

Site Inventory Form

State Historical Society of Iowa

(November 2005)

State Inventory No. 92-00533

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 Congress Hotel, Cafe, and Tavern

other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT- 128

2. Location

street & number 108 – 110 East Main

city or town Washington

vicinity, county Washington

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

(If Urban) Subdivision 07 09 OP E 44 FT LOLT 6 & W 11 FT

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)

01D Hotel

02G01 Restaurant / Cafe

02G04 Restaurant / Tavern

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02B Professional Dentist Office

10E03 Radio Station

01B02 Apartments 07 Funeral Home

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

09F05: Commercial / brick front

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____

walls (visible material) 03 Brick

roof _____

other _____

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 108 – 110 East Main
City Washington

Site Number 92-00533
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

Significant Dates

Construction date 1932 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 Michael Kramme & Carol Ray Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport
organization Washington Historic Preservation Commission date April 3, 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>Congress Hotel, Cafe, and Tavern</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>108 – 110 East Main</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.

Congress Hotel, Café, and Tavern - 108-110 E. Main St - State #92-00533 - Map #23 ~ 1 contributing building (A) - c.1932 - early 20th century commercial

Historic information:

(1910 - earlier building built for Congress Hotel and *Evening Journal* - fire destroyed in March 1932)

c.1932-1940s - Congress Hotel and Café, also Congress Tavern - new modern facility by 1936

108: 1950s - Dr. G.E. Montgomery, 1960s-70s - Richard C. George Beauty Salon, 1987 - Elaine's Beauty Salon

110: 1945-1950s - Willits Motor Company, 1950s - Perdock Olds-Cadillac, 1964 - Minick Furniture, 1971 - Gibson's Discount Center, 1988 - The Print Shop

2012 - Northwest Mutual Insurance (108), KCII radio, Dr. Suzanne Stock (dentist) (110)

Architectural information:

Height: 2 story

Walls: brick

Storefront: entries on left of each storefront - large windows

Windows: 1/1 windows - replaced

Architectural details: buff brick dentils on frieze, segmental arch window lintels

Architect/Builder: -

Modifications: -

7. Narrative Description

This is a two-story, five-bay, brick building constructed after a fire destroyed an earlier building here in 1932. The first story has been altered by installing large aluminum windows and three aluminum doors. The second story has five evenly spaced double-hung windows with segmental arch brick lintels. Buff brick corbel brackets extend across the frieze under a single concrete band.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Congress Hotel, Cafe, and Tavern appears to contribute historically to the Washington Downtown Historic District.

Norman Everson is listed as the original owner of lots 6 and 7 in block 9. The 1885 Sanborn map shows a house on lot 7 to the east, and a small two-story building to the west on the west 1/3 of Lot 6. These two buildings are shown on the 1892 and 1897 Sanborn maps as well, with this portion of lot 6

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vacant. The two lots transferred from Norman S. Everson to E.E. Everson on April 18, 1898. The property then transferred to the Morrison family. The same two earlier buildings are shown here on the 1909 Sanborn map, with the east 2/3 of Lot 6 as vacant.

On April 4, 1910, the west 2/3 of Lot 6 transferred from Emeline Morrison to D.W. Harvey and R.S. Warfel, who sold only the west 22' on May 2, 1910 to S.B. and R.P. Dewey, keeping the middle 1/3 (22') of Lot 6. On April 19, 1910, the east 1/3 (22') of Lot 6 and the west 1/6 (11') of Lot 7 was sold by Emeline Morrison to Orville Elder and J.L. Brookhart. Jointly, the four men teamed together to construct this 55' wide building. Much later, on April 30, 1932, Orville Elder et al sold the east 1/3 (22') of Lot 6 and the west 1/6 (11') of Lot 7 to D.W. Harvey and R.S. Warfel. Thus, they then owned the entire building. The 1910 city directory lists *The Evening Journal* newspaper, published by Orville Elder, in the building at 104 E. Main on the west 1/3 of Lot 6. The *Washington Evening Journal* was named as such by William Fitzwilliams and Nate Black on February 15, 1894, who bought *The Hustler* from William McCauseland who had started it on February 15, 1893. It was sold to Orville Elder in the late 1890s. By 1912, they appear to have moved two doors east to their portion of this new building (east half) at 110 E. Main. According to the 1917 Sanborn Map, the east storefront (108, now 110 E. Main) in this building was the Washington Journal office, with printing in the rear section. The 1926 city directory lists the *Washington Journal* at 110 E. Main. They moved to their new building on 111 N. Marion in 1930. The Congress Hotel had their office and restaurant on the first story of the west storefront, with rooms on the second story, per the 1917 Sanborn map. The 1931 Sanborn map continued to show the Congress Hotel at 108-110 E. Main Street.

On March 11, 1932, fire destroyed the Congress Hotel at 108-110 E. Main, with damage to the Fox Theater and Jones Funeral Home to east (Fisher 1978: 118). It was then after this fire that Orville Elder sold his interest in the property to D.W. Harvey and R.S. Warfel, who built a new two-story building on this property. The Congress Hotel & Cafe boasted 42 years of service, and they were proud of their new hotel and cafe building, per the *Evening Journal – Washington County Centennial Celebration – July 1936 - page 55*. A photo of building shows the current facade. The Congress Hotel continued to operate here into the early 1940s. The 1935 directory lists Congress Hotel & Cafe, as well as the Congress Tavern, at 108 E. Main. Both the Congress Hotel and Congress Tavern are listed at 108 E. Main in the 1941 directory. The Jackson Lines Bus Depot was located in the hotel at 110 E. Main per the 1941 city directory.

On October 3, 1945, D.W. Harvey and R.S. Warfel sold the building (E 44' of Lot 6 and W 11' of Lot 7) to L.C. and Selma Willits. Willits Motor Company then operated at 110 E. Main into the early 1950s.

Evening Journal – Washington County Centennial Celebration – July 1936 - page 91 – L.C. Willits Motor Co – 108 W. 2nd Street – dependable repair work – Hudson cars and Case tractors and farm implements – 26 years in business

Dr. G.E. Montgomery is listed with his office at 108 E. Main in the 1950s. By 1955, Perdock Olds-Cadillac is listed at 110 E. Main. Minick Furniture was then at 110 in 1964, with Richard C George Beauty Salon at 108. The beauty salon was still at 108 in 1971, with Gibson's Discount Center at 110.

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Elaine's Beauty Shop was listed at 108 in the 1987 phone directory, and The Print Shop was at 110 in the 1988 phone directory.

Currently (2012), 108 is an extension of the Northwest Mutual Insurance office next door at 106 E. Main, and 110 portion is used by KCII Radio with the Suzanne Stock Dentist office in the back of the first floor, as well as having a family gathering room used by the Jones & Eden Funeral home to the east at 114-118 E. Main.

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

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.

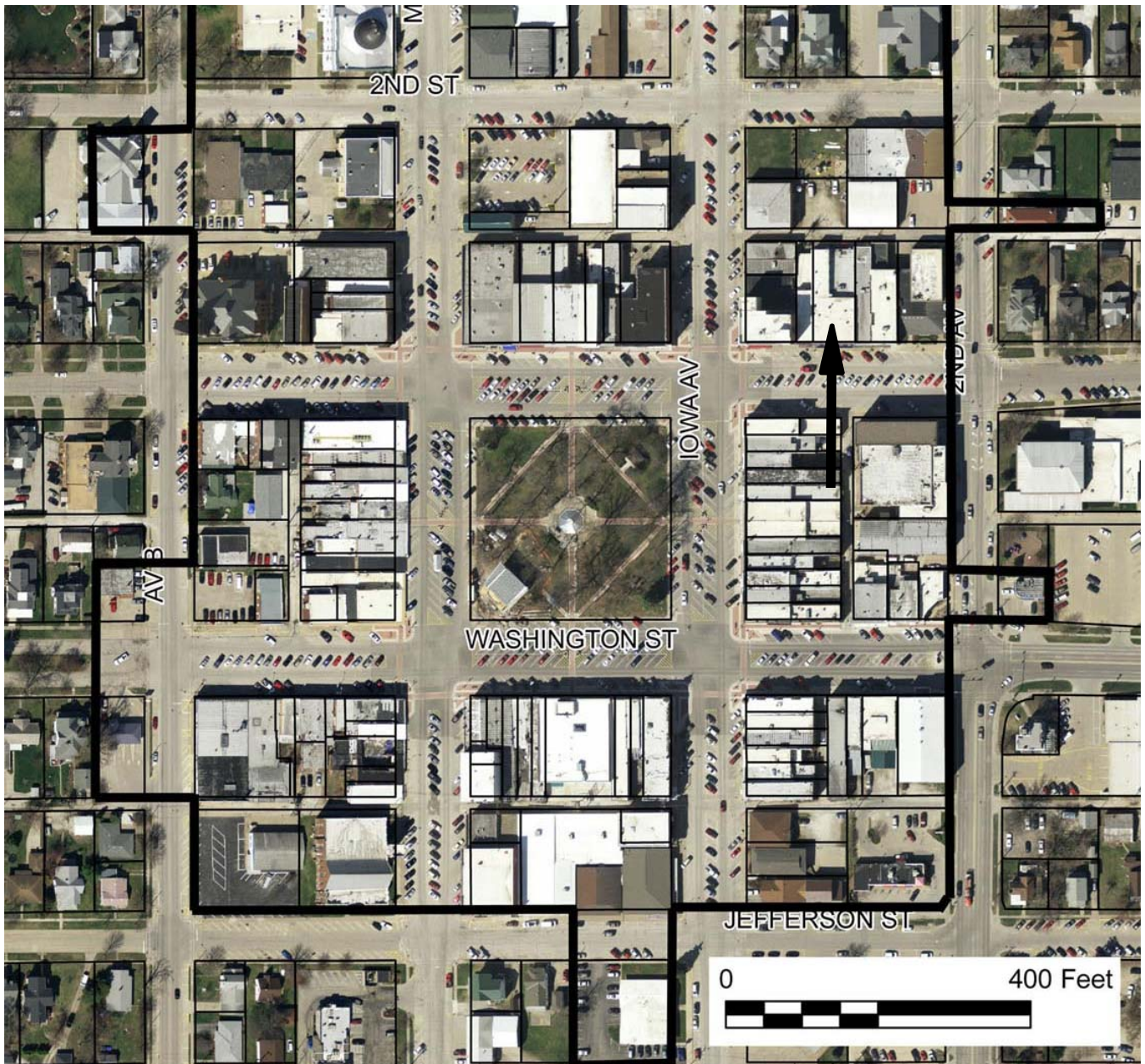
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Location map



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

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Congress Hotel, Cafe, and Tavern

Name of Property

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County

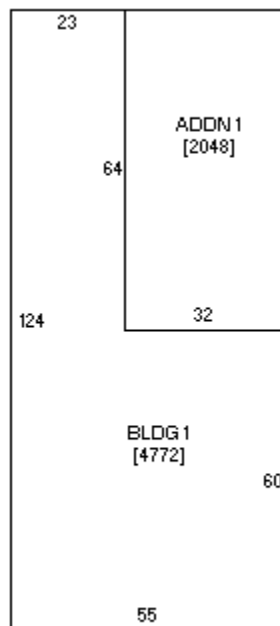
108 – 110 East Main

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Building plan (from assessor's website)



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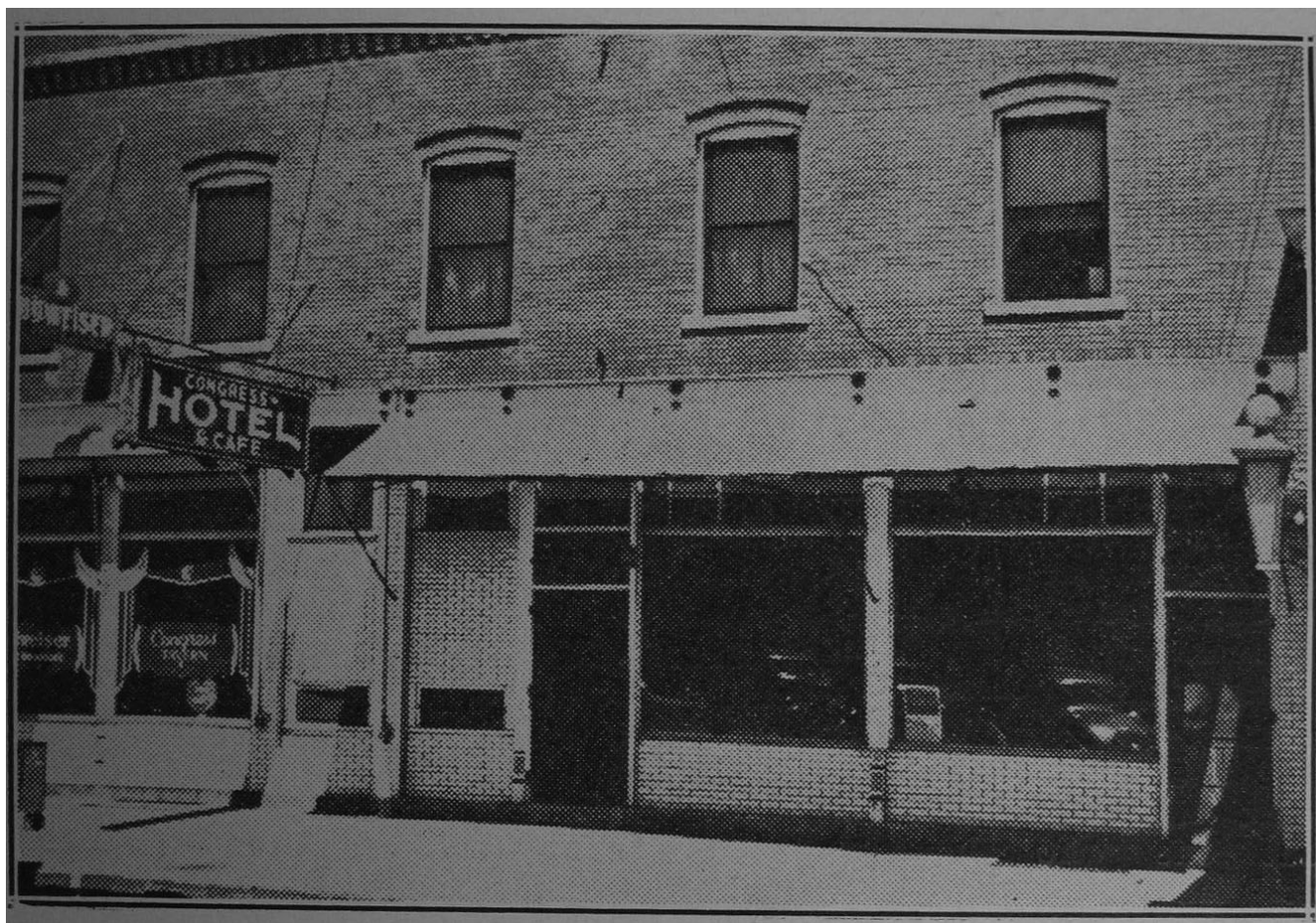
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Historic images



Evening Journal, July 1936 centennial edition, p55

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Building in 1971 (Wagner 1971)

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Digital photographs



Photograph 92-00533-001 - South elevation, looking northeast (September 20, 2011).