

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

State Inventory No. 29-01085  New  Supplemental  
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 29-01085  
 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 Denise Building  
 other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-51

**2. Location**

street & number 214 Jefferson  
 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) 252 middle 20' (1/3) of E 60' (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		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>02E03 dry goods (boots &amp; shoes, clothing)</u>	<u>02B04 insurance office</u>
<u>02E06 jewelry store</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>04C limestone</u>
<u>05A: Late Victorian Gothic</u>	walls (visible material) <u>03 brick</u>
	roof <u>15C01 rubber membrane</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 214 Jefferson Site Number 29-01085  
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 1878  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 Hal Morton, HPC member (research by Barb Mackey) Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport  
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date January 21, 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>Denise Building</u> Name of Property	<u>Des Moines</u> County
<u>214 Jefferson</u> Address	<u>Burlington</u> City

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## 7. Narrative Description

This is a three-story brick building, facing Jefferson to the south. The elaborate High Gothic / Victorian facade dates to work done in 1879, mimicking the original Schramm building to the east. The 1976 survey form states: "This building is an excellent example of the Victorian Gothic in Burlington displaying a polychromatic exterior finish. The brick building is highlighted by stone bands, window headers and keystones, and stone trim embellishing the pilasters. Ornamental pressed brick, varied colored tiles, and incised carvings decorate the wall surface. The building is a focal point in downtown Burlington."

The storefront remodel work was completed in 2010, replaced the brick storefront installed in 1966. The storefront has recessed entries on either side of a center display window, entering the storefront on the left and the upper story apartments on the right. The second and third stories each have three one-over-one-light double-hung windows set within elaborate brick pilasters with stone bases and stone detail for the lintels above the windows. The building has wider decorative brick pilasters, again with stone bases and capitals for each story and decorative brick fluting. The frieze has inset stone panels with diamond details, brick "pilasters" with corbeling and fluting, and a course of decorative soldier brick turned on corner. The elaborate metal cornice has decorative ends and smaller brackets.

## 8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Denise Building appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the potential Downtown Commercial Historic District. The High Gothic / Victorian architecture of this building, along with the restored twin building to the east, represent two of the most elaborate commercial buildings intact from this period in Burlington. Additionally, Rapp's Jewelry Store was a significant downtown business from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century until 1976. Thus, this building contributes historically and architecturally to the potential district. The building was evaluated an individually eligible under Criterion C for listing on the National Register of Historic Places in the 1976-77 survey, and it appears to remain individually eligible for its architecture.

This small commercial block building was probably originally constructed in the 1860s as a plain brick storefront 20 feet wide along Jefferson. The west half of the east 40' of Lot 252 was owned by O.H. Schenck per the first entry in the transfer books. He sold the property to D. Denise on July 7, 1868. Census records indicate that Denise (Dennis?) Denise was a pork packer in 1860 and retired in 1880, so this property appears to have been an investment/rental property. A photograph from around 1865 shows a two-story building on this lot, with a three-story building to the east at 212 Jefferson. The old address for 214 was 40 Jefferson. The 1866 and 1869 city directory list S.H. and G. Burnett, book sellers and stationers, at this address, and Albert Wilkins then sold boots and shoes here per the 1876 and 1879 city directory. On July 1, 1879, the *Hawk-Eye* reported that "The Denise house, formerly occupied by Al Wilkin, (who sells boots and shoe) is being extensively repaired. It will have a handsome plate glass front, similar to the Schramm store" (*Hawk-Eye*, July 1, 1879, 4). In August, it noted: "The new Denise building on Jefferson street is nearly completed. The front, being the exact duplicate of the Schramm block next to it, makes of the two a very handsome building" (*Hawk-Eye*, August 5, 1879, 4).

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A new stone sidewalk was laid in front of the “new Denise building” and Schramm building later in the month (*Hawk-Eye*, August 12, 1879, 4; *Hawk-Eye*, August 13, 1879, 4). The building was described as “so transformed is it by a few months' skillful labor; that the oldest inhabitant wouldn't recognize it, and it is a delight to the eyes. Mr. Denise has indeed placed us under a debt of gratitude for placing so handsome a building in the room of the old one” (*Hawk-Eye*, September 3, 1879, 4). Thus, while the building likely has an older foundation and some older walls, the façade, three story height, and historic integrity dates to 1879.

Similar to 212 Jefferson, 214 was generally home to boot and shoe makers, clothing retailers and jewelers and watchmakers. William L. Linder had moved his men's clothing store into 214 Jefferson from 120 Jefferson by the 1881 city directory, and he remained here through the 1880s and into the 1890s. His store relocated another block to the west (312 Jefferson) by 1896. The 1892 Sanborn map shows the 20 by 60 foot, three-story building. The 1896 city directory lists Holstein Brothers (news stand and cigar manufacturers) as well as Jose Voelkel (jeweler) at 214 Jefferson. By 1902, only Herman J. Holstein is listed here, noted as manufacturing cigars in the building. He is last listed here in the 1910 city directory. He is noted in a later article as operating here for 18 years.

In 1912, Edward Rapp moved his jewelry store to 214 Jefferson from 221 Jefferson, with the demolition of this building for the new Iowa State Saving Bank (“Edward Rapp to Buy Jefferson St. Site,” *Hawk-Eye*, March 17, 1926, 7). The jewelry business would be continued here through 1976. The 1910 census lists Edward Rapp as proprietor of a jewelry store at age 50, with wife Flora and sons Herbert E (23, jewelry salesman) and Paul F. (10). The 1916 city directory lists Edward Rapp running a jewelry store here and living with wife Flora on S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street. In 1920, Herbert E. Rapp, optometrist, is also listed here, living on N. 3<sup>rd</sup> with wife Clara. Edward Rapp is then listed here through the 1920s and 1930s. In 1923, the estate of Mary E. Denise transferred the property to heirs, and they sold the building to Edward Rapp on April 1, 1926. By 1930, son Paul F. Rapp is listed as the manager of Edward Rapp Jewelry. The 1940 city directory lists the store as selling jewelry, diamonds, watches, and silverware, as well as repairing watches and jewelry. Two other major jewelers operated in town through this period, the Baumle-Anderson Company and Paule Jewelry Company. Edward Rapp is last listed as associated with the jewelry store in the 1942 city directory. The property was inherited by sons Herbert and Paul upon his death. The 1945 city directory then lists Rapp's Jewelry Store as owned by son Paul F. Rapp. The 1940 census indicates that Paul F. (age 39) was a partner in Rapp Jewelry, living with wife Mary Cady and son Edwin Cady (11 months). The 1947 city directory continues to list Rapp's Jewelry Store as selling jewelry, diamonds, watches, and silverware, as well as repairing watches and jewelry. Rapp's Jewelry Store continued to be listed here through the 1950s and into the 1960s. Herbert and Clara Rapp transferred their interest in the property to Paul F. Rapp in April 1959.

The J.S. Schramm Company, which operated to the west at 216-222 Jefferson, bought the building in August 1965, immediately filling most of the building with its growing enterprise. They also leased the upper stories of 212 Jefferson to the east at this time. The front 30' of the first story was retained for Rapp's Jewelry Store. They invested money in the new building, remodeling the storefront of Rapp's Jewelry Store in 1966 with a modern appearance (“Plan Store Remodeling,” *Hawk-Eye*, November 8,

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1965, 3; "New Store Fronts Added Across City," *Hawk-Eye*, July 13, 1966, 11). Rapp's Jewelry Store continued to operate here through 1976.

In 1976, J.S. Schramm Co expanded into former Rapp jewelry store, the only 1,200 square feet that they didn't occupy on this half block from 212-222 Jefferson. The sportswear department opened on the first story, and they also remodeled the second story for boys, girls, and infants departments ("Schramm expands," *Hawk-Eye*, 7/25/1976, p. 20; "Burlington Business Community was and still is expansion minded," *Hawk-Eye*, January 30, 1977, 11). In 1984 Thomas Read, Jr. retired, leaving John Randolph (great-grandson of John S. Schramm) at the head of the business ("Familiar store adapts to challenges," *Hawk-Eye*, February 19, 1995, 48). In 1987, the property transferred from J.S. Schramm Company to John and Susan Randolph. By the 1990s, J.S. Schramm Company was struggling against new market forces, and downsizing happened much more quickly than its growth over its first 125 years. By time of their 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1995, Schramm's had closed its top two floors. John Randolph remained as president, with wife Susan as vice president. The store had phased out the bridal business in mid-1990s. They had become more of a specialty store for women and children, as well as operating a gift shop. They closed top two floors in 1994 and had opened Schramm's Kids across street from main store ("Familiar store adapts to challenges," *Hawk-Eye*, February 19, 1995, 48). In October 1996, J.S. Schramm Company announced that it would close after liquidating its inventory. It was noted at the time as the downtown's oldest and largest retailer ("107-year-old gem closes," *Hawk-Eye*, November 10, 1996, 1D). They closed their doors one final time in 1997.

The Randolphs restored and renovated the building in 1996 with an apartment on the top two floors, and a modest retail space on the first floor, retaining the 1966 storefront. The Randolphs undertook a more major restoration of 212 Jefferson, the twin of 214 to the east ("At home downtown," *Hawk-Eye*, October 27, 1996, 1). Both restoration efforts were well received in the community, and have helped launch a trend of downtown redevelopment with a special focus on upper story residential development. In December 2004, the building was sold with the remainder of the Schramm/Randolph property on the block to Robert and Suzanne Brueck. Allstate Insurance currently operates here.

## 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.

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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

Specific articles:

"Holiday trade, S.H. & G. Burnett – advertisement", 3/1/1865, Daily Hawk-Eye, p. 1.  
"Albert Wilkins – advertisement", 9/12/1874, Daily Hawk-Eye, p. 8.  
"Jefferson Street from Third to Front Fifty Years Ago", 11/16/1913, Hawk-Eye, p. 37.  
"Edward Rapp to buy Jefferson St. Site", 3/17/1926, Hawk-Eye, p.7.  
"Shop in the 200 Block – Jefferson Street – the Heart of Burlington", 4/20/1927, Hawk-Eye, p. 9.  
"An Old Time Block", 9/15/1933, Daily Hawk-Eye Gazette, p. 2.  
"Rapp's Jewelry Store – advertisement", 8/4/1945.  
"Fix-ups are as vital as new projects", 12/5/1971, Sunday Hawk-Eye, p. 27.  
"At home downtown", 10/27/1996, Hawk-Eye, p. 1.

*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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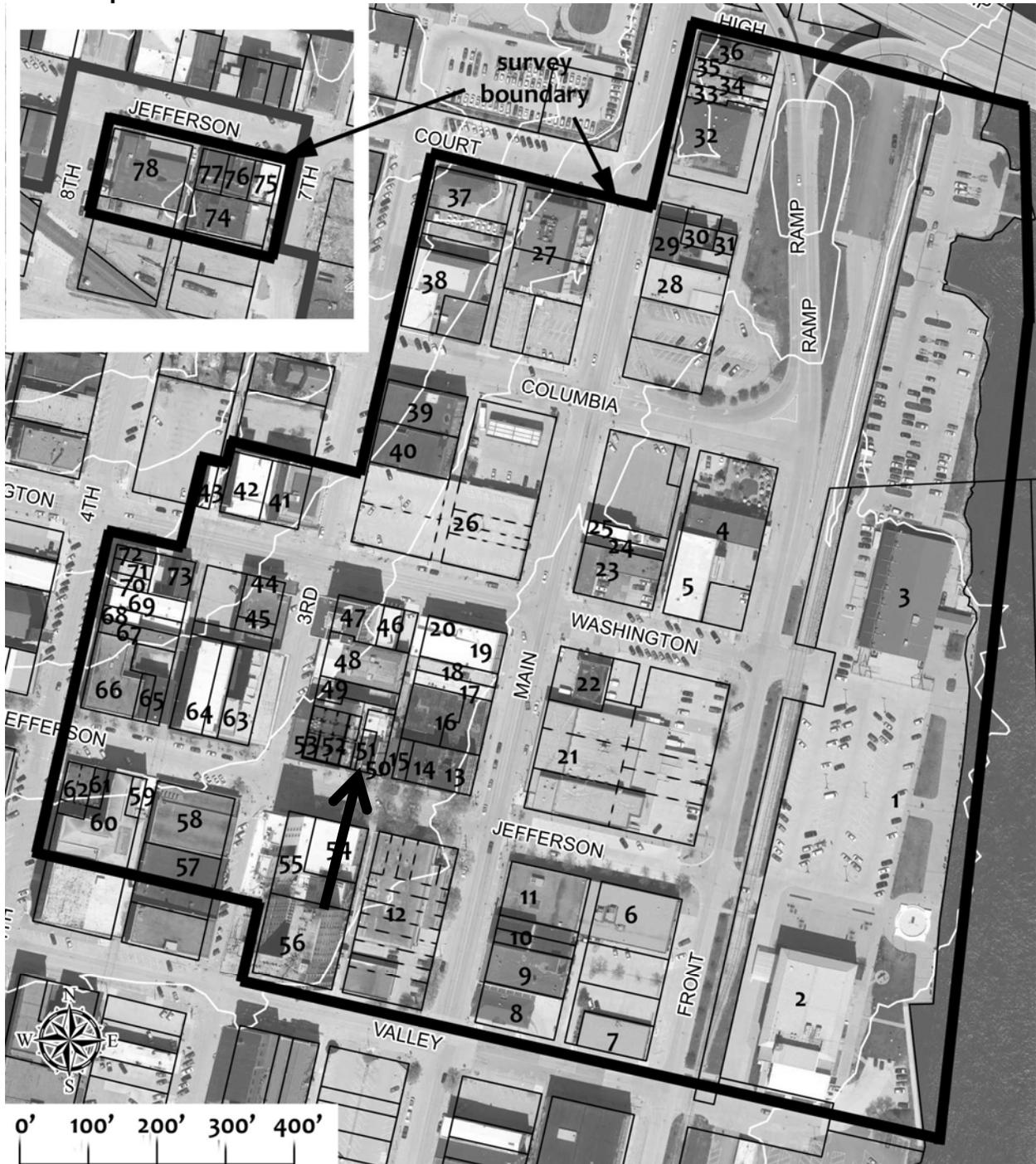
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**Location map**



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

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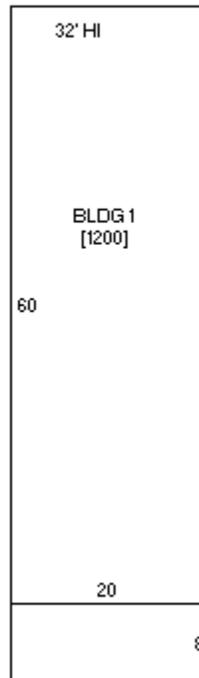
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## Building plan (from assessor's website)



MTL CANOPY  
[160]

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## Historic images



214 212

Jefferson Street, looking east from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street around 1890 (Downtown Partners collection)

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222                      220 - 218                      216    214    212

**J.S. Schramm Company in 1910s, with Rapp Jewelry at right (Downtown Partners collection)**

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222 220-218 216 214 212

Looking west on 200 block of Jefferson around 1930 (Downtown Partners collection).

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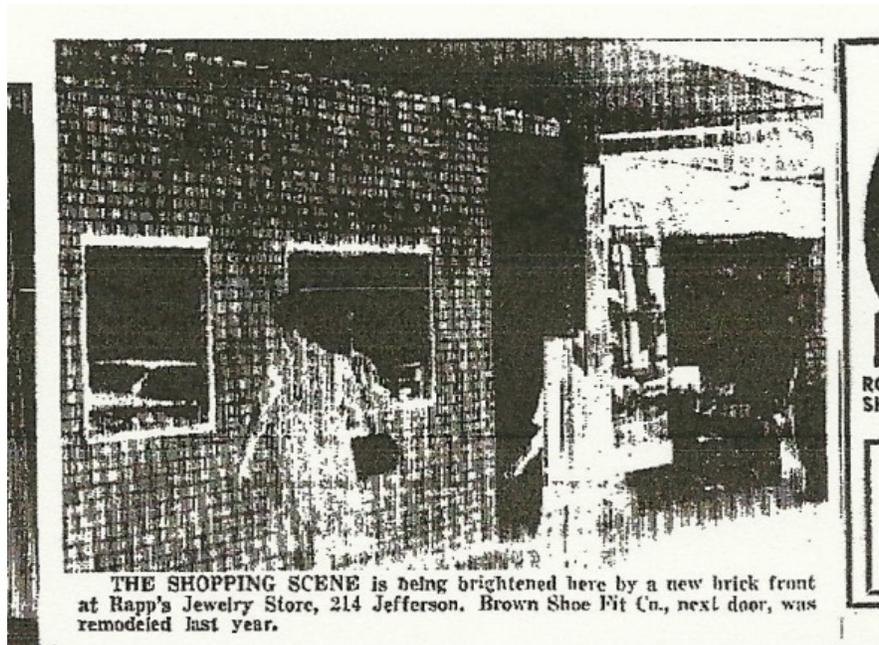
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Rapp's Jewelry Store in 1966 (*Hawk-Eye*, July 13, 1966, 10)



Storefront in 2009 before remodel in 2010 (Downtown Partners collection).

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## Digital photographs



Photograph 29-01085-001 – South elevation, looking north (McCarley, November 15, 2012).

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Photograph 29-01085-002 – 214 Jefferson with restored twin at 212 Jefferson to east, looking northwest (McCarley, November 15, 2012).

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Photograph 29-01085-003 – Detail of upper stories, looking north (McCarley, November 15, 2012).

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Photograph 29-01085-004 – Detail of storefront, looking north (McCarley, November 15, 2012).