

Iowa Site Inventory Form

State Historic Preservation Office

(January 2016)

State Inventory Number: _____ ☐ New ☐ Supplemental

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number: _____

☐ Non-extant Year: _____

Read the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions carefully, to ensure accuracy and completeness before completing this form. The instructions are available on our website.

• Property Name

A) Historic name: KGGB-FM Radio

B) Other names: Jimmie Porter House

• Location

A) Street address: 527 Cottage Street

B) City or town: Waterloo (☐ Vicinity) County: Black Hawk

C) Legal description:

Rural: Township Name: _____ Township No.: _____ Range No.: _____ Section: _____ Qtr: _____ of Qtr: _____

Urban: Subdivision: Auditor Francis Rose Hill Block(s): _____ Lot(s): 0010

• Classification

A) Property category: *Check only one*

☒ Building(s)

☐ District

☐ Site

Structure

☐ Object

B) Number of resources (within property):

If eligible property, enter number of:

Contributing

Noncontributing

If non-eligible property,

enter number of:

1

Buildings

0

—

Buildings

☐

—

Sites

—

—

Sites

—

Structures

—

—

Structures

—

Objects

—

—

Objects

1

Total

0

—

Total

C) For properties listed in the National Register:

National Register status: ☐ Listed ☐ De-listed ☐ NHL ☐ NPS DOE

D) For properties within a historic district:

☐ Property contributes to a National Register or local certified historic district.

☐ Property contributes to a potential historic district, based on professional historic/architectural survey and evaluation.

☐ Property *does not* contribute to the historic district in which it is located.

Historic district name: _____ Historic district site inventory number: _____

E) Name of related project report or multiple property study, if applicable:

MPD title

Historical Architectural Data Base #

• Function or Use *Enter categories (codes and terms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions*

A) Historic functions

99 Other/radio station

1A01 DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling/Residence

B) Current functions

1A01 DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling/Residence

• Description *Enter categories (codes and terms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions*

A) Architectural classification

07E Bungalow/Craftsman

B) Materials

Foundation (visible exterior): 10 Concrete

Walls (visible exterior): 02A Weatherboard

Roof: 08A Asphalt Shingles

Other: _____

C) Narrative description ☒ SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED

Site Number: _____ Address: 527 Cottage Street City: Waterloo County: Black Hawk

• **Statement of Significance**

A) Applicable National Register Criteria: *Mark your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria*

Criterion A: Property is associated with significant events.

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ More research recommended

Criterion B: Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ More research recommended

Criterion C: Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ More research recommended

Criterion D: Property yields significant information in archaeology/history.

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ More research recommended

B) Special criteria considerations: *Mark any special considerations; leave blank if none*

☐ A: Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ E: A reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ B: Removed from its original location.

☐ F: A commemorative property.

☐ C: A birthplace or grave.

☐ G: Property less than 50 years of page or
achieved significance within the past 50 years.

☐ D: A cemetery

C) Areas of significance

Enter categories from instructions

14B ETHNIC HERITAGE: BLACK

D) Period(s) of significance

1975-1978

06 COMMUNICATIONS

E) Significant dates

Construction date

14B ETHNIC HERITAGE: BLACK

☐ check if circa or estimated date Jimmie Porter

Other dates, including renovations

F) Significant person

Complete if Criterion B is marked above

G) Cultural affiliation

Complete if Criterion D is marked above

H) Architect/Builder

Architect

Unkown

Builder/contractor

Unknown

I) Narrative statement of significance ☒ SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED

• **Bibliography** ☒ *See continuation sheets for the list research sources used in preparing this form*

• **Geographic Data** *Optional UTM references* ☐ *See continuation sheet for additional UTM or comments*

Zone	Easting	Northing	NAD	Zone	Easting	Northing	NAD
1	<u>15</u>	<u>555260</u>	<u>4706557</u>	2	_____	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

• **Form Preparation**

Name and Title: Thomas R. Zahn, President Date: august 15, 2023

Organization/firm: Thomas R. Zahn & Associates LLC E-mail: Tzahn@comcast.net

Street address: 897 Holly Avenue Telephone: 651-227-9989

City or Town: Saint Paul State: MN Zip code: 55104

• **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION** *Submit the following items with the completed form*

A) For all properties, attach the following, as specified in the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions:

1. **Map** of property's location within the community.

2. **Glossy color 4x6 photos labeled** on back with property/building name, address, date taken, view shown, and unique photo number.

3. **Photo key showing each photo number on a map and/or floor plan, using arrows next to each photo number to indicate the location and directional view of each photograph.**

4. **Site plan** of buildings/structures on site, identifying boundaries, public roads, and building/structure footprints.

B) For State Historic Tax Credit Part 1 Applications, historic districts and farmsteads, and barns:

See lists of special requirements and attachments in the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line

The SHPO has reviewed the Site Inventory and concurs with above survey opinion on National Register eligibility:

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ More research recommended

☐ This is a locally designated property or part of a locally designated district.

Comments: _____

SHPO authorized signature: _____ Date: _____

Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 1

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Geographic Data:

Lat.: 42.50942 Long.: 92.32735

Bibliography:

Krogstad, Jens Manuel. "KBBG Founder and Waterloo Civil Rights Leader Jimmie Porter, 76, Dies," wcfcourier.com

Halpern, Rick and Roger Horowitz, "Interview with Jimmy Porter." United Packinghouse of America Oral History Project, Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin, 1986.

Jones, Herbert Plummer. "The Shaping of Freedom: Industrial Urbanism and the Modern Civil Rights Movement in Waterloo, Iowa, 1910-1970," PhD dissertation, Iowa City, University of Iowa, 1997.

Merriweather, Elizabeth. Interview by Mica Anders and Gar Patterson. Personal Interview. Waterloo, March 8, 2020.

Sanborn Fire Insurance maps.

Silag, Bill, Susan Koch-Bridgford, and Hal Chase. *Outside in: African-American History in Iowa, 1838-2000*. Des Moines: State Historical Society of Iowa, 2001.

Shirey, Theresa E. "Common Patterns in an Uncommon Place: The Civil Rights Movement and Persistence of Racial Inequality in Waterloo, Iowa." Unpublished honor's thesis, Bowdoin College, 2014.

Waterloo Courier

Narrative Description:

The Jimmie Porter house and former KGGB-FM Radio station at 527 Cottage Street sits on a city lot that is 60 feet wide by 145 feet deep facing south to Cottage Street. The house is the only structure on the lot. The single-family house is a good example of Bungalow/Craftsman design. The frame structure was built in 1909 on a very low foundation and is clad in its original narrow wood lap siding. The structure is side gabled with a small stuccoed brick chimney centered on the roof ridge.

East-facing Elevation

The east-facing side façade of the building displays a dramatic, low-pitched, long, sweeping roof profile that projects south and down over a screened front porch. The back roof profile is of the same low-pitch

Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 2

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

but shorter in sweep to the back north-facing elevation. The deep eaves are supported by four triangular knee braces commonly seen in Craftsman houses.

The fenestration on the east-facing elevation is a mix of original, modified, and new openings. Original to the design are the four window openings on the main level. The tall southerly window and a smaller middle window retain their original 4-over-1 design. The tall northerly window is 1-over-1 likely having lost its original 4-over-1 configuration. Under the peak of the roof is an access door in the northerly half of an opening that originally support twin windows of 4-over-1 sash. The southerly window opening was removed and infilled with narrow lap matching and disappearing into the original lap sheathing. The later door opening displays a commercial stock metal screen door. Access to the upper attic door is provided by an open wood stair that begins its climb near the back of the screened front porch.

There appears to be framing for the top of a basement doorway or tall window well at the northerly basement wall. The original opening is now infilled with a wood panel.

North-facing Elevation

The front façade of the house that faces Cottage Street displays a screened front porch that spans the front elevation. The porch is defined with two side bays of narrow lap clad lower walls with screening above. The screens are flanked by square posts. The center entry bay displays concrete steps and landing with metal side railings. The original open center-entry bay now has been in-filled with floor-to-eave wood panels that flank a commercial stock metal door that contains two lites. The long sloping roof line shelters the once open porch and displays a pent eyebrow dormer that extends out over three 3-lite peek-a-boo windows. To the west of the front porch, extending outside the house's footprint, is an attached frame-and-panel wood structure that supports a modern metal door set that provides access to the basement that once held the KGGB studio.

West-facing Elevation

The west side façade displays a similar roof arrangement with deep eaves supported with 4 triangular knee braces. However, this elevation has its original window set at the attic level displaying 4-over-1 windows. Starting from the left the main first floor level is a set of short kitchen windows with their 4-over-1 sash. In the center of the elevation is a shallow projecting bay that supports 3 tall dining room defining windows of 4-over-1 covered with a shallow pent roof over the bay. The southerly tall window set, defining the living room, have lost their 4-over-1 sash and now display 1-over-1 windows. The wood framed enclosed stair to the basement passes under the living room windows. Recessed off the west-facing façade is a one-story extension with back entry door with screen door.

North-facing Façade

Off the back of the house is a flat roofed expansion that displays an original small 4-over-1 window.

Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 3

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Statement of Significance:

The Jimmie Porter House at 527 Cottage Street is significant as the home and office of Porter from the time he began his fulltime civil rights work as a ministerial Community Enabler until his design and implementation of KBBG-FM Radio — Waterloo's first and only Black-owned and operated radio station. "The Voice of the Community"

Jimmie Porter was born in Lexington, Mississippi in 1931 and as a boy had worked in the cotton fields. He was from a very large family and before reaching the age of 10 he was taken in by a family cousin and given the opportunity to go to school. At the age of 17, in his quest "looking for the promised land" he moved to Waterloo. He later noted he "discovered that the land was here but the promises were very little different from those that I had just left."

Porter first worked for John Deere and then in 1954 started working in the Rath's hog killing room. While working at the Rath Packinghouse plant Porter soon became active in the United Packinghouse Workers of America and later became the Vice President of the union. The Local 46 union provided an effective channel to practical activism. Porter saw Local 46 as providing a democratic voice for articulating civil rights grievances and raising the members consciousness on economic and social freedom. Through his union activities he helped to build Waterloo's Democratic party beginning in 1955.

Porter continued to build trust within the Black community through his involvement in Local 46. Consequently, Jimmie Porter was one of the working-class adults that Black students at East High School turned to for help in shaping their demands for more respect in their civil rights protests and initiatives.

In the 1970s Porter resigned from the union and took a leave from Rath and in 1973 took the position of Community Enabler with Urban Ministries. In that position he nurtured civil rights community initiatives including working with the national offices of chain stores in the Black neighborhoods to hire more black employees and took leadership in desegregation of Waterloos schools. Within a year of becoming the Community Enabler Jimmie Porter moved into the house at 527 Cottage Street that was listed in a May 1975 *Courier* article as the location of the "Community Enabler's office."

A man of vision and hope Porter soon saw radio as the most accessible means to empowerment and education within the African American community. Under the motto "Communicate to Educate," in 1977 he began constructing the infrastructure for Waterloo's first and only Black owned and operated radio station. The following year the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granted a broadcasting license to Porter's Afro American Community Broadcasting, Inc. and Iowa's first Black-owned radio station KBBG-FM started broadcasting at 10 watts from the basement at 527 Cottage Street.

Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 4

KGGB-FM Radio	Black Hawk
Name of Property	County
527 Cottage Street	Waterloo
Address	City

The station was non-commercial, public affairs programming oriented, and community focused. By 1980 KGGB-FM 88.1 was broadcasting at 10,000watts. Through the media Jimmie continued on as a community promoter and facilitator for building pride within Waterloo's Black community. By 1994 KGGB's success was displayed with the construction of a new station headquarters at 918 Newell Street.

Jimmie Porter died at age 76 in 2007 after over 50 dedicated years of service to civil rights causes in the Waterloo community.

Iowa Site Inventory Form

State Historic Preservation Office

Continuation Sheet

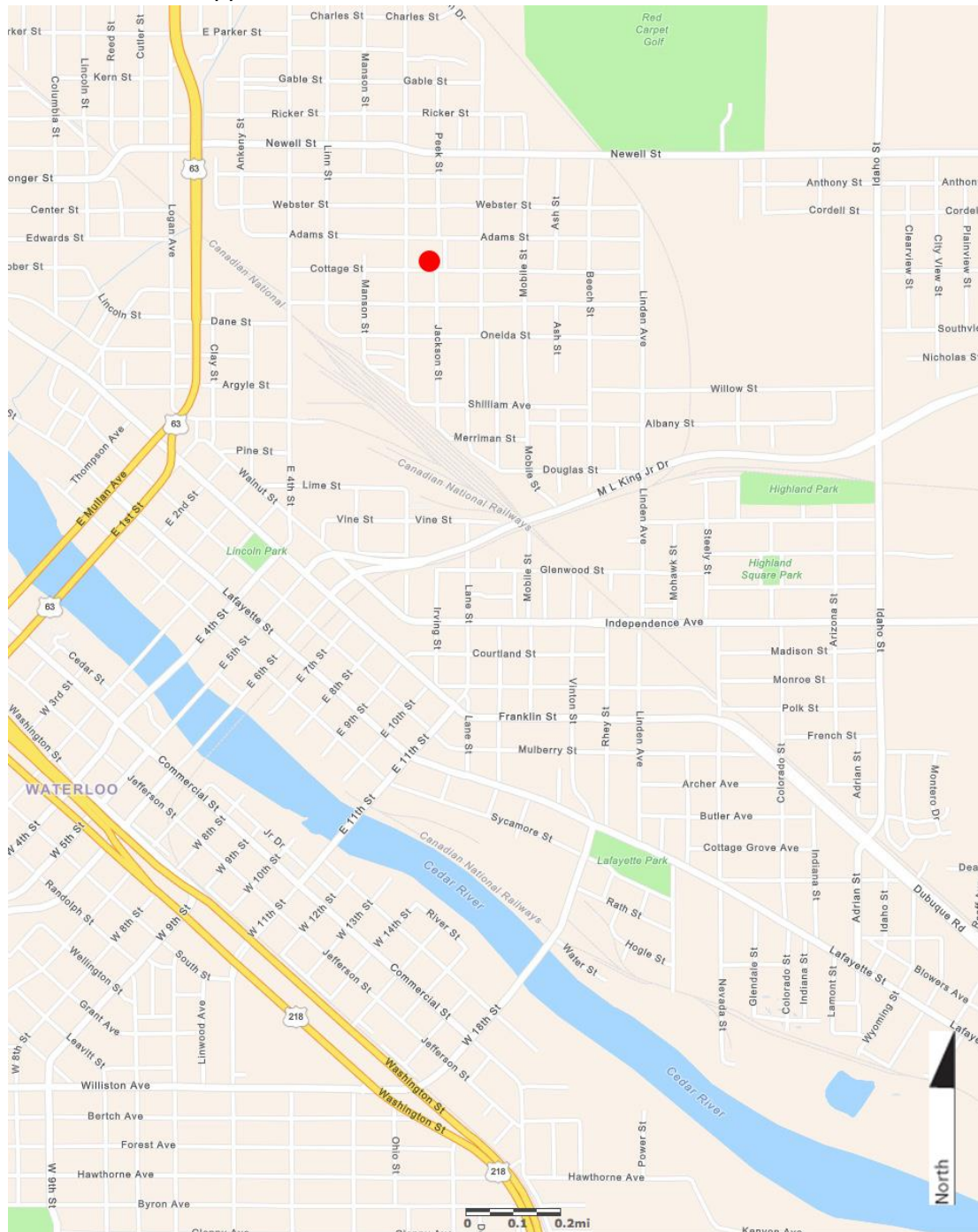
Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 5

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Figure 1. Contextual Map. Showing location of the KBBG-FM/Jimmie Porter House within Waterloo.
Source: EnviroMapper



Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

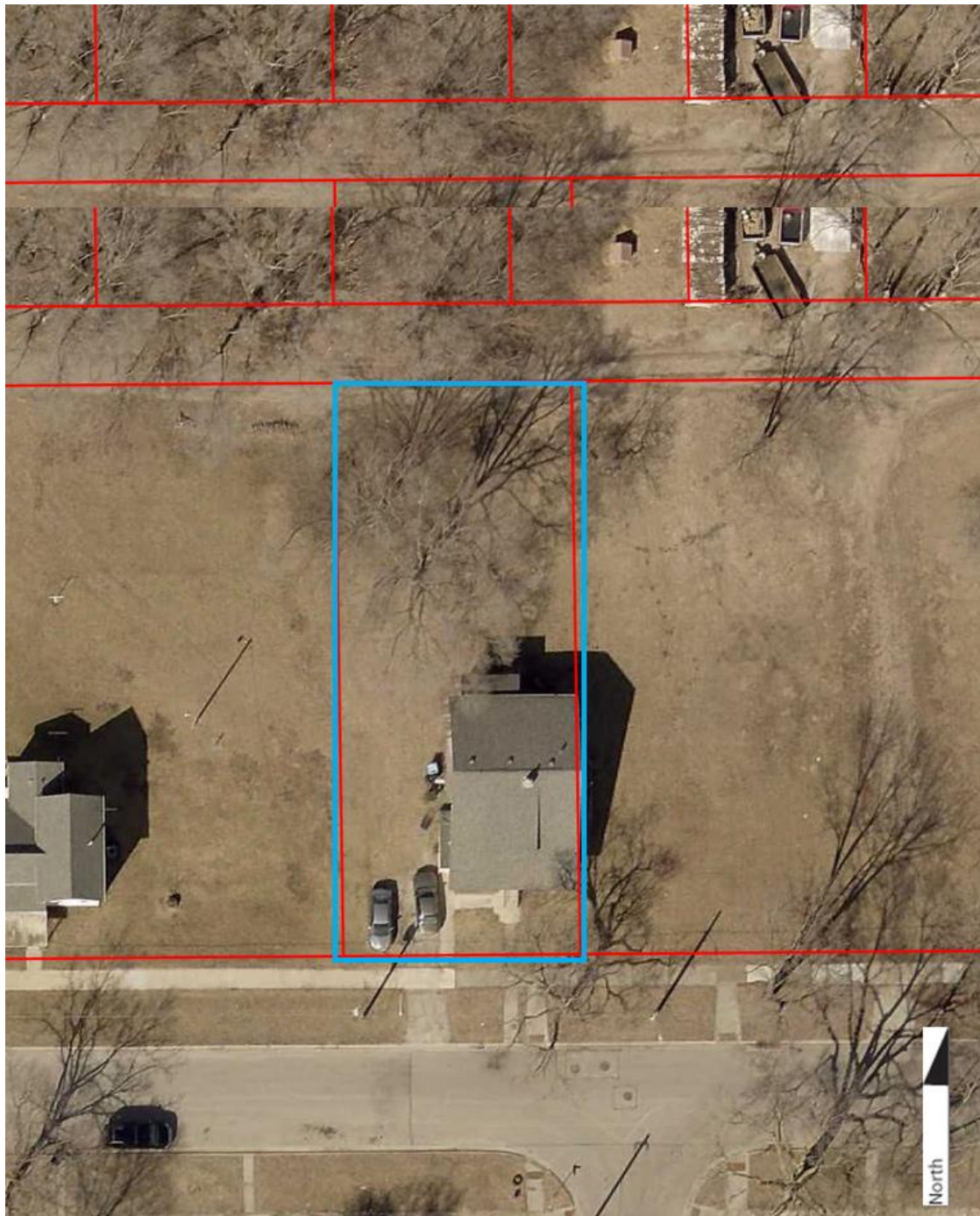
Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 6

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Figure 2. Site plan for the KBBG-FM/Jimmie Porter House. Source: EnviroMapper



Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

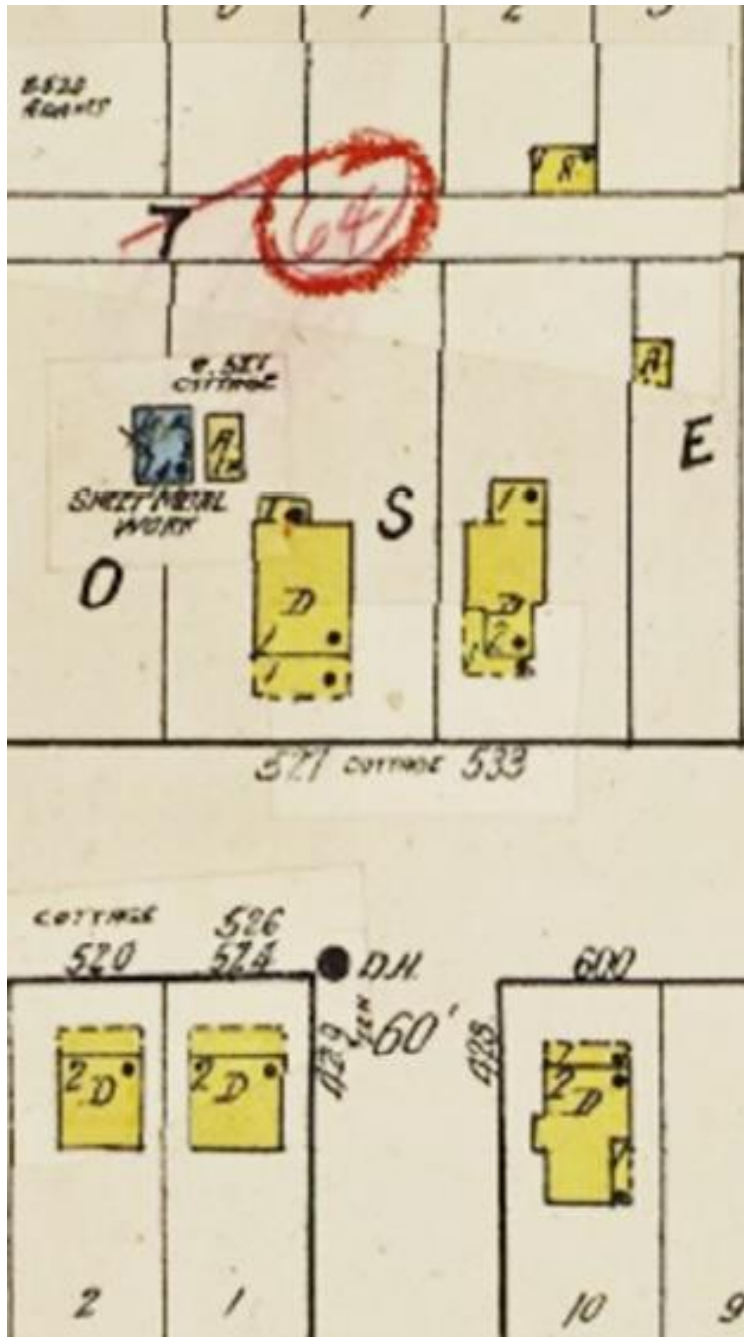
Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 7

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Figure 3. The KBBG-FM/Jimmie Porter House as recorded on the 1962 Sanborn Insurance Map. At that time the site displayed an industrial structure labeled "Sheet Metal Work." The property supported the sheet metal company of Fereday & Son.



Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

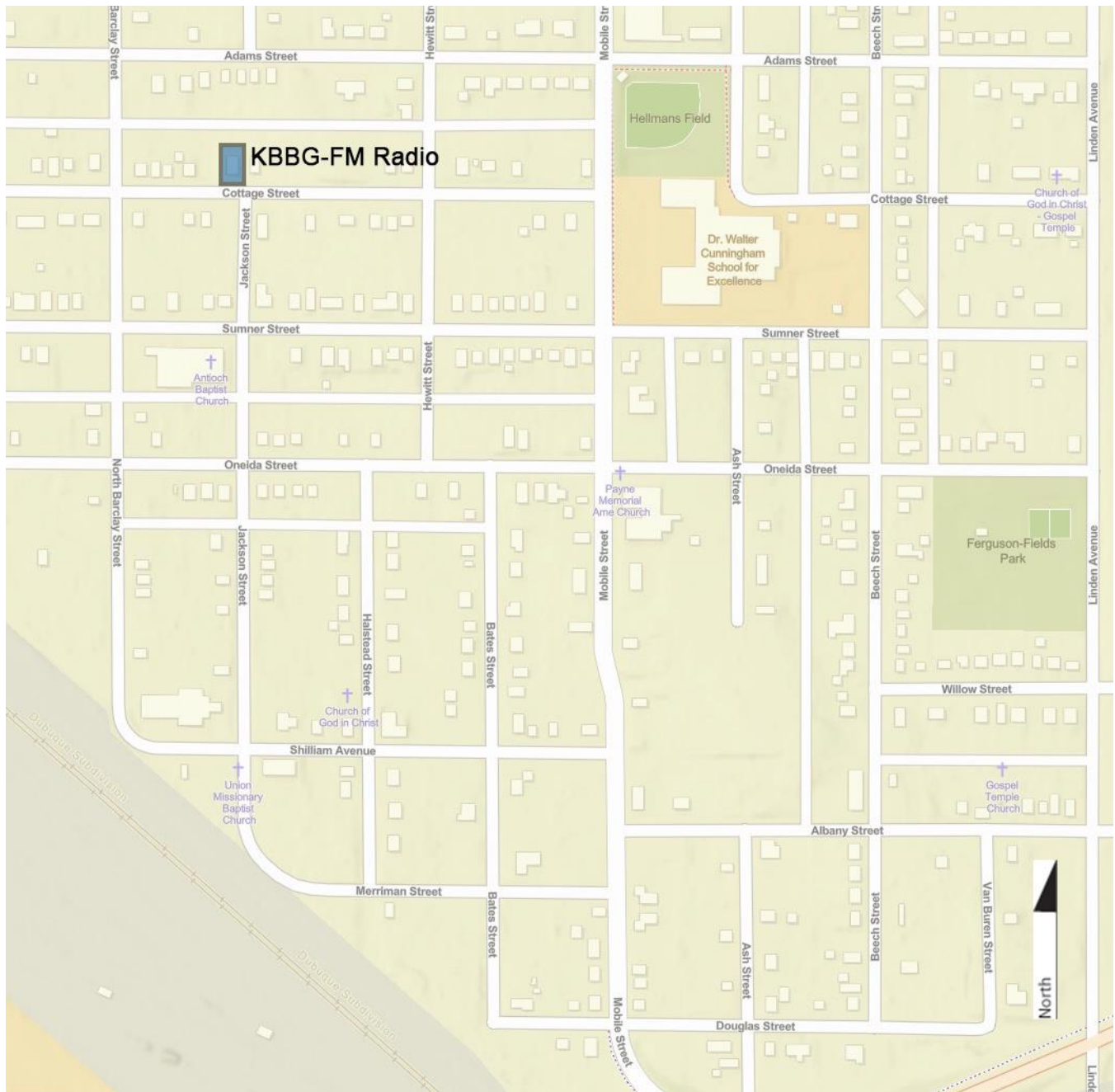
Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 8

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Figure 4. The KBBG-FM/Jimmie Porter House neighborhood map. source: EnviroMapper



Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 9

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Figure 6 Photographic portrait of Jimmie Porter

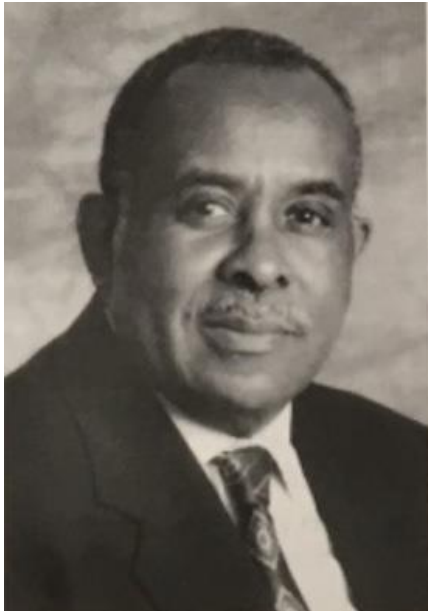


Figure 5. Jimmie Porter House/KGGB-FM Radio Station Footprint Dimensions and Photographic Key

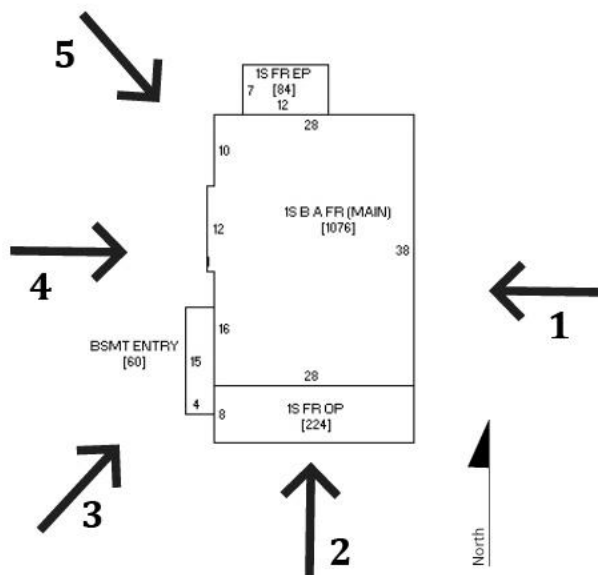


Photo 1. The KBBG-FM/Jimmie Porter House looking west.

Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 10

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City



Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 11

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Photo 2. The KBBG-FM/Jimmie Porter House looking north.



Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 12

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Photo 3. The KBBG-FM/Jimm1e Porter House looking north and east.



Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 13

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Photo 4. The KBBG-FM/Jimmie Porter House looking east.



Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
Continuation Sheet

Site Number:
Related District Number:

Page 14

KGGB-FM Radio
Name of Property
527 Cottage Street
Address

Black Hawk
County
Waterloo
City

Photo 5. The KBBG-FM/Jimmie Porter House looking southeast.

