

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

State Inventory No. 29-00186 New Supplemental
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) _____
 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 Turner Hall Gymnasium
 other names/site number Burlington Gym, 2009-10 Survey Field Site #WH-39

2. Location

street & number 129 S. 4th St.
 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) 519 – S64.3' OF N104.3'

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	—	— buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> district	—	sites	—	— sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site	—	structures	—	— structures
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	—	objects	—	— objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object	—	Total	—	— 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 Survey of the "warehouse district" in Burlington, Des Moines County, Iowa Historical Architectural Data Base Number 29-029

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>08E01: Recreation and Culture/Sports Facility/ Gymnasium</u>	<u>08E01: Recreation and Culture/Sports Facility/Gym</u>
<u>03A: Social/Meeting Hall</u>	<u>03A: Social/Meeting Hall</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>05: Victorian</u>	foundation <u>04C: Stone/Limestone</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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" 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 129 S. 4th St Site Number 29-00186
City Burlington District Number _____

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)

Significant Dates

Construction date 1891 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 David Roed , Volunteer Rebecca Lawin McCarley, Consultant, Davenport, IA
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date 03-03-10
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

Turner Hall Gymnasium

Des Moines

Name of Property

County

129 S. 4th Street

Burlington

Address

City

7. Narrative Description

This is a one-story brick building that was built for the gymnasium for Turner Hall in 1891. The north two-thirds of the building were constructed on this time, with the south and west addition constructed in the early 20th century. The design of the original façade was carried into this addition. The original façade had a central entry with a bay on either side with two four-over-four-light double-hung wood windows. These window openings have been filled with brick since 1977, and a modern door has been installed. The south addition continues the pattern of bays divided by brick pilasters, with a window in the south bay and the north bay consisting of a window and entry. A simple metal cornice extends across the top of the building. A concrete ramp has been added to access the north entry as well. The design with pilasters and inset bays with single windows continues on the north side, with these windows covered. This detail was not repeated for the south side of the addition, which has three opening that have been filled with brick.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Turner Hall Gymnasium falls outside any identified or potential historic district. Its potential eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is limited by the integrity of the building. The building was constructed in 1891 for a gymnasium associated with Turner Hall, located at 137 S. 4th Street (demolished). Turner Hall later moved solely into this building. Thus, this building is strongly associated with the social history of Burlington, beginning with the late influence of the German immigrants and evolving as a social and recreational venue in the 20th century. The 1977 survey form shows the original appearance of the façade with two entries and four-over-four-light arch windows. The window openings have been filled with brick and new entries installed since this time. Windows on the sides have also been filled with brick or covered. Thus, it is questionable whether the building retains sufficient integrity for significance under Criterion A for its association with the social history of Burlington. Further assessment of the interior and research on this aspect of Burlington history would assist in a final determination of eligibility.

Turner Hall (Halle), also know as Burlington Gymnasium, is the second building added by the Burlington Turngemeinde, a German fraternal organization, to accompany their main building and large meeting hall built at the corner of 4th street and Division (*Hawkeye*, Oct. 24, 1944 and Dec. 16, 1943). The Transfer Book 1 pg 67 shows the date the land was bought by the Burlington Gymnasium Society to be Aug. 7, 1890 and the Sanborn Map of 1892 show the building in place. Per the *Burlington Hawk-Eye* on August 7, 1890: "At a largely attended meeting of the Turners at their hall Tuesday night it was decided to purchase) the eighty feet of vacant ground adjoining on the north and erect thereon a suitable gymnasium building. The plan met with enthusiastic approval and at the meeting a large sum was subscribed towards this worthy object." Work apparently began shortly as the *Burlington Hawk-Eye* reported on April 7, 1891 (p 3): "Workmen are now putting the roof on tile new gymnasium building of the Turner society." The 1892 Sanborn map shows the new building at 129 S. 4th Street as well as the older building at 137 S. 4th Street. The 129 address is listed as Turner Hall in city directories in the 1890s. The 1900 Sanborn map lists the Turner Hall Gymnasium at 129 with Turner Hall at 137. From 1910 to 1924, it is then listed in city directories as Turner Gymnasium. Turner Hall or Gymnasium was

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 2

Turner Hall Gymnasium

Des Moines

Name of Property

County

129 S. 4th Street

Burlington

Address

City

the venue for a variety of social and sporting events in Burlington for decades. Card parties, social events, bunco parties, basketball, boxing, baseball workouts, and community fairs were held here in the 1920s and 1930s. The Burlington Gymnasium Society held an annual Christmas party at Turner Hall as well.

In 1929, the building at the corner became the Railway Veterans' Hall. They remodeled the building in 1947 ("Burlington Railroad Vets Observe 25th Anniversary," *Hawk-Eye Gazette*, April 16, 1947, 2). This corner building was demolished in 1977. In 1928, the address of 129 once again became known as Turner Hall, listed as such into the 1950s. The 1931 Sanborn map shows this building as Turner Hall Gymnasium, with an addition along the south and west sides. Starting in 1940, the Turner Gymnastics Association was also listed here. The 1952 Sanborn map shows the Burlington Gym located here. In 1955, the address is associated with the Burlington Gymnastic Society, the entity that actually owned the property.

The Burlington Gymnasium Society are still the owners, keeping the building with one owner since construction. Burlington Gym continues to operate 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.

Burlington Hawk-Eye, various articles and dates. On microfilm at the Burlington Public Library.

City Directories, Burlington, Iowa, various dates. On microfiche at the Burlington Public Library

Portrait and Biographical Album of Des Moines County, Iowa. Chicago, IL: Acme Publishing Company, 1888.

Sanborn Map Company. "Burlington, Iowa," Fire Insurance Maps. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1886, 1892, 1900, 1931, 1952.

Transfer books, Des Moines County Auditor's Office, Burlington, Iowa

Vertical files, Burlington Public Library, Burlington, Iowa.

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 3

Turner Hall Gymnasium
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

129 S. 4th Street
Address

Burlington
City

Location map



Site plan



Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 4

Turner Hall Gymnasium
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

129 S. 4th Street
Address

Burlington
City

Photograph (digital image)



Façade of building, looking northwest
November 2, 2009
R.L. McCarley

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

Site Number 29-00186
Related District Number _____

Page 5

Turner Hall Gymnasium
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

129 S. 4th Street
Address

Burlington
City



**Façade of building, looking west
November 2, 2009
R.L. McCarley**

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

Site Number 29-00186
Related District Number _____

Page 6

Turner Hall Gymnasium
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

129 S. 4th Street
Address

Burlington
City



**Façade of building, looking southwest
November 2, 2009
R.L. McCarley**

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 7

Turner Hall Gymnasium
Name of Property

Des Moines
County

129 S. 4th Street
Address

Burlington
City



**North side of building, looking southeast
January 12, 2010
R.L. McCarley**