

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

State Inventory No. 29-03680 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 Bennett Tire and Battery Company
 other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-77

2. Location

street & number 709-711 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) _____ West 39' of Lot 924

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: | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | Enter number of: | | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | — | buildings | <u>1</u> | — |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | — | sites | — | — |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | — | structures | — | — |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | — | objects | — | — |
| | — | Total | <u>1</u> | — |

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>02E01: Commerce / auto supplies</u> | <u>02E10: Commerce / appliance sales and service</u> |
| <u>14D09: Commerce / auto service</u> | _____ |
| <u>02E10: Commerce / appliance sales and service</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> |
| _____ | walls (visible material) <u>03: Brick</u> |
| _____ | roof <u>15C01: Synthetics (EPDM)</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 707-709 Jefferson Street Site Number 29-03680
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 1855 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation c.1920

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 Mary B. Luttenegger, volunteer Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date October 24, 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

Bennett Tire and Battery Company
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

709-711 Jefferson
Address

Burlington
City

7. Narrative Description

This is a two-story brick commercial building. It was constructed as a double-storefront building, within the McCash Block of four additional storefronts to the east. The block was divided into three double-storefront sections, sold separately in the early 20th century and then each remodeled. This section (west 39') has a multi-color brick façade that would be typical of the 1910s or 1920s, different from and likely earlier than the two buildings to the east. The storefront was remodeled for a single entry near the center, with the same brick continuing as bulkhead under the storefront windows. The storefront was remodeled in the 1980s, with new large windows installed. The second story has four one-over-one-light double-hung windows with stone sills and soldier brick lintels. The right side of the building is covered in red aluminum siding.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Bennett Tire and Battery Company appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the potential Downtown Commercial Historic District. This block was excluded from the West Jefferson Street Historic District due to its early 20th century brick façade. This cladding falls within the period of significance for the Downtown Commercial Historic District, and it is significant among efforts to improve buildings downtown in this period. The building may be individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the Bennett Tire and Battery Company. The company started in this building in 1917, remaining here until 1930. During this period, it grew from the home office to a chain of stores in southeast Iowa. Assessment of the interior integrity and further information on the company would be needed to solidify this determination.

The core of this building was constructed between 1850 and 1855. In 1850, George Gearhart sold Lot 924-east 39' to Daniel Doffelmeyer for \$135.00 (Deed book 15, p 121). Daniel & Virginia Doffelmeyer sold Lot 924-east 39' to Wm D. McCash on June 3, 1855 for \$1,700 (Deed book 19, p625). Newspaper ads reference the McCash Block on Jefferson between 7th and 8th Street, and a note was included in the March 14, 1894 *Hawk-Eye* that the block was receiving a fresh coat of paint. In 1886 this block (701-711 Jefferson) appeared on the first Sanborn map for Burlington. In the 1886 city directory, 709 Jefferson was a grocery store run by G. W. Knobbs & M. E. Duffy. 711 Jefferson was a picture frames and book store. In the 1892 city directory, 709 Jefferson was a cigar store run by Joseph Dehner and at 711 Jefferson, John Renner sold paints, oils, picture frames books and wallpaper. In the 1900-01 city directory, 709 Jefferson was a machine repair shop owned by Albert Stiefel. At 711 Jefferson, John P. Weis owned a musical instruments shop. In the 1910-11 city directory, Albert Stiefel is still running his machine repair shop at 709 Jefferson. And at 711 Jefferson J. P. Weis and wife Caroline are the owners of a piano store.

In 1913, ownership began to change. Grace McCash owned the full McCash Block (701-711 Jefferson in 1910, selling the east third (39', 701-703) to Joseph Cannella (Deed book 112, p.50). Grace McCash transferred this portion of the property (middle 39' or east half of west 78') to Cyrenius McCash, trustee, on March 12, 1913. The remainder of the McCash block – west 78' of Lot 924 – was the sold at auction in December 1913 to Milton M. Dayton for \$11,000, with proceeds split among the heirs. This portion

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 2

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| <u>Bennett Tire and Battery Company</u> | <u>Des Moines</u> |
| Name of Property | County |
| <u>709-711 Jefferson</u> | <u>Burlington</u> |
| Address | City |

(west 78') was then sold to Henry Koestner on December 18, 1913. The multi-color brick on the façade suggests it was remodeled in the 1910s or 1920s. Koestner may have completed this work as early as 1914, but it would have been more likely not done earlier than 1918 when Bennett moved into both halves of the building. A firm date was not established through this research.

Bennett Tire and Battery Company was organized in 1917, starting in the west storefront at 711 Jefferson. The company grew rapidly, and they expanded into quarters to the east at 709 Jefferson in 1918. The 1920 city directory lists them at 709-711 Jefferson. On February 20, 1924, H. C. Koestner and wife sold the west 39' of Lot 924 (only 709-711 portion) to Minda Bennett. The current multi-color brick façade may have been installed at this time. In 1925, they expanded to the west into a new building for their battery department and to provide drive-in service (demolished). The 1926 city directory lists Bennett Tire and Battery Company at 709-711 Jefferson. The company sold Goodyear tires. By 1926, they had a chain of stores, including locations in Fort Madison, Keokuk, Clinton, and Ottumwa ("Bennett Co. is Expanding," *Burlington Hawk-Eye*, July 18, 1926, 16). In September 1927, Bennett Tire & Battery negotiated a lease on the former Falick building east of their quarters at 705-707 Jefferson. The interior was remodeled for the retail sales department, which sold Goodyear Tires and Willard Batteries ("Tire Company Leases Former Falick Building," *Hawk-Eye*, October 1, 1927, 4). The 1928 city directory then lists the company at 705-717 Jefferson, expanded into the storefronts in this portion of the block. N.N. Bennett is president, V.N. Bennett is vice president, and M.M. Eppers is secretary. In the 1930 city directory, Bennett Tire & Battery Co. continued to be listed at 705-717 Jefferson. Ms. Minda Bennett sold the property to Bennett Building Co. on September 19, 1930 (Transfer book 7, p. 244). The 1931 Sanborn map shows the four storefronts from 705 to 711 connected, with the office at 711 and a one-story building across the alley to the west at 713-715 for tire service (extending onto Gilbert-Hedge Company's lumber yard). In 1931, they moved to the southeast corner of Jefferson and 7th Street, where they are listed in the 1935 city directory. The 1937 city directory lists Bennett Tire and Battery Co at that corner, 617-619 Jefferson (demolished – vacant lot). Bennett continued to own this portion of this property until 1982.

The 1935 city directory lists H.E. Chamberlain at 709 and Wilson Garage at 711. In the 1940 city directory, 709 Jefferson is a radio repair shop owner by Lloyd Johnson and 711 Jefferson was a auto repair shop owned by Edward Siefken & James Mitchell. There were 10 radio supply stores in Burlington and 17 auto repair stores in the 1940 city directory. In 1951 the city directory has 709 vacant and 711 Jefferson occupied by The Bennett Company, home supplies warehouse. In the 1960 city directory, Fox Appliance is located at 709 Jefferson, owner Walter C. Fox. 711 Jefferson is also part of Fox Appliance Co. In the 1970 city directory, Fox Appliance is still at 709 Jefferson and 711 Jefferson.

Then on 8/30/1982, Gary N. Bennett sold the property (west 39') to Fox Appliance Co., who had previously bought the property to the east at 705-707 Jefferson in 1977. On 12/6/2002, Fox Appliance sold the property (west 78' of Lot 924) to Direct Maytag, Inc. (2002/009241). At this time Direct Maytag is running an appliance business in both buildings at 707 and 711 Jefferson.

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Site Number 29-03680

Related District Number 29-03685

Page 3

Bennett Tire and Battery Company

Des Moines

Name of Property

County

709-711 Jefferson

Burlington

Address

City

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.

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.

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

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 4

Bennett Tire and Battery Company
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

709-711 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 29-03680

Related District Number 29-03685

Page 5

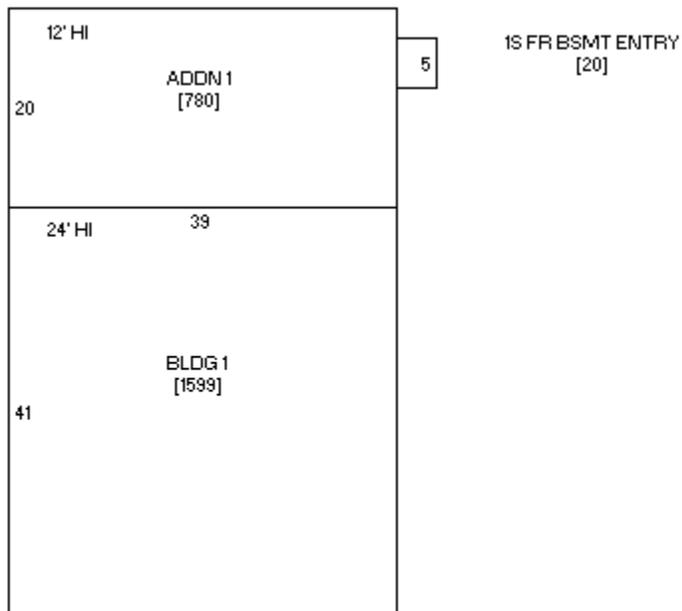
Bennett Tire and Battery Company
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

709-711 Jefferson
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Burlington
City

Building plan (from assessor's website)



Historic images

none identified

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

Site Number 29-03680
Related District Number 29-03685

Page 6

Bennett Tire and Battery Company
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Digital photographs



Photograph 29-03680-001 – North and west elevations, looking southeast (McCarley, June 20, 2012).