

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

State Inventory No. 29-03661 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 Boesch Building
 other names/site number Burlington Spice Mills, Burlington Plumbing and Heating, Downtown Survey Map # DT-25

2. Location

street & number 410 N. Main 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) S 18' of N 30' of Lot 82

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>02E: Commerce – specialty store</u>	<u>01A01: Domestic - residence</u>
<u>02A: Commerce – business - plumbing</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>05B: Italianate</u>	walls (visible material) <u>03: Brick</u>
_____	roof <u>08B: Asphalt / rolled</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 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 410 N. Main Street Site Number 29-03661
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

Significant Dates

Construction date 1873 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 Kristin Lampe and Barb Mackey, volunteers Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date December 17, 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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<u>Boesch Building</u>	<u>Des Moines</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>410 N. Main St</u>	<u>Burlington</u>
Address	City

7. Narrative Description

This is a three-story, three-bay brick commercial building built after a 1873 fire at the same time as the building to the south (408) and now demolished buildings to the north. The first story has been recessed, creating a residential recessed front porch. It has a wood porch railing flush with the rest of the building front, and a new wall has been constructed back about six feet with the entry and windows. A residential front door is at the right/south and to the left is a large picture window flanked by hung sidelight windows and decorative shutters. A cloth awning obscures the upper portion of the storefront. The entire storefront has been remodeled/redesigned within the last 15 years. The second and third stories each have three windows. The detailing is simpler than the adjacent building at 408, with simple segmental arch brick lintels and stone sills for each window. The double-hung openings have replacement windows of ten lights. The central window on each level is smaller and set into the larger window frame. The building is framed in pilasters that also appear on the building to the south at 408. The detail of the cornice of the building is shared with 408 N. Main St. to the south, and it appears to have continued onto buildings to the north built at the same time as well. It has brick corbeling and a brick "bracket" between each bay and centered on each pilaster. The south wall is a party wall with 408. The north wall was formerly shared with a now-demolished building and has no openings. The entire east (rear) wall has been covered by siding. A metal balcony and stairway structure has been added to the rear on all three levels for a fire escape for the residential use.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Boesch Building appears to contribute historically to the potential Downtown Commercial Historic District. The recommended boundary for this historic district includes this portion of this block. The history of the building strongly contributes to the historic significance of the potential district. The building reflects the reconstruction of this area following the 1873 fire, and it stands with the adjacent building at 408 as the last two buildings reflecting this history on this block. The Burlington Steam Coffee and Spice Mills operated here from 1874 to 1886, and it was the only business of this type in Burlington during its early years of operation. The Burlington Plumbing and Heating Company later operated here for 73 years from 1913 to 1986. These businesses are significant within the commercial history of Burlington, and the building retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district. With the conversion to a residence and associated storefront and window changes, the building does not appear to retain sufficient historic integrity to be individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C.

This building was erected in 1873 following the fire that devastated four blocks between Washington and Court, Front and 3rd Streets ("From Dust and Ashes," *Hawk-Eye*, August 17, 1873, 4; *Burlington Daily Hawk-Eye*, September 19, 1873, page 4). At that time, it was owned by John Boesch, who built a three-story building on the site to replace the one that had burned. Shortly after the building was completed, it was rented to Stephenson and Givens Bros., who operated Burlington Steam Coffee and Spice Mills ("A Spicy Article," *Burlington Daily Hawk-Eye*, January 24, 1874, page 4). August Kriechbaum joined the business in 1875. In 1879, Kriechbaum and Givens are listed as proprietors of the spice mill. Givens then retired in 1880, and the Burlington Spice Mills were then run by Kriechbaum

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410 N. Main St
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& Warth. The company was noted as outgrowing its facility in 1881 ("Spice Mills," *Hawk-Eye*, January 2, 1881, 4). By 1883, the company was run by Leopold Krieg. The spice business changed partners frequently until 1886, when Leopold Krieg retired.

In the 1890 directory, a cigar manufacturer called Hene & Co. is listed here. The 1892 Sanborn map also shows a cigar factory here.

The 1896 city directory lists A.L. Pierson & Son second hand store at 410 N. Main. The Pierson family also living at 410 N. Main. The 1900 and 1902-03 city directories likewise list the store and family living here. A second hand store continued here in 1906, now run by W.F. Luke, who also lived at this address. In 1910, F.H. Sowden, sign painter, is listed here.

On April 14, 1913, articles of incorporation were filed for Burlington Plumbing & Heating Company by Arthur L. Grotewohl and George C. Niewohner, which then opened at 410 N. Main (*Hawk-Eye*, April 14, 1913, 8). This business remained here for its entire existence, finally closing its doors in April 1986. A.L. Grotewohl is listed as the president initially, with G.C. Niewohner as secretary-treasurer. This arrangement continued through the 1910s and into the 1920s. By 1928, Niewohner is no longer listed, with A.L. Grotewohl as president and treasurer. He continued to be listed with the company in 1930. In 1930, there were nine plumbing companies in Burlington. Ralph M. Brueck started with the company in the 1910s as an apprentice, and he learned the plumbing trade from Art Grotewohl. In 1931, Ralph M. Brueck took over the company as its president ("Brueck Chose a Wrench Instead of Butcher Knife," *Hawk-Eye*, June 17, 1962, 21).

The 1933 directory lists Ralph M. Brueck as president with Herbert F. Schwartz as secretary-treasurer. They continued in these capacities through the 1940s and into the 1950s until 1957. Ralph's sons joined the company, then with John M. Brueck listed as secretary-treasurer and Lloyd R. Brueck noted as vice president. The Burlington Plumbing & Heating was honored for 50 years in business in June 1962. Ralph was president, with Lloyd as vice president and John as secretary-treasurer. The firm was noted as having worked on the Hotel Burlington, high school, Case plant, Campbell Chain, and Modern Welding ("Brueck Chose a Wrench Instead of Butcher Knife," *Hawk-Eye*, June 17, 1962, 21). Ralph Brueck was the oldest member of the local Plumbers and Steamfitters Union in 1971, still active in Burlington Plumbing & Heating Company at age 72. Lloyd was noted as having joined the company in 1941, with John joining in 1952 ("People you should know," *Hawk-Eye*, August 15, 1971, 23).

Lloyd took over as president after his father's death, serving until his death in 1978. John Brueck then became president and continued the business with his twin sons Dan and Don. They continued to operate Burlington Plumbing & Heating Company until it closed on April 30, 1986 after 73 years in business. Slowdowns in the construction industry was noted as the reason for closing the business ("Plumbing firm to close," *Hawk-Eye*, April 29, 1986, 6A).

In 1989, the building was sold to its present owner, Sam Jennison. It is currently a private residence.

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Boesch Building
Name of Property

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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.

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.

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

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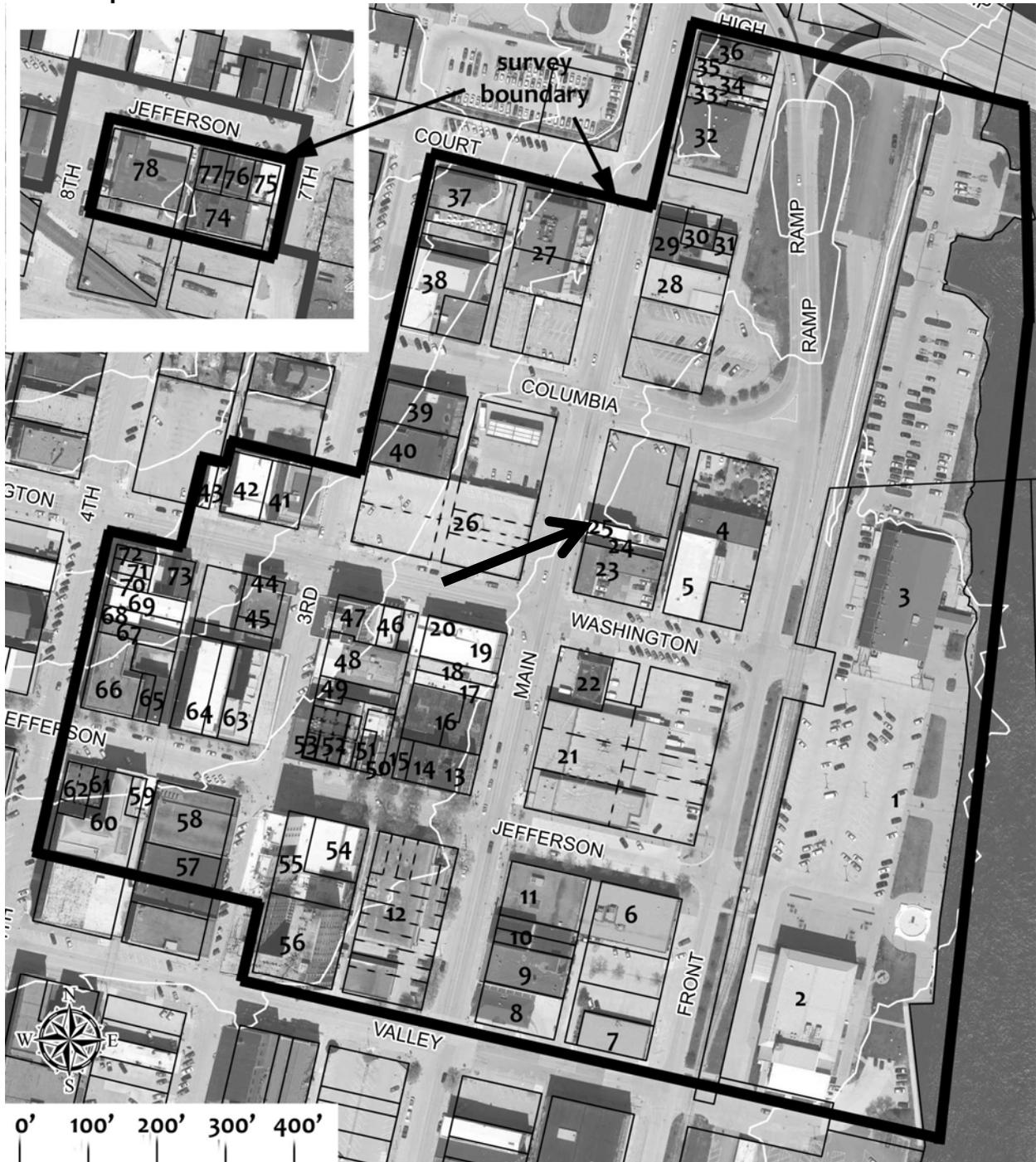
Boesch Building
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Des Moines
County

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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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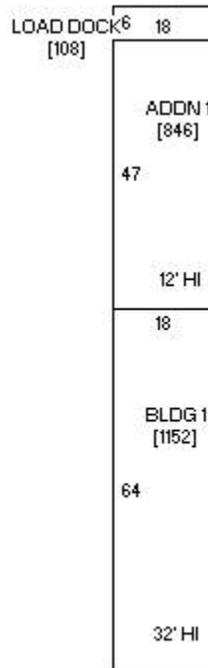
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Building plan (from assessor's website)



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Historic images



View of building from around 1977 (Downtown Partners collection).

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Digital photographs



410

408

Photograph 29-03661-001 – Detail of west elevation, looking northeast (McCarley, June 20, 2012).

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Photograph 29-03661-002 – Detail of west elevation, looking northeast (McCarley, June 20, 2012).