

# Site Inventory Form

State Historical Society of Iowa

(November 2005)

State Inventory No. 92-00605

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 Commercial building

other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT- 153

## 2. Location

street & number 117 – 119 W. Washington Street

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) 18 Lot(s) Lot 3 – W 34'

## 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>	—

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)

02E Commerce / specialty store - boots & shoes

02E11 Commerce / grocery store

02A08 Commerce / laundry or dry cleaners

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02B Commerce / professional / insurance office

02E Commerce / specialty store

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

09F05 Commercial: Brick Front

05D Queen Anne

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls (visible material)

roof

other

04C Limestone

03 Brick

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 117 – 119 W. Washington Street  
City Washington

Site Number 92-00605  
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)

05: Commerce  
02: Architecture

**Significant Dates**

Construction date 1860  check if circa or estimated date  
Other dates, including renovation c.1892 facade

**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 Mary Patterson, Chair Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport  
organization Washington Historic Preservation Commission date April 18, 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>Commercial building</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>117 – 119 W. Washington Street</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Address	City

*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.*

**Commercial building - 117-119 W. Washington** - State #92-00605 - Map #105 ~ 1 contributing building (A and C) - c.1857, c.1892 façade - Queen Anne

Historic information:

117: c.1862-1871 - Shilling Grocery (J.W. Schilling), c.1871-c.1884 - Ferguson & Sons Grocery; 1885 - grocery, 1890s-1900s - millinery

119: Wagner owned - J.L.L. Terry, harness maker; c.1877-1919 - J.A. Harwood Shoes; 1919-c.1940 - J.A. Harwood & Son Shoes (Will Harwood)

117: 1915-2008 - Washington Cleaners (Wisie Long, then Floyd Prescott, then Keith Crossett, then Phil Crossett)

119: 1940s - Warner & Bristow Shoes, 1952 - Rapp's Shoe Store (shoes and infant wear), 1956 - Children's Wonderland Clothing Store, 1958-1960s - Davisson's Children's Clothing

2012 - State Farm (117), Verizon Wireless (119)

Architectural information:

Height: 2 story

Walls: brick

Storefront: two storefronts - 117 remodeled, 119 - older center door

Windows: 1/1 wood

Architectural details: oriel windows - 2, decorative metal cornice, brickwork

Architect/Builder: -

Modifications: Historic: c.1892? façade remodel, 1963 - storefront remodel (aluminum - 117); Non-historic: 2000s - storefront remodel (119)

## 7. Narrative Description

In the 1890s, a new facade covered five storefronts, from 117 to 125 W. Washington Street. Tan brick covers all five facades, and they share a continuous metal cornice and the same window design and details, with somewhat different storefronts. All five of the addresses sharing this common c.1892 facade appear on the 1868 Bird's Eye View drawing of Washington, and they appear to be three brick buildings, with three rooflines. The east building is 117-119 W. Washington, the middle single building is 121 W. Washington, and the west building is 123-125 W. Washington. Thus, their history has been documented on three separate Iowa Site Inventory forms. No information has been identified specifically on the remodeling of these buildings, but the style and detail is consistent with downtown buildings constructed in the 1891-1892 period. The remodeling was completed after the construction of the L. Smouse Block at 101-103 W. Washington in 1891 and prior to 1913, per historic photographs.

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The earlier double building at the east end currently has addresses of 117 and 119 W. Washington. The storefront at 117 W. Washington is aluminum and glass installed at a slight angle to the recessed entry on the right side of the facade. There is a metal clad bulkhead below the two display windows. Between the 117 and 119 storefronts is a secondary entry with transom providing access to the second story of both halves of this building. The storefront at 119 W. Washington has a centrally located wood door with large window recessed several feet from the sidewalk. There are display windows on each side of the entrance, and also in the alcove where the entry door is located. The bulkhead is concrete. The transom is covered with wood. Above each of the storefronts is an oriel windows with angled sides. Each of the oriel windows has three one-over-one-light double-hung windows and decorative detail in the bulkhead and frieze. These two windows are identical and match the windows on the double building at the other end of this set at 123-125 W. Washington. There is a metal awning on the bay window at 117 W. Washington, but not on the others. A one-over-one-light double-hung wood window is centered between the oriel windows and above the second story entry. It has segmental arch brick lintel and stone sill. Decorative detail is found on the wood arch of the window sash. The decorative metal cornice that continues across 121 and 123-125 crowns the building at 117-119 as well. It has a central rectangle over each storefront with a triangular pediment above the rectangle and ornamented pilasters/brackets on each side of the pediment and also at the division between the storefronts. There is a ball atop each pilaster, a fan design within the peak of the pediment, and an ornament on the peak. There are regularly spaced smaller brackets on the cornice as well.

## 8. Narrative Statement of Significance

This building appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the Washington Downtown Historic District.

All five of the storefronts sharing this common 1892 facade appear on the 1868 Bird's Eye View drawing of Washington, and they appear to be three brick buildings, with three rooflines. Transfer records in Washington before 1866 do not indicate the seller or date of sale, nor do they provide a detailed property description.

During this early period, J.W. Schilling owns part of Lot 3. When that property is sold in 1871, it is described as the portion of Lot 3 on which the 117 address sits (Com. 33 ft. W from NE cor. Lot 3 W 18 1/2 ft. S 132 ft. E 18 1/2 ft. N 132 ft.). Schilling Grocery is listed on the south side of the square in *Washington Press* advertisements in 1862 to 1871, which fits with the above ownership. Schilling (Shilling) sold the property to J.C. Ferguson on November 4, 1871. On May 3, 1874, attorney L.D. Chambers and milliner Mrs. Chambers advertised their location as about Ferguson & Son's Grocery on the south side of the square. On March 30, 1882, J.C. Ferguson sold the property to W.A. Moore, but then sold the same property to J.N. McKelvey on May 5, 1884. Occupants at 117 include a grocery (1885 Sanborn Map), a millinery and tailor shop (1897 Sanborn map), millinery (1902 and 1909 Sanborn maps).

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Commercial building	Washington
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Washington Cleaners opened in the 117 storefront in 1915, and the business occupied this location until 2008.

*Evening Journal*, April 3, 1926 – 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition, page 48 – The Washington Cleaners – south side of square – modern dry cleaning facility – in business in Washington for 20 years

*Washington Evening Journal*, 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, February 27, 1953, page 67 – dry cleaners – Washington Cleaners – operated for many years by Wisie Long – now Floyd W. Prescott

*Washington Evening Journal*, 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, February 27, 1953, page 68 – Washington Cleaners – Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Prescott – south side of square – cleaners here for nearly half a century – took over two years ago – latest machinery and materials

*Souvenir History of Washington, Iowa* 1989: 3 - 14 businesses around square from 1964 still there in 1989 – Washington Cleaners - Washington Cleaners in same spot since 1915

Bicentennial Edition, *Evening Journal*, July 1, 1976, page 53 – Washington Cleaners – since 1915 – Keith Crossett took over in 1954 – sold to son in 1969 – Phil Crossett

It is currently the State Farm Insurance office.

John Wagner owned part of Lot 3 and part of Lot 4 during the 1860s-1890s time period. The part of Lot 3 and Lot 4 owned by Wagner appears to be the 119 address, which straddles portions of these two lots. When it is transferred by Harriet Wagner, wife, in 1909, the description confirms the location. An ad in the 1868 Washington Press mentions J.L.L. Terry, harness maker, in Wagner & Bros. brick block, south side of the square. J.A. Harwood Shoes opened in the 119 storefront in the late 1870s, and the business evolved to J.A. Harwood & Son in 1919. Through this period, the Wagner family continued to own the building. Harriett Wagner sold it to Alberta Wagner in 1909, who then sold it to Charles and John Wagner in March 1942. Will Harwood continued the business after J.A.'s death, and it operated here until around 1940.

*Evening Journal*, Progress Edition, October 1933 - J.A. Harwood & Son – dates to 1877? – J.A. opened store – son Will joined in 1910 – became partner and name changed in 1919 – modern shoe store

*Evening Journal* – Washington County Centennial Celebration – July 1936 - page 75 – Harwood's – shoe store – J.A. Harwood founded 60 years ago – now Will Harwood

*Evening Journal* – Centennial Celebration – August 1939, page 89 – Harwood's – since 1876 – goods shoes for men, women, and children – Dr. Scholl foot health service

*Evening Journal* – Centennial Celebration – August 1939, page 49 – Dr. A.W. Clow – over Harwood's – north side of square – osteopathic physician – free foot treatments for centennial – special attention to stomach and bowel disorders

*Washington Evening Journal*, 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, February 27, 1953, page 45 – T.W. Harwood – in Grecian Jewelry Store – small loan and insurance business since 1950 – previously owned and operated shoe store on south side of square – sold to Warren and Bristow – office in rear of store – then move to 104 S. Iowa – specializes in insurance – also small loan business

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The 1941 city directory lists Warner & Bristow Shoes at 119 W. Washington. In the 1950s telephone directories, it is Rapp's Shoe Store (1952), Children's Wonderland Clothing Store (1956), and Davisson's Children's Clothing (1958). Davisson's is still there in the 1964 city directory. Currently, it is occupied by Verizon Wireless.

## 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.

Wagner, William (Des Moines architect). Photographs taken of downtown Washington in 1971. In collection of Washington Historical Society, Washington, Iowa.



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Commercial building

Washington

Name of Property

County

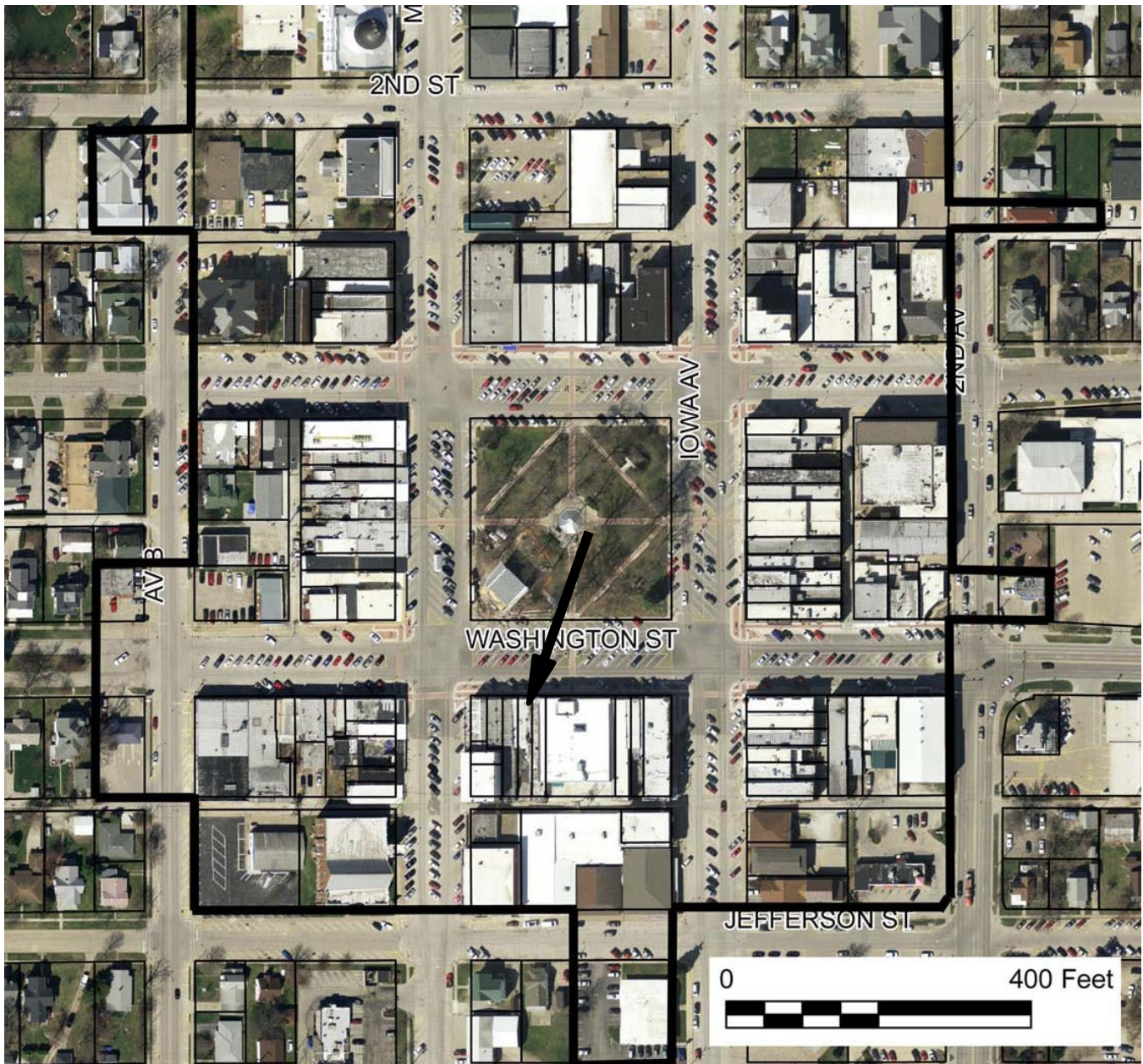
117 – 119 W. Washington Street

Washington

Address

City

## Location map



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

# Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

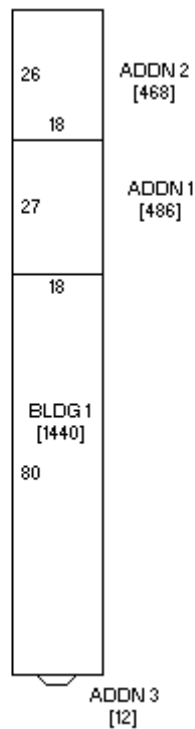
Page 6

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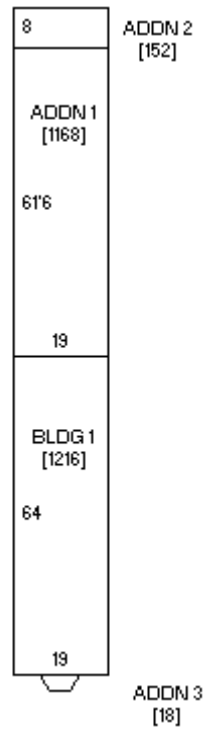
<u>Commercial building</u>	<u>Washington</u>
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### Building plan (from assessor's website)



117



119



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Commercial building

Washington

Name of Property

County

117 – 119 W. Washington Street

Washington

Address

City

## Historic images



Looking through Central Park at south side of square, after 1891 construction of L. Smouse block at left (101-103) but before remodel of 117-119, 121, and 123-125 at right (west) end (Patterson collection)

# Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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Commercial building

Washington

Name of Property

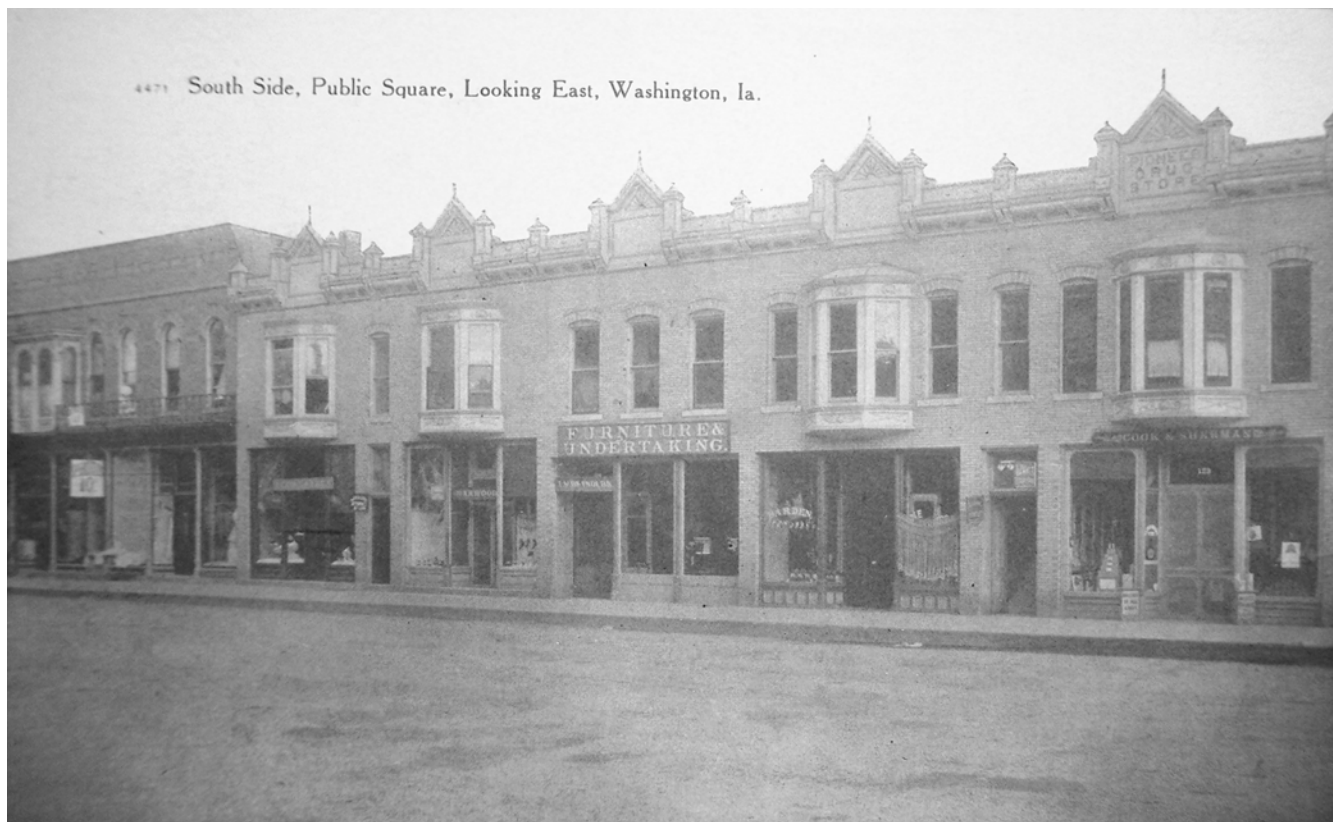
County

117 – 119 W. Washington Street

Washington

Address

City



**Building in 1910s (Patterson collection)**

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Commercial building

Washington

Name of Property

County

117 – 119 W. Washington Street

Washington

Address

City



Building in 1920s (Patterson collection)

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Commercial building

Washington

Name of Property

County

117 – 119 W. Washington Street

Washington

Address

City



Building in late 1930s (Patterson collection)

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Commercial building

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117 – 119 W. Washington Street

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Collage of photos of building in 1971 (Wagner 1971)



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## Digital photographs



Photograph 92-00605-001 - North elevations of 117-119, 121, 123-125 W. Washington, looking southeast (McCarley, September 20, 2011)

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs  
State Historical Society of Iowa  
**Iowa Site Inventory Form**  
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Related District Number 92-00349

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Photograph 92-00605-002 - North elevation of 117-119 W. Washington, looking south (McCarley, September 20, 2011)