

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

RECEIVED
AUG 13 2015

AUG 28 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building

other names/site number 51 East Broadway

2. Location

street & number 51 East Broadway [N/A] not for publication

city or town Fairfield [N/A] vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Jefferson code 101 zip code 52556

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (see continuation sheet for additional comments).

Steve King 18 Aug 2015
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historical Society of Iowa
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall 10-13-15

Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building

Name of Property

Jefferson County, Iowa

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/Specialty Store

COMMERCE/Department Store

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/Specialty Store

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other METAL

STONE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Iowa
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- 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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1892-1965

Significant Dates

1892

ca. 1920

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Gobbie & Heer/Spurgeons Building
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [1]5 [5]8[7]1[19]8 [4]5[4]0[1]1[3]6 2 [1]5 [0]0[0]0[0]0 [0]0[0]0[0]0
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
3 [1]5 [0]0[0]0[0]0 [0]0[0]0[0]0 4 [1]5 [0]0[0]0[0]0 [0]0[0]0[0]0
 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant mollynaumann@outlook.com
organization For CBC Financial Corp date February 2015
-street & number 167 West Alta Vista telephone 641-777-3318
city or town Ottumwa state IA zip code 52501-1437

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the complete form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name 51 East Broadway LLC
street & number 51 East Broadway telephone 641-209-1883
city or town Fairfield state IA zip code 52556

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building
Jefferson County, IA

Section number 7

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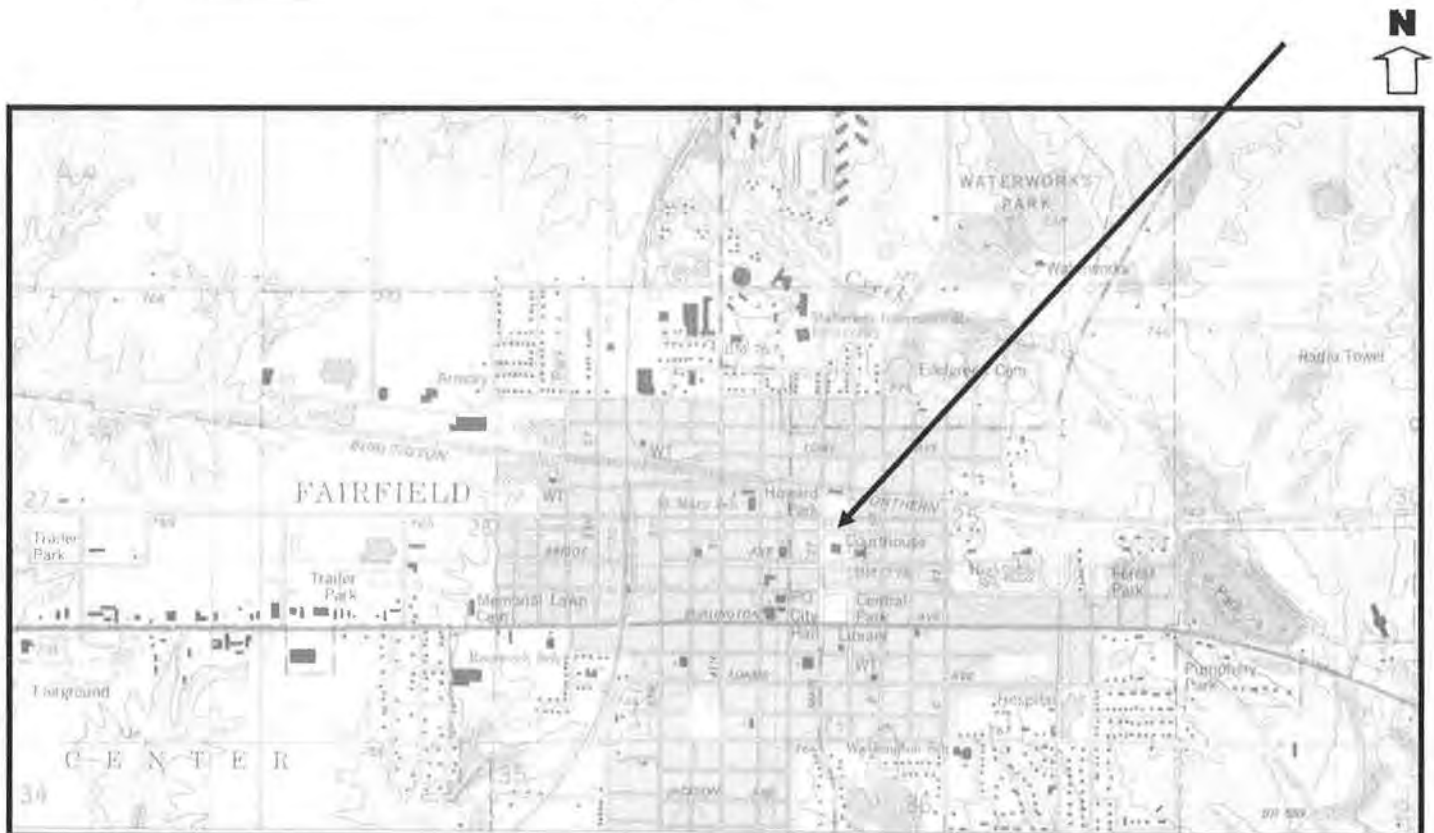
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

This three story double storefront building from 1892 is located on the north side of the Fairfield Square, immediately east of the alley. Fairfield is the county seat of Jefferson County which is the third county west of the Mississippi River and the second county north of the Missouri state line.



LEFT
Map of the State of Iowa
Arrow indicates Jefferson County

BELOW:
USGS Map of Fairfield (1980)
Arrow indicates location of
51 East Broadway



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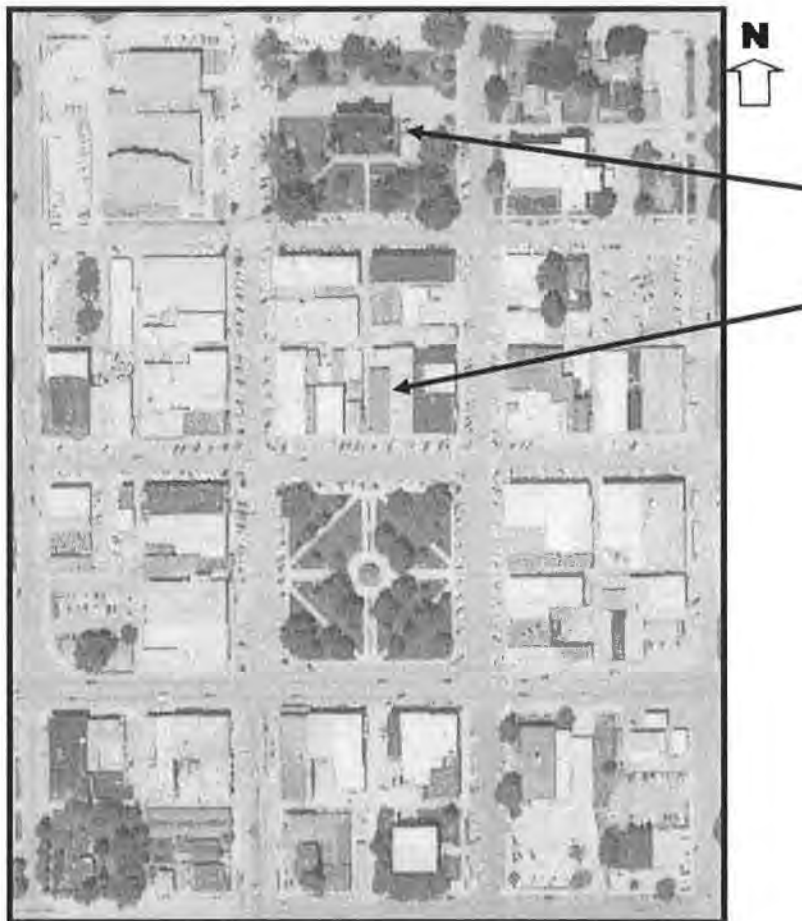
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The center of the Fairfield Square is filled by Central Park, not the Jefferson County Courthouse. The green space provided by the park has been a valued part of Fairfield's business district since the town was founded in 1839. The courthouse is located one block north of the Square.



2011 Aerial map of Fairfield Square
Bottom arrow indicates 51 East Broadway on north side of Square
Top arrow indicates Jefferson County Courthouse

Originally each side of the Square was divided in half by a sixteen and a half foot alley. Within the past fifty years a building was constructed in the alley on the west side of the Square, but the other alleys remain. This is important as originally iron staircases provided access to the upper stories of the buildings located on the alleys as well as those located on street corners.

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Exterior:

The building at 51 East Broadway dominates the north side of the Square. It is a three story brick building, with oriel windows and a round corner tower topped by a conical roof. It exhibits characteristics of both the Italianate and Queen Anne styles. Rectangular in shape, measuring thirty-three feet by one hundred feet, with a thirty-three by thirty-two foot two story addition at the rear, it is located on the alley so it has an exposed side elevation. The façade has been painted white with blue and yellow trim, while the side elevation of the main block has been painted gray. The two story brick addition at the rear has not been painted.

The façade is asymmetrical with the conical tower located on the left (alley) side. It is balanced on the right side by the two story oriel windows. At street level there have been alterations. At present the entrance to the main floor store is located on the alley side of the building. The front of the building consists of two display windows on each side of a broad center window with wood panel below. At each corner of the storefront is a paneled pilaster. A single post in the center is also paneled. The panels are blue with narrow yellow trim. An earlier (not original) recessed entrance area is indicated by remnants of tile mosaic flooring in the center. Above the display windows are five Queen Anne style transom windows, the center one containing blue and white wood panels instead of glass. The Queen Anne windows replaced a prism glass transom sometime after 1910. The street level façade is capped by a broad white cornice board with yellow dentils.

At the second floor level, both the corner windows and the oriel windows extend down into the street level cornice and have dentils along their base. Individual windows on both upper floors are tall and slender with wood double hung sash and a transom above. It appears that the original wood framing is in place, but aluminum storm windows have been added. The round corner has three windows on each floor, there is a pair of windows in the middle, and the oriels contain three windows. Between the second and third floors on the both the round tower and the oriels are three rectangular horizontal panels. The third floor is identical to the second except that a series of square foliated panels with rosettes are found on the cornice above the tower and oriel, with a series of circles above. The panels have been highlighted in several different colors and the circles are yellow. These circles have now been repeated on the panels between the second and third floors, but were not on the panels originally. The entire storefront is capped by a bracketed pressed metal cornice that extends around the side of the building about three feet, and a metal shingled roof with finial on the tower. A row of saw-tooth patterned soldier brick is located just below the metal cornice. The blue trim has been used to create three belt courses across the façade, at the sill level of both the second and third floor windows and across the top of the those on the third floor. Because the building is now painted white, it is difficult to see the original limestone belt courses that extended across the façade. There are four narrow courses, at the sill level and at the base of the transoms on both floors, plus a wide stone course at each level that served as the lintels.

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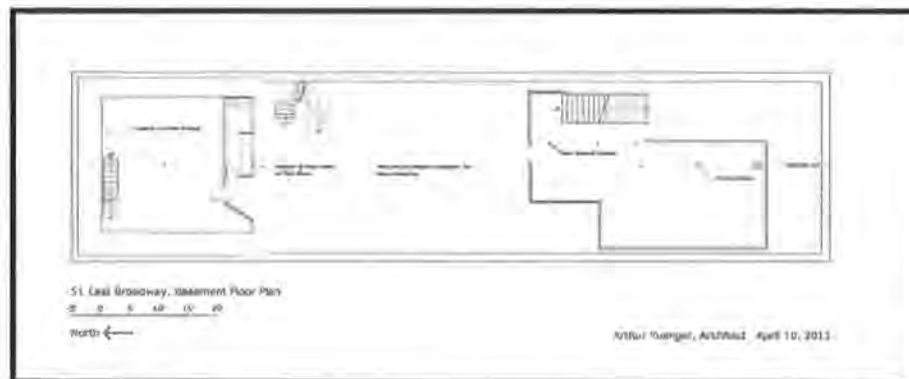
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As noted above, the west elevation (on the alley) of the main block has been painted gray. It features seven openings on the main floor, from front to back: door, half window, door, four half windows, and door. On the second floor, from front to back: three windows, door, five windows. This door was originally reached by an exterior iron staircase that has been removed within the past few decades. The third floor has a set of eight windows. All of the windows on this side of the building have double hung sash and segmental arches with stone or cast concrete sills. Only the third floor is exposed on the east elevation, and there are no windows on that side.

The c.1920 addition to the rear of the building fills the space on the lot left when the original building was constructed in 1892. It is just two stories in height and rests on a concrete foundation. The brick is laid in a modified Flemish bond with five courses of headers, then a Flemish bond course, then five rows of headers, etc. All windows have cast concrete sills, with the first floor half windows having a flat top, and the three over three metal sash is filled with wire mesh glass. The second floor windows are double hung with segmental arches and regular glass. On the alley side, there is an entrance door with a small window next to it. It has not been determined if this is original. All four doors on the alley side have been given modern "classical" frames. The rear wall of the addition (north elevation) has four half windows with flat tops and three over three metal sash with wire mesh glass on the first floor, and an opening that may have been a coal chute. The second floor has three double hung windows with segmental arches and a door that is reached by an iron staircase.

Interior:

The basement of both sections of the building has not been fully documented, but it appears to have a mix of iron and concrete columns, and the foundation/footings appear to be a mix of concrete and limestone. Two sets of stairs lead down into this area from the main floor, and a third set of steps leads to the opening in the rear wall.



Basement Floor Plan

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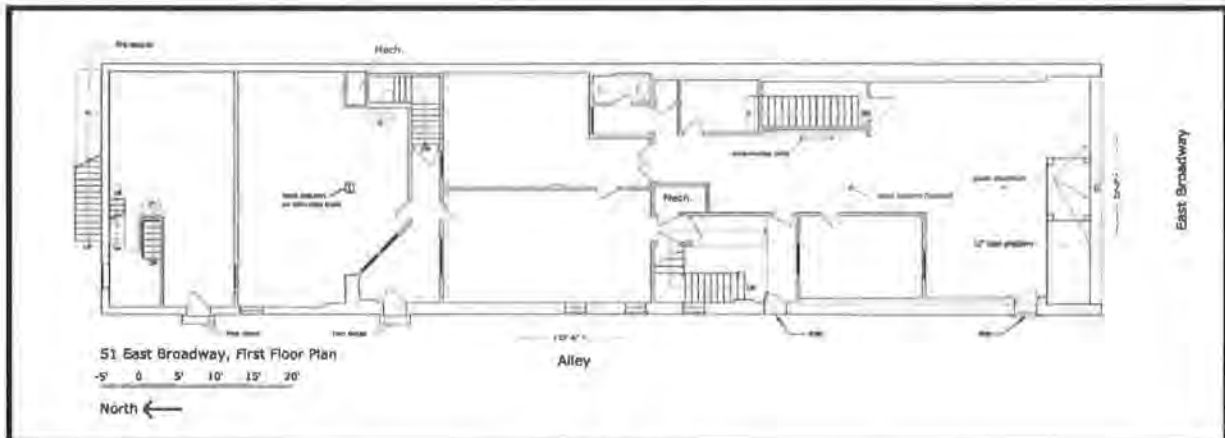
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The main floor of the store area is open across the front, with a room in the northwest corner of the store area, and stairs to the basement along the east wall. Originally this building had two storefronts for two different businesses with two different entrances: a narrow one on the east occupying about one-third of the space, and back to the stairway; and, a wider (approximately two-thirds of the space) storefront on the west. The current commercial area extends across the entire façade and is entered through a new door cut into the alley wall near the front of the building. A little farther north on the alley side a door leads into a foyer with wooden staircase to the second floor. This is not original. The remainder of the first floor is divided into several spaces, much of it used for storage. A row of iron columns runs through the center of the building. The rear section of the building cannot be accessed from the main block on the first floor. The original walls are all plaster, while the new walls are sheet rock. A dropped ceiling is found throughout the main floor, but the original pressed metal ceiling is intact above. Most of the windows on this level retain original woodwork.



First Floor Plan

The second and third floors retain more original features than the main floor. As noted earlier, originally the upper levels were reached by an exterior iron staircase (non-extant) with an entrance door on the alley elevation. A new interior staircase has been built just inside a door opening on to the alley. An original interior stairway along the east wall on the second floor provides access to the third floor. Floors in many rooms have been covered with carpet. The original wooden double-hung windows with original molding are intact.

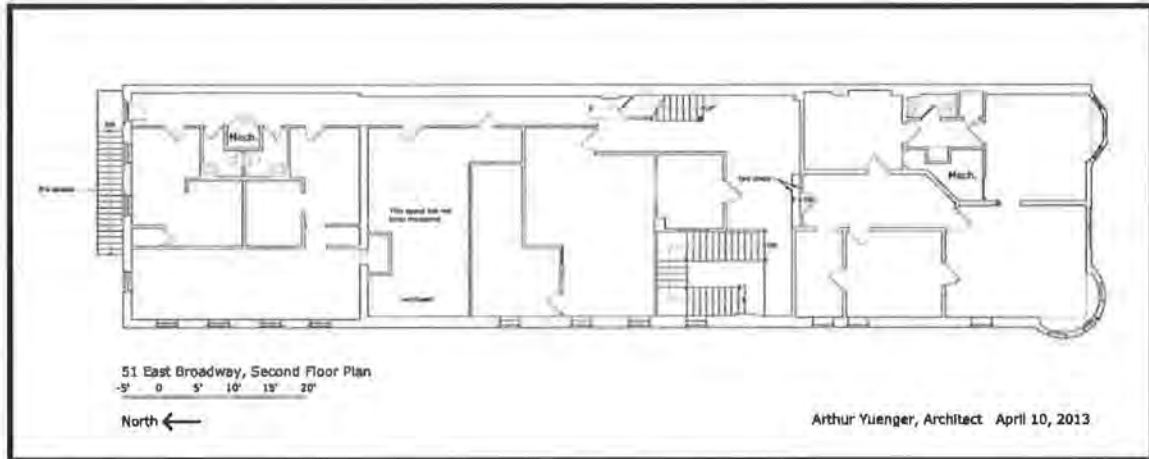
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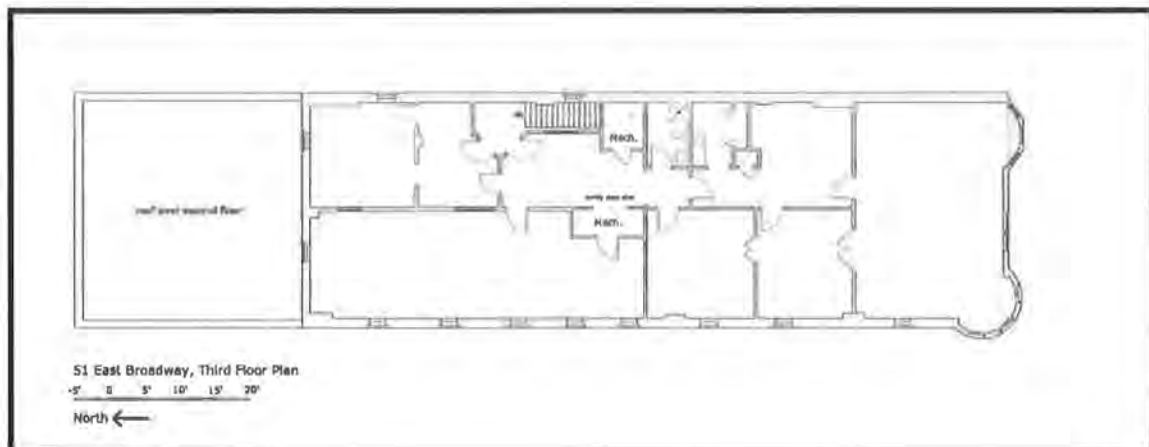
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Second Floor Plan

There are five separate units on the second floor, ranging from the large five room unit in the front of the building to a very small single room at the rear. These have been used for various purposes over the years, both as residences and offices. The original woodwork is found throughout this floor, but it has been painted. Original walls are plaster, while new construction is sheet rock. Dropped ceilings have been installed, but the original pressed metal remains in place above. Floors have been covered everywhere.



Third Floor Plan

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The third floor originally had one large room in the front, with a series of smaller rooms in the middle and rear of the building. The large room was used as a lodge hall by various organizations over the years. While the large front area has now been divided with smaller rooms to the back, the very front continues as one large open space, providing a view of the Square from the corner tower and oriel windows. The ceiling has been dropped (original pressed metal remains above), but the original woodwork remains unpainted, and a chair rail remains in place. The smaller rooms in the back (ante-room, dressing room, etc.) retain original wood trim, complete with transoms above hallway doors, but the wood has been painted. The original floor plan remains, and wood floors are found in several of the rooms.

Integrity:

The alterations to this building were made by previous owners over the years, and have not had a seriously negative impact. The integrity of 51 East Broadway has been maintained to a high degree, meeting all seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service.

Location. This building is located on the north side of the Fairfield Square, on its original lot.

Design. The original design of this building is clearly visible and would be readily recognized by the original owner and the shopkeepers who had businesses in the building. It is clearly a commercial design with sidewalk level display windows, and smaller upper story fenestration. It has characteristics of both the Italianate and Queen Anne styles. The significant original architectural elements remain: bracketed pressed metal cornice, oriel windows, and rounded corner tower.

Setting. The setting of this building remains the same, the business district around the Square.

Materials. The original materials are easily visible, even with the paint that has been applied to the exterior brick. Although it is more difficult now to see the limestone details on the façade, these are visible under the paint. On the interior, much of the decorative wood trim is extant, as are the floors.

Workmanship. The existence of this building in its present condition speaks to the quality of the original workmanship. Decorative details on both the interior and exterior remain in place.

Feeling. This building is clearly a commercial building, with no doubt as to its use.

Association. This building falls within the period of greatest development around the Fairfield Square and is in harmony with the other commercial buildings that make up a potential historic district.

The owners are considering a rehabilitation of this building in the near future and recognize that it has both architectural and historical significance in the community.

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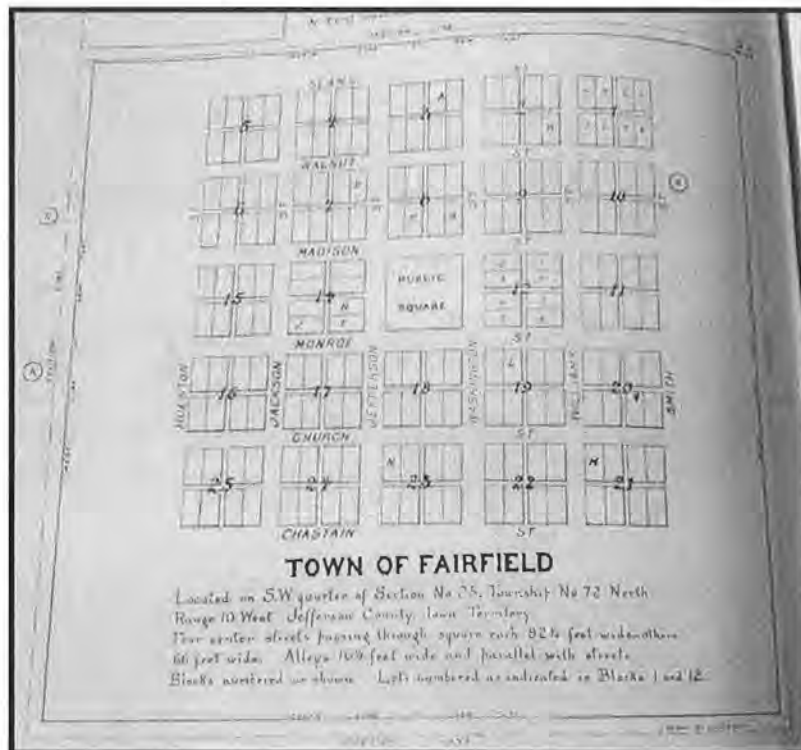
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building (1892) is locally significant under Criterion A as it illustrates the commercial development around the Fairfield Square and as the home of two long-time Fairfield businesses. It has local Criterion C significance as a fine example of the Queen Anne style used for a commercial building. The period of significance is 1892 (date of construction) to 1965 (50 year requirement).

Criterion A:

Fairfield is the seat of Jefferson County, Iowa. The Fairfield Square historically has been the center of the Fairfield business district. The buildings surround Central Park which was part of the original 1839 plat of the city. Central Park has never been the site of the Jefferson County Courthouse, which is located one block north of the Square in Block 3. Broadway runs across the north side of the Square, with Court Street on the east, and Main Street on the west. Burlington Street which runs along the south side of Central Park has always been the main east/west thoroughfare through town, beginning as a territorial road and ultimately becoming US Highway 34. Although Highway 34 is now routed south of the community, Burlington continues to serve as the route of Business US 34.



Original Plat (1839)
(Fulton, p 192)

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The first lots were sold on May 15, 1839, with those around the Square selling for the highest prices, and those on the north side were the most expensive of all. While lots on the other three sides sold for \$100 to \$169, the four on the north side brought prices of \$190.75 to \$205. Lot 7, Block 8, the site of the Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building, sold for \$203. The first courthouse (of frame construction) was built at the south end of the west side of the Square (corner of Main and Burlington) in 1839, and commercial development began immediately. As the county seat, Fairfield became the marketplace for the people of Jefferson County. Although smaller communities sprang up throughout the county, offering the necessary services to neighboring farmers, only the county seat was large enough to provide a choice in general stores, or hardware stores, meat markets, etc. As people from around the county came to Fairfield for business at the courthouse (filing a real estate deed, recording a family birth or death, paying taxes, serving on a jury), they often brought the family with them for a day of shopping, eating in local restaurants, perhaps taking in a play at the opera house, and maybe staying overnight in a Fairfield hotel. As the county seat, Fairfield was bound to grow and prosper. The arrival of the railroad in 1858 was another major factor in Fairfield's growth and economy.

The earliest frame buildings on the Square were replaced by substantial brick buildings in the 1860s and 70s. Most were single storefronts, but there were larger, double and triple front buildings as well. The most popular style of the time was Italianate, with round arched windows and wooden brackets. The arrival of the railroad in September 1858 made pressed metal cornices and cast hoodmolds viable options for new commercial buildings. In 1865 James T. Hair described the town of Fairfield as having a population of 2,200, with a fine brick courthouse and jail (replacing the 1839 building), seven churches, a public hall, a number of small industries including a saw mill, grist mill, plow factory and foundry, and "nearly all branches of business." (Hair, p 232) He also made noted that both the Odd Fellows (1846) and Masons (1847) had established lodges in Fairfield.

The one public hall that Hair mentioned would have been Wells Hall on the east side of the square built for William R. Wells in 1858. It was not until after the Civil War that another meeting hall was built. The Jordan Block (Jordan Hall), on the west side of the Square was built for the Jordan brothers in 1868. Not only were these halls used for meetings by the fraternal lodges, but they were also used for all types of public meetings as there wasn't enough space anyplace else in town. The combination of being a county seat town and having a railroad caused enough development that the town grew substantially between its platting in 1839 and 1875, the nation's centennial year. By 1875 there had been at least eight major additions to the town, providing expansion room for residential and industrial development, but the business district remained around the Square.

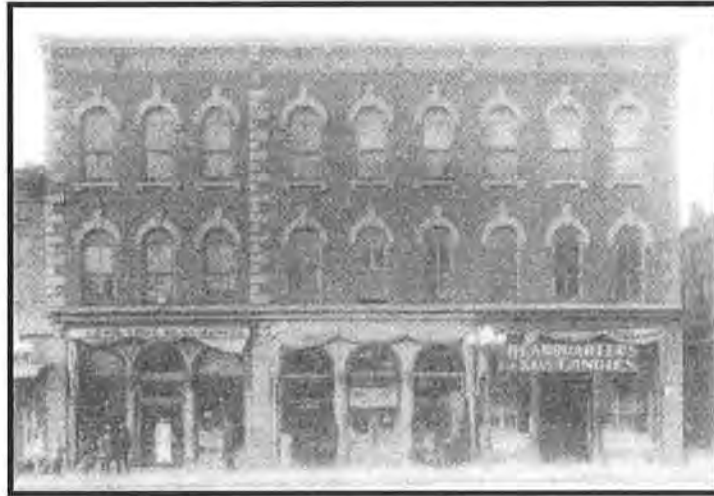
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The Jordan Block (1868)
An excellent example of early Italianate design
(Courtesy of Carnegie Museum Collection)



1875 map of Fairfield
(Andreas, p 142)

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Sanborn Insurance maps illustrate the development around the Square. The earliest Sanborn Insurance map dates from 1886 and it shows that most of the buildings around the Square were two and three story brick structures, but a few frame remained, two of which were on Lot 7, Block 8, the future site of the Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Buildings at 51 East Broadway. There was one narrow empty lot on the west side of the square, and a large empty area in the south half of the east side where a fire had demolished several buildings in 1882. The south side of the Square was full of brick commercial buildings. The Masonic Lodge was located in Wells Hall, and the Odd Fellows were in the Jordan Block. A few commercial buildings were identified by name on the map: the Crawford Block at 61 South Court, the Wilson Block in the 100 block of South Court, and the Slagle-Acheson-Workman buildings that formed the Centennial Block on West Broadway. By 1892, the west side of the Square is a solid wall of brick buildings, there was still one empty lot on the east side, and Lot 7, Block 8 was empty. The 1899 Sanborn map shows the new 1892 Jefferson County Courthouse (NRHP) and shows all four sides of the Square filled with substantial brick buildings. These buildings housed all of the necessary businesses ranging from dry goods to groceries to drug stores, and hardware. As true in many communities, often the businesses were not owned by the building owner, and as renters, these businesses moved around to different buildings on the Square every few years.

When Ed Hunt and E.A. Howard built the building at 51 East Broadway in 1892, they were not the occupants. The building appears to have been immediately rented to Harry Booker for his clothing business, and the Bevering Cigar Store. Unlike most buildings with more than one storefront, 51 was not divided down the middle with an individual storefront on each side. Historic photographs show that the business on the east (Bevering Cigar) had a narrow shop front, while the clothing store had about two-thirds of the front.



51 East Broadway, historic postcard, c.1910
(Courtesy of Carnegie Museum Collection)

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In 1899 two young men, Lee T. Gobble and Charles H. Heer, purchased the clothing store from the Harry Booker Estate. (*Fairfield Daily Ledger*, Oct 2, 1939, p 62) The firm of Gobble & Heer remained in that location for over thirty years before moving to the west side of the Square (where Gobble's remained in business for over fifty years). The Bevering Cigar Store remained in the building until the 1930s as well. These two businesses proved to be the exception to the rule of businesses moving from building to building on a regular basis. When Gobble & Heer and Bevering moved, the entire first floor was became Spurgeons. The company had opened a store on the west side of the Square some years earlier and wanted to expand. Spurgeons remained at 51 East Broadway through the 1960s.

In 1929 early settler William L Long told the *Fairfield Daily Ledger* how the Square developed over the years. He said that the building occupied by the Gobble & Heer Clothing Store and the Bevering Cigar Store (51 East Broadway) "was built by Ed Hunt and E.A. Howard in 1892." Long didn't explain whether Hunt and Howard were the actual builders, or developers, or owners. It is interesting to note that Long's information is the only place where Hunt and Howard are connected to this building.

The two upper stories of 51 East Broadway housed a mix: offices, apartments, and, a lodge hall on the third floor. As noted earlier, fraternal organizations played a major role in the social life of nineteenth century Fairfield, and with them came the need for large meeting halls. Wells Hall and Jordan Hall filled this need for some years. In 1875 an opera house was built on the south side of the Square. It was heavily damaged by fire in 1890, and the Odd Fellows (IOOF) purchased the building, rehabilitating it and turning the old second floor opera house into their lodge hall. The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs met in the space well into the last half of the twentieth century. Wells Hall had been remodeled into a two story building in the early twentieth century, creating a need for more meeting space. Several buildings around the Square in addition to the IOOF and Jordan Hall were used, but one of the few that had dedicated space for lodge meetings was the building at 51 East Broadway. In almost all cases, the buildings with lodge halls were located on a street or alley corner, and the halls were reached by the exterior iron staircases, as was the case here. City directories indicate that the third floor of 51 East Broadway was the home of the Knights of Pythias and the Pythian Sisters. (The writer collaborates this as she attended meetings of the Pythian Sisters in this building with her grandmother in the 1940s.)

Criterion C:

The buildings facing the Fairfield Square show a diversity of style, materials and dates of construction. These are all of brick construction and share a common shape, rectangular with a flat roof sloping to the rear. The buildings are primarily two story single storefront designs, with several double and triple storefronts. The earliest, from the late 1860s-1870s, are Italianate in style with round arched windows and bracketed wooden cornices. There are good examples of later Italianate design with cast hoodmolds, highly decorative pressed metal cornices, and, in some cases unusual window shapes. No architect has been identified for any of the buildings around the Square.

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Top Right: South side of Square, 1876 three early Italianate buildings with round arched windows, two have bracketed wood cornices.

(All photographs courtesy of the Carnegie Museum Collection.)



Center Left: North side of Square, 1876, note hoodmolds and metal cornices on building in center.

Bottom Right: North side of Square, west end. Note elaborate window and cornice treatments.



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Around 1890 the rhythmic pattern of the hoodmolds and pressed metal cornices was broken by the construction of three buildings on the Square with distinctive Queen Anne style towers: The bank on the south end of the west side (left), 60 South Main (non-extant); Shriner & Johnson Drug store at the north end of the west side, 60 North Main (center); and, 51 East Broadway (right).



60 South Main



60 North Main

(All photographs courtesy of
Carnegie Museum Collection)



51 East Broadway

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Each of these towers is a different shape with a different roof type. The earliest appears to have been 60 South Main (non-extant). The exterior of this building was totally remodeled in the early twentieth century and there are few photographs. The tower is round and appears "short and squat" due to the fact that it is only a two story building. The roof is almost dome-like and has a near eastern feeling. Although it is on a two story building, the Shriner & Johnson tower at 60 North Main, appears to be much more slender due to the fact that it is polygonal and has a tall slender conical roof with finial. Both of these towers were located on street corners. The tower of 51 East Broadway is round and taller as it is a three story building, so it appears to be more slender than the others. The conical roof and finial are not as elongated as that on Shriner & Johnson. It is located on the alley.



51 East Broadway
(Courtesy of Carnegie Museum Collection)

51 East Broadway is both taller and broader than the other two buildings, providing a larger surface for decorative detailing. The building not only sports the round corner tower but it is balanced on the east by a two story set of oriel windows. Both these windows and the tower provide space for embellishments such as dentils and foliated panels. Limestone belt courses provided not only a horizontal emphasis, but a nice contrast to the deep red brick façade. A wide pressed metal Italianate style cornice completes the façade. Note that the historic photograph shows a prism glass transom.

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Two things set the Gobble-Heer/Spurgeons Building apart: Its relationship to the other buildings on the north side of the Square; and, and, its location on the Square. The historic photographs below show the north side of the Square before this building was constructed, and after. It creates a strong vertical element in the middle of the block.



Top: 1876 photograph to NE
Bottom: C.1910 photograph to NE
(Both courtesy of Carnegie Museum Collection)



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Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building
Jefferson County, IA

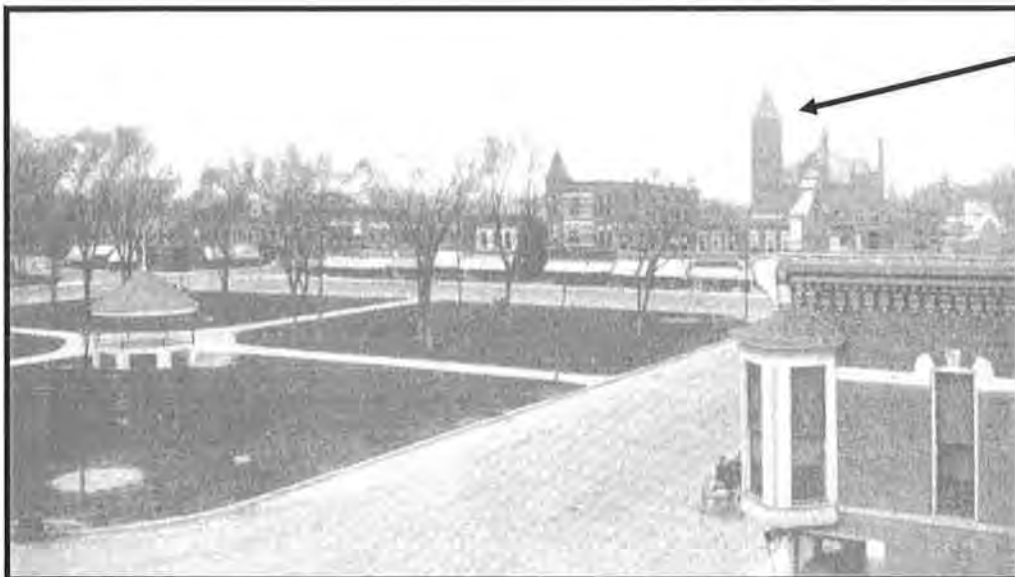
Section number 8

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The second thing, the building's location on the square is shown in these two photographs. It is one block due south of the Jefferson County Courthouse, and the tower of each building is reflective of the other. From almost anywhere around the Square both towers are seen. The photographs below show the relationship of the two when viewed from the southeast. The arrows indicate the courthouse tower.



Both historic photographs appear to have been taken c.1915
(Both courtesy of Carnegie Museum Collection)



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Conclusion:

The Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building at 51 East Broadway (1892) is a landmark on the Fairfield Square. Although it follows the pattern of other buildings around the Square in terms of placement on the lot, materials, scale and proportion, it differs from the majority of buildings with its Queen Anne tower and oriel windows. These design elements bring a different feeling to the Square. Despite the painted brick on the façade, the building retains a high level of architectural integrity, including many interior details. It is interesting that this building has never had a historic name attributed to it, and is best known for its occupants: Gobble & Heer Clothing from 1899-1930s, and Spurgeons from the mid-1930s through the mid-1960s.

This building is locally significant under Criterion A as it illustrates the commercial development around the Fairfield Square and as the home of two long-time businesses: Gobble & Heer, and Spurgeons. It has local Criterion C significance as a rare example of commercial Queen Anne design in a relatively small Iowa county seat community, and for its architectural integrity. The period of significance is 1892 (date of construction) to 1965 (the 50 year requirement). The current owner is aware of the building's significance and is developing plans for rehabilitation.



This c.1910 historic photograph illustrates the relation of 51 East Broadway and the Jefferson County Courthouse when viewed from the south through Central Park.
(Courtesy of Carnegie Museum Collection)

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Photographs from the Collection of the Carnegie Museum, Fairfield, IA

Photographs from the Collection of Lee T. Gobble, 2011, Vol III.

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Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building
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GEOGRAPHIC DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description:

Original Plat, Block 8, W 33' Lot 7

Boundary Justification:

This is the parcel of land on which this building was originally constructed in 1892.

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National Park Service

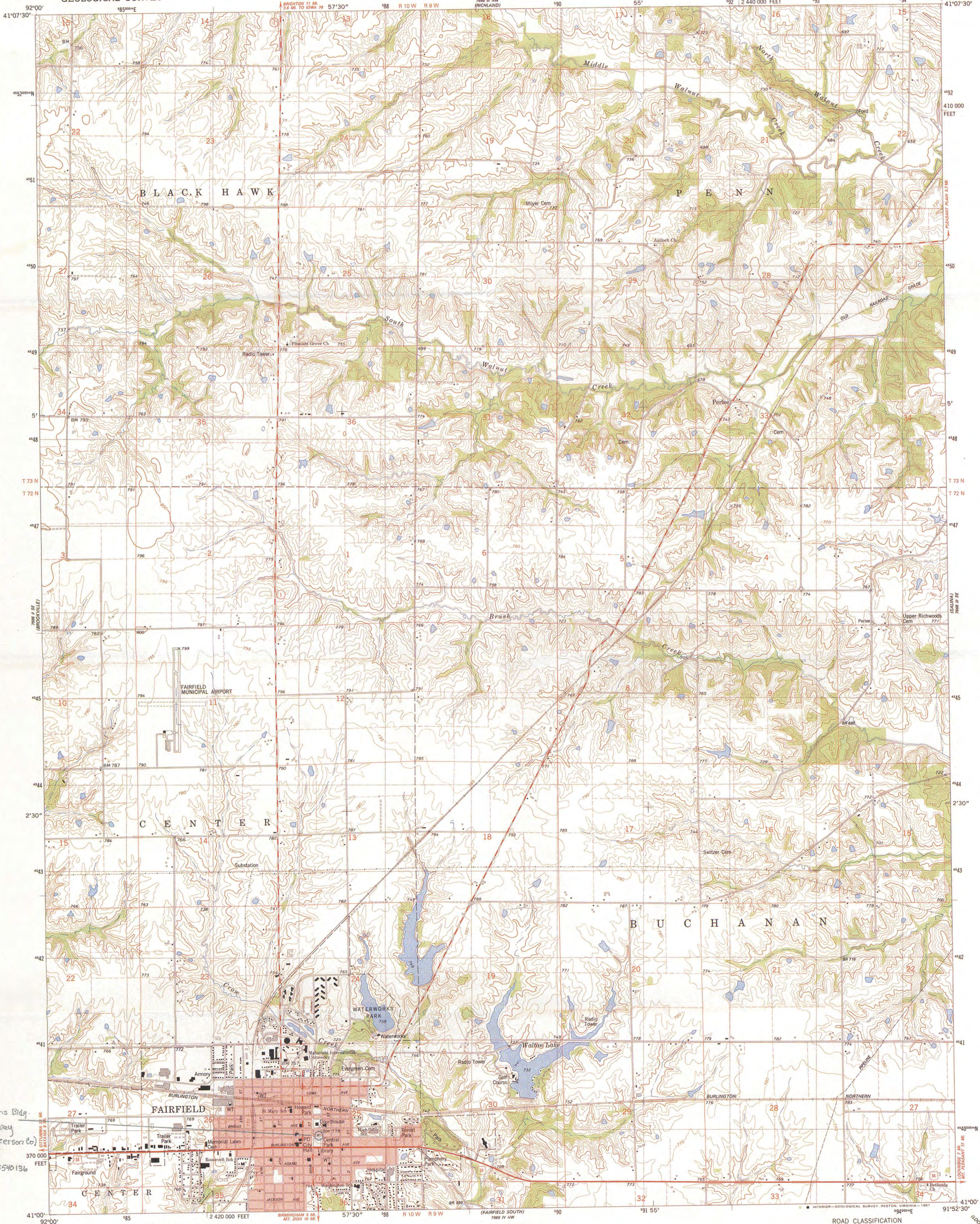
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Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building
Jefferson County, IA

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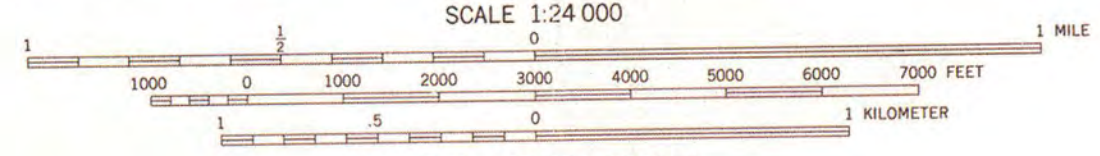
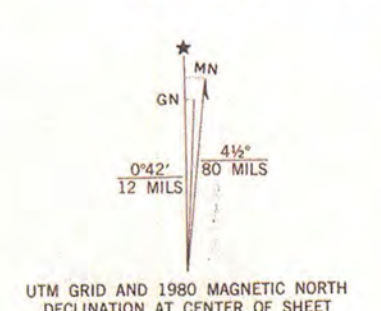
The photographs submitted with this nomination were taken by Molly Myers Naumann between August 2014 and February 2015, using digital cameras capturing the images at 14 to 24 mp. The photos are printed on HP Premium Plus paper using HP Vivera inks.

0001	Façade looking due N toward Jefferson County Courthouse. Note the early Italianate design at 51 W Broadway across the alley
0002	Façade and east half of block looking NE
0003	Façade looking NW
0004	Detail: Upper stories of façade to N
0005	Detail: Street level façade to NE
0006	Side (west) elevation along alley to NNE
0007	Rear (north) elevation and side of c.1920 addition to SE
0008	Side (west) elevation looking S from rear of building
0009	Interior: Main floor store area looking S toward front of building
0010	Interior: Pressed metal ceiling in store area
0011	Interior: Second floor, exterior door on side elevation that would have linked to iron staircase on alley
0012	Interior: Second floor, door and wood trim
0013	Interior: Second floor, windows in corner tower to SW
0014	Interior: Second floor, oriel windows to SE
0015	Interior: Stairway from second floor to third floor lodge hall
0016	Interior: Third floor lodge room, tower windows looking SW
0017	Interior: Third floor lodge room, oriel windows to S
0018	View from third floor of Central Park looking S



Gobbles/Surgeons Bldg.
51 E Broadway
Fairfield (Jefferson Co)
IA
15 587198 4540136

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1973. Field checked 1976. Map edited 1980
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Iowa coordinate system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 2 meters north and 14 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

FAIRFIELD NORTH, IOWA
N4100-W9152.5/7.5
1980
DMA 7666 III SW-SERIES V876

USGS
Historical File
National Mapping Div.

MAR 17 1981
2000



Henderson's
Custom Framing & Gallery

W
ART WALK

Custom Cuts
Family Salon & Spa

OPEN MON-SAT
MANICURE
PEDICURE

INDIANA
V600
CAA 194



Decorative architectural details on the white building, including a conical roof and bay windows.

Amor Mio
RISTORANTE ITALIANO

Chickadee

THE COLLECTOR'S STORE

STOP

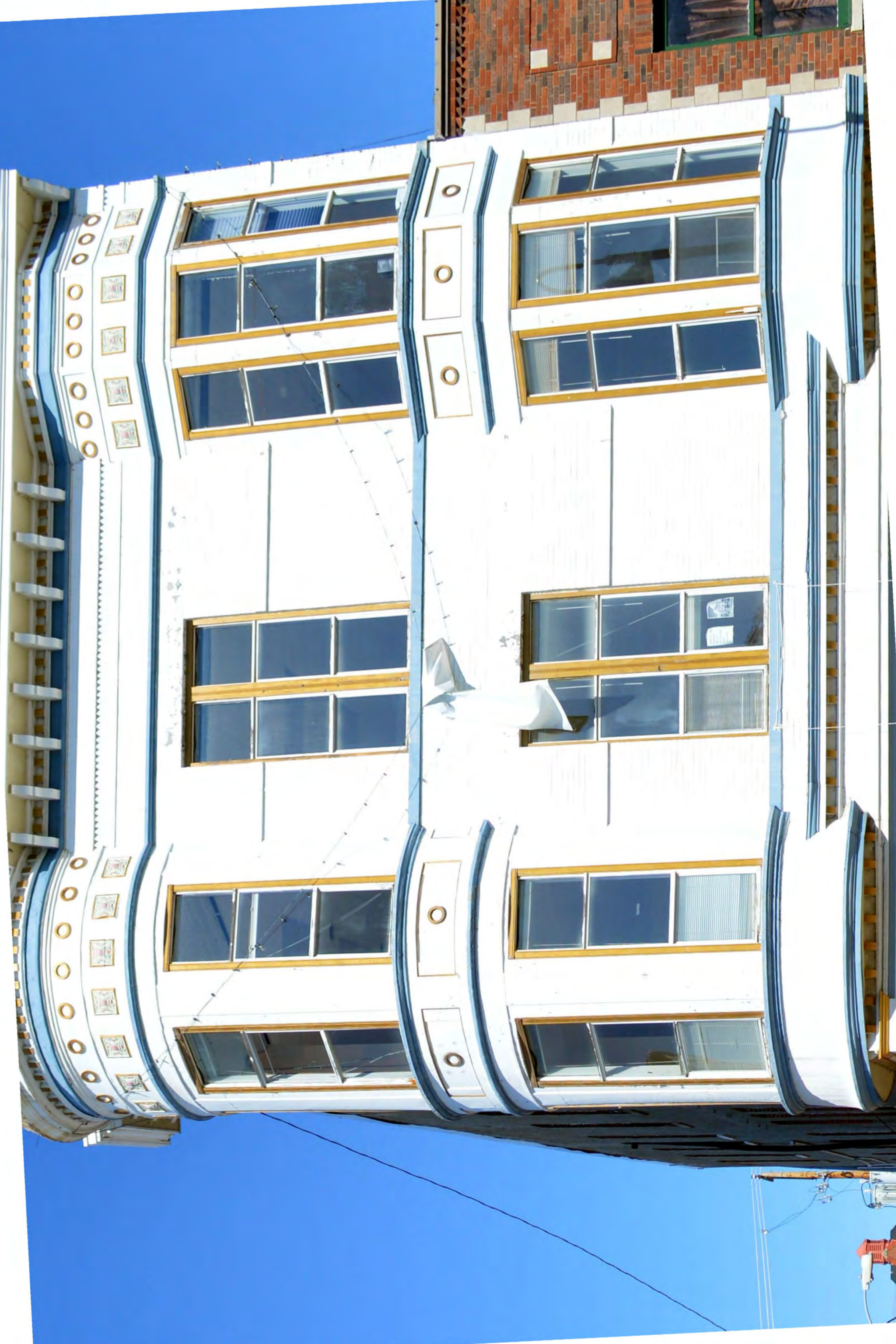


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SCOTT'S & SONS







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ENTER

DOTTIS &
SEWING ROOM





















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Gobble and Heer--Spurgeons Building
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Jefferson

DATE RECEIVED: 8/28/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/17/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/02/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/13/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000727

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 10-13-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

STATE OFFICE, DES MOINES
COURT HOUSE, DES MOINES, IOWA

RECEIVED 2280
AUG 28 2015
Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

August 25, 2015

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmarks
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The following National Register nomination(s) from Iowa are enclosed for your review and listing if acceptable.

- Fort Dodge Junior High School, 416 South 10th Street, Fort Dodge, Webster County
- Fort Dodge Senior High School, 1015 5th Avenue North, Fort Dodge, Webster County
- Miller, Alex and Ola (Viola) Babcock, House, 429 S. Marion Ave., Washington, Washington County
- Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School, 751 2nd Avenue South, Clinton, Clinton County
- Grant Vocational High School, 346 2nd Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, Linn County
- Bloomfield Public Library, 107 N. Columbia, Bloomfield, Davis County
- Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building, 51 East Broadway, Fairfield, Jefferson County
- St. Joseph Hospital Historic District, 312 E. Alta Vista Ave. & 317 Vanness Ave., Ottumwa, Wapello County
- St. John's Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Historic District, 1207 Indigo Ave., Hampton, Franklin County
- Old Main Street Historic District Boundary Increase and Amendment, Main Street between West 1st and 4th Streets, Dubuque, Dubuque County
- Seminary Hill residential Historic District, Clarke Drive, North Main, Madison streets, and Madison Park, Dubuque, Dubuque County
- Upper Iowa Street Historic District, Iowa Street between West 11th and 12th streets, Dubuque, Dubuque County
- Washington Residential Historic District, 1100's - 1900's blocks, White, Jackson and Washington streets, Dubuque, Dubuque County

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Foster Hill
National Register