

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

**State Inventory No.** 29-01657  New  Supplemental  
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 29-03685  
 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 Drake Hardware Company  
 other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-04, DT-05

**2. Location**

street & number 106-110 Washington Street – also 415 N. Front 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) South 2/3 of Lot 55, west 58' of Lots 53, 54, 54A

**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:	
	Enter number of:		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	—	buildings	<u>1</u>	— buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> district	—	sites	—	— sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site	—	structures	—	— structures
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	—	objects	—	— objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object	—	Total	<u>1</u>	— 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 Intensive Level Historical and Architectural Survey of "East" Downtown Burlington, IA Historical Architectural Data Base Number 29-034

**6. Function or Use**

<b>Historic Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions)	<b>Current Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>02E05: Commerce/Trade - Hardware</u>	<u>02G: Commerce/Trade - Restaurant</u>
_____	<u>02A01: Commerce/Trade – offices</u>
_____	_____

**7. Description**

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

<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 106-110 Washington – also 415 N. Front Site Number 29-01657  
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 1903  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 Angela Adams, Mary Toal, Barb Mackey, volunteers Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport  
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date January 22, 2013  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

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<u>Drake Hardware Company</u>	<u>Des Moines</u>
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<u>106-110 Washington (also 415 N. Front)</u>	<u>Burlington</u>
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## 7. Narrative Description

This is a three-story brick building with a stone foundation. The building is L-shaped and built for the Drake Hardware Company. The main office location was listed as 106-110 with the slightly smaller Front Street arm noted as “shipping” on the first story, with several railroad tracks along Front Street and the riverfront in front of this section of the building. This is one of several L-shaped buildings constructed in downtown Burlington, wrapping around corner properties of another company. Earlier buildings were built for the J.S. Schramm & Company (dry goods, 218-220 Jefferson) and Wyman & Rand Company (carpets and furniture, 315-317 Jefferson).

The Washington Street section of the building appears designed as the “front” of the building, and the company is consistently listed at 106-110 Washington Street. The building faces Washington to the south. The building has simple Classical Revival details, a typical adaption of a popular style for a more functional/warehouse building. Brick pilasters divide the building into four sections, with simple brick capitals. The first story openings are the full width between these pilasters, resulting in the stone foundation serving as the base of the pilasters. The current first story openings include two large windows, an entry, and a third large window. The openings have corbelled brick detail above them, which has been painted white. The second and third stories each have paired double-hung window openings with a small brick column separating the windows and a shared stone sill and lintel. The windows were replaced with eight-light windows during the 1985 rehabilitation. Brick detail extends above the third story window openings, between the pilasters’ capitals. The top of the building has simple brick details creating by projected courses, with no particular cornice incorporated in the design. The south side of this section was built along the shorter buildings to the east, with one opening shown on the 1931 Sanborn map likely added after Drake Hardware Company acquired the former Churchill Drug warehouses in 1907. Additionally openings have been added on the first story since the buildings have been torn down. A ghost of a painted sign for “Drake Hardware – Wholesale” remains along the top of the east side, which would have been above the two-story corner building. The west/alley side has several openings, mainly concentrated in the north half of the building. The second and third stories each retain two-over-two-light double-hung wood windows with stone sills and segmental arch brick lintels. A double-door entry with wood doors remains on the first story. The north elevation is a party wall with the slightly shorter building section that extends to Front Street to the east.

The east section of the L-shaped building faces Front Street to the east. The building was only built at a height of two stories, though historic photographs show that it was nearly as tall as the adjacent three-story buildings and the Washington Street section of this building. The overall design of this building was simpler than the Washington Street side, reflecting its use as a warehouse and shipping facility rather than the “front office” of the company. The façade is divided into three sections by groups of paired windows. The wide double-door entry with transom is centered on the first story, with steps and a deck built to access the high entry. Paired two-over-two-light double-hung windows with stone sills and segmental arch lintels are found to either side. The three sets of paired double-hung window openings on the second story retain stone sills and segmental arch brick lintels, but they have eight-light windows dating to the 1985 remodel. The top of the building has simple brick detail in courses of projected brick. Eight windows were also added along the first story of the south side of this section for the restaurant, after the building to the south was demolished. Windows were likewise added along the

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north side of the first story of this section after the building to the north was demolished, and a raised outdoor seating area was also constructed for the restaurant. The north side parapet is sloped for the east half, then straight across the west/rear half of the building. The rear/west along the alley has a wide double-door opening with wood doors near the center of the first story. A double-hung window opening is found to either side, with four double-hung windows on the second story.

## 8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Drake Hardware Company building appears to contribute historically to the potential Downtown Commercial Historic District. The company was incorporated in 1891 after a string of earlier partnerships, and they built an L-shaped building here around 1903. Drake Hardware Company dealt in wholesale hardware, and they proved to be the only wholesale hardware company still operating in Burlington by 1940. The company continued to operate here until 1982. This commercial history is significant within the history of the downtown. The company expanded into the former Churchill Drug Company warehouse building to the south in 1907 and into the former Tabor-Burns Company building to the north in 1914, expanding their space while remaining on this block. Both these adjacent buildings have been demolished, leaving the original L-shaped Drake Hardware Company building on the half block. The L-shaped building also appears to be individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its significant association with the successful wholesale hardware business of the Drake Hardware Company. Further assessment of the interior integrity and research on the Drake Hardware Company would solidify this determination.

In 1877, Drake & Dayton bought the retail hardware business of Nelson & Company, which was the successor to Morton & Nelson. That partnership dated its history to J.W. Grimes & Company, who founded the hardware business in 1864. Thus, Drake & Dayton dated their company history to 1864, though not succeeded the series of firms until 1877. The 1879 county history lists Drake & Dayton as wholesale dealers in heavy hardware, cutlery, etc. at 113-115 N. Main Street. Lyman H. Drake continued the business under his name when Dayton retired. In fall 1890, Drake announced his desire to retire, and a number of interested parties worked with him to incorporate the Drake Hardware Company. On January 1, 1891, the Drake Hardware Company was incorporated by Lyman H. Drake of Burlington, Seymour H. Jones of Clarion, Charles E. Otto, Edwin D. Adams, E. H. Westfall of Cedar Rapids, and Walter Schenck. Officers included Charles E. Otto, president; Lyman H. Drake, vice president; Walter Schenck, secretary, and Seymour H. Jones, treasurer, with Edwin D. Adams and E.H. Westfall as directors. Though vice president, Drake retained only small interest in the business and no part in active management. Seymour H. Jones sold his hardware store in Clarion and moved to Burlington in fall 1890 to incorporate the company with Drake and the others. He was noted as one of the largest financial investors in the company. Charles E. Otto had worked for Drake for the last ten years, traveling for the last eight. Walter Schenck had worked for Nelson and then worked for Lyman H. Drake as a traveling salesman until 1887, and he returned to the company when it was incorporated. Edwin D. Adams moved here from Albany, NY, to work with Drake in 1888. Westphal had also worked as a traveling salesman for Drake for six years, based from his home in Cedar Rapids. Adams and Westphal continued in their roles as traveling salesmen, with Otto, Jones, and Schenck responsible for

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the management of the company in Burlington ("History of a House," *Hawk-Eye*, December 14, 1890, 3; Antrobus 1915, Vol. 2: 474-475).

The 1896 city directory lists C.E. Otto, president; L.H. Drake, vice president; Walter Schenck, secretary, and S.H. Jones, treasurer. The company was located at 113-115 N. Main. The 1898 and 1900 city directories continues to list the wholesale hardware company at the same location, with a warehouse at Court and Front as well. In 1902, Drake Hardware Company lists C.E. Otto, president; E.D. Adams, vice president; and Walter Schenck, secretary. The company was still located at 113-115 N. Main. The 1900 city directory lists three wholesale hardware companies in Burlington: Robert Donahue Iron and Hardware Company (100-112 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, demolished), Drake Hardware Company (113-115 N. Main, demolished), and Charles F. Schmidt (109-111 N. Main, demolished).

The 1900 Sanborn map shows a scrap iron yard on the south 40' (2/3) of Lot 55 and several small buildings on the rear/west half of the lots to the south. E.D. Adams sold this part of Lot 55 to Drake Hardware Company on July 15, 1902, along with the west half of Lots 53, 54, and 54A to the south. The deed is noted as transferred on December 31 (*Hawk-Eye*, January 1, 1903, 6). Thus, Drake Hardware acquired this L-shaped property, with a frontage at 415 N. Front Street and 108-110 Washington. The building was then likely built in 1903. The 1904 city directory lists Drake Hardware Company at 106-108-110 Washington. Officers included Charles E. Otto, president; E.D. Adams, vice president; Walter Schenck, secretary; and Seymour H. Jones, treasurer. The 1915 biography of E.D. Adams notes that he started working for L.H. Drake in 1888, and he was a traveling salesman for the company until 1900. Since then, he has been active in the management of the company (Antrobus 1915, Vol. 2: 79-80).

Then, Frank and Arthur Churchill sold the east 60' (1/2) of Lots 54 and 54A to the south to Drake Hardware Company on November 18, 1907. This property included two three-story buildings at 407-413 N. Front Street shown on the 1900 Sanborn map as warehouses for the Churchill Drug Company (demolished). Their sale is likely related to the construction and move of the Churchill Drug Company building along the railroad tracks on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. On July 1, 1907, the hardware business of Charles F. Schmidt at 109-111 N. Main was consolidated with Drake Hardware Company, and H.B. Burhmaster then became secretary of Drake Hardware Company. Walter Schenck moved into the position of second vice president, continuing as a traveling salesman for the company (Antrobus 1915, Vol 2: 97, 193). The growing business expanded into the former Churchill Drug Company warehouse buildings, thus occupying 106-110 Washington and 407-415 N. Front Street. The 1910 city directory lists Drake Hardware as the only wholesale hardware company in Burlington, though two additional companies are listed for wholesale "heavy" hardware, Robert Donahue Iron & Hardware Company (110-112 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, demolished) and Burlington Manufacturing and Jobbing Company (416 N. Main, demolished).

In January 1914, the Drake Hardware Company again expanded along Front Street, north into the former Tabor-Burns Company building (demolished). The addition of this three-story corner building at 417-423 N. Front Street resulted in the company occupying the full half block, except for the earlier small buildings on the south corner at 401 N. Front Street. They were noted as selling their "Kut-Well" brand of cutlery and hardware ("Burlington's Big Hardware Concern," *Hawk-Eye*, January 6, 1914, 7). In 1915, the wholesale hardware company was noted as operating at 106-110 Washington and 413-

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423 N. Front Street. They employed 12 traveling salesmen who covered Iowa, western Illinois, and northern Missouri. Officers were noted as S. H. Jones, president and treasurer; E. D. Adams, vice president; Walter Schenck, second vice president; and H. B. Buhmaster, secretary (Antrobus 1915, Vol. 2: 474-475).

Drake Hardware Company continued to operate in this complex of buildings for the next six decades. The 1920 city directory lists Drake Hardware Company at 106-110 Washington, with Seymour H. Jones, president and treasurer; Edwin D. Adams, vice president and secretary; and Walter Schenck, second vice president. By 1928, officers are listed as S.H. Jones, president; E. D. Adams, vice president and secretary; N.N. Jones, treasurer; and N.G. Ballantyne, sales manager. They continue to be listed at 106-110 Washington, with the street directory also showing the company at 409-411 N. Front. The 1930 city directory shows four listings under wholesale hardware dealers and jobbers, including the Burlington Iron Store (414-416 N. Main, demolished), Robert Donahue Company (100 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St, demolished), and John A. Gregg Company (room 412, Tama Building). The 1930 Sanborn map shows Drake Hardware Company in a 60 by 120 three-story building at 106-110 Washington, connect to a 40 by 120 foot two-story building at the rear that extended east to 415 N. Front Street. Shipping was noted as the use of the first story of the later building. The three-story former Churchill buildings at 407-413 N. Front are noted as hardware warehouse space as is the large three-story building to the north at 417-423 N. Front Street. A small concrete block one-story addition is located in the rear northwest corner of the 415 and corner building, and a garage is noted at the northwest corner of the property facing Columbia.

New leadership stepped up for Drake Hardware Company in the 1930s. Edwin D. Adams, vice president and secretary, died on August 23, 1930. He started as salesman for the Vielle wholesale hardware company of Albany, NY, meeting Lyman H. Drake on a trip. They became friends, and Adams moved to Burlington in 1888 to work with Drake. Drake Hardware Company was incorporated in 1891, with Drake soon retiring ("Edwin D. Adams Passes Away," *Hawk-Eye*, August 24, 1930, 21). On April 19, 1933, Seymour H. Jones, president of Drake Hardware Company, died at age 78. He owned a hardware business in Clarion until he moved to Burlington in fall 1890 to form the Drake Hardware Company ("S.H. Jones, 78, Passes Away," *Hawk-Eye*, April 20, 1933, 10). His son, Norman N. Jones, then stepped into the position of president of the company. The 1937 city directory then lists Drake Hardware Company at 106-110 Washington, with Norman N. Jones as president and treasurer and Ralph F. Ziegler as vice president and secretary.

The 1940 city directory lists Drake Hardware Company as the only remaining wholesale hardware company in Burlington. The same officers continued to be listed for the company through the 1940s. By 1947, Norman N. Jones, Jr. is listed as assistant treasurer and credit manager, John C. Marshall as sales manager, and Lawrence B. Ringold as purchasing agent. Harold Detterer then became sales manager by 1951. By 1955, Norman N. Jones, Jr. moved up to position of treasurer and credit manager, with his father remaining as president and Ralph F. Ziegler as vice president and secretary. Harold J. Detterer continued to be listed as sales manager, and Lawrence B. Ringold was listed as purchasing agent. These listings continue in the 1960 city directory. Drake Hardware Company continued to be listed at 106-110 Washington, and they are the only wholesale hardware company in Burlington. The *Burlington Hawk-Eye* on July 10, 1962, noted that Drake Hardware Company was

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wholesale distributors of hardware and supplies, established in 1864 and incorporated in 1891 (page 55).

The 1963 city directory then lists the next generation as officers for Drake Hardware Company: Norman N. Jones, Jr., president and treasurer; and Harold J. Detterer, vice president and secretary. They continue to be listed through the 1960s. The 1970 city directory lists the same officers, with the business noted as wholesale hardware, housewares, and sporting goods. After 90 years in business, Drake Hardware Company closed in 1982. The Drake Hardware Company property was then liquidated to stockholders in September 1982.

In early 1984, Sam Jennison, owner of Riley Brothers, bought the former Drake Hardware Company buildings. Riley Brothers is a petroleum products blender and wholesaler and paint formulator, as well as operating a custom paint shop. He envisioned eventual redevelopment of the complex with a mini-mall, restaurant, shops, and office, similar to Laclede's Landing in St. Louis. The north/corner building (Tabor-Burns Company) was initially used as additional space for the custom paint shop, later demolished for development of the remainder of the buildings with an outdoor seating area on the corner ("Jennison plans riverfront mall," *Hawk-Eye*, February 3, 1984, 1). Offices were developed in the 106-110 Washington Street building, with Sam's wife Maureen Jennison opening Riverfront Realty in this section in September 1986 ("Drake building now 'The Riverfront,'" *Hawk-Eye*, September 5, 1986, 6). The first story of 415 N. Front Street, extending into the first story of 106-110 Washington Street, was rehabilitated as a bar and restaurant. Currently, Sam Jennison owns "The Drake" restaurant that operates on the first story of the building. Eight offices, including the office for Riley Brothers Paint Company, are found in the Washington Street side.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Bied, Dan. *My Kind of Town*. Burlington, IA: Doran & Ward Printing Co, 1987.

*Biographical Review of Des Moines County, Iowa*. Chicago: Hobart Publishing Company, 1905.

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.

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

*Perspective Map of the City of Burlington, IA*. Milwaukee, WI: American Publishing Co., 1889.

*Portrait and Biographical Album of Des Moines County, Iowa*. Chicago: Acme Publishing Company, 1888.

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

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

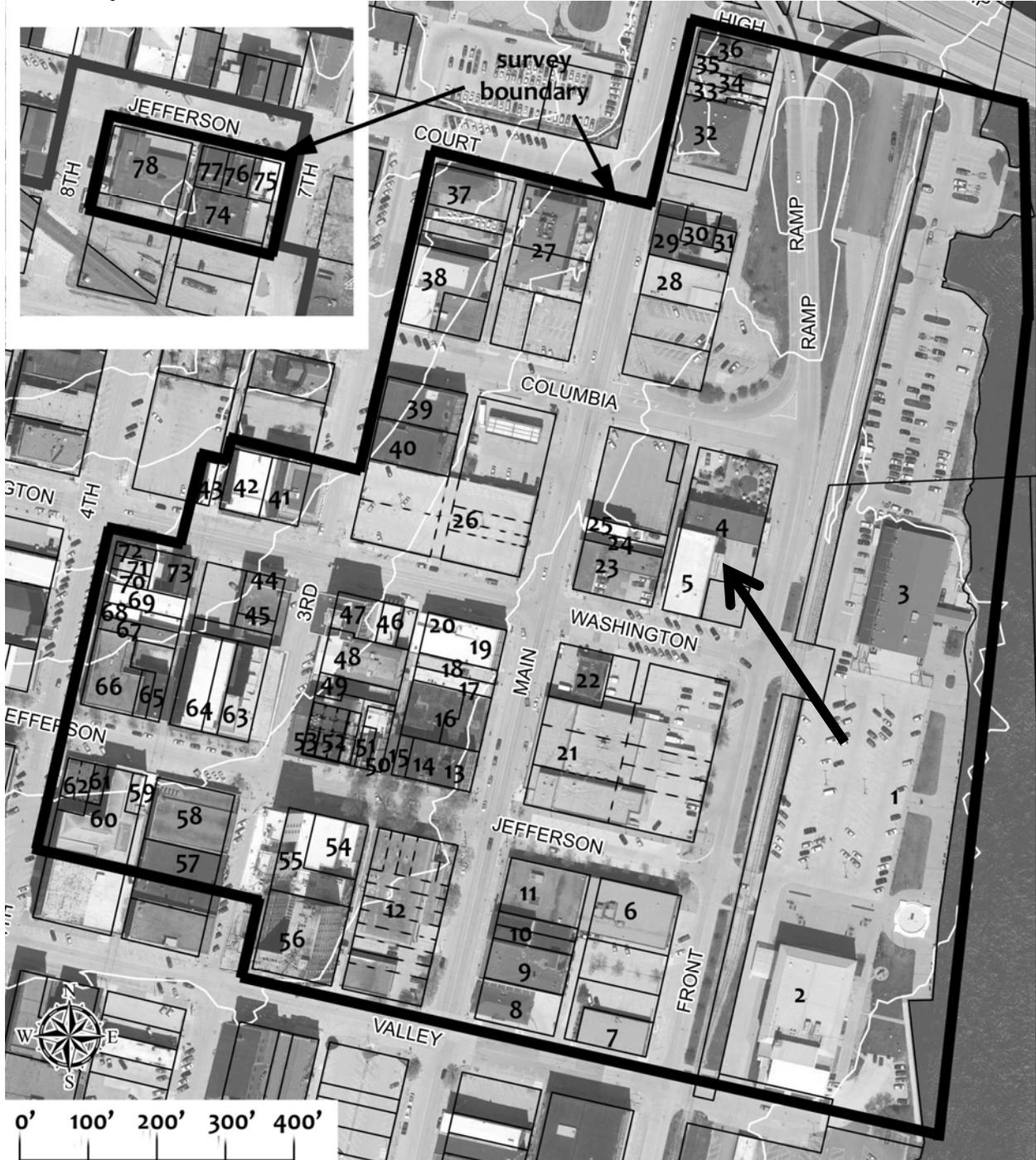
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**Location map**



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

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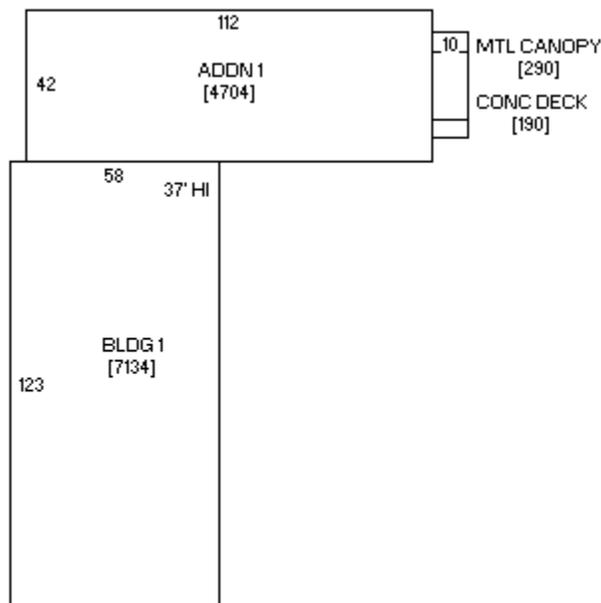
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## Building plan (from assessor's website)



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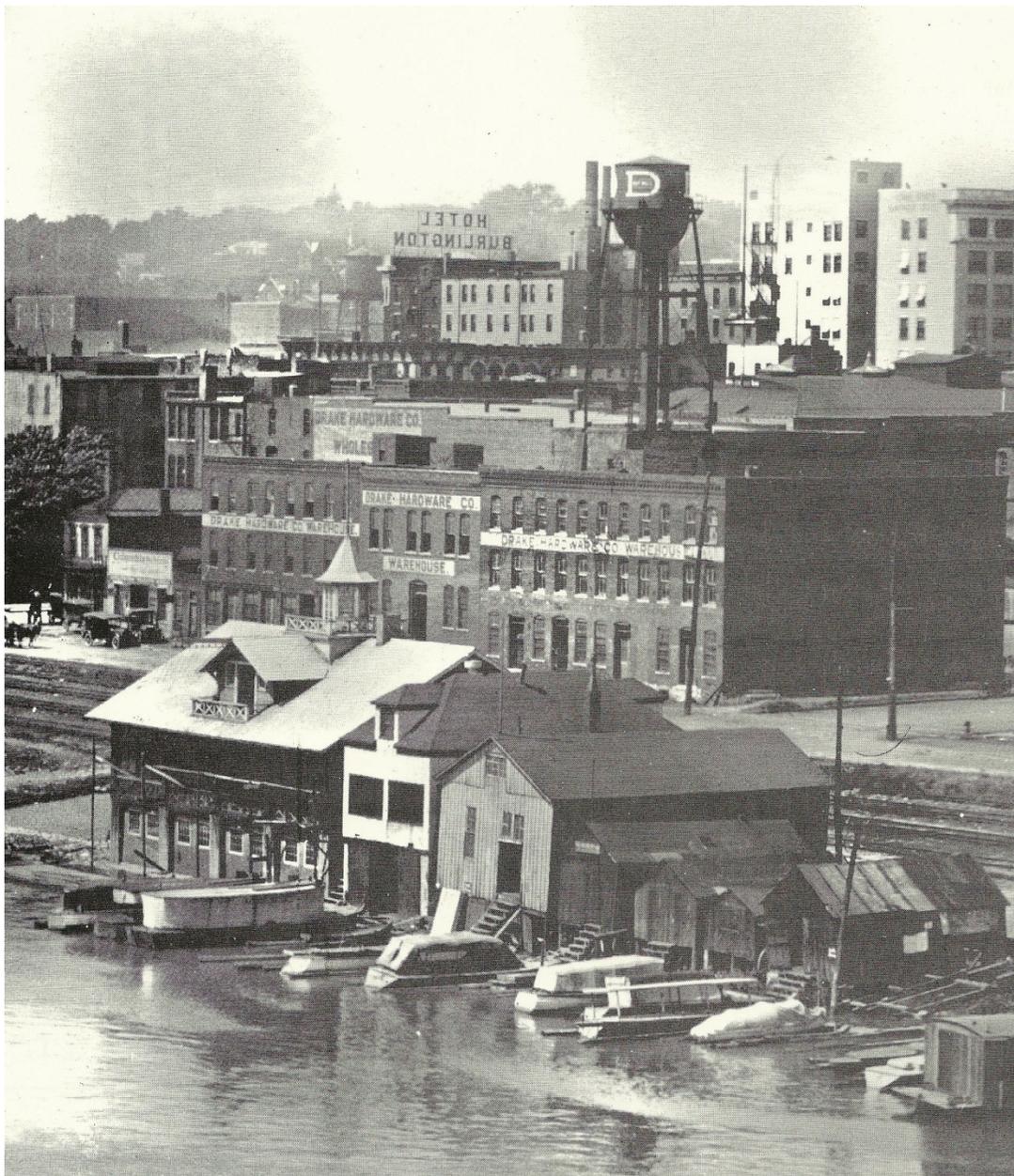
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**Historic images**



**View of Drake Hardware Company buildings in 1910s (Bied 1987: 28)**

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**View of Drake Hardware Company buildings in 1910s (Des Moines County Historical Society)**

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**Digital photographs**



**Photograph 29-01657-001 – South and east elevations of Washington St section, looking northwest (McCarley, June 20, 2012).**

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**Photograph 29-01657-002 – West and south elevations of Washington St section, looking northeast (McCarley, June 20, 2012).**

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**Photograph 29-01657-003 – North (rear) and west (side) elevations of Washington St section, looking southeast (McCarley, June 20, 2012).**

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Photograph 29-01657-004 – South and east (front) elevations of Front St section, looking northwest (McCarley, June 20, 2012).

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**Photograph 29-01657-005 – East (front) and north elevations of Front St section, looking southwest (McCarley, June 20, 2012).**

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**Photograph 29-01657-006 – North (side) and west (rear) elevations of Front St section, looking southeast (McCarley, June 20, 2012).**