

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

State Inventory No. 29-01642 New Supplemental
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 29-03685, 29-00001
 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 Burlington Fire and Police Station

other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # J-120

2. Location

street & number 412-422 Valley 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) 611, 610, and south 40' of Lot 609

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>	— buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site	— sites	—	— sites
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	— structures	—	— structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object	— objects	—	— objects
	— 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 N/A Historical Architectural Data Base Number _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

04D: Government / fire station

04D: Government / fire station

04C01: Government / police station

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

09F05: Commercial / brick front

foundation 04: Stone

05G: Late Victorian / Romanesque

walls (visible material) 03: Brick

roof 08B: Rolled Asphalt

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 412-422 Valley Street Site Number 29-01642
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 1907 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation 1965, 2003

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 Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport research by Inez Metzger, volunteer
organization Burlington Historic Preservation Commission date February 19, 2014
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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Central Fire and Police Station

Des Moines

Name of Property

County

412-422 Jefferson Street

Burlington

Address

City

7. Narrative Description

This is a two-story Romanesque building designed for use as Central Fire Station and Police Station in 1907. The three-story southeast corner tower stands out from the building. The tower has limestone accents at the base, top of the first story, and top of the tower. The second and third story windows also have limestone lintels and sills. The south elevation along Valley has four large vehicular bays with large wood doors. A centered limestone nameplate reading "Central Fire Station" projects from and extends across the center two bays, supported by brackets. The second story has eight three-over-one-light double-hung windows, spaced in groups of two. The police station section on the east end was remodeled around 1965 to reflect a more modern, streamlined appearance, setting it apart from the fire station. The stone façade has four inset windows bays, with single-light tall windows on each story. The center inset bay is wider for the entry, and it includes a flat canopy and brick columns. A center inset entry bay with three inset window bays to either side is found on the east side. The west elevation retains its arch limestone detail on the first story, with a limestone band across between the stories. The setback section on the west side has two large wood arch doors on the first story, with a center arch filled with brick. Six three-over-one-light double-hung windows extend across the second story, grouped in pairs. The north section of the original building extends out to the sidewalk, and it has two vehicular wood doors under a shared split arch and a second arch opening filled with brick. The second three-over-one-light double-hung windows are paired. A three-story brick hose tower is found on this east end of this section, rising above the roofline. The 2003 addition to the north was designed to complement the original architecture of the building, with similar brick and limestone banding. The addition has three larger vehicular entries with wood doors. "Central Fire Station" is found in a nameplate across the frieze.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Central Fire and Police Station appears to contribute historically to the potential Downtown Commercial Historic District (#29-03685). While it is not a commercial building, the services provided by both the fire department and police department supported the commercial businesses throughout the district. This fire and police station was built in 1907, and it continued to be used as Central Fire Station for Burlington today, with a 2003 addition to the north. The building is currently listed as contributing in the West Jefferson Street Historic District (1991, #29-00001), with the similar rationale that the building provided services for businesses in the district. Further assessment of the interior would be required for a full evaluation of any individual eligibility under Criteria A or C.

This corner lot (Lot 611) was used for the city's Market House and then the earlier building was converted for use as Central Fire Station. Part of the building extended into Lot 610 to the north. Both lots were owned by the city in the earliest transfer books. The north 20' of Lot 610 was sold to George Boeck, who then built a sausage factory at 208 N. 5th Street adjacent to his meat market at 210 N. 5th Street. By 1906, Burlington had 50 miles of water mains, 300 hydrants, and eight fire stations in city (*Burlington Evening Gazette*, March 24, 1906, sec 2, p 1).

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In 1907, the new Burlington Fire and Police Station was constructed. It was designed by local architect Harry I. Goddard and constructed by Cal Anderson (Brower 1991: 8:17; "New Central Fire Station," *Hawk-Eye*, March 21, 1907 p. 7). Around 1905, Harry Irvin Goddard moved to Burlington, practicing only a few years. Per his obituary, Goddard was credited with the designs of three wholesale and manufacturing buildings at 4th and Valley: Churchill Drug company (c.1907, 100-110 N. 4th Street), S.R. & I.C. McConnell building (1908, 312-322 Valley), and Schramm & Schmieg building (1908, 201-205 N. 3rd Street). He also is noted as having designed several Chittenden & Eastman buildings, Central Fire Station, West Burlington bank building, and a number of smaller buildings and residences. Around 1910, he moved to Kansas City where he continued to practice as an architect until he retired ("Former Prominent Architect Dies," *Hawk-Eye Gazette*, February 17, 1948, 2). William F. Weibley worked for Goddard starting in 1906 and then took over his practice when he moved out of town (Shank 1999: 173).

By 1912, the tile roof of the Burlington Fire and Police Station was removed, as the weight proved too heavy for the building. The material was then used for the new South Street Fire Station ("Plans About Completed," *Hawk-Eye*, June 25, 1913, 15).

In "Brief History of the Burlington Fire Department – Burlington, Iowa" by battalion chief Bruce Workman, he writes: "By 1900, the department consisted of 28 men and 20 horses. The existing Central Station was built in 1907 at the corner of 5th and Valley streets. Much of the second story was used as a hayloft. Not much evidence of old time operations remains evident. In what is now an exercise room, the trap doors, through which hay for the horses once fell, are hidden beneath modern floor covering. The municipal parking lot east of the station was a pasture for the horses in those days. The horses crossed beneath and through the hose tower in order to get out back to graze. If you stand in the parking lot and look to the west, you can still see the beam and eye hook that was used to raise the hay to the second story hayloft." (<http://www.burlingtoniowa.org/fire/history.html>)

The new building is shown on the 1930 Sanborn map. The building is noted as Central Fire Station No. 1, with a tower at the corner of Valley and 5th streets. The second story of the main section is noted as dormitories. Horse stalls are noted to the north with a hose room at the north end that has a brick hose tower on the east side. Police headquarters are located in the section to the east at 412 Valley. A jail is noted in the northwest corner of this section. The same general footprint is noted on the 1952 and 1963 Sanborn maps, with an addition in the northeast corner. The stables area has been converted to storage.

Around 1965, the east section used for a police station was renovated with a new modern façade. An article on long-time local architect Robin Carswell in January 1965 notes that he is currently the consultant for the police/fire station remodeling ("Memorial Auditorium His '\$5,000 Monument,'" *Hawk-Eye*, January 27, 1965, 20).

Central Fire Station was highlighted in a *Burlington Hawk Eye* newspaper article during a discussion on repairing the tower and building on April 17, 1987: "Central station was built in 1907, and has been in constant use since. No other fire department in Iowa still works out of a building designed for horse-drawn fire trucks, and few departments have to juggle the historical with the practical elements of their

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facilities.” Jim Erlemeier, historic preservation specialist for the Iowa Department of Economic Development and the Main Street Program, is quoted in this article with the following: “It is important that Burlington value and maintain the (Central) Fire Station because the building is unique and historically valuable. And since Burlington is the last city in the state with an old station, maintaining it is especially important.” He also mentioned that Sioux City was the only other city in Iowa with a station similar to Burlington and they recently demolished it (“Renovated station would add historic flavor,” *Hawk-Eye*, April 17, 1987, 6A).

This article goes on to explain the decision to allow the rear hose drying tower to remain intact with the restoration. Alicia Goehring, the Main Street of Burlington director, is quoted in this article with the following: “The fire station is one of the most historic buildings and the back tower (the hose tower) is an important part of the downtown skyline”. Renovation of the turn-of-the-century fire station was justified for the value of increased tourism. Steve Brower, a local landscape architect, added his observations about the Central Fire Station in this article with the following comments: “The French – Romanesque style building is notable because it was built at the tail end of the Victorian era and could well have been of a much more modern design. What is unique about it is the bell tower sticking out on the corner. The heavy stone detailing around the arches is also important. Builders must have been sensitive to Burlington’s heavy Victorian influence and designed the (Central) Fire Station to blend with it. The placement of the fire station towers, for example, was a deliberate addition to the Burlington skyline.” (“Renovated station would add historic flavor,” *Hawk-Eye*, April 17, 1987, 6A).

The City of Burlington purchased the North 20 feet of Lot 610 and south 40’ of Lot 609 from Nature’s Corner, Inc. on May 1, 2002. An addition for an apparatus bay was added to the north of the original building to house the equipment needed for expanded, modern fire department operations. Central Station received a 2.3 million dollar renovation and was rededicated in 2003. The work was designed by Metzger-Johnson Architects. The online history notes that “This is the only fire station in Iowa that is still operating from a building designed for horse drawn fire wagons. The station was built in French-Romanesque style, using heavy stone detailing around arched doorways. The bell tower and hose tower were designed to complement the numerous steeples and towers of the Burlington skyline. The original bell which was removed from the tower many years ago, sits in front of the station and plays a regular part in seasonal bell ringing serenades, which include many downtown church bells as well.” (<http://www.burlingtoniowa.org/fire/history.html>). David Metzger (of Metzger-Johnson Architects) notes that plans were drawn-up for a complete restoration of the bell tower but does not know where they are.

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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.

Brower, Steven. *West Jefferson Street Historic District*. National Register of Historic Places nomination form. On file at State Historic Preservation Office, Des Moines, IA. Listed on April 9, 1991.

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 scanned 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.

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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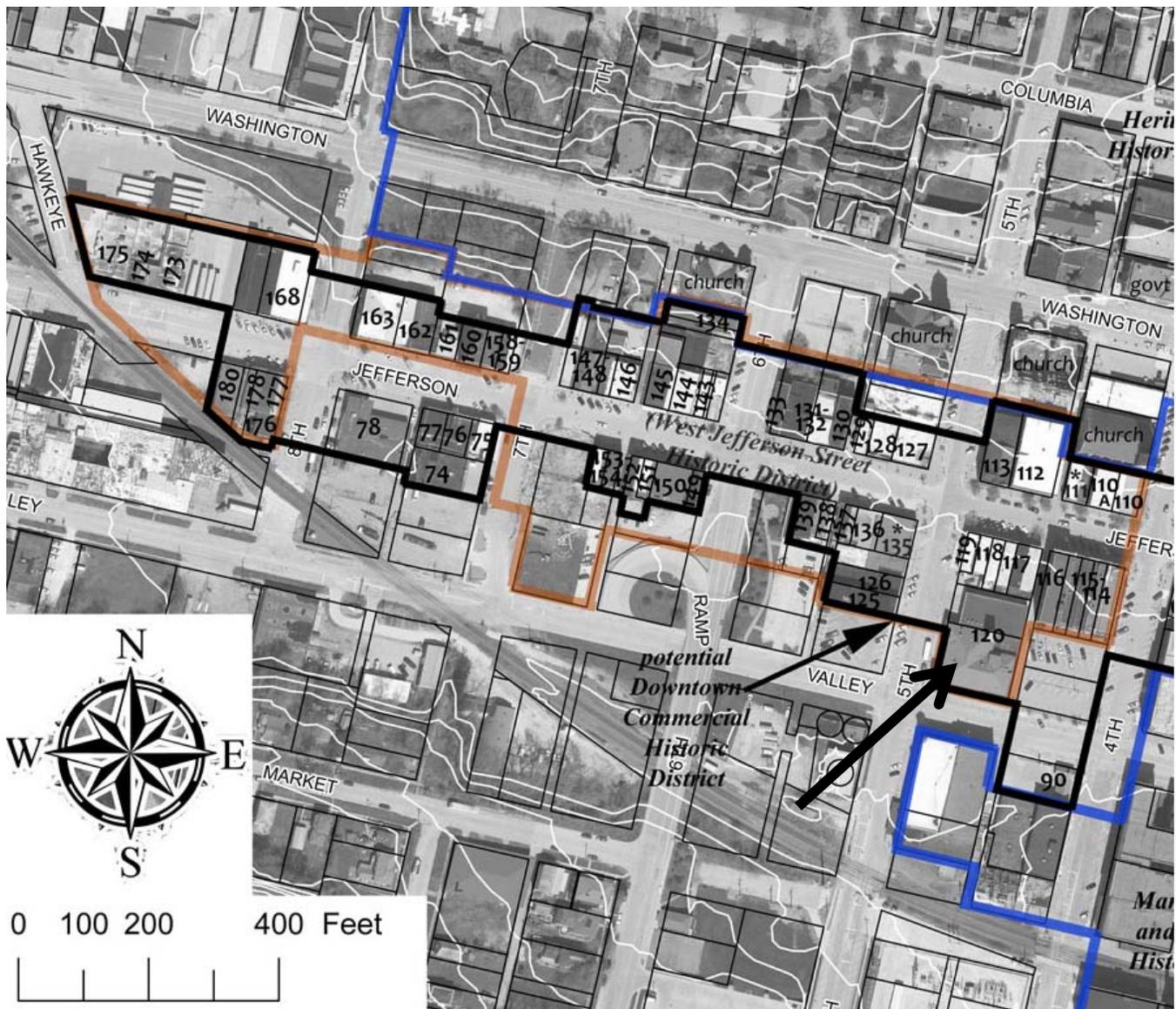
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Location map



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

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Building plan (from assessor's website)



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Historic images



Postcard of the building from 1907 (Downtown Partners)

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Digital photographs



Photograph 29-01642-001 – West and south elevations, looking northeast (McCarley, January 14, 2014).

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Photograph 29-01642-002 – South and east elevations, looking northwest (McCarley, January 14, 2014).

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Photograph 29-01642-003 – West elevation, looking southeast (McCarley, January 14, 2014).