

ARCHITECTURAL/HISTORICAL SURVEY

DAVENPORT, IOWA

The Architects Office

Wehner, Nowysz, Pottschull and Pfiffner  
801 day building, Iowa city, Iowa 52240

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
IOWA DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SITE # 82-10-2-W712 MAP # 1

HIST. DIST. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME Germania-Miller/Standard Hotel (H) C

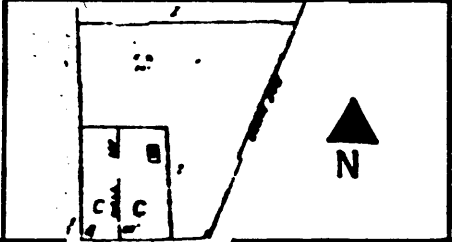
ADDRESS 712 W. <sup>2nd</sup> Street

LEGAL DES. Original Town 11 of lot 2  
SUB-DIVISION BLOCK PARCEL SUB-PARCEL

UTM ( 15 710116 9145991270 ACREAGE 1 ZONE C-4  
EASTING NORTHING

OWNER Marie J. Sanchez  
712 W. Second St., Davenport, IA 52802

TITLE H. \_\_\_\_\_  
(IF DIFF) \_\_\_\_\_



SITE SHEET

ARCHITECTURE

DESCRIPTION

FORM 4 story hotel CONST. DATE 1871; 1876  
MATERIALS brick, stone, pressed metal ARCH STYLE Victorian Bracketted  
FENESTRATION round arches w/keystones over 2/2 DHS. tympana blind  
DIST. FEATURES E. entrance w/in depressed arch flanked by pilasters; cornice; window treatment above east entrance  
ALTERATIONS Original shopfronts removed; fire escape down center front; aluminum storm  
SITE & RELATED STR. Flat lot along major thorofare, mixed commercial/residential

STATEMENT

The Germania-Miller, is an excellent example of Davenport's high Victorian commercial architecture, boasting one of the finest metal cornices in the city. Although a pair of typical 3-bay shopfronts is no longer evident, the rest of the facade is remarkably intact, displaying the polychrome and window detail characteristic of its type. John Miller apparently added the cornice, with its acantaus modillions and ornamental frieze, as "J.F. Miller 1876" appears below the arched section over the easternmost bay. This bay is particularly interesting, and the original hotel entrance could easily be restored. The hotel lies at the foot of the approach to Centennial Bridge, and could be an effective landmark for drivers entering the city here.

SOURCES

County Resource Files, Scott County, Iowa Division of Historic Preservation  
Davenport Illustrated Saengerfest Souvenir, July, 1908,  
The Democrat Company, printers

SIGNIFICANCE

This building served as hotel and gathering spot for westend Germans in the period following the Civil War. Its location near the levee was typical of guest houses of the period. Its significance is enhanced by its uninterrupted use as a hotel since the 1870's, while major changes in the neighborhood diminish its importance.

DESCRIPTION

Germania House was built in 1871 and run by John Brus. In 1876 the establishment was renamed the Miller Hotel after its new proprietor John Frederick Miller, a German immigrant and manufacturer in Davenport since the 1850's. Miller operated the hotel and accompanying restaurant, billard parlor and saloon until 1889. Guests were mainly Scott County farmers.

In subsequent years the hotel changed its name several times - Arcade Hotel (c. 1906), Henry Blessing Boarding House (c. 1917), and Standard Hotel (1924 to present). Various tenants occupied retail spaces in the hotel as well.

SOURCES

City Directories, 1871-1946  
"Hotel History Goes Back 101 Years," "Centennial and Fiftieth Annivesary Edition," Davenport Times, July 11, 1936.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN: Martha Bowers | HISTORIAN: MARLYS SVENDSEN - ROESLER | SURVEY COMP 1981

EVALUATION

ARCHITECTURAL  
I. ARCH. EVALUATION Good  
II. ENVIR. STATURE Focus  
III. INT. OF CONTEXT Poor  
IV. INT. OF FABRIC Good  
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
 NAT.  STATE  LOCAL  N. ELIG.

HISTORICAL

I. THEME(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
A. PRIMARY Commerce  
B. SECONDARY Hotels  
II. LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE  
 NAT.  STATE  LOCAL  
III. NR.H.P.  
ELIGIBLE  NOT ELIGIBLE

HISTORIC DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

FOR DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION USE ONLY

1. DATE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_  
2. DATE OF STAFF EVALUATION \_\_\_\_\_  
A. ARCHITECTURAL ELIGIBLE FOR N.R.H.P.   
NOT ELIGIBLE FOR N.R.H.P.   
B. HISTORICAL   
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  
 NRHP  
 GRANT \_\_\_\_\_  
5. SUBJECT TRACES \_\_\_\_\_  
6. PHOTO 1604-4

The Architects Office

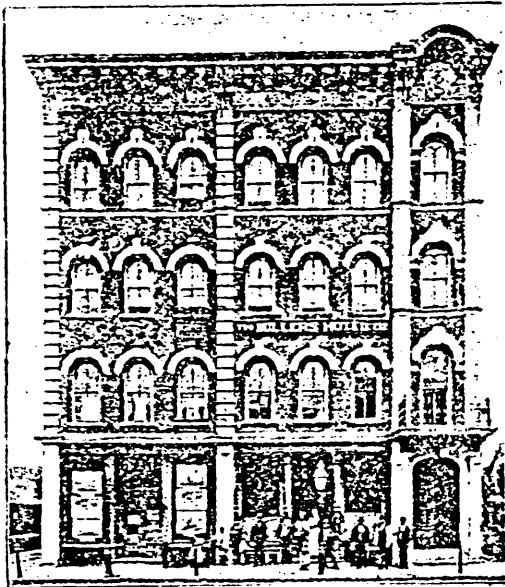
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ARCHITECTURE:

Statement continued.



CONTINUATION