

The Architects Office
 Wehner, Nowysz, Potts, Schull and Pfiffner
 801 day building, Iowa city, Iowa 52240

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
 IOWA DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SITE # 82-10-BR-528 MAP # 3

HIST. DIST. _____

NAME Clarissa C. Cook Library/Blue Ribbon News Bldg. C

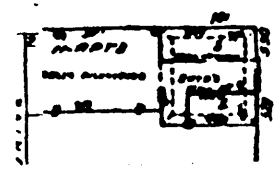
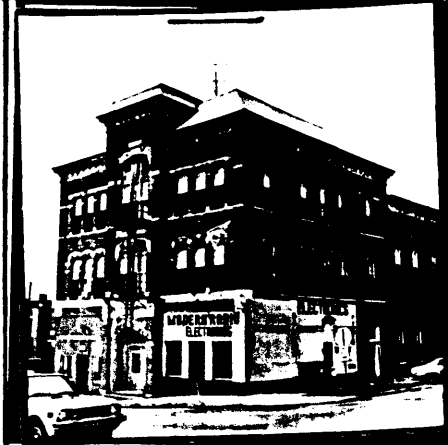
ADDRESS 528 Brady Street

LEGAL DES. LeClaire's 2nd Add. 48 N 50' Lots 6 & 7
SUB-DIVISION BLOCK PARCEL SUB-PARCEL

UTM 15 702139 0141599 7120 ACREAGE -1 ZONE C4
EASTING NORTHING

OWNER Samuel S. Greenblatt & Wife
3429 25th St., Rock Island, IL

TITLE H. _____
(IF DIFF)



SITE SHEET

DESCRIPTION

FORM 3 story, decked hip roof, tripartite facade with projecting center frontispiece
CONST. DATE 1877-78
 MATERIALS cast iron, brick, stone ARCH STYLE Eclectic
 FENESTRATION flat w/stone lintels; segmental arch ; Gothic-arched entrance
 DIST. FEATURES polychromy of brick & stone, entrance arch
 ALTERATIONS Store fronts redone, more than once, pyramidal roof of frontispiece removed along with dormers and deck cresting
 SITE & RELATED STR. corner lot in commercial area

ARCHITECTURE

STATEMENT

This earliest known work by B. W. Gartside was by himself described as "modern American Gothic" but is an eclectic mix of Second Empire and Italianate, with only the pointed entrance arch describable as Gothic. Loss of important roof features (cresting dormers, chimneys and high-peaked roof over the frontispiece) has subdued the originally exuberant richness of this building, but textured polychrome wall surfaces, achieved through corbelling and rockfaced stone, and variety of window shapes still give a good idea of high Victorian taste.

SOURCES

Oszuscik, p. 279

ICANCE

This building was the first of Davenport's three public library buildings serving in this capacity from 1878 until 1904 when a new Carnegie building (non-extant) was completed. It focuses attention on the early activities of the local library movement and is perhaps the oldest extant building in Iowa built for public library purposes. Its significance is increased because the Carnegie building is non-extant

DESCRIPTION

The library movement in Davenport began in 1839 with the establishment of a subscription library service. In the 1840's and 50's several reading rooms were established in downtown commercial buildings. The Young Men's Library Association organized in 1854 with George B. Sargent its principal promoter. The library movement had a precarious existence financially but by 1860 the library numbered 1000 volumes in its collection. Several other organizations succeeded the Young Men's Library Assn. including the Associated Congress (1862-72) and the Library Assn. (1874-1904). More women became involved in the last organization and in the mid-70's approached Clarissa C. Cook about financially supporting a library building. Mrs. Cook agreed and in 1877 gave \$13,000 for the construction of a building. The new building had 7,500 volumes and operated on a subscription basis. In 1891 Hiram Price established a free reading room. Through the years additional income for the library was generated by commercial space located in the building. In 1904, the Cook Library was replaced by

SOURCES a new Carnegie library operated by a library board financed through special tax Levy.

Dillon, John F. "Address Delivered at the Dedication of the Free Public Library,"

Davenport, Iowa: May 11, 1904.

Coughlin, Betty, "History of the Davenport Public Library," Masters Thesis, Western Reserve University, 1952.

History of Scott County, Iowa, Chicago: Inter-State Publishing Co., 1882.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN: TODD R. MOZINGO | HISTORIAN: MARLYS SVENDSEN - ROESLER | SURVEY COMP 1980

EVALUATION

ARCHITECTURAL

- I. ARCH. EVALUATION Good
- II. ENVIR. STATURE Incident
- III. INT. OF CONTEXT Fair
- IV. INT. OF FABRIC Fair

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

- NAT. STATE LOCAL N. ELIG.

HISTORICAL

I. THEME(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE:

- A. PRIMARY Social & Humanitarian
- B. SECONDARY Library Movement

II. LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

- NAT. STATE LOCAL

III. NR.H.P.

- ELIGIBLE NOT ELIGIBLE

HISTORIC DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

- A B C

FOR DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION USE ONLY

1. DATE RECEIVED _____

2. DATE OF STAFF EVALUATION _____

	A. ARCHITECTURAL	B. HISTORICAL
ELIGIBLE FOR N.R.H.P.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NOT ELIGIBLE FOR N.R.H.P.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. N.R.H.P. ACTION

A. STATE REVIEW COMM. APP. DISAPP. Tabled DATE _____

B. FEDERAL REVIEW APP. DISAPP. Tabled DATE _____

4. D.H.P. SOURCES

- COUNTY RESOURCES
- W'SHIELD SURVEY
- NR.H.P.
- GRANT _____
- DET. OF ELIGIBILITY
- R. & C. _____
- DAVENPORT A/H SURVEY
- Iowa Library Survey
- _____

5. SUBJECT TRACES

6. PHOTO

82-10-1664-9
North & East Elevations
1710-9

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CONTINUATION