

Site Inventory Form
State Historical Society of Iowa
 (November 2005)

State Inventory No. 29-01136, 29-01137 New Supplemental
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 29-03685, 29-00001
 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 Nees-Rolf Building
 other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # J-158, J-159

2. Location

street & number 700-702 Jefferson Street
 city or town Burlington vicinity, county Des Moines
 Legal Description:(If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____
 (If Urban) Subdivision Original City Block(s) _____ Lot(s) east 45' of Lot 925A

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)	Number of Resources within Property			
	If Non-Eligible Property		If Eligible Property, enter number of:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Enter number of:		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	—	buildings	<u> 1 </u>	—
<input type="checkbox"/> site	—	sites	—	—
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	—	structures	—	—
<input type="checkbox"/> object	—	objects	—	—
	—	Total	<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 N/A *Historical Architectural Data Base Number* _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u> 10A: Industry – manufacturing (harnesses) </u>	<u> 03C01: Social / civic group </u>
<u> 02E: Commerce / specialty business (flour/feed) </u>	<u> 02G02: Commerce / bar </u>
<u> 02G02: Commerce / bar </u>	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u> 09F05: Commercial / brick front </u>	foundation <u> 04: Stone </u>
_____	walls (visible material) <u> 03: Brick </u>
_____	roof <u> 08B: Rolled Asphalt </u>
_____	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)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	A	Property is associated with significant events.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	B	Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	C	Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	D	Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Des Moines Address 700-702 Jefferson Street Site Number 29-01136
City Burlington District Number 29-03685

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 1904 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 Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport research by Kay Weiss, Steve Frevert, Barb Mackey
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date February 7, 2014
street & number City Hall, 400 Washington Street telephone 319-753-8158
city or town Burlington state Iowa zip code 52601

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

Site Number 29-01136, 29-01137

Related District Number 29-03685

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Nees-Rolf Building

Des Moines

Name of Property

County

700-702 Jefferson Street

Burlington

Address

City

7. Narrative Description

This is a two-story brick Late Romanesque Revival building. The two sections at 700 and 702 Jefferson were envisioned and built together through the cooperative efforts of the separate owners. The corner (700) section has a corner entry with a remodeled storefront. The stone corner storefront column supports the corner octagonal tower on the second story, which has one-over-one-light double-hung windows with transoms. Brick work and a stone band accent the upper portion of the tower, and it has crenellations around the top. The large arch window on the remainder of the 700 half appears to have been shortened historically, with a center picture window, flanking one-over-one-light double-hung windows, and an arch transom composed of three sections. The divide between the two sections of the building has a brick column on the first story and brick pilasters that flank an inset brick arched section. The storefront on the 702 half has a center recessed entry and large display windows, with the entry to the upper story on the left/west. The stone storefront cornice continues from 700 to 702. The second story has a centered three-part arch window, with a center two-over-two-light double-hung window flanked by one-over-one-light double-hung windows with transoms. A one-over-one-light double-hung window with transom is located to either side of the center window. The brickwork on the frieze continues across both halves of the building, with five inset rectangular and semi-circular panels on each half. The east side extends along 7th Street, with first story and second story entries. Windows on this side have been shortened by brick infill at the top.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Nees-Rolf Building appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the potential Downtown Commercial Historic District (#29-03685). The building was constructed in 1904 by William Nees and John Rolf, beginning the development of the north side of this block with brick buildings. It is significant in the development of the west section of Jefferson Street, and it was then followed by significant construction and remodeling on this block over the next two decades. The significant harness business of William Nees operated in the 700 half from 1904 to 1924, and the flour and feed store of John Wolf, continued by G.W. Turner, operated in the 702 half from 1904 through 1917. Since the mid-1930s, the 702 half has been occupied by a bar/restaurant. The Late Romanesque Revival architecture also contributes to the architectural significance of the historic district. This building is an excellent example of this style, complete with a corner tower. The building is currently listed as contributing in the West Jefferson Street Historic District (1991, #29-00001), with the 700 and 702 halves listed separately.

This two-storefront building was constructed in 1904 by William Nees and J.W. Rolf to replace the frame structures that they had been occupying for several years. The *Hawk-Eye* reported on August 2, 1904 that J.W. Rolf and William Nees have bought the lots on the north side of Jefferson west of 7th Street to build a "handsome two-story business block" in the place of the frame buildings currently on the lot" ("A New Business Building," *Hawk-Eye*, August 2, 1904, 6). By December, William Nees had "completed his handsome new store building at the corner of Seventh and Jefferson streets, where he will manufacture all kinds of up-to-date hand-made harness, also a fine line of saddles, collars, and general horse furnishing goods ("William Nees," *Hawk-Eye*, December 25, 1904, 6).

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<u>Nees-Rolf Building</u>	<u>Des Moines</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>700-702 Jefferson Street</u>	<u>Burlington</u>
Address	City

The harness business of William Nees continued to occupy the building at 700 Jefferson until 1924 when he constructed the building at 704-706 Jefferson for his growing business. He was listed as one of three harness makers in Burlington in 1920. After he vacated this building, 700 Jefferson was vacant in 1926 and then occupied by Burlington Tire & Radiator Company in 1928. In 1930, the building was occupied by Central Lumber and Supply. By 1933, Younkin Farmers' Store moved into this half of the building, a grocery store. It was listed here through 1947, and then Kuhn's Farmers' Store is listed here in 1951. The estate of William Nees transferred this half of the building to Elizabeth Mary Nees on May 20, 1938, and then her estate transferred it to her children on July 23, 1947. They sold 700 Jefferson to George Ganakes on February 10, 1955. B&K Auto Supply was here in 1955 and 1957. It was then vacant in 1960. The 1963 and 1965 city directories list Wooldridge Appliance Center. Crawford's Cycle Shop was then here in 1968, and Boyd's Cycle Shop was here in 1970. Ganakes sold the building to George Coffin on January 23, 1969, who then sold it to Dean C. Constantine on October 30, 1970.

John Rolf bought the west 23 feet of the east 45 feet of Lot 925A from Ella Nassau on July 3, 1904, building the half of the building at 702 Jefferson Street in conjunction with William Nees in 1904. John Rolf operated a flour and feed store in the section at 702. When Mr. Rolf died unexpectedly in 1907, G.W. Turner and Son took over the operation of the feed store and occupied the space until 1917. The Motor Car Supply Company is listed here in 1920. 702 is vacant in 1924. Crane's Auto Supply is listed here in 1926. H.S. Floodin then sold wholesale beverages here per the 1928 and 1930 city directories. The Rolf heirs transferred the 702 Jefferson half within the family in 1932 and 1941. The Stock-McIntre Service Company was then listed here in 1933, and Farmer's Tavern was listed here in 1935. The storefront has continued to be occupied by a tavern since this date. Farmer's Tavern continued to be listed here in 1940. The Brass Rail then operated here by 1942, and it continued to be listed here into the 1970s. In 1946, the property transferred from the Rolf family to Margaret Jean and Francis Hood. Margaret Jean Hood (single) then sold the property in January 1990.

The 700 half is currently occupied by the Community Action Neighborhood Center. The current tavern at 702 Jefferson is Farney's.

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Nees-Rolf Building
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

700-702 Jefferson Street
Address

Burlington
City

9. Major Bibliographical References

Antrobus, A.T. *History of Des Moines County Iowa and Its People*. Chicago, IL: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1915.

Brower, Steven. *West Jefferson Street Historic District*. National Register of Historic Places nomination form. On file at State Historic Preservation Office, Des Moines, IA. Listed on April 9, 1991.

City Directories, Burlington, Iowa, various dates. On microfiche at the Burlington Public Library

Deed records, per transfer books at Des Moines County Auditor's Office.

Downtown Partners, Inc., a Division of the Greater Burlington Partnership, Burlington, Iowa. Collection of scanned historic photographs of downtown Burlington.

Newspapers, various titles and editions. Particular special editions utilized:

- Burlington Evening Gazette*, March 24, 1906
- Daily Hawk-Eye Gazette*, September 2, 1938
- Burlington Hawk-Eye Gazette*, August 4, 1942
- Burlington Hawk-Eye*, July 10, 1962
- Burlington Hawk-Eye*, July 4, 1976

Sanborn Map Company. "Burlington, Iowa," Fire Insurance Maps. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1886, 1892, 1900, 1931, 1952.

Smith, Claudia, and Marie Landon. 1976 survey of sites in Burlington. Iowa Site Inventory forms prepared on file at State Historic Preservation Office, Des Moines, IA.

Vertical files. Files on business/industry as well as individual businesses. Burlington Public Library, Burlington, Iowa.

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
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Nees-Rolf Building
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

700-702 Jefferson Street
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Burlington
City

Location map



Base aerial photography by Aerial Services Inc for Des Moines County GIS Commission, March 2010.

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Nees-Rolf Building
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

700-702 Jefferson Street
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Burlington
City

Building plan (from assessor's website)



Historic images

none identified

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Nees-Rolf Building
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

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Digital photographs



Photograph 29-01136-001 – South and east elevations, looking northwest (McCarley, July 17, 2013).