

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

**State Inventory No.** 29-01083       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 First National Bank  
 other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-12

**2. Location**

street & number 201 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) 190, 191, 192 and 193

**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**

<b>Historic Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions)	<b>Current Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>02D02: Commerce/Trade - Bank</u>	<u>02D02: Commerce/Trade - Bank</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

**7. Description**

<b>Architectural Classification</b> (Enter categories from instructions)	<b>Materials</b> (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>08: Modern</u>	foundation <u>10B: Concrete</u>
_____	walls (visible material) <u>10B: Concrete</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 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 checked="" 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 201 Jefferson Street Site Number 29-01083  
City Burlington District Number DT-12

**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 1974  check if circa or estimated date  
Other dates, including renovation

**Significant Person**

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

**Architect/Builder**

Architect  
C. Edward Ware Associates (Rockford, IL)  
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 Mary Toal, Volunteer; Angela Adams, Commission Member; Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport  
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date January 29, 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: \_\_\_\_\_

# Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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First National Bank  
Name of Property:

Des Moines  
County

201 Jefferson Street  
Address:

Burlington  
City

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## 7. Narrative Description

First National Bank reflects modern bank design ideals of the 1970s. The building is composed of two main horizontal masses. The upper mass cantilevers over the lower mass on the north and south sides, typical of bank designs of the 1970s. The lower mass projects out on the east side. The lower and upper sections reflect opposite solid and void/window designs, depending on the side. The north//Jefferson side of the building is the "front," though built at a time that this section of Jefferson was a full pedestrian mall, with no vehicular traffic. The upper mass is solid concrete, projecting out over the lower mass nearly complete composed of large windows with dark metal frames. The lower mass projects significantly further out on the east side, with a nearly solid wall of concrete penetrated by a side entry and small window. The second story is then composed of five inset groups/bands of windows with dark metal frames. The southeast corner of the second story is likewise inset, with three groups/bands of identical windows continuing on the south side. This upper mass projects significantly out over the lower mass on this south side, supported by thin columns. The west side along the alley is nearly a solid wall of concrete, with side entries along this mass. The concrete wall continues along the alley south to the drive-in bank section, becoming this building's west wall. The design of the drive-in bank section mimics the main bank with an upper section projecting over the lower base. The base is primarily concrete, with vertical bands of windows.

## 8. Narrative Statement of Significance

With the current period of significance for the potential Downtown Commercial Historic District ending at 1966 near the 50-year cut-off for the National Register of Historic Places, the construction of the First National Bank of Burlington in 1974 falls after this period, and thus the building is counted as non-contributing within the district. As this 50-year cut-off moves into the 1970s, the end date for the period of significance for the historic district should be reassessed to include this bank building. The construction of the bank, though several years later in 1974, marks the end of a period of major bank construction in downtown Burlington.

The movement to improve downtown Burlington continued through the 1970s, though new construction projects are marked by a gap between 1966 and 1974. Major projects for financial institutions in downtown in the last decades included the first story modern remodel at 319 Jefferson in 1952 for Burlington Federal Savings & Loan Association, the three-story modern building at 321 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in 1953 for Mississippi Valley Savings and Loan Association, the two-story modern drive-in bank at 307-313 N. Main Street for National Bank of Burlington in 1958, the motor bank for Farmers & Merchants Bank at 405 Valley in 1960, new modern corner building at 222 N. Main for Burlington Bank & Trust Company in 1961, their motor bank at 200 N. Main Street in 1962, the one-story modern building for Burlington Federal Savings & Loan Association at 323 Jefferson in 1963, a major addition with drive-in facilities for Mississippi Valley Savings and Loan Association in 1966, and a substantial first story and interior remodel for Farmers & Merchants Bank at 223 Jefferson in 1966. In fact, seven of the 11 construction projects in downtown Burlington from 1952 to 1966 were related to financial institutions, with the 1958 post office on a former bank site at 300 N. Main counted among the other projects. In

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1967, the National Bank of Burlington became the First National Bank of Burlington. They continued to operate in the earlier German American Savings Bank at the northwest corner of Main and Jefferson (see State # 29-01082).

The last major downtown bank project was envisioned and completed through the first few years later of the 1970s. From the late 19<sup>th</sup> century into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, three banks had stood on the northwest, northeast, and southeast corners of Main and Jefferson streets, with commercial building lining the southwest corner in the 200 block of N. Main. Seven buildings on the west side of the 200 block of N. Main were condemned in July 1970, with First National Bank then owning many properties and chairman of the board, John Witte, Jr., personally owning several others. The bank was also in the process of acquiring others with the intent of demolishing them ("Condemn 7 Main Street Buildings," *Hawk-Eye*, July 23, 1970, 1). Work to relocate tenants spanned over a year, with demolition of the half block finally completed in summer 1972. The new buff-colored textured concrete two-story bank building was designed by C. Edward Ware Associates of Rockford, Illinois, in conjunction with Midland Architects of Burlington. Ed Ware designed more than 100 churches, numerous banks, several junior colleges and many residences in northern Illinois and around the country after moving to Rockford in 1946. The bank planned to operate on the first story, with the second story office space for lease. The First National Bank moved from the northwest corner of Jefferson and Main to its completed \$1.4 million building on the southwest corner in August 1974. The bank features a wide expanse of glass for the main entry from Jefferson Street into the lobby, with a wide sidewalk planned to coordinate with the future plans for Jefferson Street. A side entry was located from Main Street, with the drive-in banking facility accessed from Main and Valley streets. The bank had four teller bays for drive-in customers, a walk-up window, night depository, and customer parking on the ground level. Witte Drug Store then expanded into the 1958 section of the old bank to the north ("First National building plan gets mid-June 'go,'" *Hawk-Eye*, June 4, 1972, 1; "First National Makes Its Move," *Hawk-Eye*, August 25, 1974, 3; "C. Edward Ware," *Rockford Register Star*, June 20, 2012).

Banks of Iowa sold its interest in First National Bank of Burlington to Firststar Corp. of Milwaukee, Wis. in 1991. The bank then became a branch of Firststar Banks of Iowa. ("Will bank merger mania extend to southeast Iowa?" *Hawk-Eye*, September 3, 1995, 1D). In 2001, Firststar Bank became US Bank. At the northeast corner of the bank, there is a John Witte memorial plaque, which was installed on June 7, 2001. US Bank continues to operate in this building.

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First National Bank

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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.

Des Moines County Historical Society (DMCHS). Collection of historic photographs, Burlington, IA.

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.

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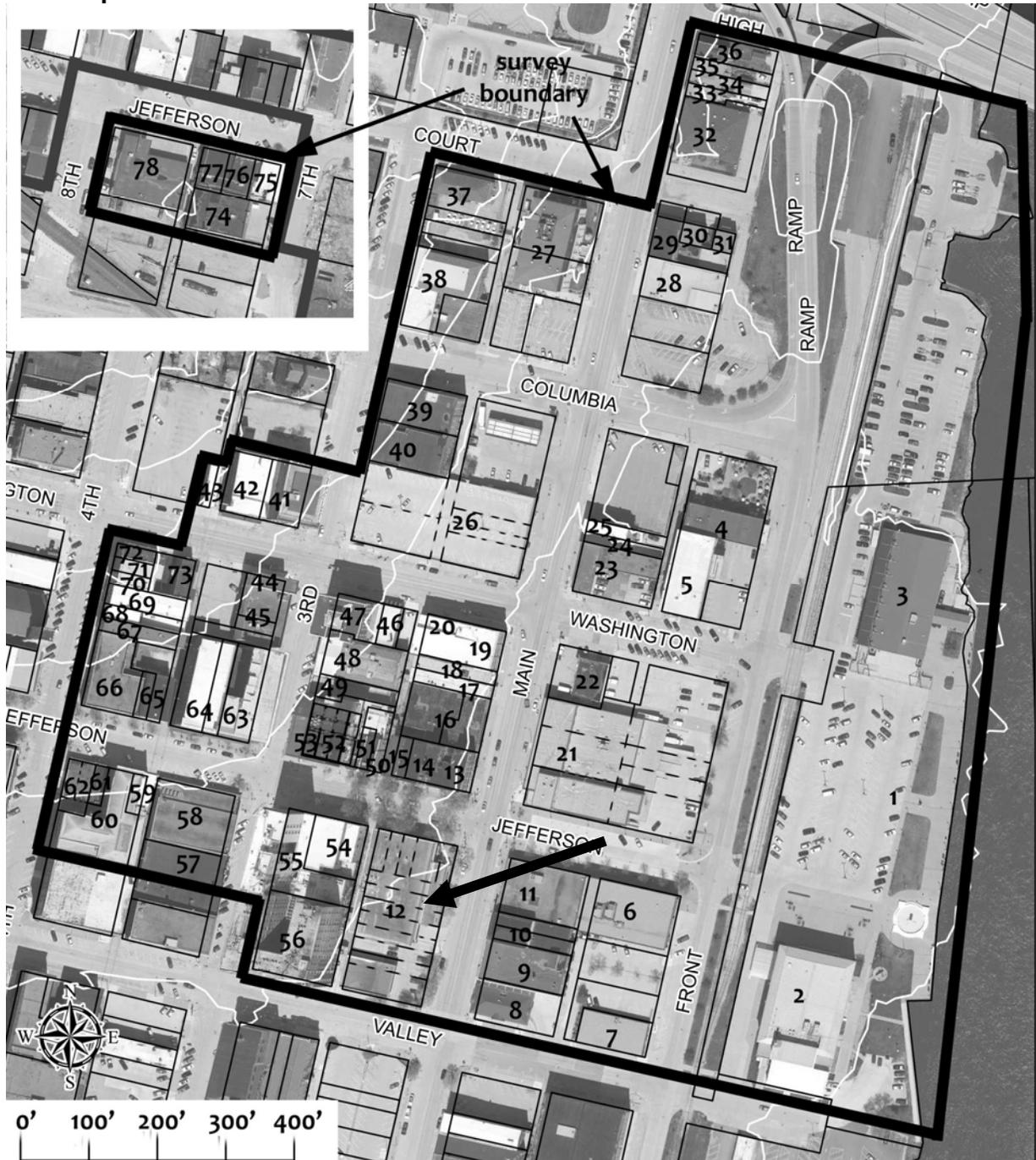
First National Bank  
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**Location map**



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

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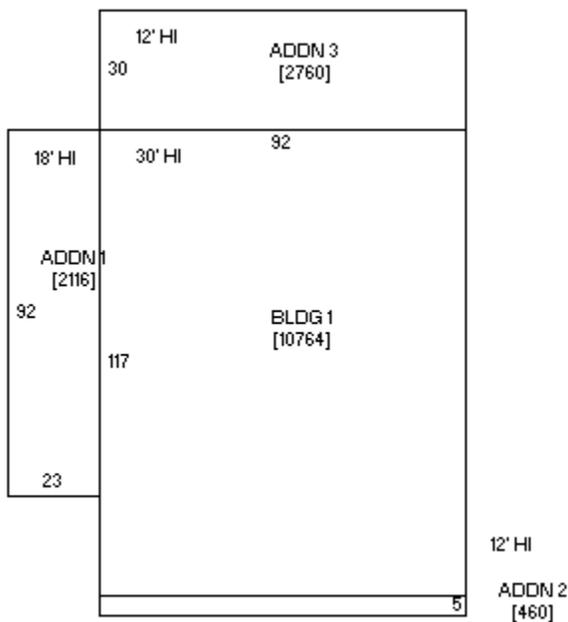
201 Jefferson Street

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## Building plan (from assessor's website)



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**Historic images**



East and north sides, looking southwest in the 1970s (Des Moines County Historical Society files)

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North side, looking southeast in the 1970s (Des Moines County Historical Society files)

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**Current aerial view of block (from assessor's website)**



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**Digital photographs**



**Photograph 29-01083-001 – Bank and connected drive-in bank, looking northwest (McCarley, November 15, 2012).**

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Photograph 29-01083-002 – East and north elevations, looking southwest (McCarley, June 20, 2012).

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Photograph 29-01083-003 – North and west elevations, looking southeast (McCarley, November 15, 2012).

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Photograph 29-01083-004 – South and east elevations, looking northwest (McCarley, November 15, 2012).

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**Photograph 29-01083-005 – Drive-in section of bank on south portion of lot, looking northwest (McCarley, November 15, 2012).**