

ARCHITECTURAL / HISTORICAL SURVEY

DAVENPORT, IOWA

The Architects Office

Wehner, Nowysz, Pottsichull and Pfiffner
201 day building, Iowa city, Iowa 52240

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
IOWA DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SITE # 82-10- RD-E1235 MAP # Refer to UTM map #1

HIST. DIST. _____

NAME Shields Woolen Mill H C

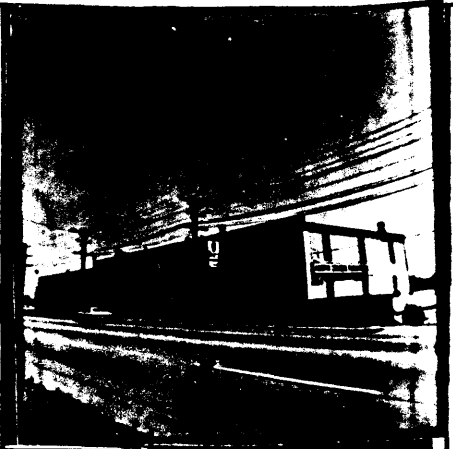
ADDRESS 1235 E. River Drive

E. Day. lots 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12, Also Pt of Sec 25-78-3 Com in S/L of Dav. & LeClaire Rd 280' W of NE Cor of Blk 28-W on S/L of Sd Rd 76'-S at R/A with Sd Rd to Pt 12.5' N. of Cen. of Ry Track - Ely Alg Sd Tract to Intersec with
SUB-DIVISION W/L of 12 BLOCK PARCEL SUB-PARCEL

UTM 15 710,387,045,999,40 ACREAGE -2 ZONE M-1

OWNER Austin Crabbs, Inc.

TITLE H. Austin Crabbs, Inc.
(IF DIFF.) 1225 E. River Drive
Davenport, IA 52803



MAP

DESCRIPTION

FORM 2 story industrial bldg., roof shallow side gable or flat CONST. DATE 1863-68
MATERIALS brick, stone foundation & basement ARCH STYLE mid-19th century industrial
FENESTRATION segmental arch predominates
DIST. FEATURES _____
ALTERATIONS Middle section w/pedimented ent. 1863; subsequent additions to 1868
SITE & RELATED STR. riverfront location in old milling district

STATEMENT

According to Oszuscik (1979) this is the oldest standing structure in Davenport known to have been designed for steam operated industrial use, and thus merits recognition as the city's earliest extant example of an important building type.

SOURCES

Oszuscik, p. 147

SIGNIFICANCE

This building is associated with the Shields Woolen Mill known later as the Davenport Woolen Mill. The woolen industry was confined to this one firm, experiencing prosperity and setbacks from the Civil War years through 1914. Although other Mill buildings dotted the original riverfront industrial site, this is the only factor building extant because Joseph Shield's residence is non-extant, the value of this structure is increased.

HISTORY

DESCRIPTION

Joseph Shield's Woolen Mill was established in 1863 to capitalize on the new found popularity of wool. By 1870 with an annual production valued at \$36,000 and 52 employees, woolen manufacturing was the 6th largest industry in Davenport. Fires and financial setbacks plagued the company in the 1870's and in 1878, Shield's committed suicide.

The reincorporated mill operated as Davenport Woolen Mill from 1881 to 1914. Clothing, blankets, flannels and cashmeres were produced by the Mill's 140 workers during the 1890's.

SOURCES

- Richter, August, "A True History of Scott County," Davenport Democrat, December 18, 1921.
- Davenport Illustrated, Saengerfest Souvenir, Davenport, 1898.
- Christiansen, Thomas P. "An Industrial History of Scott County, Iowa," Annals of Iowa, April, 1940, p. 286.

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

EVALUATION

ARCHITECTURAL

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

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

- NAT. STATE LOCAL N. ELIG.

HISTORICAL

I. THEME(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE:

- A. PRIMARY Industry
- B. SECONDARY Wool Mfg.

II. LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

- NAT. STATE LOCAL

III. N.R.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
- N.R.H.P.
- GRANT _____
- DET. OF ELIGIBILITY
- R. & C. _____
- DAVENPORT A/H SURVEY
- _____
- _____

5. SUBJECT TRACES

6. PHOTO

82-10-1671-5
North & West elevations