

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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received
date entered

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

1. Name

historic

and/or common Stone Manor

2. Location

street & number R.R. 1 Box 212

city, town Lockport

vicinity of

congressional district 17th

not for publication

state Illinois

code 012

county Will

code 197

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. & Mrs. Mark W. Muehler

street & number 19646 Wolf Road

city, town Mokena

vicinity of

state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Will County Recorder of Deeds

street & number 14 West Jefferson Street

city, town Joliet

state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Built around 1865, the Stone Manor with its symmetrical lines, arched windows, and ornate trim represents a distinguished example of Italian Villa architecture. The two story rectangular structure measures 36 ft. by 40 ft. and a rear single story addition measures 18 ft. by 33 ft. The original wood shingled hip roof has since been covered by asphalt shingles. Joliet limestone blocks 19 inches thick were used in the construction of the walls and wood cut from the farmstead supplied material for the trim. The 9 ft. by 10 ft. cupola presumably was a fashion brought from the east coast by the man who had the home built, Elijah Dodge Gorham. All of the large 5 foot and 6 foot high windows were shuttered. The shutters themselves were removed; however several are in serviceable condition and the iron window brackets remain in place.

The interior consists of a full basement with limestone slab floors, an attic, 6 rooms on the first floor, 5 on the second and the cupola. Important features include the original hand carved walnut doors and trim; but the focal point of the interior is a stunning walnut staircase that ascends from the first floor hallway to the attic entrance.

Situated 40 feet behind the house is a gable roofed barn constructed of limestone foundation, hand hewn beams, and wood siding (since covered with asphalt siding). The architectural style and building technique of notching and pegging the beams typifies barns of this period.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect is that since the house's construction approximately 115 years ago it has remained virtually unchanged and except for the maturation of the trees and other vegetation, the surroundings have not been significantly altered by man. Even the original limestone hitching posts remain intact.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1865

Builder/Architect Elijah Gorham, builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Stone Manor represents one of the finest examples of Italianate architecture in the region as well as a place of historical significance. The quality of this building's construction is superior to that of most of its contemporaries. Timber was cut on the farmstead and exchanged for limestone blocks quarried at the Joliet Penitentiary which along with the walnut woodwork dramatically exemplify the utilization of local building materials. Moreover, to have such a structure and surrounding landscape so little touched by the ravages of time is truly remarkable. Likewise, the barn has remained well preserved. The hand hewn beams and notched and pegged construction typify barns built during this period. Elijah Dodge Gorham migrated to Homer Township from Dutchess County, New York in 1853. Gorham farmed the land and built the Stone Manor in 1865. In the late 1870's he moved to Kansas where he brokered land for the Union Pacific Railroad and founded the town of Gorham (9 miles west of Russell). Here he resided until his death in 1906. The month following Gorham's death, James D. Frazer a member of one of Homer Township's pioneer families purchased the property from Elijah's widow. Ownership of the property remained with the Frazer family until our purchase in 1977.

9. Major Bibliographical References

The New Combination Atlas of Will County (Elgin, Illinois; Thompson Bro's & Burn 1873)

The History of Will County, Ill. (Chicago; Wm. Le Baron, Jr. & Co., 1878)

Interview of James D. Frazer, August 28, 1972 conducted by Robert E. Sterling, Joliet Junior College Oral History Program.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 2 acres

Quadrangle name Mokena

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UMT References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See accompanying land survey.

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mark W. Muehler Owner

organization

date July 21, 1980

street & number 19646 Wolf Road

telephone 312-479-5879

city or town Mokena

state Illinois

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

For HCRS use only

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

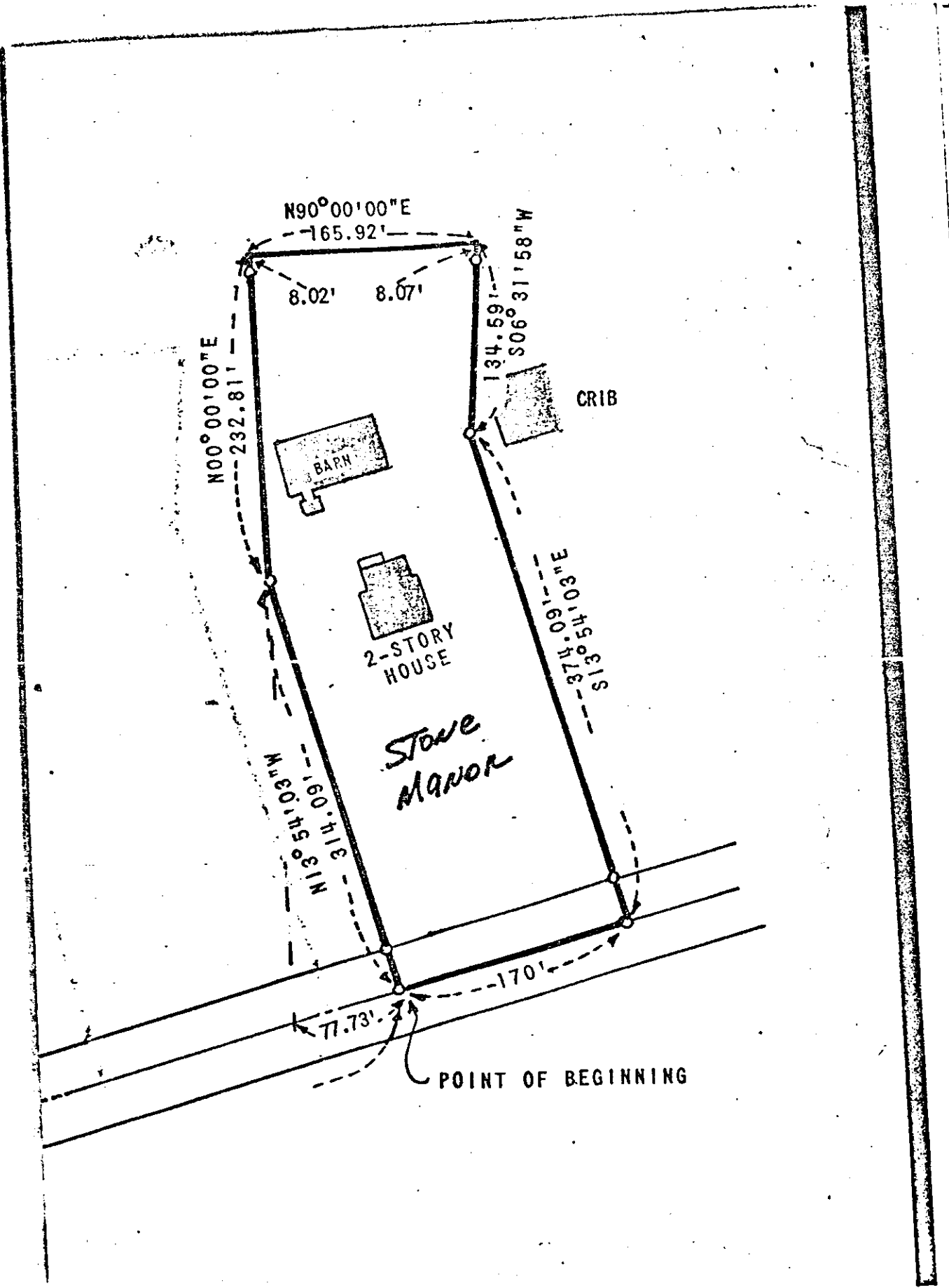
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



N90°00'00"E

165.92'

8.02'

8.07'

S06°31'58"W

134.59'

CRIB

BARN

2-STORY HOUSE

Stone Manor

S37°54'03"E

374.091'

N35°19'30"W

160.118'

170'

77.73'

POINT OF BEGINNING

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered NOV 26 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Horseshoe Lake Mound and Village Site (11-MS-37)	Madison County
Stone Manor	Lockport vicinity Will County
Elliott Street Historic District	Olney Richland County
Mount Carroll Historic District	Mount Carroll Carroll County

Also Notified

Honorable Charles H. Percy
Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson
Honorable Charles M. Price
Honorable George M. O'Brien
Honorable Daniel B. Crane
Honorable Tom Railsback

DEPT. OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL HISTORIC REGISTRATION

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.