

# Site Inventory Form

State Historical Society of Iowa

(November 2005)

State Inventory No. 92-00165

New  Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 92-00349

Relationship:  Contributing  Noncontributing

Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries

National Register Status:(any that apply)  Listed  De-listed  NHL  DOE

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Extant (enter year) \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Washington Post Office

other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-111

## 2. Location

street & number 115 North Marion Avenue

city or town Washington

vicinity, county Washington

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name \_\_\_\_\_ Township No. \_\_\_\_\_ Range No. \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter of Quarter \_\_\_\_\_

(If Urban) Subdivision Original Plat Block(s) 7 Lot(s) Lots 1 & 2

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification [Skip this Section]

## 4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]

## 5. Classification

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

### Number of Resources within Property

If Non-Eligible Property

Enter number of:

— buildings  
 — sites  
 — structures  
 — objects  
 — Total

If Eligible Property, enter number of:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	—
—	—
—	—
—	—
<u>1</u>	—

buildings  
sites  
structures  
objects  
Total

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).

Title

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

04F: Post Office

04F: Post Office

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

06A: Beaux Arts

foundation

04: stone

walls (visible material)

03: brick 04: stone

roof

08B: Asphalt Shingle

other

04C: Limestone decoration

Narrative Description ( SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

## 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" representing your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria)

- Yes  No  More Research Recommended
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended

- A Property is associated with significant events.
- B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
- C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
- D Property yields significant information in archeology or history.

County Washington Address 115 North Marion Avenue  
City Washington

Site Number 92-00165  
District Number 92-00349

**Criteria Considerations**

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

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

02 Architecture  
26 politics / Government

**Significant Dates**

Construction date 1916  check if circa or estimated date  
Other dates, including renovation \_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

**Architect/Builder**

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Builder \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance** ( SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Bibliography  See continuation sheet for citations of the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form

**10. Geographic Data**

**UTM References** (OPTIONAL)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	_____	_____	2	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Stacy A. Nielsen, volunteer Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport  
organization Washington Historic Preservation Commission date May 6, 2012  
street & number City Hall – 215 E. Washington St telephone 319-653-6584  
city or town Washington state Iowa zip code 52353

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION** (Submit the following items with the completed form)

**FOR ALL PROPERTIES**

- Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
- Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
- Photographs:** representative black and white photos. If the photos are taken as part of a survey for which the Society is to be curator of the negatives or color slides, a photo/catalog sheet needs to be included with the negatives/slides and the following needs to be provided below on this particular inventory site:

Roll/slide sheet #	_____	Frame/slot #	_____	Date Taken	_____
Roll/slide sheet #	_____	Frame/slot #	_____	Date Taken	_____
Roll/slide sheet #	_____	Frame/slot #	_____	Date Taken	_____

See continuation sheet or attached *photo & slide catalog sheet* for list of photo roll or slide entries.

Photos/illustrations without negatives are also in this site inventory file.

**FOR CERTAIN KINDS OF PROPERTIES, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS WELL**

- Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or noncontributing status)
- Barn:**
  - A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
  - A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
  - A sketch floor plan of the interior space arrangements along with the barn's exterior dimensions in feet.

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

Concur 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluated by (name/title): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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<u>Washington Post Office</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>115 North Marion Avenue</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Address	City

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*This form was prepared as part of a research/survey/nomination project in 2011-2012 funded by a HRDP grant from the State Historical Society of Iowa for the nomination of the Washington Downtown Historic District. The project was primarily structured to develop the nomination for the downtown, with additional research on each building documented on an Iowa Site Inventory form. The information below is taken from the table in the August 2012 draft of the nomination, with additional information documented on the property and photographs in the following sections.*

**Washington Post Office - 115 N. Marion Avenue** - State #92-00165 - Map #11 ~ 1 contributing building (A and C) - 1916 - Classical Revival

Historic information:

1911 - site bought, 1913 - \$80,000 authorized, 1916 - new post office completed

1916-2010s - post office

2012 - Washington Post Office

Architectural information:

Height: 1 story

Walls: brick

Storefront: -

Windows: replaced

Architectural details: large Ionic columns, frieze with cornice with dentils, brick detail around windows

Architect/Builder: -

Modifications: Historic: -; Non-historic: 1980s - windows replaced, handicap ramp on south side

## 7. Narrative Description

This post office was built in 1916 and remains much as it did at the time of its construction, with the exception of modern windows and doors as well as a handicapped accessible entrance added to the south side of the building. Basement exterior is stone, with several window on each side, to provide the basement with natural light. A stairway, centered on the main (east) facade, leads to the main/first story. These stairs have large stone slab on either side, where at one time were topped by glass globe lighting fixtures. Center section of the front is recessed and divided by six iconic columns, that separate it into five bays. The center bay contains the main entrance. The other bays contain large windows that have been partially infilled, and now contain smaller windows. A stone frieze band runs across the entire structure at a level just above the columns. Then is a course of vertical brick with brick diamond detail above the stone band and below the stone cornice with dentils. A low brick parapet wall and hip-roof rise above the cornice. Asphalt shingles cover the hipped roof. The brick and stone details of the facade continue around the east and west sides of the building. The original rear section sits slightly back from the front section on both sides. As noted, a handicap ramp has been added on the south side. The windows have similarly been replaced on both side and the rear elevation. A small gable-roof addition clad in metal with a loading docks extends from the rear (west) elevation.

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<u>Washington Post Office</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Name of Property	County
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## 8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Washington Post Office appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the Washington Downtown Historic District.

The property, with this structure, has been owned by the government since its purchase on May 27, 1911. This building was built by the United States Government for the use as the local Washington post office in 1916. In 1911, the postal service received permission to buy a site to construct a building specifically for use as a post office. On March 4, 1913, money was authorized for a new \$80,000 federal building on the site. The post office was completed in 1916. In 1926, it was noted that the completion of the building prior to World War I resulted in a better building than would have been possible after the war (April 26, 1913 – *Evening Journal* – page 3; *Evening Journal*, April 3, 1926 - page 39 (G)). The building continues to serve as the Washington Post Office.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

City/Telephone Directories, Washington. Various publishers, various dates. Available at the Washington Public Library.

Deed Records, Transfer Books, Auditor's Office, Washington County Courthouse, Washington, Iowa.

Newspaper advertisements, various years/dates, on microfilm at Washington Public Library:

*Washington Evening Journal*  
*Washington Gazette*  
*Washington Press*

Patterson, Mary. Collection of historic images of Washington. Washington, IA.

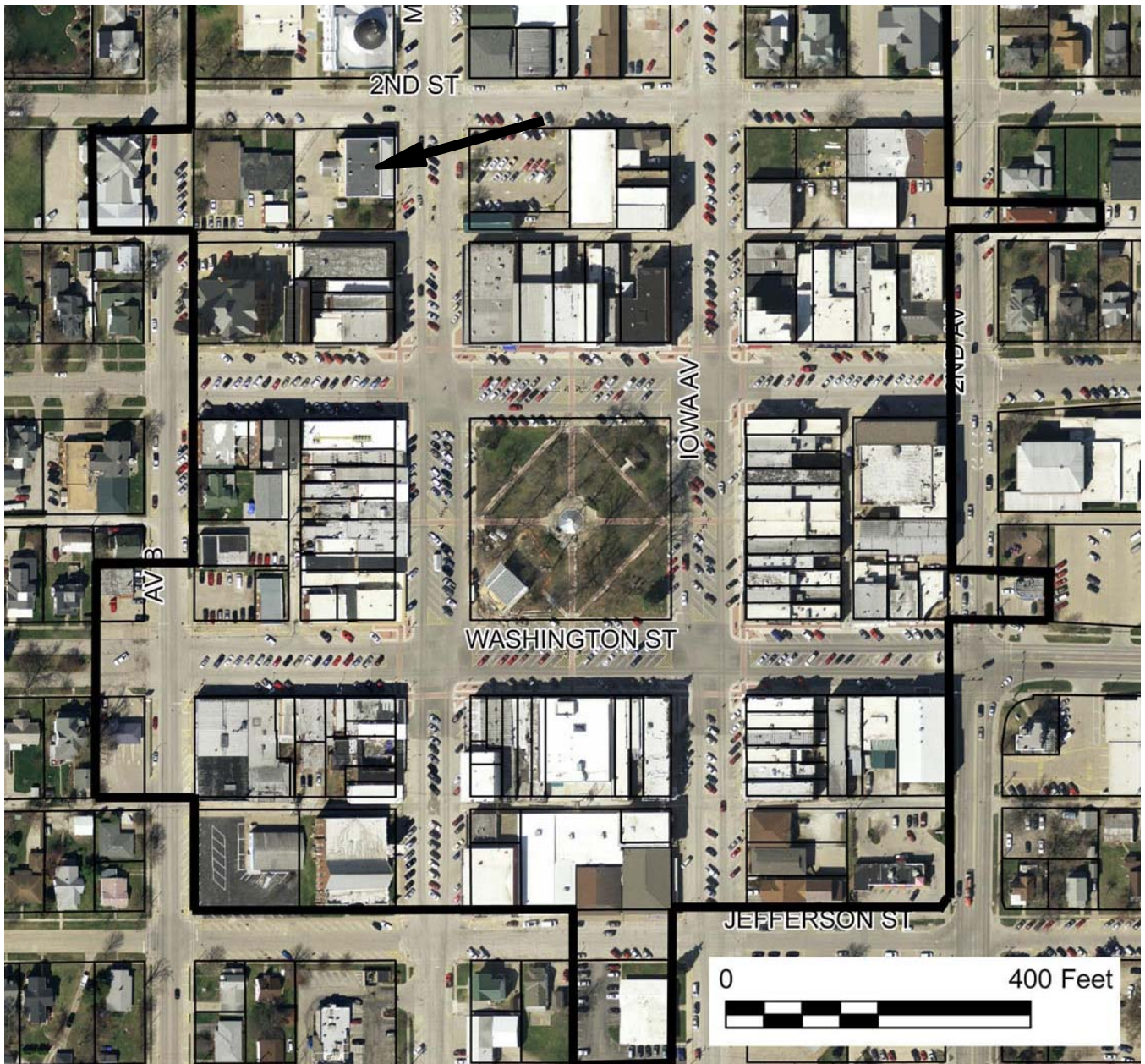
Sanborn Map Company. "Washington, Iowa," Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pelham, NY: Sanborn Map Company, 1885, 1892, 1897, 1902, 1909, 1917, 1931, 1943.

# Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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Name of Property	Washington Post Office	County	Washington
Address	115 North Marion Avenue	City	Washington

### Location map



2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary



# Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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Washington Post Office	Washington
Name of Property	County
115 North Marion Avenue	Washington
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### Building/site plan (from assessor's website)



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Washington Post Office

Washington

Name of Property

County

115 North Marion Avenue

Washington

Address

City

## Historic images



Postcard of building (Patterson collection).



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Site Number 92-00165

Related District Number 92-00349

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Washington Post Office  
Name of Property

Washington  
County

115 North Marion Avenue  
Address

Washington  
City



Postcard of building (Patterson collection).



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Washington Post Office

Washington

Name of Property

County

115 North Marion Avenue

Washington

Address

City

## Digital photographs



Photograph 92-00165-001 - East and north elevations, looking southwest (McCarley, September 20, 2011)

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Washington Post Office

Washington

Name of Property

County

115 North Marion Avenue

Washington

Address

City



Photograph 92-00165-002 - South and east elevations, looking northwest (McCarley, September 20, 2011)



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Washington Post Office

Washington

Name of Property

County

115 North Marion Avenue

Washington

Address

City



Photograph 92-00165-003 - East elevation, looking west (McCarley, September 20, 2011)



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Washington Post Office

Washington

Name of Property

County

115 North Marion Avenue

Washington

Address

City



Photograph 92-00165-004 - Detail of east elevation, looking west (McCarley, September 20, 2011)

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Washington Post Office

Washington

Name of Property

County

115 North Marion Avenue

Washington

Address

City



Photograph 92-00165-005 - West elevation, looking southeast (McCarley, September 20, 2011)