

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

State Inventory No. 29-03664 New Supplemental
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) _____
 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 Frank A. and Sophia Strauss House

other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-30

2. Location

street & number 119 Court St

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) 76 – north ½ (30') – west 48' of east 78'

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	—	— buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> district	—	sites	—	— sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site	—	structures	—	— structures
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	—	objects	—	— objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object	—	Total	—	— 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

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

01A01 residence

01B multiple dwelling

01B multiple dwelling

02B04 Insurance Office

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

05B: Italianate

foundation 04C Limestone

walls (visible material) 03 Brick

roof 15C01 Rubber membrane

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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" 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 119 Court St Site Number 29-03664
City Burlington District Number _____

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

Significant Dates

Construction date 1876 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 David Roed, Commission Member Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date November 12, 2012
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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Frank A. and Sophia Strauss House
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

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7. Narrative Description

This is a two-story, five bay, symmetrical brick building that appears to have been constructed as a residence around 1876 for Frank and Sophia/Maggie Strauss. The building has a limestone foundation and flat rubberized roof. The entry is centered on the north side, with two double-hung wood windows to either side with two-over-one-light double-hung sashes. The second story has five two-over-one-light double-hung wood windows. Each window has a segmental arch brick lintel and stone sill. The building cornice has decorative brick "bracket" corbeling along the parapet wall on the north façade. There is one matching second story window near the rear of the east side. A smaller one-over-one-light double-hung window is located under this side window. The second story windows on the rear / south side of the building also have two-over-one-light double-hung sashes.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Frank A. and Sophia Strauss House sits along Court Street in an area with several other residences in the 1870s and 1880s. The boarding house to the west (520-524 N. Main) and the four rowhouses on the center of the block to the north (610-612-614-616 N. Main) are the only remaining residential properties in this area. This building is then distinguished by use from the commercial area to the south and west. Thus, this building does not appear to sit within any potential historic district. It is an interesting example of a residential property built to the lot line, a characteristic found more commonly in larger cities. Within the course of this project, with the exception of the side-gable rowhouses to the north, no other properties were identified built of this type. However, few residential properties were included in the survey area to provide context for this property. More research is thus recommended on other similar residential properties in Burlington to assess its architectural significance as a building of this type under Criterion C for individual eligibility. The property does not appear to have any strong historic significance under Criterion A, and it does not appear to be associated with any significant persons for eligibility under Criterion B.

The Des Moines County transfer records show Mrs. Bamford is listed in Transfer book 1 as the owner of the west 92' of Lot 76, except for the northwest corner (N 30' of W 40'), at the time that the books were first compiled. The family appeared in Burlington in the 1856 census: B. Bamford (44, shoemaker), Sophia (37), Sophia (10), Mary (6), and Henry (1). The 1869 directory lists Mrs. Sophia Bamford (likely mother) at 110 N. Main. It appears that the parents then died by the early 1870s. The daughter Sophia Bamford (at age 27) bought the east 27 feet of Lot 76 (113 Court) from C.W. Bodeman on October 3, 1873, and the family owned the entire lot except for the northwest corner (524 N. Main). Sophia Bamford then married Frank A. Strauss. They transferred half interest in their portion of Lot 76 to Maria Bamford (likely sister), who transferred her resulting half interest in the west half (39') of the east 78 feet of the north half of lot 76 back to Sophia Strauss (119 Court) on August 21, 1876. This brick house may have been built at that time. No resident was identified here in the 1876 directory. A. Strauss, a carpenter for D. Winter & Co, is listed at 119 Court in 1881-82, moving here from 860 High (1876 directory). Maria Bamford later transferred the north half of the south half of the lot to Sophia Strauss on September 10, 1879, with Sophia transferring her interest in the south half of the south half of lot 76 to Marie Bamford. The Bamford/Strauss family then sold the east 30' of the

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Frank A. and Sophia Strauss House

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north half and the full south half to Pauline Trulock on December 6, 1882. This sale left Frank and Sophia Strauss owning the middle portion of the north half of the lot, the location of the brick house at 119 Court Street. The 1880 census lists Frank A. Strauss (age 36, carpenter, born in Germany), with wife Sophia (34), and sons Frank (10), Benjamin (8), and William (5). They are listed as living on Court Street. The 1886 city directory lists Frank Strauss at 119 Court, and he was a carpenter at the Northwest Furniture Company. His wife is listed as Maggie (perhaps middle name of Sophia). The 1886 Sanborn map shows the two-story brick dwelling on this portion of the lot. The buildings to the west and east would be replaced by the 1892 Sanborn map. Frank A. and Maggie continued to be listed here through the 1890s.

Frank A Strauss et al sold the house to Charles and William Strauss on August 18, 1900. Interestingly, the 1900 census lists W.D. Meyers (59, retired) living at 119 Court with wife Mary (51), daughter Jennie (23) and her husband James Drummond (28, machine operator – button factory). The actual owners are listed as two roomers: William Strauss (62, basketmaker) and his son William (26, basketmaker). The 1902-03 city directory lists the younger William as working for Burlington Wagon Company, living at 119 Court. The 1910 census lists William Strauss (39, laborer at wagon factory) with wife Isabel at 119 Court along with Lee Golden (43, construction teamster) and his wife Margaret and F.W. Froechlich (65, widow). The 1916 city directory lists William A. Strauss as a cutter for Burlington Box Company, living at 119 Court with wife Isabelle. The 1920 census lists William Strauss (44, widow, box maker) living at and owning 119 Court with Edna Gaylor (26, button worker) renting here. The 1925 city directory lists William A. Strauss as a machine hand at Burlington Box Company. Charles Strauss lived at 1419 N. 8th Street through this period, merely owning part interest in this property at 119 Court. The 1930 census lists William Strauss (54, widow, box factory sawyer) living at 119 Court, which he owned and was valued at \$3,000. John Agnew (51, theater bill poster) also lived here with wife Edna (35) and two lodgers, Georgia Rhyne (38, widow, hotel cook) and William F. Maut (age 15). The Sanborn Maps of 1892, 1900 and 1931 all show a connecting door to the boarding house to the west at 520-524 N. Main, and it is possible that the second story was used as part of the boarding house while Strauss owned the property, but census records seem to indicate this was a separate property. The 1933 city directory separates the building into apartments with addresses 119 with JJ Agnew and 119 ½ being vacant. The 1935 city directory continues to list William Strauss at living at 119 Court and working as a cutter for Burlington Box Company. He is last listed here in the 1937 directory, along with Mrs. Edna Agnew. Strauss moved out on Plank Road by the 1938 directory. The 1940 city directory lists two apartments, with one vacant. Two tenants are listed here in the 1942 directory.

On December 10, 1942, the house (west 48' of east 78' of north ½ of Lot 76) transferred from the Charles and William Strauss, widowers, to Rose Hamilton (transfer book 7, pg 22). Rose Hamilton, widow, bought the boarding house to the west at 520-524 N Main in 1936, and she continued to own it in this period. Local residents recall this building at 119 used as a boarding house / bordello in this period. Two units continue to be listed in city directories in the 1940s and 1950s at 119 and 119 ½ Court. Various tenants are listed, with Charles and Beulah Kuhs living at 119 ½ from 1945 to 1953. The building was sold in 1948 from Rose Hamilton to William J Warth. The 1952 Sanborn map lists the building as apartments.

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In 1955, the building took a drastic change to house an insurance company, Mutual of Omaha, listed at 119 Court with no listing at 119 ½ Court. The property transferred from William Warth to Whitford Niehaus in 1956. Mutual of Omaha continued to be listed here in 1960. In 1965, the building reverted back to apartments. The current owner, Frank Delaney III bought the property on December 3, 1980. It continues to be used as apartments.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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.

Downtown Partners, Inc., a Division of the Greater Burlington Partnership, Burlington, Iowa. Collection of collected 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

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.

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.

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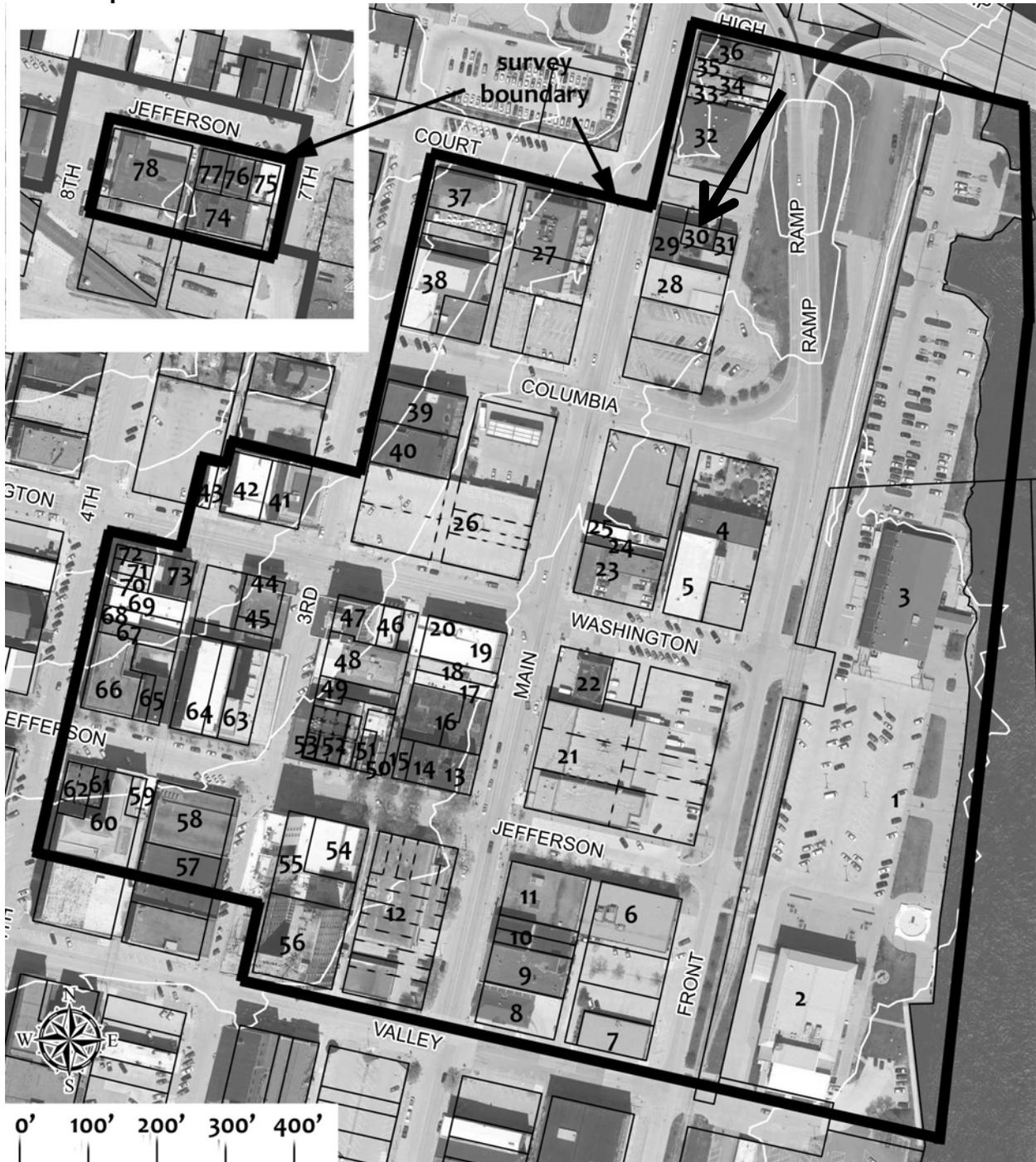
Frank A. and Sophia Strauss House
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Location map



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

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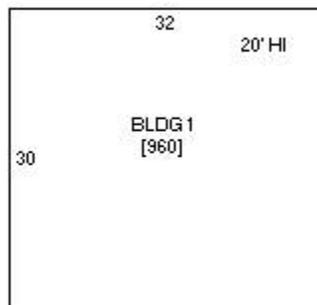
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Building plan (from assessor's website)



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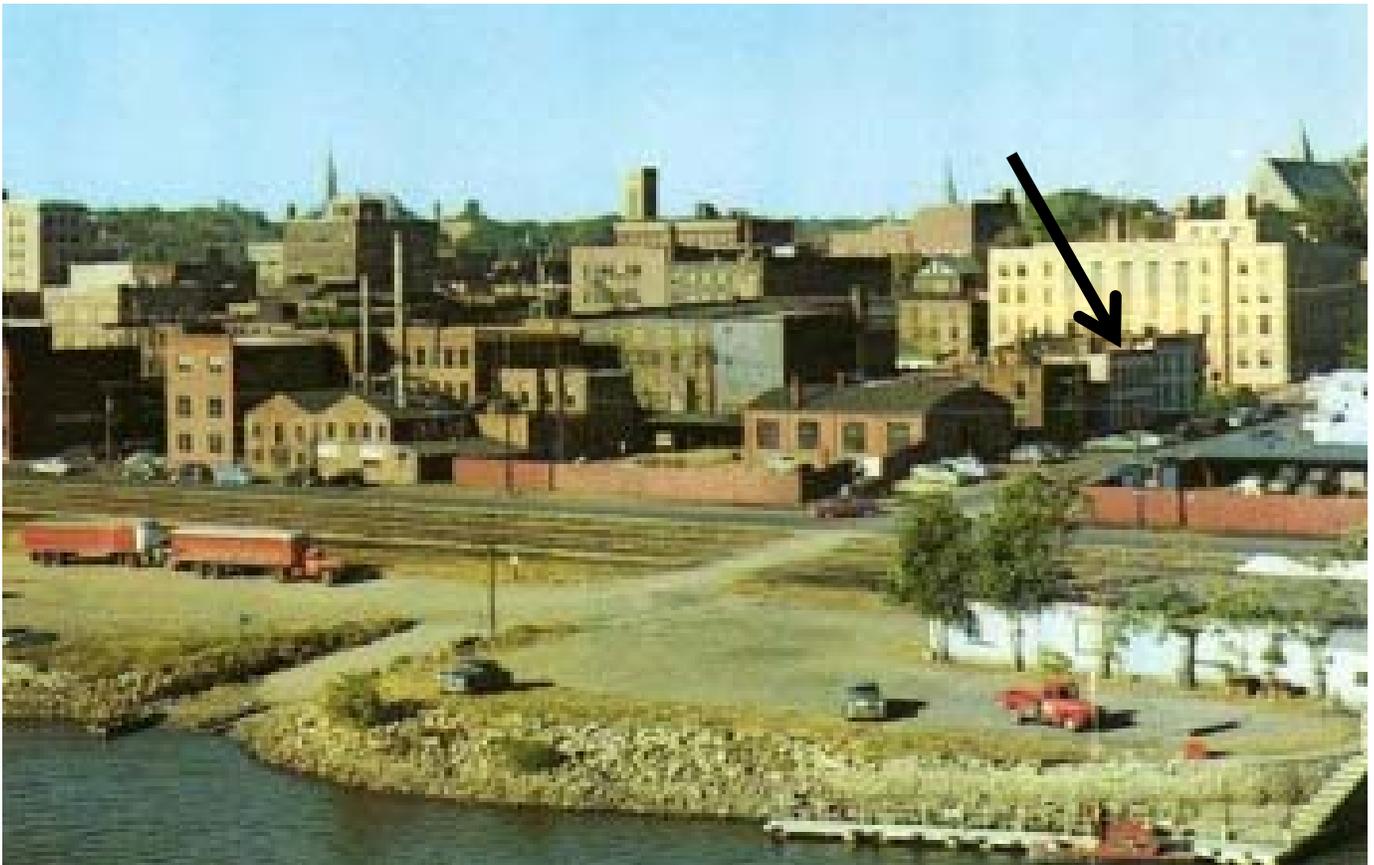
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Historic images



Building in 1950s photograph of riverfront (Downtown Partners collection).

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Digital photographs



Photograph 29-03664-001 – North elevation, looking south (McCarley, June 20, 2012).

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Photograph 29-03664-002 – East and north elevation, looking southwest (McCarley, June 20, 2012).