FINAL

Rural Reconnaissance Survey
Adams County, Iowa
VOLUME I
Certified Local Government Grant

HADB #02-010
Tallgrass Project No. TA19-727

Prepared for

Adams County Historic Preservation Commission
and the
State Historical Society of Iowa -
Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs

Prepared by

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August 2020

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All phases of the project were conducted under the direction of
Leah D. Rogers, Principal Investigator, Tallgrass Archaeology LLC,
with the assistance of the
Adams County Historic Preservation Commission,
Local Volunteers, Property Owners, and
Tallgrass personnel: Cindy Nagel, Ray Werner, Ashlynn Brown, Addison Marsengill, and Jeb Rosebrook

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

Information contained in this report relating to the nature and location of archaeological sites is considered private and confidential and not for public disclosure in accordance with Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act (formerly 16 U.S.C § 470 et seq., now 54 U.S.C. § 300101 et seq.); 36 CFR Part 800.6 (a)(5) of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's rules implementing Sections 106 and 110 of the Act; Section 9(a) of the Archaeological Resource Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 470hh(a-b) and, Chapter 22.7, subsection 20 of the Iowa Code.

ABSTRACT

The Adams County Rural Reconnaissance Survey focused on the rural churches, cemeteries, and schools throughout the county. It also included the inventory of selected architectural and archaeological sites identified during the survey, with a minimum of one architectural and one archaeological site recorded within each of the 12 townships. A total of 18 architectural properties and 13 archaeological sites were newly recorded as part of the current study, with an additional 25 architectural and eight archaeological sites that had been previously assigned inventory and site numbers but for which forms had either not been completed or needed updated information. This makes for a total of 43 architectural inventory forms and 21 archaeological site record forms completed for this survey. Recommendations for potential NRHP eligibility of each property was made, with some requiring additional research and/or intensive survey before a final recommendation of eligibility can be made. Prioritized recommendations were also made for future surveys and research projects by the Adams County HPC. Below is a full listing of the rural churches, cemeteries, and schools newly recorded by the current study; those for which supplemental forms were completed; and those that previously recorded and note of them made in the report but no forms were completed:

Lincoln Township
02-00570 – Strand Cemetery located behind the Strand Lutheran Church
02-00571 – Lincoln Center Cemetery, 130th between Birch and Chestnut avenues
02-00592 – Woodside Schoolhouse No. 2, 110th St & Chestnut Ave
02-00593 – Strand Lutheran Church, Aspen Avenue & 160th Street
13AA120 – Black Jack School No. 3 Site, Section 8
13AA56 - Fairview School Site

Washington Township
02-00567 – Mt. Etna Brethren Cemetery, Jonquil Road
02-00568 – Forest Hill Cemetery, Mt. Etna Trail & 140th St.
02-00594 – Mt. Etna Schoolhouse, 1264 Juniper Avenue, Mt. Etna
02-00595 – Mt. Etna Evangelical Church, Church Street west of Juniper Avenue
13AA111 – Hinton School Site, Section 2
13AA58 – Slide Off Cemetery

Carl Township
02-00561 – Mt. Zion Cemetery, Quince Avenue
02-00572 – Carl Cemetery, north side of town of Carl, 125th Street
02-00596 – Cramer Schoolhouse, 1495 Corning Carl Road
02-00597 – Miller Schoolhouse, 1501 Co. Rd N55
13AA117 – Mt. Zion School site, Quince Avenue

Colony Township
02-00562 – Bohemian National Cemetery, 130th Street
02-00598 – Nevinville Church, County Rd H20, Nevinville
02-00599 – Rose Hill Cemetery, Vine Avenue
13AA116 – Colony Township School No. 7,

Union Township
02-00558 – Summit Cemetery, 190th and Union
13AA114 – Union Center/Summit School, Section 16

Prescott Township
02-00521 – Prescott Consolidated School, town of Prescott
02-00556 – Evergreen Cemetery, Quartz Road
02-00566 – Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Corning Carl Road
02-00557 – Castle Cemetery (aka Old Prescott or Old Evergreen Cemetery), Quince Road
02-00600 – Methodist Church, town of Prescott
02-00601 – Presbyterian Church/Masonic Hall, town of Prescott
02-00602 – Prescott Twp. School No. 2, Section 4, 170th and Orange
02-00022 – Icarian Schoolhouse (current location), Section 32, Prescott Township
13AA62 – Family burial site
13AA66 – Beck School site near 190th and Mulberry, Section 17
13AA71 – Icarian School Site
13AA73 – Icarian Cemetery

Quincy Township
02-00547 – Walnut Grove Cemetery, Corning
02-00564 – Oakland-Quincy (aka Oakland or Old South) Cemetery, 190th Street
02-00565 – Old Quincy (aka Old North) Cemetery, Hickory Avenue
13AA67 – Queen City Cemetery, Lake Binder campground
13AA121 – Pleasant Valley School No. 6 site, Section 2, Kale Avenue

Douglas Township
02-00587 – United Methodist Episcopal Church, A Street, town of Carbon
02-00569 – Rockdale Cemetery, Section 7, 175th Street
13AA118 – Houck No. 1 School site, Section 1

Nodaway Township
02-00552 – Baldwin Cemetery, Fig Avenue
02-00553 – Nodaway Cemetery, Cherry Avenue
02-00554 – Methodist Grove Cemetery, Elm Avenue
02-00603 – Nodaway Consolidated School, 5th Street, town of Nodaway
13AA108 – Mauderly Burial, Section 3
13AA109 – Northrup School site, Section 29
13AA110 – Mt. Zion Church site, Section 23

Jasper Township
02-00549 - Oak Hill-Calvary Cemetery, south side Corning
02-00551 – Brooks Cemetery, town of Brooks
02-00555 – Prairie Rose Cemetery, 270th and Holly Avenue
02-00604 – United Methodist Church, Commercial Street, town of Brooks
13AA113 – Somerset School Site, 270th and Grove Avenue

Mercer Township
02-00605 – Mercer Center Schoolhouse, 250th and N55
02-00606 – Mercer Center Methodist Church, 250th and N55
13AA119 – Cedar Valley School No. 2 site, Orange Avenue

Grant Township
02-00559 – Stringtown Cemetery, Sycamore Avenue and Hwy 34
02-00560 – Salem Cemetery, east side Redwood Avenue
02-00607 – Stringtown Community Church, Sycamore Avenue and Hwy 34
02-00608 – Grant Center School No. 5, Union Avenue and 250th Street
13AA112 – Salem United Brethren Church site, east side Redwood Avenue

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Introduction

This report presents the results of the Rural Reconnaissance Survey conducted under the Certified Local Government (CLG) grants program as administered by the State Historical Society of Iowa – Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and by the Adams County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). The current members of the HPC include: Saundra Leininger (Chair), Darrell Arntzen, Dick Blazek, Guy Brace, Jon Brokaw, Nancy Carmichael, Marti Gebbie, Joan Haley, Linda Sargent, and Beth Waddle, all of whom participated in project meetings, historic research, and reconnaissance survey. The members also reviewed the draft report. Other organizations that assisted with this study included the Adams County Board of Supervisors, the Corning Public Library, and the Adams County House of History. Other volunteers who assisted with the research and survey activities include: Betty and Dave Agnew, Illah Brown, Ray Gaesser, Henry and Doris Heaton, Lonnie Hettinger, Richard Hogan, Phyllis Houck, Chuck Lyles, Dallas Maeder, Eleanor Ogburn, Bert Peckham, Donna Rochau, Ellen Seaton, and Janice Shepherd.

The Consultant for the project was Tallgrass Archaeology LLC of Iowa City under the direction of Principal Investigator, Leah D. Rogers, who was responsible for the overall conduct of the project and the completion of the project end products, including the draft and final reports, and the Iowa Site Inventory and Archaeological Site Record forms. Rogers was assisted by Tallgrass staff, Project Archaeologist Cindy L. Nagel, and Project Historian Ray J. Werner. Assistants Ashlynn Brown, Addison Marsengill, and Jeb Rosebrook assisted in compilation of survey data and photographs.

Adams County is located in southwestern Iowa, in the southern two tiers of townships in the state (Figure 1). In the second tier from the bottom of the state, the counties have only 12 townships compared to the 16 townships that the rest of the counties in Iowa possess. Adams County is in the landform region known as the Southern Iowa Drift Plain, which is Iowa's largest physiographic region (Figure 2). This area is characterized by a dissected landscape with steeply rolling hills, areas of nearly flat uplands, and level alluvial floodplains (Prior 1991:58-64). This region was formed by successive glacial ice sheet advances and retreats. Since the last glaciation, the majority of the land has been exposed to "episodes of downcutting alternated with periods of greater landscape stability when soil profiles could weather deeply into the exposed glacial deposits" resulting in a dendritic drainage pattern (Prior 1991:61). A moderate to thick mantle of Peorian Loess that was deposited during Wisconsinan time covers much of the region. Adams County is typical of this region having the distinctive rolling hills terrain. This terrain is best suited to the raising of livestock being in the so-called Southern Pasture region of Iowa (Soike 1989). However, row cropping has become common in this area as well with the typical corn and soybeans rotation. Of note in the geology of Adams County, was the presence of coal deposits sufficient to support commercial mining in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In fact, this was the westernmost coal mining area in Iowa. At the time of early settlement, the General Land Office (GLO) plat showed that Adams County was largely open prairie with limited timbered areas along the river and creek valleys (Figure 3).

The 12 townships in Adams County include (from top left to bottom right): Lincoln, Washington, Carl, Colony, Douglas, Quincy, Prescott, Union, Nodaway, Jasper, Mercer, and Grant (Figure 4). The modern cities and towns in the county include the county seat of Corning (Quincy/Jasper townships) and the towns of Prescott (Prescott Township) and Nodaway (Nodaway Township). Smaller communities that still retain some identity as towns but may no longer retain a post office include: Mt. Etna, Carl, Nevinville, Quincy, Carbon, and Brooks.

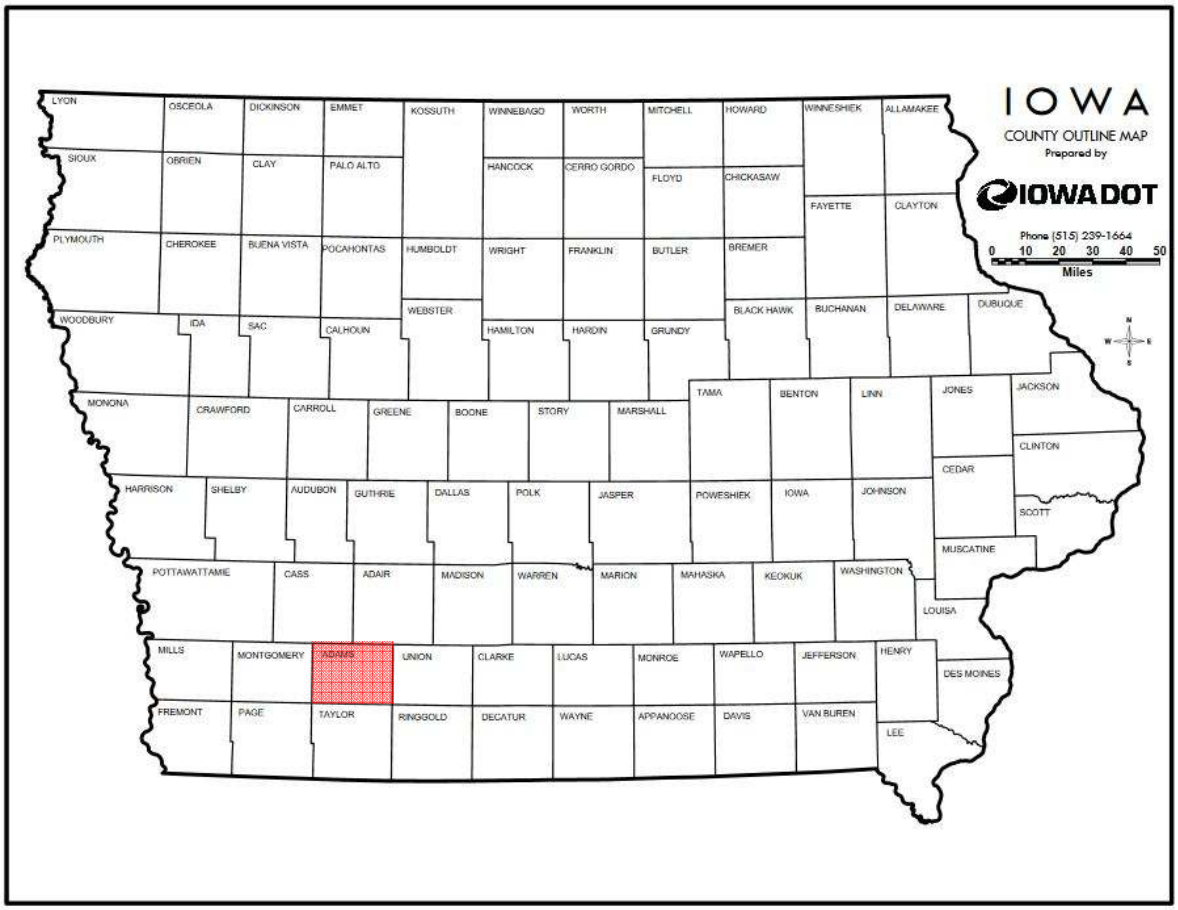


Figure 1. Map of the State of Iowa showing location of Adams County (red shaded). Map obtained from the Iowa DOT.

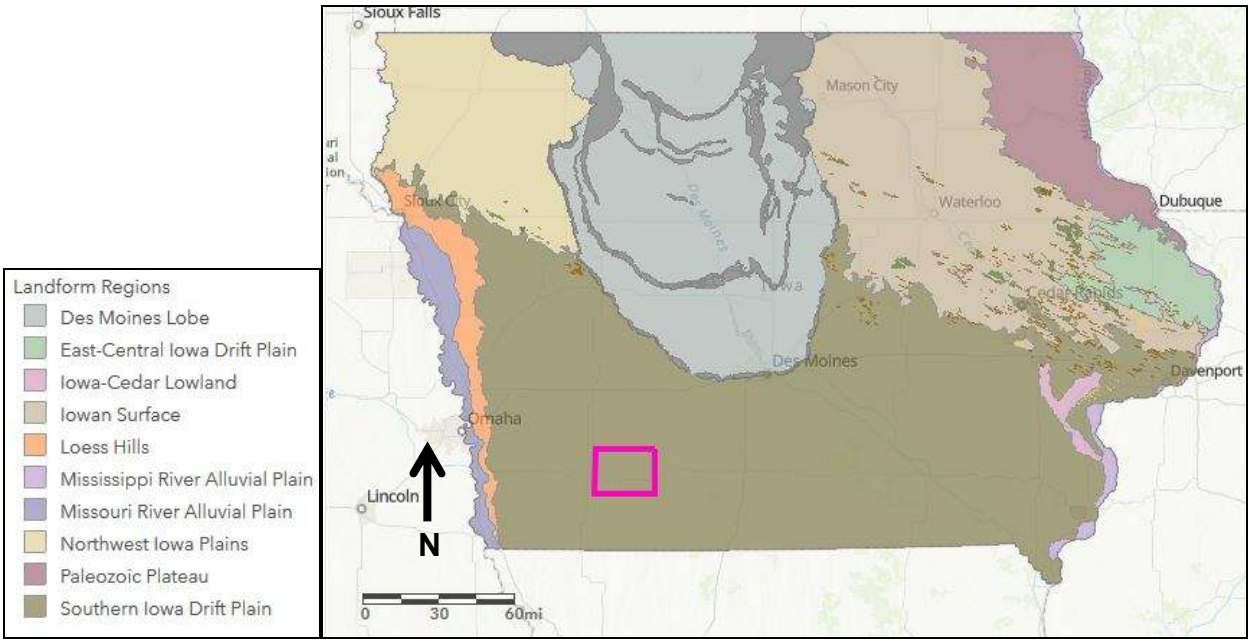


Figure 2. Landform regions of Iowa showing Adams County (pink outline). Map obtained from Arc-GIS through the Iowa Geographic Map Server 2020.



Figure 3. Vegetation in Adams County (pink outline) at the time of the GLO survey in 1850. Tan is open prairie; green is timbered areas. Map obtained from ArcGIS accessed through the Iowa Geographic Map Server 2020.

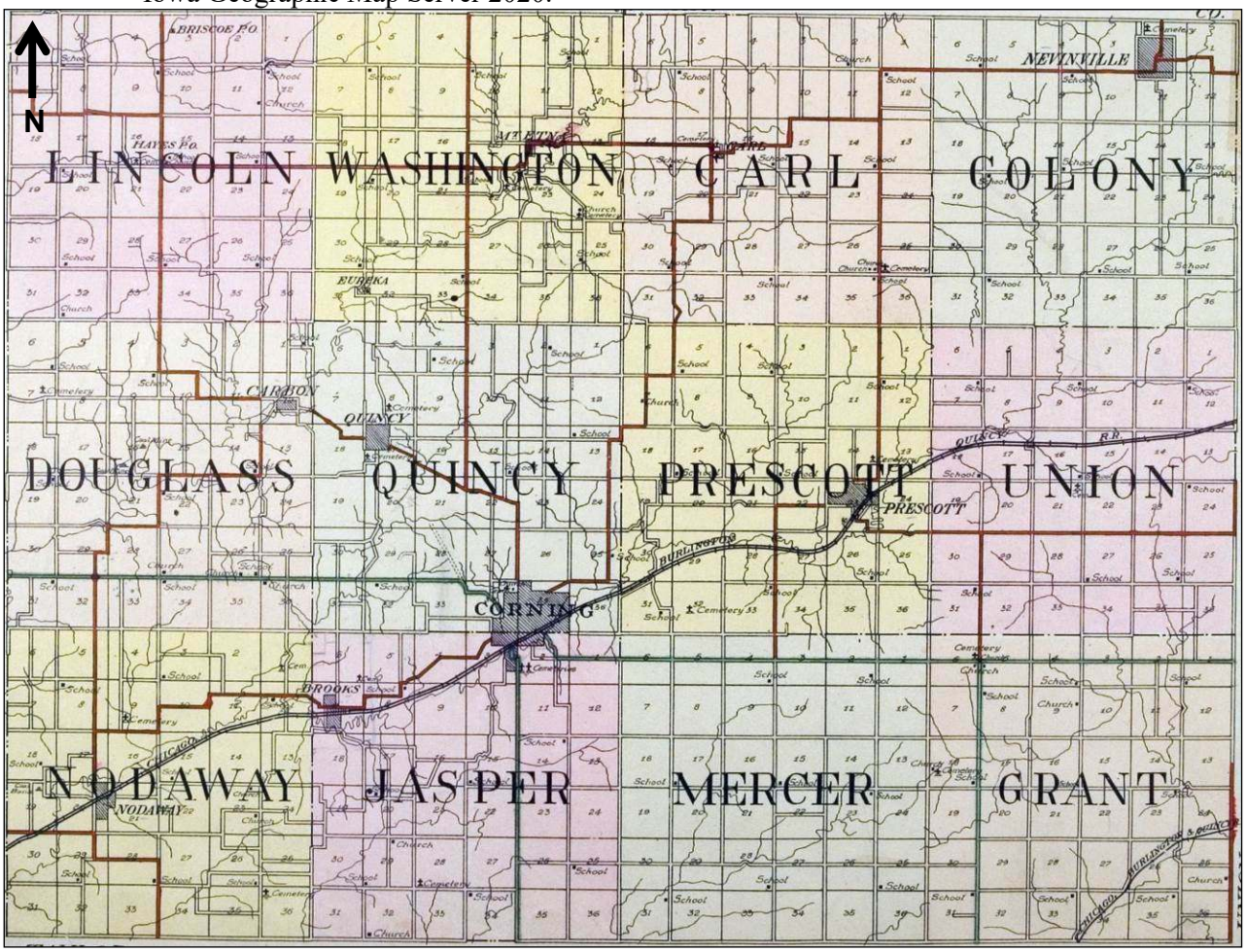


Figure 4. 1905 map of Adams County showing the townships and towns. Note that "Douglass" is spelled with only one "s," today and historically.
Source: Iowa Publishing 1905; digital copy obtained from the Iowa Digital Library – University of Iowa at https://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/, 2020.

Historic Contexts

Early Settlement and Growth of Adams County

Prior to the establishment of Adams County, the area was first surveyed by the General Land Office in 1850. This survey facilitated the opening of this area to legal land sales. However, the initial settlement of this area was slow, but this was true of Western Iowa in general during the frontier period (Jacobsen 1997:3). The main reason was the relative isolation of this area except along the Missouri River but also because settlement in Iowa was more east to west even after the railroads began to be established since the first railroads entered the state from the east. However, another reason for the slow development was that most of the county was covered in tallgrass prairie with the only timbered areas being along the rivers and creeks (see Figure 3). Before the mass production of John Deere's steel scouring plow, breaking the prairie sod for cultivation was an impediment to cultivating large tracts of land so pioneers tended to focus their settlements at the forest/prairie margins. Given the limited areas of forest in Adams County, settlement lagged in this area.

There was one major trail that extended through the southern half of the state in the 1840s associated with the Mormon migration out of Nauvoo in Illinois to Kanesville (later renamed Council Bluffs) along the Missouri River where winter camps and a supply depot were established to support this migration. The eventual goal of the Mormons was to journey to Utah where they would establish a permanent home on the Great Salt Lake. The Mormon Trail through southern Iowa followed in many places a much earlier trail that had been established by Native Americans. This trail just missed modern-day Adams County by less than a mile above, and roughly parallel to, its northern border (Figure 5). The main Mormon migration along this route was from 1846 into the early 1850s. During this period, a connecting trail was established into Adams County from the main Mormon Trail where the Mormons could resupply at Queen City and the Icaria Colony. This same road was used by the California Gold Rushers in 1849 to also obtain supplies at Queen City.

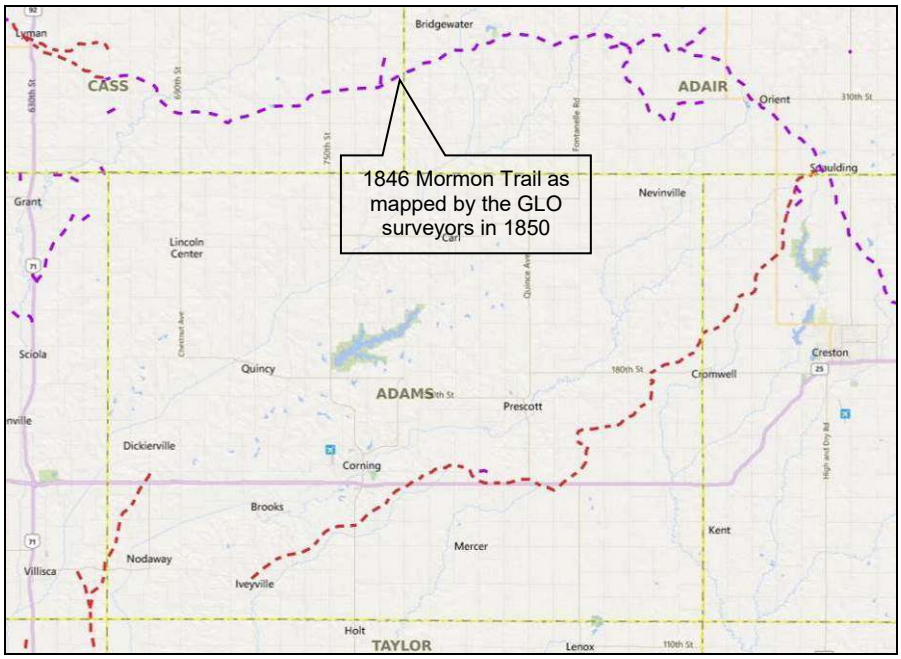


Figure 5. Map of the vicinity of Adams County showing the trails mapped by the GLO, including the main 1840s route known as the Mormon Trail just north of the county.
Map obtained from I-Sites Pro 2020 based on GLO 1850.

Adams County was established in 1851 with one township (Quincy) and was organized in 1853 with three townships (Prescott, Jasper, and Quincy). It was among the last of Iowa's counties to be organized. The county as it is today was originally part of Pottawattamie County and then was briefly part of Union and Montgomery counties but under the name of Adams County. The growth of Adams County did not follow the more typical pattern in Iowa, where multiple rail lines crossed through counties resulting in a boom period for town development and rural agricultural growth. Adams County acquired only one railroad line, the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy (CB&Q), which was the southernmost of Iowa's east-west railroad corridors. But the county lacked the supplemental north-south lines that every other Iowa county obtained. Therefore, while the county certainly owed its late 19th-early 20th century development to the railroad, the lack of that additional supplemental line limited that growth.

> Although the county would crest in population with 13,000 residents, its transportation infrastructure more closely resembles that of its Nebraska counterparts to the west. County road and railroad mileage would be minimized from the start….The nature of the train service would be very different from counties to the east, with through trains predominating over local ones. The county never realized any rail support facilities beyond the level of depot employees and track service crews (Jacobsen 1997:3).

The CB&Q did not enter the county until 1869 as the Burlington & Missouri Railroad, and extended along the Middle Nodaway River valley, which offered the most level ground in the county but also made the railroad line susceptible to flooding.

The county road system was also "limited in its development and much delayed in its improvement" (Jacobsen 1997:4). Even in the modern era, there are a number of road sections in Adams County that are Level B dirt roads that receive minimal maintenance and only provide access to farm fields. Encountering a dirt road in Adams County today signals the lack of an occupied farmstead or rural residence along that section. However, in the historical period, there was some settlement along these road sections as most of the roads in the county were not paved until the 20th century. This was that condition of most rural roads in Iowa into the early 20th century.

The three rivers that flow in a northeast-to-southwest angle through Adams County also served as early transportation routes but also impeded east-west travel through the county.

> The rivers were steep banked and early travelers were forced to deviate upstream and around the heads of the streams. There are three references to either fords or ferries along the major streams. Queen City had a temporary ferry service during high water periods. Mt. Etna had a ford site one mile east of Highway 148. Corning had a ford site just west of the present Loomis Avenue Bridge (Jacobsen 1997:5).

Another limiting factor in Adams County development was the fact that it only encompasses twelve townships instead of the usual sixteen. As a result, it would always have a lower population density than similar rural counties in Iowa that simply have four more townships to add to their population numbers.

In addition to the east-to-west Mormon migration route just north of Adams County, there were two colonizing groups of note among the early settlers of the county. These included the Icaria Colony, members of which had entered the county in 1852 and had acquired land by 1853, and the New England Land Colony, which "was a Boston-based investment effort that bought up Mexican War veterans' land warrants and sold land in the northeast corner of the county to English settlers in 1856" (Jacobsen 1997:6). The New England Land Colony in Adams County encouraged New Englanders (primarily English born and of English descent) to head west to Iowa to settle in Adams, with the stated objective "to have a settlement of entirely New England people to settle down together" (Advertisement from December 1855 quoted in Ellis 1901). The town of Nevin developed as the locus of their settlement. But

the impetus of this settlement was not just for a farming settlement based on their New England heritage but also for those of the Congregational faith, who were attracted to southwestern Iowa because of that church's involvement in the anti-slavery and free-state movements. There are recorded underground railroad activities in Nevin, including providing refuge for fugitive slaves who were directed to the colony because "anti-slavery sentiment was rife here" (Ellis 1901; see also Soike 2013:209). One incident in December 1857 involved the harboring of a runaway slave, who had been brought to Nevin by two regular conductors on the underground railroad, and from Nevin, was "forwarded on, by way of Winterset" (Ellis 1901). Another was recorded in April 1862 when a dozen black men, women, and children arrived from Missouri and actually remained in Nevin for about eighteen months living in a cabin provided by the settlement. They then left for Des Moines (Ellis 1901).

Among the first community buildings erected in Nevin was a schoolhouse that succumbed to a prairie fire in 1864. The Congregational Church was erected in 1874 on the former schoolhouse site "west of the common" in Nevin. A Methodist Church was also built in Nevin fronting Spruce Street and was dedicated in September 1881 (Ellis 1901). By 1901, the original colony land had "all passed into improved farms many years ago," with "ninety families living within its old boundaries; nearly all of whom are farmers" (Ellis 1901). The town of Nevin remained small because the two railroads that the original Boston "boomers" of 1856 had promised never materialized. While first known as Nevin, the town later became known as Nevinville, with "its former distinguishing character as being eminently a 'New England' settlement [having] long since passed away" by 1901 (Ellis 1901).

The Icarians came to Adams County to establish a utopian society, with Icarianism having been "one of the major pre-Marxian socialisms" born out of the French Revolution of 1830 (Cabet 1970; Langer 1969:221; Wheeler et al. 1975:3). The Icarians established their Adams County colony along the East Nodaway River in present-day Prescott Township. The Icarians migrated to Adams County by way of Nauvoo, Illinois, having settled in that town upon the exodus of the Mormons, and then followed the same trail the Mormons took across southern Iowa. However, they broke off from that trail at Mt. Pisgah and followed a new road created by plowing a furrow from there to the colony site (Gauthier 1992:45; Rogers 1998).

The first Icarians in Adams County found few other settlers. Elijah Walters is considered the first settler of the county having staked a land claim in 1846 two miles south of what would become the town of Quincy. Over the next few years, several families following the Mormon Trail also settled in the county. When Adams County was organized in March 1853, Quincy was designated as the first county seat. It served as such until 1872 when Corning, having secured the railroad, was awarded the county seat designation. Quincy faded as a result of this loss. Another early town in the vicinity of the Icarian Colony was Queen City located three-quarters of a mile northwest of the colony. Queen City was platted in 1857 on 262 acres of land, with this large plat indicating grand plans for a great town by its founders. At its peak, Queen City did have several stores, a doctor's office, two hotels, a livery barn, two newspapers, and a population of nearly 150 but never met the aspirations of the town plat. Icarians conducted business in Queen City as well as Quincy and Corning; however, as with Quincy, Queen City eventually lost out to Corning having failed to secure its own rail connections (Gauthier 1992:26, 55-56; Rogers 1998).

As for the Icarian Colony, it did find a measure of success, with colonists able to amass 3,100 acres including bottom land and upland, established a saw and grist mill on the East Nodaway River, started a quarry, and built log cabins, a large dining hall, and numerous outbuildings. They cultivated 360 acres of land and raised horses, oxen, cattle, sheep, pigs, and milk cows. They also established a school and a cemetery. At their peak, the colony numbered in the seventies. However, in the 1870s, the seeds of dissension were being sown, and the colony would be split in two as a result of the growing conflict between the "youth" group, labeled as the "Progressives" and the "older ones," labeled as the "Conservatives." Eventually, the two groups split, dissolving the original colony, and forming their own

colonies, with the older members forced to leave the original colony site and establish "New Icaria" nearby where they moved their houses and built a new dining hall. The "youth" group were awarded the original colony site, now renamed "Young Icaria." Unfortunately, within a few years, Young Icaria was split again by unrest and most of its remaining members moved to California to merge with another Icarian group that officially dissolved in 1886. Meanwhile, New Icaria hung on in Adams County but had become "a small group of mostly semi-retired farmers" (Gauthier 1992:96). Today, the dining hall from New Icaria is still standing and has been moved a short distance to a location near the Icarian Cemetery. The dining hall has been restored and is part of a development, including the Icarian Schoolhouse (also moved here), for education, interpretation, and tourism related to the Icarian Colonies. The schoolhouse, built in 1860 in another township and moved to a location between the original Icarian Colony site and New Icaria, was moved yet again to another location near Corning before moving back onto Icarian land to its current site. This frame, front-gabled, one-room schoolhouse may be the oldest still standing in the county.

Corning remains the county seat to the present day, with the railroad line still active through this community. The other towns that developed as stations along this rail line in Adams County included Prescott, Nodaway, and Brooks, all of which remain towns into the present day but are small in size. In addition to its position as the county seat, Corning was the principal shipping point on the railroad and also benefitted in the 20th century from the establishment of paved Highway 34 extending east-west through the county and State Highway 148, the main north-south artery, which intersects Highway 34 in Corning.

Towns of Adams County

Quincy - This was the first major town in Adams County and was platted in March 1853. It was platted on a high ridgeline near the county's western boundary. It became a road hub in this area of the county as the road system developed. Quincy was the first county seat until 1872 when Corning acquired the designation. The town's population in the 19th century peaked at 283 in 1870 (Jacobsen 1997:98).

Brooks - This town was founded in the 1840s as Canaan City (aka Simpson) and was situated on an east-west trail and near the East Nodaway River. By 1865, this settlement had 100 residents, a general store, an Odd Fellows Lodge, and a Methodist Church. It was situated on the right of way when the Burlington & Missouri Railroad was built through here in 1869, with a depot established at this location. It was platted as Brookville in 1877. The town had a population of 300 by 1898 and had a gristmill (Jacobsen 1997:99).

Queen City - This early town was located on the East Fork of the Nodaway River and became an early supply depot because of an early road established to this location that became known as the St. Joseph and Des Moines road, connecting Des Moines, Iowa, and St. Joseph, Missouri. It was strategically near the center of the county and a good candidate to become the county seat. The town plat contained 100 lots and its size reflected the ambition of its founders. It was located in anticipation of the railroad coming through this plat, with lots reserved for a depot. The Burlington & Missouri Railroad purchased three entire blocks in 1869-1870; however, when the rail line was built, Queen City was bypassed for a depot location in Corning, and "Queen City was effectively gone by the early 1870s" and "its remaining buildings were moved to Corning in November 1872" (Jacobsen 1997:100).

Corning - The town of Corning was platted in September 1857 as a railroad town. While there was settlement on the plat, the railroad would not arrive until after the Civil War. Similar to Queen City and Prescott, Corning was laid out northwest of the railroad corridor so that the depot was located at its southeast corner. New businesses and settlement were slow to develop because of the delay in the railroad

construction. The railroad finally arrived in 1869, and in 1872 Corning was successful in wresting the county courthouse from Quincy. By 1880, Corning's population was over 1,500 persons (Jacobsen 1997:100-102).

Nodaway - This town may have had its start as a railroad construction camp, thus owing its existence to the actual railroad line construction. By 1869, there were 200 residents and two churches. It was incorporated in 1900. The railroad touched the town plat on its northwest corner where the depot was located. By 1898, the town had nearly 400 residents (Chubb 1898; Jacobsen 1997:102).

Prescott - This was the last of the railroad towns to be founded, this one in 1868. It was first called Motley and then Glendale. Prescott was said to be in honor of a railroad official. The town plat was filed in 1870. The railroad established a depot, pumping station, and cistern in Prescott with the water used for the steam locomotives. Originally, a roundhouse was planned here but that plan was abandoned before any construction. Prescott enjoyed slow but steady growth because of the railroad. Prescott, along with Corning, Brooks, and Nodaway would be the only formal shipping points on the railroad in the county (Jacobsen 1997:103).

Other Towns/Settlements - The earliest towns in the county included Carbon, Mt. Etna, Simpson (first called Cannan), the Icarian Colony, and Nevinville. Icaria and Nevinville were in the east side of the county on the more level, open prairie. "Both owed their existence to organized settlement efforts" (Jacobsen 1997:104). The smallest of the towns in the county were often cross-roads settlements developing around the intersection of two roads and often including a few stores, a church, a school, and a few houses. Most had a post office either in a store or in one of the houses. The Icarian Colony briefly had its own post office until it was removed to Queen City. By 1865, seven towns in the county had post offices including Carl, Mt. Etna, Mt. Washington, Nevinville, Queen City, Quincy, and Simpson (Brooks) (Jacobsen 1997:104).

Townships of Adams County

Lincoln Township - This township was originally part of Quincy Township and was established in 1868. There were two post offices in this township known as Briscoe (NW1/4 of Section 3) and Hayes (Sections 15-16). Briscoe had a post office from 1881 to 1903 and had a general store, blacksmith shop, and coal dealer. Hayes also had a blacksmith, a church, a cemetery, and four-five houses. It had a post office from 1881-1900. Lincoln Center was the township trading center and had a general store and church (Jacobsen 1997:105).

Washington Township - This township was also originally part of Quincy Township and was established in 1858. The township has one town, Mt. Etna, platted in 1856 in Section 14. By 1888, this town had a mill, two churches, and several stores. Its founders anticipated it would be on a prospective railroad line that was never built. By 1898, the town had added a public hall, Odd Fellows Lodge, and a telephone company, with two flour mills, a creamery, barber and grocery, and a blacksmith and wagon shop noted here in the 1910s when the population was 300. The town retained its population into the 1920s, with automobile garages and a filling station added to the town's businesses. Mt. Etna retained its post office until 1931. Eureka (Sections 31-32) and Mt. Washington (Section 25) were post offices in the late 19th century. Eureka had an office from 1881-1900 and Mt. Washington from 1863-1867 (Jacobsen 1997:106).

Carl Township - This township was also originally part of Quincy Township and was established in 1859. The town of Carl was platted in Section 14 in 1871 and by the late 1880s had stores, a church, and a blacksmith shop. By the late 1890s, Carl had a creamery, general store, town hall, church, two phone

lines, and daily mail. By the 1940s, auto-related businesses included filling stations and a garage. It retained its post office as late as 1931 (Jacobsen 1997:106).

Colony Township - This township was also originally part of Quincy Township and was established in 1858. Within this township are the communities of Williamson (Section 7) and Nevinville (Section 2). Williamson was primarily a settlement of Bohemian immigrants who settled here in the late 19th century. The town was a local trading center and had a general store, blacksmith shop, and post office by 1898. The town relied on Prescott for banking and railroad shipping. As noted previously, Nevin or Nevinville was established by the New England Land Colony and had an early sawmill established by 1855. It also was a local trading point with stores, churches, and a blacksmith shop and had some participation in the underground railroad prior to emancipation, with some residents providing shelter and assistance to freedom seekers (Ellis 1901). Spaulding was the town's railroad shipping point in nearby Union County. By 1907, the town had a bank, two churches, and a school. By 1910, a hotel, telephone company, and farm implement business had been added and the population stood at 125. By the 1940s, an auto repair shop and school bus garage had been added (Jacobsen 1997:106-107).

Douglas Township – This township was also originally part of Quincy Township and was established in 1860. The settlements of Carbon (Section 12), Strand (Section 32), and Shinn (Section 12) are within this township. Carbon originated in 1849 when a sawmill and Walter's Grist Mill were established. By 1869, the town boasted 400 residents and had three churches. Other businesses including a blacksmith, another blacksmith and wagon maker, a feed mill, and the Carbon Roller Mills. By 1888, Carbon was described as "a mining town of considerable size, having a mill, several stores, a blacksmith shop, etc." (*Free Press*, March 1, 1888). The population in 1898 still stood at 400, with the town anticipating a railroad spur to the coal mines. The town achieved incorporation in 1903, with the town having three churches and a school by 1907. In 1910, Carbon was described as a "banking and shipping point," with coal the major export. The population by 1910 had fallen to 305 persons. By 1912, the town had declined with the bank and blacksmith shop now gone. The flour mill, however, was still in operation, although it closed that same year. The population in 1912 was 246. There was some rebound in population during World War I, with 310 residents by 1922. Auto-related businesses added included an auto garage. Blacksmith shops had also reopened by then. By 1922, the town had two churches and a movie theater. Coal mining began in Carbon in 1870 and lasted through World War II. The last operating mine was that of the Lantz-Drake Mine near Brisco. The boom years for coal were the 1920s and 1930s. A total of 35 mines are mapped in this area (Carbon Bi-Centennial Committee 1976:120-123).

Strand was locally called "Little Norway" because of the number of Norwegian settlers in this area in the late 19th century. It had a post office from 1889-1903. Shinn was a post office in 1885 but appears to have been short-lived (Jacobsen 1997:108).

Quincy Township – This township was originally established in 1853 and then consisted of seven present-day townships and included the northern two-thirds of the county except for Union Township, which separated around 1856. Towns included Quincy (Section 17) and Queen City (Section 25). Quincy was not a railroad town and failed to thrive because it had no rail connection. However, Quincy did become a hub site for the county's converging state and stage roads prior to the Civil War. Among the businesses were a general store, a blacksmith shop, and a post office (1855 through 1900). By 1910, the post office had been discontinued and the town had no listed population. The nearest banking and shipping point was Corning, six miles to the southeast. The history of Queen City was detailed above. It too failed to thrive and is now only a potential archaeological site.

Prescott Township – This township was also part of Quincy Township originally and was reorganized as Queen City Township in 1857; renamed Prescott Township around 1858. The town of Prescott was a railroad town as noted above. In the late 1860s, it had a blacksmith shop, harness maker, and a livery and

feed stable. By 1888, it was described as a "good market town" with three churches and "business houses of various kinds" (*Free Press,* March 1, 1888). Ten years later it was the second largest town in Adams County with 800 residents. It had two elevators and two liveries and was "the chief trading point" for the eastern half of the county (*Union Republican,* December 22, 1898). In 1910, Prescott had a population of 1,121 and had two banks, four churches, a newspaper, two lumber yards, a hotel, a creamery, blacksmith shops, harness maker, wagon maker, livery, and a veterinary surgeon. There was a dramatic drop in population by 1912 when only 426 persons were counted but there was a brickmaker then in operation as well as many of the other 1910 businesses. The population rose to 500 by 1916 but declined to 450 by 1922. Auto-related businesses were added by the 1930s but only one of the elevators was still in operation by that time. Of note in Prescott's history was the Prescott Pottery Works in the 1890s located on the hill north and east of the last depot. This pottery produced both stoneware and whiteware. The only other community in Prescott Township was the Icarian Colony, the history of which was detailed previously.

Union Township – This township was organized in 1858. It had no towns or hamlets except for Mystic, which was a speculative railroad town that failed but was noted by 1898 for its exporting of horses and other livestock.

Nodaway Township – This township was organized in 1859. The only town is that of Nodaway (Sections 20-21). This town was also called East Nodaway and Rochelle but the town was incorporated as Nodaway in 1900. In addition to a post office, Nodaway had a grain dealer, blacksmith, grain and stock dealer, school, church, store, and produce station in the late 19th century. Stock purchasing was the town's most important business in the 1890s. There was also the Nodaway Cheese Factory incorporated in 1889 and the Nodaway Flour Mill built in 1901 and burned in 1922. Other businesses included a livery and feed barn, several blacksmiths, a livery, and harnessmaker. By 1910, Nodaway had a population of 400, two churches, a bank, newspaper, opera house, and two hotels. Auto-related businesses were added in the 1920s-1940s, with the Farmers' Union Co-op Elevator built in 1919, although there were elevators in Nodaway from an early date (Jacobsen 1997:120-122).

Jasper Township – Originally part of Quincy Township, Jasper Township was established in 1856. Towns in Jasper included Corning (Sections 34-35), the history of which was previously detailed, Brooks (Section 7), and Iveyville (Section 31). Both Corning and Brooks were railroad towns but Corning had the advantage of being the county seat and the railroad hub in the county. Brooks was also called Canaan (1857-1860), Simpson (1861-1869), and Brookville/Brooks (post 1869 to present). By 1869, the town had a hotel and livery, a blacksmith and wagon shop, and a brickyard. By 1888, it had three churches, a school, and several businesses (*Free Press,* March 1, 1888; *The Republican,* January 1, 1898). In 1910, the population was 150, with the town having a bank, four churches, two blacksmiths, and an agricultural implement dealer. By 1922, there were only three churches but the bank remained and some auto-related businesses had been added. Brooks lost its last regular business in 1983 because road improvements had pulled shoppers elsewhere and trucking took the livestock trade away from the railroad. The post office was discontinued in 1974 (Jacobsen 1997:122-123). Of note in Brooks' history, was the location of the Simpson Seminary on the north edge of town. This seminary (nonextant) was a forerunner of Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa.

Iveyville was established in 1871 and was a crossroads community. At its peak, it had a store, church, blacksmith shop, and a post office (1885-1903) (*Free Press,* March 1, 1888).

Mercer Township – This township was organized in 1868. The only community was Mercer located in Section 22 and having four houses, a school, and a post office (1893-1900) (Jacobsen 1997:123).

Grant Township – This township was organized in 1870. Stringtown was the only community in this township and was located in Sections 5-6 at the intersection of what is now Highway 34 and a county

road. This was never a formal town but was instead a crossroads hamlet that consisted of a church and cemetery and several road-related businesses including the Stringtown Inn and Gas Station (1950) and Clark's Garage (1948). There was also an airstrip that had a 1940s airplane hanger that was still standing in 1992. The Stringtown Store/filling station established in 1929 burned in 1935 (Jacobsen 1997:123).

Rural Schools, Churches and Cemeteries of Adams County

In Iowa and the Midwest, the heyday of country schools and churches was from the 1850s to the 1950s. These rural resources were the focal points of rural life for education, religion, and social life at a time when roads and modes of transportation limited the area that one could easily travel from home for such activities. Country schoolhouses were spaced close enough that no child had to walk more than two miles in any direction to attend school, an important factor given Iowa's unpredictable weather extremes. Getting caught in the white-out and freezing temperatures of a blizzard was a particular concern for parents of school-age children. Therefore, most schools were located along section line roads, often at or near road intersections. These were one-room schoolhouses where children of all ages would be taught by one teacher. Early schools were frame, brick, or stone construction depending on the availability of local resources. In Adams County, most of the rural schools were of frame construction and having a simple, one-story, front-gabled roof configuration. Some had front vestibules for the entry door and space for a cloakroom. Restroom facilities consisted of privies placed to the rear of the school lot close enough for access but far enough to distance the smells from the schoolhouse. Most often there were two privies, one for girls and one for boys. Other common features were wells for water and subterranean storm shelters since most early schools lacked a basement. By the early 1900s, many of the original frame schoolhouses were being replaced with somewhat larger and more modern schoolhouses often square in plan and having a hipped roof. Many of these newer schools showed influence from the Craftsman/Bungalow style of architecture and had rows of windows for better light and basements underneath the schoolhouse for more comfortable and closer safety and for storage. Playground equipment did not become popular until after 1900 (Deiber and Beedle 2002:10).

Schoolhouses were sometimes clustered with rural churches but were not typically operated by the church, although a number of early schoolhouses also functioned as a church on Sunday and as a community gathering place. Many of the schools in Adams County became township halls and polling places after their school function had ceased.

Researchers estimate in 1913 there were 215,000 ungraded elementary one-room country schools across North America where one teacher was responsible for all elementary students through the equivalent of eighth grade. Today, there are still approximately 200 such learning centers still in operation nationwide. While every state had one-room schools, Iowa had the most operating one-teacher schools for the longest period of time. The number peaked in 1901 when there were 12,623 such rural schools in Iowa (Sherman 1998:9).

Country school students typically ranged in age from first through eighth grade; though a few would stay on to get their high school diplomas. Some country schoolteachers never went beyond the eighth grade although many held teaching certificates. State legislation closed the doors of most Iowa country schools permanently in 1967 (Sherman 1998:7). Today only an estimated 2,800 of these rural school buildings still remain but only a few of these still retain their original look while the remainder are in various states of decay, restoration, or adaptive reuse. Many were moved from their original site; a number remain only as potential archaeological sites.

In Adams County as elsewhere in Iowa, rural school consolidation began as early as the 1890s in an effort to improve rural education and reduce the perceived isolation of rural populations from "the economic and ideological changes that were happening in the nation at large" (Deiber and Beedle 2002:5).

> The Country Life movement was meant to transform rural life from isolated small towns and farmsteads into a system of integrated communities, sharing ideas and improving their productivity. Consolidating rural schools was a significant step in that direction (Deiber and Beedle 2002:5).

However, rural school consolidation was met with some resistance, with objections including "the loss of local control over the schools, the likelihood of a higher property tax burden being placed on rural residents, and the lack of good roads to get the pupils to school" (Deiber and Beedle 2002:5). The first consolidation law in Iowa was passed in 1906 but the movement was slow in getting started. By 1910, there were only ten consolidated schools in Iowa, none of which were in Adams County. Funding was made available for consolidated schools in 1913, which further encouraged the movement, and a minimum attendance law passed in 1919, "forced directors to close a school that had fewer than five students in average daily attendance or could not show the planned attendance of at least ten pupils for the following year" (Deiber and Beedle 2002:8). Laws passed in 1945 and 1953 essentially ended rural schools, with the law in 1945 allowing closure of a school if the operating cost per pupil was greater than the cost of tuition at another school. The 1953 law required the formation of community school districts in order to receive public funding, with each district absorbing all of the elementary schools in the region. "This law effectively closed any remaining country schools" (Deiber and Beedle 2002:8). However, a number of the rural schoolhouses in Adams County remained opened until 1960 when they were finally closed. Statewide there was "not a single public one-room schoolhouse" still open by 1972 (Deiber and 2002:8).

Part of the reason for the late survival of a number of Adams County rural schools may have been the lower population of the county overall and the lower number of towns in this county large enough to maintain an existing school per township compared to others elsewhere in Iowa. A lag in rural road improvements in Adams County added to the delay in school consolidation. For example, in Prescott Township, the rural schools began closing in the 1910s, while others hung on into the 1930s-1950s and still others remained open as late as 1960. The key to early consolidation was proximity to a town that had an active school. School consolidation continues into the present day as fewer and larger schools now serve any given county's school-age population.

Once the rural schoolhouses closed down, many continued to be used as township halls or polling places. Some in Adams County served as polling places until recently. Other schoolhouses were converted into houses or farm buildings and were often moved from their original site in the process. It was noted in 1998 that at least 15 one-room schools remained standing in Adams County. Three of these schools had been moved from Washington Township into Mt. Etna in 1950 where one was used as a township meeting hall and polling place and the other two used for storage. One of these later became a house. A Grant Township school was still being used as a polling place in 1998 and the Quincy School was used as a township meeting hall. "Four other schools are vacant, three are used as farm buildings, and another has been converted to a home" (Leininger 1998:68). One of the schoolhouses was the Icarian School built in the 1860s and moved several times in its history. In 1998, the school was located near Corning and had been restored as a museum (Leininger 1998:68). That schoolhouse was more recently moved to the Icarian interpretive site on former colony land east of Corning where the New Icarian Dining Hall was also moved and restored.

It should also be noted that it was not uncommon to move schoolhouses even in the late 19th century while still in use. The reasons for such moves probably varied but some reasons may have been population density changes that required moving a schoolhouse from one location to another to help

maintain that two-mile radius for school-age children and from road improvements that may have made an earlier location less desirable for a location that had better road access. Therefore, moving schoolhouses even while in use as such was rather commonplace in Adams County.

Rural churches were also a fixture in the Iowa countryside in the late 19th to mid-to-late 20th centuries. Ethnically, Iowa "is considered the most homogenous of all the states in the [Midwest] region – primarily white, Anglo-Saxon, and Protestant. But upon closer inspection it becomes apparent that it is actually home to a wide range of ethnic and religious groups" (Chiat 1997:154). It was, in fact, a place in the 19th century that attracted those who were migrating from east to west in search of better opportunities and fertile lands and those who were immigrating to America for the very same reasons. Iowa was also attractive to religious and ethnic groups seeking more freedom to practice their religion, such as the Mormons, and those hoping to establish religious and secular utopian and socialist societies. The Icarians, who settled in Adams County, were one such group seeking to live out their dream of a utopian society on the Iowa frontier. However, the Icarians were not a religious group, whereas the Amana Society in Iowa County was a Christian utopian communitarian society and is among the most successful of the utopian communities in Iowa's history (Chiat 1997:155). Although in order to survive the Great Depression, the Society had to embrace at least some aspects of capitalism. Most of the other utopian groups in Iowa failed to thrive or persist much beyond the early 1900s, with many dissolving because of intragroup conflicts and dissension.

In the 19th century, religion and church affiliations were a daily fixture of most people's lives having been born out of the "Second Great Awakening," which was a Protestant religious revival in the early 19th century in America that fueled evangelical fervor and revival. Colleges, seminaries and mission societies were entities founded out of this fervor, and new religious movements emerged including Adventism and Latter Day Saints. Baptists and Methodists grew in numbers relative to those that had previously dominated the Colonial Period in America, such as the Anglican, Presbyterian, Congregationalist, and Reformed churches. The movement greatly increased the number of Christians in New England and on the frontier (Kelly 2019).

The "Third Great Awakening" spanned the late 1850s into the early 1920s and much like the previous awakenings reflected a resurgence in religious interest and fervor. Religious education was further pursued through the establishment of bible colleges during this period along with regular prayer meetings and revivals. The Pentecostal movement emerged in the early 1900s (Hopkins n.d.). Billy Sunday, who had been born in Iowa in 1862 rose to fame as a professional baseball player and then as a Presbyterian preacher, whose fiery and dramatic revivals both enthralled and dismayed. He took a strong temperance position (among a host of other strong conservative stances of the day), which by the 1920s began to fall out of favor with many Americans. However, his legacy "helped strengthen conservative Protestantism" and he "became one of the most colorful and popular revivalists of the 20th century" (Gurrentz n.d.).

Therefore, as people were migrating into Iowa to settle in the 1840s-1870s, they did so within the contexts of both the second and third awakenings. They brought with them their religious affiliations and social movements, with many denominations purposefully settling in the new frontiers, such as Iowa, in order to proselytize and establish new missions. In Adams County, this was evidenced in the number of New England Congregationalists, who settled Nevinville and its vicinity, establishing their church and transplanting their anti-slavery activism. Their location in Adams County appears to have been purposeful as it placed them within the large network of Underground Railroad routes that were developing throughout southern Iowa prior to the Civil War.

These movements are also reflected in the number of rural churches established in Iowa and Adams County, where even with its comparatively low-density population, each township had at least one if not two or more churches. This pattern continued from early settlement into the early 1900s but the loss of

rural population by the 1920s-1930s began to impact rural churches to the point that only a few have survived into the modern day. There are other contributory factors to the loss of rural church congregations including the impact of the farm depression of the 1920s and the Great Depression of the 1930s where many farmers in Iowa lost their lands and had to move away; the physical toll of two world wars and the 1918 pandemic; the rise of the automobile and an improved road system that made traveling to town to attend church much easier but also made it easier to live in town as young people began to move away from the family farms for new opportunities; and the rising social unrest of the mid-to-late 20th century and an increase in secularism that cumulatively resulted in a loss of membership and inability of many rural and small-town churches to survive. As a result, these churches often ended up with largely elderly members and congregations that were losing more members than they were gaining. The first reaction to this was to consolidate churches, resulting in denominations merging or "uniting" to form one larger church, often located in a town. The merging of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church resulted in the modern-day United Methodist Church and is just one such example. However, dissension in some denominations resulted in splits that were often acrimonious, greatly impacting some rural communities. Some early congregations simply migrated westward in their dedication to missions, such as the Congregationalists who largely left Adams County by the late 20th century and the Latter Day Saints, who migrated to Utah although some returned to establish LDS churches in Iowa.

While some rural churches remain in use in Adams County, most united with their respective denominations at in-town churches. Rural churches were built for the same reasons as rural schools—the limitations of Iowa's early road system and modes of transportation that inhibited travel in wet and snowy weather. However, rural churches were also placed to serve differing denominations and ethnic settlement areas. The represented denominations in Adams County in the 19th century included: First Baptist, Missionary Baptist, Congregational, Methodist Episcopal, Free Methodist, Evangelical, Dunkard Brethren, Church of the Brethren, United Brethren, Advent Christian, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian, and Campbellites, the last having been a group of Christians, who erected the first church building in Corning in 1871 (Adams County History Book Committee 1984). By 1926, the Bureau of the Census report on religious bodies, reported 3,885 persons in Adams County who were members of "all denominations," with 215 identified as Northern Baptists, 321 as Disciples of Christ, 190 as Norwegian Lutherans, 1,883 as Methodist Episcopal, 167 as Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., 444 as Roman Catholic, and 665 "all other bodies" (Bureau of the Census 1926). Some comments on the 1926 religious bodies listings for Adams County; first, it would appear that the Congregationalists, who had settled Nevinville and established their church there in the 19th century, were no longer an active congregation by 1926, with no persons identifying as a member of the Congregational Church; second, a lack of United Brethren members listed when there were early congregations here in the 19th century and there was still the Salem United Brethren Church in rural Grant Township in the 1920s (and still standing and in use until 2015) and the Mt. Etna Church of the Brethren (also still standing and in use until recently); and third, the comparatively high number (665) who were identified with "all other bodies," not otherwise specifically listed in the census summary.[1] It is known that the Norwegian Lutherans settled around Strand in the southwest corner of Lincoln Township where the Strand Lutheran Church is still an active congregation, and the Roman Catholics were, and still are, centered in Corning.

[1] The religious bodies specifically identified in the 1926 census included: Northern Baptists, Congregational, Disciples of Christ, Evangelical, Evangelical Synod of North America, Friends, Jewish, Later-day Saints, United Lutheran, Augustana Lutheran, Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states, Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, Joint Synod of Ohio and other states, Synod of Iowa and other states, Danish Evangelical, United Danish, Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A., United Presbyterian, Reformed Church in America, Christian Reformed, Roman Catholic, Scandinavian Evangelical, and United Brethren in Christ (Bureau of Census 1926).

Today, there are Methodist Churches in Brooks, Carl, and Carbon; the United Church (Disciples of Christ) in Prescott; the Strand Evangelical Lutheran Church; the Mercer Center United Methodist Church; the Stringtown Community Church; and the United Methodist, First Presbyterian, Grace Baptist, Living for Christ Outreach, the Redeemer Lutheran, and St. Patrick Catholic Church in Corning.

The earliest rural churches in Adams County were largely wooden frame, front-gabled buildings with or without bell towers. Some had accompanying parsonages and rectories. In the early 20th century, many of the older church buildings were replaced or remodeled in the popular Revival and late Queen Anne styles of the early 1900s resulting in buildings with square or complex ground and roof plans, many now with hipped rooflines that had lower cross-gables. Corner, or inset, entry towers became common.

There are fewer rural church buildings still standing in Adams County than rural schoolhouses. Part of the reason for that is that churches were privately owned by their congregations, parishes, or dioceses, and once the congregation either disbanded or shifted to in-town churches, unless a new use could be found for the old church, the tendency was to tear down the old church as it would have been a liability and the responsibility of the congregation. Rural schoolhouses were often easier to convert to other uses such as agricultural outbuildings and dwellings. Therefore, an extant rural church of historic age and retaining sufficient historic integrity should be considered significant because of the rarity of this property type to survive into the modern era.

Country churches were often, but not always, accompanied by an adjoining cemetery, most of which still endure up to the present day, although some now qualify as Pioneer Cemeteries because they are no longer used for burials in the modern era. However, there are rural cemeteries that were family or neighborhood burial grounds that had no church affiliation. In addition to the formal rural cemeteries, there were family burial plots that were located on a family homestead or represent individuals buried along an active trail at locations that never became formal cemeteries and are now often unmarked. All of these cemetery/burial ground types are present in Adams County.

Rural cemeteries typically follow the pattern of the old burying ground, with plots and lots laid out on a grid pattern with rows oriented to the cardinal directions. Many were fenced, most had a metal or wooden gateway with a sign that carried the name of that cemetery. Some shade trees were planted or allowed to grow, while others have plantings of cedars and evergreen trees. Some have paved lanes (mainly gravel); others are dirt two-tracks or mowed grass lanes. In Adams County, most of the cemeteries are located alongside a roadway or at the intersection of two roads. However, there are some that are setback some distance from the section-line roads. In those instances, the cemetery was often among the earliest cemeteries established before the road system evolved. Also typical is the placement of cemeteries on hilltops. Some cemeteries have gravestones that face west, with the head of the body being behind the headstone and facing east. This can reflect Christian tradition, being symbolic of the resurrection by facing the rising sun or of Christ's second coming as reported in scripture to be from the east. However, there are deviations from this pattern likely based on the limitations of the cemetery site, such as stones and graves oriented north-south rather than east-west because of the orientation of the cemetery to a road. Rural cemeteries often had a memorial maker or flagpole, with some having groupings of statuary, particularly in a Catholic cemetery. Monuments in rural cemeteries run the gamut from simple limestone or marble upright slab markers, to limestone, marble, and granite obelisks, to granite markers of great size, some including statues. In Adams County's rural cemeteries, the use of tree stump or "log" markers was noted in a number of cemeteries. White bronze markers were popular in Iowa cemeteries in the late 19th to early 20th centuries because one of the factories that produced these metal markers was located in Des Moines. However, in Adams County's rural cemeteries there are notably few of these white bronze markers, if any. Also largely lacking are mausoleums, with only one having a mausoleum and that structure having been built in 1940. There are few surviving buildings in Adams County's rural cemeteries except for a few having a privy or storage shed.

Most rural cemeteries suffer from vandalism and neglect, including some of those in Adams County. However, a number of the county's rural cemeteries are still in use and well maintained, with repairs made to stones as needed. Some cemeteries have been "lost" lacking any remnant stones, while at least one remnant cemetery in the county is obviously much smaller in its current state than it was originally. In that case, a small area with extant stones was surrounded by a fence and the surrounding ground then farmed. It is likely that there are graves in the farm field that are going unrecognized because the stones are missing. In some cases, the loss of stones was the result of an intentional act, with one instance where gravestones were removed to make a patio. Unfortunately, once something like that happens, even if the stones are recovered, they cannot be placed back in the cemetery with any accuracy as township cemetery records can be spotty if they even still exist.

As rural resources, country schools and churches are disappearing at a fast rate as the rural population in Iowa declines. The rural cemeteries should continue to be maintained but the abandoned schools and churches will be lost if they are not adapted for other uses, which can destroy their historic integrity. It is important to record and document these resources before they are entirely lost and to identify those resources that retain historic integrity and historical/architectural significance sufficient to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Such listings can provide opportunities for funding for restoration and rehabilitation that will insure that these resources remain standing into the future. However, rural resources are a challenge when on their original site as they were abandoned for a reason – loss of population and consolidation of population and schools and churches in towns. This makes preservation in place difficult and sometimes the only solution for preservation of the resource is moving it to a new location where it can be preserved. However, such moves should be made only with careful planning and consideration of maintaining historic integrity as much as possible. Creating false constructs of a "historic town" setting for a rural schoolhouse or church should be avoided. That said, there were some rural schoolhouses moved in Adams County into town settings where they were used for meeting halls, polling places, and as extra school rooms for the larger consolidated school in that town. In two cases, rural Adams County schools were moved to an adjacent county where they were originally used as extra school rooms for the high school but were later were converted into houses, which they remain to the present day. The significance of these schools, therefore, might include their later uses even as moved buildings since they would represent the process of school consolidation from country to town schools.

Research Design and Methodology

Goals and Objectives

The primary goal of the project was to conduct a reconnaissance-level survey of the rural churches, cemeteries, and schools (architectural and archaeological) in Adams County, Iowa. A further goal was to update and expand upon the 1995 Planning for Preservation study of Adams County, which identified rural schools, churches, and cemeteries as part of the essential fabric of rural life in the county's historical development (Naumann 1995). Additional goals included identification of historic properties with urgent preservation needs and to prioritize recommended intensive survey and evaluation projects and nominations to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). It is the intention of the Adams County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) to use the information compiled by the proposed study to educate rural landowners about historic preservation of the significant cultural resources under their care.

Objectives included: involving volunteers in the research activities and field reconnaissance; educating the public about the significance of the county's architectural/historical and archaeological properties; providing information to help preserve and protect these important resources; and providing the Adams County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) with a prioritized plan to move forward with

preservation needs identified in the Planning for Preservation study and further expanded in the current reconnaissance survey.

Methods

The initial phase involved a literature review including, but not limited to:

1. review of the 1995 Planning for Preservation study (Naumann 1995);
2. examination of county and local histories to compile the appropriate historic contexts under which identified properties and sites can be evaluated;
3. compilation of a list of known and potential church, cemetery, and school sites in the county from the 1995 study and the historical research;
4. examination of the Iowa Site Inventory and the I-Sites: online GIS and Data Base for Iowa Archaeology for the location of all archaeological sites and architectural properties recorded to date in Adams County in the state inventories particularly looking for churches, cemeteries, and school sites; and
5. review of the NRHP nominations and other historical studies completed in the county.

Members of the HPC assisted in the review of local resources and repositories including the Adams County House of History in Corning, the county's historical newspaper archives, and three sets of historical plat maps from 1875, 1884, and 1905. The volunteers then compiled an initial list and marked locations on county road maps showing known and potential rural sites. The locations of these properties were then checked using the Adams County Assessor's online records and other online resources such as Google Earth and Street View to determine if identified resources are still standing and make an initial assessment of condition and pinpoint their location. The research data for each township was then entered into a Smartsheet spreadsheet program, to which all the HPC members entered their data. This is a database that can be added to as further research is conducted and new information comes to light, such as oral histories.

The second phase of the study involved the reconnaissance survey of the rural area of Adams County's 12 townships to further locate and assess church, cemetery, and school locations. It was anticipated that some previously unknown resources would come to light, such as churches or schools that were moved and adapted for other purposes as agricultural outbuildings, garages, or houses. The survey required participation by members of the HPC and other volunteers under the direction of the Consultant. HPC members each took responsibility for one or more townships that they then researched and mapped. Each member then accompanied the Consultant and other Tallgrass staff for the reconnaissance survey of their respective townships. Initially, two townships (Nodaway and Washington) were surveyed by a group of HPC members and volunteers, who along with the Consultant (Leah Rogers) conducted the windshield survey in one vehicle. Digital photos were taken of each identified site and the locations were mapped using a handheld GPS unit.

The survey was planned to continue through the fall and winter as weather permitted but the roads in Adams County are such that the early winter in 2019 and continued snow after the holidays precluded additional survey until the spring. Unfortunately, the pandemic crisis of COVID-19 threw a wrench into those plans. The early March survey that was planned had to be cancelled and rescheduled until things had calmed enough that a modified reconnaissance survey could be undertaken. That did not happen until early May. At that time, the modified survey approach was to have the HPC member for each of their respective townships drive alone in the lead car to each identified location in the township followed in a separate car by either the Consultant (Rogers) or a Tallgrass staff person (Ray Werner and Cindy Nagel). Because each group could survey one township in the morning and a second township in the afternoon, we were able to survey multiple townships in a single day. This allowed for the rest of the 10 townships

to be surveyed in just two days. While this was not the same experience of having a group ride along and learn more during the actual survey, this method did allow the survey to be completed without being a danger to those involved. Please note that social distancing while out of the vehicles was practiced as well as wearing face masks when gathering in the morning for assignments. Therefore, while COVID-19 proved to be a challenge, an effective and safe means of reconnaissance survey was formulated and implemented. The group learning will come from the reading of the summary draft report and a final public meeting to be held whenever it is safe to do so.

The Consultant and Tallgrass staff involved then selected those properties for recording on Iowa Site Inventory forms (if architectural) and Iowa Archaeological Site forms (if archaeological). The archaeological site forms were completed online in the I-Sites Pro: an Online GIS and Database for Iowa Archaeology using numbers assigned by the Office of the State Archaeologist. However, copies of the site forms completed are included in Volume II of this report. Likewise, the Iowa Site Inventory forms were recorded using site numbers assigned by the State Historical Society of Iowa, with copies also included in Volume II. If any properties were found to be in acute need of preservation assistance, the owner(s) will be given more information about the NRHP and available preservation resources, such as the Historic Resources Development Program (HRDP).

The report herein summarizes the project activities, identifies historic contexts, and identifies historic properties. The report also includes a summary of the project's objectives, methods, and activities as well as a list of prioritized recommendations for intensive survey and evaluation projects, NRHP nominations, and other acute preservation needs in the county. A public meeting or open house organized by the HPC will be held to present the survey results; showcase the county's rehabilitated historic properties, and the NRHP-listed properties in the county. However, given the current pandemic crisis, this meeting may have to be virtual or recorded and posted on Facebook and other social media.

The draft report was reviewed by the HPC members, the State Historical Society of Iowa (State), and members of the public who were be able to read the draft report at the public library in Corning. Sample drafts of the Iowa Site Inventory and Iowa Archaeological Site Record forms were also submitted for review. Finally, a National Archaeological Data Base (NADB) and a Historical Architectural Data Base (HADB) forms were completed for each report and are presented in Volume II.

Research Questions

1) How many churches and schools are extant as standing architectural properties and how many are at their original locations? A related question concerns their individual integrity at their current locations?
2) How many cemeteries are maintained and marked, and how many are known but not marked? Are the identified cemeteries all accessible in some way to the public?
3) How do the churches and cemeteries relate to one another, or not? How many cemeteries have no religious affiliation or associated church or church site and how many churches never had an associated cemetery?
4) It is known that the Icaria Schoolhouse is extant but moved several times. Currently it is not considered eligible for the NRHP; however, one question about its eligibility is how it compares as far as integrity, age, and architecture with other extant schoolhouses in the rural areas? A compilation of comparative data will help in the evaluation of the Icaria Schoolhouse but also any other rural schoolhouses in the county.

Results of the Survey

The survey results are discussed by township, starting geographically at the top left corner of the county and then going from left to right, then right to left, and so on descending from the north to south tiers. There are four townships across and three townships town in Adams County (see Figure 4). The location of each property described is keyed to the maps presented in Volume II, which also includes excel table summaries of each of these properties and additional photographs.

Lincoln Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 7, 2020, with the assistance of a project volunteer. Because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19, the volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Ray J. Werner of Tallgrass.

Lincoln Township is in the northwest corner of Adams County. There was one small crossroads community in the township known as Lincoln Center. This location had a Methodist Church, which was established in 1870 and had been organized in a schoolhouse that stood in what is now the Lincoln Center Cemetery. In 1878, a new schoolhouse was built a half-mile east of the cemetery, with the church and Sunday School held in this school until a church building was erected in 1890. That church was still standing until circa 2006. In the 1890s, S.F. Davis built a general store a quarter of a mile north of Lincoln Center, with a post office in the store called "Hayes." The store had a second-floor fraternal hall for many years. A blacksmith shop was also associated with this rural community in the center of the township along with a cheese factory.

Another notable settlement in Lincoln Township is that centered on the Strand Lutheran Church and Cemetery. This settlement was made by Norwegian immigrants in the late 19th century in the southwest corner of Lincoln Township and the northwest corner of Douglas Township. The Rockdale Cemetery in Douglas Township was an early burial ground for the Larson family and this cemetery was also called the Norway Cemetery. The Strand Cemetery and the Rockdale Cemetery are within 1.5 miles of one another. The Strand settlement once had two general stores, a blacksmith shop, and a post office. Briscoe was another small settlement in north-central Lincoln Township and had a post office in the late 19th to early 20th centuries. The 1884 map shows that this was a coal mining area. This community no longer exists.

Historically there were ten rural school sites in this township. Most were named in addition to being numbered, with the names including: Black Jack, Woodside, Pleasant Valley, Fairview, Lincoln Center, Hazel Grove, Maple Grove, Potter, and High Point. Some were obviously named for their settings, with the Potter school named for a person. The Black Jack school name is interesting. This school was in the northwest quadrant of the township, and while the school was 1.5 miles away from Briscoe where it is known there was coal mining in the late 19th century, "black jack" is a mining reference commonly used in mining areas such as the lead mining areas around Dubuque and Galena (Ray Werner, personal communication, May 2020). Therefore, this school name may be indicative of this coal mining region. The actual location of the Black Jack School could not be examined during the current survey because it is a half-mile off the road system and has no public access; however, the mapped location was recorded herein as 13AA120 The sign placed for this school in 1999 is a half-mile to the east of the actual school site because of the lack of access.

Black Jack School Site (13AA120) - This school, which is also known as Lincoln Township School No. 3, is located in Section 8 and is no longer any existing roadways. The 1999 commemorative sign for this school is actually located a half-mile east of the actual school site. In 1884, there was a road along the

north section line that intersected another road that headed south along the west section line of Section 8. The school was located at the SE corner of that intersection. By 1905, the north road had shifted slightly to the south so that the school was now on the north side of the road at the same intersection. To be clear, it does not appear that the school moved; rather, it was the road alignment that changed. Reportedly, this was the first school in the township to be closed, perhaps in part because of changes in the road system. Today, there is no road on the north or west section lines for Section 8, although there is a field access road that extends out to a pond to the northwest of the school site but does not appear to connect to the site. The old road that extended along the south side of the school site is now a fence/property boundary with dense woods to the south and scattered trees and pasture to the north. The school was still standing at the time of the late 1930s aerial photograph (Iowa Geographic Map Server 2020). It was a front-gabled building oriented lengthwise west-east. There were trees to the north and west, but the schoolyard was grassy. It was still standing in the 1950s but appears to have been demolished or removed by the 1960s. At that time, the site area was becoming overgrown with trees. By the 1960s, the roads that led to this schoolhouse appear to be abandoned and becoming overgrown. The school site is now in a grove of trees and may be well preserved. This location certainly warrants Phase I investigation to evaluate site integrity and significance.

One of the school sites was previously recorded as an archaeological site. This was the **Fairview School No. 6**, which was recorded in 1987 as **site 13AA56** (I-Sites Pro 2020). It was recorded during a Phase I investigation for a road improvement project but was not evaluated and was recommended for additional Phase I investigation. There has been no follow-up investigation of this site and the recommendation still stands. It should be noted that in 1987 the "belfry" was described as sitting along the fence north of the intersection (I-Sites Pro 2020). This structure no longer appears to be extant at the site location. The Fairview School operated from 1872 to 1960, and in 1962, the schoolhouse was moved to Lincoln Center to be joined with the Lincoln Center School during consolidation and continued as such for two more years before closing for good. The schoolhouse is now nonextant.

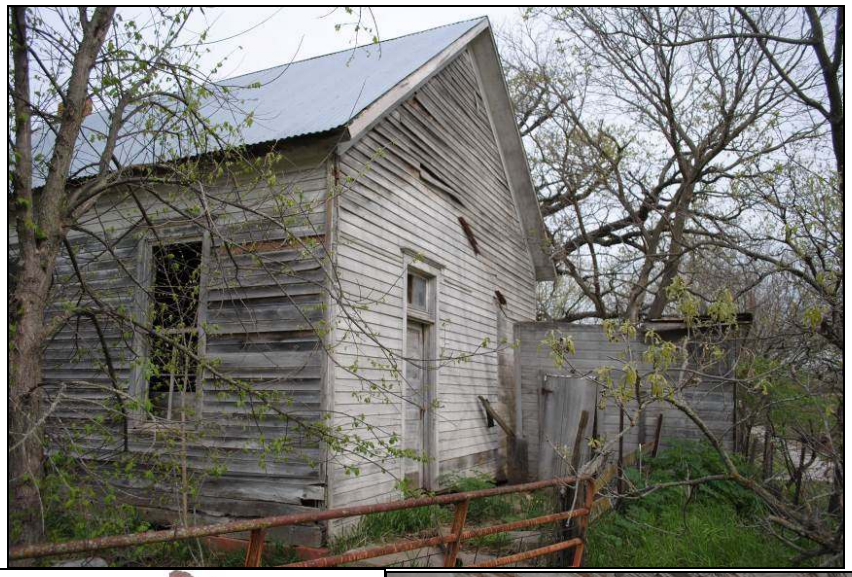
Only one of the township schools, the Lincoln Center School, had more than one location as a school. This school originated on the west side of the Lincoln Center Cemetery around 1875 but was moved a half-mile to the east in 1878 where it served as a school until it closed. For a time after that, it also served as a polling place but is no longer standing. All of the rural schools in the county were closed by 1964, although some had shut down around 1956-1960. Several remained standing, with the Lincoln Center Schoolhouse used as a township polling place after it closed. This schoolhouse is no longer standing.

The **Woodside School, Lincoln Twp. No. 2 (02-00592)** was inventoried for the current survey. This one-story frame, front-gabled schoolhouse is still standing at its original site in the northeast corner of Section 9 in Lincoln Township. This school was shown on the 1875, 1884, and 1905 maps at this same location. When the school closed it was used as a hog house, with the metal hog pens still inside the building. The schoolhouse sits alongside the current road right of way, with that road having been cut back in the modern era. The building is on a knoll with the site now in tall grass and brushy trees and undergrowth. The exterior retains the original clapboard siding, with the window openings retaining the flat cornice-molded lintels and plain board surrounds. The windows are 4/4 double-hung windows, at least one of which retains its glass panes because it was covered with a sheet of plywood. The foundation is made of clay tile blocks indicating a new foundation was put under the old schoolhouse in the 1920s-1930s. The roof has corrugated metal roofing installed in more recent years. A brick chimney once rose from the rear of the roof apex but has collapsed. The chimney connected on the interior to a wood stove. The façade facing the road has a single door to the left with a wooden-paneled door and a transom window above. Historically, there was a front-gabled vestibule structure that sheltered the door as one can see the outline of its gabled roof and walls. This vestibule likely had to be removed when the road right of way was widened because the edge of the right of way is now about ten feet from the school door. The rear of the building has no openings, but both sides have three windows evenly spaced across. The interior retains its lath and plastered walls and ceiling but the plaster is in poor condition. There is wainscoting around the

base of the wall and the wooden floorboards remain but all of the woodwork was damaged by the hogs. Boards attached to the walls retain coat hooks from the school use. The front of the building has a wooden cupboard on the wall and a cantilevered ceramic wash basin beneath the cabinet.



Woodside School No. 2 (02-00592), Lincoln Township. Photograph taken May 7. 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.







Woodside School No. 2 (02-00592), Lincoln Township.
Top: façade of school showing how close to the right of way and the outline of the vestibule around the front door.
Bottom left: rear and side of schoolhouse; Bottom right: interior of schoolhouse.
Photographs taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

This schoolhouse has fair to good historic integrity given the removal of the front vestibule and the impact from deterioration and its most recent use on the interior as a hog house, which damaged the flooring and woodwork. The foundation was also replaced in the 1920s-1930s, and the windows are missing most of their glass panes. It probably has a low chance of survival at this location since it is no longer being used and is deteriorating. However, it is among the few surviving late 19th century rural schoolhouses in Adams County and has some potential for eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A for its historical significance but would require further research before a final determination of eligibility could be made. The question would be whether it has sufficient historical significance to overcome the integrity issues it has an individual building. The site surrounding it would have good potential as an archaeological site as the privies and well are likely intact; however, hog activity in the surrounding schoolyard likely damaged surface deposits. A Phase I archaeological investigation should be conducted if the school building is found to be NRHP eligible.

Of the two historic churches in this township, one is nonextant (Lincoln Center Methodist Church) and one is extant and still in use (the Strand Lutheran Church). The latter was inventoried for the current survey. The Lincoln Center Methodist Church stood to the east of the Lincoln Center School and had been associated with that school prior to the church's construction, with the school used for church services and for Sunday School. That church was built in 1890 but was demolished around 2006. The school next to this church is also nonextant.

The **Strand Lutheran Church (02-00593) –** This standing church was inventoried for the current survey. It was organized in 1875, with the church built in 1886 as a frame, front-gabled building. In 1903, a front-gabled vestibule and large bell tower were added to the front of the church. Since that time, two shed-roofed additions were made to either side of the vestibule, with one being a lower basement door access and the other being a higher handicapped ramp access. The latter was added after 1975, while the basement door addition had been made before 1975. The most recent change has been the installation of vinyl siding on the church exterior.

The tower has a distinctive four-sided, pointed spire that is covered with metal sheeting that is likely original and has fish-scale shingle siding on the belfry portion of the tower although it is uncertain whether this is historic wooden shingle siding or vinyl siding. The double front doors into the vestibule are modern doors; however, the rectangular transom above appears to have an historic-age stained or colored glass panel. The two doors to the shed-roofed additions are also modern doors. The foundation underneath the vestibule/tower is made of rusticated concrete blocks but is largely covered by the newer concrete steps and the side additions, which have poured concrete foundations. The foundation/basement under the main church is also the same type of rusticated concrete blocks from when the church was raised up in 1922 and the basement built underneath. A kitchen was installed in the basement in 1949 by the Ladies Aid Society. There are four rectangular windows across the west side, with each window being a colored-glass Gothic-Arch style window now covered with protective storm windows or Plexiglas. The rear of the church has a modern vent pipe on the exterior piercing the eave overhang and enclosed with vinyl siding and a projecting, hip-roofed bump-out that contains the altar and has colored-glass windows on either side. The bump-out has a rusticated concrete block foundation and vinyl siding. There are two other additions on the church building, one on the northwest corner and one on the east side of the building. The east-side addition is a front-gabled enclosed rear entry that has a single door and windows on the sides. On the east wall of the church building are three of the same types of Gothic colored-glass windows as on the west side. The colored-glass windows were installed in 1950 (Strand Lutheran Church 1975). There is a frame, shed-roofed privy; a pyramidal-hipped roof, American Foursquare type parsonage (built in 1916); and a hip-roofed garage for the parsonage located on the church property to the east side of the church. The parsonage has also been modified with vinyl siding and modern window replacements.



Strand Lutheran Church (02-00593) looking north. Cemetery is behind the church. The parsonage is to the east.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

The exterior of the church has been modified to the point with vinyl siding and numerous additions that it does not retain sufficient historic integrity to be individually eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. However, the property as a whole, including the church, parsonage, garage, and cemetery, appears to have potential as a NRHP-eligible historic district. As a result, this property warrants further historical research and interior inspection of the church in order to make a final recommendation on a historic district designation. The Strand Cemetery is also discussed separately below.



Strand Lutheran Church (02-00593) looking west.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.



Strand Lutheran Church Parsonage and Garage (top) and Privy and Strand Cemetery (02-00570) (bottom). Photographs taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

There were two cemeteries in Lincoln Township, one associated with the Lincoln Center cross-roads settlement and Methodist Church, and the other associated with the Strand Lutheran Church and the Norwegian settlement in southwest Lincoln Township. Both cemeteries were previously assigned inventory numbers, but no inventory forms had been completed. The current survey completed the inventories for both cemeteries.

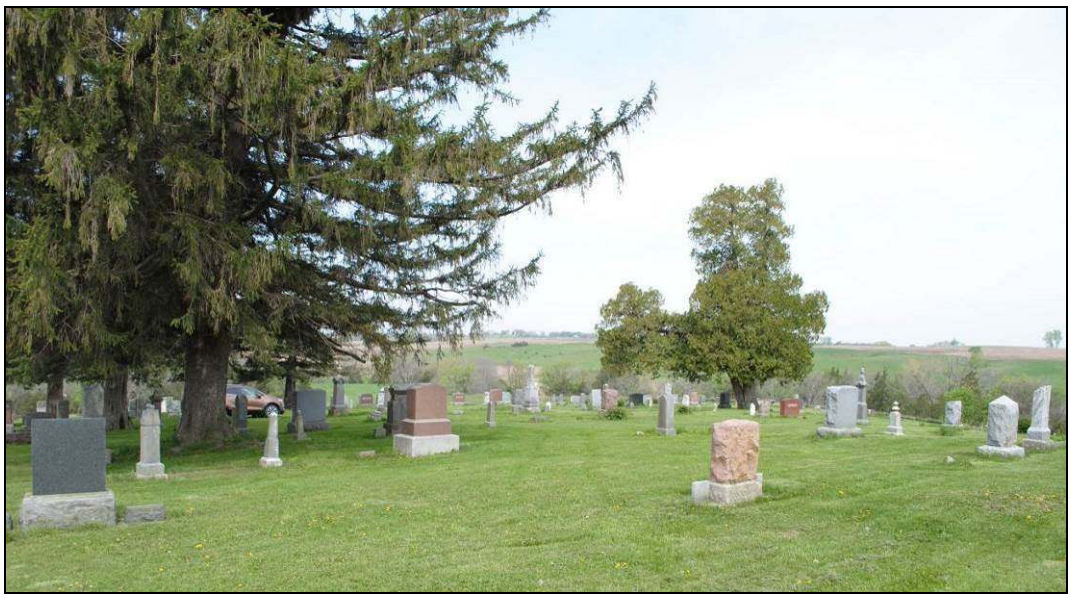
Strand Cemetery (02-00570) – This cemetery is associated with the Strand Lutheran Church as noted above. It is still used as a cemetery and is well maintained. It contains a mix of older and newer stones, and as with most Adams County rural cemeteries, it is rectangular in plan and has gravestones aligned in rows oriented to the cardinal directions. In this case, the cemetery is longer north-south than east-west. The cemetery has one entry driveway that is used for public access. It enters from the southeast corner off of 160th Street and also serves as the driveway into the parsonage and garage. The cemetery drive then angles to the northwest where it then extends due north along the east side of the cemetery before curving to the west where it exits onto Aspen Avenue. The cemetery has a woven wire fence that has modern wooden posts but the fencing material is historic age. There are two gateways, one on the west side and one on the south side that have tall wooden posts and board signs that read "Strand Cemetery." There are some evergreen trees within the cemetery. The cemetery is typical of the rural cemeteries in Adams County and likely does not possess the significance needed to be individually eligible under Criteria Consideration D; however, the cemetery, along with the church and parsonage may constitute a NRHP-eligible historic district as the best representation of the late 19th century Norwegian immigrant settlement in Adams County.

Lincoln Center Cemetery (02-00571) – This cemetery was associated with the Lincoln Center School and the Lincoln Center Methodist Church but is not a church cemetery. The Methodist Church did

organize in the school that stood to the west of the cemetery in the 1870s, but in 1878 a new school was built to the east where church services and Sunday School were then held until a church was built in 1890. The cemetery was part of this township center rural community and is the only extant vestige since the church and the school are no longer standing. The cemetery is located on the north side of 130th Street between Chestnut and Birch avenues. This cemetery is rectangular in shape with the long side being north-south. It has an addition that was made to the southeast corner in 1959 adding 94 lots. The original plat of 180 lots was made circa 1870. There is at least one marker dating from 1876, but the markers are a mix of older and newer stones. The gravesites are in linear rows oriented on the cardinal directions but most of the extant stones in the original section are in the southwestern two-thirds, with the northeastern one-third maintained but not having many if any gravestones. That corner is lower and may not have been desirable for burials and thus the southeast corner addition was needed. There are shade trees clustered in the older part of the cemetery, with some rows of small trees or bushes around the edges of the cemetery and the new addition. There are two entrance drives into the main cemetery off of 130th Street, one in the center and one at the southeast corner. The gateway at the southeast corner has an overhead metal sign set on two wooden posts. The sign reads "Lincoln Center" and appears to be 20th century. The cemetery is fenced with woven wire and wooden posts. This cemetery is typical of the rural cemeteries in Adams County and does not appear to possess the significance required for eligibility under Criteria Consideration D.



Lincoln Center Cemetery (02-00571) gateway. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.


Lincoln Center Cemetery, Lincoln Township. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner.

Washington Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on November 21, 2019, with the assistance of project volunteers including a group of HPC members. Because this was pre-COVID-19, the survey was conducted all in one vehicle.

Historically, there were two settlements in this township called Eureka in the southwest corner and Mt. Etna in the east-central portion of the township. Mt. Etna remains a recognizable community but no longer has a post office. It is located just north of the Nodaway River with large quarries between the town and the river and also now to the west. Eureka was a platted town and had some settlement but is now nothing more than a potential archaeological site.

The resources of Mt. Etna noted during the reconnaissance survey included two standing properties – the Mt. Etna School and the Mt. Etna Church – and two potential archaeological sites associated with the Mt. Etna Methodist Church and the Mt. Etna Church of the Brethren. Both of the latter churches were still standing until 2014 when they were demolished. The Evangelical Church and the Mt. Etna School were recorded as architectural properties by the current study.

- **Mt. Etna School (02-00594)** – This building is still standing but is no longer used. It is located on the east side of Juniper Street just south of Franklin Street. It is still labeled the Mt. Etna School and once had two rural schools south of this building that were moved here in 1960. One of those schools was the Allison School and the other was the Windyville School. The Allison School was a front-gabled, frame late 19th century schoolhouse while the Windyville School was a square, hipped-roofed early 20th century schoolhouse. In Mt. Etna, these schools were used for grades 3-5 and 6-8, respectively, with the Mt. Etna School used for kindergarten through 2nd grades. Both of the rural schools were demolished in recent years. Since these were rural schools that were later moved into town, it is unlikely that there would be significant archaeological sites in association with either schoolhouse at this location. The extant schoolhouse has a marker for the Mt. Etna School (Washington #6), with the school first established in 1857 and operating until 1960. However, the extant school building dates from 1953 replacing the older school that burned in 1952. It has clapboard siding, a gabled roof with new metal roofing, and a concrete block foundation. A modern steel door has been inserted into the south side of the building. The windows are all 1/1 windows that may be newer replacements, and it appears that the building may have been converted into a residence in more recent years but is now vacant. The extant school has been modified, with the windows and doors replaced, and it does not retain sufficient historic integrity to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. There could be archaeological features from the older school that burned at this location that may warrant Phase I investigation by future studies.



Mt. Etna School (02-00594) at 1264 Juniper Avenue, Mt. Etna. Field date: November 21, 2019 taken by Leah D. Rogers, Tallgrass.



Windyville (left) and Allison (right) schoolhouses at their moved location in Mt. Etna in the late 20th century. Both schoolhouses are nonextant. Photograph provided by research volunteers for current study.

- **Mt. Etna Evangelical Church (02-00595)** – This church is still standing on the west side of Mt. Etna on Church Street west of Juniper Avenue. It was built in 1890 but was sold to the Seventh Day Adventists in 1914. Services were held in this church until the early 1920s. The church remained standing but was adapted for other purposes. The extant building has been modified with asphalt shingle siding over the original clapboard siding, and some windows have likely been covered over by the siding. The building faces south and has a centered door on the façade that had a transom window above the door. The gabled roof does have a wood shingled roof. The remaining windows are 1/1 replacement windows that are also reduced in size from the original windows. The ceiling on the interior has collapsed, and the building is unsafe to enter. While certainly of interest as the only standing church in Mt. Etna, this building does not retain sufficient historic integrity to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP as an individual building. It is also in poor structural condition.



Mt. Etna Evangelical Church (02-00595) looking NNE.
Field date: November 21, 2019, taken by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

- **Mt. Etna Methodist and Church of the Brethren sites** – The Mt. Etna Methodist Church was built in 1874 but was not dedicated until 1877. A wing was added on the west side in 1917. The Mt. Etna Church of the Brethren originally held services first in homes and then in

schoolhouses before building a church in 1868. However, the church that was still standing until recently had been built in 1907. The Assessor's photographs of both churches before they were demolished shows cross-gabled frame buildings with the Methodist Church having Gothic-arched windows and the Church of the Brethren having rectangular windows. The recent demolition of these buildings suggests that there is a low potential for intact structural remains of either building and a low potential to be considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP as archaeological sites.



Mt. Etna Methodist Church in 2014 prior to demolition, left: looking NE, right: looking SW.
Obtained from Adams County Assessor's website.



Mt. Etna Church of the Brethren in 2014 prior to demolition, left: looking SW, right: looking WNW.
Obtained from Adams County Assessor's website.

The rural resources have no standing architectural properties, with all the country schools and churches now nonextant. Of the cemeteries, the **Mt. Etna Cemetery (Inventory No. 02-00567)** and **Forest Hill Cemetery (Inventory No. 02-00568)** are still actively-used cemeteries that are being maintained. Forest Hill was established in association with the First Baptist Church, with the ground deeded to the church by P.G and Caroline Schooling for the purposes of a church building and burial ground. The church was built in 1868 but was sold in 1958 and is no longer standing. The Mt. Etna Cemetery was affiliated with the Brethren Church, but the church was located in the town of Etna and the cemetery is at a rural location southwest of town. The land was deeded for this cemetery in 1882 by Thomas H. and Anna Davis. The cemeteries are typical of rural cemeteries in the county but do not rise to the level of significance (historical or architectural) to be considered individually eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. However, the grass-covered site of the First Baptist Church at the Forest Hill Cemetery is recommended for Phase I archaeological investigation. If significant archaeological remains of the church are found, then the

cemetery should be re-evaluated as part of a potential historic district including the archaeology site of the church and the cemetery. The Forest Hill Cemetery does retain an ornate entry gate and woven wire fencing that are historic. The entry gate to Mt. Etna appears to be a later replacement gate. Both have grave stones similar to those found in other Adams County rural cemeteries, with the stones in both cemeteries largely facing west. Mature shade and evergreen trees are present in both cemeteries.



Mt. Etna Cemetery (02-00567) looking east from Jonquil Road.
Field date: November 21, 2019, taken by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.



Forest Hill Cemetery (02-00568) looking WSW.
Field date: November 21, 2019, taken by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.



Monument to First Baptist Church at the Forest Hill Cemetery looking south.
Field date: November 21, 2019, taken by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

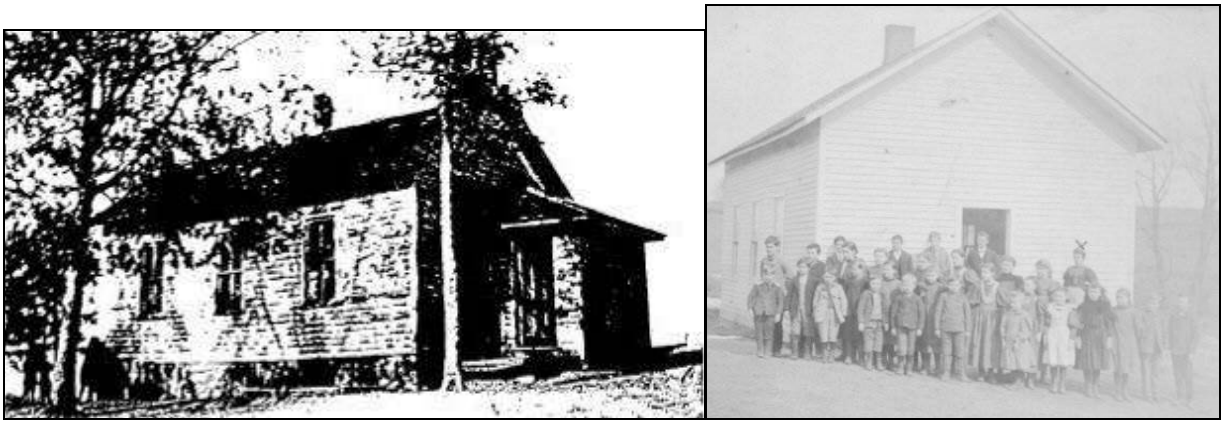


Standing at the church memorial at Forest Hill Cemetery looking NNE at the site of the former First Baptist Church.
Photograph taken Nov. 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

In addition to these cemeteries, there are several individual burials and family burial grounds that have been identified in this township, all of which still have some uncertainty in their location. These include the so-called "Sprague cemetery," "Homan cemetery," and the "Slide-off cemetery" as well as the so-called "Kentucky Avenue burial," which has been moved and is no longer at the mapped location. The **Slide-off cemetery** is so-called because there was a landslide on this steep bluff circa 1880 that reportedly destroyed most of the burials once in this cemetery. In 1989, Shirley Schermer of the Office of the State Archaeologist visited this location and noted one stone with initials carved in it near a large shagbark tree. Schermer recorded this location as archaeological **site 13AA58**. Local lore has it that this cemetery was originally a Native American burial ground that was used by Euro-American settlers to bury victims of smallpox. Reportedly members of the Fees, Homan, Boswell, Warren, and Morton families were buried here (Iowa Archaeological Site Form 13AA58, I-Sites Pro 2020). The mapped location of this site in the

I-Sites database is not precise but likely close to its actual location. A ground-penetrating radar survey of this location and that of the Sprague and Homan cemeteries is recommended to confirm their location and the number of grave features remaining at these locations. The mapped location of the "Sprague cemetery" is less certain and has not been field verified as it is on private property away from the existing roads. There may also be another private burial of several individuals made by Lewis Homan for three children identified by the Adams County GenWeb site as the "Homan cemetery" (accessed at iagenweb.org/adams). This burial ground was located "in his field near where Max Ramsey" later lived and the ground later tilled (Riverside Garden Club of Mt. Etna 1936-37:3). The location of this burial ground remains uncertain but appears to have been the same rural neighborhood as the Sprague cemetery. The Kentucky Avenue burial was the first Euro-American burial in the county and was in the vicinity of 1118 Kentucky Avenue but was later moved. Therefore, the mapped location would be unlikely to contain human remains if the burial were actually moved.

The rural school sites include the Hinton, Allison, Quinn, Abbey, Boswell, Brush, Farris, Bickford, Eureka, and Windyville schools. In several instances, more than one location was identified for these schools indicating some were moved or rebuilt at a different location in later years. Sometimes this simply involved a shift from one side of the road to the other or a location to the east or west of an earlier location. The Hinton School closed in 1960 and may have burned down. The Bickford School was moved across the road after it ceased to be a school but is no longer standing. The commemorative sign for the Abbey School is on the north side of the road from where the 1884 and 1905 maps both showed it on the south side of the road. The location of the Quinn School on the 1884 and 1905 maps was a quarter-mile west of where the commemorative sign was placed in 1999. The Allison School was later moved into Mt. Etna and is now no longer standing as noted above. In 1884, the Allison School was on the north side of what is now 110th Street at the intersection with Ironwood Avenue but by 1905 it had been moved to the south side of the road. The Brush School burned in 1923. The Abbey School closed in 1927. The Boswell School was in Section 21 in 1884 but had been moved to the NW corner of Section 22 by 1905. The Farris School was located in Section 25 three-quarters of a mile south of the Forest Hill Cemetery and on the west side of the road. It was depicted at this location on the 1884 and 1905 maps. However, the commemorative sign for this school was placed at a location southwest of the mapped location at a spot that was unlikely to have been a school site because of a creek flowing through this corner of Section 25.



Left: Brush Schoolhouse (date unknown but before 1923) and Right: Farris Schoolhouse (Washington No. 7) in 1897. Photograph of Farris School by C.B. Strawn provided by Saundra Leininger, Corning, Iowa; photograph of Brush Schoolhouse provided by research volunteers for current study.

The Windyville School was located in the vicinity of a mining camp and was shown on the 1884 and 1905 maps. The early 20th century Windyville schoolhouse was moved into Mt. Etna in 1960 but is no longer standing. The commemorative sign for the Eureka School is at a location where neither the 1884 nor 1905 maps depicted a school. However, the 1875 map appears to show a school just south of that

location on the north side of a road that then led into the Eureka town site, which was along the river in this area. In 1884, the Eureka town site had a mill and a post office and a cluster of buildings on either side of the road that extended through the town and crossed the river above the mill. The town site is a potential archaeological site; however, the river was channelized in this area in the 20th century likely impacting the mill site as well as the town site.

Of the school sites observed during the windshield survey, the one with the best potential for intact archaeological remains is the **Hinton School** in Section 2 which was shown on this site on the 1875, 1884, and 1905 maps. It operated until 1960 and may have burned down. The site location is still a fenced parcel that is in grass with cedar trees outlining the parcel. Little appears to have been done to this site in the modern era other than pasturing. There is still a driveway into the parcel from the road. This site is being recorded by the current study as **13AA111** and is recommended for Phase I field investigation to determine if intact archaeological features such as a foundation, well, and privies are extant.



Looking SE at Hinton School site (13AA111) on 110th and Kentucky Ave, Washington Township. Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

One of the former Washington Township schools was moved into Bridgewater, Iowa, where it was remodeled into a house, which is still standing and occupied. This was the Quinn School (No. 3) and is now located at 109 NW 3rd Street in Bridgewater. The house is a low-pitched, front-gabled, frame house with exaggerated cornice returns. It has a centered door with a gabled porch hood. The windows are all later replacements (squat 1/1 and two Chicago-type windows) that would have been part of the remodeling for the house. This building is no longer recognizable as a rural schoolhouse and would not be considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP for lack of sufficient historic integrity.



Former Quinn Schoolhouse (No. 3) now at 109 NW 3rd Street in Bridgewater, Iowa. School was greatly modified for use as a home. Photo obtained from https://beacon.schneidercorp.com.

Carl Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 7, 2020, with the assistance of a project volunteer, who led the survey in their own car followed by Cindy L. Nagel of Tallgrass because of COVID-19 restrictions.

Carl Township was formed in 1859. It has one town, Carl, which is still extant as a community but is small in size. Carl was present at the time of the 1875 map as a crossroads settlement, with four roads intersecting at this town. The town remained in much the same configuration by 1884 and 1905 with little growth of the town plat. It would have functioned as a service town for the surrounding rural area because it never received a railroad connection. There were three resources associated with Carl including the town cemetery, a Methodist Church, and a school. The church and the school are both extant and the cemetery is still actively used.

- The **Carl School** is located on Notchwood Avenue at the SE corner of the town of Carl. Reportedly, this school was Carl No. 10 originating about one mile away and subsequently moved to this location in the town of Carl, although no good candidates for the original location are indicated on the 1875, 1885, or 1905 maps. Examination of the aerial photos show this building clearly here by the early 1950s but it is unclear whether it was here in the late 1930s. The school reportedly operated from 1878 to 1958, but it may only have been at this location in the 1950s so its association with the town of Carl may have come at the end of its use. This property will require further research to determine its actual function at this location and whether it is more of a school exhibit rather than historically associated with this site. The building faces east and is a one-story, frame schoolhouse with a pyramidal hipped roof (older asphalt shingles) and the original clapboard siding. The 1/1 windows on the façade and rear are still in place and uncovered, but the windows on one side are now covered with plywood and other sheeting material. One triple set of windows that is now covered over does retain the wooden-frame sash windows but some of the glass may be missing. The parcel has a well with a cast-iron pump and one privy structure (both of which are visible in the photograph below). The area around the school is maintained as a grassy lawn. The school is vacant but retains some original varnished doors and woodwork as well as the chalkboard on the interior. It is now being used for storage. The historic integrity of this early 20th century schoolhouse appears to be good, but its association with this site is uncertain and will require further research. If it did function as a school at this location then it appears to be a good candidate for NRHP nomination but interior inspection will be needed (we could only see through one set of windows) before a final evaluation can be made.



Carl Schoolhouse looking WNW (left) and the interior through a window (right). The chalkboard is on the wall to the far left in this view. The windmill structure by the front door is not original and is covering the former exterior entrance to the basement level. Photographs taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

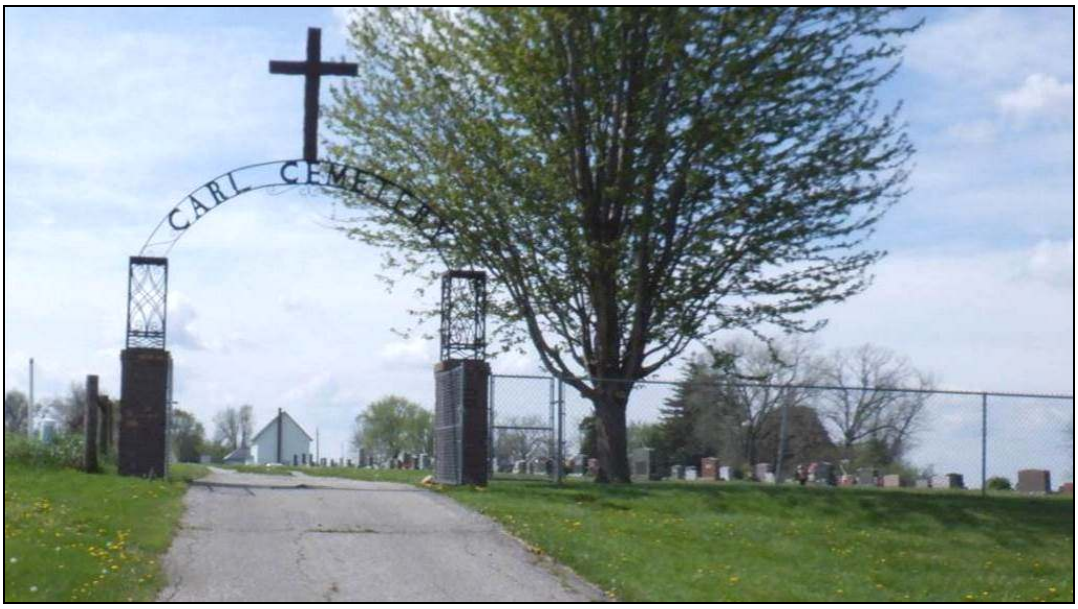


Carl Schoolhouse with cast-iron pump to right and one privy structure in the far background behind the school. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

- The **Carl Methodist Church** is located in the north part of the town of Carl and fronts Carl Place street to the south. It is still in use and has been modernized with vinyl siding, a handicapped ramp, and some additions. It is a front-gabled, frame church with Gothic-Arched windows, a smooth concrete block foundation, and a new standing-seam metal roof. The handicapped ramp is older but there are brand new wooden steps up to the front entry. There is a covered exterior access door to the basement on the side of the building as well as a basement entry door to the right of the front doors. The doors on the front entry may also be modern additions. There is a bell on a pole to the side of the church that may have come from an earlier church, or from a bell tower once on this building. The exterior modifications to this historic church building have diminished its overall historic integrity. It is recommended for interior inspection before a final recommendation of NRHP eligibility is made, but at present, it appears unlikely to retain sufficient historic integrity to be individually eligible under Criteria Consideration A.


Carl United Methodist Church, Carl Place Street, Carl. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

- The **Carl Cemetery** is located on the north side of the town of Carl. It was previously assigned an inventory number of **02-00572** but no inventory form was completed for this property. A form was completed as part of the current survey. This cemetery is rectangular in plan and has rows of grave sites aligned with the cardinal directions. The entrance is at the northeast corner where there is what appears to be a more modern metal gateway (or a mix of older pieces with modern ones) that has the cemetery name and a large cross at the top of the arch. This metal gateway sits on two brick piers. The rest of the cemetery is fenced with a modern chain link fence. A second entrance is at the southeast corner which is part of a driveway that links the Methodist Church to the cemetery and on through to 125th Street on the north side of the cemetery. Both the church and the cemetery were reportedly established in 1875 but neither is shown on either the 1875 or 1884 maps. The second entrance has chain link gates. The gravestones appear to be typical of those seen in most of the cemeteries of Adams County and include a mix of older and newer stones. As such, this cemetery does not possess sufficient historical or architectural significance to qualify for individual NRHP eligibility under Criteria Consideration D.



Carl Cemetery (02-00572) looking south at the main entrance gateway.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass

The rural resources in Carl Township include the Mt. Zion Cemetery and two rural church sites, one of which was associated with the Mt. Zion Cemetery. In fact, Mt. Zion was a crossroads community in the southeastern part of the township and included the cemetery, church, and school (Carl #7; aka Mt. Zion School). The church and the school are both potential archaeological sites. The **Mt. Zion Cemetery** was previous assigned an inventory number of **02-00561.** The church sites include the **Mt. Zion Church**, which was standing by 1884 when it was labeled as an Evangelical Church. The Mt. Zion Cemetery was established in 1870 and received its first burial in 1876. The **Brethren Church** was established in 1882 in the northeastern part of the township. Both church sites are potential archaeological sites.

The **Mt. Zion Cemetery (02-00561)** is located in Section 25 in the southeast corner of Carl Township. As noted above, the cemetery was part of a crossroads settlement that included the Mt. Zion Evangelical Church and the Mt. Zion No. 7 School, both of which are nonextant but potential archaeological sites. The land for the cemetery was set aside for this purpose in 1870, with the first known burial in 1876. The current vinyl fence with brick piers was part of a fencing project started in 2005 and completed in 2007 that was accomplished by a group of volunteers using donated funds. The main entrance has the historic metal gateway that bears the cemetery name and is supported by metal posts. The entrance is also flanked

by the new brick posts. The cemetery mainly has young tree plantings and is on a nearly level summit at the northeast corner of Quince Avenue and 150th Street. The former church was on the northwest corner of this intersection, with the former school on the southwest corner. The 1875 map showed the school then in place but not the church or the cemetery; however, by 1884, the church and the cemetery had been established. Interestingly, the 1905 plat map depicted and labeled two churches side-by-side at the northeast corner, which was not a typical rural configuration. This would indicate that there was a need by 1905 in the surrounding rural neighborhood for a church of another denomination if the map is correct.



Top: Mt. Zion Cemetery (02-00561) entrance gate; Below: view with small frame privy in background. Photographs taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

The Mt. Zion Cemetery has the typical appearance of the rural cemeteries in Adams County but does have some interesting handmade grave markers (see below). However, it has the same rectangular plan with grave features aligned with the cardinal directions as most of the county's cemeteries. This one also has only one two-track driveway that enters from the west, heads straight east before turning south to a second entrance/exit. There is a second grass-covered lane that is perpendicular to the main driveway that is straight north-south and has a gateway that exits on the south side of the cemetery but closer to the intersection. As such, this cemetery does not appear to possess sufficient significance under Criteria Consideration D to be individually eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. However, it is recommended for further historical research and further consideration as part of a potential historic district if future studies find intact archaeological evidence of the former school and churches from this crossroads community.



Mt. Zion Cemetery (0-200561) showing two of the handmade grave markers. Photographs taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

The rural schoolhouses of Carl Township include two standing schoolhouses and twelve school sites. Several of the latter include both their 1884 and 1905 locations at different spots for the same school. These may reflect the moving of the older schoolhouse or its replacement in the early 20th century with a new school at a shifted location. The two standing schoolhouses are the Cramer School (No. 9) operating from 1894-1963 and the Miller School (No. 8) and also known as the Pleasant Prairie School operating from 1882-1958. Both schools were inventoried as part of the current survey.

The **Cramer School (Carl No. 9) (02-00596)** – This schoolhouse is located in Section 30 in the southwest portion of the township. It faces the Corning Carl Road to the east but is now accessed via a field drive from the south off of 150th Street. Large hay bales are piled around the schoolyard, which is in grass and may have a good potential for archaeological features such as a well and privies. The extant school building is in a deteriorated condition, with the roof collapsing, but the structure is still standing. It is a one-room, pyramidal-hip roofed building constructed in the early 20th century. It has a rusticated concrete block foundation. The roof has exposed rafter ends and is covered with asphalt shingles. The walls are covered with the original clapboard siding. It has a centered door and what were 1/1 rectangular windows, but the glass is missing as is the door. A brick chimney rises from the side of roof slope. The interior still retains some of the lath and plaster on the walls but the roof has a number of holes leaving the interior exposed to the elements. Among the trash on the interior is at least one remnant school desk in pieces. The wooden frame for the chalkboard is still on the wall but the chalkboard itself is gone. The school operated from 1894 to 1963. This school building was inventoried for the current survey, with the building recommended as potentially eligible as a remnant early 20th century rural schoolhouse. However, it will require additional research into its potential historical significance before a final determination can be made because of its deteriorated condition. It may also have some potential archaeological significance if the yard area is as undisturbed as it appears, a potential that certainly warrants Phase I investigation.



Cramer Schoolhouse (02-00596) showing east-facing façade (top), rear (bottom), and south side with rows of windows. Photographs above and below taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.



Interior of Cramer Schoolhouse (02-00596) showing former chalk board frame on wall (top), the lath and plaster interior (bottom left) and a school desk in pieces (bottom right).

The **Miller School (Carl No. 8, aka Pleasant Prairie) (02-00597) –** This extant schoolhouse is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Orange Avenue and 150th Street. The building faces east and Orange Avenue. This building is in excellent condition. It has a gable-on-hip roof covered with modern asphalt shingles and has a hip-roofed bell tower with slatted louvers on the front roof slope next to a brick chimney. The roof has a moderate eave overhang with covered soffits. The exterior walls are covered with clapboard siding and retain the corner boards and wide frieze boards. The centered door is wooden paneled with a transom window above. The windows on the front and sides may be intact but are covered over with painted plywood panels for protection. The building retains a front entry porch that has a hipped roof and square full-height posts, concrete steps, and wooden porch floor. The foundation is concrete, and the building has a full basement. There is an exterior door to the basement on the north side of the building that has open-out beaded-board doors and concrete steps down into the basement. There is a well with a cast iron pump intact along the fence line that separates the grassy lawn around the school from the adjacent farm fields. This school operated from 1882 to 1958 and is being well maintained. The historic integrity of the exterior is high, and this schoolhouse represents one of the few well-preserved rural schoolhouses left in the county. This building was probably built in the early 1900s, replacing the 1882 schoolhouse on this site. Given the preservation of this building's exterior, it is assumed that the interior integrity also remains good to excellent. It is also assumed that the windows are intact underneath the plywood covers; however, the interior integrity would need to be confirmed before any NRHP nomination should be undertaken. However, it does appear to have sufficient integrity and significance to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion C (architectural significance) if not also Criterion A (historical significance). The parcel around it also has a good potential for intact archaeological features

related to the school including privies and the older schoolhouse and may have additional eligibility under Criterion D.



Miller School (02-00597), showing the front and north side of the building and the location of the cast-iron water pump (white circled and painted red) by the fence line. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.



Miller School (02-00597) showing south and east sides. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

The **Mt. Zion School site (13AA117)** was selected to record as an archaeological site for the current survey because this site is partially grass-covered and partly under cultivation and has a field driveway with a tree next to it that may have been the original entrance to the school. As such, this location may have some potential for intact archaeological evidence of this school, which was associated with the Mt. Zion crossroads community that included the church (nonextant) and the cemetery (extant) as noted above. The school operated from 1887-1971 and was also known as Carl Township School No. 7. The early 1980s aerial shows it was still standing but was gone by the 1990s. This location is recommended for Phase I investigation by future studies to determine the presence/absence of intact features and the site potential NRHP eligibility either as an individual site or as a contributing site to a potential historic district including the church site(s) to the north and the cemetery to the northeast.



Mt. Zion School Site (13AA117). Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

A historical photograph taken from the Mt. Zion Cemetery shows the front-gabled, frame schoolhouse in the background and a front-gabled frame church across the road and facing the cemetery. The photograph was labeled as the Mount Zion School House, Church, and Cemetery. This photograph shows that the cemetery then had a picket fence and a tall evergreen tree. Comparing this photograph to the 1930s and 1950s aerial images show the only church building then standing across from the cemetery was oriented to face south and had a tree row between the church and the cemetery. It also set back much farther from Quince Avenue than the church appears to in the historical photograph below. This would suggest that the church shown in the historical photograph was an earlier church building. This could be the second church of the two depicted on the 1905 plat map and may confirm that a second church had been built by that time. Archaeological investigation of the sites of these churches would help confirm this history of two churches. It is known that the oldest church at this crossroads community was an Evangelical Church that was labeled as such on the 1884 map.



Historical photograph taken from the Mt. Zion Cemetery showing the Mt. Zion school at the far left and the Mt. Zion Church at the far right. View is looking WSW.

Colony Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 7, 2020, with the assistance of a single project volunteer because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19. The volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Cindy L. Nagel of Tallgrass.

Colony Township was named in honor of the New England colony that settled this area and established the town of Nevin (now known as Nevinville) in the late 1850s. Nevinville located in the northeast quadrant of the township. This small town was founded by the New England Colony of Iowa (Ellis 1901). The plat was quite large indicating the ambitions of this colony to grow and develop a large settlement in Adams County. However, Nevinville failed to boom because it never received a railroad connection. It did, however, serve as the hub for several roads that crossed through the plat and as the service center for the agricultural environs. As noted previously, the New Englanders were associated with the Congregational Church and may have intentionally settled in this area to assist in the Underground Railroad activities in southern Iowa prior to Emancipation. It is located just west of the East Nodaway River. Three resources were noted during the current survey in Nevinville. These include an extant church, the site of the Colony No. 1 school, and the site of the Consolidated School building that is now just a foundation. The church was recorded as an architectural property by the current survey.

- **Nevinville Church (02-00598)** - This extant church is located on the east side of County Road H20 just north of the intersection with Park Street in the southwest part of Nevinville. This building is no longer in use and stands vacant and deteriorating. It is front-gabled building with a projecting front-gabled entry vestibule that is reached by a set of concrete steps up to a concrete landing having a metal pipe railing. The roof is covered with older asphalt shingles and is in poor condition. A chimney that rose from near the apex of the roof has partially collapsed. The windows and front door are Gothic Arched. The original windows are missing and have reduced-sized rectangular window inserts inside the Gothic-Arch wooden framing. The walls are covered with the original clapboard siding and retain plain corner boards and frieze boards. The roof has a moderate eave overhang. The foundation is made of rusticated concrete blocks. There is a basement-level entry that projects out from the south side and is covered with a wooden gabled frame structure on top of a rusticated concrete block foundation. The main entrance door is wooden-paneled and had a Gothic Arched transom window above that is now either covered with wood or missing entirely. There is a hip-roofed bump-out on one side that has a brick foundation parged with concrete. A single wooden-paneled door with a two-light transom window is located on the southeast corner of the building.



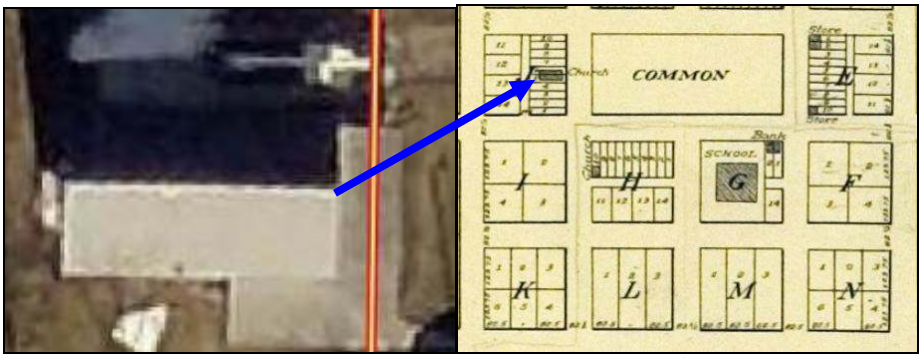
Nevinville Church (02-00598) looking NE. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.



Nevinville Church (02-00598) looking SE (left) and WNW (right).
Photographs taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

It does appear that the church was modified into a dwelling in its later years, with the windows likely reduced in size at that time along with other modifications such as the installation of glass block windows in some of the basement-level window openings. The loss of the historic windows has diminished the historic integrity; however, an interior inspection will be required before a final evaluation can be made regarding its NRHP eligibility. Historically, there were two churches in Nevinville, the Congregational Church built in 1874 and the Methodist Church built in 1881. Both churches had parsonages (Ellis 1901). The 1905 plat map of Nevinville shows two church buildings, one to the west of the school (a location north of the extant church site) and the second on the west side of the common, a location north and west of the standing church. Therefore, it may be that the extant church is not on its original site but was moved at a later date, which may be consistent with the current foundation of concrete blocks. As such, the historical association of this church building remains unclear and will require further research to identify its affiliation and whether or not it is on its original site. As a moved building, this would somewhat diminish its historic integrity but does not necessarily negate NRHP eligibility since it is still located within the town of Nevinville and would not be far from either one of the church locations shown in 1905.

While not identified during the reconnaissance survey, there is a rather church-like, front-gabled building with a rear bump-out located at 3245 110th street on the west side of that street and due west of the commons parcel (see below). This was in the location of the second church shown on the 1905 plat of Nevinville and may be a former church on its original site. This location should be considered for further research and added to the list of former church buildings in the township if identified as a former church.



Aerial view of a front-gabled building with a rear bump-out at 3245 110th Street on the site of where the 1905 plat map (right) depicted a church in Nevinville. North is to the top of the page. Aerial obtained from Adams County assessor's website; 1905 map obtained from the online Iowa Digital Library.

- **Colony No. 1 School site** – This school is numbered as a township school but it is located on the Nevinville town plat due east of the above-described church. In fact, the property is now part of the church property and under private ownership. The site of this school is overgrown with grass. Cedar and other trees separate the school site from the church lot. The school site is at the northwest corner of Walnut Avenue and Park Street on the town plat. This location is somewhat problematic as the 1905 shows only the town school to the north of this location and the 1930s-1950s aerials do not clearly show any building on this lot, although it could be obscured by trees. Therefore, the location of this school as an archaeological site is uncertain and will require additional research to pinpoint its exact location. A historical photograph of this school when standing would be useful.



Colony No. 1 School site looking west with the Nevinville Church in the background.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

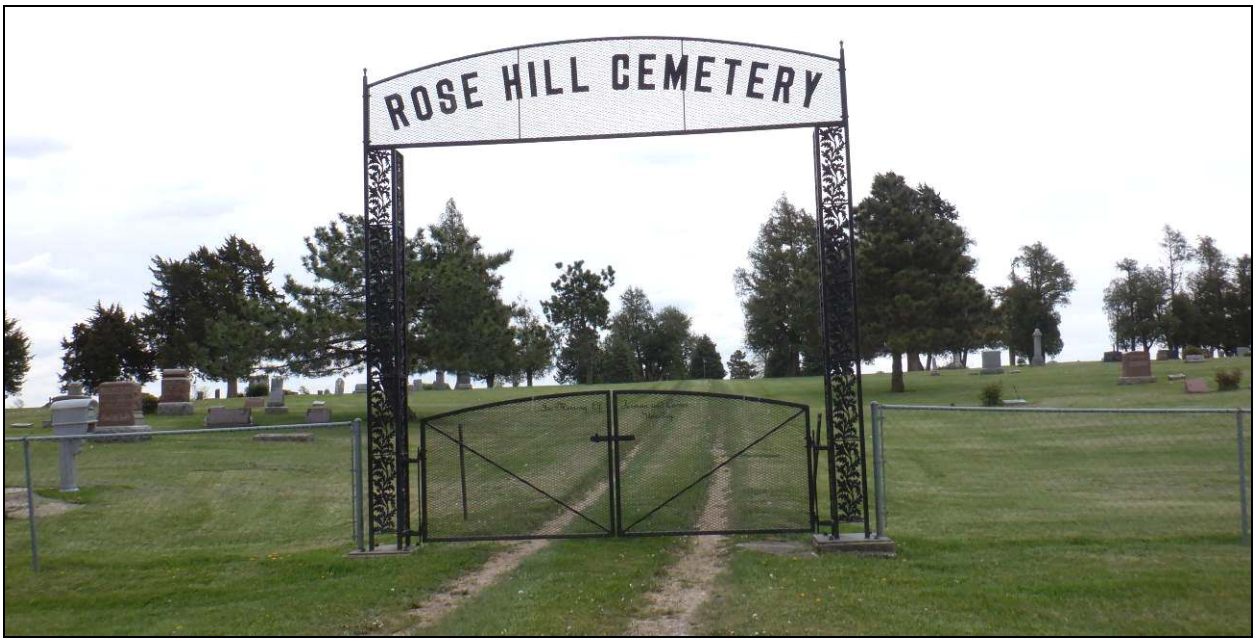
- **Nevinville Consolidated School site** – This school was built in 1921 according to the inscribed front door lintel that is now part of a flagpole display at the corner of Walnut Avenue and 110th Street in Nevinville. The school closed in 1966. The 1905 map suggests that this school was built on the site of an older school as they are basically in the same location in town. The consolidated school building is located on the south side of 110th Street nearly half-way between Main Street and Walnut Avenue (which jogs to the west along 110th Street). The school was a two-story, square brick building that set back south from 110th Street (aka County Road H20) and was connected to that street by a long concrete sidewalk, which remains in place. The school appears to have been largely demolished in the late 1970s; however, the brick and tile block foundation and part of one brick wall were left standing into the present day. This does qualify as an archaeological site but it is not being recorded by the current survey. It likely has a low potential to be eligible under Criterion D for the ability to yield information of significance to the history of the area.



Nevinville Consolidated School showing one wall and the foundation remnant (left) and the concrete sidewalk looking south towards the brushy area where the school foundation is located (right).
Photographs taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

The rural resources of the township include eight school sites and two extant cemeteries. The cemeteries include Rose Hill and the Bohemian National Cemetery, with the latter reflecting another group that influenced the settlement of this township, that of Bohemian (or Czech) immigrants who settled here in the late 19th century. Williamson was a crossroads settlement that had a Bohemia Hall at one time that may still be standing and had a store and a school. This settlement was in the northwestern corner of the township. The Bohemian Cemetery is two miles south of Williamson and was established after the 1905 plat map had been made. Both the Rose Hill and Bohemian cemeteries are still in use; however, only the Bohemian National Cemetery was previously assigned an inventory number. The current survey assigned Rose Hill an inventory number and completed the inventory forms for both.

Rose Hill Cemetery (02-00599) – This active cemetery is located in the northeast corner of the township near the north Adams/Adair county line. It is located about a half-mile NNW of Nevinville and likely functioned as the town cemetery. It is located on a gently sloping summit and has evergreen and shade trees planted throughout the cemetery. The cemetery was established in 1858 and the plat has a square plan, with the grave sites oriented to the cardinal directions. The main entrance is at the center of the west side of the cemetery and heads east upslope to the center of the cemetery where there is a circular feature around a flagpole. The metal gateway appears to be a modern structure that was installed as a memorial. The fencing is otherwise chain link. The monuments appear to be a mix of older and newer stones. This cemetery warrants further historical research to identify any potentially significant historical associations with the New England Colony of Iowa, who founded nearby Nevinville. Therefore, while the cemetery does not appear to have any obvious eligibility for architectural significance sufficient to meet Criteria Consideration D, it may have sufficient historical significance for this association and certainly warrants further investigation before a final evaluation can be made.



Entrance gateway to Rose Hill Cemetery (02-00599). Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

Bohemian National Cemetery (02-00562) – This cemetery is located in the west-central portion of the township. This is actually a newer cemetery having been established circa 1887 even though it was not represented as a cemetery on the 1905 township map. Most of the graves date from the 20th century. The older stones are engraved in the Czech language. An obituary for one of those buried here noted that they had immigrated to this country in 1892 settling in Adams County (Bohemian National Cemetery Memorials, assessed at https://www.findagrave.com, May 2020). The metal entrance gate is a modern

installation having been erected here circa 2011. It reads “Cesko Narodn/Hrbitov,” which translates to Czech (Bohemian) National Cemetery (although technically it should read Narodni; also the “i” in the center of Hrbitov does not appear to be an actual letter on this sign but rather formed by the brace behind the sign for the scrollwork on top of the sign). “Cesko” can also be spelled “Cesky.” The woven wire gates appear to be of historic age as may be the brick piers on which the arched sign is attached by two metal poles.

These two cemeteries, the Bohemian and Rose Hill cemeteries both represent different settlements of this township by immigrants and are perhaps the best representative properties of those two settlements that are extant in the township. The early establishment of Rose Hill reflects the early pioneering settlement of the New England Colony of Iowa around the town of Nevinville, while the later establishment of the Bohemian Cemetery reflects the late influx of Bohemian immigrants into this township in the late 1880s-1890s around the settlement of Williamson. As such, the Bohemian National Cemetery also warrants further historical research into this settlement and this association before a final evaluation of NRHP eligibility can be made.



Gateway entrance to the Bohemian National Cemetery (02-00562) in Colony Township.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

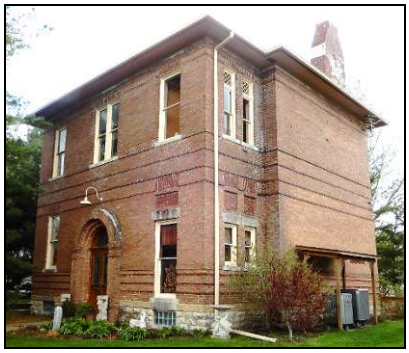
The eight rural schools in Colony Township are all potential archaeological sites with no standing buildings. Most of the schools are identified by their township numbers but at least one also had a names, specifically the Williamson (No. 3) School. A number of these schools closed in 1919 around the time that school consolidation was in full swing. The school sites are largely grass-covered and pasture, with some under cultivation. The **Colony No. 7 School site** in Section 25 is in grass and surrounded by cedar trees and appears to have good archaeological potential as the parcel does not appear to have been greatly disturbed since the school building was demolished. It was decided to record this school site as an archaeology site **(13AA116)** and it is recommended for Phase I archaeological investigation by future studies to determine the presence/absence of substantial intact features such as a foundation, well, and privies. For the present, the NRHP evaluation of this site is deferred.



Colony No. 7 School Site (13AA116) looking at flat area where school may have stood.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020, by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

Union Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 6, 2020, with the assistance of a single project volunteer because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19. The volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Consultant, Leah Rogers. The survey actually began in the county to the east of Adams County in the town of Cromwell in Union County. The reason for this out-of-county visit was that two rural **Adams County, Union Township schoolhouses had been moved into Cromwell** after 1920 and placed around the extant 1903 Cromwell High School to provide additional classroom space for that school. A third rural schoolhouse next to the high school is a school that originated elsewhere in Union County.



Right: Cromwell High School (now a residence) in the town of Cromwell, Union County. Two former Adams County rural schoolhouses were moved here in the 20th century to provide additional classroom space for the students.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

Below: Two former Adams County rural Union Twp. schoolhouses that were moved into Union County to the town of Cromwell where they served as extra classroom space for the Cromwell High School. Both of these former schools are now modified into residences. It is uncertain which building is which school.
Photographs taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

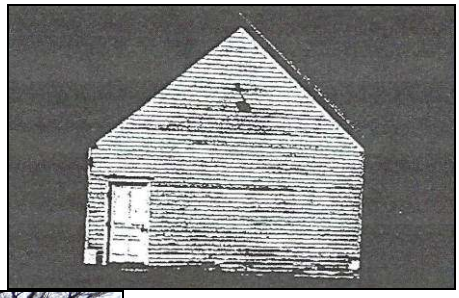




One of the two Adams County schools moved into Cromwell was the **Taylor School,** which operated from 1884 to 1920. The other was the former **Union Twp. #6**, which also closed in 1920. Because these rural Adams County schoolhouses have been moved into a different county and into a town setting rather than a rural setting and because both have been greatly modified for their current use as dwellings, neither school building would qualify for NRHP eligibility.

Union Township has no standing rural churches or schoolhouses. There is one cemetery, which is the Summit Cemetery and is still in use. There are eleven, possibly twelve, rural schoolhouse sites; the one undetermined site being what appears to be a school represented only on the 1875 map but not on the 1884 or 1905 maps. That potential site is located in Section 15 at mid-section along the east section line boundary. The other schoolhouse sites are definite rural school site locations, most of which were depicted on both the 1884 and 1905 plat maps of the township. These include numbered township schools, some of which represent two different locations for the same school, with those schools either moved or rebuilt at the new location between the time of the 1884 map and the 1905 map. Some of the schools are also identified by names including: Taylor, Cory, McCafferty, Fairview, Liberty, Stanley, Union Center/Summit, and Maple Grove. The school opposite the Summit Cemetery may also have been known as the Summit School. That school was still standing until circa 2002 because it was used as a township hall and voting place after the school closed. This is the only one of the rural schools that later served as township polling places that was actually labeled as a township hall on the modern USGS topographic map.

Most of the rural school sites are now under cultivation except for School No. 1 and the McCafferty School, which are in pasture, and the **Union Center/Summit School**, which is being pastured but retains the fence/tree enclosure that it had in the early 20th century. This site does not appear to have ever been cultivated. Depending on how the school was torn down, there is potential on this site for intact remains such as a foundation, well, and privies from this rural schoolhouse. The aerial view of this property and a historical photograph shows that this was a front-gabled frame schoolhouse and as such was likely the circa 1860 schoolhouse rather than an early 20th century replacement. This site is recorded by the current survey as **13AA114** and is recommended for Phase I survey to examine the integrity and significance of this site.



Undated photograph of Union Center/Summit School/No. 5. This photo may have been taken when it was being used as a township hall because seems likely that it originally had a vestibule at the doorway. School history folders, Corning Public Library.



Union Center/Summit School site (13AA114) on opposite side from the Summit Cemetery, 190th & Union, Union Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

The **Maple Grove School** has been impacted by a road cut-back that left its cast iron pump within the road right of way. Daylillies in the ditch also identify this location as a historic site. Another school site, the **Liberty School** has what appears to be a possible well in the middle of a cultivated field uphill from the mapped school site.



Daylillies and cast-iron water pump in right of way at the Maple Grove Union #3 school site at Sycamore and 170th, Union Township. Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers.



Liberty School Union #9 site at 210th and Sycamore St, Union Township.
Red circle is a pile of tires stacked on top of a possible well. Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

The architectural property selected for inventory in this township is the **Summit Cemetery**, which was previously assigned an inventory number but had no Iowa Site Inventory form completed or any NRHP evaluation made. The Summit Cemetery was assigned inventory number **02-00558**. The cemetery is located on the south side of 190th street in Section 21. It has an ornate metal gateway but has a modern vinyl fence around its borders. The cemetery parcel size was recently reduced, eliminating the south half of the original plat on the assumption that there are no burials in that part of the cemetery. It was a large plat, with the extant gravestones all in the north half of the parcel. Reportedly, there was a **church** to the

west of this cemetery; however, there is no church depicted at this location on the 1875, 1884, or 1905 maps; therefore, this potential site is in question. There is a mix of older and newer stones. The oldest burial was 1888. It does have some interesting tree stump and log grave markers similar to others seen in Adams County cemeteries. This rural cemetery is typical of the rural cemeteries seen elsewhere in Adams County, with graves aligned with the cardinal directions and having a U-shaped driveway that provides an entrance and exit point on the same side of the cemetery. This cemetery does not appear to possess sufficient architectural or historical significance to be considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria Consideration D. However, if significant archaeological evidence of the former Summit School (13AA114) is identified, and if the former church site can be confirmed, then the cemetery, school, and church site may constitute an eligible historic district, with each property contributing to that district.



Entrance to Summit Cemetery (02-00558), 190th & Union, Union Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.



Tree stump grave marker in Summit Cemetery (02-00558), Union Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass

Prescott Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 7, 2020, with the assistance of a single project volunteer because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19. The volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Leah Rogers of Tallgrass.

The town of Prescott is located in the east-central portion of the township. This was a railroad town and remains a town to the present day. Architectural properties within Prescott of note include the Consolidated School complex, the United Church Disciples of Christ, and the Methodist Church. Historically, the town also had Baptist and Christian churches that are now nonextant.

- **Prescott Consolidated School Complex (02-00521)** - The original portion of this building was built in 1914. A large version of a Quonset hut was built to the south of the school as the new cafeteria and gymnasium the 1950s. A new elementary school was also added to the north of the high school in the late 1950s. The school buildings sit on a large parcel of ground with the athletic field to the south, a parking lot to the west, and a Rustic stone archway over the sidewalk that angles up to the school located in the northwestern corner of the parcel. The arch was built in the 1920s. The school no longer functions as such, with the property privately owned and used for events. The property is being well maintained and its historic integrity appears to be excellent. This property was previously assigned an inventory number of 02-00521 as the "Prescott Elementary School;" however, no NRHP evaluation was made at the time. The current study completed a supplemental inventory form for this property and recommends it eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion C for its architectural significance as a well-preserved representative of a town consolidated school of the 1910s and its expansion in the 1950s-1960s. It may also be eligible under Criterion A for historical significance but would require further research.

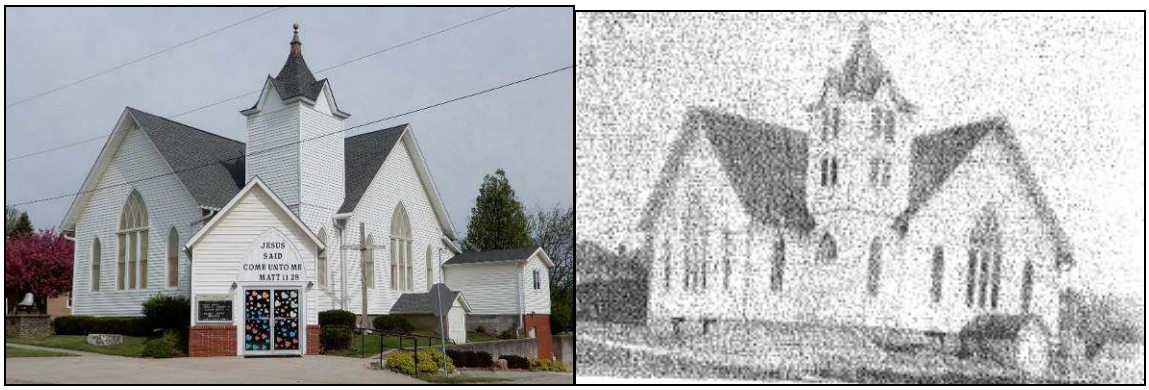


Prescott Consolidated School (02-00521) with 1914 school to left and 1950s Quonset gym/cafeteria to right.



1914 portion of the Prescott Consolidated School (02-00521), Town of Prescott.
Photographs taken on May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

- **Prescott Methodist Church (02-00600)** - This church is located at the NW corner of 4th Street and 6th Avenue. It is a cross-gabled building constructed in the early 1900s and has Gothic-arched windows that have marbled-glass windows. The building has an entry tower inset at the L created by the two gabled wings of the church. A newer front-gabled entry vestibule has been added to the tower entry. The foundation is made of rusticated concrete blocks. The exterior walls have been covered with vinyl siding, with this siding covering the original louvered vent areas in the upper portion of the tower. The church is still active. This church was constructed when Rev. Voorhees was pastor and was dedicated in 1912. A church history mentions that the "old church, heated with stoves, was standing" at the time but is now nonextant. The Methodist Church merged with the Evangelical United Brethren and became the United Methodist Church in 1968. Today, it is the United Church Disciples of Christ. This building was recorded by the current survey as 02-00600. It appears to be ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP for lack of sufficient historic integrity, the vinyl siding and added gabled entry vestibule having modified the exterior. However, an interior examination is recommended before a final evaluation is made. The property may have historical significance that warrants further research but for the present study it appears to be not eligible under Criteria Consideration D.



Left: Current Prescott United Church Disciples of Christ (02-00600) and Right: historic photograph when it was the Methodist Church, intersection of 4th St and 6th Ave, Town of Prescott, Prescott Township.
Left photograph taken on May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers; Right photograph undated but probably late 20th century and provided by research volunteer for current survey.

- **Prescott Presbyterian Church (02-00601)** - This former church is located at the SE corner of 4th Street and Eighth Avenue and is a couple of blocks downhill along 4th Street from the Methodist Church. This is the former Presbyterian Church and has a cornerstone indicating that at least part of the building was constructed in 1905. It is a cross-gabled building that originally had a two-story tower, the top story and roof of which were later removed. The entry was also shifted from the tower to the side-gabled wing of the building. It has Gothic-arched windows that are all covered with plywood. The foundation is stone in some places and brick in others indicating additions were made through the years. It appears that the stone foundation represents an older church to which the 1905 section with the brick foundation was added. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles in some places and metal roofing in others. The subject church building became the local Masonic Hall around 1930 and was used by the Masons until four or five years ago. The property is still being maintained; new wooden steps to the front door appear to be a recent addition. A lighted sign for the Masons is still attached to the corner of the building near the front door but is missing the plastic Masonic cover. This is an interesting building but appears to have some historic integrity issues and will require an interior inspection before its significance can be fully evaluated. For example, it is unknown what modifications were made to the historic church interior by the Masons after 1930, or if the changes by the Masons retain historic integrity for that association. An inventory form was completed for this survey but a full evaluation is deferred.



Left: Current Presbyterian Church/Masonic Hall (02-00601) at Eighth Ave and 4th St, Town of Prescott, Prescott Township. Right: Undated historic photograph of Presbyterian Church showing original entry tower. Photograph taken on May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

The rural resources of Prescott Township include one active cemetery, three pioneer cemeteries, and an old family burial ground as well as school sites, one standing school, and one schoolhouse that is now a ruin and an archaeological site. The active cemetery is the **Evergreen Cemetery (02-00556)** located on the north side of Prescott on the west side of Quartz Road. It was deeded to the Trustees of Prescott Township in 1903 as a public cemetery. This is the only active cemetery in Prescott Township and was previously assigned an inventory number but had not been evaluated. The inventory form was completed for this cemetery by the current study. It was also recorded by a previous study as archaeology site **13AA105** with a recommendation only for avoidance. This cemetery is typical of the rural cemeteries in Adams County. It retains an ornate metal gateway and an iron fence. It does have one very unusual monument that is hand-made of glacial stones and cobbles, with a family plot surrounded by a handmade concrete and stone wall. Unfortunately both the monument and the wall have suffered from freeze-and-thaw action and erosion and are in serious need of repair. However, as a whole, the cemetery does not appear to have the significance required for a cemetery to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria Consideration D.



Historic metal fence and gateway into the Evergreen Cemetery on Quartz road, Prescott Township. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

The three pioneer cemeteries are the Castle Cemetery located in Section 14 southeast of Prescott, the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery located in Section 7, and the Icarian Cemetery located in Section 32. There was a church associated with the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery but it was located on the opposite side of the road, which has been widened and has a wide cutback for the modern right of way, likely destroying the church site in the process. The **Mt. Pleasant Cemetery (02-00566)** consists of several rather large gravestones close together and surrounded by a modern fence. This is currently an unusually small plot surrounded by a cultivated field. It seems highly unlikely that these were the only graves in this cemetery, particularly given the size of the gravestones and their close spacing. A quick look at the surface of the field around the fenced enclosure showed bricks and stones on the surface. It is known that some gravestones were removed from this cemetery but it is unknown if burials were also removed. Historically the land was deeded to the Episcopal Church in the summer of 1891, with the oldest extant headstone dated 1891. It is recommended that this field be examined by ground-penetrating radar to determine if there are additional grave features in this field and the actual size of this cemetery before any determination of NRHP eligibility can be made under Criteria Consideration D. The location of the former Mt. Pleasant Church may also be in the vicinity of this cemetery because the 1905 map showed it on the same side of the road but perhaps slightly to the southeast or east of the cemetery. The stones and bricks observed on the surface around the cemetery could also have been from the church demolition. Phase I investigation of the suspected church location is also recommended as part of the GPR survey.



Mt. Pleasant Cemetery (02-00566), Section 7, Prescott Township.
Photograph taken on May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

The **Castle Cemetery (aka, Old Prescott or Old Evergreen Cemetery 02-00557)** sits back (west) from the highway (Quince Road or N61) on a high hill. It is fenced and appears to be of a size that likely encompasses all marked and potentially unmarked burials. There are evergreen and shade trees within the cemetery boundaries. While no longer in use, it is being maintained, and the property owner provides public access to the cemetery through his lower field along a strip of grass that is not cultivated. The Castle Cemetery may have sufficient significance as a pioneer cemetery in Adams County but will require further historical research before a final NRHP evaluation can be made. It is also recommended for ground-penetrating radar survey to determine if any unmarked graves are present. Historically, the cemetery was established as a burial ground in 1879.



Castle Cemetery (aka, old Evergreen or old Prescott Cemetery, 02-00557), Section 14, Prescott Township. Photograph taken on May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

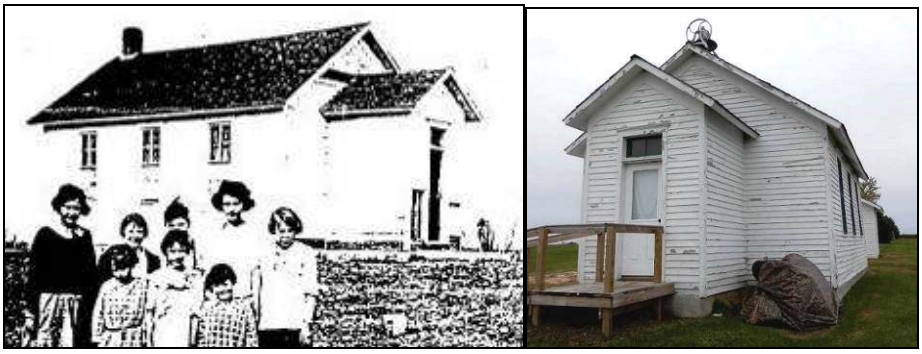
The **Icarian Cemetery (13AA73)** was the burial ground for residents of the Icaria Colony, with the graves largely unmarked by the 1930s-40s. The cemetery has since been refurbished as part of the Icaria Colony interpretive site that was established in the late 1990s-early 2000s on a parcel of land that includes the cemetery location. The cemetery was recorded as an archaeological site in 1998 and assigned the number of 13AA73 (Rogers 1998). It was noted that by that time, the cemetery was fenced and was being maintained with two gravestones still in place and a new monument with two flagpoles added to the north side. The actual size of the cemetery is unknown; however, it is assumed that the current fenced enclosure is smaller than the original cemetery size. It is suspected that there are additional grave features south and west of the present enclosure but there were also reports that some of the graves had been removed for reburial elsewhere through the years (Rogers 1998:34). While it was recommended not eligible in 1998 for lack of sufficient integrity, modern geophysical methods of examining cemeteries without ground disturbance would likely shed more light on the size and below-ground integrity of this cemetery. Therefore, it is recommended that the cemetery be examined by ground-penetrating radar and potentially other remote sensing means. If positive evidence is gathered, then it is recommended that the site's potential NRHP eligibility be re-evaluated for its historical association with the Icaria Colony.

In addition is one known **family burial ground** that was encountered in the 1960s when the road was being widened. Reportedly, the road was shifted slightly in this area to curve around the burials, so the graves should still be in place. However, none of these graves is marked. This burial site is located in Section 12 and was recorded as **archaeological site 13AA62** in the late 1990s as part of a Phase I survey for a waterline survey in Adams and Adair counties. The site form stated that the site had been "completely destroyed" (I-Sites Pro 2020). However, the location is represented on the USGS topographic map with a cross symbol and is labeled "Graves." It was so labeled in the late 1990s as well. The site is situated on a summit along 180th Street, which is a paved county road. During our windshield survey, the owner of the property stopped to inquire what we were photographing and Saundra Leininger shared the history of the family burials. The owner was unaware of this history and wanted to know more about it. Leininger will share the newspaper article with the owner. He had no specific plans for this property, which used to be a farmstead but no longer has any standing buildings. He only uses part of the parcel for a garden. It is highly recommended that the location be examined by ground-penetrating radar to pinpoint the location of any remaining burials and to confirm whether the cemetery was actually

destroyed or not. As potential burials, the location is protected under Iowa Code from any intentional disturbance until such time that confirmation that there are no longer any burials at this location can be made. In the meantime, it must be assumed that there could still be burials at this location.

Notable among the rural schools that are still standing in the county is the **Icarian Schoolhouse**, built in 1860 and now located on the Icarian Colony interpretive site in Prescott Township. While not located on its original site in the Icaria Colony, it is within sight of that original location and is now located on former colony land. The school was originally located to the west of the current location. It was sited within Section 31 on the south side of the road that extended through the original Icarian settlement and was about half-way between the original colony site and New Icaria. The original location for this school may have been on the north side of the road. However, it was on the south side of the road by 1878. The school site from 1878 until 1946 was surveyed in 1998 as part of an archaeological investigation of the Icarian Colony sites. A surface survey of the cultivated field on which this school site is located resulted in the recording of **archaeological site 13AA71**. This site was represented by a sparse scatter of historic artifacts including limestone and brick fragments, window glass fragments, and coal slag. The sparse scatter of artifacts in this field resulted in a recommendation that the site lacked sufficient integrity or significance to be considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP as an individual site (Rogers 1998:30). The possible older site for this school across the road is now built over by a modern house with a large machine shed and the yard leveled and landscaped.

The **extant Icarian Schoolhouse** was first inventoried at its pre-2005 location and was re-evaluated at its current location at 2349 220th Street in Prescott Township (**02-00022**) (Rogers 2019). The schoolhouse was moved four times in its history, with the first after 1860, the second in 1878, the third in 1958, and the fourth in 2005. It was associated with the Icarian Colony from circa 1860 to 1898. This schoolhouse had been built elsewhere in the county but was moved to Icaria circa 1860 to replace their original schoolhouse, which had burned down. In 1878, this school was moved to the location of site 13AA71, which was halfway between Young Icaria and New Icaria following the split in the original Icarian Colony. After 1898, the school operated within the Prescott Township school system and became known as School No. 8 until it closed in 1948 (Gauthier 1992:108-109). In 1958, this schoolhouse was moved to a new location along the west side of old Highway 34 just south of the intersection with 9th Street in Corning where it functioned as a museum exhibit and tourist spot. Then in 2005, it was moved back onto original Icarian land in Section 32 of Prescott Township where it is again an interpretive exhibit along with the New Icaria Dining Hall and the Icarian Cemetery. The recent re-evaluation recommended it eligible for its historical association with the Icaria Colony; however, State Historical Society of Iowa reviewers felt that it would need to be compared to the other standing rural schoolhouses in the county to determine if it is among the oldest and better preserved schoolhouses before eligibility could be confirmed. It does appear to be one of the oldest rural schoolhouses still standing in the county, and the recommendation for eligibility still stands (see also Summary and Recommendations section of report for details of this evaluation).



Icarian Schoolhouse (02-00022), Section 32, Prescott Township. Left: 1920s photo; Right: 2018 photograph. 1920s photograph provided by Mabel Schweers, Corning, Iowa; Oct. 2018 photo taken by Leah Rogers.

One other rural school is still standing in the township. This was **Prescott School No. 2** and is located Section 4 at the intersection of 170th and Orange streets. It was represented at this location in 1884 and 1905. There was no school shown here in 1875. This one-story, one-room frame schoolhouse is front-gabled with a metal roof and clapboard siding. The windows are broken out and some are covered over. The school was converted into a hog house after it ceased to be a school. One major modification was the cutting of a wide doorway on the north side that has a sliding door. The building is no longer used and is in a state of deterioration. **It was recorded by the current survey as 02-00602**. While certainly worthy of inventorying as a remnant late 19th to early 20th century one-room schoolhouse, the modifications that were made for its use as a hog house and the abuse that the building took from the hogs both inside and out have diminished the building's overall integrity to the point that it is likely not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP for lack of sufficient integrity. The location may still have some potential as an archaeological site, which should be considered for Phase I survey by future studies.



Prescott School #2 (02-00602) near 170th and Orange, Section 4, Prescott Township.
Photograph taken on May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

The other rural school of note is the ruin of the **Beck School** in Section 17 at 190th and Mulberry streets. The former schoolhouse is still visible above ground as a collapsed building. This was a one-story, front-gabled frame building with a stone foundation, clapboard siding, and had a front-gabled projecting vestibule/cloak room on the façade gable end. The school site is fenced and overgrown with trees, grass, and brush. Next to the school ruin are the remains of a storm cellar that has a concrete roof vault but appears to be partially collapsed. Both the schoolhouse and the cellar sit close to the roadway, which has been raised high above the school parcel level in the modern era. Originally, the road was likely close to the same elevation as the schoolhouse. This site had been previously recorded as archaeological **site 13AA66** for a corridor survey project in 1997 conducted by Stemper and Associates. At the time, the site was described as "completely destroyed" and evaluated as not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP (I-Sites Pro 2020). The 1997 investigation appears to have conducted a surface survey of the site, which may have been active pasture at that time, with ceramics, bottle glass, and other material observed but no subsurface tests were conducted (Original site form 13AA66, I-Sites Pro 2020). The 1990s and 2002 aerials, however, show the site as largely wooded; therefore, surface visibility was likely limited. The 1930s aerial shows the school parcel in its least wooded state, with trees along the road and around the edges, but the school yard in grass. There were other buildings visible to the north of (behind) the school, with all the buildings still standing through at least the 1950s (Iowa Geographic Map Server 2020).



Beck School Site 13AA66 near 190th and Mulberry, Section 17, Prescott Township.
Photograph taken on May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers.



Ruin of Beck School Site 13AA66 near 190th and Mulberry, Section 17, Prescott Township.
Photograph taken on May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers.

As a result, the current study strongly disagrees with the 1997 evaluation of site 13AA66, with the site certainly not "completely destroyed" since the school building is still at least partially standing (and is suspected to have been entirely standing in 1997) and the cellar, while impacted, is still visible and identifiable as a storm cellar. The rest of the parcel behind and on the sides of the school also appears to be reasonably intact, with this site likely to retain good archaeological integrity. This is particularly in comparison to most of the rural school sites recorded and examined by the current study in Adams County where the buildings are gone and the locations put into cultivation or otherwise impacted below the ground surface. The Beck School site has a good potential to contain intact privies and a well in addition to the known school and cellar structures and the other outbuildings suggested on the 1930s-1950s aerials (Iowa Geographic Map Server 2020). As such, the site is considered to have potential significance under Criterion D for information potential and is recommended for additional Phase I archaeological investigation to fully evaluate site integrity and significance. A combination of ground-penetrating radar and intensive subsurface testing should be conducted.

Of the eight rural schools in the township, the only other former school sites are School No. 1 in Section 12, which closed in 1918; the Showers School (No. 5), which also closed in 1918; the Mt. Pleasant School (No. 3) in Section 5; School No. 6 in Section 26; and Pottinger School No. 7 in Section 33. These schools are all potential archaeological sites but all have been impacted by road/ditch widening and cultivation to the point that they may have a low potential for NRHP eligibility. The Pottinger School site may also have been impacted by the use of that property for a later house site.

Quincy Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 7, 2020, with the assistance of a single project volunteer because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19. The volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Ray Werner of Tallgrass.

Quincy Township has always contained the county seat but had three early towns that vied for the designation—Quincy, Queen City, and Corning. Quincy was the first county seat, with the second courthouse in that town being a combination courthouse and school. That building still functioned as a schoolhouse even after 1872 when the county seat was removed to Corning. It was still being used as a school until it was torn down in the early 1930s. The very first school in Quincy was a log school southeast of the Methodist Church (nonextant), with the courthouse/school built at the northeast corner of the public square. The old plats of Quincy will need to be examined in order to identify where these early buildings were located as even the location of the public square is no longer obvious.

All three of the towns in Quincy Township had large town plats reflecting their ambitions to become cities, with only Corning achieving that goal because Corning was able to secure a direct railroad connection whereas Quincy and Queen City did not. Corning also thrived because it triumphed in securing the permanent county seat designation. Unlike some of the towns in Adams County, all three of these towns had their own cemeteries, with Quincy and Corning both having two, although one of Corning's was located in the township to the south (Oak Hill-Calvary Cemetery in Jasper Township). Quincy remains a place name on the modern topographic map but Queen City was abandoned in the late 19th century and the town plat had disappeared from the township map by 1905.

Another unusual aspect about Quincy Township is how the rural schools were numbered. The numbering in most of Adams County's townships starts with number 1 or 2 in the northeast corner of the county and then numbers consecutively back and forth and down so that the highest number #9 or #10 is in the southwest portion of the township. There are exceptions, but this was the general pattern. However, in Quincy Township, there is no obvious reason for how they were numbered. For example, Quincy Twp. School No. 6 was located in the northeast corner of the county in Section 2 rather than in the south half of the township. Likewise, School No. 4 was in the northwest corner in the same section row as No. 6 but No. 3 was in the middle section of townships down and towards the east side of the county. In other words, there was no discernible order geographically in the township as to how the schools were numbered. All of the schools were perhaps better known by their names including: Wheeler, Pleasant Ridge, Pleasant Valley, Pleasant Hill, Quincy, and Pig Ridge.

None of the eight rural schools in Quincy Township are still standing. Of the identified school sites, many have some potential for archaeological evidence although a few are in locations that were obviously disturbed after the schools were removed. One site was selected for recording as an archaeological site. This is the **Pleasant Valley School (No. 6)** located in Section 2 in the northeast quadrant of Quincy Township and is recorded as **site 13AA121**. This school was shown at this location on the 1884 and 1905 plat maps. The location is wooded and overgrown and situated on land now associated with the Lake Icaria impoundment but is above the lake level. This location appears to have a good potential for intact

evidence of this former rural schoolhouse and is recommended for Phase I archaeological investigation by future studies.



Looking east at the site of Quincy School No.6 (13AA121), Quincy Township.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

The four cemeteries in Quincy Township include two active and two pioneer cemeteries. The active cemeteries are the Oakland-Quincy Cemetery southwest of the former town of Quincy and the Walnut Grove Cemetery in the northwest corner of the town of Corning. Both of these cemeteries were previously assigned inventory numbers but no inventory forms were completed. The current survey completed these forms. The pioneer cemeteries include the Old Quincy (aka Old North) Cemetery located NNE of the former town of Quincy and the Queen City Cemetery associated with the former town of Queen City. The latter was previously recorded as archaeological site 13AA67, with the current study filing a supplemental form to correct some of the incorrect information on the original form. Specifically, the form claimed that Queen City was platted but never settled and that "Queen City did not materialize as a town," when the city plat did have a settlement of some size in the mid to late 19th century (I-Sites Pro 2020). The location of the **Queen City Cemetery monument (Site 13AA67)** is reportedly at the location of the historic Queen City Cemetery but that the cemetery is much larger than this site and covers this ridgetop (now used as a campground). It may even extend into the lake impoundment. It is recommended that the site location be examined by ground-penetrating radar to confirm or refute the presence of grave sites at this location and to establish firmer boundaries for this site. The marker on the monument states: Historical Marker "This hillside is the resting place of possible 200 inhabitants of Queen City of this area, a town of the early 1800's. Because of adversity they were not heralded – yet giving their all – the fruits of their labor – their losses – their destiny to Adams County, and it's posterity. Because they were here, they need not be forgotten!" Corning Civic Department 1980.



Queen City Cemetery Memorial (Site 13AA67), Quincy Township in Lake Binder campground, with lake to left.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.



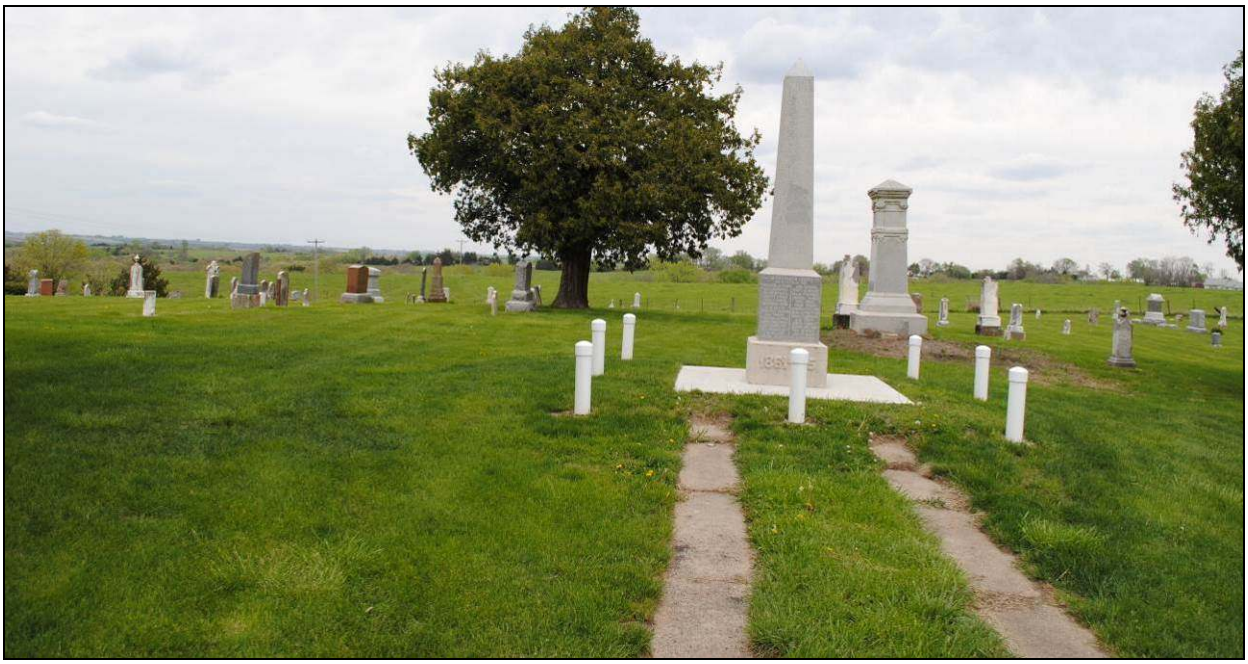
Queen City Cemetery Memorial (Site 13AA67), Quincy Township, showing gravestones around and leaning against back of monument. It is uncertain whether the markers set in the ground are actually marking grave locations or were placed here as part of the 1980 memorial site. There is a flagpole planted in the corner of the chain fencing as part of the memorial. The posts are concrete. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

The other three cemeteries were all previously assigned Iowa Site Inventory numbers but no inventory forms were completed. The current survey completed those forms.

Oakland-Quincy (aka Oakland or Old South) Cemetery (02-00564) – This cemetery located SW of the former town of Quincy, with the cemetery divided east-west by 190th Street. This is the only cemetery in Adams County to be divided by a road. This probably occurred because of a need to expand the cemetery and needing to keep the cemetery on the same ridgetop since the terrain slopes to the east and west. The north portion is the oldest part of the cemetery having been established in 1854 and the south portion is the newer section. Of note in the north portion, is the center drive that extends north to a tall obelisk in memoriam of the Civil War soldiers buried here. That monument has modern bollards surrounding the stone, which also may be on a modern concrete base. The north part of the cemetery is a mix of small to large stones in a variety of grave-marker styles from the late 19th to early 20th centuries. One notable feature of the south portion of the cemetery is the presence of a mausoleum, a structure not seen in other Adams County rural cemeteries. This structure appears to have been erected in 1940 for the Moore family.



Looking at the north portion of Oakland-Quincy Cemetery from the south portion. The cars in the upper left are parked on the dividing street. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.



North part of Oakland-Quincy Cemetery (02-00564) looking north.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.



1940 Moore mausoleum in south portion of Oakland-Quincy Cemetery (02-00564).
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

In general, this cemetery is typical of rural cemeteries in the county basically having a rectangular plan (with a small addition to the east on the south section of the cemetery), with the graves in rows aligned with the cardinal directions. There is a main center driveway extending north-south through both the north and south sections, although the drive on the north side ends at the Civil War monument as noted above. There is another east-west driveway in the southern third of the south section of the cemetery. There are no historic gateway structures in this cemetery, with both sections having modern chain link fencing and gates. There are mature evergreen and shade trees in both sections. While certainly of interest for its historical association with the early pioneer town of Quincy, the Old Quincy Cemetery may be a better representation of this historical association since the Oakland-Quincy Cemetery is still used and continues

to expand. As a result, the Oakland-Quincy Cemetery appears to have a low potential to be considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria Consideration D.

Old Quincy (aka Old North) Cemetery (02-00565) – This cemetery is interesting for its current shape, which is five-sided and almost tear-drop in shape. This may be an artificial shape as a modern boundary that has been fenced based on extant stones. Given that all of the rest of the rural cemeteries in Adams County were rectangular plats, it seems odd that this cemetery would have such a dramatic shape to its original plat. In fact, in looking at the 1884 plat map, this cemetery was rectangular in plan and extended east-west between two roads, only one of which still exists as a road (i.e., Hickory Avenue). Therefore, it seems likely that the current fenced boundary of this cemetery does not fully encompass the original plat of the cemetery. This calls into question whether the fence encloses all of the extant burials or just the surviving gravestones. As such, this area, including the larger area around the fenced enclosure, is recommended for future survey using ground-penetrating radar to determine the presence/absence of grave features both inside and outside of the fenced enclosure. The cemetery sits on a ridgetop and is currently accessed by a grassy lane through a cultivated field. The cemetery has been overgrown in the past and subjected to several reclamation efforts by local volunteers. The burials date from the late 19th to early 20th centuries, with the oldest stone dating from 1855. The cemetery is fenced with a wire-and-wooden-post fence line and has a metal cattle gate at the entrance. The sign is a modern placement. There are more than the average number of gravestones (number = 32) in this enclosure compared to the typical rural pioneer cemetery suggesting that this cemetery did have an association with the early Quincy town settlement as a town cemetery. It is a mixture of limestone, marble, and granite markers, all of modest size. The most recent interments were made in 1967. One of the graves is for a veteran of the War of 1812 but unfortunately this stone appears to have been recently broken and needs repair. This pioneer cemetery appears to have good potential to be considered NRHP eligible for its historical significance in association with the early settlement of Quincy in Adams County under Criteria Consideration D. It is recommended for further research and for ground-penetrating radar survey by future studies.

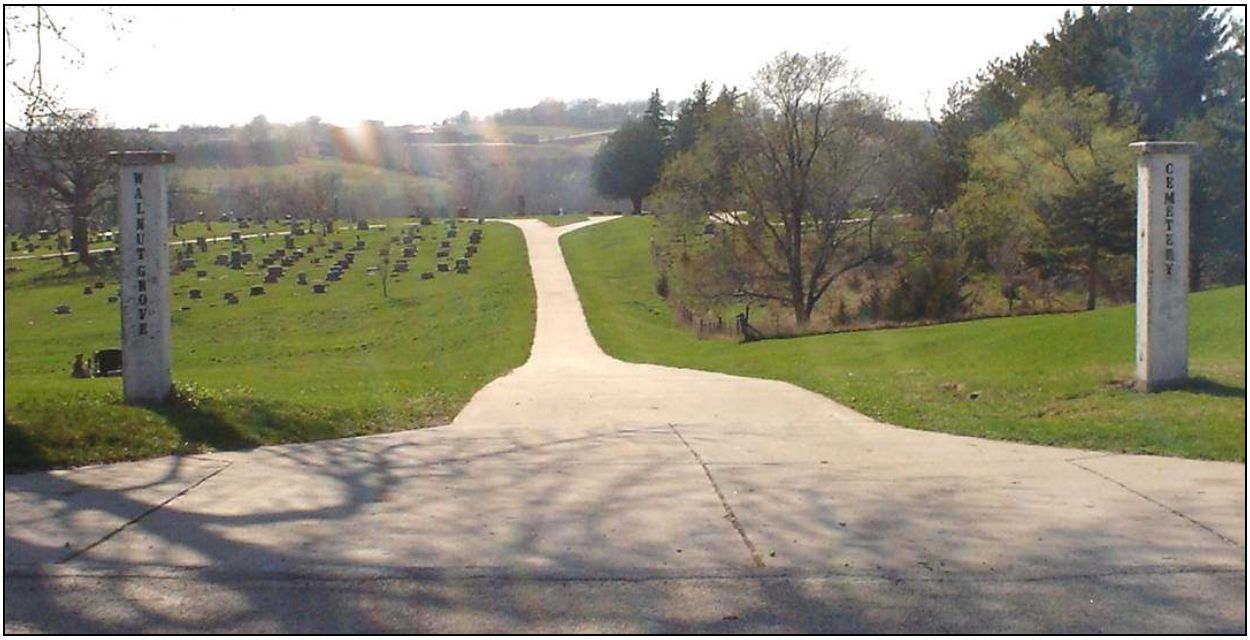


Top: Old Quincy Cemetery (02-00565) on hilltop set back from the road and Bottom: view inside cemetery fence, Quincy Township. Photographs taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.



Views of Old Quincy Cemetery (02-00565). Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

Walnut Grove Cemetery (02-00547) – This cemetery is located at the northwest corner of Corning, with the land deeded to the town of Corning in 1889 for use as a public cemetery. This cemetery is situated across rolling hills and has a rural feel but is more properly identified as a city cemetery. The driveway is paved with concrete, with the entrance flanked by two tall, square concrete posts with flat caps and painted(?) or inscribed vertically with "Walnut Grove" and "Cemetery." Historically, these posts were gate posts and had iron gates attached. This cemetery is the only one in the township to have curvilinear driveways that follow the natural contours of the rolling terrain. This reflects influence from the landscape-designed naturalistic and picturesque movements of the late 19th century for public parks and cemeteries. It is not known if any part of this cemetery plan was designed by a professional landscape architect or a local engineer who had been influenced by this movement. While not an elaborate design, it is notably a different cemetery design than the rest of the rural and small-town cemeteries in Adams County. The original design may have been even more complex than it is currently because the late 1930s aerial shows more curving and connecting lanes than there are currently. This cemetery certainly warrants further research into the history of its design as it may qualify for NRHP eligibility under Criteria Consideration D as a designed landscape.



Walnut Grove Cemetery, Corning, Iowa. Photograph obtained from https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/202660/walnut-grove-cemetery/photo, May 2020.

While the focus of the current survey was on rural schools and churches, the small town buildings were included, and to complete the study, the schools and churches in Corning warrant some mention as well. The consolidated Corning High School built in 1908 was a two-story, complex hip-roofed building with a full basement and a three-story corner tower. This was likely an architect-designed building. The school is nonextant. The extant **Corning High School**, which replaced the 1908 school in 1936 was previously inventoried as 02-00520 (904 8th Street), with an Opinion of NRHP Eligibility rendered in 2006 by the State Historic Preservation Office. It has not yet been listed in the NRHP but would likely require re-evaluation of its current historic integrity because of the passage of time since 2006.



Corning High School, 1908. Postcard photograph provided by Saundra Leininger, Corning, Iowa.

Extant historic church buildings in Corning include the **Methodist Episcopal Church**, a Classical Revival style church built in the early 1900s and still standing and in use today as the United Methodist Church. This church was previously inventoried and evaluated as 02-00545 and received an Opinion of NRHP Eligibility in 2012 but it is not yet listed in the NRHP. Another historic church building, the **First United Brethren Church** at 824 Davis Avenue was also previously inventoried (Inventory No. 02-00420) and was listed in the NRHP in 2012 as a contributing building in the Corning Commercial Historic District. However, the Brethren Church no longer functions as such having been adapted for use as a dwelling but was listed in the NRHP because it was remodeled within the district's period of significance (Jacobsen 2012). A third historic church, **St. Patrick Catholic Church** located at 504 Grove Street in Corning has not been previously inventoried. The first St. Patrick Church was built in 1883 but was replaced with the extant church in 1931. This church still serves as St. Patrick Catholic Church. The 1883 church was a notable brick Gothic Revival building, but the 1931 church is also notable being a distinctive Mission style building with a five to six story side entry tower and matching rectory. This building complex was likely architect designed and appears to retain good integrity. It certainly warrants intensive survey and evaluation by future studies.

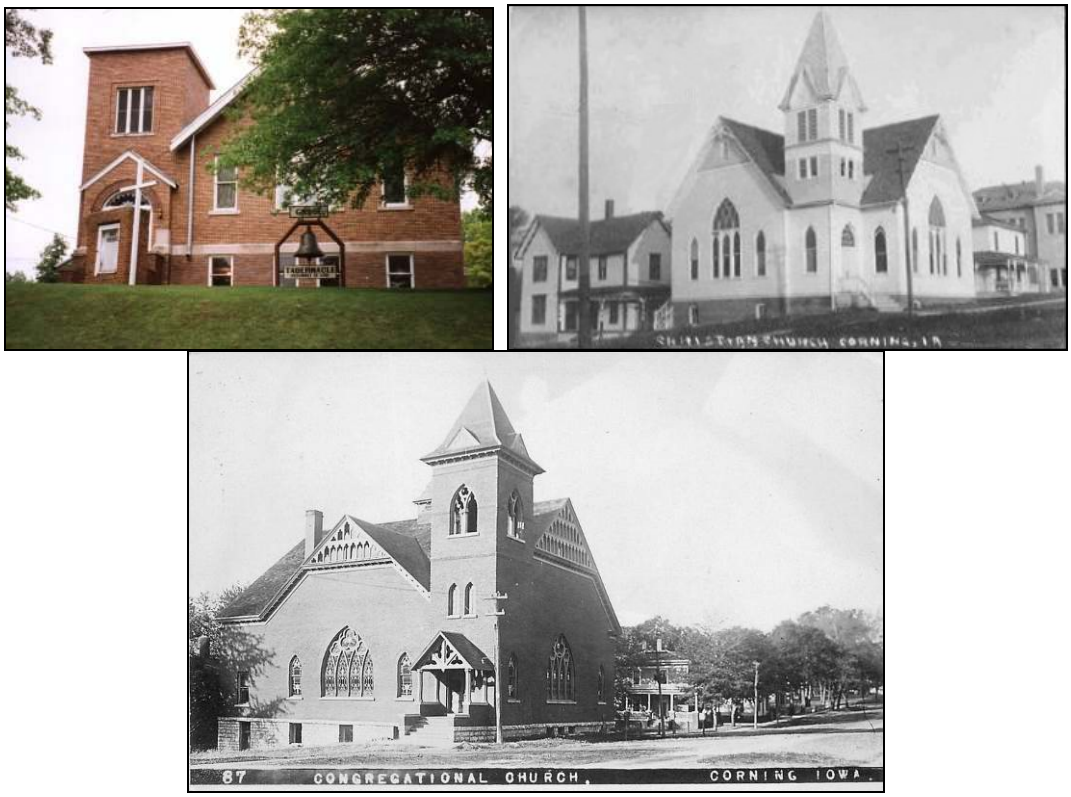


Left: 1883 St. Patrick Catholic Church (nonextant) and Right: 1931 St. Patrick Catholic Church still extant today. Photographs provided by Saundra Leininger, Corning, Iowa, and by Roger Cox, Spring Lake, MI obtained from iaadams.com/corningchurches.htm, 2020.



Modern photograph of St. Patrick Catholic Church, Corning, Iowa.
Taken by Roger Cox, Spring Lake, MI obtained from iaadams.com/corningchurches.htm, 2020

Other former and current churches in Corning include the Grace Tabernacle Church (originally the First Baptist Church), the Lutheran Church, Presbyterian Church, Christian Church, and Grace Baptist Church, with all but the First Baptist Church being later mid-to-late 20th century buildings.



Top Left: First Baptist Church (later the Grace Tabernacle Church); Top Right: Former Corning Christian Church at NW corner Benton Ave and Ninth Street (now nonextant and replaced on same site with a mid-to-late 20th century church building that is now closed). Bottom: nonextant First Congregational Church. Photograph (top left) taken by Rogers Cox, Spring Lake, MI and obtained from iaadams.com/corningchurches.htm, 2020; Photographs (top right and bottom) provided by Saundra Leininger, Corning, Iowa.

Douglas Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 6, 2020, with the assistance of one project volunteer because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19. The volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Cindy Nagel of Tallgrass staff.

Douglas Township has one town, Carbon, located in the northeast quadrant of the township. Carbon was the center of Adams County's coal mining industry, with mines all around the town in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Carbon was also a crossroads community serving the rural environs and is also located alongside the Middle Nodaway River, which angles through the middle of the township from northeast to southwest. The resources examined in Carbon include a standing church, one church site, and the site of the former Carbon School. The standing church and the school were previously inventoried as architectural properties, likely before the school was demolished.

- **United Methodist Episcopal Church (02-00587) –** This property had not been previously recorded, with a form completed for the current study. The property for this church was purchased in 1881, with the church built soon after. The church was incorporated in February 1882. This is a front-gabled frame church that has a lower projecting gabled entry vestibule that is reached by concrete steps and a concrete ramp. The steps have metal railings. The church is well maintained and retains historic-age clapboard siding, wide frieze boards, and corner boards that have angled tops with two levels of cornice molding that have the appearance of stylized capitals. The windows and front door are Gothic arched, with the windows being tall, narrow 1/1 wooden-frame windows with Gothic-arched transoms that have Gothic-arched muntins but no glass panes. The window surrounds have drip molds on the upper part and shaped sideboards that widen at the base. The sills are plain boards. The gabled roofs are covered with asphalt shingles and have a moderate eave overhang with cornice molded eaves and a scalloped board in the gable peaks. The double front entry doors are modern replacements but the doorway retains the Gothic-arched header (painted white here too) and a two-light transom window that is not painted. The vestibule has a single Gothic-arched window on each side, with the sides of the church having rows of larger Gothic-arched windows. The main foundation of the church is made of rusticated concrete blocks, with the foundation under the vestibule being smooth concrete blocks. There is a single frame privy behind the church; however, that structure is still occasionally used.

  The historic integrity of the exterior is excellent and is among the best-preserved rural community church buildings in Adams County and appears to be NRHP eligible for its architectural significance. Any original elements extant on the interior will only enhance the integrity and significance. It may also have eligibility for historical significance but will require further research before a determination under Criterion A can be made. It certainly appears to meet Criteria Consideration A for a religious property that derives its primary significance from architectural distinction if not also historical importance. Research is needed into how this church was associated with the coal mining community in Carbon and its history in this community, which also had two other churches, one of which was the Missionary Baptist or United Missionary Baptist Church (nonextant and location uncertain) and the Free Methodist, which is also nonextant but the location is known and is a potential archaeological site (see below). It is assumed there is a historical connection between the two Methodist churches that will also need to be explored.



Looking NW at United Methodist Episcopal Church (02-00587) on A St. in Carbon, Douglas Township. Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.



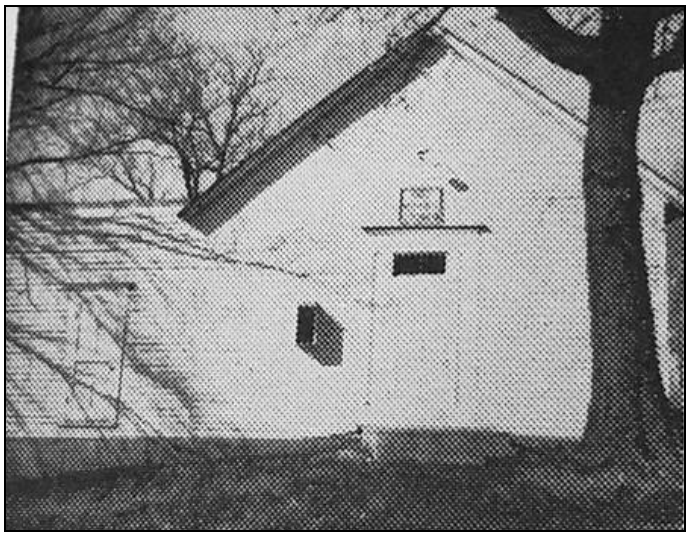
Looking NE at United Methodist Episcopal Church (02-00587) on SE corner on 5th & A St. in Carbon, Douglas Township. Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

A historical photograph of the Carbon Methodist Church shows that the Gothic-Arched headers were always painted or are just wooden pieces with the Gothic muntins and had no glass panes. The photograph also shows that the vestibule had a bell tower at its apex, the bell from which is now mounted on a base on the ground next to the vestibule. The bell tower had been removed by 1957 according to a photograph in a local history book.

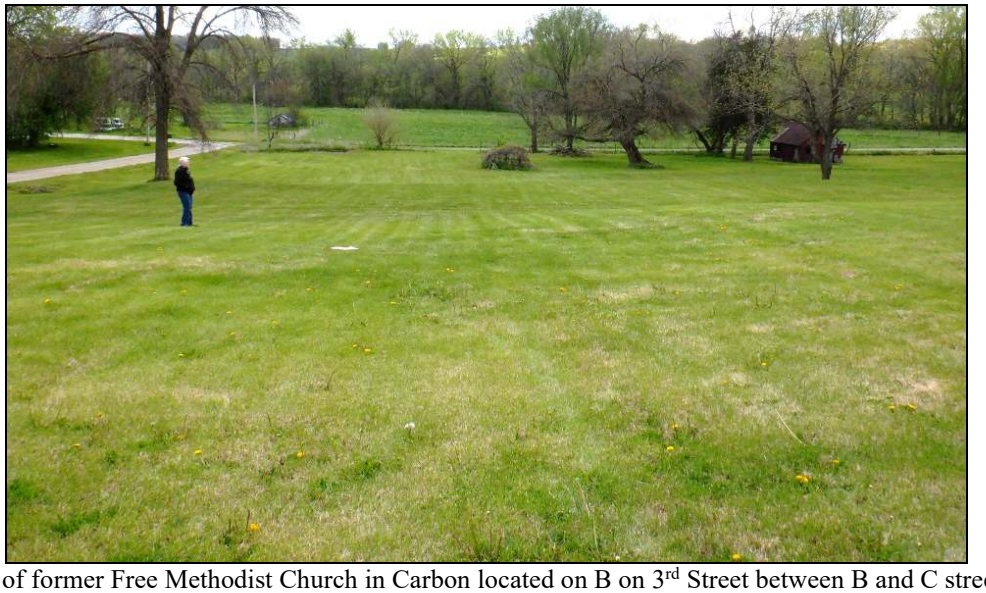


Historical photograph of the Carbon Methodist Church looking NE. Copy of photograph shared by Roger Cox, Spring Lake, MI, obtained from www.iaadams.com, May 2020.

- **Free Methodist Church site –** This site is a potential archaeological site. This church building was still standing until 2013 when it torn down. It had been built around 1894 and operated as a church until 1981. The building was a front-gabled frame building with no basement and faced east towards 3rd Street and sat about 30 feet from the street. It is clearly visible on the modern aerials up to 2013. It was noted to have been one room with a lean-to on the south side. There were two privies associated with this church. The parcel is now in mowed grass and appears to have a good potential to retain some archaeological features, such as the privies, once associated with this historic Carbon church. Therefore, it is recommended for Phase I archaeological investigation by a future study.



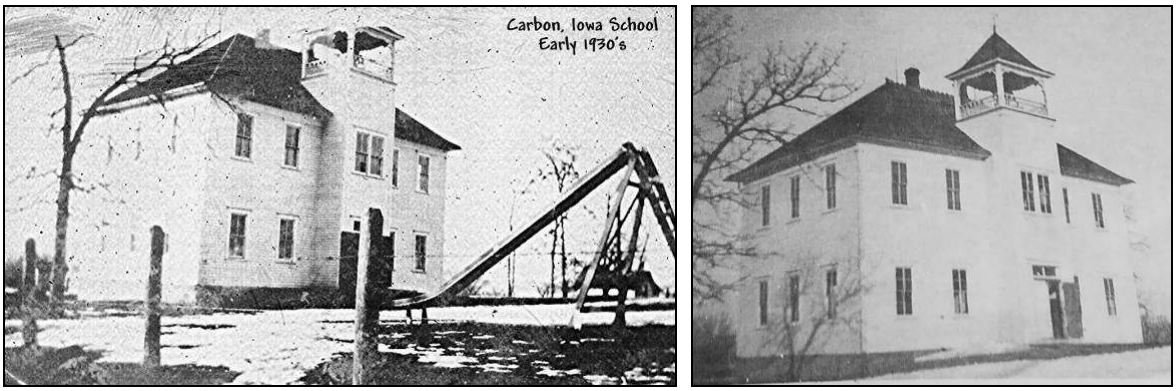
Carbon Free Methodist Church in 1957 looking west.
Copy obtained from a local history book and provided by survey volunteers, Adams County, Iowa.



Site of former Free Methodist Church in Carbon located on B on 3rd Street between B and C streets.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

- **Carbon School site –** This site is also a potential archaeological site located the west side of 4th Street just south of A Street in the town of Carbon. There had been more two earlier schools on this same site, with the last having been a rectangular frame building, two stories in height with

two rooms on each floor. It had an entry bell tower centered on the façade but reportedly had no basement. There was a separate gymnasium building behind the school that is also nonextant. Two privies flanked the gymnasium, one for girls and one for boys. The playground equipment was in the front yard area of the school visible in the 1930s photograph of the Carbon School below. There was also a hand pump for the water well onsite. None of these structures are extant but are potential archaeological features. This school building operated as such from 1902 until 1960. The first of two previous schools dated from the 1870s and the second from 1880-1902. The site could contain archaeological evidence of all three buildings depending on where they were located on this parcel.



Left: Early 1930s photograph of the Carbon School looking NW; Right: undated photograph of the Carbon School looking NW. Copy of left photograph shared by Roger Cox, Spring Lake, MI, obtained from www.iaadams.com, 2020; Right: copy provided by survey volunteers and obtained from local history book.

Today, the school site is in overgrown grass, with the school sign (placed here in the 1990s) and the concrete sidewalk that led west to the school entrance being the main surface feature visible. There is now a debris pile near the site but this is not debris from the school demolition. The school was still standing into the 1980s but appears to have been demolished by the 1990s. The gymnasium was removed by 2002 according to the available aerial photographs. The site has some potential as an archaeological site and is recommended for Phase I investigation by future studies.



Looking west at Carbon School site on 4th Street south of A Street, Carbon, Douglas Township. Sidewalk heads due west into the school site. Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

Another notable settlement area in the county was in the northwest quadrant where Norwegian immigrants settled on farms in that region in the late 19th century. A cemetery is associated with that

settlement and is identified on the USGS topographic map as the "Thompson" cemetery but it is also known as the Rockdale Cemetery, the Norwegian Cemetery, and as the Larson "burial gardens." Reportedly, there were some Mormon emigrants buried here as well because this location was less than two miles from the 1846 Mormon Trail. The Rockdale Cemetery was previously assigned an inventory number of 02-00569, but an inventory form was not completed; therefore, the current survey is completing that inventory.

Rockdale Cemetery (02-00569) – This pioneer cemetery is located in the northwest corner of Douglas Township in Section 7. It is rectangular in plan and set back from 175th Street on a rise to the north of that street. The cemetery is fenced and surrounded by active pasture. The grassy lane that provides access to the cemetery is also fenced for its length with a metal pipe gate at the south entrance and a metal gateway sign at the entrance to the cemetery. This gateway is modern and holds a sign that reads "Larson Burial Gardens/Mormon Pioneer/Norwegian/Rockdale Cemeteries." The cemetery is in mown grass, with some remnant stones including granite, marble, and limestone markers. The cemetery reportedly began with Mormon emigrant burials but this is unconfirmed (Adams County History Book Committee 1984:47). The location is within two miles of the 1846 Mormon Trail, so the story is entirely plausible. However, the parcel was not donated as a cemetery until 1872 on land that had been owned by John and Hulda Larson, who were both buried here in 1886 and 1888. The oldest gravestone recorded by the WPA during the Great Depression was that of Severin Larson who died in 1875. The last known burials date from 1901 (Information obtained from http://iaadams.com/, May 2020). The marked grave sites are at the higher end of the cemetery. There are visible depressions without markers, and it has been estimated that there are around 20 burials on this parcel. As a pioneer cemetery, with a potential association with the Mormon migration and a known association with the Norwegian immigrant settlement in Douglas Township, this cemetery appears to be eligible under Criterion Consideration D for its important historical associations and thus is recommended eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. As noted previously, this Norwegian settlement also extended into the southwest corner of Lincoln Township. The cemetery is also recommended for ground-penetrating radar survey.



Top: Looking north at Rockdale/Larson/Norwegian Cemetery (02-00569) on 175th, Douglas Township; Bottom: Looking west at some of the extant gravestones. Photographs taken May 6, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

The rest of the identified rural resources in Douglas Township included three church sites and eleven rural school sites. The township has more than the usual number of rural churches seen in most of the other townships in Adams County, with these churches clustering not in the known Norwegian settlement or in the rural coal mining area around Carbon but rather in the southeast and southcentral portions of the township.[2] Here three churches were established, with two at one crossroads settlement that also included a school and the other at another crossroads with a rural school. These included: the Advent Church and Highland School No. 8 in Sections 27 and 34, at the intersection of Chestnut Avenue and 210th Street, and the United Brethren/Methodist Episcopal Church and another unidentified church to the east on 210th Street and around the intersection with Elm Avenue. The school associated with the two-church cluster was the Prairie Gem School #7 in Sections 26 and 36. All of these church and school sites are potential archaeological sites, although the two churches around Prairie Gem School were both sited at locations that now have occupied farmsteads with multiple buildings lessening the potential to find intact archaeological evidence of either church site. The Prairie Gem (Dog Hollow) School was established in 1872 and closed in 1957. The site is now in CRP (tall grass). There is a modern concrete foundation on site but there is a possible well cap on the slope below in the road right of way that could have been the well associated with this school. When the sign was placed in 1999, the schoolhouse was still standing but was in poor structural condition. It was a front-gabled frame building with a small belfry on the roof ridge. In the early 20th century, it had an enclosed vestibule that extended the width of the façade (see photos below).



Prairie Gem (Dog Hollow) School in the early 20th century (left) and circa 1999 (right). Building is now nonextant. Photographs provided by research volunteers for current study.

The Highland-Hoyt School (No. 8) site has been obviously damaged or destroyed by the excavation for a sileage trench that cut deep into the former school site. Some brick and concrete rubble was observed on the ground surface around push piles near the school site entrance. The location of the former Advent Christian Church is in pasture with tall grass and an alfalfa field adjacent to the site. There may be some potential at this location for intact archaeological evidence.

There were several other school sites that appear to have a good potential for intact archaeological features such as foundations, privies, and a well. These include: the 1884 mapped location for School No. 3 at the intersection of Aspen Avenue and 175th Street where a well opening was observed in a grassy parcel; Hunter School #6 located at 190th and Elm Avenue and in an active pasture where limestone slabs were observed on the ground surface; Middle Valley School #5 located 1918 Chestnut Avenue and in a cultivated field where limestone rocks were observed on the ground surface; and Houck School #1 on 165th Street west of Filbert Avenue where concrete and brick were observed on the surface of an active

[2] However, the Norwegian settlement, where it extended into Lincoln Township to the north, did have a church in association. That church is still standing and is the Strand Lutheran Church described previously under Lincoln Township.

pasture. For the current survey, the location of the **Houck School #1** is recorded as archaeological site **13AA118** because there appears to be a partially intact foundation on a level spot at this location that would likely have been associated with this school. This site, and those noted above as having good archaeological potential, should be examined by Phase I archaeological investigation by future studies to evaluate the sites' integrity and potential significance for inclusion in the NRHP.



Looking north (above) at Houck School Site 13AA118 from 165th St., Douglas Township and (below at the possible foundation remnant observed on the surface of this school site.
Photographs taken May 6, 2020 by Cindy Nagel, Tallgrass.

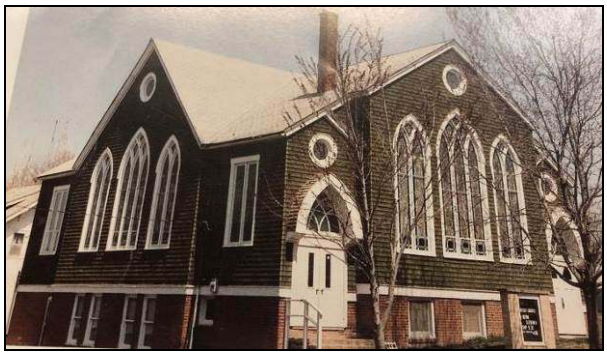
Similar to the other townships in Adams County, some of the rural schools had more than one location for the same school but always in close proximity. In Douglas Township, these included two locations for Schools No. 2 and No. 3. In these cases, the 1884 map showed the schools to the south and southeast of where they were located in 1905. This indicates that either the school buildings were moved to the new location or new schools replaced the older schools but at new locations. The reasons for such moves may reflect shifts in the location of the students who would attend each school since the idea was to always have the rural schools within easy walking distance of the pupils' homes.

Nodaway Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on November 21, 2019, with the assistance of project volunteers including a group of HPC members and the Consultant, Leah Rogers. Because this was pre-COVID-19, we were able to conduct the survey all in one vehicle.

Historically, there was one town in this township also called Nodaway, which still exists to the present day. Initially, there was a stage road through this area with a stagecoach inn built on this line in 1856. However, the town developed because it was a station along the Burlington Railroad, which angled northeast to southwest through the county in 1869, with the first passenger train stopping at the depot in 1870. A second track was added in 1897. The town achieved incorporation in 1900 (Nodaway Bicentennial Committee 1976). Resources photographed and examined in the town of Nodaway included the Nodaway Consolidated School, the site of an older school, the site of the former Presbyterian Church, and the site of the former Methodist Church, The consolidated school is the only standing resource, while the rest are potential archaeological sites.

- The **Methodist Church** was sited at the northwest corner of 5th Avenue and 4th Street in the southern half of the town. The site is now marked by a boulder, with a large cedar tree still standing at the corner. The parcel is covered with grass that is maintained as a lawn. The commemorative boulder includes an illustrations of the former church building(s) on this lot between 1887 and 2015. The Assessor's record for this parcel included photographs showing an excavated hole in the ground filled with brick and other rubble and dated 2018. This would appear to be from when the building was razed and shows that much of the foundation/basement level was removed as well. This recent razing/excavation indicates a low potential for intact archaeological features or deposits associated with this former church on this parcel. Historically, this church began in 1864 in a one-room schoolhouse, with the first church built in 1878. In 1902 a new building was built but it burned in 1920. The church most recently on the subject site was built in 1921-22 and was used until 2015 and then demolished by 2018.




Photographs of the 1921-22 Methodist Church in the modern era. Left photograph provided by research volunteers for current survey; Right photograph obtained from Images of Nodaway at http://iaadams.com/ nodawayimg.htm.



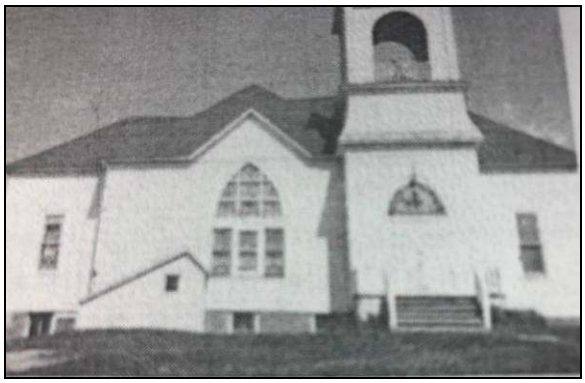
Photograph obtained from the Adams County Assessor for the parcel at the northwest corner of 5th Avenue and 4th Street in 2018 when excavation of what appears to be the former foundation/basement level of the church was underway. Building rubble is visible in a large hole that has been mechanically excavated.

- **Nodaway Consolidated School (02-00603)** – This extant school is located on the east side of 5th Street at the intersection with 7th Avenue. This is a three-story brick school with a basic rectangular ground plan. The style of the building is Classical Revival, with a centered projecting entry that has a monumental front doorway with stone pilasters and an arched doorway that retains its wooden framing and multi-pane arched window and flanked by rows of windows on each floor. The roofline has a flat parapet with a stone band on all sides of the building and a stepped parapet on the projecting entryway. The school is now vacant and in an advancing state of deterioration. Some windows have been removed; others have been covered over. Part of the ground-level wall has been removed on the north side. This building was built in 1921, with the school opened here in 1922. There had been three generations of school buildings at and near this location with the first school opened in Nodaway in 1869, a larger building built in 1879, and a new brick school built in 1908. The school was consolidated in 1919. Unfortunately, the current state of the extant building makes it unlikely that it will survive and there is no effort being made to rehabilitate this building. Adaptive reuse of such a large building in this small community would require a substantial investment of time and money that does not appear to be forthcoming. The loss of so many historic windows has impacted the overall historic integrity as has the large hole now in the basement level on the north side; however, if the building retained sufficient historic integrity on its interior, then it could be considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP for its architectural significance. For the present study, potential eligibility appears to be low.



Top: Nodaway Consolidated School (02-00603) in 1946; Bottom: School building in November 2019.
1946 image obtained from Images of Nodaway at http://iaadams.com/ nodawayimg.htm;
Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

- Older **school site** and site of the former **Presbyterian Church** – These two potential archaeological sites are located just south of the extant consolidated school on the east side of 5th Street. The older school was located on the rise where the evergreen trees are located nearest the extant school, while the church was located where a new Ranch house sits. There is a cast iron hand pump from a well along the sidewalk between the old school site and the former church site. The church site can be considered likely damaged if not destroyed by demolition activities and the modern house construction. It should be noted that the physical remains of the Presbyterian Church were salvaged and the current community building was built using that material. The community building is metal-sided and -roofed on the exterior so this material is not evident on the exterior. The school site may have some archaeological integrity but would require subsurface testing to determine. The Presbyterian Church was started in 1877 in a one-room schoolhouse. They built their first church in 1900 but it burned in 1909. The new church on this site was built in 1911 and used until 1979.



Photograph showing the 1911 Presbyterian Church while still in use prior to 1979.
Photograph provided by research volunteers for current study from a local source.



The former school site is on the left near the evergreen trees, with the former Presbyterian Church site where the Ranch house now stands. The pump is circled. Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.



Nodaway Community Building constructed using materials salvaged from the Presbyterian Church.
Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

The rest of the school, church and cemetery resources in Nodaway Township are rural and located throughout the township and include eight rural school sites, three extant cemeteries, and one rural church site. None of the former rural schools or churches is still standing. The schools are largely marked with the signs placed around the county in 1999, although some of the signs in Nodaway Township and other townships are now missing. The school sites in this township include parcels now in pasture, tall grass/ brush, or under active cultivation.

Prior to this survey, three cemeteries had been assigned inventory numbers in Nodaway Township but no forms were completed and these properties were not evaluated for NRHP eligibility. These included: Baldwin Cemetery (02-00552), Nodaway Cemetery (02-00553) and Methodist Grove Cemetery (02-00554). No other church, school, or cemetery properties or archaeological sites were recorded in the I-Sites Pro database. The inventory forms for these cemeteries were completed as part of the current survey. The only properties previously inventoried in the town of Nodaway were houses and commercial properties. For the current study, an inventory form was completed for the Nodaway Consolidated School (02-00603). The current study also recorded as archaeological sites, a single burial site in Section 3 (13AA108), the Northrup School site in Section 29 (13AA109), and the Mt. Zion Church site in Section 23 (13AA110).

The single burial is located in Section 3 and was recorded as part of the current study. This burial was that of a 17-year-old boy named Christopher Mauderly, who died of a contagious disease and therefore could not be buried in a public cemetery. The burial is marked by a small four-sided stone obelisk; however, the obelisk portion is now sitting off to the side of its original square stone base which is next to the bole of a tree. The gravestone bears the name of Christopher Mauderly and his birth and death years – 1864-1881. Family history states that as he become more ill, Christopher liked to spend time under a tree on the family farm with his beloved dog. He asked his parents to bury him under the tree. Following his death, his dog would go out and lay on his grave, and when the dog died, the family buried him next to Christopher. So there is both a human and a dog burial next to this tree. The dog burial appears to be unmarked. Unfortunately, the tree is now dead and only a badly storm-damaged bole still stands. It is recommended that the upper half of the tree bole be trimmed down so that the large pointed pieces up in the air do not fall on the stone and damage it even further. Leaving a stump will help mark and protect this gravesite. However, it is also recommended that some consideration be given to fencing this grave site so that it will be protected from farm machinery in the years to come. The **Mauderly Burial** is being recorded herein as **archaeological site 13AA108,** so the location will also be recorded in the state Archaeological Site Records. It should also be noted that there are plans to repair this stone in the near future (Saundra Leininger, e-mail dated May 21, 2020). While this burial is not yet 150 years old, and thus protected under Iowa Code, it should still be protected and preserved out of respect as a burial site that had special meaning to the person buried here and his family.



Photograph of Christopher Mauderly's gravestone (13AA108) in Section 3, Nodaway Township.
Photograph taken May 20, 2020 by Saundra Leininger, Adams County HPC.



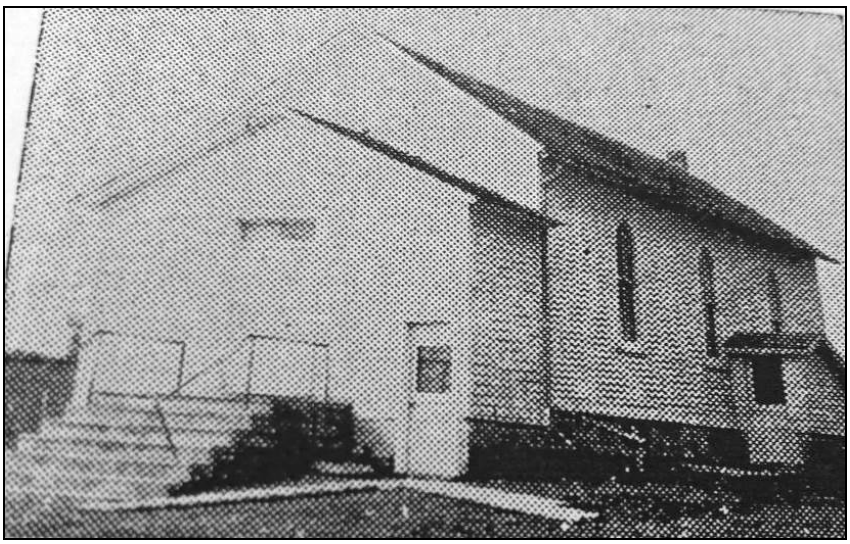
Photograph of Christopher Mauderly's graves site in Section 3, Nodaway Township, and the storm-damaged bole of the tree next to it. Photograph taken May 20, 2020 by Saundra Leininger, Adams County HPC.

The rural school sites include: Kernen (aka Hells Half Acre), Craneville, Fairway, Bullock, McElroy, Oakdale, Northrup, and Lyons. These schools were all founded in 1895 with the exception of Fairway School which was founded in 1897. However, some of these had schools mapped at these locations in 1884; therefore, the 1890s dates may have been the second generation of school buildings on those sites replacing the first schoolhouses. Most of these schools operated until 1919 or 1920 with the exception of Fairway and Oakdale (1959) and Methodist Grove (1960). Two other school sites were shown on the 1884 map and identified only by township school number including No. 5 south of the later Kernen School and No. 7 located north of the later Methodist Grove School indicating that the schools shifted location between 1884 and 1905. One of the rural school sites is recorded herein as an archaeological site. This is the **Northrup School site (13AA109)** in Section 29. This school reportedly operated from 1895 to 1920 and was shown at this location along the Adams-Taylor county line on the 1905 plat map. There is a cut-down area visible in this field that may indicate the school site location. This area is partly cultivated and partly grass covered. It will require Phase I field investigation to determine whether intact archaeological features and deposits remain from the school occupation.



Northrup School site (13AA109) on Adams/Taylor Street, Section 29, Nodaway Township.
Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

There are no rural churches in Nodaway Township that are still standing. Historically, there were only two rural churches that are known or were represented on the historical plat maps. These include the **Mt. Zion Church** recorded herein as archaeological **site 13AA110** in Section 23 and an unidentified church shown on the 1905 plat map in Section 23 but northwest of the Mt. Zion Church. The Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church was built in 1871 and closed in 1971 when the building was demolished. There was a church shown on this site in 1884 and was labeled as the "C.P. Church." The church to the northwest shown on the 1905 plat map was not represented on the 1884 map. Reportedly, the steps up to the Mt. Zion Church were still visible at the subject site until recently although they may just be covered by the many large hay bales now being stored on site. This parcel is overgrown and has large cedar and other trees growing around it. Some building debris piles and concrete chunks were also noted during the reconnaissance survey. The house shown on the historical plat maps just south and next to the church may have served as a parsonage. Some of the debris visible on site may also be associated with that house. A 1957 photograph of the Mt. Zion Church shows a front-gabled church with Gothic-arched windows on the sides and a lower front-gabled vestibule on the front gable end. The front door was reached by a long set of stairs. The church was raised on a basement level.



1957 photograph of the Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church showing the tall stairs up to the front entry that were reportedly still visible until recently.
Copy of photograph provided by research volunteers for the current study from a local history.



Mt. Zion Church site (13AA110) at Elm & Center Section 23, Nodaway Township.
Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

The cemeteries include **Baldwin Cemetery (02-00552), Nodaway Cemetery (02-00553), and Methodist Grove Cemetery (02-00554)**. All three were previously assigned inventory numbers with the current study completing inventory forms for each of these properties. All three are active cemeteries still receiving burials. These cemeteries are well maintained, fenced, and have gateways with signs. They are each typical of rural cemeteries in the county but do not rise to the level of significance (historical or architectural) to be considered individually eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria Consideration D. However, as cemeteries, they need to be preserved and protected.



Baldwin Cemetery (02-00552) on west side of Fig Ave, Nodaway Township.
Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.



Nodaway Cemetery gateway (02-00553) on Cherry Ave, Nodaway Township.
Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.



Entrance gateway to Methodist Grove Cemetery (02-00554), on Elm Avenue, Nodaway Township.
Photograph taken November 21, 2019 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

Jasper Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 7, 2020, with the assistance of one project volunteer because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19. The volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Consultant, Leah Rogers.

This township has three cemeteries, eight rural school sites, three church sites, two standing churches, one town school site, and one seminary site. One of the church sites, the two standing churches, and the seminary site are located within the town of Brooks. There were two settlements in Jasper Township of note – the town of Brooks, which still exists, and the settlement known as Iveyville, which is largely nonextant. The latter was a crossroads community that straddled the border between Adams and Taylor counties. It had a Methodist Church, a store, and several residences in 1884. At that time, the Iveyville church was located on the Taylor County side but had been moved to the Adams County side in Section 32 by 1905. The 1905 location of the **Iveyville Church** is now in alfalfa and a potential archaeological site. There are still some houses around this intersection, with two on the Taylor County side and one to the west on the Adams County side that functions as a farmstead.



Looking at Iveyville Church site on Adams Taylor St & Grove, Section 32, Jasper Township.

The resources surveyed in the town of **Brooks** include three churches (two standing and one nonextant), the sign for the Brooks School site, and the location of the former Simpson Seminary that was the precursor to Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. The standing churches include one that is no longer active and is a front-gabled church that was greatly modified for use as a residence, while the other is the Brooks United Methodist Church, which was inventoried by the current survey.

- The **front-gabled church** is located on Church Street near the intersection with Commercial Street. It has been resided with vinyl siding and has modern window inserts that are reduced in size from the original windows. There may also be window openings that were covered over with the modern siding. The foundation is concrete block. The history of this church is uncertain and would require further research, but it can be stated that the historic integrity of this building has been modified to the point that no longer retains sufficient integrity to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.



Looking at front-gabled church now a residence on Church Street between Ohio and Commercial streets in the town of Brooks, Jasper Township. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

- **Brooks United Methodist Church (02-00604) -** This cross-gabled building is located on Commercial Street and was built in 1923 to replace an older church that had burned. This church retains its original clapboard siding, Gothic-arched windows, rusticated concrete block

foundation, and metal roof. In 2007, the church was refurbished including new interior painting and carpet, a new altar, a refurbished cross, and framing of stained-glass windows from the Corning Baptist Church. These windows appear to be hung on the inside of the original 1/1 Gothic-arched windows rather than replacing those windows. In 2008, the exterior received a new coat of paint (McMillin 2012). This church has some potential to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP as the best-preserved historic church in Brooks that historically had three churches and a seminary. The seminary is no longer standing but is a potential archaeological site. One of the three churches is nonextant, with that location built over by a house, while the other church is the above-noted front-gabled church, which has been greatly modified for use as a residence. However, a final evaluation of the Brooks Methodist Church will require interior inspection to evaluate the historic integrity of the interior. The congregation is currently small and shares a pastor with the United Methodist churches in Carl and Carbon.



Brooks United Methodist Church (02- 00604) on Commercial Street in the town of Brooks, Jasper Township. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

- The **Brooks School** was a large two-story frame building with hipped roof built in 1876-77. It closed in 1968, and the school was then sold and torn down. It likely stood on the hill to the west of the sign location, which is at the base of the slope near the highway. The former school location does have some potential as an archaeological site, although its demolition in the late 20th century may have damaged or destroyed much of the site. The location certainly warrants Phase I archaeological investigation to determine if intact and significant remains are present from this early town school.



Brooks School sign on the highway just before the intersection with Seminary Street in the town of Brooks, Jasper Township. School was likely on the higher ground behind this sign. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

- The **Simpson Seminary site** is located on the hilltop at the north end of Brooks on the north side of Seminary Street. It was just west of the Brooks School. This seminary was the forerunner of Simpson College after the school moved to Indianola, Iowa. The site location is a potential archaeological site being within a grassy lawn surrounded by trees. A modern garage is to the south but does not appear to be on the historic site. This location certainly warrants Phase I investigation by future studies to determine the presence/absence and integrity of any archaeological features or deposits associated with this historic seminary, which is a unique property type in Adams County. It would also have a potentially significant association with Simpson College.



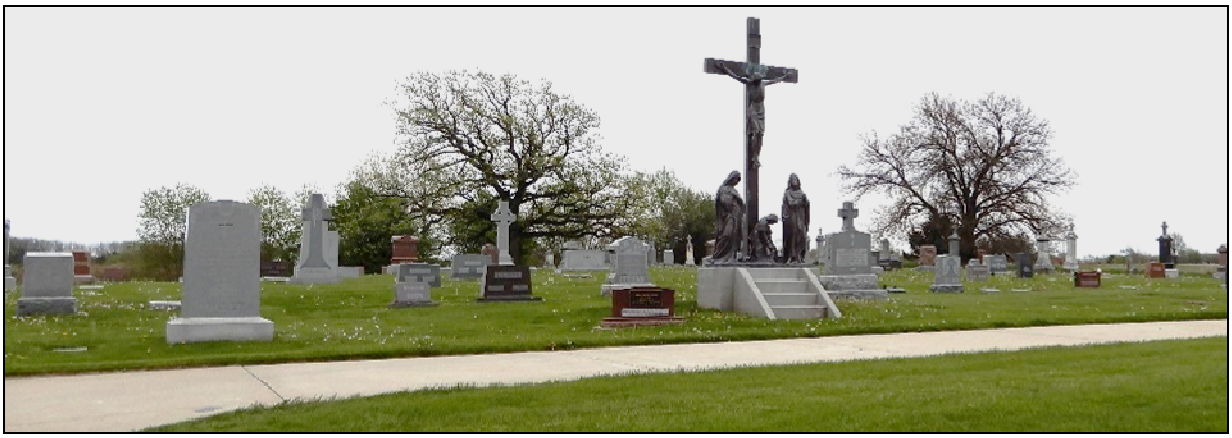
Looking at Simpson Seminary site (to the left of the garage) on Seminary Street in the town of Brooks, Jasper Township. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

The three cemeteries in Jasper Township are all active cemeteries and include the Oak Hill-Calvary Cemetery, the Prairie Rose Cemetery, and the Brooks Cemetery. All three cemeteries had been previously assigned inventory numbers but no inventory forms were completed. The current survey completed those forms.

- The **Oak Hill-Calvary Cemetery (02-00549)** is located just south of Corning and is a combined Catholic and Protestant cemetery, The east half of the cemetery is Catholic and the west half is Protestant. There are no churches located nearby. This cemetery has a modern look to it, with some of the largest monuments being modern additions to the cemetery. However, there is a notable historic statue grouping in the center of the Catholic section that depicts Christ on the cross. Many of the gravestones in the Catholic section also use cross shapes. While certainly of historical interest for its cooperative use by Catholic and Protestant congregations, it is also typical of rural cemeteries in the county having stones in rows that align with the cardinal directions and a simple U-shaped driveway that provides an entrance and exit from the cemetery. The marker at the front of the cemetery is a modern masonry sign with a wooden fence to either side. This cemetery does not appear to possess the historical or architectural significance required to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria Consideration D.



Entrance to Oak Hill-Calvary Cemetery (02-00549). Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.



Catholic section of the Oak Hill-Calvary Cemetery (02-00549) on Juniper Ave, Section 2,Jasper Township. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

- The **Prairie Rose Cemetery (02-00555)** is located in Section 28 of Jasper Township. This cemetery was established as a rural cemetery in 1882. It had no church affiliation. This cemetery is also typical of rural cemeteries in Adams County having rows oriented to the cardinal directions and a driveway that enters from the south from 270th Street and extends north where it turns to the west and exits onto Holly Avenue. There is a historic metal gateway at the 270th Street entrance and another metal gateway on the Holly Avenue side but that gateway is no longer a thru driveway. This cemetery does not appear to possess the historical or architectural significance required to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria Consideration D.



Metal gateway entrance off 270th Street into Prairie Rose Cemetery (02-00555), Section 28, Jasper Township. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.



Second metal gateway into Prairie Rose Cemetery (02-00555) on Holly Avenue side, Section 28, Jasper Township. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

- **Brooks Cemetery (02-00551)** is located just outside of the town of Brooks on a hilltop overlooking both the town and the river valley below. This cemetery is among the early cemeteries established in Adams County that is still an active cemetery, having been established in 1861. While the entrance gate is a chain link fence, the "Brooks/1861" metal pieces may be from a historic archway sign. The cemetery has gravestones aligned in rows with the cardinal directions and only one formal grass-covered lane that enters from the SE corner and on a basic grid pattern through the cemetery plat. There are some mature evergreen and shade trees. The cemetery is essentially a rural cemetery in its location and isolation. While it does not contain any significant structures such as mausoleums or statuary, it is definitely recognizable as an older cemetery and may have historical significance, if not architectural significance. There is one section that appears to be a 19th-century baby section that certainly warrants further research. For the present study, it is concluded that this cemetery is potentially eligible but will require further historical research in order to make a final determination.



Entrance to Brooks Cemetery (02-00551), Town of Brooks, Jasper Township.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.


Brooks Cemetery (02-00551), possible early baby section.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

There is a reported "**old Brooks pioneer cemetery**" that was located on a high bluff on the south side of the East Nodaway River in Section 8 southeast of the town of Brooks. This was an early burial ground dating from the late 1850s. It is further reported that most, if not all, of the burials were removed and reburied in the Brooks Cemetery sometime after 1937 because of erosion (Information accessed at iagenweb.org/adams/cemeteries.htm, May 2020). There are no roads to the cemetery site and likely no markers to be seen. However, as with any early cemetery where the burials were reportedly removed, it cannot be assumed that all of the burials were actually physically moved. Therefore, this area still should be considered a potential burial site. It is mapped in the I-Sites database as **Notable Location XX7953** but it should be examined by ground-penetrating radar in the future to determine the presence or absence of burials at this location, and if burial features are indicated, then it should be recorded as an archaeological site. The location was not accessed during the current survey, so a field check remains for future investigations.

The other rural resources in Jasper Township include eight rural school sites and one rural church site. The latter is a former Presbyterian Church that was located in Section 29 at the corner of Hickory and 260th Street. The building was moved into Corning where it became a house but is no longer extant. The church was shown at this location in 1905 and was still holding services into the 1920s. This church site is at a location that has been cut back and may no longer retain any archaeological evidence.

The rural school sites include both township and independent schools, none of which are still standing. Among the named schools were the Smith, Bentley, Maple Grove, Somerset (also spelled Sommerset), Fairview-Fuller, Humber Center, and Frog Pond school. The **Somerset School site** was recorded by the current survey as **archaeological site 13AA113.** This location is fenced and surrounded by trees. Until recently it was probably undisturbed. However, recent grading has been done for the placement of large hay bale piles that likely had some surface impact on this site. It certainly warrants Phase I field investigation by future studies to determine if there are intact, significant archaeological features from this former rural schoolhouse.



Somerset School (Jasper #6) site 13AA113 on 270th and Grove, Section 29, Jasper Township.
Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

Mercer Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 6, 2020, with the assistance of one project volunteer because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19. The volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Ray J. Werner of Tallgrass.

This township's development differed from that of other townships by never having an established town within its borders. It also only had one true crossroads settlement as well, which was at the center of the township and known as Mercer Center. It was here that a school was established by 1875 according to the plat map, with the later maps and historical records showing the school remaining at the same location but joined by a church by 1892, although the congregation had been meeting since 1890. The Mercer Center School (Township School No. 5) and the Mercer Center Methodist Church are both still standing and still in use, although the school has functioned as a township hall since the school closed in 1960. An early 20th century map also shows that there was a store to the west on the other side of the road from the school and church, which were next to one another on the east side of the road. Today, the intersecting roads are known as 250th Street and County Road N55. There was no cemetery in association with this church or settlement, with no cemeteries established within the township's borders. It should be noted that there is a cemetery (Salem Cemetery) just east of the township border in Grant Township, with the Stringtown Cemetery not far from the NE corner of Mercer Township and also in Grant Township.



Looking ENE at Mercer School No. 5, with Mercer Center Church in background.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

To date, there have been no archaeological sites or architectural properties recorded in the I-Sites database in Mercer Township. The current survey mapped the location of 12 rural school sites, two standing schools, and one standing church in Mercer Township. One of the standing schools and the standing church are the Mercer Center properties noted above. These properties are as follows:

- **Mercer Center Schoolhouse (02-00605) –** This schoolhouse is now the Mercer Center Township Community Center and has been since the school closed in 1960. There has a been a school at this spot since 1875, with the extant building built in the early 20th century. This frame building is square in plan and has a pyramidal hipped roof. The foundation/basement is built of clay tile blocks that have been painted white. There is an exterior brick chimney on the north side of the building that pierces the roof eave overhang. The pyramidal hipped roof is covered with older

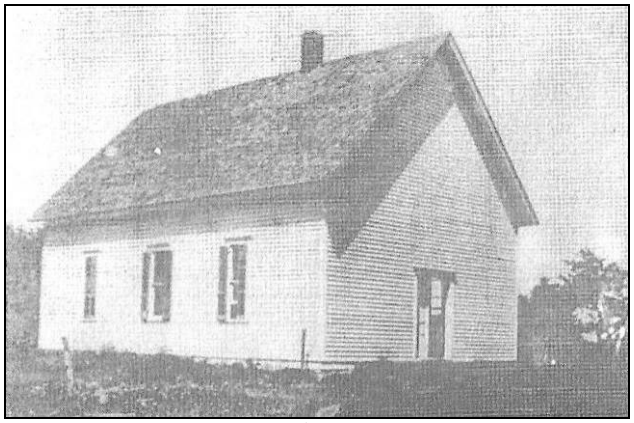
asphalt shingles. The walls of the school are covered with clapboard siding. There are no windows on the north side of the school, with the windows on the east consisting of two pairs of 2/2 windows set close together and towards the southwest corner and the same type of windows set close to the same corner but on the south side of the school. Currently, the entry door is through the shed-roofed addition on the east side of the building, but cuts in the clapboard on the southeast corner of the building suggest that there was an entry on the south side of the school building originally. This building generally retains good exterior integrity; however, the building will require an interior inspection before a final evaluation of NRHP eligibility as an individual school building can be made. For the current survey, it is recommended that both the school and the church together constitute a potential historic district that may be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP for its representation of this former crossroads community as well-preserved examples of a rural school and rural church associated with one another. This potential will require additional historical research before a final determination of eligibility can be made.



Looking North at Mercer School No. 5 (02-00605), Mercer Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

- **Mercer Center Methodist Church (02-00606)** – This church was originally built in 1892 as a frame, front-gabled church that sat on a stone foundation and had no basement and no vestibule. The façade had a centered front door but no windows. Historically, the windows on the sides were rectangular double-hung windows that had 2/2 or 4/4 sash configurations. The roof was originally covered with wood shingles. In 1915, the church was raised up on a rusticated concrete block foundation/basement and the front vestibule was added. The latter has a lower front-gabled roof and a centered door that is now modern with a sidelight but also has a transom window. The front door is reached by a set of modern precast concrete steps with iron hand railings. There is a basement-level entry door to the left of these stairs that also has a modern door. The walls of the church and vestibule are covered with clapboard siding and both have corner boards with cornice-molded "capitals" and wide frieze boards under the moderate eave overhangs. The windows on the sides of the church are now modern casement-type windows. The rear of the church has an exterior brick chimney that pierces the roof eaves. There is also a three-sided bump-out on the rear of the building that has a hipped roof, clapboard siding, and no windows. This bump-out is for the altar on the interior of the sanctuary. The interior of the church was refurbished and modernized following a fire in 1980; therefore, little remains of the historic church interior except for a door or two. The interior remodeling has diminished the historic integrity of the church making it ineligible as an individual building; however, as noted above, there may be potential for the church and school together to be eligible as a small district for their historical significance as

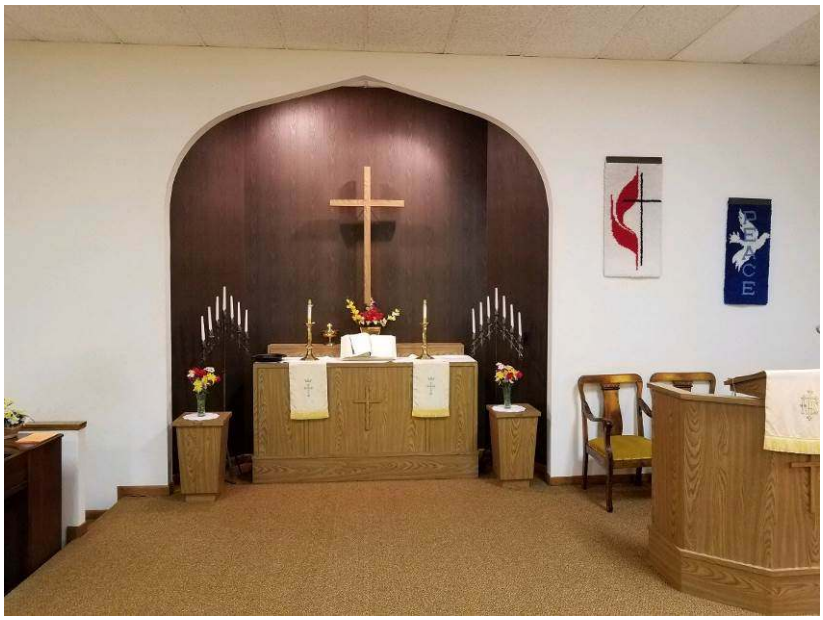
a representative of a late 19th to early 20th century crossroads community in Adams County. Both buildings certainly warrant further historical research.



Mercer Center Methodist Church in the late 19th century showing it before the building was raised up on a basement and the vestibule added in 1915. Copy obtained from Mercer Center United Methodist Church Centennial Book, 1990.



Looking north at front of Mercer Center Methodist Church (02-00606), Mercer Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.



Mercer Center Methodist Church (02-00606, interior of sanctuary looking north. Photograph taken May 7, 2020 by Jon Brokaw, Adams County, Iowa.

The only other standing schoolhouse in Mercer Township is not on its original site having been moved 60 years ago across the road to a farmstead where it remains in use as a storage shed. This school is the **Hogan School No. 3**, which closed in 1947. There had been a school at the original site since at least 1875. The school site is now under cultivation. The schoolhouse was moved by the Hogan family to their farmstead on the west side of the road opposite from where the school named after their family sat. It now sits on a concrete foundation but retains the original clapboard siding and is a frame, front-gabled schoolhouse. It has a front-gabled vestibule that also served as a cloakroom. The interior retains the beaded-board ceiling and wall covering and the hardwood floors but is in a deteriorated condition having been used as storage for many years. The roof has a newer standing seam metal roof, which will help physically preserve this building.


Mercer School No.3 in its current location having been moved from its original site across the road, Mercer Township. Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.

Four of the rural schoolhouses once in this township had two different locations through the years. In one case, the locations were close, typically a half-mile apart and may reflect changes in the school population. In one case, the school only moved across the road from its original site. Several of the school sites were noted to have good potential for intact archaeological evidence, with the location of the former **Cedar Valley School (Mercer No. 2)** selected for recording by the current survey as archaeological site **13AA119.** This site retains a grove of trees around the school site, with materials on site from the schoolhouse that was still standing in 1999 but then in poor condition. The 1999 photograph shows this was a frame, front-gabled schoolhouse with a wood-shingled roof and clapboard siding. This is the site of the school as shown on the 1905 map, with the 1875 and 1884 maps showing it a half-mile to the north. However, given the front-gabled style of the extant school in 1999, it appears likely that it is the older schoolhouse that was moved here from the earlier location by 1905. There is likely to be a well and privy features on site. This location is recommended for Phase I archaeological investigation by future studies to evaluate the site integrity and potential significance for inclusion in the NRHP.



Looking west at Cedar Valley School No. 2, site 13AA119, Mercer Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.



Looking at Cedar Valley School No. 2, at the ruins of the schoolhouse, site 13AA119, Mercer Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Ray Werner, Tallgrass.



Photograph taken in 1999 of Cedar Valley School No. 2 when the school signs were being placed. Photograph provided by research volunteers for current study.

Grant Township

The reconnaissance survey of this township was conducted on May 6, 2020, with the assistance of a single project volunteer because this survey was conducted during the restricted period of COVID-19. The volunteer led the survey in their own vehicle followed by Consultant, Leah Rogers.

There are no existing towns in Grant Township. Stringtown was a crossroads community that still is marked by a standing church and a still-used cemetery, but there is no post office or businesses left standing at this location. The township has eight rural school sites, one standing rural school, two active cemeteries, four rural church sites, and one standing church.

The number of rural church sites is unusual compared to other counties that have only one or two former or standing rural churches. The **Prairie Star Church** has no affiliated cemetery and the location is now underneath a large complex of modern grain bins. **Wesley Chapel** had been affiliated with the Cromwell and Creston churches but also had no associated cemetery. The **Salem Church of the Brethren (13AA112)** sat in front of the Salem Cemetery, with the church demolished only recently in 2015. The aerial photograph from when the church was still standing shows it on the north side of the center driveway into the parcel and west of the cemetery. There is an unusual spot in the front lawn south of the driveway that is clearly visible as a rectangular patch of grass that is noticeably darker in color than the rest of the grassy lawn. It was initially thought that this was the location of the church, but the aerial clearly shows the church north of that location, with a graveled parking lot where the dark patch of grass now is. This does explain the darker color of the grass as there is likely still some gravel beneath the sod in this area. As a recent demolition, this site would have a low potential for significant intact evidence of the church building but might have associated features, such as a well and privies in the lawn area surrounding the church location.



Site of former Salem Church of the Brethren (13AA112) at far left in front of Salem Cemetery (behind hedge). Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

The **Salem Cemetery (02-00560)** is still in use and well maintained. This is something of an odd cemetery in that is has an unusually large fenced/hedged parcel but the only extant gravestones are clustered on either side of a center lane in a small area of the overall cemetery parcel. None of the burials are older than the 1880s. It may be that this was an ambitious cemetery plat that still retains mostly unused lots or there are a number of unmarked graves. However, if significant archaeological remains are found of the Salem United Brethren Church, then the cemetery and church site should be re-evaluated as a possible historic district.



Salem Cemetery (02-00560), Section 18, Grant Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

The only standing church is the **Stringtown Community Church (02-00607)** which appears to be an early 1900s church with Colonial Revival and Gothic Revival stylistic elements such as cross-gabled roof with cornice returns in the gable ends and Gothic-arched windows. There is an entry tower inset within the L formed by the cross-gabled wings. The church shown here in 1884 was identified as a United Presbyterian Church. The extant church replaced the older church and is still an active congregation but is no longer affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. It has some affiliation with the Stringtown Cemetery, which is located across the highway from the church, although this is probably not a strictly "church" cemetery and more of the Stringtown community cemetery. The 1905 map showed **another church** across the road east of the Stringtown Community Church, with this church site now under cultivation. Therefore in 1905, the Stringtown crossroads community was marked by the cemetery on the northwest corner and two churches on the southwest and southeast corners. The extant church has been modified with vinyl siding; however, it would require an interior inspection before a final evaluation of its historic integrity can be made. The church may also be contributing to an eligible historic district including the Stringtown Cemetery. For the present, a NRHP evaluation is deferred.



Stringtown Community Church (02-00607) at Sycamore & Hwy 34, Section 6, Grant Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

The **Stringtown Cemetery (02-00559)** has an ornate metal gateway with the name of the cemetery facing the road on its east side. Most notable among the markers in this cemetery are the two large monuments for the Reese family just inside the main entrance. The cemetery is still use with a mix of older and newer stones. This is a typical rural cemetery with the grave sites laid out in rows on the cardinal directions. There is an informal driveway that enters through the gateway and heads west to the west edge of the cemetery where it curves around the west edge but north of center to then turn back east and extend along the north edge of the cemetery. There is a concrete slab in the northwest part of the cemetery that likely was the foundation for a cemetery maintenance shed that is no longer standing. There are only a few trees in the cemetery, which has an expansive view in all directions. This cemetery does not possess the individual significance required to be NRHP eligible under Criteria Consideration D; however, it could be contributing to an eligible historic district including the Stringtown Community Church.



Metal gateway to the Stringtown Cemetery (02-00559), Section 6, Grant Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

The nine rural schools were both numbered and named, with named schools including Hazel Dell, Sunny Hill, Grant Center, Pleasant Ridge, Key, Bush, and Stringtown. Of the nine schools, only one is still standing. This is **Grant Center #5 (02-00608)**, which is an early 20th century Craftsman-style, square, hip-roofed school. It sits on a concrete foundation/basement, with the walls sided with the original clapboard siding. The pyramidal hipped roof has a moderate eave overhang with exposed rafter ends and is covered with historic if not original asphalt shingles. The windows are the original Craftsman-type, multi-pane over single pane windows. The front entry is on the east façade and projects out slightly from the center of the façade. The door is at ground level indicating that it enters into a staircase up to the main level. The vestibule has a gabled roof with exposed rafter ends, with the door sheltered by a shed roof overhang supported by knee-brace brackets. A brick chimney rises up from the front roof slope. This school was used until recent years as a township polling place but is no longer used. There has been some deterioration with a basement window pushed in and likely animal activity in the basement. The side of the foundation was rebuilt indicating some collapse was repaired. The school is banked into a slight slope and is set well back from the intersection of Union Avenue and 250th Street. This school retains good exterior integrity. The interior could not be viewed to determine the interior integrity but it may be high not having been modified for a residence. This is among the better preserved early 20th century rural schoolhouses in Adams County and does appear to retain sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion C, if not also A. However, the interior will need to be inspected in order to make a final determination on the historic integrity as well as additional research into its history.



Grant Center School No. 5 (02-00608) at intersection of Union Ave & 250th, Grant Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

There is some confusion about the actual location of the **Grant No. 1 school site**. The 1884 and 1905 maps both depict it in the SW corner of Section 1, while the researchers had concluded that it was located in Section 2 about a half-mile to the west at the T-intersection of 230th and Walnut. Both locations are in cultivation; however, the older school site is no longer along a public roadway and is in the center of a cultivated field south of a former farmstead, the driveway of which is labeled as Willow Avenue. Therefore, additional research would be needed as well as field survey to confirm which location in Section 1 or Section 2 is the actual historic school site. The photo below shows the location in Section 2.



Possible location of Grant No. 1 School site in Section 2 at 230th and Walnut in Grant Township.
Photograph taken May 6, 2020 by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

Finally, one of the former Grant Township rural schools was previously recorded as an archaeology site. This is **Grant No. 7 (Sunny Hill School).** It was recorded during a road reconstruction project as **13AA97**. The school is shown at this location on the 1884 and 1905 maps. It was still in operation into the mid-20th century and was still standing into the 1990s. The site was outside of the impact area for the 2005 road project; therefore, the site was not further examined or evaluated (I-Sites Pro 2020). This location is partially in grass but mostly cultivated. The ditches were cut back for the 2005 road improvement project, but reportedly the site location was outside of that impact area behind the school sign, which was placed here in 1999. The site is recommended for Phase I investigation before a final evaluation of NRHP eligibility can be made. It should be noted that this is the vicinity where it is suspected that the 1860 Icaria Schoolhouse originated. That schoolhouse is still standing and was noted previously in this report.



Grant Township School No. 7 (Sunny Hill School) Site 13AA97 at the intersection of 270th and Willow, Grant Township, Adams County, Iowa. Photograph taken on May 6, 2020, by Leah Rogers, Tallgrass.

Summary and Recommendations

Summary

The Adams County Rural Reconnaissance Survey focused on the identification of rural churches, cemeteries, and schools throughout the county. It also included the inventory of selected architectural and archaeological sites identified during the survey, with a minimum of one architectural and one archaeological site recorded within each of the 12 townships. A total of 18 architectural properties and 13 archaeological sites were newly recorded as part of the current study, with an additional 25 architectural and eight archaeological sites that had been previously assigned inventory and site numbers but for which forms had either not been completed or needed updated information. This makes for a total of 43 architectural inventory forms and 21 archaeological site record forms completed for this survey. Recommendations for potential NRHP eligibility of each property was made, with some requiring additional research and/or Phase I Archaeological survey before a final recommendation of eligibility can be made. Some properties appear to have potential eligibility as historic districts encompassing associated rural cemeteries, schools, and churches. The research and survey were completed with the assistance of the Adams County HPC members as well as other interested volunteers who provided information and memories of the properties.

Prioritized Recommendations

Archaeological/Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey - The archaeological sites recorded during the current survey are all recommended for Phase I intensive archaeological investigation before a recommendation of potential eligibility can be made. All of the pioneer cemeteries and family burial grounds that were identified were recommended for ground-penetrating radar survey to confirm the cemetery boundaries and further assess site integrity. These all likely qualify for Pioneer Cemetery designation as a way to further recognize their significance. Some of these cemeteries need gravestone restoration but, with some exceptions, these cemeteries appeared to be in good condition and were being maintained. There are some reported burial sites that either have unconfirmed locations or are unconfirmed whether the burials were all removed. These locations are also recommended for survey, including ground-penetrating radar survey, to confirm their location and identify whether grave features are still present. These include the so-called Sprague, Homan, Kentucky Avenue, and the Old Brooks Pioneer cemeteries. Completion of these recommendations could be accomplished through a CLG or HRDP grant application. Most of these properties are privately-owned and will require owner permission to conduct the surveys. Therefore, before applying for such a study, the owners will need to be contacted and permission granted. The results of owner contacts may reduce the number of sites for survey if permission cannot be obtained.

Additional Survey and Historical Research – The NRHP evaluation of some of the architectural properties hinge on the interior integrity of the church and school properties. However, in some cases, additional research will be required to fully identify the historical associations of these properties with important events, such as immigrant settlements, before final evaluations can be made. These are activities that the Adams County HPC could undertake on their own. The questions for the interior inspections is how original or how modified are the church and school interiors. The churches that are still being used as such may have been modernized to the point that little remains intact of their historic interiors. If that is the case, then individual eligibility would be unlikely. The schoolhouses recommended for interior inspection will also need to retain original elements that identify their historical function as a school in order to be individually eligible. Several of the cemeteries were also recommended for further

research into their association with immigrant settlements in the county such as the New England Colony of Iowa (Rose Hill Cemetery), the Bohemian immigrants (Bohemian National Cemetery), and the Norwegian immigrants (Strand Cemetery and Rockdale Cemetery). This additional research could also be conducted as a local project. If some of the recommended interior inspections can be made before the end of the current study, the evaluations will be updated for those properties in the final report.

National Register of Historic Places Nominations – While there are properties that could be nominated right now for inclusion in the NRHP, it is recommended that this activity be conducted as a Multiple Property Submission (MPS) under a cover document that provides the historic contexts for the evaluation of Adams County's rural schools, churches, and cemeteries. The basis for that cover document is presented in the current report as well as previous reports that have been completed by James Jacobsen (1997, 1999). The properties will still need to be individually eligible or contributing to an eligible historic district in order to be nominated as part of a MPS. Ideally, this task would wait until the Phase I investigations and the additional interior inspections and research tasks are completed because additional eligible sites and properties will be confirmed by that activity. However, there is no reason why an MPS should necessarily be delayed since once listed, a Multiple Property cover document is the tool under which additional properties can be listed in the years to come. Any Multiple Property Cover Document should be accompanied by individual nominations, often a half-dozen representative properties.

The prioritizing of the order of these recommendations is up to the Adams County HPC and owner interest. This consultant recommends that some priority be given to the completion of the Multiple Property Cover Document along with the NRHP nomination of a minimum of six individual properties, with two representative properties from each of the categories of rural schools, churches, and cemeteries. However, the recommended interior inspections and additional research should be conducted for those properties that the HPC is considering as one of the representative nominations prior to applying for grant funding.

The Phase I investigation and ground-penetrating radar surveys should be conducted as a separate project as these activities will require more time to complete. If it is decided to conduct these surveys after the completion of the Multiple Property Submission, the surveys will result in the next list of properties that can be nominated as well as properties in need of restoration and preservation.

Research Questions

1) How many churches and schools are extant as standing architectural properties and how many are at their original locations? A related question concerns their individual integrity at their current locations?

   There are nine church buildings still standing and 23 sites of former churches no longer standing. Some of the nonextant church sites were marked with commemorative boulders in recent years but most are not marked in any way. The churches that remain standing are all still in use and being maintained except for one that is abandoned and deteriorating and one that is no longer used but appears to be at least minimally maintained.

   There are 11 extant school buildings and 113 sites of former schoolhouses no longer standing. Five schoolhouses have been moved to other locations, with three converted into dwellings, one converted into a farm building, and one now a historical exhibit. Three of the standing schools were moved outside of the county. One of the standing schools on its original site was converted into a hog house. Those schools that remain standing retain good to excellent historic integrity. Many of these remained standing because they became township meeting and polling places.

Some have been maintained as historical exhibits on their original site but others are abandoned and deteriorating. Even those that were later used by the township are no longer used as such and are in danger of deteriorating, demolition, or being altered for other purposes.

Rural properties are a challenge to maintain on their original sites because of the decline in the rural population and the costs of maintaining a building that no longer serves a functional purpose. However, it should also be noted that many of the rural schools once in the county moved from one location to the other, often close to their original site, as rural needs changed.

There is no more tangible evidence of the changes in Iowa's rural populations through the years than the comparison of the large numbers of schools and churches that once stood in the county compared to the low percentage that remain standing and even lower numbers that remain in use for their original purpose. Both churches and schools had to consolidate through the years in order to survive, with many congregations uniting into a single larger congregation and schools consolidating in town settings where there were greater resources and higher population density. The advent of the automobile and buses and the paving of Iowa's rural roads facilitated traveling into town for school and church. While the greatest loss was in the identities of rural communities, the changes were necessary.

2) How many cemeteries are maintained and marked, and how many are known but not marked? Are the identified cemeteries all accessible in some way to the public?

   There are 22 actively-used cemeteries in the county. In addition, are seven cemeteries that are no longer used for burials and likely qualify as Pioneer Cemeteries. In addition, are six burial sites that represent single or family burials that were never formally identified as cemeteries in the township or county records. The active and pioneer cemeteries are all marked. The single and family burials are not specifically marked but some retain gravestones. All of the townships contained at least one cemetery except for Mercer Township, which had none. The township with the most cemeteries/burial sites is Washington Township with two active cemeteries and four burial sites. Prescott Township was the second highest having one active cemetery, three pioneer cemeteries, and one family burial site. Nodaway Township has the third highest having three active cemeteries and one single burial.

   The majority of the identified cemeteries in the county are being at least minimally maintained and the property owners are providing some type of public access to their locations. However, the burial sites are not recognized as formal cemeteries and therefore do not require public access, nor do they require maintenance. Some of these burial sites are being preserved, but their continued preservation into the future is in question. Those burials that are known but their locations are not confirmed are in the most danger of being destroyed or at the very least forgotten.

   It should be noted that burials that are 150 years of age or older are protected under Iowa Code from knowing or intentional disturbance. Some of the older pioneer cemeteries and burials do qualify under that age requirement. The other cemeteries are generally protected under local and state laws. For the most part, the cemeteries in Adams County do not appear to have suffered from serious vandalism and are being maintained and looked after.

3) How do the churches and cemeteries relate to one another, or not? How many cemeteries have no religious affiliation or associated church or church site and how many churches never had an associated cemetery?

The majority of rural churches and cemeteries in Adams County were unaffiliated with one another, but with some exceptions. These included the Strand Lutheran Church and Cemetery; the Lincoln Center Cemetery, School, and Church; a nonextant Baptist Church and the Forest Hill Cemetery; the Carl Methodist Church and Cemetery; the Mt. Zion Cemetery, two nonextant churches, and a nonextant school; the Summit Cemetery, nonextant school and a possible nonextant church; the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery and nonextant church; and the Stringtown Church and Cemetery. These were a mix of religious and immigrant affiliations in their groupings and groupings based on crossroads settlements that developed in many of the townships to serve the needs of the rural community. The crossroads developments were particularly important in those townships that had few or no formal towns. The denominations represented by the churches in the county include: Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, United Brethren, and other Protestant congregations. There is one cemetery south of Corning that has a Catholic affiliation but is also a joined Catholic-Protestant cemetery known as Oak Hill-Calvary Cemetery.

4) It is known that the Icarian Schoolhouse is extant but moved several times. Currently it is not considered eligible for the NRHP; however, one question about its eligibility is how it compares as far as integrity, age, and architecture with other extant schoolhouses in the rural areas?

The current study determined that the extant Icarian Schoolhouse is one of the oldest still standing in the county and among the better-preserved. It retains a higher degree of architectural integrity than the extant Woodside School No. 2 in Lincoln Township, which has lost its vestibule and was used as a hog house in the modern era, or Prescott No. 2 that was even more modified for its later use as a hog house and was built after the Icarian Schoolhouse. It is also older than the Cramer or Miller schoolhouses in Carl Township, the Mercer Center School No. 5 in Mercer Township, or the Grant Center No. 5 schoolhouse in Grant Township, all of which were built in the early 20th century. The Hogan Schoolhouse in Mercer Township is the close in potential age to the Icarian Schoolhouse and retains its front vestibule but it too has been moved onto a farmstead and is now used as a storage shed. The Hogan Schoolhouse is also in a deteriorated condition with no plans for restoration. It can be stated that none of these rural schoolhouses had the same historical significance as the Icarian school, which for most of its history as a schoolhouse was part of the Icaria Colony and even played a symbolic role in the Colony's 1878 split when it was moved half-way between the two new colonies as part of the legal settlement. Therefore, despite the many moves of the Icarian Schoolhouse, it is recommended eligible for inclusion in the NRHP for its significance as one of the oldest surviving schools in the county and for its significant association with the Icaria Colony including being a symbol, along with the New Icaria Dining Hall, of the 1878 dissolution of the original colony and its split into Young Icaria and New Icaria. Unlike the extant dining hall, the school is the last standing building from the Icaria Colony before the split. The only other visible vestige is the Icarian Cemetery.

Table 1 is a summary of the properties and sites identified and recording during the current survey along with the recommendations made for each.

Table 1. Summary and Recommendations

Township Name	Inventory or Site Number	Property Name/Type	NRHP The Evaluation/Recommendation
Lincoln	02-00593	Strand Lutheran Church	Not individually NRHP-eligible but is contributing to a potential district including the church, parsonage, and cemetery. Further historical research and interior examination of church is recommended.
Lincoln	02-00570	Strand Cemetery	Not individually NRHP-eligible but is contributing to the above-noted potential historic district
Lincoln	02-00571	Lincoln Center Cemetery	Not eligible
Lincoln	02-00592	Woodside Schoolhouse No. 2	Potentially eligible, requires further research into historical significance
Lincoln	13AA120	Black Jack School No. 3 site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Lincoln	13AA56	Fairview School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Washington	02-00567	Mt. Etna Brethren Cemetery	Not eligible
Washington	02-00568	Forest Hill Cemetery	Not eligible; however, the site of the former First Baptist Church next to the cemetery is recommended for Phase I investigation. If significant archaeological remains of this church are found, then the cemetery should be re-evaluated as part of a potential historic district including the church site and cemetery.
Washington	02-00594	Mt. Etna Schoolhouse	Not eligible
Washington	02-00595	Mt. Etna Evangelical Church	Not eligible
Washington	13AA111	Hinton School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Washington	13AA58	Slide Off Cemetery	Recommended for ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey, along with the Sprague and Homan cemeteries, which have not yet been identified sufficient for archaeological site designation.
Carl	02-00561	Mt. Zion Cemetery	Not individually eligible but contributing to potential district including cemetery, church sites, and school site
Carl	13AA117	Mt. Zion School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation; could be contributing to a potential historic district including cemetery and church sites (see above)
Carl	02-00572	Carl Cemetery	Not eligible
Carl	02-00596	Cramer Schoolhouse	Potentially eligible; recommended for further historical research and Phase I investigation of schoolyard area.
Carl	02-00597	Miller Schoolhouse	NRHP eligible
Colony	02-00562	Bohemian National Cemetery	Recommended for further research into its representation of the Bohemian immigrant settlement of this township.
Colony	02-00598	Nevinville Church	Needs interior examination and further research into its history and location before NRHP eligibility can be fully evaluated.
Colony	02-00599	Rose Hill Cemetery	Recommended for further research; may have historical significance for association with the New England Colony of Iowa
Colony	13AA116	Colony No. 7 School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Union	02-00558	Summit Cemetery	Not eligible, but if significant archaeological remains are identified at the Summit School Site (see below), and if the former church site can be

			confirmed, then the cemetery and the two sites would be contributing to a potentially-eligible historic district.
Union	13AA114	Summit School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Prescott	02-00521	Prescott Consolidated School	NRHP eligible as a historic district including high school, gymnasium, elementary school, and gateway arch
Prescott	02-00556	Evergreen Cemetery	Not eligible; also previously recorded as 13AA105
Prescott	02-00566	Mt. Pleasant Cemetery	Recommended for GPR survey of cemetery and Phase I investigation of possible church site; likely qualifies as a Pioneer Cemetery
Prescott	02-00557	Castle/Old Evergreen Cemetery	Recommended for further research and GPR survey; likely qualifies as a Pioneer Cemetery
Prescott	02-00600	Prescott Methodist Church	Recommended for interior examination and further research.
Prescott	02-00601	Prescott Presbyterian Church/ Masonic Hall	Recommended for interior examination and further research.
Prescott	02-00602	Prescott Twp. School No. 2	Likely not NRHP-eligible but surrounding site recommended for Phase I investigation before final determination can be made.
Prescott	13AA66	Beck School Site	Recommended for additional Phase I investigation
Prescott	02-00022	Icarian Schoolhouse	NRHP eligible
Prescott	13AA71	Icarian School Site	Not eligible
Prescott	13AA73	Icarian Cemetery	Recommended for GPR survey and re-evaluation of site significance for its historical association with the Icaria Colony
Prescott	13AA62	Family burial site	Recommended for GPR survey
Quincy	02-00547	Walnut Grove Cemetery	Recommended for further historical research
Quincy	02-00564	Oakland-Quincy Cemetery	Not eligible
Quincy	02-00565	Old Quincy Cemetery	Recommended for GPR survey
Quincy	13AA67	Queen City Cemetery	Recommended for GPR survey
Quincy	13AA121	Pleasant Valley School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Douglas	02-00587	Carbon Methodist Episcopal Church	NRHP eligible
Douglas	02-00569	Rockdale Cemetery	NRHP eligible; recommended for GPR survey
Douglas	13AA118	Houck School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Nodaway	02-00552	Baldwin Cemetery	Not eligible
Nodaway	02-00553	Nodaway Cemetery	Not eligible
Nodaway	02-00554	Methodist Grove Cemetery	Not eligible
Nodaway	02-00603	Nodaway Consolidated School	Recommended for interior survey but potential eligibility appears to be low
Nodaway	13AA108	Mauderly Burial Site	Preserve and protect
Nodaway	13AA109	Northrup School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Nodaway	13AA110	Mt. Zion Church Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Jasper	02-00549	Oak Hill-Calvary Cemetery	Not eligible
Jasper	02-00551	Brooks Cemetery	Potentially eligible; recommended for further historical research for final determination
Jasper	02-00555	Prairie Rose Cemetery	Not eligible
Jasper	02-00604	Brooks Methodist Church	Potentially eligible but recommended for interior survey for final determination
Jasper	13AA113	Somerset School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Mercer	02-00605	Mercer Center Schoolhouse	Not individually eligible but is contributing to potential historic district also including the Mercer Center Methodist Church

Mercer	02-00606	Mercer Center Methodist Church	Not individually eligible but is contributing to potential historic district also including the Mercer Center Schoolhouse
Mercer	13AA119	Cedar Valley School Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Grant	02-00559	Stringtown Cemetery	Not individually eligible but could be contributing to a historic district that includes the Stringtown Community Church.
Grant	02-00607	Stringtown Community Church	Recommended for interior examination and consideration as contributing to a historic district that includes the Stringtown Cemetery.
Grant	02-00560	Salem Cemetery	Not eligible unless contributing to a historic district including the Salem UB Church Site
Grant	13AA112	Salem United Brethren Church Site	Recommended for Phase I investigation
Grant	02-00608	Grant Center Schoolhouse	Potentially eligible but recommended for interior survey for final determination
Grant	13AA97	Sunny Hill School (Grant No. 7)	Archaeology site recorded for road project; not evaluated; recommended for Phase I investigation

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