

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

State Inventory No. 29-01082 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 German American Savings Bank
 other names/site number American Savings Bank, National Bank of Burlington, Downtown Survey Map # DT-13

2. Location

street & number 200-204 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) 194 - east 1/2

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 Enter number of:	If Eligible Property, 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

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>02D02: Commercial / financial institution / bank</u>	<u>02B03: Commercial / professional / law office</u>
<u>02A01: Commercial / office building</u>	_____
<u>11D03: Health Care / medical business / doctor's office</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>
<u>06C: Early 20th Century / Classical Revival</u>	walls (visible material) <u>03: Brick 4C: Limestone</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 200-204 Jefferson Street Site Number 29-01082
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 1885 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation 1913, 1958

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Architect/Builder

Architect
Bank Building and Equipment Corporation (1958 remodel)
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 Inez Metzger, commission member Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date November 6, 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: _____

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 1

German American Savings Bank

Des Moines

Name of Property

County

200-204 Jefferson

Burlington

Address

City

7. Narrative Description

This is a four-story, brick bank building, constructed in 1885 and remodeled in 1913 and 1958. The current appearance has components that date to these three periods. The building was designed with three storefronts along Jefferson, and the 1913 remodeling added the Classical Revival stone detail to the first story as well as expanding the bank into the full first story. The entry was moved to the center bay from the east bay at this time. In the 1958 remodel, the entry was again moved, now to the west bay where it is currently located. Stone pilasters continue to divide the first story into three bays. The burgundy panels appear to date to this 1958 remodel for the National Bank of Burlington. The stone and Classical Revival details on the first story on the Main Street side dates to the 1913 remodel. The building is nine bays wide on the Jefferson Street side, and it is seven bays wide on the Main Street side. The Classical Revival cornice, added in 1913 with the addition of the fourth story, was removed in 1958 during the modernization of the bank. Buff brick extends across the top of the building in its place. The building is built on a slight hill with the stone foundation being higher toward the east on Jefferson Street. There is virtually no visible foundation at the west end of this building.

There are three bays on the first story on the south (Jefferson Street) side. As noted, the entry is currently in the west bay. Stone pilasters separate the bays and mark the ends of the building. The entry has a double-door entry with glass encased in steel with sidelights on both sides and transom windows above, with the words "Hoth Building" etched in gold on the glass above the door. A metal awning extends out above the entry. Square burgundy panels fill the remainder of the space to the west and above the entry and awning. The middle and east bay each contain large rectangular window openings which touch the foundation at the bottom. The windows are likewise surrounded by large burgundy stone panels. The second and third stories have one-over-one-light double-hung wood windows with segmental arch brick lintels and continuous stone sills. The west opening on the second story has been bricked-in. Decorative bands of brick work extend between the second story windows and below the sill band for the third story windows. This design is made up of rows of diamonds above circles with centralized dots above a row of recessed squares. There are nine circles between each second story window with seven circles on the end of the building. The fourth story, added in 1913, has a stone belt course with row of soldier bricks under the one-over-one-light double-hung windows. Inset brick panels are found between the windows, and a soldier course band runs across the elevation above the windows. The buff brick across the top was added with the decorative Classical Revival cornice was removed, likely during the 1958 remodel.

On the first story on Main Street, the south bay is flanked by stone pilasters on either side. There is a low stone framed window opening, with a protruding, horizontal stone hood, that might once have been a teller's station. It is framed by stone pilasters. The remainder of the first story of the east façade is divided into three window bays, which each has a set of paired windows. There is a gray wood Ionic pilaster between each pair of windows. The left and center window bays each contain two three-over-three-light double-hung windows. The right window bay contains small glass blocks instead of window sashes - seven wide and fourteen high. There are four, blocked-in cubes which are three cubes wide on all sides. These are evenly positioned two cubes from the window exteriors. An old metal fire escape extends from the roof to the bottom of the north edge of the middle window bay, with balconies out of upper story windows on each floor. The first story has a stone cornice line below the level of the

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 2

<u>German American Savings Bank</u>	<u>Des Moines</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>200-204 Jefferson</u>	<u>Burlington</u>
Address	City

second story windows. The second and third stories, dating to the original 1885 construction, each have seven one-over-one-light double-hung wood windows with segmental arch brick lintels and continuous stone sills. The second story displays decorative brickwork between the windows, while the 3rd floor brick is plain though there is a band of decorative brick work under the third story sills. The fourth story, added in 1913, has similar window pattern and style, except they are simple rectangular openings. A narrow stone belt course extends across this level, also serving as the windows sills for the fourth story windows. The buff brick across the top was added with the decorative Classical Revival cornice was removed, likely during the 1958 remodel. A 1958 photograph shows the brick as background for a sign for National Bank at that time.

There is a sign on the east, Main Street-side on the south east corner of the first floor that says "Hoth Law Offices" on three lines. On the south, Jefferson Street-side, there are two signs. One says "Hoth Building" and the other says "Burlington Shortline Railroad". These signs are dark brown with gold trim and lettering.

The north side upper stories of the building are visible above the adjacent building. There is "ghost lettering" that remains from the days when the adjacent drive-up bank existed. The U-shaped configuration of the upper stories is evident from this side, permitting windows for interior office spaces on the upper stories.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The German American Saving Bank appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the potential Downtown Commercial Historic District. The bank was originally built in 1885, remodeled in 1913 into a Classical Revival building. The National Bank of Burlington took over this building in 1933, and they significantly remodeled the building in 1958 during a period of downtown improvements, particularly related to financial institutions. This later remodeling is significant as well within the themes of the historic district. The German American Saving Bank also appears to be significant under Criterion A for individual listing on the National Register of Historic Places for its long history with banking in downtown Burlington. Further assessment of the interior integrity would solidify this determination.

According to courthouse records, Luke Palmer is the first listed owner of the South 2/3 of the East 1/2 of Lot 194. A. B. Smith is listed as the owner of the north 1/3. Anthony Barger purchased the south 2/3 on February 23, 1872 and the north 1/3 on March 9, 1872 after Lydia Smith and her husband transferred this property to Luke Palmer on March 4, 1872. Thus, Barger owned the east half of Lot 194. The 1888 county history notes that the German American Savings Bank was organized in 1874, first located in the basement of Merchants' National Bank. Charles Mason was president until his death in 1882. They bought Barger Block in 1883 at the northwest corner of Main and Jefferson (transfer books indicate on June 21, 1883 for \$20,000). The building was demolished for their elegant and substantial three-story brick block. They opened on the first story of the building on December 14, 1885. Capital was increased to \$100,000 in 1887, and Dr. James J. Ransom was president in 1888 (*Portrait and Biographical Album of Des Moines County* 1888: 769). Sanborn maps from 1892 and

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 3

<u>German American Savings Bank</u>	<u>Des Moines</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>200-204 Jefferson</u>	<u>Burlington</u>
Address	City

1900 show that the bank occupied the corner space (200 Jefferson), with stores at 202 and 204 Jefferson to the west. Directories listings show J.A. Klippisch & Company in 202-204 in 1892, and then the space was divided into two stores. In 1906, Vockel Jewelry was located at 202 and Siezel & Dilley tailors were located in 204.

The German American Savings Bank operated successfully through the end of the 19th century and into the 20th century. In 1913, the bank underwent a significant remodel and the addition of the fourth story to update the building to a modern look. The bank took on Classical Revival elements, a style popular for banks in this period. Stone was applied on the first story, and the fourth story with bracketed cornice was added. The three upper stories were remodeled for modern offices ("Make Elaborate Plans," *Burlington Hawk-Eye*, June 6, 1913, 2). The remodel eliminated the additional retail storefront spaces within the building, moving the bank entrance to the center of the Jefferson Street side. In 1915, it was one of six banks in Burlington. The name of the bank was changed during World War I in 1918 to the American Savings Bank and Trust. Several professional offices were located on the upper three stories of the bank building, including doctors, dentists, insurance agents, abstract companies, and lawyers. The American Savings Bank and Trust operated under this name through the 1920s. The bank went into receivership on June 17, 1932, after cash withdrawals. The Friday, June 17, 1932 edition of *The Burlington Gazette* has a front-page editorial describing this "crisis - calamity".

The First National Bank of Burlington opened in June 1933 under the leadership of John Witte, leasing the former American Savings Bank Building. The 1937 city directory lists the First National Bank. In 1937, the name was changed to National Bank of Burlington. After the former banks' accounts were settled, the First National Bank then purchased the East 1/2 of Lot 194 from the American Savings Bank on May 26, 1936. The First National Bank transferred the East 1/2 to the National Bank of Burlington on March 29, 1938. The 1945 city directory lists the National Bank of Burlington and the National Bank Building at this address. The upper stories continued to be used for professional offices.

The National Bank of Burlington underwent a significant remodeling and expansion program in 1958, with designs prepared by the national bank design firm Bank Building and Equipment Corporation of America based in St. Louis. Construction was completed by local contractor Carl A. Nelson & Company. A new building was constructed to the north of the corner building at 307 N. Main Street (see #29-03653), including drive-in facilities on the main level and the loan department and director's room on the upper level. The main four-story bank was remodeled thoroughly on the interior, including acoustical tile ceiling, four new A/C units, four new teller windows, new carpet, wrought aluminum staircase handrails, and new offices for the trust department in space vacated by move of the safety deposit vault to the basement of the new building to the north. The first story of the exterior received some updates, including moving the main entry to the west bay on Jefferson. John H. Witte, Jr. was chairman of the board at the time ("Beauty with Utility at New National Bank," *Hawk-Eye Gazette*, May 14, 1958, 3). The burgundy panels within the bays on the Jefferson Street side were likely then installed at this time. The May 1958 photographs of the building show the appearance similar to the current. The cornice of the building had been removed by this date, with buff brick installed and providing the background for the National Bank signage (Figure 5).

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 4

German American Savings Bank

Des Moines

Name of Property

County

200-204 Jefferson

Burlington

Address

City

In 1967, the name was changed back to First National Bank. John H. Witte continued as chairman of the board. In July 1970, ten buildings on the west side of the 200 block of Main Street (southwest corner of Jefferson and Main) were condemned by the city, including four owned by the First National Bank of Burlington and six owned by the Witte company. At this time, John Witte was chair of the board of directors for the bank ("Condemn 7 Main Street Buildings," *Hawk-Eye*, July 23, 1970, 1). The demolition of these buildings resulted in plans in 1972 for a new bank building on this site across Jefferson Street from their current building. The bank became affiliated with Banks of Iowa in 1972. J.H. Witte & Sons, Inc. purchased the First National Bank properties at the northwest corner of the intersection on June 1, 1972, in addition to the building to the north, in exchange for property on the southwest corner of Main and Jefferson. First National Bank built a new building on this site across Jefferson to the south, moving in August 1974 and vacating their main building and the drive-in facility to the north. On July 27, 1979, the bank repurchased their former bank property from Witte, except the west 20 feet. They later then it sold to Steve S. and Jo Ellen Hoth, JT on April 3, 1987 for \$111,000.

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Site Number 29-01082

Related District Number 29-03685

Page 5

German American Savings Bank

Des Moines

Name of Property

County

200-204 Jefferson

Burlington

Address

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.

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.

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
 State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number 29-01082
 Related District Number 29-03685

Page 6

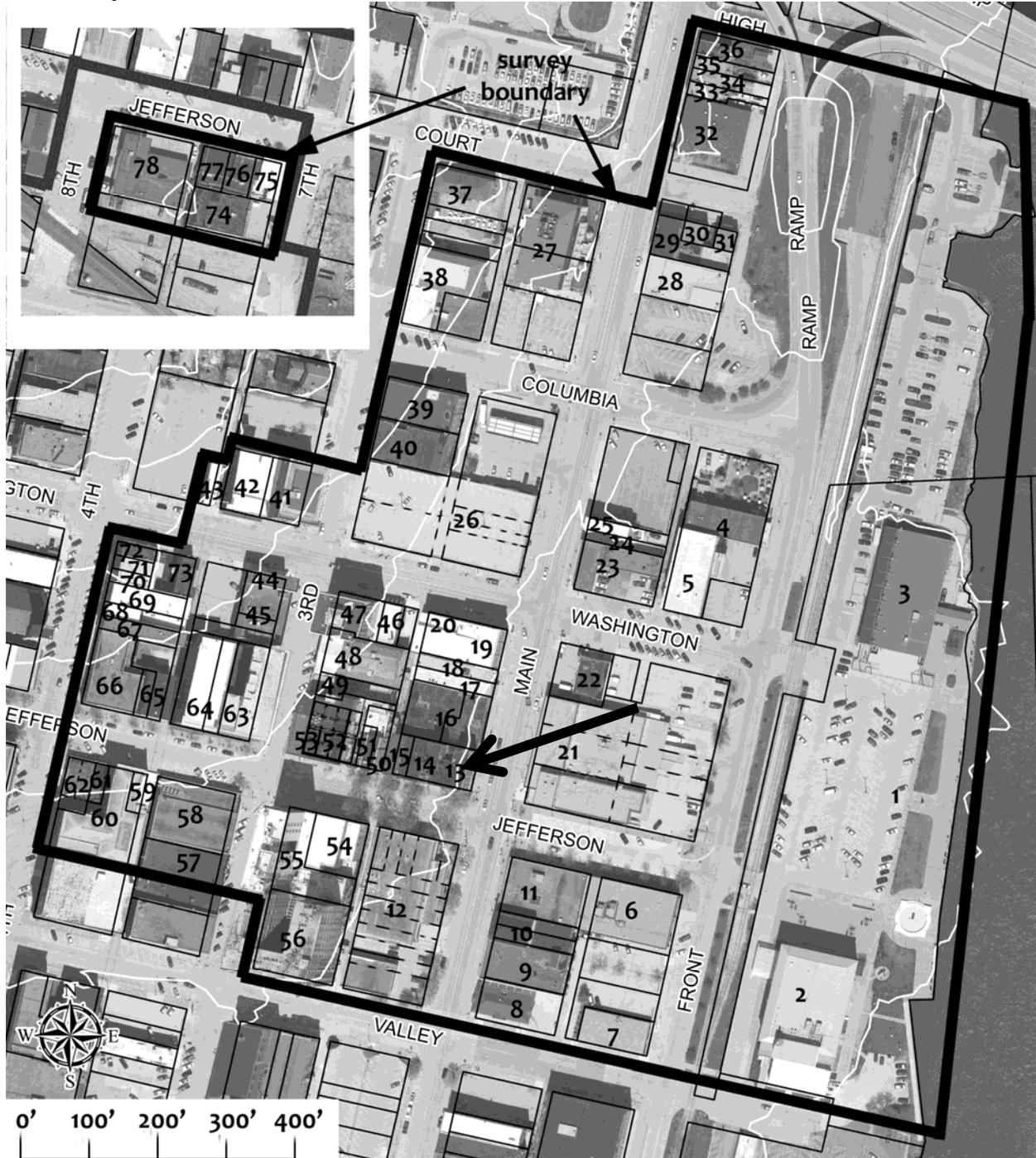
German American Savings Bank
 Name of Property

Des Moines
 County

200-204 Jefferson
 Address

Burlington
 City

Location map



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

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Site Number 29-01082

Related District Number 29-03685

Page 7

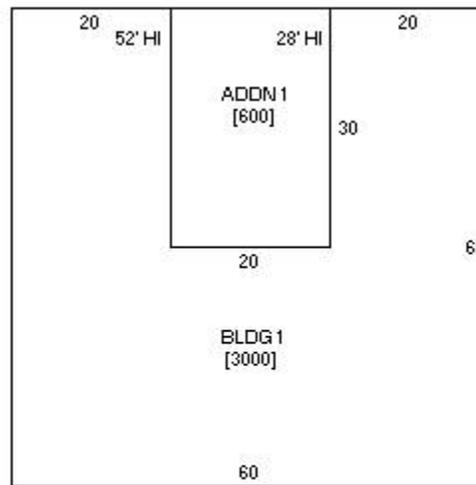
German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City

Building plan (from assessor's website)



Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Site Number 29-01082

Related District Number 29-03685

Page 8

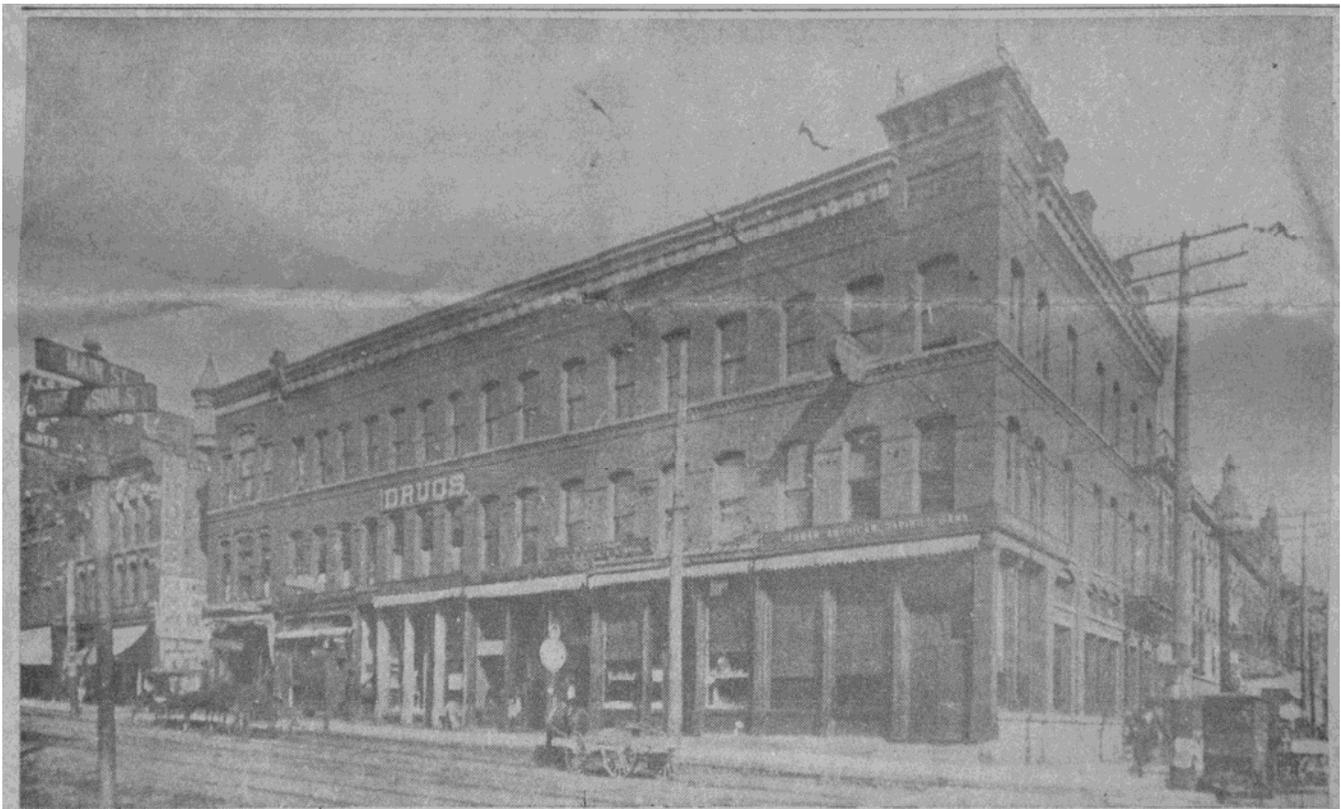
German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City

Historic images



FORERUNNER of the National Bank of Burlington was the older German American Savings Bank. Located at the same site, the bank corner looked like this when there were street cars and the peanut vendor carriage was located at the choice Main and Jefferson location. Witte's Drugs was at the same site as it is now.

Original design of bank building (*Hawk-Eye*, May 14, 1958)

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Site Number 29-01082

Related District Number 29-03685

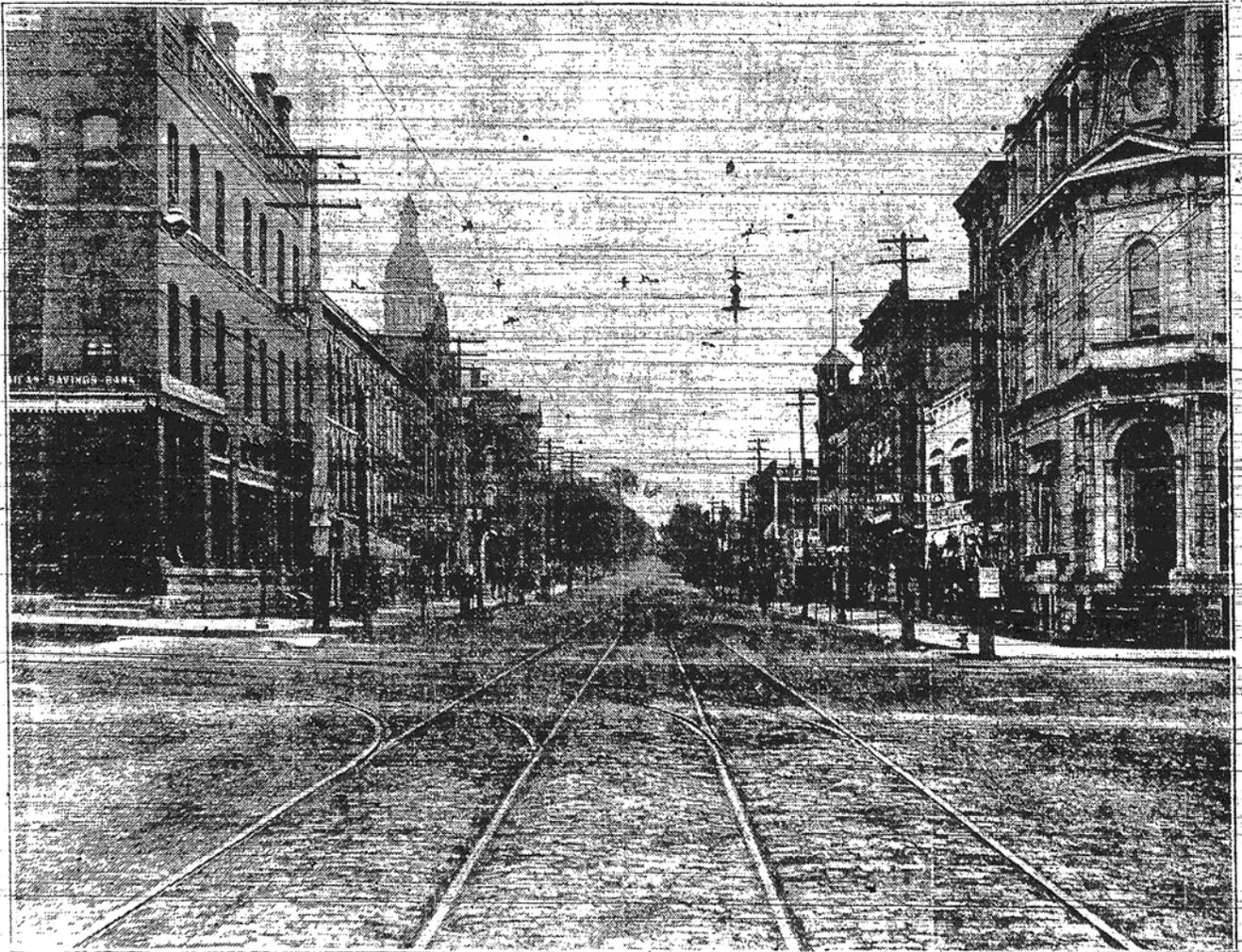
Page 9

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City



MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH.

German American Savings Bank at left in March 1906 (*Gazette*, March 24, 1906, sec 2, p 2)

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
**Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet**

Site Number 29-01082
Related District Number 29-03685

Page 10

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City



**German American Savings Bank, after 1913 remodel and addition of fourth story
(Downtown Partners collection).**

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Site Number 29-01082

Related District Number 29-03685

Page 11

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City



OVER 40 YEARS AGO the National Bank corner had billboard signs on its corner advertising the Tri-State fair. This one, located at the second floor, announced the fair dates, August 12-19, 1916. The bank was the old German-American Bank at that time. Striped awnings adorned all of the upper floor windows.

Bank in August 1916 after 1913 remodeling and addition of 4th story (*Hawk-Eye*, May 14, 1958, 3)

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number 29-01082
Related District Number 29-03685

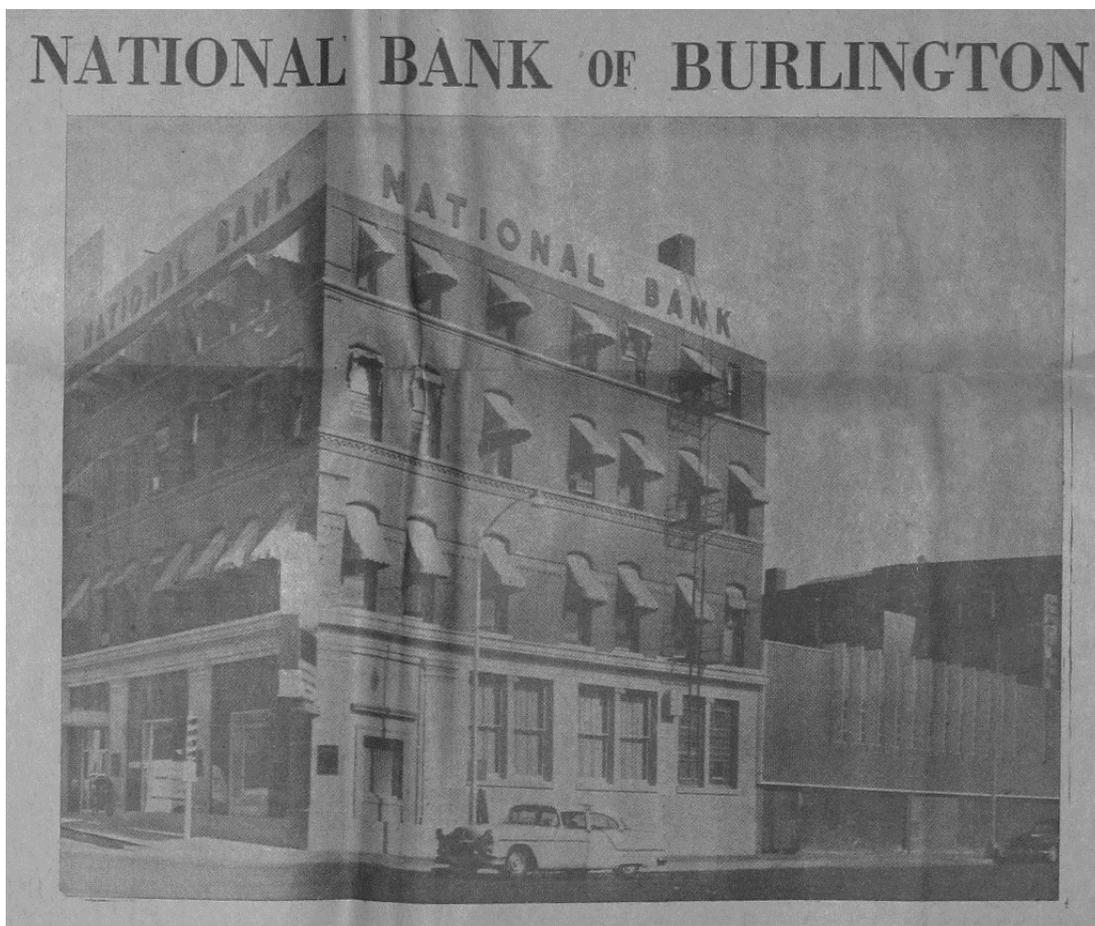
Page 12

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City



Bank in May 1958 after remodeling for National Bank (*Hawk-Eye*, May 14, 1958, 3)

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
**Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet**

Site Number 29-01082
Related District Number 29-03685

Page 13

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City



Photograph from 1960s showing bank and added drive-in facility to north (Downtown Partners collection).

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
**Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet**

Site Number 29-01082
Related District Number 29-03685

Page 14

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City



View of building in November 1966 (from Carleen Nollen, Burlington, IA).

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
**Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet**

Site Number 29-01082
Related District Number 29-03685

Page 15

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City

Digital photographs



Photograph 29-01082-001 – South and east elevations, looking northwest (McCarley, June 20, 2012).

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
**Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet**

Site Number 29-01082
Related District Number 29-03685

Page 16

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City



Photograph 29-01082-002 – South elevation, looking north (McCarley, June 20, 2012).

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
**Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet**

Site Number 29-01082
Related District Number 29-03685

Page 17

German American Savings Bank
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

200-204 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City



Photograph 29-01082-003 – East and north elevations, looking southwest (McCarley, June 20, 2012).