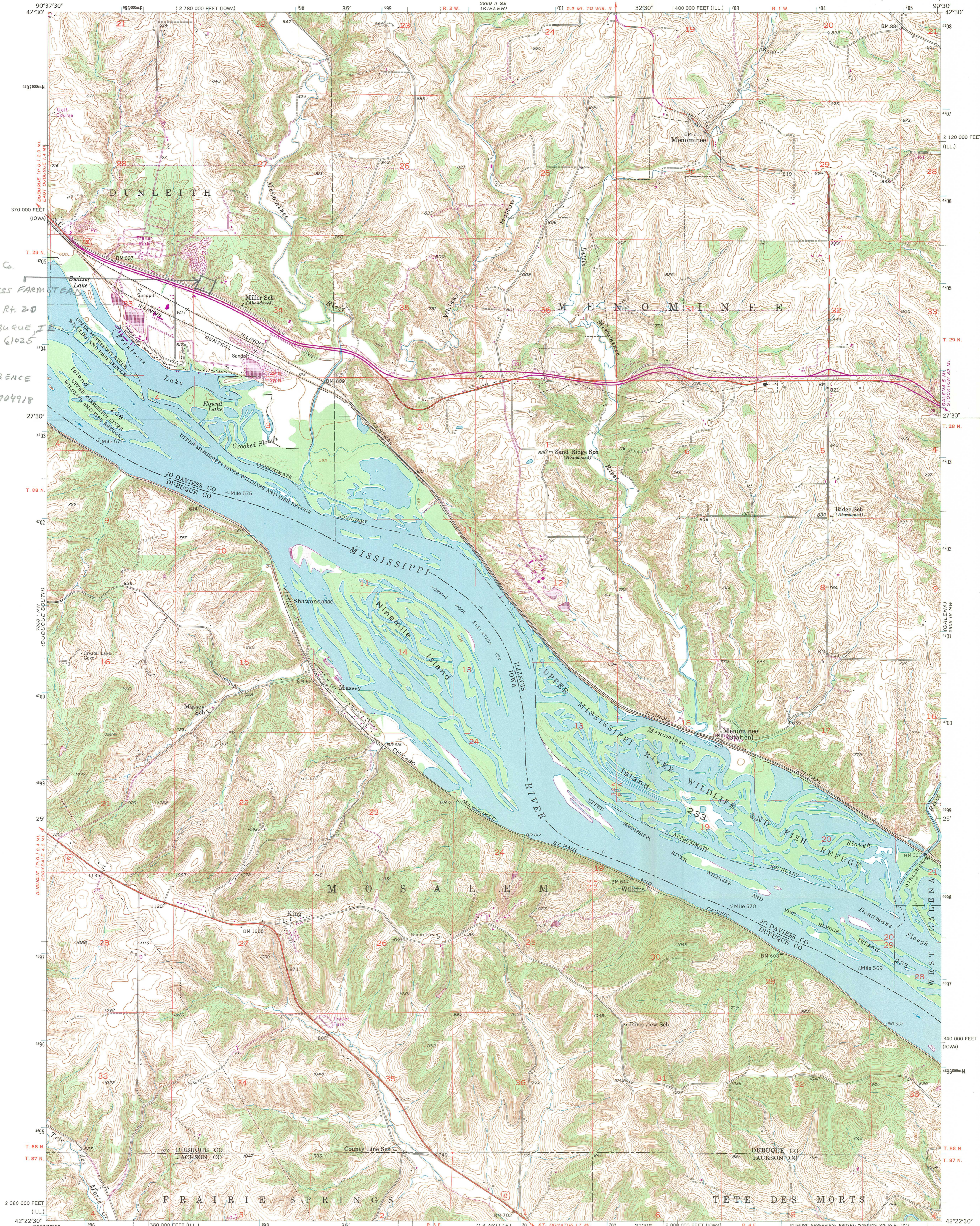
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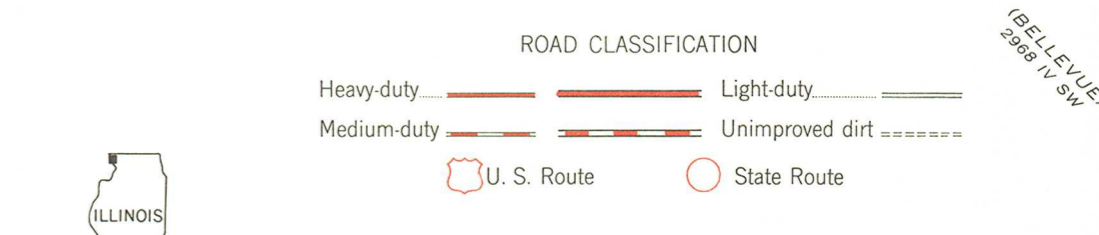
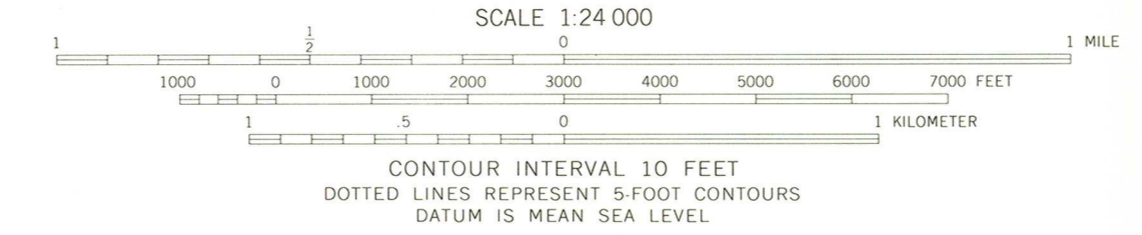
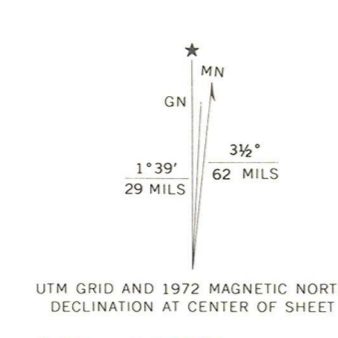
Frentress, Henry N., Farmstead
To Daviess County, IL
20 of 20

Jo Daviess Co.
FRENTERS FARM STEAD
19140 U.S. Rt. 20
EAST DUBUQUE I
61025

UTM REFERENCE
15/697012/4704918



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Iowa area mapped in cooperation with the
State of Iowa, Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USCGS, and USCE
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
and in part by U.S. Corps of Engineers
Aerial photographs taken 1954. Field check 1955
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Illinois coordinate system,
west zone, and Iowa coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1972. This information not field checked



THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND ILLINOIS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS 61820
AND IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



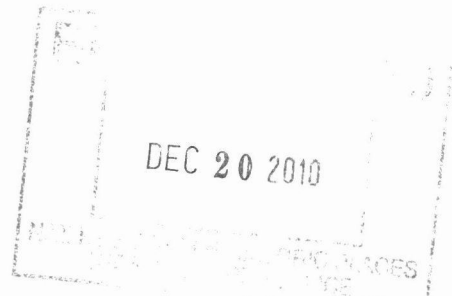
MENOMINEE, ILL.-IOWA
N4222.5-W9030/7.5
PHOTOINSPECTED 1978
1955
PHOTOREVISED 1972
AMS 2868 I NE-SERIES V863





**Illinois Historic
Preservation Agency**

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512 • www.illinois-history.gov



December 15, 2010

Ms. Barbara Wyatt
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW Suite NC400
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Enclosed for your review are the following National Register Forms that were recommended by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council and signed by the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:

Anton Cermak House, Chicago, Cook County

Henry N. Frentress Farmstead, East Dubuque, Jo Daviess County

Please contact me at the address above, or by telephone at 217-785-4324. You can also email me at andrew.heckenkamp@illinois.gov if you need any additional information or clarification. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heckenkamp
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures