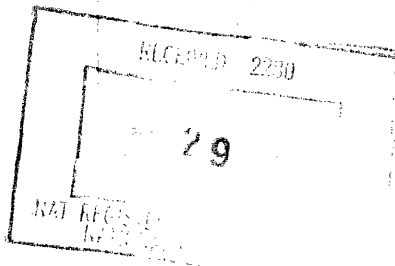


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Multiple Property Documentation Form



64500892  
JUN 18 2004  
OMB NO. 10024-0618

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

☒ New Submission    ☐ Amended Submission

**A. Name of Multiple Property Listing**

Historical And Architectural Resources of Guttenberg, Iowa, 1850-1955

**B. Associated Historical Contexts**

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

Context #1, "Wir Sind Deutschen," Germans Dominate in Guttenberg, 1850-1955:

Context #2, German Limestone Architecture in Guttenberg, 1850-1869:

Context #3, Mining, Industry and Commerce And Commercial Architecture in Guttenberg, 1850-1955:

Context #4, The Architecture and Builders of Guttenberg, 1850-1955:

Context #5, Transportation (1850-1955) and the role of State and Federal Governments in Guttenberg's History, 1939-40:

**C. Form Prepared By**

Name/Title James E. Jacobsen

Organization History Pays!

Street & Number 4411 Ingersoll Avenue

City or Town Des Moines State Iowa

Date June 30, 2004

Telephone (515) 274-3625

Zip Code 50312

**D. Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Rowell J. Lorke

Signature and title of certifying official

June 28, 2004

Date

**STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA**

State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper

Linda McClure

Date of Action

8/12/04

**Table of Contents for Written Narrative**

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and the title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheets in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Fill in page numbers for each in the space below.

	Page Numbers
<b>E. Statement of Historic Contexts</b>	<b>E-4</b>
<b>F. Associated Property Types</b>	<b>F-100</b>
<b>G. Geographical Data</b>	<b>G-113</b>
<b>H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods</b>	<b>H-116</b>
<b>I. Major Bibliographical References</b>	<b>I-131</b>

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### **Introduction:**

It is unusual that the same person surveys a community twice over a 22-year period. The experience offered an opportunity to measure change, good or bad, relative to historic preservation, tourism, and sense of community. At first glance, the historic building casualties since 1979 are fairly alarming and a number of property owners have made lamentable design decisions relative to their historic buildings. The city has also reached the point where any new housing construction requires the elimination of something old, and the willingness to swap modular double-wides for an older house is strongly compelling. Flood protection has allowed the infilling of the backside of the city, between the bluffs and State Highway 52, and this once distinctive seasonal wetland is fairly built up. At the same time, the local historic preservation commission has good community and political support and it is hoped that this most recent survey effort will strengthen and clarify the important role of the commission. The recommendations embodied in this report could help to identify and perhaps preserve the historic buildings in Guttenberg. The Commission has had notable successes with its efforts to preserve the Lock Master's house and to acknowledge the significance of the Fish Hatchery.

There has been considerable change in Guttenberg since 1979. A new generation of community leaders is in place and there is a very tangible sense of confidence and potential for local growth. The highway businesses are stronger than ever but the historic downtown is holding its own and retains much of its special sense of time and place. Guttenberg, in short, remains a delightful place to live or visit and Iowans who never take the time to go there are missing out on a very special experience.

### **E. Historical Summary:**

#### General Physical Description:

Guttenberg is a small community on the Mississippi River in northeast Iowa, much of its population of some 3,000 persons, the majority descendants from the German immigrants who established a town here, on the site of an earlier village, in 1847. Strong physical features delineate the town's boundaries: the Mississippi River on the east and high, wooded, limestone bluffs on the north, south and west. The town is situated on a narrow plain that extends about three miles north-south through the community along Fifth Street, parallel to a railroad line occupying the former Third Street. West of the highway, and extending nearly to the base of the western bluffs, the plain forms a shallow depression that flooded regularly in the 19th century with the spring rise on the Mississippi, and thus experienced almost no development. As a ponding area, part of the Corps of Engineers' flood control program, it is still largely unimproved.

These elements, rail line, highway, and flood plain, effectively divide Guttenberg into two parts. The larger, more intensively built-up area lies to the east, between the river and the rail line. Here are concentrated the business district, most remnants of former industrial activity, and most residential construction. Beyond the railroad, highway and floodplain is a narrow shelf of sloping ground, bounded on the east by Bluff Street and on the west by the bluffs themselves. In many places only a hundred feet wide, this one and a half-mile-long shelf forms a discrete residential district, with houses irregularly-spaced along its length and set close beneath the looming bluffs.

The linear character of Guttenberg is further expressed in the arrangement of activity within the eastern section of the community. The riverbank, once built up with sawmills, lumber yards, wharves and warehouses, is now a long, narrow city park and site of a federal fish hatchery, public school, three enormous stone warehouses, and Lock and Dam No. 10. Main Street is River Park Drive, and most commercial activity, facing the river, between Pearl and Lessing Streets, and to a more



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limited extent along First Street. Although residential construction extends both north of Pearl and south of Lessing, these streets form rough limits to the northern and southern extent of concentrated building. The western edge is defined by the railroad tracks, but not strongly, as Guttenberg's inhabitants had nearly 30 years to build on both sides of Third Street before the railroad arrived in 1871.

The overall character of Guttenberg is not unlike that of many other small Iowa towns. Streets are pleasantly tree-shaded; houses are fairly close together (particularly toward the center) yet with sufficient space for small or medium-sized front and side yards. The scale is low--few buildings are over two stories high--and most of the "intrusive" construction is located along the highway. While the grid-like town plat has been largely followed in the commercial and adjacent residential areas, the fringes (to the north, south and west) in particular show oddities of siting, with houses fronting alleys or the railroad tracks, or located with scant regard for official block and parcel lines.

Several buildings, principally by virtue of their size, are important visual landmarks of the community, although none serves as a strong focus of orientation for surrounding structures. Three are the mid-19th century stone warehouses along the river (534, 545 and 557 South River Park Drive) that terminate the eastern ends of Herder, Schiller and Lessing streets, respectively. The other landmark is St. Mary Roman Catholic Church (South 2<sup>nd</sup> and Herder) built in 1902 in a late Gothic Revival style. Twin spires flank a tripartite entrance portal, and rise to a height (146 feet) well above any other structure in the community.

Wood, brick and limestone comprise the principal materials of construction in Guttenberg. Wood was used in all types of structures, from houses and outbuildings to commercial blocks. A number of early houses and commercial blocks are of brick (which was locally available by 1854) as are a small group of turn of the century residences and many commercial structures.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of Guttenberg's architectural landscape, is the relatively large number of limestone structures, ranging from the great warehouses to small cottage or cabin forms, nearly all of which were built between 1845 and 1870, and which at one time numbered over 100. The stone, obtained from the surrounding bluffs, varies from cut and coursed quarry-faced block to rubble, the more elaborately dressed stone used mostly for the warehouses and commercial blocks. The largest commercial buildings are built on top of deep vaulted basements, some with several levels, while a number of residences contain vaulted root cellars and springhouses. Massive interlocking timbers, hand-hewn, still support the floors and roofs of these structures. Originally, many of the basements had excavated exteriors, with full sized windows, doors and stairways.

Exterior cellar entrances with wooden doors are sometimes associated with these structures. Stucco appears to have been applied to the vast majority of the stone structures about 1890-1900, and in some cases much later. Sometimes, the exteriors were then decorated with a large simulated block pattern in black or red. The coating probably prevented weak rock from flaking and served as a minimal insulation. While many buildings in Guttenberg retain a high degree of exterior integrity, modernization and additions are not uncommon. Typically, the most radical alterations have affected commercial blocks, among the unfortunate being the application of a supermarket front to one of the stone warehouses along the river. Frame houses, in particular, have experienced additions and application of aluminum or asbestos siding. A common method of gaining more living space has been enclosure of porches, many of them two stories high, obscuring a number of potentially interesting facades. Another, earlier, siding material, found principally on commercial blocks, is sheet metal pressed to resemble brick and painted silver. Rather oddly, this material (and also modern aluminum siding) sometimes covers stone and brick structures as well as those of frame construction.

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Early outbuildings are relatively rare in town center. Their numbers tend to increase with distance from town proper. Tile and concrete-block sheds and garages, dating from the 1920's and 1930's predominate in the commercial area. Houses along the western bluffs offer a fine collection of vaulted cellars, pumps and wells, springhouses and carriage houses. Houses in the north end of town often retain early garages, pumps and summer kitchens. An interesting feature is the "flying buttress" eaves spout, in which an eaves pipe extension is braced to carry water over the sidewalk to empty into the street.

Along with the more common threats to historic and architectural resources, such as neglect, insensitive modernization and demolition, Guttenberg is faced with several others. First, much of the town is built on ground that is largely silt and sand, which is not only unstable but holds water after floods like a sponge. This dampness threatens many of the oldest buildings in the community, which were built of limestone, a rather porous material.

Also, the limestone itself may not be of very high quality--suggested by the extensive (and early) application of stucco to many building exteriors. In this regard, recent local "restoration" projects may in the long run have done more harm than good, because many of them have involved total removal of stucco and application of masonry sealants. Finally, barges create noticeable vibrations as they pass through the river locks, which may be contributing significantly to the number of sagging walls along River Park Drive.

Guttenberg's architectural landscape is unpretentious, stressing simplicity of form and avoidance of decoration. Elaborate surfaces characteristic of the Gilded Age romantic revivals are largely absent from Guttenberg, chief exceptions being a small number of commercial fronts, a handful of c.1900 brick houses in the late Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style, and St. Mary Church. The earliest style found in Guttenberg is the Greek Revival, but never in pure form; rather, aspects of the style, such as frontal symmetry, pedimented window heads, and cornice treatment, have been adapted to vernacular building forms.

The well-preserved nature of a number of early commercial blocks is an important feature of Guttenberg's architecture; as such buildings in many Iowa communities were altered or modernized periodically over the course of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20th centuries. Most of the remaining examples are, not surprisingly, of masonry construction. Most notable are two-story blocks with steep side-gable roofs, many with parapet gable ends. The fronts are three or more bays wide, with first floor storefront windows larger than those above. A few have cast-iron fronts, but only at ground floor level; the material is also employed for cornices and window hoods.

Guttenberg's commercial architecture also includes an assortment of late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20th century examples, from small town commercial Italianate, with front parapet and bracketed cornice, to diminutive pressed-brick storefronts--and a Romanesque Revival bank with corner turret, from the early 1900's housing from this period is more varied than was the case earlier in the 19th century. Forms include the two-story L or T plan wooden "farmhouse," the foursquare, hipped roof box with wide eaves, and Craftsman houses.

The stone buildings of Guttenberg's "formative" period (1845-70) set a tone of functional simplicity in local architecture that remained locally popular and dominant throughout the 19th century, despite increasing use of milled lumber and other manufactured materials such as stock decorative elements (metal cornices and storefronts), which if not necessarily cheaper than stone were far easier to use. Simplicity of massing and surface treatment continued to be a hallmark of Guttenberg's architecture, however, whether due to cultural influences or simply lack of wherewithal to fully exploit the late 19th century American enthusiasm for picturesque surface elaboration. Guttenberg's business establishments also reflected this conservatism, in which many of the early blocks were retained despite the tremendous popularity in Iowa of the "commercial Italianate" style and the equally popular false front so common on America's late 19th century frontiers.

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## Historical Overview: Guttenberg's Town/City Growth and Development, 1850-1955:

The earliest Euro-American occupation of the narrow floodplain along the Mississippi is not well-documented but probably occurred shortly before or after eastern Iowa was opened to white settlement by the Black Hawk Treaty of 1833. A seasonal campground of the Sauk and Mesquakie tribes in the 1820's this area may have hosted Indian traders in those years, who viewed the plain, with narrow creek valleys opening into it from between high limestone bluffs, as a good place from which to conduct business and gain access to the prairie interior to the west. The tiny settlement, which grew up on the plain, was called Prairie la Porte, and as the largest population center in newly established Clayton County, was designated county seat in 1838. This status was not long retained, however, as movement of settlers into western portions of the county resulted in removal of the county seat to more centrally-located Garnaville in 1843. Within a few years, Prairie la Porte was almost totally abandoned.

The historical origin of Guttenberg (former Prairie La Porte) can be traced to the period of French exploration and (scattered) settlement. Marquette and Joliet in 1673 noted in their journals what they described as a large chain of very high mountains followed downstream by a stretch of river that was filled with islands on the east side of the channel. This spot, some fifteen miles below Pike's Peak, offered to the early explorers and traders a door on the prairie by means of following the river or creek valleys into the interior. The name "Prairie La Porte" thus was given to the future site of a settlement, its meaning being "Door to the Prairie." As late as 1823 the site was a Sac and Fox campground. The level, three-mile long plain (composed of river deposits), offered a unique site for settlement. The Louisiana Purchase of 1803 transferred jurisdiction and ownership to the United States and the Black Hawk Purchase of June 1, 1833 finally opened the area for legal settlement by American citizens. The District of Iowa, divided in two counties, Dubuque and Des Moines, was then a part of Wisconsin Territory. Dubuque County was subdivided into eleven counties in 1837, thereby creating Clayton County. The north boundary of this new county was the southern boundary line of the Neutral Ground, an area created in 1830 to allow mutual unmolested hunting by various Indian tribes.

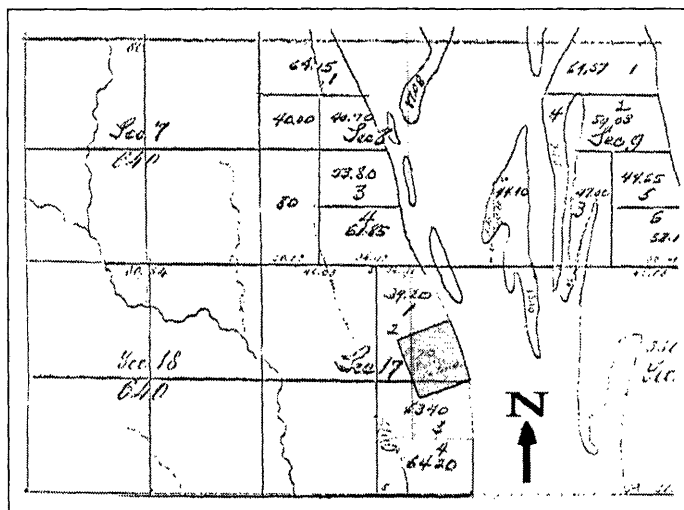


Figure 1: Original Federal Land Survey, Dark gray locates Prairie la Porte plat, light gray Lots 1-2 and 3 which became the Guttenberg plat  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

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At the time of county organization, Prairie La Porte was the largest settlement. Naturally it functioned as county seat from that time on. The first governmental function was served on September 10, 1838 when the town served as one of two polling places for the election of the first county officers. In May of that year the first term of the Iowa District Court met in Guttenberg. Two weeks later, on June 12, 1838 the Territory of Iowa was created and the second court meeting on September 11 met as Territorial Court.

The town was first surveyed in 1839, with a ninety-three acre plat, divided into seven blocks (north from present-day Goethe Street to Mozart Street) north and south by six blocks from east and west. Street names from the south were Prince, Pearl, Main, China, Regent, and Pryam streets.

In September 1840, the first courthouse structure was built at Prairie La Porte. It would serve the county until 1843 when Garnavillo (originally called Jacksonville) was selected as a more centrally located site for the county seat. The rough terrain of Prairie La Porte would never have allowed the development of a large city, but by 1838 the County population was 274 persons, fifty-one families, or one third of the total Territorial population of 697 (Walter Jacobs, p. 13).

Subsequent settlement of the interior in conjunction with the loss of the county seat caused the town to lose population. The development of the lead mining industry in the area probably sustained the town in a minimal way. Little information is available concerning the state of the town by 1845. The most extreme assessment stated that only two buildings remained, and that one of these, the old courthouse, was falling down.

The County found a buyer for its town plat. The Western Settlement Society of Cincinnati, Ohio was a semi-charitable organization founded to aid German immigrants who were settling in Western America. In 1844 the Society purchased three hundred acres to the north and one hundred and sixty acres to the south of the Prairie La Porte plat. The next year this plat was also sold by the county to the Society. Five German families arrived in early March 1845, the most determined of an original band of two hundred souls, the majority of the original emigrants having remained behind in Burlington. The Cincinnati convoy, that departed that city the previous February, comprised ten steamboats and 27 barges. The five families came on a single steamboat with two barges in tow, these being loaded with their belongings. There is little information on how fast the immigrants arrived, but by 1851 the town population was less than 300. The new settlement was renamed "Guttenberg," presumably in honor of the German printer Johannes Gutenberg and the name was accepted by the State Legislature. Another explanation for the name was "Guten Bergen" or "Good mountains." City historian Walt Jacobs championed the former claim. He based his hypothesis on the timing of the name selection, c.1843-44, on the eve of the printer's fair scheduled for the summer of 1845 in Germany. The fairs were held every hundred years following the death of the noted inventor of moveable type. The earliest historical reference to this claimed name source appeared in the 1882 Clayton County history. During the early 1960s Jacobs even attempted to have the city name legally changed to "Gutenberg," alleging that the extra "t" had simply slipped into the spelling of the name as early as 1846. A rumor that the change would invalidate property abstracts quashed that project (Jacobs, pp. 16-17, 22; 1882 Clayton County History, p. 853).<sup>1</sup>

The Iowa State Legislature renamed the community in January 1847 and the supplemental town survey was finished by June of that same year. It was filed for record on September 8, 1848 by Charles Krephanie, Heinrich Fahling, and F. W. Helmich. The new streets were laid out, from the south Jordan, DeKalb, Rotteck, Koerner, Hermann, Wieland, Lessing,

<sup>1</sup> Guttenberg, New Jersey, founded about the same time, is ethnically associated with the Netherlands and has the same murky name origin.

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Schiller, Herder and Goethe streets; and, north of the original plat, were Mozart and Hayden streets. The Prairie La Porte plat was not re-surveyed and survives in county records as the north half of the present city (Jacobs, pp. 18-19).

With the coming of the Germans, settlement on the narrow plain began a period of sustained growth. By 1860 over 100 substantial stone houses, commercial blocks and small industrial plants were in existence, augmented by buildings of locally manufactured brick, timber from nearby bluffs, and dressed lumber from area mills. Much early economic activity resulted, logically enough, from Guttenberg's location on one of the nation's principal arteries of transportation--the Mississippi River wharf and warehouses handled a variety of products brought out of the northeastern Iowa interior: pig lead from the region's small lead mines, wheat and other grains from the farms. In addition, Guttenberg developed a number of small industries, among them barrel manufacture, lumber and grain milling, leather, brewing, dairying, and even wine-making, with grapes from vineyards planted on the bluffs above the town. Steamboat travelers and area farmers also provided brisk business for local entrepreneurs: grocers, dry-goods merchants, and hoteliers.

Guttenberg's river front location quite naturally influenced early commercial development in specific ways. The town first served as a focal point for westward settlement and as an early governmental and administrative center. The early location of the county seat (1838-1843) spurred town growth and local business development. The city served as a supply center for the general area until the Civil War period, when railroads and an interior road system combined to decrease Guttenberg's role as a market center. The earliest businesses included general supply stores, blacksmith and wagon shops, and hotels. Herman Graybill's tavern and store rented a room for the earliest governmental meetings. The loss of the county seat slowed growth and some population decline naturally followed. Two factors caused an economic revival of the town, the arrival beginning in 1845 of hundreds of German immigrants (including skilled tradesmen, artisans, craftsmen) under the auspices of the Western Settlement Society of Cincinnati, and the early development of the lead mining industry along Miners Creek, beginning c.1843 (Jacobs, p. 14).

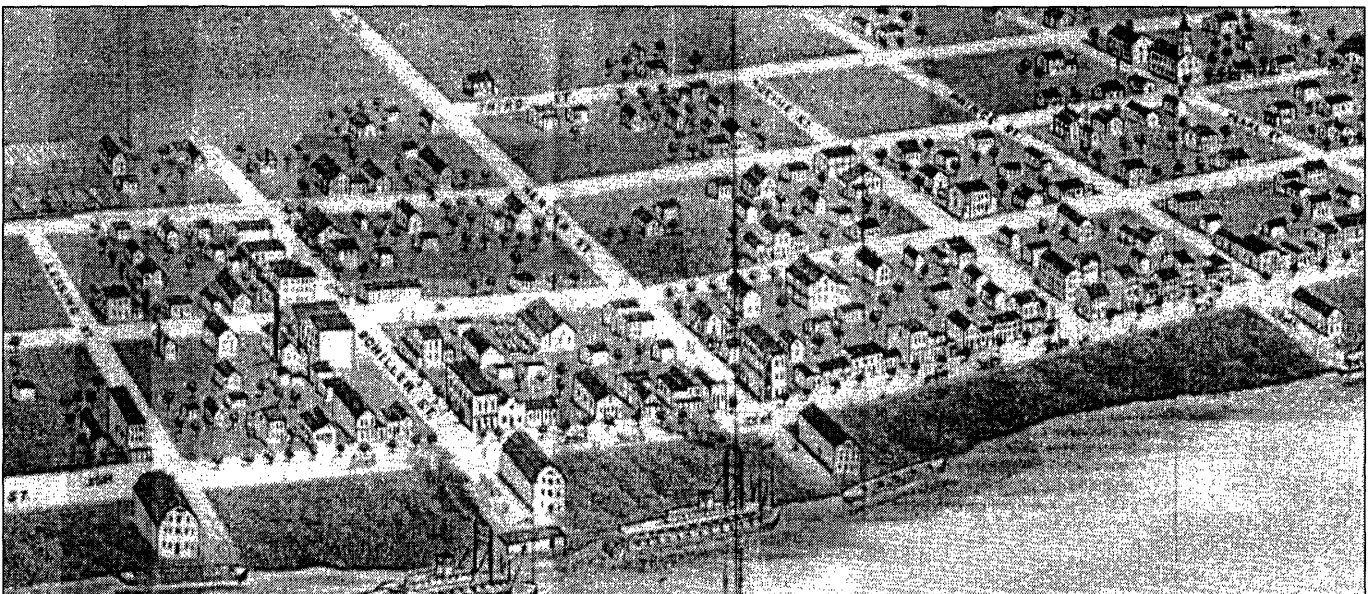


Figure 2: Albert Ruger, "Bird's eye View of Guttenberg, Clayton County, Iowa, 1869 Bird's Eye View of Guttenberg, Looking Northwest." Chicago: Merchants Lithographing Company, 1869. Turner Hall and St. John Lutheran Church visible in right background, the four river warehouses line the riverbank.

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The bluff line to the west edge of the plat was the site for many early homes. To some extent city lots were sold along with single-acre lots, which were on top of the bluff. Apparently this plan to have residences along the hill and commercial buildings in town never worked out. Many substantial stone houses appeared along the bluff line where natural springs offered the first town water supply. As late as 1855 there were only four or five non-German families living in Guttenberg and these included some notable merchants and local political figures. The first substantial house, built of brick, was the Overbeck and Telgemier double house (not located or identified), constructed jointly by the two families in 1845. At the peak of lead mining efforts, the town boasted a population of five hundred with two hotels and a good steamboat landing. By 1856 the population exceeded 1,500 (having increased from a mere 300 residents in 1851) and it was the largest community in Clayton County.

As was the case with many of Iowa's Mississippi River towns, the coming of the railroad to Guttenberg in 1871, and its extension into many northeast Iowa counties, coupled with a national decline in river traffic, required adjustment of local economic activities. Ferries and packet boats no longer brought travelers, and the railroads took over transport of goods and produce. Gristmills stood idle, as area farmers converted operations from grain to dairying. For a time, however, the Mississippi continued to provide a livelihood, as the medium of transport of log rafts floated down river from Wisconsin and Minnesota forests. In the late 1870's, local sawmills offered opportunity for employment that was sustained until just before World War I.

Anticipating the depletion of northern forests, Guttenberg's town council in the 1890's began a program to attract new industries. A second period of economic opportunity resulted from this effort, which brought in an excelsior plant, an overall manufacturing plant, three pearl button factories, and a corn canning operation. The attendant prosperity resulted in modernization and new construction in the business district, and the building of several fairly imposing brick residences that expressed, albeit with discretion, the improving fortunes of the town's entrepreneurs.

The mid-1890s witnessed a distinct turnaround. The City Council desired a municipal water works but couldn't get the voters to agree to pay for it. The Council then simply purchased a lot of water main pipe counting on the voters to want to put the pipe to actual work. They didn't budge and it finally took a disastrous late 1894 fire that threatened the entire town to produce the needed water works. A newspaper, the *Guttenberg Press*, the first in very many years, was established in January 1897. This era was the onset of a number of industrial developments that started an overall development that would eventually reclaim the county seat status. A button factory opened 1899-1900, a new bank (Guttenberg State Bank) was organized in 1900. By 1901 the northern portion of the city was being rapidly built up and a local census enumerated 2,143 residents, a substantial improvement beyond the 1,620 1900 federal census headcount (*Dubuque Daily Telegraph*, November 7, 1899; *Press*, April 25, 1901; *Telegraph-Herald*, April 6, 1903).

The downtown streets had their first electrical lights by late 1903. A Dubuque overall maker, H. B. Glover & Company, established a branch factory in the city in 1905. The Guttenberg Canning Company (413 North Third, NRHP-listed) was seasonally processing local fruits and vegetables by 1911. The Farm House Tractor Company opened in 1918, as did the Eberhard Butter Tub factory a year later. By 1923 the town was proclaimed "Clayton County's manufacturing center" because it led in the number of manufacturing firms. That year the city gained a creamery and a dairy factory. These accomplishments propelled the city to the stature of the county's largest community but the coveted county seat status was never regained.

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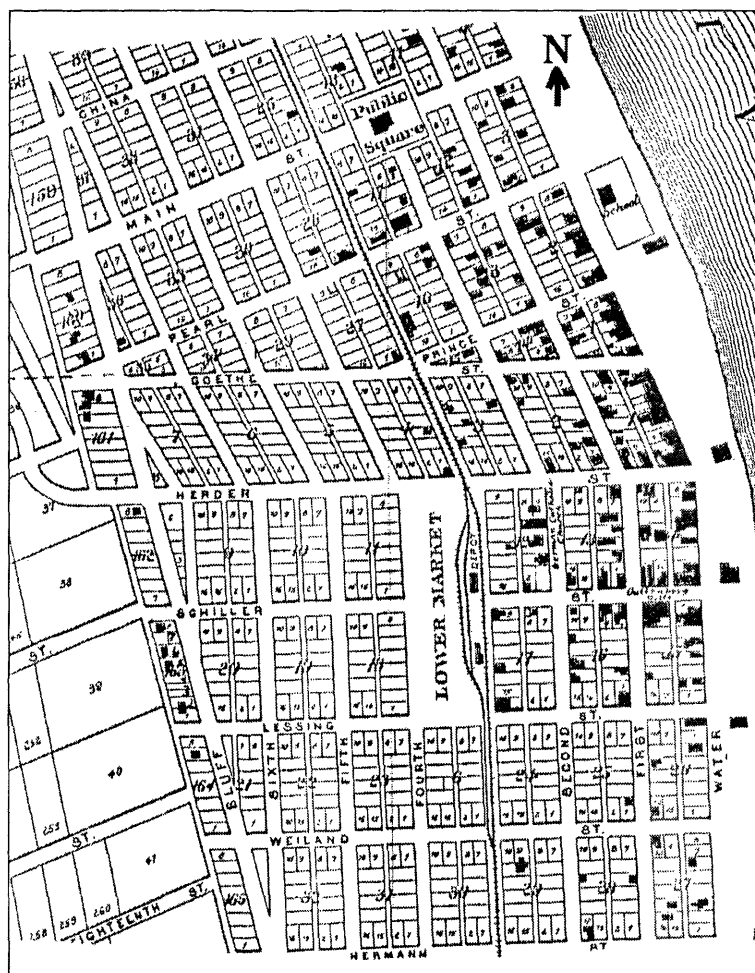


Figure 3: Excerpt, 1886 Town Plat, Public Square south to Hermann Street  
Note how the buildings form a crescent on the high ground close to the river.  
Goethe Street separates the Prairie La Porte (north of Goethe) and Guttenberg plats  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

Since the early 20th century, Guttenberg has managed to maintain a small, but viable economy. The period 1910-1917 was one of full employment. In fact, the town drew in young men from outlying towns and farms to work in the button plants. Guttenberg continued to serve as a collection point for farm produce (the coming of the railroad had altered the town's role from that of supplying the farms and smaller communities, to the role of merely collecting farm products from a smaller area. A creamery was opened in 1920. A new north-south highway connection in 1929 (US Highway 52) provided bus service and further reduced isolation. Guttenberg's population was 1,700 persons as of 1926 and it remained the county's largest community ("Time Line History of St. Mary's Parish and School").



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Figure 4a: Overview southeast from the bluffs, c.1898-99, Public Square to Pearl Street  
The railroad runs across the image, along Third Street, the Methodist Church is just  
above and to the left of St. John Church. Fifteen of these buildings survive today  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)



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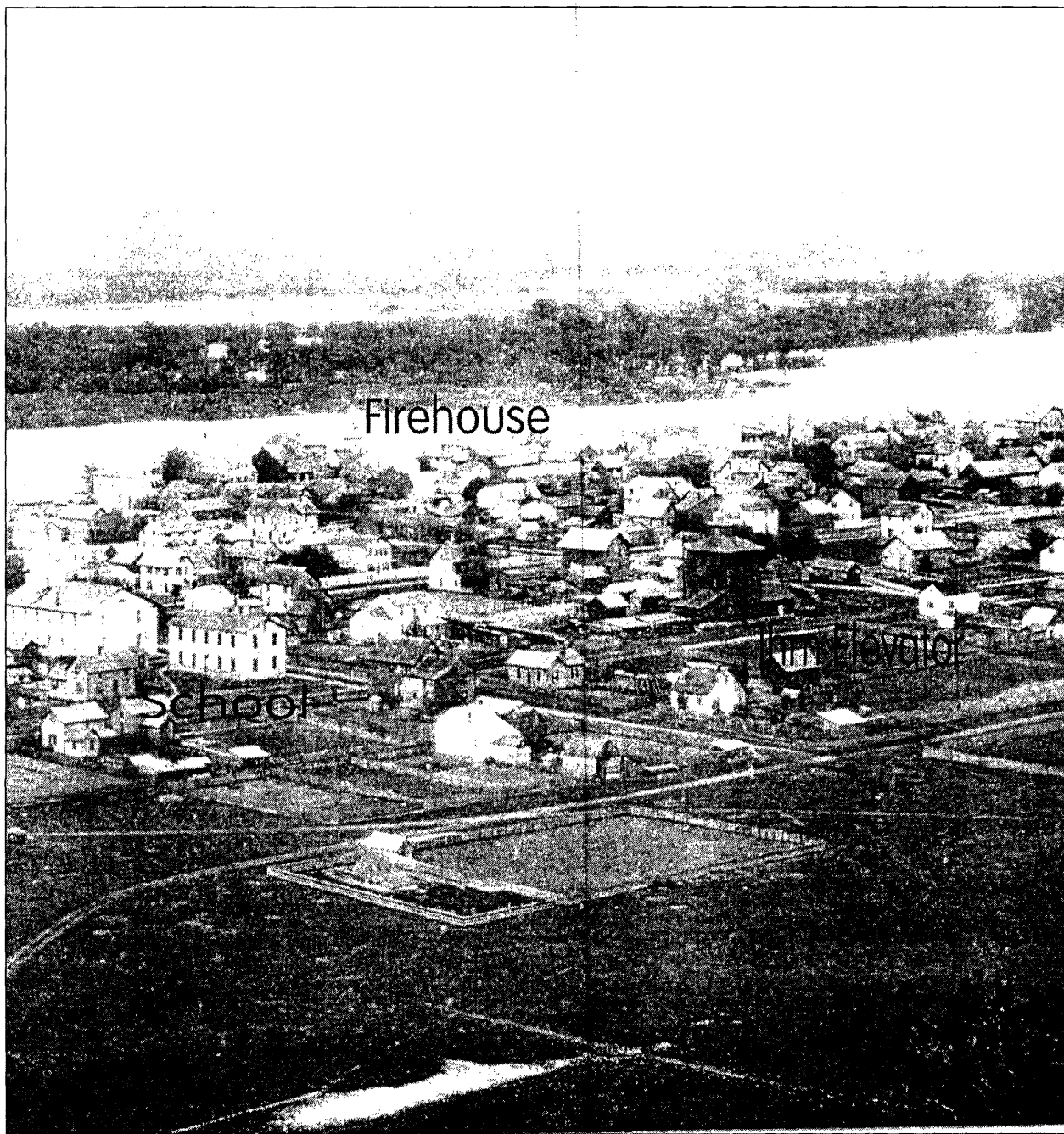


Figure 4b: Overview southeast from the bluffs, c.1898-99,  
The railroad runs across the image, along Third Street, the Methodist Church is just  
Above and to the left of St. John Church. Fifteen of these buildings survive today  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

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In the areas of commerce and industry, Guttenberg combined activities common to most small 19th Century American towns with enterprises distinctly reflective of its location on the Mississippi. Standard offerings included dry goods and general merchandise stores, blacksmiths, and hardware and building suppliers. Among the responses to economic activities of northeast Iowa were wharves, cooperages, flourmills and grain elevators, and warehouses, the later built to handle farmers' grain and other commodities, and to ready them for shipment on the river. Other agriculture-based industries were breweries, winemaking and dairying. The Mississippi also encouraged construction of sawmills, and toward the end of the 19th century provided raw material, in the form of clamshells, for pearl button factories. Guttenberg's location on the river, with the attendant flow of traffic and travelers, gave local hotels a special prominence and substantial business. Benefits of location continued into the 1930's when river-oriented federal projects, such as the lock, dam and fish hatchery, brought a measure of stability in economically precarious times. The diversity and river orientation of Guttenberg's economic history are notably illustrated in the variety of buildings remaining from these activities, some housing functions similar to the original, others long since converted to new and different uses.

The Depression does not appear to have closed many significant firms in Guttenberg. Both banks (founded in 1887 and 1900) survived while other towns lost their only banks. The Federal Government's public works programs provided a financial blessing. Lock and Dam No. 10 (1934-1937) provided jobs and money, as did the construction of a new municipal building (1939) and a fish hatchery (1938). An influx of workers greatly changed a previously insular and conservative community into a more "friendly town".

## Historical Contexts:

Guttenberg's most important historic resources represent two broader themes in its history. The first is the remarkable stone vernacular architecture of an early Iowa immigrant community, with its heavy reliance on use of local native building materials. The second theme is the variety of commercial and industrial pursuits that brought initial and later long-term prosperity to Guttenberg and enabled the town to fully exploit its location on the Mississippi River.

Guttenberg has long been noted for its well preserved pre- and post-Civil War vernacular architecture. Its vernacular buildings represent houses and their related outbuildings, commercial blocks and even a few very early industrial complexes.

Perhaps the most striking feature of Guttenberg's architectural landscape is the large number of limestone structures, the majority dating from before the Civil War and some perhaps built as early as the mid-1840's. They represent a rather extensive use of a locally available but unwieldy, building material, possibly even in preference to equally available timber. Examples of stone construction include not only industrial and commercial buildings (where the material's load-bearing and fire-retardant qualities would have been most appreciated) but also houses, large and small. Use of limestone is not unique to Guttenberg it is found in many eastern and central Iowa communities, and as in Guttenberg was most commonly used in the 1845-70 period, but the high proportion and variety of stone structures remaining in Guttenberg; sets this community apart from many towns of its age in the state.

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## Context #1, "Wir Sind Deutschen," Germans Dominate in Guttenberg: 1850-1918:<sup>2</sup>

Guttenberg is the pre-eminent example of a German-American community, and in fact was first envisioned as an all-German city. That German dominance determined the city's architectural heritage and made possible its success in commerce, industry and all other aspects of community life. Cultural influences directly influenced all aspects of architecture and played a dominant role in every aspect of community life. Context #2 identifies the vernacular stone architecture of Guttenberg as being historically significant and that building tradition is the best range of properties associated with the German community.

When the Western Settlement Society acquired and occupied the former town site of Prairie la Porte in 1847, a new phase of that community's history began, one that was represented by the importing an entirely new and very different population to the town site. Accounts indicate that many of its members never reached the final destination point, stopping off in other river towns that also had their contingents of German-born settlers. The 1850 federal census recorded just 100 souls in Guttenberg. By the time the city was incorporated in 1851, it stood at no more than 300 persons. While quite small, the new community was exclusively German-speaking. Large-scale German settlement continued into the mid-1850s before being briefly halted by the national financial panic of 1857-58, but by 1860, the federal census again tallied heads and found 1,104 persons in the growing city. This number would fluctuate over the next decade, dropping to 1030 persons by 1862, 1004 by 1865 (state census), and just 836 by 1867. The headcount would rebound only by the late 1860s, with 1007 residents in 1869 and 1040 the next year (Riley Mofat, *Population History of Eastern U.S. Cities and Towns, 1790-1870*. Metuchen, New Jersey: The Scarecrow Press, 1992, p. 46, A. T., *Andreas' Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa*. Chicago: Andreas Atlas Company, 1875, p. 437).

The Western Settlement Society, organized in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1841, was more than just a short-term organization. The society voted on April 6, 1846 to purchase land in Clayton County and empowered trustees Philipp Reiss, F. H. Wellman and George Johnson to conduct the subsequent re-sales to individual lot purchasers. The 1882 Clayton County history notes "It was originally the intention of the Western Settlement Society to make Guttenberg purely a German town, and while this was at first the case, several Americans and settlers of other nationalities have since come in." The 1916 county history describes it as a "semi-benevolent institution and [one that] assisted many especially the German revolutionists to secure homes in the new country. In this way Guttenberg was settled rapidly and by a homogenous population." The organization either transferred itself wholesale to the new town site, or it continued to manage community affairs on the local level, serving as the go-between in the selling of lots. The Society purchased the initial acreage and then acquired the 40-acre Prairie la Porte plat when the county seat was removed to Garnavillo. A German Social Mutual Aid Society, formed in 1853, appears to have largely replaced the original organization. The first small group of German-American families arrived in 1845. The first Catholic contingent, consisting of six men, arrived that next spring. At least one German, Christian Weise, was in the area as of the late 1830s (Price, Realto E. Price, *History of Clayton County, Iowa*. Chicago: Robert O. Law Company, 1916, p. 318; *History of Clayton County*, 1882, pp. 854, 862; "Time Line History of St. Mary's Parish and School.").

<sup>2</sup> Guttenberg remains a very German community and it is no easy task to determine a point where this German predominance ceased to influence building design and no longer played a dominant role in history. The year 1918 is used as an arbitrary ending date for the conclusion, marking the point where foreign born residents were dying off and where the community increasingly was opening up to the outside world.

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The 1850 federal census describes a predominantly German-born community but there is an important non-German presence as well. Three merchants, William Sullivan, Cornelius Gilmore and John Sixley, were all native born. All but six of 19 carpenters were Germans and all five of the stonemasons were Germans. Still non-Germans served as a teacher, ferryman, sawyer, gunsmith, doctor, clock maker, tailor, two blacksmiths, and a plasterer. Amongst lead miners, ten were German (including a Prussian and a Swiss) while 18 were native born. There were just eight non-German farmers in the township and these largely clustered together. The German-born professions were clerk, merchant (five), cabinet maker (four), saddler, blacksmith (four), broom maker, shoemaker (six), lime burner, brick maker, plasterer (three), engineer, doctor, miller (three), millwright, cooper (two), mechanic, tailor (two), baker, mason, stone mason (four), teamster, and manufacturers (Gerald and Bernard Pelzer) (Jefferson Township, Clayton County 1850 Federal Census, [www.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ia/clayton/census/1850](http://www.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ia/clayton/census/1850)).<sup>3</sup>

Another indicator that the initial population was mixed in languages was the fact that all of the earliest newspapers were printed in English. Guttenberg like all communities was interested in re-gaining the county seat and it is probable that even a large German presence was inadequate to support a German language newspaper. These early newspapers included the *Clayton County Journal*, established in late May 1856, being the successor to the *Clayton County Herald* of Garnavillo, and the *Mississippi Valley Register*, which started up in May 1859. The first German language paper in Guttenberg was *Die Mississippi Woechter*. Historian Walter Jacobs gives no date for its establishment but he implies that it was in existence at the start of the Civil War (Jacobs, pp. 31,33).

Of the Germans who first came to the new town site, there were enough Catholics and Protestants to support their respective churches, St. Mary Roman Catholic (founded 1851) and St. John Lutheran (founded 1854) and these dominated the community religious history. Given the later organizational date for the Lutherans, it is possible that Catholics predominated in the first wave of settlement (Jacobs, pp. 28-29).

The list of township patrons (subscribers) of the 1875 *Andreas Atlas* provides both points of origin and year of settlement for a number of successful residents, that list (German-born only) follows:

Name	Profession, 1875	Year Emigrated	Birthplace
Eppens, John Henry	hotelkeeper	1859	Hanover
Eckart, S.	wagon maker	1855	Prussia
Fleck Brothers	merchants, millers	1855	Nordhausen
Falkenheimer, J.	hardware merchant	1853	Hesse-Darmstadt
Heins, L.	druggist	1856	Heidelberg
Hirsch, P. H. F.	insurance agent	1870	Hamburg
Ihm, Herman	grain dealer	1854	Heidelberg
Krueger, Friedrich	farmer	1853	same
Kann, John	farmer	1847	same
Kann, William	farmer	1847	same
Kann, John H.	farmer	1847	same
Luther, John	wagons & carriages	1851	Switzerland
Mohring, P.	wagon maker	1874	Wurtemberg

<sup>3</sup> The 1860 federal census simply listed all Germans as being German, a very early application of that term.

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Some of the city's "Germans" were coming from any number of German-speaking principalities, including Alsace-Lorraine and Luxembourg. It is the latter point of origin that is of special interest because Luxembourg emigrants are associated with a particular stone building tradition.

An 1856 account noted that "the inhabitants of Guttenberg are almost exclusively German, there being but four or five American families in the place. It is a significant fact that one of these few Americans was chosen mayor. The German mind is not absorbed by a lust for office." This being said, the roster of mayors and councilmen is solidly German in its makeup. The long-standing joke about Guttenberg was to the effect that there was "just one American in Guttenberg, and he was an Irishman." The same 1856 account speaks of the characteristics of the German population:

...Socially the people of Guttenberg are above all praise...[They are] Of a very high order of intelligence and gifted with an unusual knowledge of the world, their conversation is as charming as their hospitality is grateful...All over the country we heard the warmest praise of the German settlers. The prominent Americans spoke of them as ornaments in every way to the county, and extolled glowingly, their intelligence, their industry, their patriotism, and the great increase of wealth which they produced.

Many of the Guttenberg German settlers were political exiles, forced to flee following the failure of pro-democratic revolutions during the latter half of the 1840s. Dr. William Hoffbauer (1812-?) was an excellent example. He was an 1842 graduate of the University of Berlin and was a member of the German Parliament 1848-49. He first fled to Switzerland in 1850, and came to Guttenberg a year later. It is noteworthy that many of Guttenberg's new streets, Wieland, Lessing, Schiller, Herder and Goethe, bore the names of German's most noted free thinkers. Wieland, Herder and Goethe were all from Weimar and knew each other. Musicians Mozart and Haydn were also acknowledged, in street names from the northern reaches of the new plat. Revolutionary names, Washington, Jefferson, LaFayette and Kosciusko were also employed. Steuben was another German name and Cincinnati honored the origin of the city's settlement (Price, p.106; *History of Clayton County*, 1882, pp. 859-61, 868; Jacobs, p. 19).

The 1856 Iowa state census combined Jefferson Township with Guttenberg proper (as had the 1850 federal census) and reported a very large total population of 2,080, 1,010 of whom lived in Guttenberg. Sixty-seven percent of this number were German-born. Adding their descendants, largely born in Iowa and Ohio, would surely increase that figure to roughly 82 percent being German-born or their native-born descendants (1856 Iowa State Census, Clayton County).<sup>4</sup>

The Dubuque *Express & Herald* commented on the ethnic mix in Guttenberg in early 1857:

The population of the present time will reach about fifteen hundred, the majority of which is composed of Germans, well educated, wealthy and enterprising. During the last year, however, many Americans have moved in and meet with a hearty welcome from the German citizens, who are anxious to have all classes of citizens come in who will take an interest in the advancement and building up of the town. This speaks highly to their credit as they are fully aware that large towns are built up more rapidly by a proper admixture of all the elements of American enterprise, composed as it is in all river towns of native and foreign industry and capital. They are anxious to remove any expression that might be impressed on the stranger from the

<sup>4</sup> The state census for the township only partially recorded the precise German state of origin before it reverted to a simple German classification. For native born residents, Ohioans were the most numerous with 132 persons, an apparent reference to Western Settlement Society Germans who had children while living in Cincinnati. Crediting the German-born with a proportion of the Iowa and Ohio born would result in a German ethnic total number of 1,721 or 82 percent of all township residents.

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majority which they have in the town that they are exclusive, on the contrary, it is their most anxious wish to bring into it more of the element of American society, as they believe that it will be beneficial to their town and trade, and are prepared to offer inducements to settlers who would wish to improve as liberal and easy as any point on the Mississippi... (Sketches of Western Towns And Description of Country: Guttenberg, Clayton County, Dubuque *Express & Herald*, April 15, 1857).

The German dominance of the economy in Guttenberg was directly responsible for its solid and substantial success. One measure of this significant connection was that the city was largely protected from the worst impacts of the 1857-58 financial panic. A local writer to the Dubuque *National Demokrat* visited Guttenberg in early 1858 and found a still-thriving economy. The local lead mining industry provided a source of wealth, but it is also wondrous that specie remained available in this local economy even as it evaporated elsewhere. The writer reported:

The picture of financial conditions coming from Sabula, as it appeared in many newspapers some time back, can only be true of that place, or some few places in Iowa. What I can say with confidence, is that, in and around Guttenberg, in the blest [sic] Clayton Co[unty]., no such sad conditions prevail. The neighborhood delivers, along side the most abundant harvests, a second product, namely the heavy, unmythical [sic] lead which has the property of changing itself to gold with ease. This property may have accustomed the inhabitants to look on gold as the only good money and to take notes of any kind with a sort of mistrust. So when the crisis came here no notes were let pass and all business went on in gold and silver. The farmer sold and still sells his produce for coined money...The worldwide lowered price for produce is as unpleasant here...but in general, the superiority of the German way over the American is shown...This year especially the lead mines deliver more than formerly. The miners are busy washing their mineral, the smelters reduce it to metal and the metal swims lively to St. Louis to lure Uncle Sam's gentle eagle back up here. They have the happy quality of not needing feed but of producing it. In Guttenberg we know of the great crisis only from hearsay and talk of it over a glass of beer as we do of the British troubles in India, which interest us but we find that it costs us nothing" (Dubuque *National Demokrat*, May 8, 1858).

Even the Germans couldn't accomplish the impossible, and the panic eventually took every community down. In August 1859 the Dubuque *Daily Times* reported "This smart German city, late seat of justice of Clayton county, is gradually improving" and several new houses were being built. A year later, the *Mississippi Valley Register* reported that "Guttenberg is rapidly recovering from the affects of the hard times and begins to assume quite a lively appearance" (Dubuque *Daily Times*, August 8, 1859; *Mississippi Valley Register*, January 12, 1860).

Just one of the several early Guttenberg newspapers was owned by Germans printed in the German language, this being Die Mississippi Woechter. Historian Jacobs does not identify its editor but states that it was a weekly paper that survived for several years, c.1859-60. The *Mississippi Valley Register* was a Dubuque newspaper and this account was an overt effort to diffuse a public perception that Guttenberg was a provincial non-English-speaking community. The Mississippi River tied the German communities of Guttenberg and Dubuque closely together, Dubuque being the closest major urban center and one that was readily reached by boat and later by train as well. Fraternal and ethnic groups commonly exchanged visits between the two cities. The Guttenberg Turnverein hosted its first North Iowa Turnfest in early June 1872 over a three-day period. The railroad issued half-fare tickets to encourage area Turners to rendezvous in Guttenberg and special excursion trains linked Lansing and Dubuque with the city. The event featured music, exhibitions and prizes (Dubuque *Daily Times*, June 8, 16, 1872; Jacobs, p. 33).

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The *Andreas Atlas* (1875) explained the slow initial growth of the city, noting "for several years subsequent [to 1847], owing to the pressure of the times and the paucity of the population of the surrounding country (then an almost unbroken wilderness) the growth of the place was not very rapid." By 1875 the city boasted a population of about 4,000 according to Andreas, and the same source noted "of whom the majority are Germans." It also observed "the buildings are mostly of stone, of which material an excellent quality is obtained from the bluffs back of the town. The *Andreas* overestimate was a rather large one, by 1873 the town's population had increased to a respectable 1,340 but the actual 1875 headcount had plunged downward to 1,045, indicating a sharp depopulation in response to the national financial downturn of 1873-74. Ten years later, it was increased by less than 100 new residents, to just 1,123 persons (Andreas, p. 437; *Census of Iowa For The Year 1885*, p. 267).

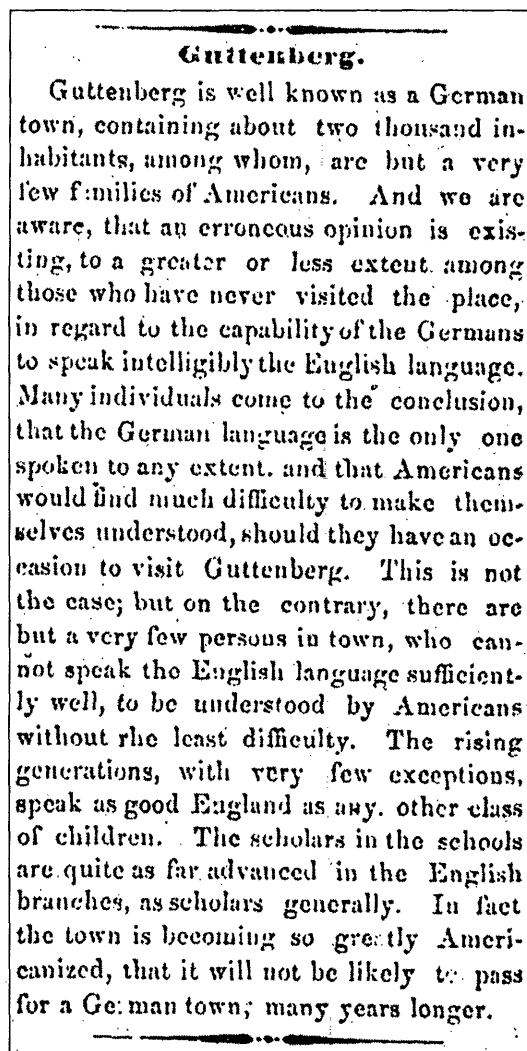


Figure 5: A German Town (*Mississippi Valley Register*, May 10, 1860)

Guttenberg's German American population was virtually identical with that of its township as of 1860. Activities such as lead mining blurred city and country boundaries. A tabulation of foreign birthplaces of the township indicated that 89 percent of 818 German-born residents came from Prussia (36 percent), Hanover (32 percent), Mecklenburg (11 percent)

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and Baden (ten percent). Swiss-born tallied 45 persons, and Austrians 14 persons. In Guttenberg there were 555 German-born residents with Prussia accounting for 31 percent or 36 percent if Saxony's emigrants were added in; Hanover was credited with 28 percent, Baden with 11 percent, Mecklenburg ten percent, and Bavaria eight percent. Swiss (40 persons) and Austrian-born (10 persons) were the most numerous non-Germans and these were surely German-speaking as well. In 1856, the township population just exceeded that of the city and as late as 1885 the township population was still nearly equal to that of Guttenberg. The township population was large enough to support competing rural Catholic churches such as St. Michael Catholic Church, established in 1858. (Jacobsen, National Register Nomination for St. Mary's Historic Church District, 2004).<sup>5</sup>

The 1885 Iowa State Census documents the German dominance of the city and the surrounding countryside. The city population was 1,123 of whom there were 362 German-born residents (just 26 others were foreign born and there were 20 resident aliens). Jefferson Township had 1,061 residents, 294 of whom were similarly German born. Of Guttenberg males 188 reported a foreign-born father, 935 a foreign-born mother. Of females, the numbers were 217 and 844 respectively. The county as a whole had its largest German-born populations in its interior townships, including the county seat township of Boardman. Guttenberg and its township were the only German-dominant population centers on the Mississippi River. Politically, the same source clearly indicates that at least in the most recent statewide election, Jefferson Township was decidedly a Democrat Party stronghold on a ratio of five Democrats to each Republican. The town had no newspaper of its own at that time (*Census of Iowa For The Year 1885*, pp.17-18, 99-100, 364).

These numbers document both a decidedly German-derived as well as a relatively small city population. Clearly the urban population is closely enmeshed within a comparable township German population, as is the county core population, with many Germans gravitating to the county seat of Elkader. It might be assumed that the core of original settlers were in a position to dominate the growing community as merchants and leaders, and it might also be assumed that the original residents played a central role in the recruitment of subsequent German settlers, the latter being either related or coming from the same parts of Germany.

The first real growth was realized between 1885 and 1890, when the city population jumped to 1,873 persons, a substantial 40 percent gain. Much of this increase could still be attributed to on-going immigration from Germany and other German-speaking states. Immigrants of Liechtenstein birth to the city totaled as many as 100 not counting their offspring by the 1880s. Leonhard Biedermann was the first of these, arriving mid-century (Norbert Jansen, *Nach Amerika!* Zurich: Chronos Verlag, 1998).

<sup>5</sup> "Time Line History of St. Mary's Parish and School" dates the establishment of St. Michael Catholic Church to 1867. The 1860 federal census very precisely enumerates the precise German state of origin.



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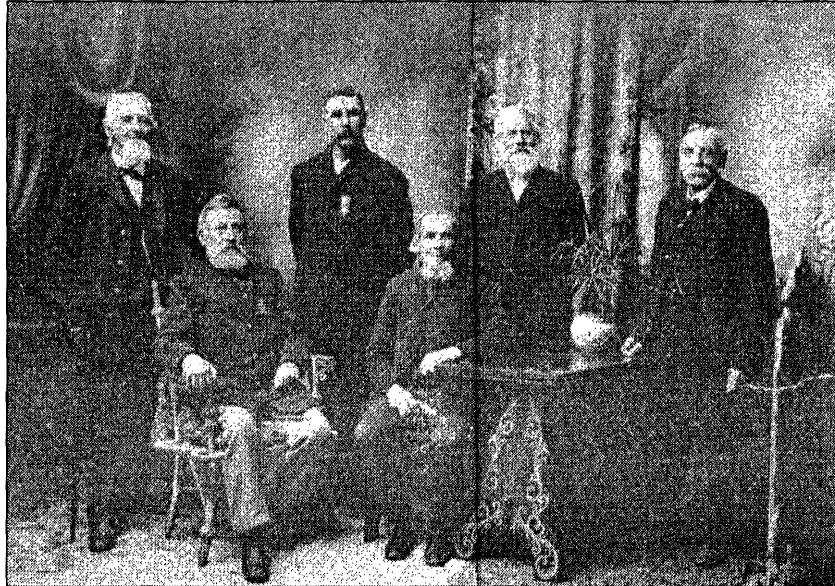


Figure 6: German Guttenberg Civil War veterans of Company D, 27<sup>th</sup> Iowa Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, c.1900, Front row (left to right) Henry Schorg, Fredrick Saeugling, standing (left to right) John Anderegg, Charles Scheder, John Kirchbeeler, Fredrick Duwe  
(*Press*, March 5, 1975)

The German ethnic dominance in Guttenberg is documented by the participation of its residents in the Civil War. The German predominance in Guttenberg appears to have fostered a decidedly pro-Union stance as the war clouds engulfed the nation and when Iowa's Adjutant General published lists of Iowans who avoided military service by claiming alien status, there were no Guttenberg residents, but a handful of Clayton County residents, and only a handful of Germans statewide, on his list. Prominent pro-Union community leaders included John Schroeder, C. F. Chase, S. Holstein, D. E. Meyer, and Dr. Hoffbauer. A liberty pole was raised up and the first Union demonstration took place on May 9, 1861. A local military company, the Steuben Guards, was being formed as early as May 3. H. Ihm was its "president," H. Keller the secretary. Lieut. Leffingwell, of a Clayton County company visited the town and invited the volunteers to become a part of his unit. By May 9, there were 35 names on the town company roster, with John Schroeder as acting captain. It was hoped to form an entirely German company from enlistees from all over Clayton County (*Mississippi Valley Register*, May 3, 9, 1861; *Report of the Adjutant General...1864-1865*, p. 1405).

Clayton County delivered five full or nearly full companies, all infantry save for one cavalry company, and contributed largely to many others. A total of 195 residents died in battle or from other causes. Guttenberg was credited with five German-born recruits for Company C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Iowa Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, which was recruited in late May 1861. Eight recruits, all but one being German-born, joined Company E, 9<sup>th</sup> Iowa Regiment of Volunteer Infantry which was recruited in September 1861. The most substantial community contribution was an impressive 47 recruits for Company D, 27<sup>th</sup> Iowa Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, organized in August-September 1862. Of this number 13 men were native born or had been born in other foreign lands (two were Swiss-born). This company largely represented the roster of a locally raised military unit, titled the "Steuben Guards" which formed in August 1862. Given its large contribution to the company, two residents became company officers. John Andereck (Swiss-born, aged 39) was first lieutenant, and Hugo Apfeld (Prussian-born, aged 21) made third lieutenant in April 1863. Eight of the rank and file served as non-commissioned offices and all but

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one of these were German-born. So many German males were absent during the war that the Turn Verein discontinued its meetings for a time. The suffering of these enlistees was particularly horrific, ten were killed or died in service (a 16% fatality rate for the 60 enlistees), twelve were severely wounded, four others slightly wounded. Many others were discharged for disability and one was transferred to the Invalid Corps (Jacobs, pp. 39, 48; *Iowa Roster and Record*).<sup>6</sup>

One important military figure was John Schroeder, a Luxembourgian who came to Guttenberg in 1856 with his brother James (later the postmaster of Guttenberg). Politically, Schroeder was a Republican and an anti-Catholic Lutheran who blamed slavery and other societal evils on that faith. He raised and commanded the Steuben Guard but only a handful of that unit joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> Iowa Infantry, and Schroeder started out as a sergeant, but rose to the rank of first lieutenant, but resigned in May 1862. Thirty-five letters written by Schroeder between 1857 and 1862 document his emigrant experience and his war service. These are part of the Schoff Civil War Collection of the William L. Clements Library, at the University of Michigan (<http://www.clements.umich.edu>).

The earliest all-German social organization, apart from the Guttenberg Social Mutual Aid Society (1853) was the Germania Encampment of the Odd Fellows, formed in July 1861. As late as 1916, it continued to be largely German in its composition, being restyled as Odd Fellows Chapter #125. As of 1916, the other mostly German group was the New Leaf Camp \$537, Modern Woodmen, organized in 1888. The others, Eastern Star (1893), American Yeoman (1897), Royal Neighbors (1898) and Mystic Workers (1906) were of mixed or non-German composition. As of 1913 Guttenberg had two German bands, the Guttenberg Military Band and the Friedlein family band (*History of Clayton County*, 1882, p. 862; Price, p. 345; Jacobs, p. 93).

The first German social organization, the Guttenberg Turn Verein, was organized on April 28, 1856 but it wasn't until late November 1872 that they secured their own building, purchasing the former Hummel and Brenn dance hall, prominently located on the former courthouse square of the Prairie la Porte plat. The. Historian Walter Jacobs notes "This group more than any other, represented a tie with the old homeland of most of its members, for the Turnvereins were strictly a product of Germany, from whence most of these men came." The hall (Figure 7, page 21) was located on the present hospital grounds. It continued to house a broad range of community events including school and basketball events. It was demolished in 1941, having been largely replaced by the new Municipal Building (Jacobs, pp. 30, 48-49, 123).

A brief experiment in all-German language teaching was quashed quickly by the State Superintendent of Education in 1882. Locals interpreted a state court interpretation to the effect that German "might" be taught in public schools to imply that all courses could be taught in that language. A weekly schedule with half of the week using German and the other half English was quickly halted (Price, p. 259).

A state prohibition of intoxicating liquors, wine and beer took effect July 4, 1884. Jacobs notes that local production was curtailed but not halted and that pharmacists, who were the only legal vendors of spirits for medicinal purposes, developed a heavy trade in that department. The Council licensed seven local saloons beginning in 1891. A year later there were nine saloons, supplied by three local breweries and distilleries. He also credits prohibition with transforming the predominantly pro-Republican Germans of Guttenberg and Jefferson townships into Democrats. Those entities would dominate county politics at least as late as the 1890s (Jacobs, pp. 54-55, 59).

<sup>6</sup> This data is based only on *Roster* entries that clearly credit the recruit to Guttenberg. The same units contained many other Clayton County men and many of these likely came from Jefferson Township or had Guttenberg connections. Many other Guttenberg citizens served in a broad range of other units. Eight veterans, all Germans, were receiving disability pensions as of 1883 ([www.kinyon.com/military/pensionlist1883](http://www.kinyon.com/military/pensionlist1883)).

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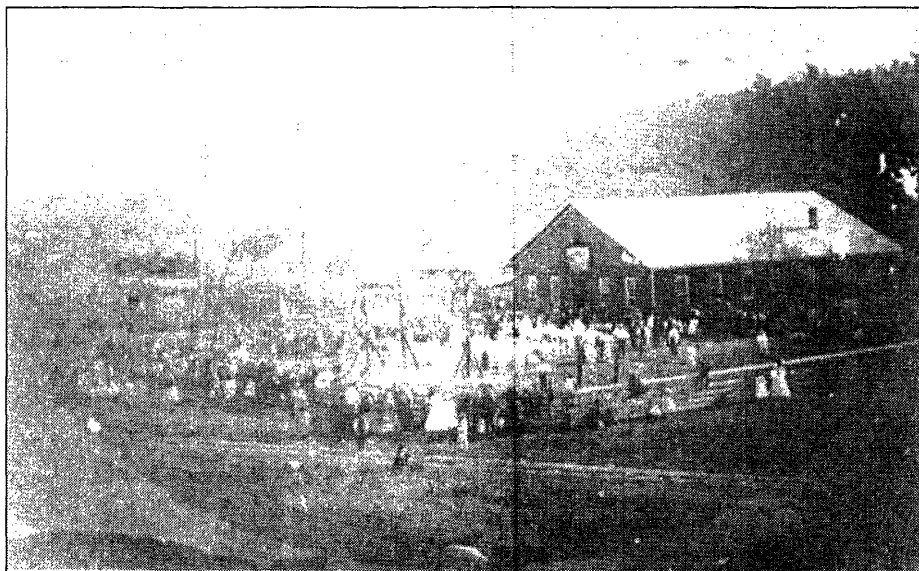


Figure 7: The Turner Hall, c.1880s, depicting a gymnastic demonstration  
(St. John Lutheran church and the first public school are visible in the background, view southwest  
(Jacobs, photo section)

In late 1899 the Dubuque *Daily Telegraph* credited the city's Germans with successfully weathering the several state sponsored prohibition measures, noting "Guttenberg, owing to the preponderance of its Teutonic citizens, has never, during the strictest of prohibition times, been a very dry burg, but the refreshing lager can always be found on tap." The newspaper even provided a woodcut of the town's leading saloon, that of Mr. Kossuth. That same source also noted "The merchants are principally natives of Germany and a conservative, careful class of men who have in their quiet way become solid financially (Dubuque *Daily Telegraph*, November 7, 1899).

One manifestation of this dominant German background was a strong conservative nature. Historian Realto Price noted in 1916 "Guttenberg was one of the most conservative towns of the county, but it made continued progress." Indeed, the city was both bold and creative in recruiting industries and in providing good municipal services, beginning in the 1890s. In fact, while not the county seat, Guttenberg advanced to be the county's largest community by that time. Price observed:

Guttenberg has always been a conservative community but with all its quietness it has steadily maintained itself and is today the largest town in Clayton County and one of the wealthiest. Guttenberg is a wonderful town. It retains the traditions of the old and grasps the advantages of the new. In many ways it reminds one of a village of the Fatherland, but in the midst of the quaint old buildings one is startled by all the evidences of modernity. The river front is beautiful. There is no finer spot in all Iowa. The view from the bluffs is a perfect picture of quite content and widespread prosperity mingled with the spirit of nervous American activity (Price, pp. 259, 343).

The national demise of German-American ethnic identity and cultural activities can be dated to the country's involvement in World War I against Germany and her allies. Guttenberg Germans were overtly supportive of their homeland prior to American's entry into the war in April 1917. Large donations were made to the German Red Cross. Jacobs offers the following summary of the resulting-anti German feelings in Guttenberg:

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There were, of course, some residents who were not of German extraction whose sympathies were otherwise, and this difference in opinion and sympathy made for many strong words and arguments during this period. With the entrance of the United States into the conflict, it was difficult for these German sympathizers to forget about previous loyalties immediately. This led to some unfortunate incidents. Some of the radicals saw fit to make reports to the United States Marshal and there were letters and investigations which made for a great deal of disharmony in the community, and which to this day have never been quite forgotten.

An effort was made to change the name of the town but no formal Council action was taken. All in all, German identity survived unscathed in Guttenberg because Germans were very much the majority of the population (Jacobs, p. 94).

The cultural legacy of this strong German presence remains dominant to this very day. The population remains very much German in their life way, mindset and attitude. The last survivors of the original German speaking generation finally died in the late 1930s but German political and cultural dominance survived until World War II. The recruiting of workers from other communities after 1900 and the construction of improved highway access during the 1930s did much to break down the provincial and conservative community.

The best range of buildings that is directly associated with the German ethnic presence is the limestone buildings and these are discussed in Context #2. It is very probable that many early homes of notable Germans survive. Another excellent representative building grouping is the St. Mary Catholic Church Parish complex. The German community was sharply divided along religious lines, between Catholics and Lutherans and the Catholics were in the minority. These religious differences were also underscored by political ones, with Catholics tending to be Democrats. The respective churches were massive local landmarks, a reflection of both the centrality of religion to peoples' lives and a testament to the substantial building instincts of German-Americans. The Lutherans built the first large stone church, in 1854, although the Catholics had the county's first church, built on the riverfront in the north part of town in 1851. The Lutheran church was a block southwest of the Turner Hall. They demolished their landmark church in 1948 and replaced it with a new all-stone church. The Catholics were as committed to establishing a parochial school as they were in building a church and over time they relocated to South Second and Herder, closer to the downtown. There they built a school (1859-60), a new stone church (1874), a new school (1894), rectory (1899), a replacement church (1902-03) and finally a convent (1926). It was a wonder that so small a congregation could accomplish so much, but the other major accomplishment was the establishment of a 12-grade state accredited school system. The architect of both the parish complex and the school was Rev. Joseph H. Brinkman (1859-1925) who served the parish from 1889 until his death in 1925. Brinkman designed the rectory, school and church. The buildings were distinguished architecturally because they employed true styles (the church was Gothic, the rectory and school a combination of Italianate and Colonial Revival styles, the convent, much later in date, was Tudor Revival in style) and they exhibited a unity of design (stone foundations, red brick walls, comparable massing of the lesser buildings). The parish complex is recommended as being National Register eligible due to its historical association with a vital portion of the overall German-American community (James Jacobsen, "St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District," National Register of Historic Places nomination, Des Moines: 2004).

The following list includes those significant individuals who are singled out in the various county histories (almost all of the individuals are first or second-generation ethnic Germans, a handful of non-Germans is included). There are certainly others who were deceased prior to the issuance of the histories, the lists being of living notables. A search should be made to compile a comprehensive list and a search should be made to identify their homes and surviving workplaces:

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**Anderegg/Andrick, John** (c.1823-1910), born in Switzerland, to township 1853, serves in Company D, 27<sup>th</sup> Iowa Volunteer Infantry Regiment, promoted second lieutenant, disability pension (Price, p. 302).

**Arnemann, Alfred** (1835-1900+), born in Elbingen, Germany (Joseph Eiboeck, *Die Deutschen von Iowa und deren Errungenschaften*. Des Moines: Des Iowa Staats-Anzieger, 1900, p. 206).

**Berns, Theodore, Jr.** (1860-1916+) born Jefferson Twp. of Prussian parents, farms, retires to city 1910 and builds house at 11 Prince 1910-11 (same being added to Front Street District NRHP) (Price, p. 45-47).

**Bierbaum, John F.** (?-1904) to city 1847 (Price, p. 302).

**Bliedung, Alexander** (?-1879) born in Germany, to city 1850, serves as first lieutenant as member of Company D, 27<sup>th</sup> Iowa Volunteer Infantry Regiment, state legislature 1877, dies in prime of life (Price, p. 225).

**Braun, Adam** (1839-?) born in Ohio, came to the city in 1856, purchase Reskaup's pop factory (1882 *County History*, p. 864).

**Dittmer, Gustav, Jr.** (1879-1916+) born Jefferson Twp., contractor-builder in city, township trustee, constable, city assessor (Price, pp. 89-90).

**Dubbels, John** (1850-?), born in the city, had own harness making firm by 1877 (1882 *County History*, p. 865-66).

**Eberhard, Andrew** (1838-?) born in Baden, to the city in 1869, agricultural implements dealer (1882 *County History*, p. 866).

**Eberhard, Edward P.** (1871-1916+) born in city, owns own lumber mill by 1910, contracting for US government (Price, pp. 100-01).

**Eckart, Henry** (1830-?) born in Prussia, to city 1856, major wagon manufacturer 1860-75, president Guttenberg State Bank as of 1916 (1882 *County History*, p. 866; Price, pp. 101-02).

**Eckart, John P.** (?-1916+) principal founder of Guttenberg State Bank, 1900 and long-term cashier, son of above (Price, pp. 101-02).

**Eckart, Oscar B.** (1884-?) brother to above, assistant cashier of Guttenberg State Bank, 1916 after working in banks in St. Louis and Chicago, degree from Iowa State Agricultural College (Price, p. 102).

**Eckart, Sebastian** (1839-?) born in Prussia (brother to above), to city after 1857, partner in wagon works (1882 *County History*, p. 866).

**Enderes, Ernst** (1881-1916+) (1882-1916+) born in Littleport, founder of Enderes Tool Mfg. Company (Price, p. 107).

**Eppens, Henry** (1840-?) born Hanover, to city 1868, operated Central House 1882 (1882 *County History*, p. 866).

**Fleck, Morris/Maurice** (1821-1889) born Nordhausen, to city 1850, general merchant, miller, grain dealer with brother (1882 *County History*, p. 867; Price p. 270). The Fleck store survives at 7 Schiller as does their warehouse at 10 Schiller.

**Fleck, August** (1817-?) born Nordhausen (brother to above), partner with brother 32 years as of 1882 (1882 *County History*, p. 867).

**Friedlein, Fred J.** (1879-1916+), born Jefferson Twp., manager Meuser Lumber Company, 1900 graduate Dubuque Business College (Price, p. 131-32).

**Goetz, Adam** (1810-?) born Darmstadt, to city 1854, cabinet maker, runs lumber yard, confectioner (1882 *County History*, p. 868).

**Groth, Fred** (?-1914) well known bridge builder, board of supervisors (Price, p. 306).

**Hamann, Arthur** (1888-1916+) born near Garnovillo, partner with Arthur H. Staack in auto dealership 1912+, he was a mechanical engineer, graduate from University of Wisconsin, Madison (Price, pp. 158-59).

**Heine, Leonard** (?-?) born Baden, to city 1856, druggist (1882 *County History*, p. 868).

**Hoffbauer, William** (Dr) (1812-?) 1842 graduate University of Berlin, member German Parliament 1848-49, to city 1851, doctor (marries Julia Fleck, sister to Fleck Brothers) (1882 *County History*, p. 868).

**Hüne, August**, (1863-1900+), born Glen Haven, Wisconsin (Eiboeck, p. 532).

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**Ihm, Herman** (1831-1909) born Schwetzingen, Baden, to city 1854, runs Cincinnati House, merchant, grain buyer, builds elevator 1875, mayor and town clerk, school board president, treasurer Guttenberg Excelsior Co. (*1882 County History*, p. 868-69; Price, p. 302; Eiboeck, p. 533). The stone Ihm Store building is at 306 South River Drive is a part of the Front Street District.

**Jacobs, George Henry** (1838-1888) born Mecklenburg-Schwerin, to city 1854, lawyer, postmaster, runs Washington Hotel, mayor, justice of the peace at age 21 (*1882 County History*, p. 869).

**Jacobs, George M.** (1873-1916+), son of above, cigar maker, retail liquor dealer, city council (Price, p. 254).

**Jungt, August** (1835-?) born Germany, to city 1875, brewer (*1882 County History*, p. 869). The Jungt Brewery, 402 S. Bluff, is an excellent and well preserved stone building complex that is associated with Jungt.

**Klihn, Lizzie**, included on Joseph Eiboeck's 1900 roster of German-Americans in Iowa aged 90 years or more, she was 94 at the time (Eiboeck, pp. 295-96).

**Kratzmer, Maria G.** (1827-?) to city 1847, husband **Barnard Brockman** makes bricks for decade (dies 1864), she runs farm (only female listing) (*1882 County History*, p. 870).

**Kriebs, John P.** (?-1873) born in Prussia, to city 1850 joining "Guttenberg Colony, mayor 1853, county coroner twice (Price, pp. 227).

**Luther, John** (?-?) Swiss born, to city 1848, blacksmith (Price, p. 256).

**Luther, Calvin P.** (1865-?) born Guttenberg, son of above, blacksmith with father 15 years, city marshal for ten years, deputy state game warden, state game warden (three years), postmaster, city council, justice of the peace, county constable (Price, p. 256).

**Meyer, Daniel E.** (?-?) second captain of Steuben Guards, and captain of same as Company D, 27<sup>th</sup> Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, highest ranking citizen from Guttenberg during Civil War (Jacobs, p. 39).

**Meyer, W. H.** (1852-?) born Hanover, to city 1873, sewing machine dealer (*1882 County History*, p. 870-71).

**Nolte, William** (1819-1860) born Saxony, to city 1853, runs Chicago House (only deceased listing 1882) (*1882 County History*, p. 870-71).

**Roth, Andrew** (1872-1916+) born Guttenberg, son of John Roth who was born in Bavaria, manufactures buttons six years, general merchandise "South Guttenberg" after 1907, builds "modern residence" pre-19616 South Guttenberg (Price, pp. 356-57).

**Roth, John** (1841-83), born Bavaria, to city 1853, brewer (Price, pp. 356-57).

**Roth, John** (1853-?) born Guttenberg, brewer, buys Krutzer brewery (*1882 County History*, p. 871).

**Scholz, Herman** (1850-1900+), born Schleisen, Prussia, to the U.S. 1867 (Eiboeck, p. 533).

**Scholz, Otto F.**, (1889-1916+) born Guttenberg, graduate Des Moines Babcock Institute of Pharmacy 1913, buys out C. F. Stagg's drugstore (Price, pp. 370-71).

**Schroeder, James** (1832-1907), born Steinsel, Luxembourg, to city 1854 farmer, postmaster 1867 or 1874 and served as same until death save for second Cleveland Administration, justice of the peace, township assessor, Assistant Revenue Assessor for 3<sup>rd</sup> District, 1862-67, close friend of Senator William Allison (*1882 County History*, p. 871; Price, p. 307; Eiboeck, p. 531).

**Schroeder, John** (1834-1862), born Steinsel, Luxembourg, in German army 1851-54, to city 1856 (brother to above), farms in Minnesota, back to city 1857, teaching in township, was first captain of Steuben Guards, resigns to enlist, promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant as member of 3<sup>rd</sup> Iowa Volunteer Infantry Regiment, resigns due to failing health May 15, 1862 and dies in Guttenberg June 19, 1862 (Jacobs, pp. 40-41).

**Seibel, E. L.** (?-?) born Hesse, clerk with Fleck Brothers for many years (*1882 County History*, p. 872).

**Staack, Arthur H.** (1892-?) born Clayton Center, takes National Automobile Association training course in Omaha, partners 1912 with A. Hamann in local auto agency (Price, pp. 389-90).

**Stoecker, Fred W.** (Dr.) (1888-?) born Jefferson Twp. of Swiss parents, graduates McKillup Veterinary College, Chicago, 1912, to city same year, surgery a specialty (Price, pp. 398-99).

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**Sullivan, William** (c.1827-?) born St. Louis, most famous early non-German resident, worked on river, served in Mexican War, to city 1847, merchant and grain buyer, said to have been early friend with U. S. Grant (*1882 County History*, p. 872-73).

**Weiner, Mathias** (1826-?) born Baden, in German army 1842-49, escapes from prison, to city 1854, business partner with Herman Ihm for 20 years, wholesale grocer (*1882 County History*, p. 873-74).

**Weist, G. F.** (1825-?) born Ludwigsburg, Wurtemberg, to city 1854, hardware dealer to 1860, general merchant and grain buyer (*1882 County History*, p. 874; Eiboeck, p. 533).

**Wolter, Frank X.** (1862-1916+) born in city, son of John Wolter, below, ran boots and shoes business 30 years, retired, director Guttenberg State Bank, stock holder in Guttenberg Canning Factory, school board treasurer since 1908 (Price, pp.452-53).

**Wolter, John** (1831-1906) born Bavaria, to city 1851 after farming in township, boot and shoe dealer (*1882 County History*, p. 874).

**Zimmerman, Joseph** (1836-?) born Austria, to city 1872, buys Goetz's steam flourmill (*1882 County History*, p. 874).

## Context #2: Guttenberg's Vernacular Stone Architecture, 1850-1863:

### The History of Limestone Buildings in Guttenberg:

The outstanding legacy of the German presence is the very distinctive and numerous limestone vernacular architecture that dates principally to the 1850s. In excess of 150 stone buildings were extant as of 1869 and this group comprised the majority of buildings in Guttenberg. No other Iowa community ever had, let alone retains such an impressive architectural legacy and these buildings are significant because they offer an unparalleled laboratory for the study of German-American vernacular stone architecture. Their survival also represents a very early period of history that is rarely expressed in surviving buildings.

Are these buildings really German in their architecture and if so, how do they compare with comparable German area communities? The first part of the first question asks are the buildings really German built? This is a German community, in fact it is German almost to the exclusion of any other influences, particularly during its formative years. Historian Jacobs states that the first substantial stone building was the Pelzer Brothers flourmill, built in 1849 on Minders Creek (non-extant). He also recorded "Most of large stone buildings which characterize Guttenberg were erected in the early [eighteen] fifties." The 1869 bird's eye view depicts all of these buildings in place.

In order for a culture to build stone buildings, the culture has to have the building material readily available, it has to have the necessary skilled craftsmen available and it has to value and to be ready to pay for the construction of the buildings. The German culture was present and the limestone was locally available. Thirty-four German stonemasons are listed in the 1856 state census. The *Dubuque Express and Herald*, April 15, 1857, tallied 50 stonemasons in town, at what was the height of its stone building era. Just three years later, in the 1860 federal census, there were still ten stonemasons as well as two stonecutters. All of these lists indicated that these stonemasons were German-born, with but one or two exceptions, and for the most part they represented the same generation of immigrants (Jacobs, pp. 21, 23).



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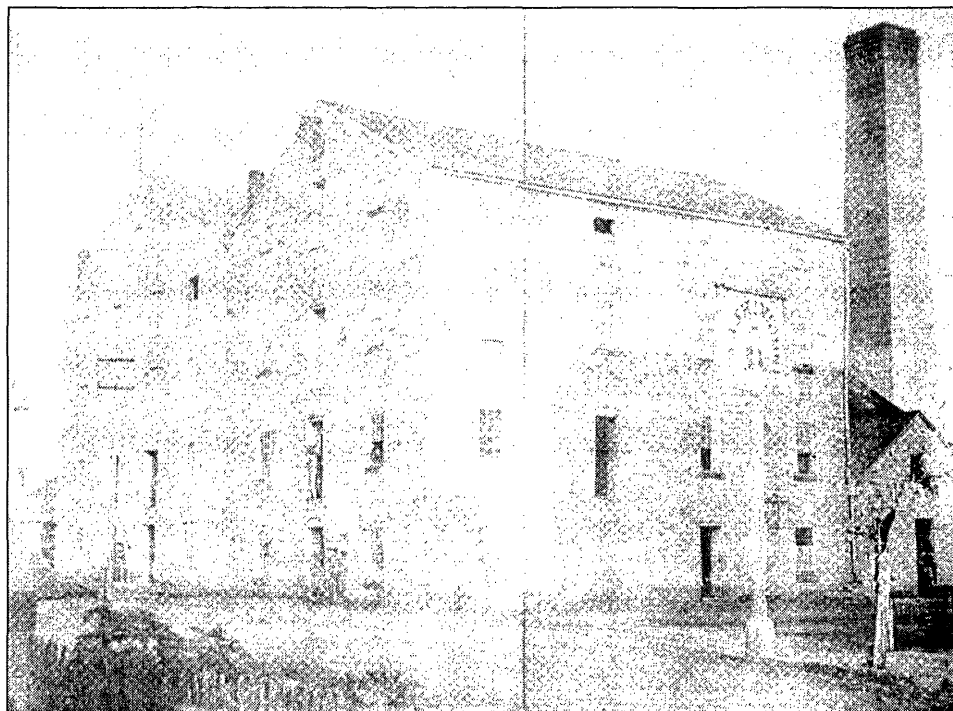


Figure 8: Fleck Brothers Mill and Warehouse, Schiller Street from South First Street, c.1880  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

The growing city was certainly dominated by stone buildings as of 1856. Historian Price quotes an 1856 Dubuque *Herald* description of Guttenberg, which notes “Its houses are large, well built, and for the most part constructed of stone, of which there is any quantity close at hand...In Guttenberg there stands a three-story house constructed of stone in a very elegant, tasteful and substantial manner, which was built almost entirely by a man and his wife, who now own it. They were three years in accomplishing the job, and now receive a handsome income from its rent. This extraordinary couple, of course, are Germans.” The building is the Albertus Block, 218 South River Park Drive (Price, pp. 106-07; Jacobs, p. 24).

The *Express and Herald* seconded this observation when it also described the impressive stone buildings as of early 1857:

The class of buildings in Guttenberg are substantial, and [include] many handsome and spacious stone structures. During the past season over seventy buildings have been erected, and amongst them several fine warehouses and store, which in solidity and finish will compare with any in the West, and are much superior to the general class of buildings put up in towns of its size (Sketches of Western Towns And Description of Country: Guttenberg, Clayton County, Dubuque *Express & Herald*, April 15, 1857).

Stone construction continued, even after the financial panic of 1857-58. Two years later the Dubuque *Daily Times* reported “One or two stone houses are under way by parties unknown to us. Limestone enters largely into the composition of Guttenberg.” For the first time, that source referred to Guttenberg as the “limestone city of Clayton county.” The massive Fleck Brothers Flour Mill, located on the southeast corner of Schiller and South First streets (non-extant, burned 1894) was built in 1858 and an adjacent four-story stone grain warehouse, which survives as a three-story block at 10 Schiller, was built



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in 1863. Jacobs states that the later stone buildings were the largest ones, all being of three and four-stories in height (Dubuque *Daily Times*, August 8, 1859; Jacobs, p. 25).



Figure 9: G. F. Weise Hardware Store, 1856, 700 South River Park Drive, c.1870 photograph  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

Connecting the stone architecture with German-born craftsman is readily accomplished by identifying the ethnicity of the stone masons who were enumerated in the early census records. It is telling that the 1850 federal census locates only five masons, three of whom are listed as stonemasons, as living in Guttenberg, and none of these remained as of 1856. Four of these are listed as being German-born, the fifth was from Prussia. The small number of masons appears to indicate that the large-scale construction of stone buildings was only just developing. Thirty-eight stonemasons were living in Guttenberg as of 1856. All but one of these were German-born and it was these men who were responsible for building the limestone buildings in Guttenberg. By 1860 this number was reduced to just ten stonemasons and by 1870 just nine were enumerated. The following composite listing identifies these craftsmen:

- Albertus, Heinrich (1800-?) German, listed 1856.
- Albatus/Albertus, Charles (1801-?) Saxony, listed 1870.
- Allers, Carl (1828-?) German, listed 1856 (Prussian family name).
- Alois, Nip (1829-?) German, listed 1856
- Arminser, Jacob (1813-?) Prussia, listed 1850.
- Bichon, Carl (1818-?) German, listed 1856 (Bison? is a Swiss family name).
- Birk, August (1826-?) German, listed 1856.
- Bossa, Herman (1826-?) Prussia, listed 1870.
- Burmeister, Johann, (1832-?) (resides with Radenmacher) German, listed 1856 (Prussian family name).
- Croozy, Bernard (1815-?) German, listed 1850.
- Daun, Georg (1828-?) German, listed 1856.
- Foh, Henry (1840-?) Hanover, listed 1860.
- Foh, Herman (1842-?) Hanover, listed 1860.

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Fosen, Joseph (1825-?) German, listed 1856.  
Gosf, Louis (1826-?) German, listed 1856.  
Habersack, Franz (1829-?) German, listed 1856.  
Heilmann, Gerhard (1836-?) German, listed 1856.  
Heilmann, Johann (1804-?) German, listed 1856.  
Heinrich, Johann, 24 (resides with Radenmacher) listed 1856.  
Heister, Joseph (1816-?) Bavaria, listed 1870.  
Hune, Joseph (1830-?) German, listed 1856 (Hune is a Hanover name).  
Kirspill, Johann (1831-?) German, listed 1856.  
Kruse, Heinrich (1819-?) German, listed 1856.  
Kushbuhler, John (1831-?) Bavaria, listed 1870.  
Langley, Fr. L. (1820-?) German, listed 1856 (Langley is a Hanover name).  
Lewis, Henry (1836-?) Mecklenberg, listed 1870.  
Marble, M. (1834-?) New York, listed 1856.  
Marxer, Andreas (1812-?) Westphalia, listed 1856-60.  
Marxer, Sam (1841-?) Westphalia, listed 1860.  
Meier, Alexander (1830-?) German, listed 1856.  
Meier, Ignatz (1825-?) German, listed 1856.  
Meier, Joseph (1824-?) German, listed 1856.  
Merbeckle, John (1830-?) Hanover, listed 1860.  
Nott, Casper (1817-?) German, listed 1856 (Nutt? is a Baden and Hanover family name).  
Negely, Jacob (1820-?) German, listed 1856.  
Niemann, Charles (1812-?), Prussia, listed 1850-56  
Nipp, Alois (1825-?) German, listed 1856.  
Osier, Florenz, (1808-?) German, listed 1856 (Osier is a Prussian family name).  
Osier, Herman (1825-?) Prussia, listed 1860.  
Poss, Johann, (1824-?) German, listed 1856.  
Peters, Wilhelm (1836-?) (resides with Radenmacher) listed 1856.  
Rodenmacher, Christian (1799-?) German, listed 1856 (Rodenmacher is a Hanoverian family name).  
Rodenmacher, Heinrich (1819-?) German, listed 1856.  
Rash, Anthony (1814-?) German, listed 1850.  
Richow, Freidrich (1822-?) German, listed 1856 (Richow is an Oldenburg family name).  
Risch, John (1826-?) Prussia, listed 1860.  
Schneider, Johann (1803-?) German, listed 1856 (Schneider is a Bavarian family name).  
Seemann, Wilhelm (1835-?) German, listed 1856-1860 (Seeman is a Hannoverian family name).  
Taum, George (1828-?) Wurtemberg, listed 1860.  
Thebono, Heinrich (1827-?) German, listed 1856.  
Tiries, Henry (1828-?) Mecklenburg, listed 1860.  
Tombrel, John (1812-?) Austria, listed 1870.  
Troster, Carl (1822-?) German, listed 1856 (Triaster? is a Bavarian family name).  
Vogel, Johann (1822-?) German, listed 1856.  
Vogel, Johann (1830-?) Wurtemberg, listed 1870.  
Voigt, Michael, (1821-?) Germany, listed 1856.  
Vembroel, Johan (1814-?) Vonbruel, Johan, 42  
Vonbrad, Andreas (1820-?) German, listed 1856.

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Warcamp, Joseph (1825-?), German, listed 1850.  
Waloekuhl, Thomas (1823-?) German, listed 1856.  
Wertz, Balthasar (1826-?) Wurtemberg, listed 1870.

Of the large number of 1856 stonemasons, just one, Wilhelm Seeman, remained in Guttenberg as of 1860. His post-panic survival in the trade hints that he was an important builder. The Rademacher family of stonemasons had two other masons living with them as of 1856, implying that this was a large-scale group of builders. The 1870 Census listed personal wealth and Charles Albertus and Henry Stevens each had considerably higher personal wealth (\$1,200) although no real estate. If age is any indicator of prominence, it can also be assumed that older stonemasons, still working in the trade were more likely to be master builders. One area stone-building tradition is Luxembourg-derived but there was no significant number of emigrants from that county in the city or township (none present 1850-56, just two in the city in 1860). The list of stonemasons documents that the local stone building tradition was German-derived although it would appear that emigrants from no one single German State played a dominant role. The near complete turnover of stonemasons working in the city, between 1850 and 1856 and again between 1856 and 1860 argues that the majority of stone buildings likely were built prior to 1856.

Following the Civil War brick displaced limestone as the building material of preference, except for the larger buildings, and churches in particular. Jacobs credits the first substantial brick business block as the Fleck Store, Front and Schiller, built in 1858 (extant as 7 Schiller). The new St. Mary Catholic Church was to be of stone load-bearing construction when its massive stone foundation was started in 1902. A change to brick was made but in 1948 the replacement St. John Lutheran Church was the largest load bearing stone building to be built in the county, a reflection of the continuing survival of a stone building aesthetic, at least for the most important landmark buildings, into relatively recent times. Stone naturally continued to be used for foundations well into the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, even being preferred over concrete. The last major stone building was the stone warehouse addition to the Fleck Bros. Flour Mill, built in 1863, that survives as 10 Schiller (in the process of being added to the Front Street Historic District, NRHP) (Jacobs, p. 25).<sup>7</sup>

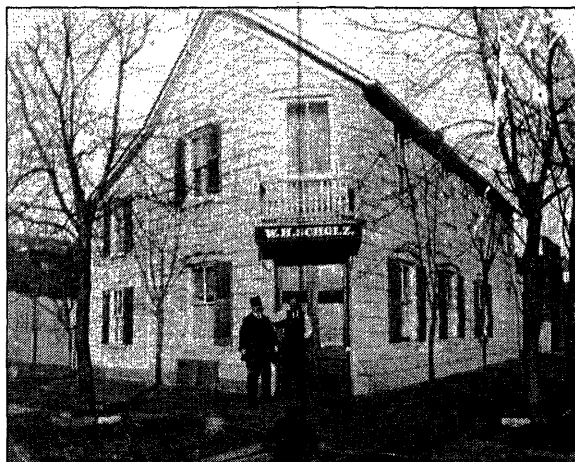


Figure 10: 316 South First, historic photo c.1910  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

<sup>7</sup> A small number of stone buildings can be directly attributed to German builders. These include the first St. John Church, 1854 (non-extant), built by J. Anderegg. Henry Buechel Sr. and Henry Buechel, Jr. built the stone foundation for St. Mary Catholic School in 1894.

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During the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, many stone buildings received face-lifts in the form of a scored stucco coating, with ashlar blocks being drawn in using red lines as faux mortar lines. Some buildings have had this covering removed in the process of restoration. In the case of the example illustrated (Figure 10), this was clearly an additive process, the window and door surrounds being furred out and wooden pedimented lintels and sills being added to accommodate the thicker exterior walls.

Evaluating the Significance of Limestone Buildings And Property Type Discussion:



Figure 11: Right to left, Bellamy (214), Alburtus (216) and Schultz (218), South River Park Drive  
(photo, J. Jacobsen, 2003)

Are these early buildings, particularly the stone ones, representative German vernacular buildings or in what manner do they reflect German construction influences? Generic German architectural qualities include massive and substantial construction and scale, placement close to the street in urban examples, the use of heavy timber and noggin infill, the use of vaulted basements or storage rooms, or the use of date or builder inscriptions placed on key finished structural members. Stonework is both coursed and uncoursed, openings have stone and wood lintels, or stone voussoir arches. Basement walls tend to be elevated and punctured with windows and doors. All of these qualities are embodied in Guttenberg stone building examples. Coggeshall and Nast note that Germans favored the Greek Revival style and there is a decided preference for side gable plans with symmetrical facades. They similarly note the resemblance between German built buildings and gallery house plans. Clearly double or single galleries were once commonly placed on buildings or even recessed into upper sidewalls (Coggeshall and Nast, pp. 71-109).

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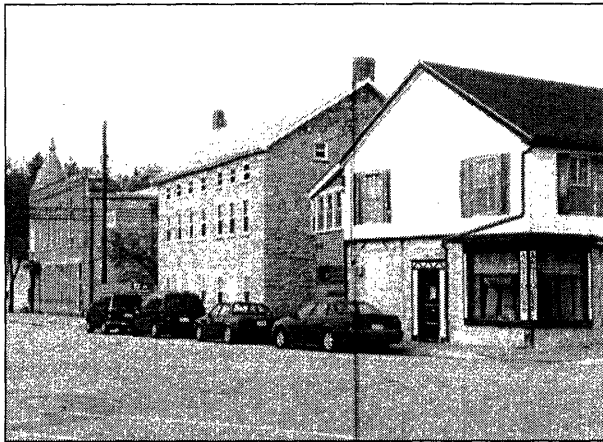


Figure 12: Left to right, 15 Goethe (Guttenberg State Bank), 7 Goethe (Chicago House), and 5 Goethe (Wolters) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 2003, view northwest from South River Park Drive)

The most consistent descriptors for a German vernacular architecture in Guttenberg are sheer scale, massing and substantial construction. Surviving larger stone building examples reach three stories in height, a scale that is simply unmatched in any other Iowa community. In terms of sheer numbers, no area or even any Iowa community comes even close to matching the quantity found in Guttenberg, extant or not. As of 1869, stone buildings outnumbered brick or frame ones and defined the community's appearance. Two key stone buildings evidence the placement of finished stone facades on otherwise rudimentary stone business blocks (306 and 430 South River Park Drive, South River Park Drive District, NRHP). The Albutus Block (222 South River Park Drive, 1854) is simply unmatched for its scale, its arcade of six double storefront arched openings and a central pass-through hall. Many of the forms employed in nearby Dubuque are replicated in Guttenberg, but the former are uniformly executed in brick and not stone, as they are in Guttenberg.

One very important building is located at 5 Goethe and it is the best example of fachwerk, a heavy frame construction with the voids infilled with stone and mortar. This is certainly a very early building and one that clearly evidences a German vernacular connection.



Figure 13: Stone buildings, left to right, 308 (Ihm), 304 (Baier) and 306 (Dupernell) South River Park Drive (photo, J. Jacobsen, 2003) view southwest from South River Park Drive

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Key Stone Buildings (in rough chronological order) (address, historic name, estimated date, current status):

531 South River Park Drive	Fleck Warehouse	c.1850	Front Street District (NRHP)
431 South River Park Drive	Schmees-Sullivan Warehouse	c.1850	same (no integrity)
3 Goethe	Chicago House	c.1850	Front Street District (NRHP)
528 South River Park Drive	Fleck Bros.	c.1850	same (no integrity)
5 Goethe	John Wolter Building	c.1850	Being added to Front Street District (NRHP)
418 South River Park Drive	J. P. Schneider Tobacco	c.1852	same (no integrity)
11 Schiller	Vetter House	c.1853	Being added to Front Street District (NRHP), altered
302 South River Park Drive	Dupernell Store	c.1853	Front Street District (NRHP)
304 South River Park Drive	Baier Building	c.1853	same
118 North 1 <sup>st</sup>	Johannsen Building	c.1853	Altered
310 North 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Friedlein Hotel	c.1853	NRHP/SHPO DOE
214 South River Park Drive	Bellamy House	c.1853	Front Street District (NRHP)
218 South River Park Drive	Albertus Building	c.1853-56	Front Street District (NRHP)
510 South River Park Drive	Ihm General Store	1856	same
430 South River Park Drive	Falkenheimer's Hardware	late 1856	same
410 South Bluff	Jungt Brewery	c.1856	NRHP Eligible
312 South River Park Drive	Geisler Millinery	c.1856	Front Street District (NRHP)
106 Schiller	Jefferson Hotel	c.1856	Being added to Front Street District (NRHP)
700 South River Park Drive	G. F. Wiest Hardware Store	1856	Front Street District (NRHP)
703 South River Park Drive	G. F. Wiest Warehouse	1858	same
316 South First	Hotel	pre-1858	Being added to Front Street District (NRHP)
10 Schiller	Fleck Bros. Warehouse	1863	Being added to Front Street District (NRHP)



Figure 14: 430 South River Park Drive  
(photo, J. Jacobsen, 1970)

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## Context #3; Mining, Industry, Commerce And Their Related Architecture in Guttenberg, 1850-1955:

This context identifies the three principal economic sectors that collectively sustained Guttenberg's growth and development and guided and determined its non-residential architecture.

### Lead Mining In The Guttenberg Area:

The lead mining industry was never as important economically to Guttenberg's overall economy as it was in Dubuque and Galena, Illinois. It is of particular interest within the local history given that it was the only industry that was not dominated by German-Americans. It is also somewhat peripheral to Guttenberg's history inasmuch as the mines and smelters were for the most part, located immediately outside the city proper. Its historical significance is vested in its role in bolstering the local economy during the critical years of the 1850s particularly when its proceeds at least initially softened or held off the financial panic of 1857-58.

The lead mining industry was already well developed in the Dubuque and Galena areas to the south, and the need to transport lead ore down river had served to encourage riverboat traffic on the Upper Mississippi River. The lead ore found near Prairie La Porte (Guttenberg) was of a high grade, being composed of up to 82% pure lead. Unfortunately, unlike the lead deposits in Wisconsin and around Dubuque, it was deposited in narrow horizontal veins which were much more difficult to work. Historian Jacobs dates the onset of serious mining to c.1843. The majority of mining activity was more properly a Jefferson Township rather than a town activity as is shown by the 1856 and 1860 census rolls. The latter census listed nine miners as town residents and twenty miners as township residents. In addition the mining industry supported a good number of coopers, woodchoppers, carpenters, blacksmiths and millers. Already by 1857, the Dubuque *Express & Herald* was able to report that "The bluffs are rich in lead ore, and immense quantities are annually taken out...There are extensive lodes of lead ore in the bluffs on both sides of the Mississippi, and have been extensively worked, though owing to the high prices of labor in farming and other occupations, not to the extent as in the Galena and Dubuque districts." The same source reported that the total 1856 value of all products produced at Guttenberg was \$210,000, while the value of lead mining was only \$10,000 of that amount. During the financial panic of 1857-58, the local lead mining and smelting industry was credited with bringing Guttenberg through the panic without an economic impact (Jacobs, p. 14; Dubuque *Express & Herald*, April 15, 1857; Dubuque *National Demokrat*, May 8, 1858).

Two lead smelters (Smith's, and Pelzer's) were built along Miner's Creek by 1858. During the mining era, more than a million pounds of lead were produced in the Guttenberg area. A decline in lead prices brought an end to mining on a large scale in this area following the Civil War. The industry never brought great wealth to the town and it took several fortunes. The last mining fever was experienced c.1900 and involved the mining of zinc and was short-lived.

In early 1860, a local correspondent reported to the *Mississippi Valley Register* that the local lead mines continued to operate profitably, the miners being strangely immune to gold fever in the West:

Lead Mines.—The Guttenberg Lead Mines continue to yield a fair compensation, to the enterprising miners. Though it is seldom that any very large leads are found, still the hills are full of the ore, and will ever be a source of wealth to our town. These Mines accounts [sic] for the reason, that not a person has left Guttenberg, for the [Pikes] Peak. While it would be difficult to find another town in Northern Iowa, from

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which there have not more or less gone to the Peak, our citizens wisely remain in the lead mines, which do not promise sudden acquired fortunes, but a sure and comfortable living (*Mississippi Valley Register*, May 10, 1860).

Mining was an important source of wealth during the early years of the community although the relatively small number of miners and apparently small scale of the mining operations hint that this was more of an opportunistic venture. No buildings, structures or sites are known to survive and any mining sites are outside of the city.

Property types include the homes of miners or mining entrepreneurs. The houses located along Bluff Street have a high probability of having a mining association. Buildings that were build using the proceeds from lead mining would be particularly appropriate to represent this context. Archeological sites could include smelter and mining sites but these have not been surveyed and the historical nature of at least the mining sites has not been determined. Smelter sites offer more traditional industrial site attributes and would more likely have archeological significance given their sustained and intensive use, and the presence of associated buildings and structures.

## Lumber Processing In Guttenberg:

Guttenberg's significance as a lumber-processing site rests with the sustained wealth that this key industry produced for the city and its owners. This was the northernmost Iowa lumber-processing site that combined rail access with a competitive location close to the upstream timber sources.



Figure 15: Ed Eberhart's Lumberyard, north end of Guttenberg  
The Guttenberg Hardwood Saw Milling Company,  
established in 1902, is behind photographer to the north  
(*Palimpsest*, October 1966)

The town of Guttenberg is most noted for its role as a center for lumbering in Iowa during its early years. Log rafts, numbering 620 in 1857 alone, drifted (and later were towed or pushed) downstream to river sawmills. Guttenberg was the site of the first steam-powered sawmill to be established north of Dubuque and west of the Mississippi. Adam Goetz was the builder/operator in 1854, and the plant was on the riverfront below town (later the location of Zimmerman's Mill). Goetz's mill burned in 1855 but was replaced. It processed pine logs floated down the river. Goetz added a planing mill and sold his



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sawmill to Zimmerman & Pelan in 1872. Zimmerman partnered with T. S. Ives beginning in 1891. Ives was a millwright and modernized the mill. Prior to its establishment finished lumber was brought to town by steamboat for construction needs. By 1877 the Guttenberg mill had a seasonal capacity (four-month season) of two million board feet.

The Zimmermann and Ives Mill, successor to Goetz's, was considered to be one of the most important mills in Iowa during the late Nineteenth Century, employing at its peak 250 men. The last log raft arrived at Guttenberg in 1911 (also reported as 1905) and Seipple Brothers purchased the mill in 1908, being replaced by the present Meuser Lumber Company ten months later. The depletion of the northern forests put an end to large scale saw mill operations. The Eberhard Mill in the early Twentieth Century turned to hardwood sawmill work, and eventually turned to butter tub manufacturing and government contract work ("Fascinating Story of Lumbering Near Guttenberg Is Told By Lumber Men," *Press*, 1949).

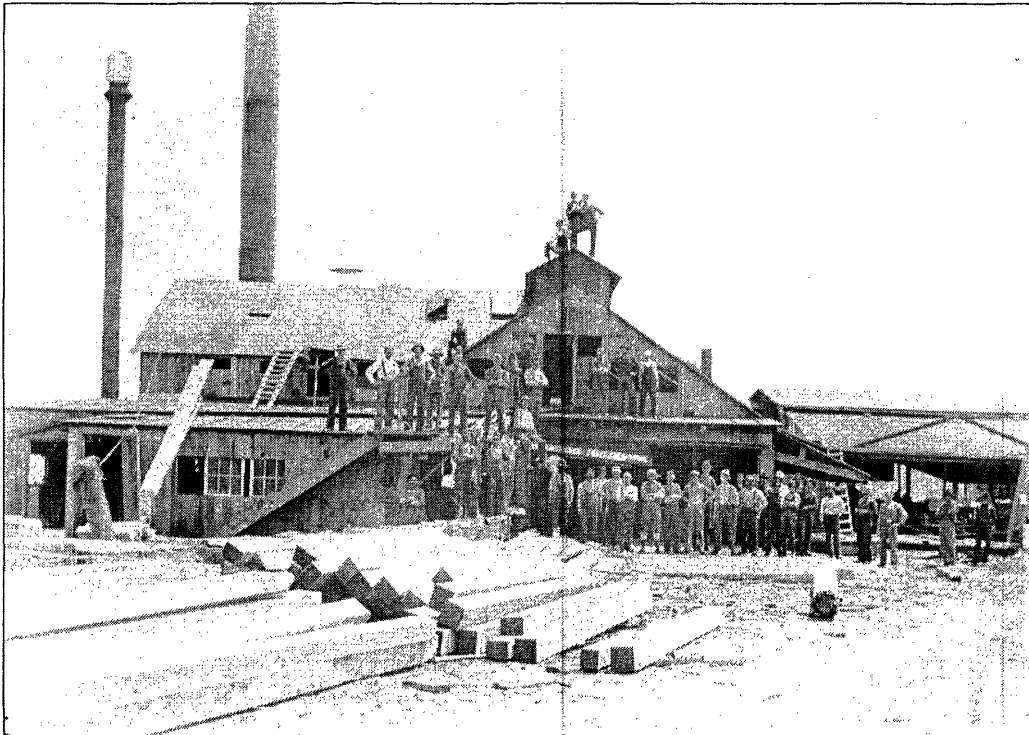


Figure 16: Zimmerman & Ives Saw Mill, 1902, on riverfront at foot of Koerner, view south  
Sorting shed at right rear (courtesy Irish Degnan)

Associated property types are limited to the homes of lumber entrepreneurs or their key managers, or to industrial archeological sites. The latter survive, buried under riverfront fill, but research questions have yet to be developed that these sites might address. Buildings that were built using the proceeds from this industry would interpret the wealth that it generated. Buildings that housed related functions, such as warehouses or offices, could be deemed to have a significant role in the industry. The only surviving property that relates if only indirectly to this context is the Meuser Lumber Company. This firm dates back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and several lumber warehouses or sheds and one railroad warehouse survive.

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Figure 17: 803 South First Street—Meuser Lumber Warehouse (photo by J. Jacobsen, 2002)

Manufacturing and Agricultural Value-Added Industries, Guttenberg and Industrial Diversification:

The demise of a second industry, lumber production, threatened the economic lifeblood of the town. Local efforts promoted the development of a broad range of industries, including pearl button manufacturing, creameries, an excelsior plant, a canning plant, tractor and tool manufacturing, clothing manufacturing, etc. made Guttenberg the county's manufacturing center and spurred both a population growth and the opening up of what had been a fairly insular community to the broader world. These enterprises in turn pushed the city to provide water, sewage and fire protection services.

The town council had over the years offered various subsidies, which included free sites, buildings, and utilities, in order to attract new business to town. Guttenberg Excelsior Manufacturing Company, organized in 1892, was the first such plant west of the Mississippi River. It produced excelsior, a packing and stuffing material.

The H. B. Glover Company of Dubuque established a plant that made overalls (1905). H. Chalmer's Pearl Button Company, established in 1899, was the first of three such plants to be established in Guttenberg. Guttenberg Corn Canning Company was established in 1912 and the Farm Horse Tractor Works, from South Dakota, briefly (1919-1921) produced tractors there.

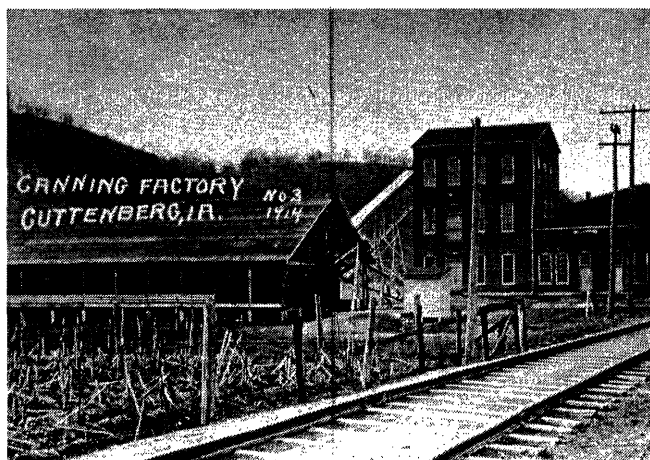


Figure 18: Guttenberg Canning Company (NRHP), view northwest, 1914, husking shed to front left (courtesy, Irish Degnan)

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These firms employed men and women (the latter at H. B. Glover) and combined to make the pre-World War One era a prosperous one. The population continued to slowly grow while comparable river communities stagnated. Towns, which were in decline, supplied some new firms to the town (i.e. Kuempel Bros. who had suffered two fires in their firm while in Clayton). Some wealthy families left Guttenberg for Dubuque and other cities. These were replaced in part by former farm families who sent their children (or lost their children) to town life (i.e. W. H. Kann, hardware merchant). The new industries which appeared in Guttenberg during these years reflected directly the statewide ranking of industries according to their economic worth.

It was the arrival of the pearl button industry in Guttenberg that jump-started the community's industrialization, population growth, and its eventual integration into a broader cultural and economic community. In population alone, the 1900 figure of 1,620 jumped to 2,143 by 1903, a one-third increase in just three years. By World War I, Guttenberg was the county's industrial center (*Dubuque Telegraph-Herald*, April 6, 1903).

The pearl button industry in Guttenberg had its origins in the summer of 1899 when Harvey Chalmers & Son of Amsterdam, New York, expressed interest in establishing a factory there. The town responded with borrowing \$2,500 (\$4,300 by one report including an engine, boiler and dynamo) to erect a factory building for the venture. William Johansen prepared the plans and Thos. Pauli built the 110x28 building, a 200x12 shed, and an 18x20 engine house. W. H. Scholz sold the necessary five town lots for \$550, the site being adjacent to the railroad. The cutting room had 40 machines and skilled operators could earn up to \$2.50-2.75 per day. The initial workforce was 74 cutters and nine other positions. This plant (see Sanborn map excerpt below) was located at Herder and South Fourth streets (non-extant) (*Press*, January 10, 1900; *Telegraph-Herald*, April 6, 1903).



Figure 19: Waste clam shells, Empire Button Works  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

The second plant was established by the Empire Pearl Button Company of Muscatine in the former Wiest-Class warehouse at 703 South River Park Drive. This factory was one of the first to use electrically powered cutting machines. By 1928 it was called the American Pearl Button Company. State funds resurrected this plant in 1933 and it was the last of three button plants to operate in Guttenberg, finally closing its doors in 1960, being last known as "Hammer's Button Plant." The reopened plant employed both men and women in equal numbers. At its height the button industry employed 150 persons. Chris Frommelt was plant superintendent and manager for over 50 years. Frommelt also served on the city council for 35 years and was mayor for five years. The industry died out mainly because of competition with plastic buttons but also

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because the automatic clothes washer was not kind to shell buttons (*Press*, May 4, 1933; November 17, 1966; May 8, 1996; obituary, Chris Frommelt, *Press*, July 24, 1962).

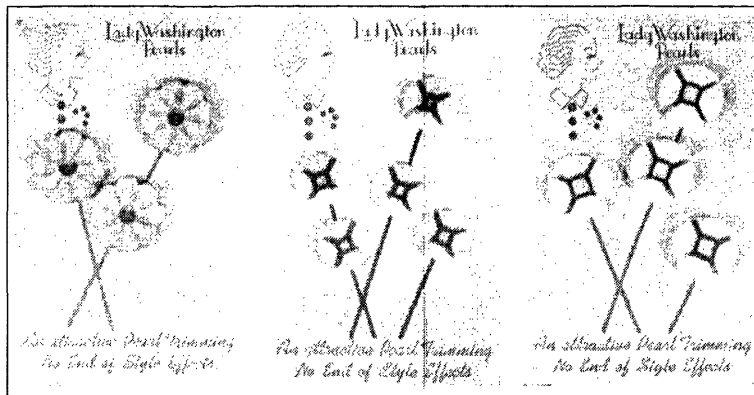


Figure 20: Lady Washington Pearl Buttons from Guttenberg (*Press*, March 5, 1975)

The period 1910-1917 was one of full employment. In fact the town drew in young men from outlying towns who worked in the button plants. The town continued to serve as a collection point for farm produce (the coming of the railroad in 1871 had reversed the role of the town from that of supplying the farms and small communities, to the role of merely collecting farm products from a smaller area). A creamery was opened in 1920. A new north-south highway connection in 1929 provided bus service and reduced isolation.

Guttenberg is one of the few river towns where pearl button manufacturing has survived the decline of clamming on the Mississippi. Two factories have been cutting button blanks for about thirty years. Each employs forty to fifty men. The button blanks are shipped to Muscatine to be finished into pearl buttons. The cut shells go there also to be ground to make pebble-dash (*Dubuque Telegraph-Herald*, April 20, 1930).

During the Depression years the State subsidized the reopening of the sole surviving pearl button plant returned it to full production and full employment. Women were employed at the machines for the first time and production was continued into the early 1960s. A canning and egg processing plant reopened in 1942 and was the recipient of wartime contracts (*1984 History of Clayton County*, p. 831).

In more recent years new companies included Iowa Foods Product Company (1942), Guttenberg Locker Plant (1949), a mobile home building company (later reorganized as Trademark Modular Homes), and Clinton Pallet Company. Tourism, especially in the fall, thrived following the development of color photography and the improvement of transportation.

## Manufacturing Property Types:

The former Empire Pearl Button factory, 701 South River Park Drive, survives but its recent conversion into a lodge, has greatly altered its original gambrel roof profile, eliminating its historical integrity. The best example of industrial architecture is the surviving brick complex that housed the Guttenberg Corn Canning Company (413 North 3<sup>rd</sup>, NRHP), built in 1912 and still serving industrial uses. It best represents the numerous industrial ventures that developed during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries in the city. The Odd Fellows building, 530 South River Park Drive (Front Street District, NRHP)

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is an excellent example of a commercial building with a hall that was adapted for use to manufacture garments. Still, it is architecturally a commercial design rather than an industrial one.

Of particular interest are the remains of several of the town's earliest industries, in structures dating from the 1850's, all of which were agriculturally based. Alcohol was manufactured at several locations; beer and liquor at the Vanstaden Distillery (131 Garber Road) and Jungt Brewery (402 South Bluff, SHPO DOE)), and wine and vinegar on the bluff top property known as Dunker's Winery (515 Acre) that still retains traces of vineyard terraces to the south. North of Dunker's is Patzer's Dairy Farm (511 Acre) which has produced dairy products and honey since the 1930's. Little is known about this farm, but the complex includes a weathered frame house of the local "saltbox" type, suggesting an early date of occupancy, and the farmstead is very well preserved overall. Well to the south, on Miners' Creek Road, are the ruins of B.H. Pelzer's four-story flourmill, built in 1849 and dynamited 100 years later. A barn was built over the foundation. Extant but needing repair is Pelzer's associated stone house with brick addition. Of these, Jungt Brewery (Figure 21) is the best industrial example and it is recommended as being individually National Register eligible for its historical role and its stone construction and design. Both of the brewery examples represent the use of stone in the construction of industrial buildings. Another stone industrial building is located at 10 Schiller. This 1863 flourmill warehouse was gutted in an 1894 fire but otherwise survives minus its original gable roof. This building is also being added as a contributing building to the Front Street District (NRHP).

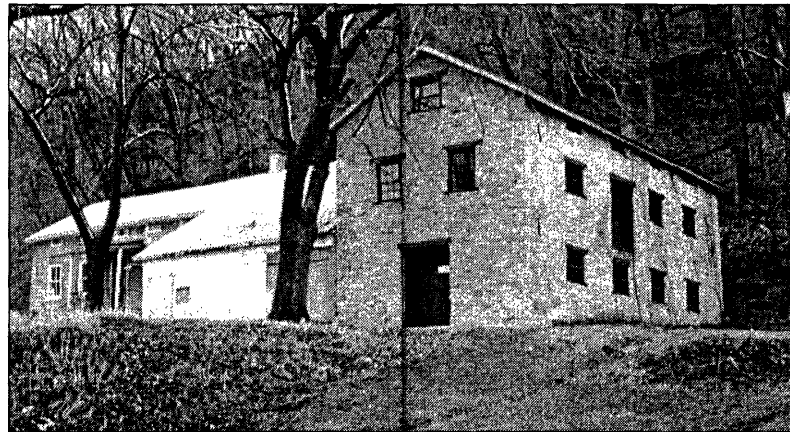


Figure 21: 402 South Bluff Street—Jungt Brewery (SHPO DOE) (photo by J. Jacobsen, 2002)

Other examples are a surviving frame lumber shed, part of the Meuser Lumber Company complex, and a frame icehouse, located nearby. There is also a surviving small raised warehouse that once had a railroad spur access. It is another rail related resource.

### Commerce and Commercial Architecture In Guttenberg:

Guttenberg's substantial growth and development was made possible to a considerable extent by its commercial sector. That sector was stronger and more profitable than it was in comparable communities for several key reasons. First, Guttenberg early on provided the only feasible regional shipping by river and inland farmers as far west as Independence, Oelwein and Arlington, Iowa. The Guttenberg leaders established a vital steam ferry service across the Mississippi River, linking the city to Glen Haven, Wisconsin. The ferry company was reorganized under a group of largely non-German residents and was operated until 1936 when the lock and dam was built, cutting off the upstream route. There of course was never a river bridge at or near the city so it is difficult to measure the retail market area from the east side of the river. The

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city also funded the construction and improvement of area trade roads. The second advantage was the local one, the concentration of German entrepreneurs who established a large number of competing commercial houses. The buildings were largely fireproof due to their thick party walls and Historian Price noted in 1916 that "Guttenberg was wonderfully immune from the major accidents of fire," a real advantage. These businesses provided competitive retail services and a large portion of the area retail market comprised the county's larger rural German population. Finally, the retailers of Guttenberg benefited from the massive and substantial brick and stone store buildings. There is every evidence that the largest of these buildings pre-dated the dawning of large-scale commercial trade, at least two of these purportedly were ordered built based solely on the basis of their plat locations without regard to the actual downtown. Thus, the Weist stone store at 701 South River Park Drive and the Friedlein Hotel, on North Third are so far away from the town center (Jacobs, pp. 24, 30, 41, 71; Price, p. 343).

City growth, largely led by commercial prosperity, even briefly restored county seat status to the community in 1858. It helped that Elkader had failed to build a promised courthouse, but at any rate the status was again lost in 1860. Guttenberg played the ongoing role as a vital forwarding and commissioning center, funneling settlers into the interior through the city and the very large number of hotels reflects that role. The railroad reached the east side of the river in 1857 and this proximity of cheaper shipping costs doubtless was yet another benefit to city merchants. A topographic advantage also enabled the growing city to spread out. There wasn't a better and larger town site available for some considerable distance, upstream or downstream, on either side of the river. McGregor, a later county river town, was compressed into a narrow and elevated floodplain, in sharp contrast to Guttenberg's broad terrace setting and excelling steamboat landing. The impact of the financial panic of 1857-58 was discussed as a part of the German ethnic context. By 1859, there was sufficient economic recovery in the city to warrant the establishment of two newspapers, one of these being the only German language paper. Growth and continued area settlement continued despite the Civil War and the 1865 *Iowa Gazetteer* reported that since 1851, "the growth of the town has been both upward and rapid. Every year has witnessed new and substantial buildings, and a large increase of trade and business" (Price, p. 83; Jacobs, pp. 33, 38, 41).

The 1865 *Iowa Gazetteer* entry for the city inventoried seven general stores, two groceries, two clothing stores, two hardware stores, two drug stores, three millinery shops, four blacksmith and saddler shops, a gun shop, several stove and tin shops, three furniture stores and four hotels. It particularly noted "The commercial advantages of Guttenberg are not surpassed by any town of the same size on the river. It annually ships and received large quantities of produce and merchandise. The principal articles of export are wheat, flour, barley, oats, corn, potatoes, pork, lard, beef and pig lead (Jacobs, p. 42).

The lead mines doubtlessly helped drive the local economy, and following the Civil War, saw mills emerged as another key economic sector. The ability and willingness of the city to subscribe, in 1871, \$30,000 worth of railroad stock to help bring rails to Guttenberg is a reflection of the growing wealth in the community. The railroad actually had the impact of reducing the city's retail and shipping trade area and Jacobs notes, that after 1871, "the community became very conservative because it had to depend now on the trade from the immediate surrounding territory." In subsequent years it was the improvement of area farming that bolstered retail trade and the establishment of creameries reflected this evolution. Historian Jacobs notes that Guttenberg's population held steady while other comparable communities lost population, due to its "strategic location." Community wealth was bolstered the presence of four saw and planing mills and four flour and feed mills. It is curious that the first bank, the Clayton County Bank (Clayton County State Bank after 1909), wasn't established until 1887. Prior to that time, merchants had functioned as quasi-banks. Saloons numbered 13 as of 1884, an impressive count in the days of state prohibition and license fees largely paid for municipal expenses. By 1916, the city was both the largest in the county and "one of its wealthiest" (Price, p. 343; Jacobs, pp. 45, 47-48, 56).

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Guttenberg's commercial history is represented by the Front Street Commercial Historic District (NRHP, 1984). The district is a 4 1/2-block long segment of South River Park Drive (originally Front Street, and briefly Washington Street) which has historically been the commercial center of Guttenberg. The district encompasses almost all of the city's notable commercial buildings, riverfront warehouses, including the best examples of stone and brick commercial architecture. The district is the heart of Guttenberg and two other significant resources, the Lock and Dam #10 (NRHP eligible, National Park Service) and the U.S. Fish Hatchery complex (NRHP as the Upper Mississippi River Fisheries Management Historic District) are located in or near it. The Guttenberg School complex adjoins the district to the north. The northern boundary of the district is established with an abrupt change from residential to commercial architecture, about midway along the block between Prince and Pearl Streets. From this point (beginning with 216 South River Park Drive) commercial structures, mostly sharing party walls, extend south to Herder. Below Herder, commercial blocks are mixed with turn of the century houses to Lessing Street. The Fleck warehouse and store, facing one another across River Park Drive, mark the southern boundary of the district, as they did according to an 1869 bird's-eye of the community. The river bank east of River Park Drive, is, as the name suggests, basically a long public park. Its grassy expanse is punctuated by three large stone warehouses, a fish market and collection of fishermen's shanties, a small late-Victorian house, and a group of buildings associated with the government fish hatchery.

In general, the district resembles many small-town Iowa commercial centers, in its preponderance of one-and two-story business blocks of brick and wood- frame construction. The buildings date from at least the early 1850's to the present, and within certain limits, represent the styles of commercial architecture popular in American small towns over this 150-year interval. The most distinctive features of the district are the buildings of fair to excellent integrity that remain from the 1850's. Built of stone or brick, these structures are local expressions of the urban Greek Revival, with high-pitched, side-gable roofs with end parapets, three-or four-bay facades embellished with little more than shallow pedimented window hoods, and uncluttered ground floor shop fronts. A few versions of commercial Italianate also appear in the district, but most have lost the decorative elements (bracketed metal cornices, in particular) normally associated with this style. Strikingly absent are examples of cast iron fronts or elaborate metal cornices. The survival of earlier buildings meant that there was neither need nor space to build these in the late-19<sup>th</sup> Century. The storefront at 520 South First Street, a block from the river, is the best example.

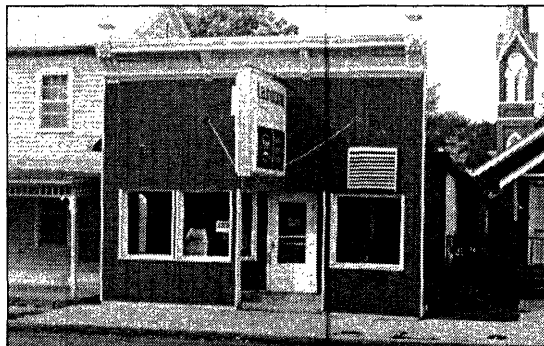


Figure 22: 520 South First Street, well preserved pressed metal cornice example on a frame storefront  
(photo by J. Jacobsen, 2002)

Turn-of-the century commercial blocks are usually of brick construction, with but a small amount of decorative corbelling at the cornice line. The IOOF hall (422 South River Park Drive) is typical, save for its use of a rounded pediment and exaggerated parapet front. Several buildings from the 1920's and 1930's blend reasonably well with older structures, as



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they are brick and of a scale appropriate to the streetscape. Smaller frame examples employ a flat parapet front or a "false front." These survive on a number of back and side streets and largely date from the turn-of-the century.



Fig. 22. 422 S. 1st St. Bldg. (c. 1890) (Clayton County, Iowa)



Established when the Mississippi was still an uncontested avenue of transportation and commerce, Guttenberg's commercial center was appropriately river-oriented. As in many other river towns, Guttenberg's business district stretched along the riverbank, with River Park Drive's original name, Front Street, emphasizing the true orientation of the community. As with their houses, Guttenberg's German settlers quickly adopted limestone as a preferred medium of construction, with the

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more expensive brick, locally available by 1854, a close second. By the early 1850's substantial business blocks were rising along Front Street, many combining ground-floor commercial space with proprietors' living quarters above. A popular building form was the 3 or 4-bay steep-roofed, side gable block, sharing parapeted party walls with similarly built neighbors. They displayed regular fenestration, and narrow cornices, clean simple lines, and occasional use of cast iron for shop fronts. Among the best example of this type in Guttenberg is 216 S. River Park Drive, which flanks the highly idiosyncratic Albertus building (218 South River Park Drive) on the north, the latter a considerably larger building dated to 1852 that features the Gothic-derived pointed arch at all openings of the main facade. South of this group are #302 South River Park Drive, and Ihm & Weiner's Dry Goods store (308 South River Park Drive), which opened for business in early 1857. Departing from the generally narrow proportions of many business blocks, and thus having a more domestic character, is 310 South River Park Drive, divided into six bays at street level and seven bays above.

Most of these early establishments were two-stories high, but several merchants were more ambitious. Charles Faulkenheimer's hardware store (430 South River Park Drive), three stories with a cut corner, was built in 1856, with Ihm and Weiner's three-story block opening a year later. Anchoring the south end of the business district was another exceptionally tall stone building, George Wiest's hardware and tin shop (700 South River Park Drive), opened in 1856. It was purportedly built so far south by accident, the owner having commissioned its construction without visiting the town. By far the largest of Guttenberg's early business buildings were the riverbank warehouses, three of the original four still remaining. Rising nearly four floors at the water's edge, these stone structures (431, 531, 701 South River Park Drive) have wide double-pitched or gambrel roofs and flat slab lintels of dressed stone; all were built by 1858.

A corner location often required more consideration than did mid-block sites, where only one facade of a building needed to be "presentable." In two cases, Wiest's hardware (700 South River Park Drive) and Henry Dubpernell's butcher shop (302 South River Park Drive), the traditional side-gable roof sloped down to near flatness above the two street facades, which were then finished off with neat molded cornices.

As the 19th century moved beyond the Civil War, changing fashions in commercial architecture found expression along Guttenberg's Front Street, principally in the form of bracketted metal cornices or decoratively-corbelled brick parapets. The false front appeared late in the century, on small buildings of frame, rather than the traditional masonry construction. On the whole, the later buildings were less impressive in size, substance and workmanship, than those from Guttenberg's pre-Civil War years and reflected both the continuing usefulness of the early structures and the later decades' more reduced economic circumstances that may have discouraged new construction.

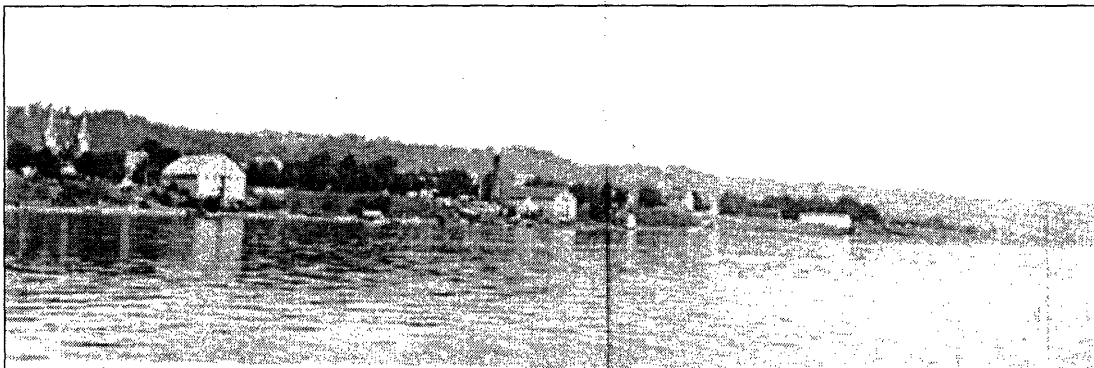


Figure 25: Guttenberg's distinctive riverfront with its three warehouses, flourmill smoke stack, riverfront city hall, c.1910  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

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Throughout its history, Front Street has been the scene of a rich variety of enterprises, most buildings experiencing several different uses over the years. Among the earliest businesses were dry goods and "general merchandise" stores, such as Ihm & Weiner's, the Fleck Brothers' and many specialty quarters with a printer, a millenary shop and leather goods emporium, butcher shop and meat market, drug store and bakery--all in operation before 1860. Small-scale manufacture was not limited to furniture, but included a brewery, and, toward the end of the century, several cigar factories (on Front Street, the Albertus Building in 1886, and the building to the south in 1894; and Meyer's on First Street). In 1905 the H-B Clover Overall Company occupied half the ground floor space of the IOOF hall. Perhaps due to the availability of lumber sawmills--carpentry and furniture making was a small but active industry, with operations located in various buildings on Front Street during the 19th century. Two of Guttenberg's more notable early economic activities involved the housing of commodities in transit: people, and grain and merchandise. Thus, hotels and warehouses were particularly important in the community. Dominating the scene were the four river warehouses, the three remaining owned by George Weist and the Fleck Brothers and John Shmees. The fourth was owned by Herman Ihm of Ihm & Weiner's. These warehouses were transfer points for manufactured goods coming into Guttenberg by river steamer, and for locally grown or made commodities going out such as grain, hides, pig lead, and meat.

No less important were hotels serving river travelers, farmers in town to sell grain and meat and to buy goods. All these buildings, built before the Civil War although used as hotels at various periods, are of limestone, well-built in the vernacular and modified Greek Revival forms in favor in Guttenberg at the time, and are still among the more substantial structures in the community. Among the former hotels remaining in Guttenberg are the Albertus Building (218 South River Park Drive, American Hotel, 1858) on Front Street, the American House, c.1857 (7 Goethe); the St. Clair Hotel, 1880s, 430 South First Street, and the Jefferson Hotel, c.1858, 106 Schiller Street. Yet another hotel example, the Friedlein Hotel and boasting its own bakery, was unfortunately located far from the center of business activity, at 310 Third Street.

Three other commercial structures, all located off Front Street, also deserve mention on architectural grounds. Well preserved (despite additions which now threaten to overwhelm it) is a wood frame, two-story building, originally John Dubbell's harness shop (#346), which retains its early storefront and pedimented window surrounds. On Herder Street is a two-story, front-gable brick block, with stone key-stones in flat window arches, and a round-arched window in the gable end. Built in 1876, this building, like many others in Guttenberg, combined residential and business uses, including the town's first movie house around 1910. Vividly expressing this dual function is the Eckert building (#339), which from the front appears to be a flat-roofed two-story commercial block with a metal cornice, but from the rear is a gable roof house that once had a two-story porch across the long south side.

### Commercial Examples of Style and Type:

Guttenberg's mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century downtown riverfront was celebrated throughout the state and region as a charming architectural treasure. The watercolor depicted above appeared in the *Sunday Register* and gives a good sense of the cadence of the commercial buildings.

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Figure 26: Downtown panorama (Des Moines Register, September 12, 1941)

A number of building characteristics don't necessarily relate to type or style but they give Guttenberg a charming and unique appearance. Perhaps most notable are the many buildings built off-square, being built to fit the curiously acute lot angles. Buildings like the one pictured below, have a vernacular flow about them, combining roof forms (a single raised gable end wall as shown below), building materials (as in this example, stone core with a frame side addition, wooden lintels and sills on a stone building). In other examples buildings are oriented by convenience, being placed sideways relative to a street, or deep on a lot. Location, even for commercial buildings is often relative, with little reason for buildings being where they are.



Figure 27: 310 South First Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

The historic commercial buildings in Guttenberg can be divided into three basic types, the side gable, the gable front and the parapet front. The parapet front commercial type is the most common with 19 contributing examples being located within the downtown area. The type includes a range of flat roof designs with raised parapet front and side walls. The dominant visual profile is that of the parapet, executed in a flat form or combined with centered pediments or other design components. Frame versions feature false fronts or pressed metal cornice fronts. The form includes the earliest surviving brick commercial block, located at 7 Schiller Street (1858, Figure 29) as well as the most recent historic examples. This example, and others occupy prominent corner locations. The best and most intact example is the two-story brick 1904 Odd Fellows Block (422 South River Park Drive). Illustrated examples of this type appear in Figures 22-23, 26, 28, 29, 3, 32 and 33.

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The side gable type is the second most common and largely defines the downtown visually with 14 well preserved examples. This building type most commonly is a three or four bay wide block with a steeply pitched side gable roof with parapeted side walls. Intervening side walls were frequently used as party walls. Fenestration is symmetrical, cornices are simple and narrow, and building lines overall are simple and conservative. Usually this commercial type is not found on corner locations, an exception being the distinctive 302 South River Park Drive. Illustrated examples include Figures 24, 26, and 27.

The gable (and gambrel) front commercial block is the least common in the downtown proper, although it is the dominant form for the commercial buildings located on adjacent streets. There are nine well preserved examples in the downtown area. There are three five brick and stone examples located along the riverfront, these being 506 South River Park Drive (pre-1886) and 518 South River Park Drive (1894-1902). The example at 3 Goethe is of particular interest less because of its type but because it is a heavy timber building on a stone foundation with brick nogging. It also has a prominent corner location. Other gable front plans are disguised as parapet front types, with high false front parapet walls. All of the riverfront warehouses had gable or gambrel front designs, two of which survive.

The most distinctive commercial building examples are those that are of stone construction. They are characterized by their massive scale and square or rectangular massing. Given their pre-1870 construction dates, they tend to approximate the Adams/Georgian at least as they relate to symmetrical fenestration. Two of the stone warehouses employed gambrel roofs. The best stone commercial examples are found at 5 Goethe Street, 216, 300, 306, 700 South River Park Drive and the Guttenberg Press building at 10 Schiller.



Figure 28: 15 Goethe Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 2003)

Corner locations, not surprisingly, offer the best commercial designs. These tend to be larger in scale and have double design fronts due to their corner settings. Corner store blocks in many communities tend to play the design role of "bookends" on commercial rows, and this is true in Guttenberg. The three-story stone block at 700 South River Park Drive defines the south end of the Front Street District (NRHP). Other key examples are 7 Schiller, a brick block with pedimented cast iron lintels and very unusual stone quoins on either side of its storefront; 430 South River Park Drive (an off-square stone three-story block); and 302 South River Park Drive, another stone example. The Guttenberg State Bank, with its Queen Anne/Romanesque style, 10 Goethe, also is notable for its corner location. A number of brick blocks occupy corner lots on First Street and these uniformly front south on the several side streets.

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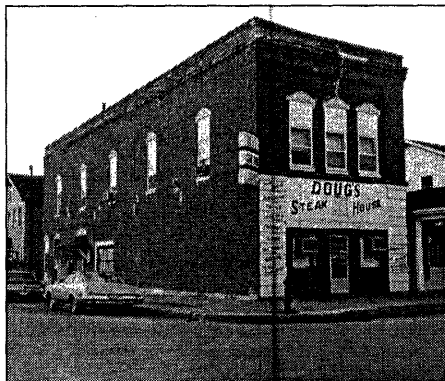


Figure 29: 7 Schiller, 1858 (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)



Figure 30: 527 South First Street, 1890 (photo, J. Jacobsen, 2003)

The corner example at 527 South First Street is an excellent corner example, one that is located just to the west of the downtown core. An earlier (1876) example is found at 15 Herder and has the same corner setting and orientation. Reflective of its earlier date, it has a shallow gable front while 527 South First Street has a parapet front. It is one design that can be classed as an Italianate style example.

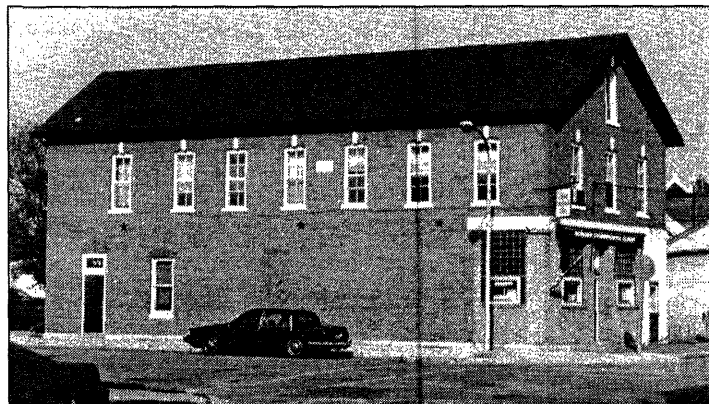


Figure 31: 15 Herder (photo, J. Jacobsen, 2003)

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A number of distinctive mid-block examples augment the corner blocks. The Cassatt Block at 426 South River Park Drive has a singular and very well preserved raised pediment, one that reflects a German stylistic influence. It is unusual in that it has a name and building date on the pediment base. The Odd Fellows Hall at 422 South River Park Drive is also distinctive. Most notable, and the most famous commercial block in the city, is the Alburtus Block, with its twin associated side wing adjoining side-gable storefronts (214, 218 and 222 South River Park Drive) serves as the north terminus of the downtown proper. It is more vernacular than stylistic, but it is best classed as an Adams or Federal style side gable plan, given its symmetrical fenestration.



Figure 32: 426 South River Park Drive (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Other early brick commercial buildings include 15 Herder Street, 106 Schiller Street and 314 South River Park Drive (originally three stories high, now just two stories).



Figure 33: 300 South River Park Drive (photo, J. Jacobsen, 2003)

This large and impressive brick rear wing is another Italianate style example. It dates to c.1880 and is distinctive for its plain rowlock brick window arches. Despite the loss of stone lintels, the building's prominent street side location is reflected in the bracketed cornice line.



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## Context #4, The Architecture and Builders of Guttenberg, 1850-1955:

This context addresses the historical significance of Guttenberg's architecture. Many buildings are associated with the other historical contexts, but many others are not otherwise connected to a particular historical theme. Guttenberg's building architecture adds a visually striking overlay to most attractive physical setting of the city. The architecture of Guttenberg is predominantly vernacular in origin, so much so, that it is a considerable challenge to even attempt to describe the architecture in terms of style or popular house type. Vernacular architecture can be simply defined as just that, those buildings that cannot be attributed to academic styles or types. A more complex definition defines vernacular architecture as a building tradition or traditions that derives from non-stylistic sources, that is to say ethnic, folk or tradition.

Guttenberg's architecture is so overwhelmingly vernacular that it stands out when compared to other area communities. Sheer quantity of examples is one feature. This was and remains a large community and one that was largely built up prior to World War I. Many examples are simply quixotic, with building footprints being forced off-square by the acute angles of building lots. Scale is another, the combination of German cultural influence and resulting prosperity, produced massive buildings and even the lesser buildings tend to be larger in scale, than is to be found in other communities. Building materials play a central role. The stone building tradition dominated local construction and this fact is unmatched anywhere else in the state in terms of the number of historic buildings and surviving examples. Stone buildings are separately treated under the German ethnic context but the use of stone and brick reflects a local preference for substantial and permanent buildings. Like the stone buildings, it is the thesis of this multiple property document and this context that the architecture of Guttenberg represents a predominantly German-American design and cultural influence. Guttenberg was more German in its makeup than any comparable community in Iowa. Finally, the sheer survival of historic buildings favors Guttenberg's claim to architectural significance. Survival was aided by the substantial nature of the buildings themselves but it was also the community and familial loyalty to these buildings that preserved them in such large numbers.

Popular or academic architecture achieved belated and diluted acceptance in Guttenberg. Most examples represent a local builder's interpretation of popular style and combine vernacular and stylistic influences. Most commonly, the vernacular is represented by a preference for the use of stone or brick, the penchant for substantial massing, placement forward on the lot, and the employment of vernacular forms such as a central hall plan, saltbox roof profile, and the like. Stylistic influence was always present in Guttenberg and its first overt acceptance came in the downtown area and in religious and public architecture. The riverfront city hall was a full-blown Italianate style while all of the churches employed variations of the Gothic Revival style. High-style residential examples increase in number as Guttenberg opened itself to the outside world. A good example is the Theo Berns residence (11 Prince, 1910), a brick very late Queen Anne design built by a retired farmer who came to town. Commercial architecture after 1900 led the way in importing style to the city. The Guttenberg State Bank (15 Goethe, 1900) employed a belated Romanesque design to highlight its prominent side street location. A consistent time lag is apparent, even when a style was employed. New schools, public and parochial, and church rectories also employed purer styles. Despite the importation of families into the city, in response to industrial development, there was a marked reluctance to adopt the national house types such as the bungalow or foursquare. The state and federal governments would play a key role in introducing and promoting modern architecture to the city by virtue of the many public works projects that were built in the late 1930s. As a result, Guttenberg's architecture consists of two themes, a dominant and long lasting vernacular building tradition, and a subordinate and countervailing stylistic influence, one that was largely reinterpreted by local taste and tradition. The significance of the vernacular rests upon its collective and comparative merit. The significance of the stylistic building history rests upon its usage for other than private residences and its role in integrating the city with national design tastes and trends.



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Earlier is better when it comes to architectural significance. The most interesting buildings are those that reflect the earliest development of the city. Unfortunately less historical information is available for these early buildings, particularly the stone architecture and more questions than answers are at hand. Of particular interest is the intermingling of German-American, Mississippi Valley and mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century urban American cultural and building traditions. In Guttenberg this apparently combined design fusion is represented in the so-called Adams, Federal or Greek Revival style commercial and residential buildings. The second part of this context is a developing list of Guttenberg builders and designers. Very much a work in progress, this section assembles the relatively scanty data that links these persons with their known works.

Significant outbuildings are few in number in Guttenberg. Those that were surveyed were all located along South Bluff Street or on the bluff top above the city. There is a single brick carriage house, with cupola and stone foundation, at 402 South Bluff, where the Jungt Brewery retains a granary and a shed. An array of stone outbuildings are found in the proposed South Bluff residential district. There is a stone barn at 1014 Bluff, along with a smoke house and spring house. Another spring house is found at the Vanstaden Distillery, 131 Garber Road. A brick carriage house (1910) is found at 11 Prince (being added to the Front Street District, NRHP).

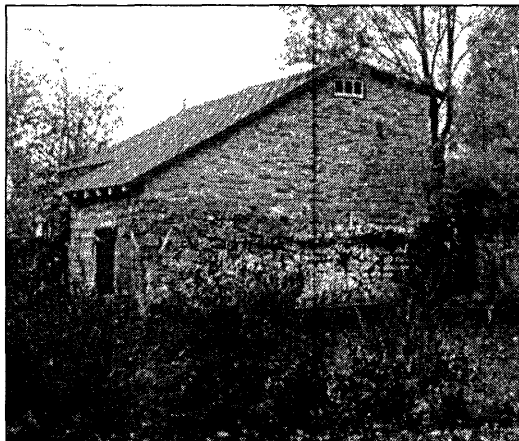


Figure 34: Stone barn, Dunker's Winery, 515 Acre Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

## Styles:

### Romantic Style Houses, 1820-1880:

The romantic styles represented a conscious avoidance of things English following a hard-won independence. The Greek Revival style was the first of several romantic styles and it enjoyed the most enduring popularity. Beginning c.1840 other styles with Medieval and Italian origins were introduced and successively rose and fell in popular esteem. Both the Gothic and Italianate styles persisted beyond the Civil War years and would be reinterpreted as Victorian era styles during the 1880s (McAlester, *Virginia and Lee, A Field Guide To American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984, p. 178).

### Greek Revival Style Subtype, 1825-60:

The Greek Revival style was nationally dominant from 1830-50 and it was also called the "National Style" accordingly. It persists as late as 1860 in areas that enjoyed rapid development in the pre-Civil War years. It died out with the economic downturn of the late 1850s and the coming of the war. This style combines a symmetrical

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façade, regular fenestration, with a low-pitched gable front or side gable roof (or hip roof) and a prominent defined cornice line. The style is significant in Guttenberg because it is associated with very early residences (McAlester, pp. 179-182).



Figure 35: 300 South First Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Excellent examples are found at 300 and 413 South First Street (Eckert House, NRHP-listed). The former has Italianate style windows and a center hall plan. Additional examples are found at 302, 306, 402, 406, 416, 508 and 618 South River Park Drive.

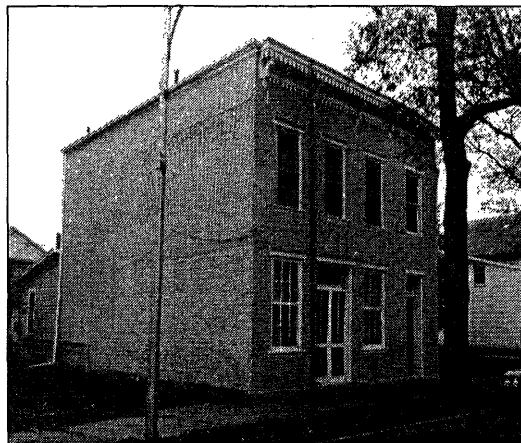


Figure 36: 413 South First Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

A cottage example is found at 910 South River Park Drive. It combines a gallery porch, center hall plan and an entry with sidelights and transom.

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Figure 37: Lake-Wehmer house, 910 South River Park Drive (c.1856-62, National Register Listed)  
(photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

## Gothic Revival Style Subtype, 1840-1880:

This Medieval-derived style was particularly appropriate for a picturesque rural cottage setting and it was ill-adapted to construction on a narrow town lot. The only Guttenberg example is a commercial one, the landmark Albertus Block, 218 South River Park Drive. The style combines steeply pitched gable roof dormers or end gables with pointed Gothic windows and elaborate vergeboard detailing. The Albertus example is a vernacular interpretation and its "Gothic" link rests with its arcade of flattened Gothic window and door openings on its lower front level (McAlester, pp. 197-200).

## Italianate Style Subtype, 1840-85:

The popularity of this style coincided with the explosive new growth of Midwestern urban centers and the style is consequently well represented in that region. Like the Gothic Revival, this picturesque style was developed first in England and was an attempt to emulate the rambling Italian farmhouse/villa. The style combines a low-pitched hip roof (less commonly a gable roof), a variety of building footprints. Elongated narrow windows, commonly rounded and capped with elaborate crowns, elaborate entryways with transoms and decorative lintels, and a prominent bracketed cornice line are defining features. The utter absence of this style, apart from some commercial applications, in Guttenberg, offers perhaps the most striking example of the local preference for a vernacular architecture over popular styles. No residential examples have been identified at all although this style was commonly expressed in frame buildings and the loss of these examples is a possibility. Still, this style should comprise a dominant presence and would in any comparable community. Examples that are present are either public, institutional or commercial properties.

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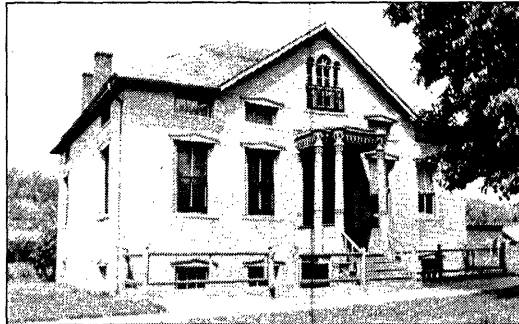


Figure 38: Former city hall (one of several surviving former public buildings), 510 North First, greatly altered (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)



Figure 39: 822 South River Park Drive (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

This is a single-story T-plan brick version of the “steamboat gothic,” but this one is slightly more Italianate than Gothic in style.

Victorian Era House, 1860-1900; The Second Empire, Victorian Gothic, Queen Anne, and Richardsonian Romanesque styles.

### Second Empire Style Subtype, 1855-1885:

This style parallels the Italianate and it is commonplace in large urban areas such as nearby Dubuque. The style employs all of the features and range of plans of the Italianate, but adds a mansard roof form. The absolute absence of this style in Guttenberg is most striking. It was commonly employed on public, religious and hotel buildings, but not so here. There is just one Guttenberg-area example, the Lake House, on Garber or Cemetery Road (SHPO DOE), which is located southeast of the city (McAlester pp. 241-43).

### Victorian Gothic Style Subtype (1860-1890):

This style represents a Victorian version of the Romantic era Gothic Revival style. It is defined by the continued use of steeply pitched gable dormers or gable ends, pointed or lancet windows, the presence of polychromatic horizontal bandings which are formed by the use of contrasting materials and colors in the building

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exterior finish, and commonly, the use of plain stucco in residential applications. In this region, a vernacular interpretation combines a through-cornice dormer on the side wing of an L-plan residence, and pointed windows are placed in the dormer front or on the upper levels. Square-cut windows are also used. In Guttenberg this style was restricted to church designs only, save for a few of these residential interpretations. Brick and stone church designs remained very conservative and only the few frame churches employed any polychromatic exterior flourishes and these have been altered and lost. The preference for the Gothic style in religious architecture might well be attributed to German cultural tradition.

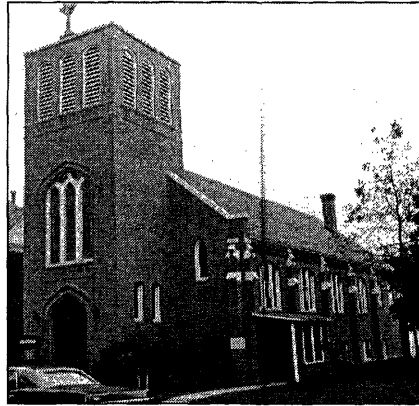


Figure 40: 212 South First Street, 1922-23, St. Paul Lutheran Church  
(photo by J. Jacobsen, March 2001)

St. Mary Catholic Church (1902-03) is the pre-eminent Gothic Revival example in Guttenberg. It is the oldest larger church design. St. John Lutheran Church (1948) is a fairly recent replacement of their original stone church and it is of interest because it was built of load-bearing stone masonry as well. Lesser examples are St. Paul Lutheran Church, 212 South First Street, a 1930s replacement with a large square front tower and Trinity Lutheran Church (1932).

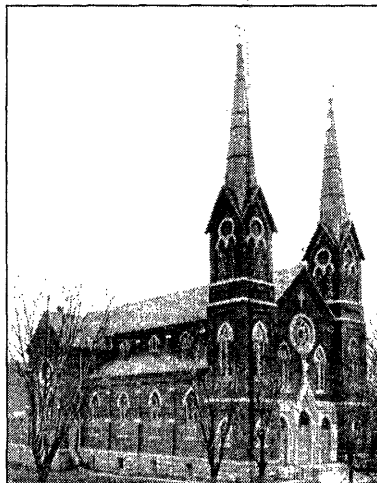


Figure 41: St. Mary's Catholic Church (*Diamond Jubilee of St. Mary's Parish*)

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Residential examples of the style are restricted to a few stylistic influences. Through-cornice gable roof dormers such as the one at 614 South River Park Drive can represent a Gothic Revival influence, particularly if the window cap is pointed. In this example, the window is clearly Italianate style in influence.



Figure 42: 614 South River Park Drive (photo by J. Jacobsen, March 2001)

## Queen Anne Style Subtype (1880-1910):

The Queen Anne style enjoyed a conservative yet prominent presence in Guttenberg, in contrast to any other Victorian-era style. This style celebrated the intermixing of contrasting building materials and textures and asymmetry of plan and massing. Gable or hip roofs were steeply pitched and roof profiles were busily broken up with wings, dormers and towers. Exteriors were elaborately exuberant with exotic porch ornamentation, upper level porches, bays and the like. The Queen Anne style is the first historic style to be well represented in Guttenberg. There are excellent examples of the style and many examples of vernacular types with stylistic influences. Still, local examples are conservatively designed, particularly in massing, where the style is applied to a cubic hip roof or cottage core. It is probable that the exuberance of the style found receptivity in a German-American population that increasingly favored a measured ostentation, particularly in porch or roofline detailing. These features are evident in historical images and tend to have been lost. Many houses of this style have replacement Colonial Revival-era porches, and they consequently read as more conservative designs. This style enjoyed a delayed popularity in Guttenberg and it also reflected the emergence of a wealthy class that was willing to express itself architecturally.

The best Queen Anne style is the Theodore Berns House, 11 Prince, 1910-11, a rather late example. It has a hipped roof core with lower cross gables. Typical of the Free Classic or Classical Revival subset of the style, lunette windows infill its gable fronts. A comparable frame example, very well preserved, is found at 622 South River Park Drive. Other examples include 206 South River Park Drive and 404 South Second Street, both of which are frame residences. The latter example features sunrise motifs above its windows.

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Figure 43: Theodore Berns House, 11 Prince Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

More typical of local examples of the hip roof core with cross gable subset of this style are a number of brick cottages. An excellent example is 103 North First, with its unusual use of white brick in its arches and as quoins. Less-well preserved examples are at 318 North 1<sup>st</sup> and 318 North River Park Drive (SHPO DOE). Other cottage examples 322 North First Street (date uncertain, Craftsman detailing), 230 North First Street, 322 North River Park Drive (brick cottage, SHPO DOE), 103 North First Street (brick), 302 Pearl Street, 612 South First (brick), 204 South River Park Drive, and 319 North First Street.



Figure 44: 103 North First Street (photo, Neil Webster 2001)

There is one excellent house example of the cross-gable roof, L-plan subset of the Queen Anne style. It is located at 722 North First Street. The only major change is the loss of the original corner porch. Of particular interest is the incorporation of the broad bay into a returned eaves gable front treatment. Fine bargeboard work in the gable apex still survives.

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Figure 45: 722 North First Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Two excellent cottage examples of this same subtype are located 722 South River Park Drive and 422 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The former is a frame example, the latter is of brick. Both examples feature excellent detailing. The brick example closely resembles 722 North First Street. Other examples include 306 South Second Street, 114 South River Park Drive, 215 South First Street, 1231 South Bluff Street (SHPO DOE), 227 North First Street (SHPO DOE) (all brick examples), and 610 South River Park Drive (frame example). Cottage examples are 422 South Second (brick), 607 South River Park Drive (frame photo studio/residence), and 621 South Second Street. The only gable front subtype example is found at 518 South River Park Drive and it represents a remodeling of an earlier vernacular plan.

## Richardsonian Romanesque Style Subtype (1880-1900):

This style is symbolized by the use of round- topped arches, rough faced stonework and the presence of round conical capped towers. It usually was used on more monumental buildings and the only Guttenberg example is the State Security Bank building, 15 Goethe (1900). This single example represents a fairly late and very conservative application of this style in Guttenberg.

## Eclectic House Styles, Anglo-American, English and French Period Houses 1880-1940:

This style is organized in this report in two sections, the first being titled "Anglo-American, English and French Period Houses" and the second, "Modern Houses." The first section includes the Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Tudor, Chateausque, Beaux Arts and French Eclectic styles, the second includes the Prairie, Craftsman, Modernistic, and International styles).

## Colonial Revival/Dutch Colonial Revival (1880-1955):

The first twenty years of the Colonial Revival saw the emergence of an amalgam of Queen Anne basic forms with so called Colonial and even Classical ornamentation. It wasn't until c.1910 that the style first clearly focused on faithfully replicating original American Colonial house plans. The Colonial, even in its earliest expressions, represented the emergence of the first American-generated architectural style. It is defined by the use of a symmetrical façade and standard fenestration, an elongated side gable or hip roof core, and a prominent accentuated centered entryway. A prominent cornice, commonly with returned cornices and a 6/6 window pattern. The relatively



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meager Guttenberg examples represent vernacular interpretations, non-traditional applications to residential architecture (prominent rectories) or direct and later importations of popular styles often by virtue of government public works projects. Colonial Revival porch substitutions are more commonly found on older buildings (Labine, McAlester, pp. 321-341).

The St. Mary Catholic Church rectory is the best and only example of the hipped roof without a full width front porch subtype. The defining components are a Palladian-like window set in the dormer front, and the pedimented front dormer. The St. Mary Catholic School (1894), likely the model for this design, shares the same style and massing. The house at 216 South First Street virtually matches the St. Mary rectory plan, save that it is squarer, four bays wide, and has multiple through-cornice dormers, centered on each side. A plainer example is found at 202 North River Park Drive (Borman House, SHPO DOE).

The side gabled roof subtype examples in Guttenberg represent the more recent range of house plans. The premier example is the surviving Lockkeeper's house, located on the riverfront opposite the Lock and Dam complex. The design features a center hall plan, symmetrical fenestration, and closely cut eaves. It is no accident that it took the federal government to provide the "most" Colonial example to the city. The example at 310 South River Park Drive is the best and most authentic example of the side gable subtype. This design employs upper level half windows and a rambling asymmetrical façade window arrangement. A smaller side hall plan, possibly representing the conversion of an earlier frame house, is found at 406 South First Street.



Figure 46: 310 South River Park Drive, c.1940 (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

A single example of the centered gable subset is found at 118 North River Park Drive (SHPO DOE). This is the best of several Guttenberg examples. All are of brick construction



Figure 47: 118 North River Park Drive, 1927 (photo by J. Jacobsen, March 2001)

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The design at 326 North Second Street (John Kuempel House, SHPO DOE) is the only Dutch Colonial gambrel roof subtype example in Guttenberg. The elongated dormer is not typical given the replacement of two separated windows for what is normally a solid band of windows.



Figure 47: 326 North Second Street (photo by J. Jacobsen, March 2001)

There are just two examples of the Cape Cod subtype, popular between the 1920s and 1950s, and one of these represents a probable conversion of a much older side gable cottage plan (1218 South Bluff Street). The only other example, lacking dormers, is found at 211 Herder Street and dates to 1953.

Tudor Revival (1890-1940):

This Medieval-derived style, like the Colonial Revival, found a very limited application and acceptance in Guttenberg. Just one public building, the St. Mary Parish sisters' house, employed this style and it otherwise appears in later infill residential examples, and these are for the most part prominently situated along the Mississippi River front. The style is defined by steeply pitched gable roofs in side gable or cross gable form, prominent and ornamented chimneys, half-timbering and the use of contrasting brick stucco and stone, rounded entries and commonly the cat slide roof or buttress (McAlester, pp. 355-57).

There are just five house examples of this style in Guttenberg and this appears to have been largely an imported form. The only stucco example is found at 410 South River Park Drive and the only Tudor components is a rounded arch entry on what is otherwise a central hall side gable house plan and casement windows. A bracketed centered upper level front porch imparts a Craftsman feel to the design. The frame example at 810 South River Park Drive is atypical of the style, with a gable front profile, but it does have the cat slide form on a projecting sidewall. The two most authentic frame examples are adjacent designs at 806 and 814 South River Park Drive. Both plans have cat slide roofs that extend over recessed porch wings.

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Figure 48: 814 South River Park Drive (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

The only institutional example of the style is the St. Mary Catholic convent. The style is represented by rusticated stone inserts that represent a stone foundation, as well as the rounded entryways.

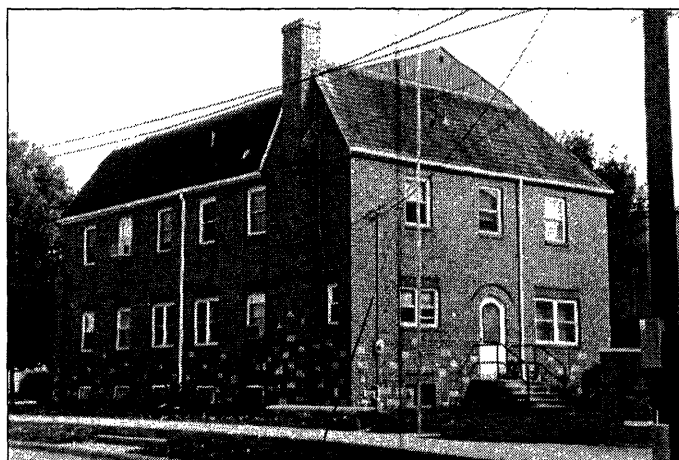


Figure 49: 502 South Second, Convent, St. Mary Catholic Church, 1925-26  
(photo, J. Jacobsen, 2003)

## Eclectic House Styles, Modern Houses, 1880-1940:

The general absence of early-20<sup>th</sup> Century popular or national house/cottage forms in Guttenberg's residential architecture is quite striking. There are no Prairie style derived examples and nothing that approaches a real Craftsman Style either. Also absent are Spanish, Mission or French Provincial examples. Despite the influx of new residents and the emergence of a managerial middle class, there was no receptivity to any of these styles. One explanation might be that the small city lots did not lend themselves to styles that called for elongated footprints and there was no early opportunity for residents to place homes on the high bluff tops where such designs would have had space and prominence. The explanation likely lies in a conservative tendency to avoid architectural ostentation and Guttenberg never developed class-based neighborhoods.

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Arts and Crafts/Craftsman (1905-1930):

The true examples of this style were fairly boxy, employed natural and less-processed building materials, exposed structural systems, and favored the use of stucco and rustic exteriors. No Guttenberg examples are to be found apart from bungalow-related applications. Numerous early houses have Craftsman style upper window sash that are replacements, and many added porches feature these windows and battered porch columns. The only building that approaches this style is the Masonic Hall.



Figure 50: 130 South First Street—Masonic Hall, 1927 (Historical image, c.1940)

Art Moderne/Modernistic (1925-1940):

Once again, the Federal government can be credited with providing the only example of this style, this being the Art Deco style municipal building (1939). It is an excellent example. The building has gained a north end elevator tower but the building is otherwise well preserved and retains its integrity. The style is defined by smooth wall surfaces, a basic massing that is streamlined by the use of rounded corners, and a vertical design emphasis that is imparted by its ornamentation (McAlester, p. 465).

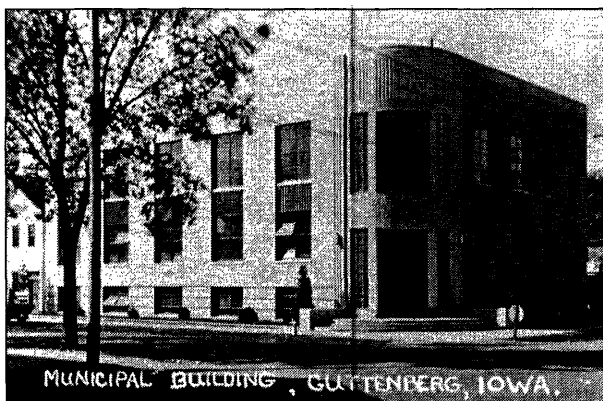


Figure 51: 502 South First Street (1939)  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

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Popular Cottage/House Types: The Bungalow (1910-1930):

The bungalow emerged as a popular house type c.1908 and by 1916 was the house of choice across the country for the middle and working class. The type is defined as a low profile cottage or one that attempts to appear as one, with hip or gable roof, broad eaves, full or partial porches either integrated into the main roof or separate, and the use of less processed natural materials (cobblestone, stucco) and visible structural elements, with Craftsman detailing. There are three generally accepted bungalow subtypes: (1) the single story front gable; (2) the aeroplane and (3) the side gable. Generally speaking, there are very few bungalow examples in Guttenberg, this despite the fact that the city lots worked well at least with the gable front type.

Gable-hip front/narrow front bungalow:

This group of bungalows, primarily consisting of gable front variations, includes bungalow plans that present their narrow dimension to the street. Hip roofed bungalows are included in this type. Variations include a facade wide gable front, with separate porch or a recessed porch, and plans that project off-center porches or side porches from a gable front core. Three of the better examples are pictured. The small tile plan at 518 South First Street was a telephone company office, executed as a bungalow.



Figure 52: Gable front example, 130 North River Park Drive (SHPO DOE) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)



Figure 53: 518 South First Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

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Other examples are 115 North First Street (SHPO DOE); 422 South First Street; 523 South Second Street; 114 North Third Street; 107 Herder Street, and 317 South River Park Drive. Cottage examples that read like gable front bungalows are found at 422 South First Street (a hip core with a broad gable front wing) 802 and 622 South River Park Drive. All of these examples have windows in their gable fronts, an indicator of cottage rather than bungalow. The gable front cottage example at 110 North Second Street has a blank high gable front set atop a recessed porch, with Craftsman style windows.

### Aeroplane/Airplane Bungalow:

The single Guttenberg example, 110 South First Street, achieves its aeroplane effect by means of three broad hip roof dormers. It could be argued that this is a cottage plan, dressed up as a bungalow.

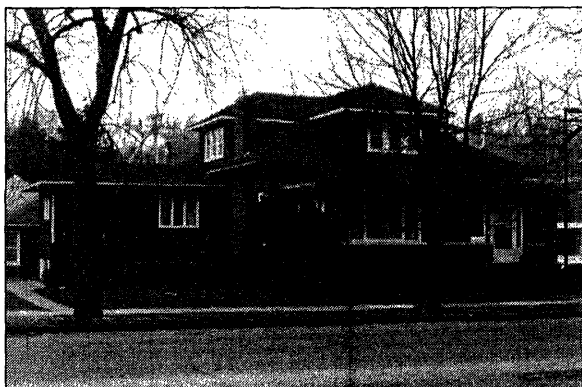


Figure 54: 110 South First Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

### Side Gable Bungalow:

This general type includes side gable plans, most of which present their broader dimension to the street front. The roof form can have a single roof plane that continues forward to cover a recessed porch, or it can have two roof pitches, with the lower and flatter pitch plane covering the porch. Dormers commonly are set into the front roof plane and these can be very large relative to the volume of the roof plane. This type can be further categorized in terms of the use of a full width or partial width porch. The example of 106 Goethe illustrates a very similar cottage form that pre-dates the bungalow era, yet closely resembles the side gable bungalow form.

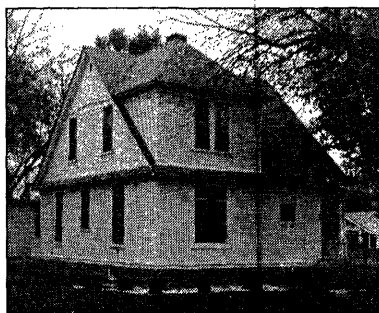


Figure 55: 106 Goethe (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

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Figure 56: 315 South River Park Drive (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

The brick example at 315 South River Park Drive represents a later-date bungalow example brought to Guttenberg as a part of the U.S. Fish Hatchery complex in 1935-38. In this example a single roof plane covers a recessed front porch.

The example at 214 South Second Street features a double pitch front roof plane, the porch having its own lower pitch. A comparable example is found at 613 South First Street. Additional side gable examples are found at 119, 130, 226 North First Street; 618 South First Street; 423, 703 South Second Street (same builder as 118 NRPD); 118 North River Park Drive; and 230 South River Park Drive (double pitch, Craftsman style). Additional hip roof front examples are 722 North First Street; 722 South First Street; 114 Herman Street; 107, 126 North River Park Drive; and 904, 912 South River Park Drive.

## Popular Cottage/House Types: Foursquare (1904-1940):

The foursquare term is a recently crafted one, coined to identify an accepted two-story house with square plan and hipped roof. The type has a cubic core with hip roof, one or more roof dormers, a full-width front porch and a raised foundation. The interior floor plan consists of four rooms on each floor. There is no central hall. There is a near total absence of this ubiquitous house form in Guttenberg which is curious because contemporary types like the bungalow are represented.

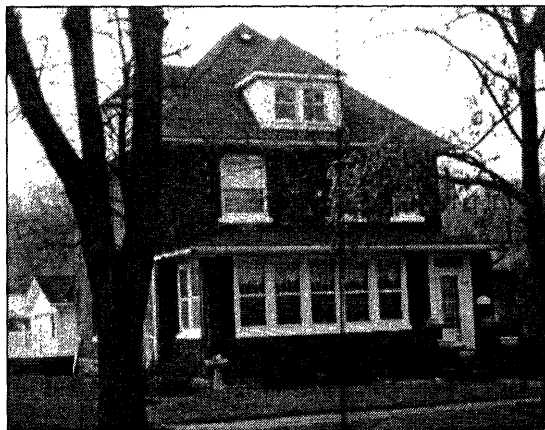


Figure 57: 202 North River Park Drive (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

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The only foursquare example Guttenberg is located at 202 North River Park Drive. This substantial brick example has multiple dormers and a atypical high-pitched hip roof and a side hall plan. Three much earlier cubic hip roof examples are found at 622 South Second Street; 206 and 226 South River Park Drive.

Popular Cottage/House Types: Minimal Traditional Cottage (c.1931-55):

This is a pre-ranch small house type that is found in square, linear, and L-plan subtypes. It is defined as a single-story rectangular, square or L-plan cottage, being minimal in terms of size and any ornamentation. The small footprint was conducive to the smaller plats in Guttenberg and the minimal traditional type coincided with the revival of house building in Guttenberg in the late 1930s. It leant itself to the city lot widths and is more common in Guttenberg due to its later date and its use in infilling undeveloped lots, particularly on the north end of the city.

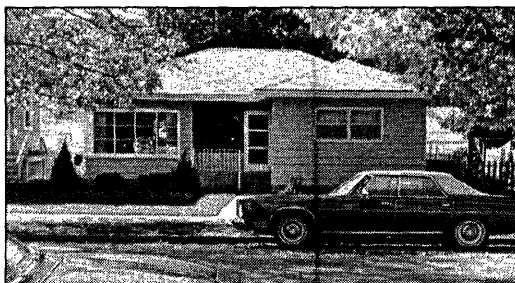


Figure 58: 626 South River Park Drive (L-plan subtype) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Other examples are 503 South Second 831 North First Street; 507 South First Street; 614 North Second Street; 522 North River Park Lane and the Kregel House on Cemetery Road.

Popular Cottage/House Types: The Ranch (1938-present):

The ranch type is another California derived house. This side gable cottage form represents a later enlargement of the minimal tradition small house. Guttenberg's wartime and postwar industrial revival produced a house-building revival that coincided with the emergence of the true ranch house type. By definition, this type could only be constructed on larger building lots located on the bluff tops or the outskirts of the city. Examples are intermixed with earlier houses. A survey and study can investigate the early emergence (with particular emphasis on pre-World War II late '30s examples) of the type and the forms in which it was locally expressed.



Figure 59: Morley House, 410 North River Park Drive (SHPO DOE) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)



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Ranch houses are too large for the standard Guttenberg building lot 930 North First Street is a good example of how the ranch plan could be turned to fit a standard lot. Other ranch examples are 222 and 302 North River Park Drive.

## Vernacular Building Types, Side Gable Plans:

The vernacular examples are arranged two sub-groups, side gable and front gable, and each of these are further broken down on the basis of the subtype footprints. Standard vernacular typologies do not fit the range of types found in Guttenberg. Accordingly the examples are organized in groupings that reflect local building traditions. This first section treats side gable types as a single class.

### The Bluff Street elongated side-gable subtype:

Perhaps most distinctive is the "Bluff Street type." Usually of stuccoed limestone, these side-gabled houses are two stories high, often with single-pile plan, the fenestration in their five- or six-bay wide fronts is often but not always symmetrical. Roofs are shallow-pitched with narrow to nonexistent eaves, a few have partially-turned cornices. In a number of cases, one or two-story porches extend the full width of the main facade; nearly all have been fully enclosed. In general, these porches are distinct appendages, but in a few instances, the front wall of the house is recessed, and the porch subsumed under the main roof without altering the symmetry of the gable. Although few construction dates have been confirmed for houses of this type, all available evidence points to their being among the oldest buildings in Guttenberg, with some dating perhaps to the late 1840's and early 1850's.

The type is not restricted to Bluff Street however. Two-story examples of this house type outside the Bluff Street District include the Ihm (127 North 1st), Kuempel 326 South 1st), Borrett (210 South 1st), Moser (2110 South 1st), Jaeger (1014 South 1<sup>st</sup>), and Bolsinger (814 South River Park Drive) houses. The Felder (223 South 2nd) and Matt-Bahls (618 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Lane) houses are particularly noteworthy because their two-story porches, with exterior staircases, are intact and unenclosed. Many of these houses could also be classified as "I houses" although some are longer than the three to five bay width of the I-house, or are more than a single room in depth, also mandated by the I-house.



Figure 60: Single-story stone example, 1210 South Fourth Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

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Additional single story examples are found at 306 North Second Street; 120 South Bluff Street; 10 Prince Street and 202 Schiller Street.

I-House Side Gable Plans (c.1850-1890):

This two-story type is defined as a side gabled house although it does occur as a story and a half. Associated particularly with the states of Illinois, Indiana and Iowa, the plan is two rooms and a central hall across and a single room in depth, so it is basically two rooms over two rooms. The type can range from three to five bays, substituting a side front entry for the central one in the shorter versions.

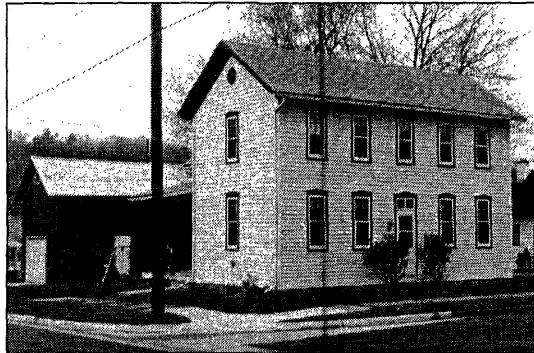


Figure 61: 730 South First Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

The best example, certainly just a single room in depth, is 730 South First Street. Other probable examples, slightly broader plans with two side windows, are found at 202 Schiller Street, 522 South First Street, 10 China (stone example). Story-and-a-half I-house examples are found at 715 South First Street (Nieland House, NRHP-listed); 602-06 North Bluff Street; and 402, 606 South Bluff Street. Additional two-story examples are found at 127 North First Street; 710 North Bluff Street; 1016, 1018, 1022-24 South Bluff Street; 303 North Bluff Street; and 308 South River Park Drive.



Figure 62: 10 China Street (pre-1869) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

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## Saltbox Side Gable Plans:

There are a good number of "Saltbox" side gable plans in Guttenberg. Various built of stone, brick and wood-frame construction, houses of this type are characterized by side-gable orientation, the lack of a front porch, and a rear extension that is covered by an extension of the main roof plane. The resulting side profile looks like the New England saltbox. The largest example of this type is the Nieland house (715 South 1st), of stone construction with a 5-bay main facade. The symmetry of this one and a half-story house is rather oddly altered by the insertion of three very small windows beneath the eaves on the north end of the front. The wood frame house at 11 Herder and the brick Parker house (1015 South Second, Parker House, NRHP-listed) have symmetrical 3-bay fronts and are also one and a half-stories high. The Egleseder house (123 North 1<sup>st</sup>) has two full stories, entrance to the left side of its three-bay facade, and very shallow wood pediments over the front windows and door. Four South Bluff houses are of the local "saltbox" type: one, the Jungt house (402 South Bluff, SHPO DOE), a one and a half-story saltbox, is part of a mid-19th century brewery complex. An unusual front saltbox roof profile is found at 410-12 South Second Street.

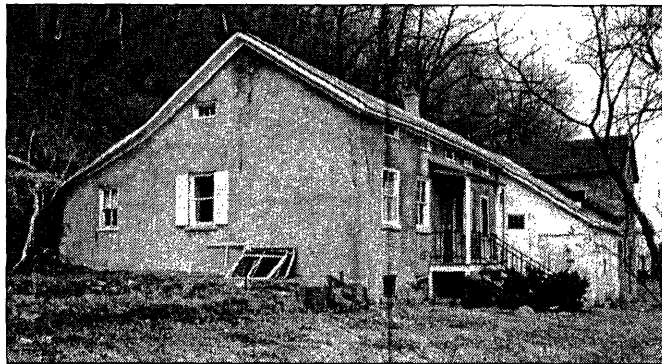


Figure 63: 402 South Bluff Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

## Stone "Cabin" side gable plans:

The 1979 survey classed a number of very small stone houses as belonging to a "Stone cabin" subtype. These little houses are the least pretentious examples of Guttenberg's very unpretentious architecture. With side-gable orientation and a single-story height, they make no attempt toward symmetry or refinement in use of materials. The better two-story examples of this subtype are the Kotke (319 North 2nd), Brieman (110 North 3rd), Schrunk House, and Ulrich (314 North 2nd) cottages. Other examples are 531 North Second Street; 218 North Second Street; and 402 South Bluff Street. Story-and-a half cottage examples include the Donnan Cottage, 230 South Third, a stone example. An excellent brick example, is located at 1015 South Second Street. Two diminutive frame examples, both somewhat altered, are 11 Wieland and 328 North River Park Drive. The frame cottage at 631 South First Street has a central hall plan. The brick plan at 110 Goethe Street (Kolker House, NRHP-listed) is of particular interest given its narrow width and deep plan with a central hall entry. Other excellent examples are found at 123-25, 612, 620 (SHPO DOE), 620 ½, 623, 726, 823 South First Street; 310 North Second Street; 1003 North Third Street; 114, 118 South Third Street; 602-06 South Bluff Street, the Freeman House on Miner's Creek; 215 Herder Street; 11 Koerner Street (SHPO DOE) 210 Lessing Street; and 518 North River Park Drive.

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Figure 64: 230 South Third Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)



Figure 65: 1015 South Second Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

## The "Gallery" Side Hall Subtype:

This is one of the city's most interesting vernacular house forms and one that warrants focused attention. The gallery form consists of a two-story open porch that covers the entire south-facing sidewall. The gallery form is commonly associated with French vernacular architecture and Mississippi River Valley cultural influences. The 1869 bird's eye view identifies at least 13 of these, fairly evenly divided between those which front east or south. Almost all of the local examples were of stone construction. The best surviving example is found at 613 South Third Street. Another example, 118 South First Street, notable for its deeply recessed alleyway location, has been recently demolished. The brick example at 413 South First Street is a more stylized example, its footprint is an off-square polygonal, but the side porches have been closed off. Additional surviving examples are 120, 126, 606, 614 South Bluff Street, 127 North First Street and 223 South Second Street. The house at 411 South Second Street is likely an altered gallery example.

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Figure 66: 613 South Third Street (stone, pre-1869) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Square (or near square) houses with side-gable roof subtype:

This vernacular range of examples is most clearly directly associated with German vernacular architecture. These examples have three or five-bay wide fronts and are as deep or even deeper (near square) than they are wide. The defining characteristic is their square footprint without regard to their elevation.

Their side-gable roofs are quite broad given the building footprint, and all, regardless of height, necessarily have some upper level living space beneath the roof peak. Single-story examples include the stone Parker (1015 South 2<sup>nd</sup>) and Moser (207 South 2<sup>nd</sup>) houses; the Kolker (110 Goethe) and Lake (910 South River Park Drive) houses, both of brick; and the wood-frame Kann house that features four very small attic windows tucked beneath the narrow eaves.



Figure 67: 115 Schiller Street, single-story example (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

The broad plan of 115 Schiller Street has a central hall, large centered gable. The original porch has been built in and the dormer likely added to a much earlier house. An additional example is found at 510 North First Street.

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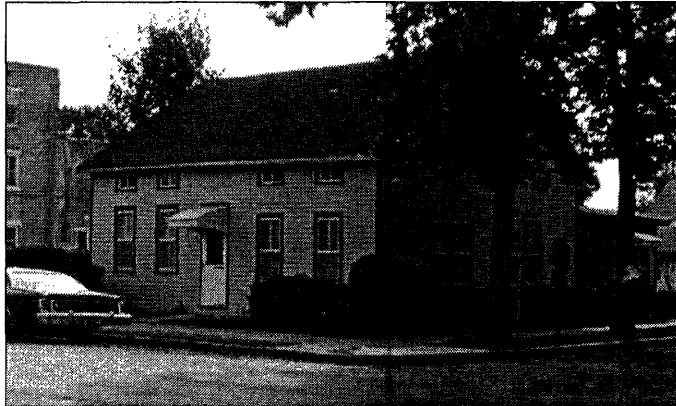


Figure 68: 703 South Second Street, story-and-a-half example, pre-1869, (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

The cottage at 603 South Second Street is an excellent vernacular central hall example. An additional example is found at 826 South First Street.



Figure 69: 408 North First Street, two-story square example (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

An excellent side hall stone two-story example is found at 408 North First Street. Other examples are found at 121 North First Street; 620, 802 South First Street; 718, 831 South Second Street; 114, 602, 1014, 1106 South Bluff Street; 126 Herder Street; 1030 South Highway 52; 207 South River Park Drive, 110 North First Street; 216, 300 (McLaine House, NRHP-listed), 307, 510 South First Street; 526-30 South Second Street; 310 North Third Street; 302 Pearl Street (jerkinhead roof); 10 Schiller (stone commercial); 300 South River Park Drive (stone commercial); and 11 Schiller Street.

**Vernacular Building Types, Gable Front Subtypes (pre-1850-1930+):**

Guttenberg's gable front vernacular examples include rectangular and square subtypes. This type is also termed the "Open Gable," or "Gambrel Front." The two defining characteristics are a front gable roof (as opposed to a side gable) and a gable end house entrance. The type ranges from one room and a side hall in width to two rooms and a central hall (three to five bays). Generally the overall plan is a rectangle with its shorter dimension fronted to the street. The majority of subtype examples are a full two-stories in height. Gable front examples are of varied height, examples are arranged from single to two-story elevations.

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Figure 70: 15 Goethe Street, single story example (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Other subtype examples are 219, 620 1/2 South First Street and 804 South Second Street. A large number of these are treated as bungalows/cottages in a separate section below.

The story-and-a-half gable front design was once more common in Guttenberg and it assumed two forms, one having a triple window grouping in the gable ends, with two smaller windows being tucked in under the eave corners, and the other, for which no examples survive, that employed a recessed open porch in the gable end. Good examples of the former, all of which have been altered by re-siding, are found at 14 Herder Street 302 South First Street; 518 South River Park Drive; and 10 Wieland Street.

The two-story gable front rectangular plan examples are a uniform three bays wide, yet they exhibit a variety of entrance plans, central hall and side hall. They differ primarily in the pitch of the roof, the presence or absence of attic lights or full windows, and their construction materials. Additional examples include 311 North First Street; 223, 230, 411, 418, 423, 523, 1014 South First Street; 515, 804 South Second Street; 813 South Third Street; 702 South Bluff Street, the Van Staden house on Cemetery Road; 114 South Pearl Street, 115 Herder Street, and 6 Schiller Street.



Figure 71: 307 South Second Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)



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The two-story square or near square front gable house, a vernacular adaptation of the temple form Greek Revival, has several examples in Guttenberg. The three best examples outside the Bluff Street District are the stone Winkler House (411 South 1<sup>st</sup>), with a partially-turned cornice and stuccoed exterior; the wood frame Hess House (510 South 1<sup>st</sup>) which although sided with asbestos retains original window surrounds with shallow triangular pediments with a Greek Revival entrance framed with sidelights and rectangular transom; and the large brick Fuerste House (Figure 72), four bays wide and 5 deep, with segmental-arched window and door openings. The subtype can be further divided into two subgroups, those having nearly square plans, and more narrow plans. The stone Vetter House, 11 Schiller Street, is an altered example of a central hall plan. The brick Fuerste House is a two-pile variation, while the frame Hess House employs a side hall plan.



Figure 72: Fuerste House 503 South First Street (NRHP-listed<sup>1</sup>) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Vernacular Building Types; Pyramidal Cottage or Pyramidal Hip Cottage (c.1865-c.1920):

This single-story or story and a half-square footprint plan (two rooms deep and two rooms wide) is covered by a hip roof and the roof commonly extends forward to cover a recessed front full width porch. The peak of the pyramid is sometimes flattened. This fairly ubiquitous cottage type occurs in only a few examples, in an elongated form, in Guttenberg. Two well-preserved examples are pictured. One example, with Colonial Revival influence, is found at 107 North First Street.



Figure 73: 322 North First Street (SHPO DOE) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

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Vernacular Building Types: Gabled Ell (c.1850-1920):

This subtype requires that its two wing components possess roof ridges of equal height. Commonly a "T" form is the result when a shallow bay or wing carries the dominant wing beyond the junction point, but the core structure is an L-form. The respective wings can vary in their comparative widths but their roof ridge elevations must be even. Porches commonly infill the reentrant angle and two entrances, one from each wing, open to the porch. The subtype is generally dated to c.1865-1915. Like many vernacular types it fades with the approach of World War I. This subtype can be divided into three subgroups that are based on their height.



Figure 74: Single-story example, 408 South Third Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Other examples are 114, 122, South First Street and 318 North Bluff Street (Osterhaus House, SHPO DOE)



Figure 75: Story-and-a-half example, 415 North First Street (SHPO DOE) (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Other examples are 415 North First Street; and 631, 703, 811 South First Street.

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Figure 76: Two-story brick example, 416 South Second Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

Other examples are 227, 519, 730 North First Street; 103, 718 South First Street (SHPO DOE); 423 North Second Street; 207, and 418 South Second Street.

Vernacular Building Types: L-Plan (1850-1900):

This subtype covers L plans that have uneven roof heights on their core form and a front ell or wing. They are also termed "upright and wings." This type is very rare in Guttenberg given the local preference for narrow elongated lots.



Figure 77: Brick example, 502 South Bluff Street (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)



Figure 78: Queen Anne style variation, 730 South River Park Drive (photo, J. Jacobsen, 1979)

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Other examples are 130, 210, 302 North First Street; 303, 410-12, 617, 704 South First Street; 804 South Second Street (brick), 114 Goethe Street (stone); 126, 402, 502, 630 South Bluff Street; 303 Pearl Street; and 210, 730 South River Park Drive.

## Guttenberg Builders and Designers:

This section of the architectural context focuses on the designers and builders who were responsible for building in Guttenberg. Builders and designers have been identified along with those buildings that are credited to each of them. This is very much a still-developing context, its original intention being that of identifying the stone masons who built the many stone buildings early in the city's history. It is anticipated that this list will be further developed as additional buildings can be linked to specific designers and builders. Significant individual builders or building firms are those that (1) enjoyed a lengthy and successful building history, (2) represented the best builders of their time, (3) produced landmark buildings notable for their construction techniques, their quality of workmanship, innovations in design or construction, or examples that fostered the use of a particular style or type of building locally. Those builders who are significant or who are likely significant are so identified as each is discussed below.



Figure 79: Ihm House, North River Park Drive, under construction, 1927 (*Press*, March 5, 1975)

The majority of listed builders are those who were active within surviving oral history memory and much more is known about the buildings that they built because they are remembered and in some cases, their families retain some of their records. A surprisingly large number of these builders were born in the years just prior to World War I. The restrictive amount of building sites in Guttenberg precluded many builders from ever operating on a large scale and most likely combined house construction with smaller repair and construction work. An exception was Burnell Reinitz and John Esslinger, who are credited with building 40 houses in Guttenberg following WWII. Developers and realtors are also candidates for consideration but Guttenberg offered little opportunity to plat and develop new tracts, given that the original plat exhausted the available building sites. Consequently, local developers worked on a lot-by-lot basis across the city and realtors did the same. The early stone masons are considered in the context that treats limestone building in Guttenberg.

## Anderegg, J. (mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

Had the carpentry contract for the first St. John Church (non-extant) in 1854 ("A Brief History of the Congregation," p. 1).

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Bangs, Wesley (1918-1985) carpenter:

Bangs was a local carpenter and general laborer and built "Mickey Mouse things" in Guttenberg. He was born in Allamakee County (obituary, *Press*, October 23, 1985).

Becker, William (1884-1963) carpenter:

Becker was born in Millville Township and was a lifelong county resident. He worked as a carpenter with Rob Troester and Paul Freidlein (obituary, *Press*, January 31, 1963).

Berger, Charles "Charlie" (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

Local carpenter. No obituary found.

Boich, Bell, Paul and Willie (mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century), carpenters:

Local carpenters.

Bolsinger, Stanley (mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

Local carpenter. No obituary found.

Buechel Sr., Henry (late-19<sup>th</sup> Century) stone contractor:

Stone contractor, St. Mary School, 1894 (Jacobs, p. 66) and did foundation for the William Miller brick house (*Press*, August 16, 1899). Both buildings survive. Is worthy of further research as his work relates to the continuing use of stone in foundations.

Burr, Mathias (late-19<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

Carpentry contractor, St. Mary School (extant), 1894 (Jacobs, p. 66).

Bush, Elmer F. (1912-1998) contractor:

Bush was a self-employed contractor for 45 years. Born in Colesburg, he also lived in Oneida, in the Greeley community, and was a Manchester resident at the time of his death. He was a World War II veteran (obituary, *Press*, February 18, 1998). Bush appears to have been a significant local builder given his longevity in the trade. No buildings are yet attributed to him and further research is recommended.

Brinkman, Rev. J. H. (1859-1925), architect:

Was the architect for the present older St. Mary school, parsonage and church. Architectural drawings for these buildings confirm his role and evidence the evolution of his designs. A high style architectural book of drawings was likely his inspiration but he also had principal responsibility for the construction of the Catholic church in Dyersville (the priest was ill and Rev. Brinkman, as his assistant, supervised construction). It is probable that this experience emboldened him to take on the Guttenberg design work. Brinkman envisioned the full set of buildings that comprised the parish complex, including the convent that was built a year after his death. Brinkman's significance as a designer, while important and involving

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massive buildings, is less important than was his role as a long-term priest of St. Mary Church (Jacobs, p. 66; Jacobsen, St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District).

Brown, William J., (1878-1970), Cedar Rapids architect:

Brown was born in Urbana, Illinois, and was trained at the University of Illinois (B.S., 1900), he first worked in Chicago and New York, as well as for the Corps of Engineers. He gravitated to the West Coast and was immersed in bungalow design just as that house type was developing. By 1909 he was located in Cedar Rapids, partnered with his brother Frederick G. Brown and they specialized in designing bungalows. His brother died in 1911 and Brown practiced alone until 1953. He served two years as the president of the Iowa Chapter, American Institute of Architects, 1926-27. His most notable commission was the skyscraper-like Memorial Building and City Hall (1928) in Cedar Rapids. He designed the WPA Municipal Building (1939). Brown was important for his importation of the Art Deco to Guttenberg and he likely is significant on a statewide level (Shanks, pp. 33-34).

Brush, Leonard (1913-1987) contractor:

Brush was born in Kansas and also resided in Waterloo, but lived in Guttenberg at the time of his death. He owned Brush Construction Company. His significance is probable but it doesn't appear to be based on work done in Guttenberg (obituary, *Press*, March 18, 1987).

Buechel, Henry (?-?) stone mason:

Shared the stone foundation contract for St. Mary School (extant) (1894) with Joseph Vogt. Vogt, Buechel and Vogt did the same for the new church (1902) (History of St. Mary's Parish, p. 18). Further research is recommended.

Cassutt, Wallace "Bud" (1906-1965) carpenter:

Cassutt was a life-long Guttenberg resident. He was a carpenter "for a number of years" and ran a local tavern with his wife, Agnes (Bruckner). His most notable building was Trinity Lutheran Church (1932, extant). Ed Wagner worked for him. Further research is recommended (obituary, *Press*, January 28, 1965).

Christensen, William (1824-?) architect/contractor:

Served as architect and construction superintendent for Sullivan's three-and-a-half story brick warehouse/store (non-extant) on Front Street (near Ihm & Weiner's store) in 1859. It was said "This building is a diploma of ability to Mr. C. such as can never be issued by any college" *Valley Register*, October 27, 1859. He is listed in the 1856 state census as a carpenter, aged 32 years. Apparently a local, further research is recommended.

Christian, Elmer (1914-1991) carpenter:

Christian was born in Elgin and lived in Manchester (as of 1933) prior to residing in Guttenberg. He was a self-employed carpenter and built the Anna Moser building. He worked 26 years for the John Deere Company in Dubuque (obituary, *Press*, April 17, 1991).

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Cleveland, Clark (1918-1987) carpenter:

Cleveland was born in Manchester and died in Guttenberg. His obituary makes no reference to his work record (obituary, *Press*, August 19, 1987).

Clinton, Gerald "Gary" (1918-1998) carpenter:

Clinton was born in Littleport. He apprenticed as a carpenter under his father, Ernest Clinton, and his uncle Carl Gorkow, working in McGregor, Monona and Lancaster, Wisconsin (another account credits Ed Wagner with teaching him the building trade). He worked at the C.C.C. Camp at McGregor, working on the Pike's Peak [Iowa] C.C.C. project and other county projects. He saw military service in the Panama Canal Zone during WWII. Clinton is credited with building 510 N. River Park Drive (Ann Bowers house, extant), 600s block of South Second (Frank Zukey house, extant), and 626 S. River Park Drive (Irene Becker house, extant). He worked for Ed Wagner for years and later worked with Gordon Peterson. He also built the park buildings at Effigy Mounds State Park. His potential significance appears to be largely based regionally on his work with the federal government programs (obituary, *Press*, December 16, 1998).

Dittmer, Gustav, Jr. (1879-1916+) contractor-builder:

Born in Jefferson Twp. and he ran the family farm 1902-12, by 1916 he had become "one of the representative contractors and builders of this part of the county," also city assessor, constable and township trustee. Further research is recommended. (Price, pp. 89-90).

Dupenmeier, Henry (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary was found.

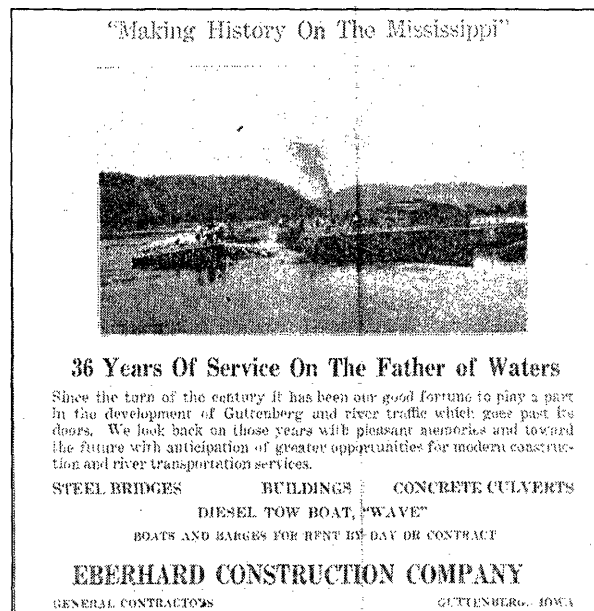


Figure 80: Eberhardt Advertisement, (*Clayton County Centennial*, p. 3)

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Eberhardt, Edward P. (1871-?) lumberman and government contractor:

He did "an appreciable amount of rock contract work for the U.S. government," principally involving the sinking of woven mats with ballast to build wing dams, but he also built railroad culverts and bridges. He was born in Guttenberg of Bavarian-born parentage (his father Andrew Eberhardt, who died in 1885, sold agricultural implements). Edward first worked for the Zimmerman & Ives sawmill, owned his own hardwood saw mill by 1910 and by 1916 employed 16 men. He served on the city council and board of education. His wife was Louisa Aulwes. Eberhardt was a significant individual under the industrial context (Price, pp. 100-01).

Egleseder, Val (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter.

Esslinger, John (1917-1993) carpenter/developer:

Esslinger was born in Dubuque but attended high school in Guttenberg. He was a WWII veteran and worked in the area as a carpenter prior to his work with the lock and dam, from which he retired in January 1983. He built the Don Meder house (1949), the Tommy Thompson house, and Dr. Goddard's house, all in Northern Guttenberg (obituary, *Press*, October 13, 1993, all extant).

John built 44 houses in partnership with Burnell Reinitz (some of these might have been built solely by one or the other builder): 114, 207, 319, 323, 522, 523 North First Street, 127, 723, 815 South First Street, Elmer Wernke House (no number), 327, 415, 522, 614, 819, 830 North Second Street, 503, 826 South Second Street, 100, 101 Able Drive, 115 Broadway, 106 Crest Drive, Dr. Beyer House, Garber Road, Walter Meyer (no number), 110, 203, 207 Lorenz Street, 102 Mozart Street, 114 Prince Street, 206, 222, 230, 410, 522, 530, 614, 902, 910, 918, 926, 930 North River Park Drive, 602, 626 South River Park Drive, 127 Valley View Drive (lists provided by Mrs. Esslinger, Mrs. Reintiz). He represents the large-scale builder to the extent that Guttenberg had any of them and he appears to be a significant local builder. His houses encompass those that pre-dated and followed World War II and as such are of particular interest as examples of popular or national house and cottage residential examples.

Friedlein, Paul John (1887-1984) stonemason:

Friedlein was born on a farm near Guttenberg. He was a WWI veteran and was made lame by a wartime wrestling bout. He was a noted area musician but was also a skilled stonemason. He built his own house and a stone grotto on a hill south of the city. He worked with Bill Becker and Rob Troester, built the Dickson house, "many houses" at Camp Hideaway, and many stone foundations for area barns (obituary, *Press*, January 25, 1984).

Friedlein, W. E. "Wiley" (1877-1951) carpenter:

Friedlein was born near Osterdock and relocated to Guttenberg at age 18. He worked for the Zimmerman & Ives lumber mill, then for Friedlein Brothers implement company. For most of his working life he was a carpenter. He lived in Guttenberg all of his later years save for six years spent living in Tacoma, Washington, and Cedar Rapids, Iowa (obituary, *Press*, May 17, 1951).



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Fuehling, William (turn-of-the-century) contractor:

General contractor of Guttenberg State Bank (*Press*, September 5, 1900). He was probably not a resident contractor. This was an important building and further research is warranted concerning Fuehling.

Groth, Fred (?-1914), bridge builder:

Price notes was "well known bridge builder of Guttenberg" (Price, p. 306).

Guetzko, Edward (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary found.

Gull, Harry E. (1912-1991) carpenter/concrete contractor:

Gull was born in Mallory Township but lived much of his early life in Manitoba, Canada. He worked postwar for the T. A. Burroughs Timber Company in Manitoba and then worked in the 1920s for Ford Motor Company in California. He turned to farming near Garnavillo in the 1930s. He also ran a service station and operated the *Gray Gull* towboat up until the outbreak of war. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and was one of five crewmembers to survive a late 1942 torpedo sinking of his ship. In the midst of the war, he married Dubuquer Marie Wirth in California and returned postwar to the Guttenberg area. He was a carpenter and concrete worker and was mostly involved in building barns. He also eschewed the use of a level in his work, eyeballing each setting (obituary, *Press*, November 10, 1991).

Hastings, David (mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was the builder of the first courthouse in Prairie la Porte in 1839 (non-extant) (Jacobs, p. 11).

Heiderscheit, Nicholas J. (1893-1972) carpenter, stone mason:

Heiderscheit was born near Holy Cross. He was a self-employed carpenter and did much stonework, working with Paul Willie (obituary, *Press*, April 12, 1972).

Heitman, Henry (1861-1928) stonemason, concrete contractor:

Heitman was a local cement contractor. He was born in Guttenberg but lived for some time in Glen Haven, Wisconsin. He laid many of the first concrete sidewalks in the city but his obituary stated "he was a stone mason by trade which trade he followed for many years." He merits further investigation (*Press*, October 4, 1899).

Hinsch, Henry (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) contractor:

Contractor for the school gymnasium/auditorium (1925) and the Masonic Lodge (1926-27) (Jacobs, p. 104).

Jaster, Arthur "Art" (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary was found.

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Jenkins, Horace G. (1859-1914) realtor:

Jenkins was born in Clayton County and first farmed with wife Emma Rau. He served as a county supervisor and as mayor of Guttenberg but in his later years worked in real estate and insurance (*Press*, May 21, 1914).

[Hubert] Kappen & [J.] Williams, painters:

He did the exterior painting for the new St. Mary Church (1902) and the H. Kappen residence (History of St. Mary's Parish, p. 18). During 1900 they did the painting for the new F. N. Friedlein house, the C. C. Niemeyer house, the F. X. Wolter house, and the Guttenberg State Bank (*Press*, October 10, 1900).

Keller, Martin (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) landscape architect:

Martin was a former Guttenberg resident who became a landscape architect in New York. He designed Ingleside Park (1902) (Jacobs, p. 68). Keller warrants further investigation, the park was established in 1910. If significant, it is likely based on his work at other locales.

Lohde, F. D (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

Did the carpentry work for the new St. Mary Church, 1902 (History of St. Mary's Parish, p. 18).

Meuser Lumber Company:

The firm built houses at the following locations: Lots 6-7, Block 96, 1955; Lot 11, Block 84, 1959; Lot 11, Block 107, 1961; 715 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 1962. In postwar years, this long-enduring firm was the design source for both houses and outbuildings and it promoted home ownership and construction.

Meyer, Norbert M. (1909-1979) carpenter:

Meyer was born at Holy Cross and was a carpenter for many years (obituary, *Press*, February 7, 1979).

Morarend, Dietrich, (mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century) stone cutter?:

Contracted to cut and haul stones for the first St. John Church (non-extant) in 1854 ("A Brief History of the Congregation, p. 1). He is one of a very few mid-1850 stone workers who are identified but he fails to appear in the 1856 state census. It is possible that he was a quarryman rather than a stonemason. Further research is recommended.

Nix, John (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) brick mason:

Contracted to add a brick chimney to St. Mary Church (*Press*, September 6, 1899).

Pauli, Tony/Anthony (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter, house mover:

Built the pearl button factory for the city for \$1,539 in 1899 (*Press*, October 11, 1899). He moved the old St. Mary Parsonage ("It is quite an undertaking," *Press*, November 29, December 13, 1899) in late 1899. Further research is recommended.

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Peters, Rev. Martin (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century), designer:

He was the "architect" for Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, built in 1932 (extant) (Jacobs, p. 109).

Peterson, Oliver (1888-1971) carpenter:

Peterson was born near St. Olaf and was primarily a cabinet maker, although he built his own home (located across from St. Mary School, now the Bob Leeman house, extant) (obituary, *Press*, October 13, 1971).

Phelps, Lowell (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter.

Pinz, Barney (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) contractor:

Demolished the Lorentz & Kirch building (butchers) to build a commodious store/dwelling (*Press*, August 23, 1899).

Prandy, George, (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) plasterer:

Was drawn to Guttenberg from Dubuque to ply his trade (*Press*, March 21, 1900).

Prior, Herman (mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter, c.1858-70. It is not known if he built houses.

Rausch, Nicholas "Nick" (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary was found.

Reinitz, Burnell Luverne (1922-2000) carpenter:

Reinitz was Guttenberg-born. He worked locally as a carpenter from 1940 until 1943, and after WWII as a self-employed carpenter 1946-57. During the latter years he built or helped built some 40 houses in Guttenberg, making him one of the most prolific area homebuilders. He served as an aviation cadet during WWII and worked for the lock and dam 1957-86, the last 18 years as Lockmaster. Houses known to have been built solely by Reinitz include those of Russ Schroeder, Walter Meyer, Martin Wolter and Bonna Basler. A list of 44 houses built by Reinitz or his building partner John Esslinger, appears under Esslinger's listing. He appears to be a significant local builder (obituary, *Press*, December \_\_, 2000).

Reinitz, Henry (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary found.

Rolfes, Frank (1849-1938) carpenter:

He was born in Canton, Ohio and came to Guttenberg in 1889 "where he followed the carpenter trade for many years." His wife was Catherine Eilers of Guttenberg. Married in 1876, she died in 1913 (*Telegraph-Herald*, December 29, 1938).

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Saugling, Frank (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) metal work contractor:

Installs new pressed steel ceiling in Palace Saloon along with William Korda (*Press*, November 7, 1900).

Schieltz, Dudley (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter.

Schierholz, Henry (1875-1940) carpenter:

He was born at Luana and lived at Monona prior to moving to Guttenberg, c.1912. He was termed a "well known" town resident at the time of his death. His obituary makes no reference to his working career although he was a local carpenter/builder (obituary, *Press*, July 17, 1940).

Schroeder, Louis H. (1857-1933) carpenter, contractor, house mover:

Schroder was born in Jefferson Township. He was a carpenter and cabinetmaker and worked as a contractor in Guttenberg for many years. He also worked as a carpenter for the Standard Oil Company. He was the successful bidder on the new firehouse in 1887. He built Lakeside Ballroom in 1933 (NRHP). He built and resided in what is now the Von Handorf house on South River Park Drive. He was termed a pioneer resident at the time of his death. He was also a noted area musician (Jacobs, p. 56; obituary, *Press*, January 15, 1933).

Schroeder, in partnership with William Mohrman and Alvin Strube, built the John "Jumbo" Kossuth house in 1899. When the Kossuth house was finished in mid-November the *Press* noted "when Louis has a contract to fulfill he does it up in first class shape and no complaint can be made." Schroeder moved E. C. Ennon's saloon from the building site for the Guttenberg State Bank, placing it north of Clemens Kappen's building (*Press*, May 2, 1900). Schroeder, Wolf and Frommelt moved the former Naescher Building to north Guttenberg for Henry Eilers in 1900 (*Press*, August 9, November 15, 1899; August 8, 1900). Schroeder was a significant local builder and his residence is worthy of investigation for National Register listing if it was associated with his working career and retains its historical integrity.

Schorg, Frank (mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He built the homes of Alo Tompkins, Lois Backes and Fritz Kann (all extant). Schorg was born in Germany and came to the U.S. in 1858, settling in Jefferson Township. He saw Civil War military service and worked for several years as a miner. He farmed until c.1905, at which time the family relocated to Guttenberg. His obituary makes no reference to his work as a builder (obituary, *Press*, February 15, 1915).

Schorg, Henry (1875-1940) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter.

Seeman, Gottfried (?-?) carpenter-builder:

Born in Prussia, pioneer settler and carpenter, dies during Civil War as member of Company D, 27<sup>th</sup> Regiment Volunteer Infantry. His brother Wilhelm (1835-?) was a local stonemason as of 1856 (Price, pp. 375-76).

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Swisher, Edlon (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter.

Thorson, Thorwald (1879-1962), Forest City, Iowa architect:

Norwegian-born and brought to the U.S. at age two, he was trained at the University of Iowa and the University of Wisconsin. After teaching he began his design practice in 1903 and was on his own by 1914, specializing in church designs. His particular interest was in Gothic architecture. His son Oswald (1912-79) partnered with him in 1945 as Thorson and Thorson, with offices in Forest City and Waterloo. Thorson designed the present St. John Lutheran Church (1948, extant) the largest load-bearing stone building in Guttenberg. He is likely regionally significant as a designer and merits further investigation (Shank, pp. 163-65).

Troester, Anton (mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He built 618 North First Street in 1959.

Troester, Robert "Bob" (1901-1958) carpenter:

He was born in Millville Township and worked as a carpenter and worked with Bill Becker and Paul Friedlein. In later years he farmed near Osterdock (obituary, *Press*, February 13, 1958).

Vogt, Frank (late 19<sup>th</sup> Century) stone contractor:

He was a local stone contractor and built St. Mary's School in 1894 (Jacobs, p. 66). Vogt, Buechel and Vogt did the same for the new St. Mary church (ibid.) in 1902.

Vogt, Joseph (1859-1940) stone mason:

Vogt was born in Furstenthum, Liechtenstein, and came to America in 1881, first settling in Dubuque, and to Guttenberg in the fall of 1884. By 1916 it was noted that he "now controls a substantial and prosperous business as a contractor in bridge construction and in general cement construction work...including that of an architectural order [builder of] modern bridges...[and] one of the substantial businessmen and popular and valued citizens of Guttenberg." His obituary simply reported "for many years he followed the trade of stone mason." He shared the stone foundation work for St. Mary School (1894) with Henry Buechel (*History of St. Mary's Parish*, p. 18; *Press*, September 12, 1940; Price, p. 420). He is likely significant, probably regionally, and merits further investigation.

Vogt, William (mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century) stone mason:

Laid the stonework for the first St. John Church in 1854 (non-extant). He is one of a very few mid-1850 stone workers who are identified and likely was the builder for many of the other stone buildings. St. John was the largest stone building in Guttenberg at the time. Further research is recommended ("A Brief History of the Congregation," p. 1).

Vogt, William Henry "Bill" (1890-1970) concrete contractor:

Vogt was a lifelong Guttenberg resident. He was a veteran of WWI. He worked as a concrete contractor (obituary, *Press*, May 7, 1970).

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Wagner, Edward (1893-1983) contractor:

He was the general contractor for the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (1932) and the replacement St. John American Lutheran Church in 1948-49. He taught the carpentry trade to John Esslinger and Burnell Reinitz. Further research is recommended (Jacobs, pp. 109, 126; obituary, *Press*, July 20, 1983).

Walke, August (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He built Mary Ford's house in 1914, also Butch Borman's house. He might have built the Hannah house and Jim Jacob's house.

Weseman, Delos (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

He was a local carpenter.

White, Joseph F. "Joe" (1902-1985) carpenter:

White was born in Littleport. He worked as a carpenter and is also said to have been a cement contractor (obituary, *Press*, November 20, 1985).

Willie, Anton ("Tony") (early 20<sup>th</sup> Century) contractor:

By mid-1899 Willie was literally exploding on the scene as the preferred brick contractor. He built the new St. Mary Rectory (it "will be one of the finest structures in our city when completed," *Press*, July 26, 1899, "it is one of the most convenient residences in our city and the exterior appearance is a credit to the town," *ibid.*, November 8, 1899). He then turned to the new Guttenberg State Bank building (NRHP) in October, 1900, which he finished in late December (a "most excellent piece of brickwork... Tony is one of the most reliable brick contractors in eastern Iowa and employs none but first class workmen on jobs that he contracts for. Tony will do the brick-laying in this city hereafter if good work counts," *Press*, December 20, 1900). He also did the brickwork for the Frank X. Wolter and William Miller houses that year. He was still working as a brick work contractor as of 1903. His residence, 422 South Second, has been Iowa SHPO determined eligible for National Register listing. He was a significant local builder and merits further investigation.

Willie, William J. (1891-1963) brick mason:

Willie was born in Dubuque and his family moved to Clayton County while he was still a youth. He worked as a bricklayer until c.1960 and then was a farmer (obituary, *Press*, August 15, 1963).

Wittman, Julius "Buck" (1914-1975) carpenter:

He was born in Elkport and learned the carpentry trade from his father, John Wittman. He specialized in house construction (obituary, *Press*, September 19, 1975).

Wittman Brothers, (mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenters:

There were three brothers, Julius, LeRoy and Carroll Wittman. LeRoy lived in Dubuque as of 1975, and Carroll lived in Cedar Rapids by that time (*ibid.*).

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Wolf & Frommelt (late 19<sup>th</sup> Century) carpenter:

Built George Mohrhouse residence and J. S. Herboltsheimer' shop (*Press*, December 6, 1900).

Zwack, Anton (early 20th Century) contractor:

A significant Dubuque contractor, he built the new school building in Guttenberg in 1903 (extant, Jacobs, p. 72).

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## Context #5, Transportation and the role of the State and Federal Governments in Guttenberg's Development, 1950-1955:

This context treats the significant contributions of each of the successively dominant transportation modes to the development of the city of Guttenberg. Road and then rail transportation at first supplemented river shipping and travel before the latter mode ebbed. It was the need for transportation improvements that caused the federal and state governments to become involved in a series of critical public works efforts during the latter half of the 1930s and it was this involvement that substantially redefined the riverfront and influenced both the local architecture and the economy.

### The Role of River Transportation in Guttenberg's History and Development:

The Mississippi River carved out and later filled with silt the site that became Guttenberg (Prairie La Porte). It brought the settlers to the site and during most of the town's history it continued to transport its goods and raw materials making economic life possible. Geographical location pre-determined the existence of the town. A three-mile long flat plain closed in by high bluffs to the west provided a fine campsite or settlement site. The creek or river valleys that emptied into the river above and below this plain provided easy access to the interior, although Miners Creek, to the south was the eventual preferred railroad route inland. In a rough terrain that retarded road construction and delayed for years the arrival of the railroad, the river was a key factor in transportation and Guttenberg was on the river.

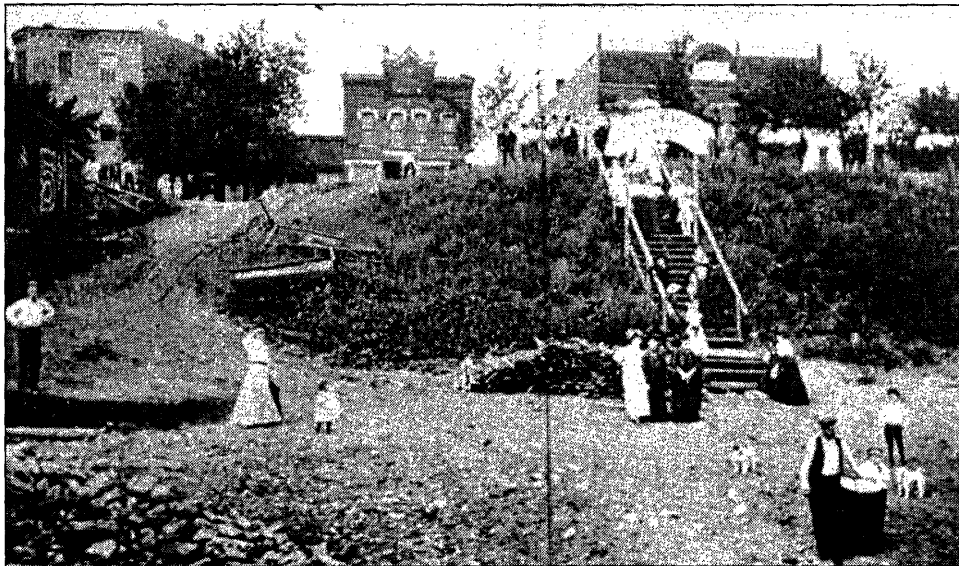


Figure 81: "Guttenberg Landing" c.1920 (photo, courtesy Irish Degnan)

A good river landing was built early by the town. In addition each warehouse had its own landing or barge. Moses Crawford operated a riverfront barge that functioned as dock and grocery store. Steamboats brought immigrants, settlers and provided the only mail service, and carried away milled flour and grains, farm produce, meats and leathers, and pig lead. The winter period, when the river was frozen, left the town isolated, but the warehouses during these months continued to fill up with produce for spring shipment. In 1854 a steam ferry service was established between Guttenberg and Glen Haven, Wisconsin, three miles upstream. There was at that time a pontoon bridge upstream at McGregor. Clayton and McGregor



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owed their establishment to access to good ferry sites. By 1857, rail access at both Dubuque (downstream) and Prairie du Chien (upstream) began to deflect the river shipping from its primarily downstream flow.

By the late 1850's the zenith of riverboat packet traffic had passed and the war nearly obliterated this trade. It was to be replaced by a growing flood of log rafts that had developed as a means to transport softwood from the northern forests to riverside sawmills. In the days before over night river travel was possible, steamboats and rafts tied up overnight, and Guttenberg benefited from this trade. Towns charged wharf fees and each spring boats would race upstream in the hopes of being the first to reach a town because the winner was often awarded free wharfage for the year. After the Civil War, steamboats were relegated to the less glamorous role of towing and steering log rafts.

The river brought destruction along with transportation opportunities. The center of Guttenberg's commercial area is fifteen feet above flood level, but floodwaters would surround this "island" and cut off the town from the bluff line to the west. The flood of 1880 required the establishment of an emergency ferry between town and bluff that was required for two weeks. Again in 1902 and 1903 high floodwaters were experienced. The year 1965 brought the worst flood in recent years and a new levee system with ponding area established in 1971 now protects the town. Recent infilling and development of the ponding areas to the west have obscured this natural seasonal flooding cycle.



Figure 82: Flooded Guttenberg from the south, view northeast, c.1900  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

The Mississippi River ferry service continued to serve the town under various arrangements (it was at one time horse driven!) and the trade picked up whenever Iowa entered periods of partial prohibition. The main river channel by 1900 had switched to the east through "Twelve Mile Slough" or "Cassville Slough" and the town was bypassed by the few steamboats that still operated. Passengers had to cross the shallows by ferry in order to catch a packet or go to Dubuque by train. During the late 1890's Guttenberg had packet service connections with Dubuque and LaCrosse. Beginning in 1907 until 1914 service was established with Dubuque and Prairie du Chien. Log rafting declined as additional mills opened and the forests were decimated. The last log raft to reach Guttenberg arrived in 1911.

The War Department (predecessor to the Corps of Engineers) officially changed the main channel location to the west or Guttenberg side and the Cassville Slough was closed during the winter of 1909. Guttenberg once again was in a good location with regard to the river. The establishment of the mandatory nine-foot deep channel led in 1934-7 to the

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construction of Lock and Dam #10, part of a massive series of similar installations designed to regularize river traffic. The river rose eight feet above the original channel level upstream from the dam. The return of river traffic in the form of diesel towboats continues to this day and barge traffic carries mostly grains, oil and coal.

Associated properties include the three stone river warehouses (703, 531, and 431 South River Park Drive, Front Street District, NRHP) and Ingleside Park (1910). The park preserves the open riverfront terrace, albeit in a landscaped form. The Ingleside Club was founded in 1902 as a women's social club, its original membership included Olive Pye, Jessie Beyer (first president), Gertrude Pohls, Lottie Ihm, Yetta Burnhage, Augusta Friedlein, Lulu Schroeder and Emma McErlan. In 1908 they joined the Federation of Women's Clubs and for two years did literary work. In 1910 they devoted their entire efforts to laying out, planting and maintaining the new River Front Park, working with civil engineer and landscape designer Martin Keller, a former city resident, as designer. Their membership was augmented by Margaret Miller (president as of 1916), Amanda Beerman (vice president, 1916), Minnie Muschewske (1916 secretary) and Ellen Scholz (treasurer, 1916). The three and a half block long river front tract was an abandoned weed choked area when the park concept was developed. For their efforts, the park was renamed in honor of the club. The park is part of the Front Street District (NRHP). No vestige of the original gravel walks, plantings or frowning memorial cannon survive, but the park itself attests to the works of this important women's group and their introduction of a park concept and a landscape aesthetic to the community (Irish Degan, "Brief History of Ingleside Park"; Price, pp. 344-45).

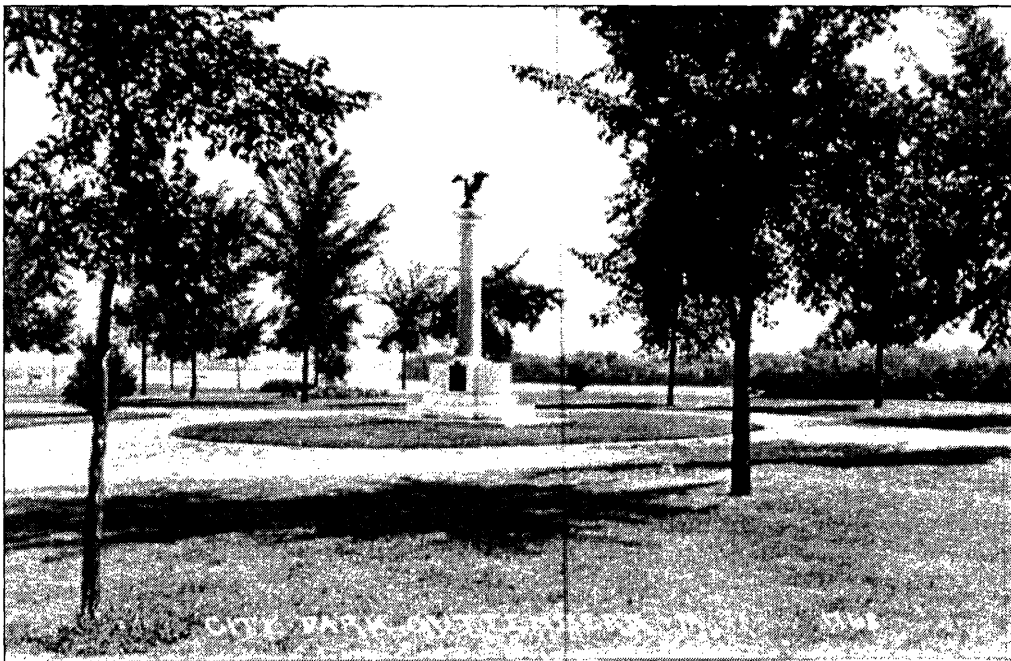


Figure 83: Ingleside Park, c.1925, view northwest, postcard view  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

One potentially significant individual was John W. Stamm (1860-1939) who was one of a number of Guttenberg-based river pilots. He piloted packets running between St. Louis and St. Paul. With the decline of river shipping he became a rural mail carrier and served as engineer for the Guttenberg Canning Company. His residence likely survives and further investigation is recommended (obituary, *Press*, May 31, 1939).

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## Taming the Mississippi River:

The federal effort to restore Mississippi River navigation would have the greatest impact on the city. A working river replaced a largely abandoned one and the impressive lock and dam complex visually redefined the Guttenberg townscape and riverfront.

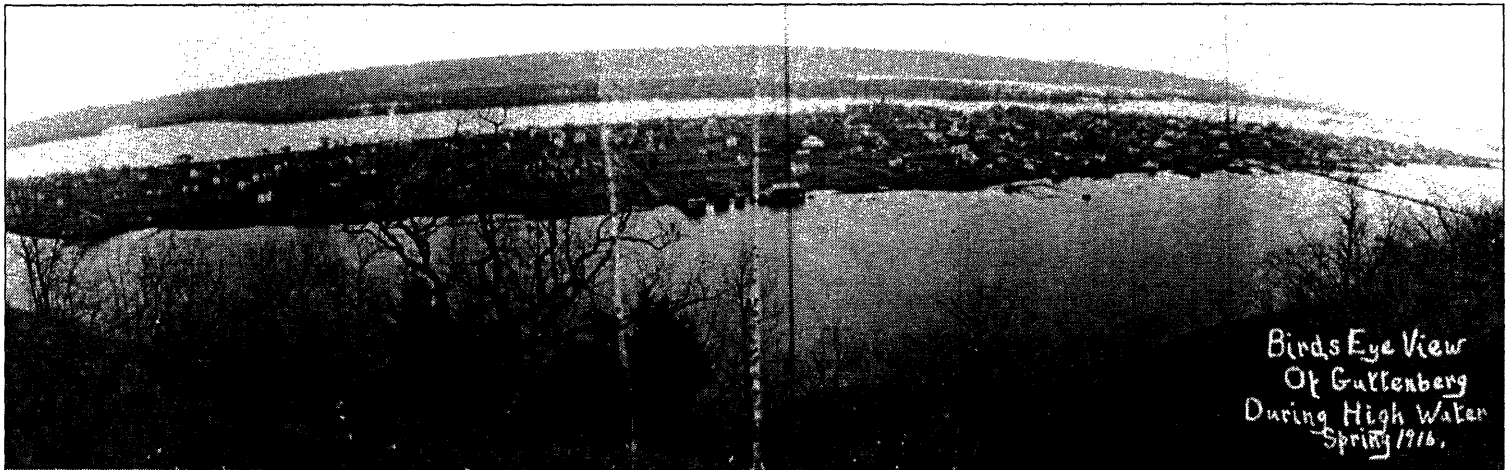


Figure 84: Guttenberg as an island, the spring 1916 flood  
The twin spires of St. Mary Catholic Church are visible at the far right.  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

## Establishing The Six-Foot Deep Navigation Channel:

The federal government, represented by the Army Corps of Engineers, was content through the 1890s and the earliest years of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, to collect snags and to control sand bar growth through the use of wing dams and canals. Edward P. Eberhardt, a Guttenberg lumberman, developed a substantial regional trade with the federal government, the construction of wing dams during the winter months. In 1907 the U.S. Congress authorized the establishment and maintenance of a six-foot deep navigational channel. Three dredges, the *Geyser*, *Etna* and *Vesuvius*, were committed to the Guttenberg stretch of the river. By 1909, the six-foot channel plan was re-routed along the Iowa side of the river at Guttenberg and Twelve Mile (or Cassville) Slough was closed off to raise the water level. The slough, along with the regular flood deposits from Miners and Buck creeks, had long plagued the city's riverfront access (Jacobs, pp. 80-81, 85-86).

## The Early Development of upper river barge shipping:

The Mississippi was only improved for commercial navigation just as it was losing its last substantial shipping use, the log rafts. The moribund river trade was revitalized by two federal initiatives. Railroad car shortages were first felt in 1906-07 but the shortages became acute during America's pre-World War I industrial mobilization for Europe's war. The lack of ocean freighters forced east coast shipping interests to collect and use cars as temporary warehouses and cars were soon drained away from the Mississippi River Valley, hampering local industries and agricultural shippers. The east/west shipping system that had replaced river shipping during the Civil War suddenly ceased to work. The 1917 Railroad Control Act provided substantial funds for the construction of barges and boats to supplement rail service in response to the car shortage. The federally organized and run barge fleet, the "Inland & Coastwise Waterways Service," was begun in July 1918

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and was under the Railroad Administration. It passed to the Secretary of War's control in 1920 and became the Inland Waterways Corporation in 1924, at which time it was extended to the upper Mississippi River (in the form of the Upper Mississippi Barge Line Company, formed at Minneapolis, to be leased by the corporation, Dubuque contributed \$5,000 towards the cost of capitalizing the new company). The barge line wasn't ready to operate until 1927 by which time it had two towboats and 11 barges. Nothing could be usefully shipped until cities like nearby Dubuque constructed modern barge terminals and these cost \$200-500,000 each. Somehow Dubuque had its own barge terminal in place by 1928. The first federal barge shipment left Minneapolis on August 25, 1927. The Dubuque Boat and Boiler Works built the towboats that were used by the new firm. By 1926 the Federal Barge Lines offered two weekly departures each way between St. Louis and St. Paul. It was this barge-shipping initiative which put in place the supportive constituency that first secured a federal six-foot and then a nine-foot channel federal commitment, the latter coming only in 1930 (Roald D. Tweet, *A History of the Rock Island District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Rock Island, 1866-1893*. Rock Island: U.S. Army Engineer District, 1984, pp. 256-57; John O. Anfinson, *The River We Have Wrought*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2003, pp. 212).<sup>8</sup>

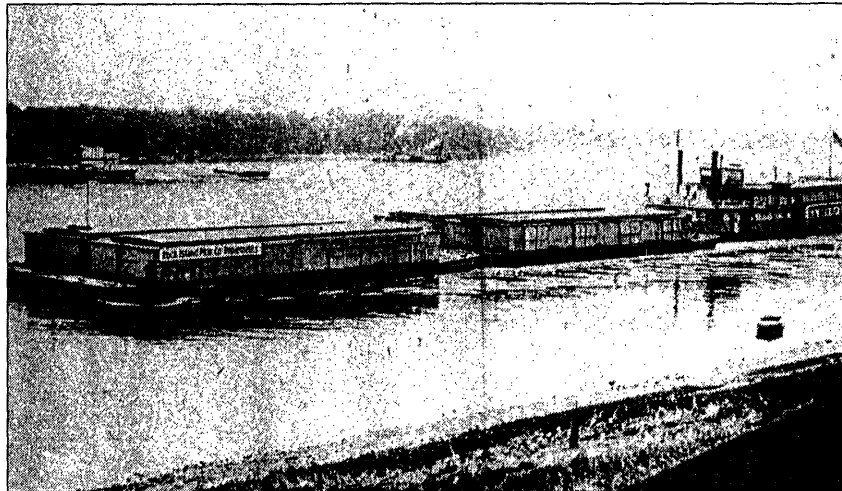


Figure 85: The first Federal Barge Line Shipment, August 20, 1927 (*Telegraph-Herald*, October 20, 1975)

Another key factor that pushed for improved Upper Mississippi River navigation was the opening in 1914 of the Panama Canal. The canal reordered the balance between expensive rail shipping costs and cheaper water shipping costs and Midwest shippers were handicapped. Shippers with direct canal access (coastal shippers using ocean freighters) had their costs cut while upper Midwest river shippers with indirect access (transshipment from river barge to freighter) were less competitive, being now further away from a foreign market. It cost more to ship from Dubuque to San Francisco by rail than it did to send a shipment from New York to San Francisco by boat. The nine-foot channel concept was first advocated as a means by which shipping costs inequities could be addressed and the farm crisis of the mid-1920s could be tempered. The overriding goal was that of simply increasing river traffic. By the mid-1930s the justification was based on public employment and responding to the Great Depression. The nine-foot channel was strongly opposed from the start by conservationists, railroads and some engineers. The first serious study, conducted by Corps Major Charles Hall in 1927-28 recommended against both a simple channel (which wouldn't work) and a lock and dam system, which would have transformed the river into a string of stagnant lakes. Hall feared broad scale damage to the public health and to wildlife. The

<sup>8</sup> By 1928 the federal barge line had four towboats and 60 barges. Supporters for federal assistance noted that communities made no contribution to the barge service below St. Louis, but they paid all of the cost for upper river shipping development (Anfinson, pp. 200-202).

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belated inclusion of the nine-foot channel in the 1930 Rivers and Harbors Act was accomplished in the form of a last minute 1935 Senate amendment to the original act. With this accomplishment what has been termed the "Golden Age" of the Corps of Engineers had its beginning (O'Brien, William Patrick, Mary Yeater Rathbun, Patrick O'Bannon, *Gateways To Commerce; The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' 9-Foot Channel Project on the Upper Mississippi River*, Denver: National Park Service, 1992, p. 14; Anfinson, pp. 229-30).

Anfinson cites two other events that led to the construction of the nine-foot deep navigational channel. The Indiana 1921 railroad rate case shattered the historic linkage between rail and river shipping rates, and drove the former upwards. The national farm crisis of the early 1920s ended two decades of record farm commodity prices. These prices went through the floor in mid-1920 and farmers now joined the advocates of channel improvements in the hopes of securing a foreign market (Anfinson, pp. 191-95).



Figure 86: Aerial view showing the prominence of the lock and dam facility, view to northeast  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

The original 26 sets of locks and dams were built in order of their importance in alleviating age-old navigational obstacles. Lock and Dam #10 was the exception, being relocated from its intended location between Clayton, Iowa and Cassville, Wisconsin, to the Guttenberg riverfront in an effort to relieve area unemployment. Hanlon and Oakes, St. Paul contractors, built the 110x600 feet lock between 1934-May 1935. The McCarthy Improvement Company of Davenport, built the dam itself between 1935 and December 1936. Timber removal from within the upstream raised water level, wasn't completed until late 1937. The dam employed four 80-foot long roller gates and eight 40-foot long Tainter gates (O'Brien, pp. 14, 27, 30, 136-37, 166-67; *The Middle and Upper Mississippi River, Ohio River to Minneapolis*. St. Louis: The Upper Mississippi Valley Division, 1948, pp. 5-7).

The massive construction effort, with a total value of \$3,841,750, brought 400 new residents and as many commuters to Guttenberg and, changing the culture of the city, this new reality was described by Walter Jacob as follows:

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...it brought about a complete change in the make up of the community...the absorbing of this many more workers in the various phases of community life totally changed the complexion of the town. Prior to the construction of the dam, Guttenberg was a very self-centered community, in which a resident would hardly be accepted if he were not of at least the second generation of his family, but because of the influx of people of different backgrounds, of different ideas and ideals, Guttenberg has become one of the friendliest towns in Iowa (Jacobs, pp.112-13).

The new navigation system was completed just in time to aid the national mobilization effort prior to and during the Second World War. Petroleum shipments comprised 35-40 percent of all barge traffic through 1941. Total shipping by 1945 amounted to just 5,000,000 tons. By 1960 this total increased to 27,000,000 tons and was dominated by grain shipping (Anfinson, Epilogue, p. 4).

The lock and dam complex, including one surviving lock keeper's residence, survives in its original form and represents the theme of governmental intervention at the community level. It has been determined eligible for the National Register by the National Park Service and the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office.

## Railroads Serve Guttenberg:

The first railroad reached the east side of the Mississippi River at Prairie du Chien, located 20 miles upstream. At the same time, the railroad reached a point opposite Dubuque, about the same distance downstream. Exports from Guttenberg necessarily began to gravitate to these railheads, with short-haul river transfers. Railroads progressed westward from McGregor, opposite Prairie du Chien during the Civil War and rails followed drainages to link Elkader, in the center of the county, with points west and south. Rail access was an advantage to the northern part of the county. Railroads did not connect Guttenberg with other Iowa towns until 1871, relatively late compared to other points in the state. Following the Civil War two railroad companies planned routes through Clayton County, but both routes bypassed Guttenberg. Several years later the town voted a 5% tax and subscribed \$30,000 worth of stock to attract the Chicago, Dubuque and Minnesota Railroad. On February 8, 1871 the town council voted to grant the railroad right of way over all town streets and provided two city blocks for use as depot and freight areas. The railroad subsequently occupied most of Third Street. The first passenger train reached town on October 9, 1871. The company named a locomotive in honor of the town. A station and freight house were built that same year. Rail connections were always hindered by local topography, and the north/south routes had to skirt the Mississippi shore, while the western route had to deviate south before following the Miner's Creek drainage away from the river. These rail linkages integrated the area into Dubuque's retail market area and rail service was vital in exporting area agricultural products.

In the spring of 1871 the *Dubuque Daily Herald* enumerated the Guttenberg economy (flour milling products worth \$200,000, retail trade worth \$1,000,000, saw mills that processed 500,000 feet of logs and three wagon makers with an annual payroll of \$13,500) noted that this level of activity "will give an idea of the importance of the trade to be reached by the completion of the Minnesota [rail] road to that point." The same source added, "There is a rich agricultural country, tributary to Guttenberg, extending fifteen miles south and west, and five miles north, which will give a rich local trade to a growing town when the road shall be completed" (*Dubuque Daily Herald*, March 17, 1871).

No historical rail related buildings or structures survive although rail service remains in place along the original right-of-way. The stone Friedlein Hotel, 310 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (SHPO DOE), could possibly have a direct railroad link given its unusual placement along the west side of the railroad tracks. Further investigation of this association is recommended. Even



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if it pre-dated the railroad, it might have anticipated the location and certainly had a direct historical association once the railroad arrived.

## Roads and Highways Serve Guttenberg:

The earliest land routes had to surmount the bluffs that surrounded Guttenberg on all sides. The only road that pre-dated the founding of the city was the old military road between McGregor and Fort Atkinson. County roads dated from the county organization in 1837. The earliest roads followed the creek and riverbeds. The Legislature established a major road from Millville to Dubuque. Two early county maps trace the earliest routes. J. O. Crosby's map (1857) indicates two roads leading out of Guttenberg, one from the south end of town to Millville (with a branch road running north to Garnavillo), and a second following Buck Creek from the north end of town to Garnavillo. Thompson & Brothers map (1866) traces five roads in existence within the next ten years. From the south end of town they lead to Millville, Elkport (road follows Miner's Creek and Turkey River west), and to Garnavillo. From the north end of town two roads lead to McGregor and to Garnavillo. The 1869 "Bird's Eye View of Guttenberg" indicated a "Hill Road" leading up the bluff from the western foot of Herder Street. This road however was only a local road, servicing those who lived on the bluff top and those who frequented the boweries on the bluff. The five main roads would serve the town until the construction of a modern and less steep highway in 1929. This route penetrated the highlands north and south of the town.

Guttenberg served as the initial interior access point given both its commercial importance as a river city, and its proximity to several broad drainages that facilitated inland travel. Initially it was the principal shipping point for county agricultural products. This leading role was reflected in its several early designations as the county seat. By 1856 the merchants of Guttenberg were able to gain selection as hosts for the Third Annual County Fair. This would have indicated both their enterprise and the existence of some rudimentary road system. By the end of the Civil War the town had stage connections with Dubuque and Garnavillo along with mail service three times weekly. During the war, more cropland was cleared resulting in a larger quantity of products being brought into town to be sold. Guttenberg's river connections made the town competitive for market pricing and farmers brought their goods from as far west as Independence, Oelwein, and Arlington. The arrival of the railroad in 1871 opened other county markets to area farmers, reducing the importance of Guttenberg as a shipping center. Still, the city gained its first grain elevator with the arrival of the railroad.

The automotive revolution came to Guttenberg as it did all locales and an unofficial automobile district developed along South First Street. The first automobile garage in Guttenberg, a Ford agency, run by Kuempel Brothers, opened in 1903. They were joined in 1913 by a second firm. In their first year, the Kuempel's sold 25 cars. The Wardell Chevrolet Garage opened in June 1931, occupying its new building at the southwest corner of South First and Schiller streets. It was the best example of automobile related garages but it has been considerably altered in recent years. The automobile made steep roads more conquerable and also eventually brought about an improvement of road surfaces. In town the twenty-year old practice of sprinkling roads was replaced with an oiling process. Guttenberg never achieved brick paved streets or even many paved ones. Today its roads are asphalt paved. Formal street signs came to Guttenberg only in 1951 along with house numbers.

An important automotive and road-related sub-theme is that of the opening up of Guttenberg to the outside world. Good roads and the automobile accomplished this feat. Guttenberg was largely isolated by the same bluffs that made it picturesque. Seasonal area dirt roads sufficed for local trading needs but only the most arduous pioneer automobile traveler would have even attempted getting there using that mode of transportation. Railroads sufficed until such time as pressures to deliver rural mail and parcel post developed and as the automobile began to challenge animal power in prevailing across the muddy roads. The good roads movement came even to Guttenberg.

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Figure 87: The old way in from the south  
(Courtesy Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

Jefferson Township was belatedly involved in the county road improvement program. Federal highway money was critical in funding these major improvements, passed through the medium of the State Highway Commission. The existing routes were the Big Springs Road to the north and the road up Kleinhaus Hollow to the south. Beginning in 1929, a new north road was blasted out of the stone hills and by the end of 1930 a new southern route was also completed. The road through town was graveled but for the times it was good enough to bring the first bus service to the city. The road also bypassed the riverfront and downtown proper and the City Council was resentful that the new route had been laid out "without reference to the regularly used streets" of Guttenberg (Council Minutes, May 4, 1931; Jacobs, pp. 106-08).

In early 1930, the Dubuque *Telegraph-Herald* proclaimed "Guttenberg Will Be Mecca For Tourists After No. 55 is Paved." Indian trails had now become highways.

The loop of concrete is in the making. The grade was cut and filled down the north hill last winter and is to be paved this spring. Meanwhile graders will be blasting and steam-shoveling a road up another ravine south of town. An expensive piece of highway building for Clayton County, but necessary of the county's largest town would not be on the primary road map. Fine also for the touring public as a whole, since the motorist...will be served an eye feast of superb Mississippi river scenery...(Dubuque *Telegraph-Herald*, April 20, 1930).

The Des Moines *Register*, in 1930, described the new south approach into Guttenberg:

Beginning of rock hewn descent into Guttenberg. Here you get a view of the bluffs through which the new road makes its way north into Guttenberg and a vista of the Mississippi river to the south. This old road corkscrewed into town on a one-track path winding by sharp turns and dangerous course to the river bank. The new road comes down a wide ledge by easy grades none in excess of 6 percent (*Register*, December 28, 1930).



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State and Federal Governments Respond to the crisis of the Great Depression:

Federal and state financial aid was a well-established fact of life in the arena of modern road construction and the post-World War One years were abuzz with the issue of securing an early payment of the federal bonus for veterans of that war. Hard times followed the war through the mid-1920s as the nation painfully readjusted to new international economies. But the Great Depression years, beginning c.1931, would re-define hardship across the nation. Beginning in the mid-1930s the state and federal governments became directly involved in bringing relief to stricken communities like Guttenberg. One form of relief was creating jobs through infrastructural and public building projects.

The Guttenberg City Council minutes from the early 1930s onwards make no reference whatever to the national economic collapse that was even then unfolding around them. At the time the city was busy forcing the state to oil the new graveled Highway 52, to reduce the dust caused by traffic, controlling illegal dumping along the riverfront, and building a light and power plant. In July 1936 the Council established the city's first free public library. Guttenberg weathered the Depression better than did most other communities and this fact is attested to by the survival of both of its town banks throughout the Depression. Still the city was the recipient of an impressive range of federal and state assistance programs, some of which were likely geared towards regional economic revival.

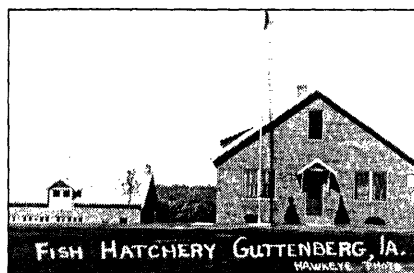


Figure 88: New state fish hatchery, 1938 (courtesy N. Thein)

Guttenberg was the recipient of three substantial public works projects, the lock and dam, the Federal Fish Hatchery, and the new municipal building. It also gained a water pumping station the Works Progress Administration laid asphalt paving and concrete curbing (1938). Still, as is explained below, the lock and dam project was relocated to Guttenberg in response to high area unemployment. The U.S. Bureau of Fisheries located a Federal Fish Hatchery complex at the east end of Goethe Street (517-19 South River Park Drive, NRHP listed as Upper Mississippi River Fisheries Management Historic District) on the riverbank site, in 1935-38. The PWA and WPA together allocated \$70,000 for the fish hatchery, the city provided the land for the complex, the former site of the frame city hall. The facility would cover a total of 350 acres on the island opposite town. An office-aquarium building was first placed on the site of the demolished city hall. The facility also included a floating dock. Immediate hopes to expand the facility further were dashed by a presidential veto of a \$3,260,000 appropriations bill for the Bureau of Fisheries. The bill included \$180,000 additional for the project (*Press*, July 7, 1938).

The 1939-40 Municipal Building was partly funded (\$33,000) by a Public Works Administration grant, the city paying 55 percent of the total cost. The building was finished on April 15, 1940. The Art Deco design included a second floor public hall (Jacobs, p. 121). The municipal building gained a north end elevator addition, but it retains sufficient integrity so as to justify its inclusion as a contributing property, now in the process of being added to the Front Street District (NRHP).

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## F. Associated Property Types:

These property types summarize and organize the survey findings from the several Guttenberg historical and architectural surveys. While the entire city has been surveyed, there is always the likely possibility that other potentially significant buildings will be discovered as a result of additional historical research, or as a result of the removal of later-date exterior cladding material. This typology also does not address the archeological potential of properties in the city, beyond the level of general recommendations or hypothesis, as no archeological investigations were undertaken.

PROPERTY TYPE #1: The buildings, structures, objects and districts associated with the context “ ‘Wir Sind Deutschen,’ Germans Dominate in Guttenberg, 1850-1918:”

### I. DESCRIPTION:

The resources in this property type are those that are directly linked to the predominantly German-American population of Guttenberg, a presence so strong that virtually every resource has such a link. Surviving resources date to the earliest years of this context and provide a complete historical range of residential and commercial examples. Stone construction was predominant in the years prior to 1870, with brick also being common in use. Examples of frame construction become more commonplace with the passage of time but early frame buildings also survive.



Figure 89: View south along South Bluff Street, showing tornado damage inflicted May 21, 1918  
(Courtesy, Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission)

Residences: Guttenberg residences are predominantly of the free-standing single-family type, there being a mere handful of duplex and multiple-family buildings in the city. Examples are also mostly vernacular in their type and use of materials, but there are a small number of examples of the Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Victorian Gothic, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival styles and the bungalow and foursquare types. Church rectories in particular have stylistic rather than vernacular designs. Some examples combine a slight stylistic influence with a predominantly vernacular design. Historic residences are located throughout the city plat, although they are most numerous in the central and southern parts of the city. One group of side-gable vernacular stone houses is located along Bluff Street, along the base of the bluff to the west of the city proper. Many are built off-square so as to better fit their angled building lots. A small number retain associated outbuildings. Some examples have deep setbacks, even being placed on alleyways at the back of their lots. Early houses are of stone and brick construction. Some stone houses have been stuccoed and their exterior surfaces scored. Visually cohesive clusters of historical residences comprise residential districts. Just one example is identified, along South Bluff. The South

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Bluff district, as proposed, includes the largest (because the lots were larger outlots) and best-preserved cluster of elongated I-house stone side gable stone residences in the city. This grouping, located at the base of the bluff line at the south end of the city (South Bluff and Highway 52), is distinguished by its location to the west of the ponding areas that seasonally flooded and isolated it from the city proper. The houses have a very strong German ethnic association. Stone outbuildings and caves are also associated with several of the properties. The properties to be included are located in the 900s and 1000s blocks and 1030 South Highway 52.

**Commercial Buildings:** This class of buildings is quite numerous and affords the most visually cohesive property type associated with this context. Commercial buildings are grouped in the central and south-central parts of the city plat, and either front eastward along South River Park Drive towards the Mississippi River or are located on side streets in close proximity to the riverfront. Examples survive from the earliest years of this context and the earlier buildings are built of stone and brick. Frame examples survive from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and subsequent years. Like their residential counterparts, these buildings are sometimes built off-square so as to mirror their off-square building lots. Similarly, commercial buildings are predominantly vernacular in their design and construction, the stone examples offering some of the best and largest designs that survive in the state. Some stone designs reflect a Greek Revival stylistic influence, as do some early brick designs. Later date brick buildings tend to be more stylistic, taking on pressed metal cornices, ornate pediments, and there is one Romanesque example. Commercial buildings are varied in their dimensions, ranging from single to three stories, and from a single-bay storefront to double storefronts. Many have upper level residential units that originally housed the merchant families. Most commercial buildings have shared party walls with or abut other commercial buildings. Exceptions include isolated buildings or building clusters on the several side streets. Two stone gambrel roof riverfront warehouses are exceptional free-standing commercial building examples, but they too are located within the district. There is a single district commercial cluster, as noted, and this district is listed on the National Register. Additional associated side street commercial properties are being added to this district. The architectural context defines three basic commercial building forms, the parapet front, side gable and gable front subtypes.

**Industrial Buildings:** Very few industrial buildings survive and most of those that do survive date to the later years of this context, and their German-American association is less direct. Earlier examples such as the Jungt Brewery do survive, as do multi-use buildings such as 701 South River Park Drive where a tin shop was long associated with a hardware store. The several riverfront stone warehouses also likely had early industrial uses. These multi-use building examples have the same descriptors as the commercial buildings. They are located in the downtown area, and include locations on South First Street as well as the several side streets.

**Other Buildings, Structures, Objects and Sites:** Churches are closely associated with the German-American population and the best examples (St. Mary's Catholic and St. John's Lutheran) represent the two dominant local religious faiths. Church buildings are of brick, stone or frame construction and all are designed in the Victorian Gothic style, but with a strong vernacular design component. St. John's Lutheran Church (1948) as the largest load-bearing stone building in the city, is a very late testimonial to the persistence of a local stone building tradition in the city. The St. Mary's church complex includes a substantial brick school building with stone foundation, and a brick convent. The latter is designed in the Tudor Revival style, the former in the Italianate style.

## II. SIGNIFICANCE:

Guttenberg is significant because it was virtually an all German-American community in its founding, and that German dominance was directly responsible for the construction of a significant and unique range of vernacular architecture. The same German dominance defined the community's life ways, and served as the driving and guiding force in every aspect of community life. This German presence is credited, in combination with the many advantages of the city's location, with making Guttenberg the largest community in Clayton County and with its overall successful development. German associated properties include those linked to significant individuals, significant families, or the several German cultural or

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fraternal organizations. The most compelling themes include local politics and government, commerce and industry, transportation, architectural design and construction, and religion. A less important theme is lead mining, research to date indicates no German dominance in local mining. The test for individual significance under this context is largely limited to community based significance on the local level. The insular nature of Guttenberg's German community worked against an individual seeking notoriety or power, and community leadership broadly involved the contribution of many individuals. There are few if any examples of early residents achieving distinction outside of the local community level. In some cases, several generations of the same family made significant contributions to local history. Districts allow for the inclusion of a number of associated properties that might fall short of passing the individual property test for significance.

### III. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Significance (use or form) related to one of the five contexts developed in this multiple property document.

- Criterion A: properties that are directly associated with the German-American dominant presence in the City of Guttenberg, 1850 to 1918. Significant properties under Criterion A are those that were historically associated with the broader historical trends or themes, as they reflect a German-American influence.
- Criterion B: properties that are directly associated with German-American individuals who played an important role in the history of Guttenberg, 1850-1918. Significant individuals are those who made significant contributions to the history of Guttenberg as political, industrial, commercial and community leaders. Significant residences must have been associated with the particular individual during their working careers. Residences that were built by those same persons and which subsequently had working career associations offer particularly compelling historical associations, particularly if the construction reflected the rising importance of a family or individual.
- Criterion C: properties that best illustrate significant German design and construction techniques in Guttenberg, 1850-1918. The unusual dominance of one ethnic group produced an architecture that uniformly reflected that population's design influences and districts and individual buildings can be nominated under this criterion.

2. Qualifying buildings, structures, objects, sites or districts are those associated with this context. Qualifying building materials include stone, brick, stucco, wood, metal, concrete, steel and iron.

3. Integrity Considerations:

In all cases, the most important integrity consideration is that the property or district retains sufficient elements of the original design, materials, and setting, so that the historical owner during the period of significance would theoretically recognize it today. The property must retain its ability to convey a sense of time and place as it relates to this context.

Buildings should reflect the original function of their designs, as well as their original construction materials. They should possess their original shape and proportions, windows and doors should not have been substantially changed. Residential buildings can be held to a higher test of integrity, given their larger number of surviving examples and their better state of preservation. Additions must be secondary in scale and setback relative to the original core design, and must be comparable in design and materials to the original residence. Scored stucco on stone is not considered to be a replacement siding, but an attempt to modernize within the historical period. The presence of stucco or its removal from buildings that were originally of exposed stone design is acceptable when determining integrity. Replacement siding (metal, vinyl) is also acceptable if the scale of the siding matches the original, if decorative features such as wood shingle, brackets, and trim work remain visible, and if the key massing and design of the building remains discernible. The re-sided building must retain its ability to represent its type or style absent the availability of a comparable example not re-sided. Within a district, re-sided

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buildings must pass a collective lesser test, that being whether they continue to make a positive contribution to the district. The re-siding of brick, stone or stucco buildings eliminates their historical integrity.

## IV. Eligible or Potentially Eligible Properties (\*\* identifies a current nomination):

### Historic Districts:

South Bluff Residential District  
St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District (\*\*)  
Front Street Commercial District (NRHP)

### Individual Nominations:

Jungt Brewery, 410 South Bluff Street

PROPERTY TYPE #2: The buildings, structures, objects and districts associated with the context "Guttenberg's Vernacular Stone Architecture, 1850-1863:"

## I. DESCRIPTION:

This property type is defined by material, stone construction, and highlights this distinctive and popular local vernacular building tradition. In all cases, some stone buildings exhibit Greek Revival, Gothic or Italianate style influences but they remain predominantly vernacular in their design origin. Because stone buildings are a subset of all buildings in Guttenberg, the same general descriptive information provided in the first context (see above) applies to them.

Residences: Residences comprise most surviving stone building examples. Stone examples represent the front and side gable vernacular forms, in varied elevations ranging from single to two stories in height, and from one to two bays (meaning a double house or storefront equivalent) in width, with square or rectangular footprints. Side gable examples include I-houses, saltbox plans and gallery designs. A great many examples are story-and-a-half designs. The best preserved examples of stone outbuildings are to be found in the proposed South Bluff Street district, where the larger lots allowed for the building of elongated side gable stone residences. Districts are comprised almost exclusively of stone residences, arranged in a visually cohesive setting.

Commercial Buildings: A large number of surviving stone buildings are commercial properties, almost all of which cluster in the downtown area. Commercial examples possess the same range in footprint and elevation as do the residential include flat roof or shed roofs with parapet fronts. All three-story stone building examples are commercial ones. The architectural context defines three basic commercial building forms, the parapet front, side gable and gable front subtypes.

Industrial Buildings: Stone examples comprise all surviving early industrial buildings and include 700 South River Park Drive (a tin shop associated with a hardware business, 10 Schiller which housed a flourmill warehouse, Jungt Brewery, 402 South Bluff (side gable stone house and excellent side gable stone barn with raised foundation), and two well preserved riverfront warehouses. The latter have gambrel roofs.

Other Buildings, Structures, Objects and Sites: The local stone building tradition survived well into the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century in the form of substantial stone foundations, and the 1948 St. John Lutheran Church is a remarkable late reflection of the survival of this tradition as it related to major church buildings. There was no need for stone retaining walls in the city due to the level terrace setting so stone structures are not found.

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### **II. SIGNIFICANCE:**

Guttenberg offers one of the best Iowa community collections of stone buildings in terms of their scale and sheer quantity. This was true historically and remains true in terms of surviving buildings. Guttenberg's stone architecture is directly attributable to that community's predominantly German-American population and as such offers the best associated architecture to interpret the significance of that population. This context chronicles the early development of the state's best collection of German-influenced stone vernacular architecture, between 1850 and 1863. Key sub-themes are the particular role played by German stone masons and local contractors in this building effort, the relationship between this building phase and the development of the city and national economic trends, particularly the financial panic of 1857-58, and the changing building techniques, designs and use of materials that are inherent in the buildings. This is the most significant property type in the city and further research will add greatly to what is now known about these buildings. The context includes a lengthy section that treats the significance of this property type. This is appropriate given the importance of this range of buildings and the compelling need for continued research and investigation.

### **III. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Significance (use or form) related to one of the five contexts developed in this multiple property document.

- Criterion A: buildings that are directly associated with the significant Guttenberg stone-building tradition, 1850 to 1863.
- Criterion B: stone buildings that are directly associated with significant German-Americans who played an important role in the history of Guttenberg, 1850-1863.
- Criterion C: stone buildings that best illustrate significant building and structural types related to the history of Guttenberg, 1850-1863. Of particular importance are those buildings that can be associated with significant builder-designers who worked in the local stone building tradition.

2. Qualifying buildings, structures, objects, sites or districts are those associated with this context. Qualifying building materials include stone and stucco.

3. Integrity Considerations:

Buildings should reflect the original function of their designs, as well as their original construction materials. They should possess their original shape and proportions, windows and doors should not have been substantially changed. Residential buildings can be held to a higher test of integrity, given their larger number of surviving examples and their better state of preservation. Additions must be secondary in scale and setback relative to the original core design, and must be comparable in design and materials to the original residence. Scored stucco on stone is not considered to be a replacement siding, but an attempt to modernize within the historical period. The presence of stucco or its removal on from buildings that were originally of exposed stone design, are acceptable when determining integrity. Any other substantial covering of the stonework using any other material (permastone, other siding forms) compromises historical integrity on an individual or district level. Storefronts can be replaced, or otherwise in-filled as long as the building as a whole retains its ability to represent the original stone design. Commercial buildings ideally should have their storefronts intact (storefront should be visible although replacement materials or partial reduction of the transom level or window area is to be expected). Completely covered storefront areas are deemed to be contributing buildings within a district but retain insufficient integrity for individual eligibility.

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## IV. Eligible or Potentially Eligible Properties (\*\* identifies a current nomination):

### Historic Districts:

South Bluff Residential District  
Front Street Commercial District (NRHP)  
Stone buildings being added to this district (\*\*)  
John Wolter Building, 5 Goethe Street  
Vetter House, 11 Schiller Street  
Jefferson Hotel, 106 Schiller Street  
316 South First, hotel  
Fleck Bros. Warehouse, 10 Schiller

### Individual Properties:

Jungt Brewery, 410 South Bluff Street  
Moser House, 211 South First (NRHP, demolished)  
620 South First (NRHP)  
Friedlein Hotel, 310 North Third (Consultant recommended)

PROPERTY TYPE #3: The buildings, structures, objects and districts associated with the context "Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1850-1955:"

## I. DESCRIPTION:

Properties under this context were located around the periphery of the city, along the riverfront, along the railroad that paralleled the river to the west, and in the country around the city (smelters and mines). Building examples are of stone, brick and frame construction and are scattered, save for those that tended to cluster along the railroad in the north central part of the city. No districts were identified for mining or industrial properties.

Residences: Descriptive notes are the same as those that apply to the first two contexts.

Commercial Buildings: The descriptive notes for this range of properties is the same as given for the previous two contexts. Most of the surviving buildings associated with this context are commercial properties and the only identified district is that which comprises the downtown proper and has been listed on the National Register. The architectural context defines three basic commercial building forms, the parapet front, side gable and gable front subtypes.

Industrial Buildings: Some commercial properties, some of these of stone construction, had partial industrial uses and have been previously discussed under the preceding two contexts. Other commercial buildings some were converted for industrial purposes. The best example is 701 South River Park Drive and its association with the pearl button industry. Only a handful of industrial properties survive and most of these date from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century or later. An exception is the stone Jungt Brewery complex (402 South Bluff). Other lesser buildings, located along South First and Second streets and the side streets in the downtown, housed shops and other lesser scale industrial functions. The best surviving industrial examples typify railroad related factory complexes that located along West Third Street and the railroad right-of-way. These facilities were built to house specific industrial functions and their design and layout reflects that original intended purpose. These buildings are of brick construction, are mostly lower in profile, and have sites that are larger than a single city lot. Architecturally they reflect more modern industrial design influences. Other surviving examples are an icehouse, and dairy

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barns related to a dairy operation. The former is essentially an elongated frame barn building and the latter are concrete block narrow rectangular plans with gambrel roofs.

Other Buildings, Structures, Objects and Sites: There are no known examples under this complex. Industrial sites might have archeological potential in some instances.

## II. SIGNIFICANCE:

These three economic sectors made Guttenberg the largest community in the county and by the 1890s it was the leading manufacturing center as well. Surviving mining and industrial related buildings are few in number. Mining sites, to the extent that they have been researched, were principally hard rock dig sites lacking associated buildings or even extensive shafts or related equipment, due to the narrow, vertical veins of lead that were imbedded in hard rock. These too are largely located outside of the city boundaries. The context details the importance of industry to Guttenberg's history and indicates that flour and lumber processing and local manufacture, principally vehicles, were dominant economic sectors. Flour mills operated until 1894, sawmills died out c.1910 with the demise of upriver timber sources, and other forms of industry, pearl button plants, canning factories, tractor and tool manufacturing supplanted blacksmiths, wagon makers, and tin works beginning in the 1890s. Industry was aided by the provision of a municipal water works. Earlier surviving industrial examples are of greater importance because they represent the earlier phases of the important industrial historical role. Rarity enhances significance. Lesser industrial examples such as cottage industries such as tin shops or blacksmiths, are important for consideration but in most instances, these have not been intensively researched or have been considerably altered.

## III. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Significance (use or form) related to one of the five contexts developed in this multiple property document.
  - Criterion A: significant properties that are directly associated with the themes of mining, industry and commerce in the City of Guttenberg, 1850 to 1955.
  - Criterion B: properties that are directly associated with individuals who played an important role in the history of mining, industry and commerce Guttenberg, 1850-1955.
  - Criterion C: properties that best illustrate significant building and structural types related to the themes of mining, industry and commerce in history of Guttenberg, 1850-1955.
2. Qualifying buildings, structures, objects, sites or districts are those associated with this context. Qualifying building materials include stone, brick, stucco, wood, metal, concrete, steel and iron.
3. Integrity Considerations:

In all cases, the most important integrity consideration is that the property or district retains sufficient elements of the original design, materials, and setting, so that the historical owner during the period of significance would theoretically recognize it today. The property must retain its ability to convey a sense of time and place as it relates to this context.

Buildings should reflect the original function of their designs, as well as their original construction materials. They should possess their original shape and proportions, windows and doors should not have been substantially changed. Additions must be secondary in scale and setback relative to the original core design, and must be comparable in design and materials to the original residence. Scored stucco on stone is not considered to be a replacement siding, but an attempt to modernize within the historical period. The presence of stucco or its removal on from buildings that were originally of



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exposed stone design, are acceptable when determining integrity. Replacement siding (metal, vinyl) is also acceptable if the scale of the siding matches the original, if decorative features such as wood shingle, brackets, and trim work remain visible, and if the key massing and design of the building remains discernible. The re-sided building must retain its ability to represent its type or style absent the availability of a comparable example not re-sided. Within a district, re-sided buildings must pass a collective lesser test, that being whether they continue to make a positive contribution to the district. A re-siding of brick, stone or stucco buildings eliminates their historical integrity. Commercial buildings ideally should have their storefronts intact (storefront should be visible although replacement materials or partial reduction of the transom level or window area is to be expected). Completely covered storefront areas are deemed to be contributing buildings within a district but retain insufficient integrity for individual eligibility.

#### IV. Eligible or Potentially Eligible Properties (\*\* identifies a current nomination):

##### Historic Districts:

South Bluff Residential District (mining association)

Front Street Commercial District (NRHP) (commerce, industry)

Commercial Properties being added to Front Street District (\*\*)

Security State Bank, 15 Goethe

John Wolter Building, 5 Goethe

St. Clair Hotel, 430 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street

David and Catherine Overbeck Store, 526 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street

F. J. Saugling Building, 15 Herder Street

House/Store, 11 Herder Street

B. H. and Caroline Vetter Store, 11 Schiller Street

Jefferson House, 106 Schiller Street

Wardell Chevrolet Garage, 102 Schiller Street

Niemeyer House/Store, 14 Schiller Street

Fleck Bros. Warehouse, 10 Schiller Street

##### Individual Properties:

Ice House, 910 South First Street

Jungt Brewery, 401 South Bluff

Guttenberg State Bank, 15 Goethe (NRHP, being added to Front Street District\*\*)

Fleck Warehouse, 10 Schiller (\*\*)

Guttenberg Corn Canning Company, 307 Pryam (NRHP)

**PROPERTY TYPE #4:** The buildings, structures, objects and districts associated with the context "Architectural Styles and Types, And The History of Building Construction in Guttenberg, 1850-1955."

#### I. DESCRIPTION:

This context focuses upon the direct architectural significance of buildings, structures, objects and districts in Guttenberg. The previous contextual property type discussions have defined residences, commercial buildings and districts and those points will not be repeated here.

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Residences: This context considers the significant and better preserved examples of vernacular and stylistic architecture. These buildings are located throughout the city, represent a wide range of changing design, and are built of stone, brick, or wood, with some stucco and other re-clad exteriors. Most of the eligible buildings under this context are residential ones. They are predominantly vernacular in design, but there are a few transitional or style-influenced examples and a very few purer examples of styles, most of these dating after 1900.

Commercial Buildings: This class of buildings is the second most numerous after residences. Almost all of the buildings are located in the downtown area. The best examples are massive in scale, contain multiple storefronts, are two or more stories high, and combine commercial, residential and occasionally fraternal uses under one roof. Most of the examples are vernacular designs. A few of these buildings exhibit a stylistic influence and fewer still can be categorized as representing a single style. The architectural context defines three basic commercial building forms, the parapet front, side gable and gable front subtypes.

Industrial Buildings: With the exception of the several vernacular stone industrial examples, previously discussed, no surviving industrial building was deemed to possess sufficient architectural merit to be considered significant under this context.

Other Buildings, Structures, Objects and Sites: Buildings under this context include churches, public buildings, fraternal and recreational buildings. The churches are located to the west of the downtown, all are Victorian Gothic in style and are of brick construction. They uniformly front east. The St. Mary Catholic Church parish complex comprises a district. Four historic buildings are contiguous, share common red brick superstructures and stone foundations, and other unified design characteristics. Public buildings are represented by the Art Deco style Municipal Building and there are two other matching public buildings of that period, a pump house and fire station.

## II. SIGNIFICANCE:

Guttenberg's architecture is uniquely dominated by a long-enduring vernacular building tradition, one that was resistant to stylistic influence or replacement. Stylistic examples being few in number, conservative in their application, and usually belated in their construction. As such the community offers an architectural laboratory that is unmatched in Iowa. The residential architecture of the city is conservatively yet solidly designed and built. There is no separation by class and ostentation even conservatively expressed is unusual. Consequently larger houses are democratically intermixed with lesser ones and the usual design-based "best of show" test for architectural significance excludes most historical properties. Individual architectural merit necessarily demands that those vernacular residences that represent well-preserved examples of type, materials and method of construction, be emphasized when individual significance is evaluated. Well-preserved residential examples of style or type are significant on the individual building or district levels.

## III. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Significance (use or form) related to one of the five contexts developed in this multiple property document.

- Criterion A: properties that are directly associated with the architectural development and history of City of Guttenberg, 1850 to 1955. This criterion application would focus on the degree to which architecture represents larger historical trends, for example the design influence of the federal government in Guttenberg.
- Criterion B: properties that are directly associated with significant individual builders and designers who played an important role in the history of Guttenberg, 1850-1955. This criterion application would focus not on the lives of those builder/designers but rather upon their works.
- Criterion C: properties that best illustrate significant building and structural types related to the history of Guttenberg, 1850-1955. This is the appropriate criterion for most associated buildings under this context.

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2. Qualifying buildings, structures, objects, sites or districts are those associated with this context. Qualifying building materials include stone, brick, stucco, wood, metal, concrete, steel and iron.

3. Integrity Considerations:

In all cases, the most important integrity consideration is that the property or district retains sufficient elements of the original design, materials, and setting, so that the historical owner during the period of significance would theoretically recognize it today. The property must retain its ability to convey a sense of time and place as it relates to this context.

Buildings or structures should reflect the original function of their designs, as well as their original construction materials. They should possess their original shape and proportions, windows and doors should not have been substantially changed. Residential buildings can be held to a higher test of integrity, given their larger number of surviving examples and their better state of preservation. Scored stucco on stone is not considered to be a replacement siding, but an attempt to modernize within the historical period. Additions must be secondary in scale and setback relative to the original core design, and must be comparable in design and materials to the original residence. Replacement siding (metal, vinyl) is also acceptable if the scale of the siding matches the original, if decorative features such as wood shingle, brackets, and trim work remain visible, and if the key massing and design of the building remains discernible. The re-sided building must retain its ability to represent its type or style absent the availability of a comparable example not re-sided. Within a district, re-sided buildings must pass a collective lesser test, that being whether they continue to make a positive contribution to the district. The re-siding of brick, stone or stucco buildings eliminates their historical integrity.

IV. Eligible or Potentially Eligible Properties (\*\* identifies a current nomination):

Historic Districts:

South Bluff Residential District  
Guttenberg National Fish Hatchery and Historic District (NRHP)  
St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District (\*\*)  
Front Street Commercial District (NRHP)  
    Residential Properties being added to Front Street District (\*\*)  
        Theodore and Clara Berns House, 11 Prince Street  
        Theodore and Clara Berns Carriage House, same address  
        House, 503 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
        Joseph and Mary Huene House, 12/14 Herder Street  
        August and Ulinnie Felder House, 10 Herder Street  
        House, 6 Schiller Street

Individual Properties:

Tuecke House, 115 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
119 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Hartman House, 130 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Hann House, 227 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Fensterman House, 322 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)

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Duwe House, 415 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Borman House, 103 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
McClaine House, 302 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (NRHP)  
Eckert House, 415 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Fuerste House, 503 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (NRHP)  
Nieland House, 715 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street (NRHP)  
Kuemple House, 319 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Frommelt House, 410-12 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Wille-Heller House, 422 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Rausch House, 622 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Hefel-Peterson House, 710 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Bahls-Nieland House, 618 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Lane (NRHP)  
Moser-Sodawasser House, 930 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street (SHPO DOE)  
Berns House, 602 N. Bluff Street (SHPO DOE)  
Bolsinger House, 10 China Street (SHPO DOE)  
Kolker House, 110 Goethe Street (NRHP)  
Aulwes House, 114 Pearl Street (SHPO DOE)  
Ihm House, 118 North River Park Drive (SHPO DOE)  
Kramer-Manson House, 130 North River Park Drive  
Meyer House, 202 North River Park Drive (SHPO DOE)  
Chadim House, 318 North River Park Drive (SHPO DOE)  
Meder House, 930 North River Park Drive (SHPO DOE)  
Weber House, 822 South River Park Drive (NRHP)  
Wehmer House, 910 South River Park Drive (NRHP)  
Hoeger House, 206 Schiller Street (SHPO DOE)

PROPERTY TYPE #5: The buildings, structures, objects and districts associated with the context "Transportation (1850-1955) And The Role of State and Federal Governments In Guttenberg's Development (1935-40):"

## I. DESCRIPTION:

Properties are varied in terms of location, size, materials and use. They are unified by their direct or indirect association with transportation in its many modes. A number of singular properties fall under this property type and they are enumerated in the eligible properties list given that there is only one example (lock and dam, fisheries complex). Associated residences are in some instances one of a kind as well (Lock Keeper's house) but the same general descriptive notes used in the other property type discussions apply here. Associated examples include the home of a river pilot, houses or hotels that sheltered lock and dam workers, etc. Commercial buildings include those with direct river, road or railroad access and again, the same descriptive notes previously referenced, apply here. Surviving industrial buildings with road or rail associations, similarly are the same as previously discussed. This resource group embraces two interrelated ranges of properties, most of which speak to the transportation theme, the exceptions being the Municipal Building and the firehouse and pump house, which were make-work recovery efforts, not located on the river. The other properties are located on the Mississippi River and have a direct or indirect transportation association (The U.S. Fisheries complex is on the riverfront). Earlier transportation related buildings or sites include the several riverfront warehouses, previously described, and Ingleside Park which comprises the original riverfront. The park, now landscaped, represents the reserved public riverfront that extends the full length of the city and is a defining characteristic of the cityscape. The Lock and Dam complex is the other significant transportation property, located along the north central part of the city. It comprises a park-like administrative shoreline component, with administrative buildings and one surviving Lock Keeper's house, the locks and the dam itself. All are of

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concrete construction and the frame house is a perfect Colonial Revival center hall design. The complex is a district (NRHP determined eligible). The U. S. Fisheries complex (NRHP listed) is a district and consists of five brick and tile buildings. It is located on the downtown riverfront to the south of the Lock and Dam.

Residences: There are just two residential examples under this context, the brick bungalow residence in the U.S. Fisheries complex, and the Lock Keeper's house.

Commercial Buildings: There are no associated examples of commercial buildings under this context.

Industrial Buildings: There are no associated examples of industrial buildings under this context. The several later-date factories have secondary associations with rail and road shipment.

Other Buildings, Structures, Objects and Sites: Ingleside Park is a landscaped riverfront park that is associated with the city's historic riverfront. It is a contributing resource within the Front Street Commercial District. Some components of the Lock and Dam complex would be classified as structures (lock, dam).

## II. SIGNIFICANCE:

Guttenberg was historically Clayton County's largest community, and remains so today. Its late 1890s emergence as the manufacturing center of the county was largely a reflection of the transportation advantages offered by the river, and road and rail networks. The Mississippi River and its advantageous shipping potential greatly increased the market area of the growing city in the pre-railroad years (pre-1871). The lumber milling industry continued to rely on river shipping into the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century and only the depletion of timber resources finally eliminated that key industry. Railroad shipping was vital in sustaining the growth and survival of local industrial firms and direct access to rail shipping dictated industrial plant location after 1900 and was vital to the successful recruitment of new industries. This success made Guttenberg the leading manufacturing center in the county by World War I.

## III. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Significance (use or form) related to one of the five contexts developed in this multiple property document.

- Criterion A: properties that are directly associated with the theme of transportation in and to the City of Guttenberg, 1850 to 1955. Criterion A associations could be based upon the direct link between a factory and a mode of transportation.
- Criterion B: properties that are directly associated with individuals who played an important role in the transportation history of Guttenberg, 1850-1955. Significant Criterion B claims can associate particular individuals who played leading roles in the promotion of improved river, rail or road transportation, with their plants or absent a surviving factory, their private homes.
- Criterion C: properties that best illustrate significant transportation related design and construction in the history of Guttenberg, 1850-1955. Criterion C associations could be based upon an architectural expression of that factory and transportation linkage (setting, style or type, direct transportation related components such as sidings, loading docks, railroad spur, etc.).

2. Qualifying buildings, structures, objects, sites or districts are those associated with this context. Qualifying building materials include stone, brick, tile, stucco, wood, metal, concrete, steel and iron.

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### 3. Integrity Considerations:

In all cases, the most important integrity consideration is that the property or district collectively retains sufficient elements of the original design, materials, and setting, so that the historical owner during the period of significance would theoretically recognize it today. The property must retain its ability to convey a sense of time and place as it relates to this context.

Buildings, structures or districts should reflect the original function of their designs, as well as their original construction materials. They should possess their original shape and proportions, windows and doors should not have been substantially changed. Additions must be secondary in scale and setback relative to the original core design, and must be comparable in design and materials to the original residence. The presence of stucco or its removal on from buildings that were originally of exposed stone construction, are acceptable when determining integrity. Replacement siding (metal, vinyl) is also acceptable if the scale of the siding matches the original, if decorative features such as wood shingle, brackets, and trim work remain visible, and if the key massing and design of the building remains discernible. The re-sided building must retain its ability to represent its type or style absent the availability of a comparable example not re-sided. Within a district, re-sided buildings must pass a collective lesser test, that being whether they continue to make a positive contribution to the district. A re-siding of brick, stone or stucco buildings eliminates their historical integrity.

### IV. Eligible or Potentially Eligible Properties (\*\* identifies a current nomination):

#### Historic Districts:

Front Street Commercial District (NRHP) (includes U.S. Fisheries complex)  
Lock & Dam #10 Complex (NPS DOE)  
Guttenberg National Fish Hatchery and Historic District (NRHP)

#### Individual Properties :

Lakeside Ballroom, 1214 North 4th (NRHP)  
Municipal Building, 502 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street (\*\*)

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## G. Geographical Data:

This project includes the incorporated City of Guttenberg. The following series of maps, arranged from north to south, depict the overall survey and evaluation areas. The city plan is a very elongated, narrow footprint as the maps would indicate. The Mississippi River forms the eastern boundary of the plat. Raised bluffs comprise the west physical boundary. Three-digit numbers locate surveyed properties. The numbers represent the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office's state historic inventory site numbers (the county code is 22 and the complete number is a seven digit one, the county code comprising the first two numbers in the series, being followed by a hyphen).

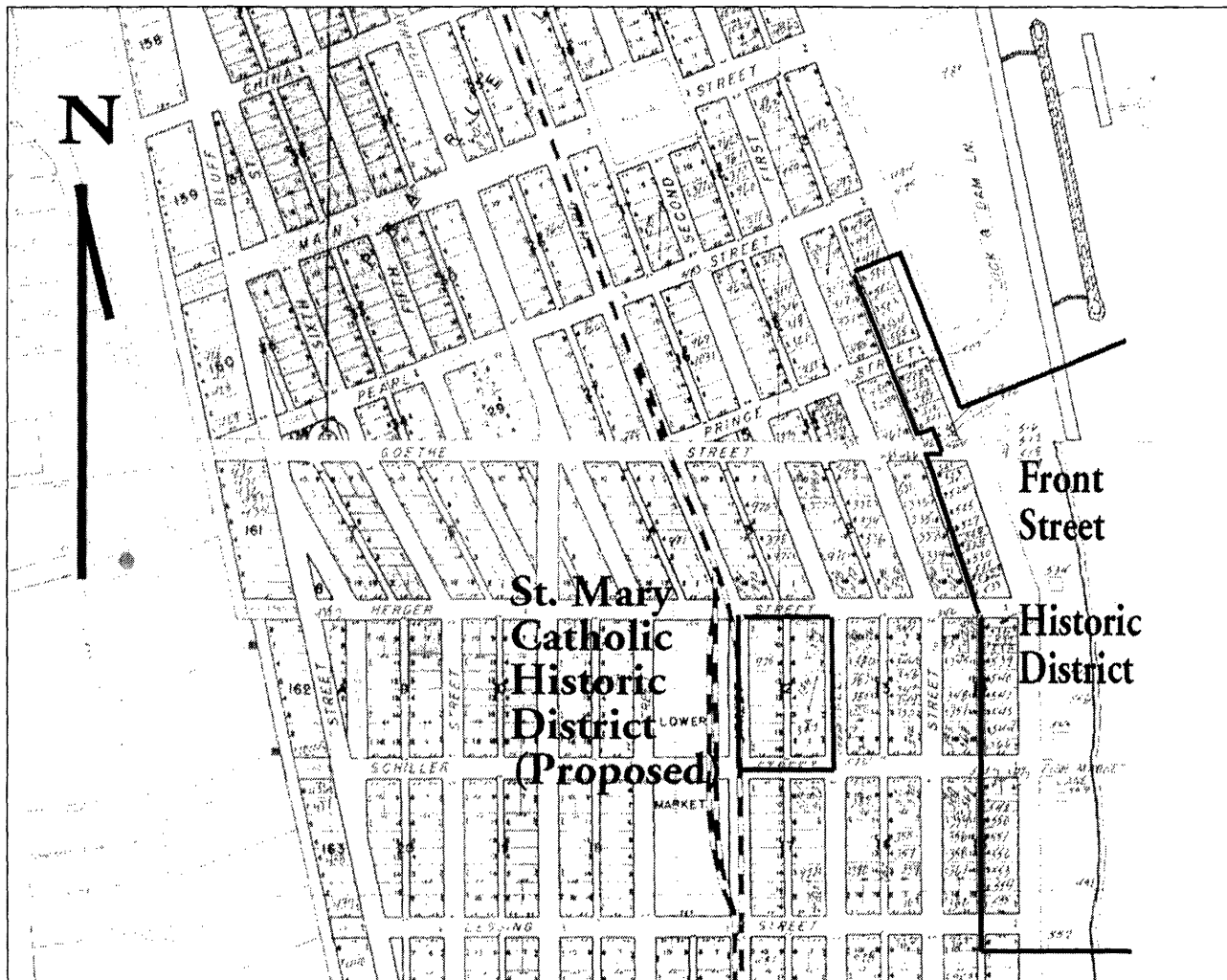


Figure 90: Guttenberg City Plat, third segment from the north end

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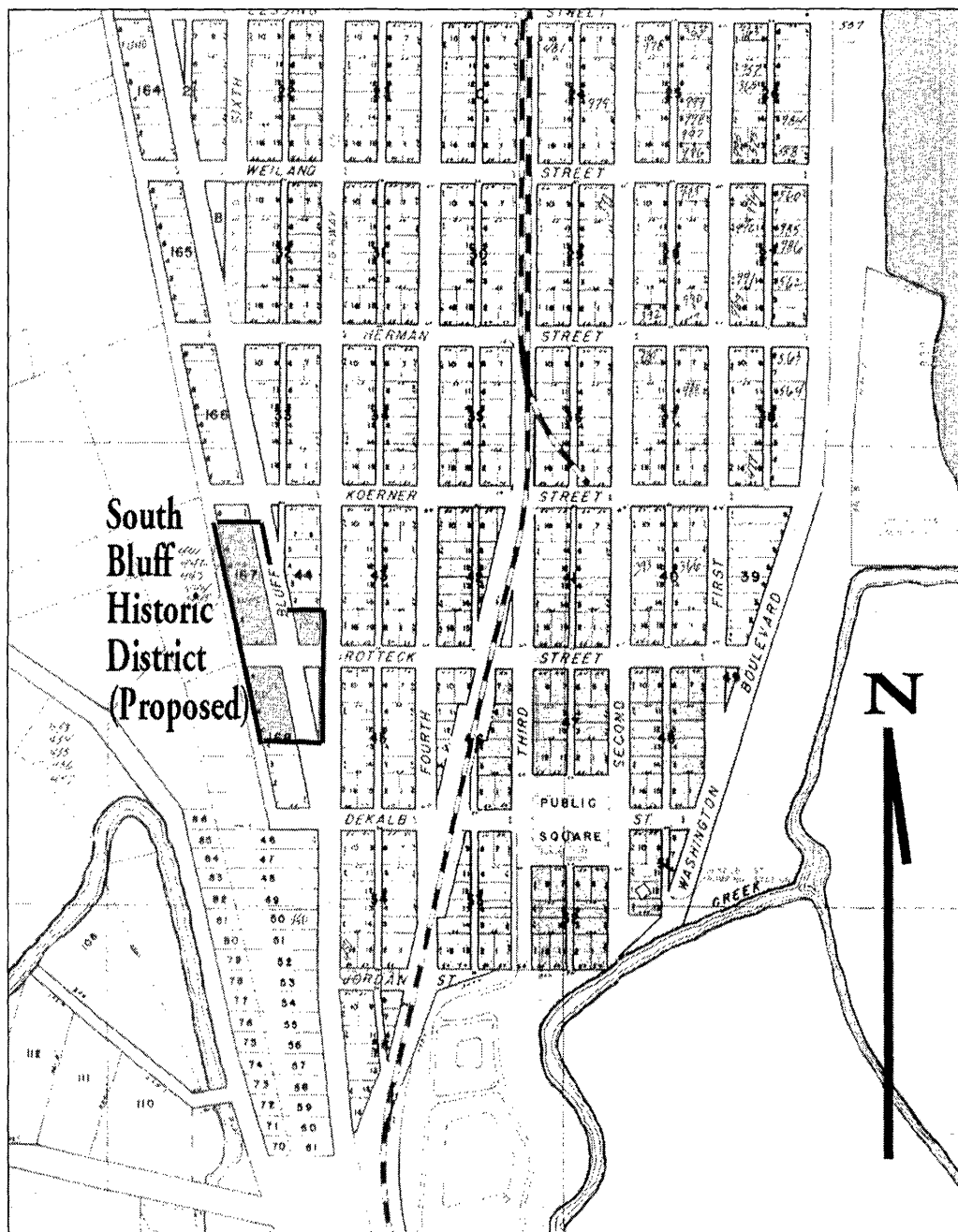


Figure 91: Guttenberg City Plat, southernmost segment.



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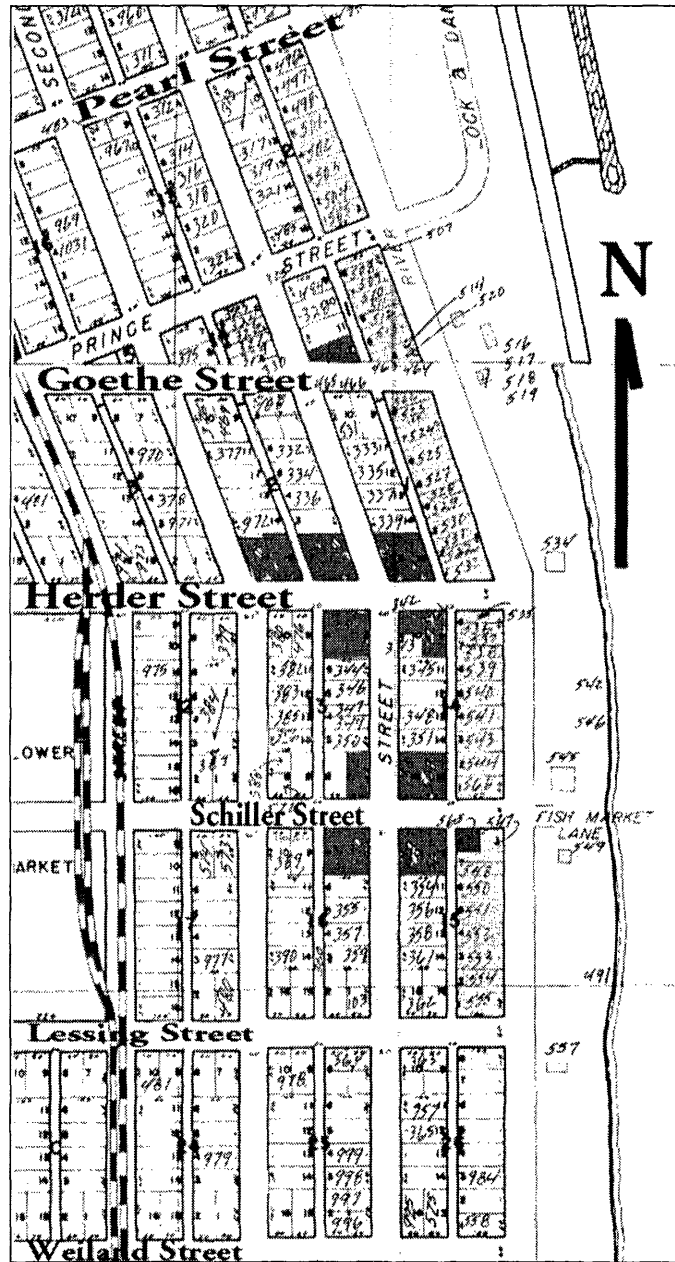


Figure 92: Front Street District (light gray parcels plus riverfront) with boundary extensions (dark gray parcels).

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## H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods:

### 1979 Survey and Evaluation:

Two-weeks of preliminary research were followed by four weeks of on-site fieldwork. The field survey itself consisted of door-to-door inquiry. Frequently the source encountered was a renter or non-owner. Much data was obtained pertaining to current ownership, owner's address, building status (recent modifications), and recent past history. The surveyor was frequently referred to potential oral sources, oftentimes the previous owner. After a week of work it became evident that we were obtaining relatively little "early" historic data with very few construction dates or builder's names.

The principal challenge was locating written historical sources of virtually any sort. Very little material was available for Guttenberg. Fortunately, a history written by Walter Jacobs had been prepared and this fairly thorough work constituted the core of historic material previous to beginning the survey proper. In addition much attention was paid to the Sanborn maps, Guttenberg being represented by a full series (1886-1938). These were found to be invaluable during the survey proper. Industrial Census records were especially useful. Time was taken to tabulate occupations from the Census years 1850-1900. There were no city directories or similar sources available for this site. There were several local publications that featured quantities of advertisements which were of some value. Generally speaking Guttenberg has not employed numbered addresses until quite recently, and even today, there is no house to house mail delivery (mail boxes are grouped at specific neighborhood points, rural fashion). Oral sources identified properties by family names, past or present, and not by house address. County Assessor data was not made available as it was during the 2000-01 resurvey effort. Information was organized under the owner's name so only locals intimate with who was who could efficiently access it anyway.

Arrangements to involve high school students in the survey project in the areas outside of the district had been made prior to the beginning of the survey. Mr. Howard Hubbel, an instructor volunteered his honors class. I met with the school principal and with Mr. Hubbel, and developed a survey form tailored to the abilities of the high school students. Twenty-three students spent two afternoons working north and south of the district. They compiled sixty-three forms, a third of which were eventually included in the survey. While the data obtained was minimal, it was sufficient for the needs of the survey. Potential historic sites were identified and I was able to follow up on those which appeared most promising. In reviewing this project, Mr. Hubbel suggested (a) that a slide or film presentation would be a good training tool to assist surveyors in recognizing potential historic structures, and (b) that it would be more useful to have an instructor who is more knowledgeable with this type of history, and lastly (c) that local service groups might well be included in this type of participation. Because of a lack of time, the high school participation was vital inasmuch as a large part of the community was surveyed on a person-to person basis, and also the project allowed for community people to have an opportunity to identify valued structures on their own.

Another aspect of community participation, the location of written information and photographs, was less successful. The surveyor located almost all of this type of material through talking to people. Arrangements to have photographs copied at the newspaper office fell through. Much critical data was located for the early period of settlement and growth, 1845-1869. It can be stated in general that there are apparently very few non-oral historic materials or photographs to be found in Guttenberg.

The results of the surveys were compared with the Sanborn material, the 1858 plat map and the 1869 Bird's Eye View lithograph. Site sheets were collated with the card file of businesses. Phone contacts were made during the last week

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to fill in data gaps. In general, it was found that person-to-person contact produced better data than did phone contacts. Many persons cooperated with the survey by obtaining their building abstracts. These were useful but of course offered no definite information concerning structures. These were crucial for associating local "notables" with structures however.

The 1979 Guttenberg Survey Project exemplified the problems that are inherent in attempting to compile a survey of historic extant structures. The effort was for the most part dependent upon oral history sources in our search for data and to a great extent this data was dated post 1900. While one very fine general history was in existence, we were generally hampered by a lack of potential written sources as well as by a lack of time and person power to better utilize the existing although fragmentary newspaper sources.

### 2000-01 Survey and Research Methodology:

This project phase sought to update the original 1979 survey, with emphasis on demolished or altered surveyed properties, and to transform the survey report into a multiple property document format for the city's historical properties. The Phase II work plan envisioned an extensive and intensive local volunteer role, with the consultant focusing on the multiple property document and guiding the overall survey process. Volunteers gathered historic photos, conducted historical research and took photographs. They distributed questionnaires to the owners of surveyed properties. Buildings that were documented in 1979, that had been considerably altered, were resurveyed. An additional search was made to locate historical images that were in private hands. There is no community based historical photo collection.

One issue that developed as an important one was the confusion of addresses that resulted from the Emergency 911 re-addressing of city addresses. These new numbers were adopted as a new and useful baseline address list. The city hall staff and the Commission put a lot of effort into correcting addresses so that they would agree with the new E-911 address system. Discrepancies were found in the Assessor's records and in the addresses which owners used. Changing these numbers guaranteed confusion relative to the 1979 addresses.

While the Commission wanted to broaden and update its survey, there were no prepared lists of altered or even demolished buildings ready at the start of the project. A major reason for this was the lack of any local photographic copies from the 1979 survey. The Commissioners, past and present, had been forced to work with postage stamp-sized photocopied cutouts from photographic contact sheets. It was difficult for them to appreciate which buildings had been altered. The 1979 project had no funding for photographs and even the State Historical Society lacked actual photo prints. This was remedied by using project matching funds to secure prints. While this consumed the consultant's time resources to organize and label the photos, the project was able to proceed only by obtaining the photos.

Prior to getting the photos the consultant prepared a master list of historic properties in Guttenberg, merging the State Historical Society property list, the Commission's list and the new survey properties. This fairly massive list, appended below, served as the baseline for the project and enabled the Commission members and city staff to correct faulty addresses and redundant entries. It was also useful in tracking the progress of site sheet development, as folders and computerized site forms (prepared by city staff) were sent to the consultant, and draft site sheets returned for review.

While the lack of photographs had hindered the Commission and the promulgation of the 1979 survey results to the community and property owners, the lack of good master site maps was an equal hindrance. An eleventh-hour effort was made to somehow map at least the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office historic site inventory numbers on a master city map. The Commission accomplished this in stellar fashion and the resulting map is appended in this report.

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The project called for supplementing the existing inventory by surveying additional National Register eligible properties. In Guttenberg it is next to impossible to obtain historical data on a property without exhaustive research. Some historical property associations are known in the oral history. Historical newspaper accounts make reference only to the property owner rather than any address (there were no addresses until very recently). Most of the obviously historic properties were documented in 1979 so the current effort was forced to focus on architecture in lieu of history to a great extent. The passage of over 20 years since the first survey meant that architectural themes ignored in the first survey were now considered important. A strong emphasis on local house builders and designers is the best example of this greater awareness of what might be important. The Commissioners were at times bewildered as the city was canvassed for the best examples of contemporary and ranch house design. The properties that were surveyed in 2001 were those that retained their integrity of design and materials. In most cases, additional research will be necessary before most can be deemed historically significant.

No archeological methods were employed as a part of any of the three successive survey and nomination projects.

2002-2003 National Register Nomination and MPDF Revision Project:

This third effort proceeded to nominate the Front Street boundary amendment and St. Mary Catholic Historic District, two priorities established by the 2000-2001 re-survey and evaluation work. The multiple property document was revised and submitted for state and National Park Service review, as a cover document for these two related submissions.

### Recommendations For Future Historic Preservation Efforts:

Two first priority recommendations were to amend and expand the Front Street Historic District, adding those commercial properties that line the side streets (Goethe, Herder, Schiller) between Front and Second streets, and to nominate the St. Mary Catholic Church Parish complex as a historic district. Both actions are being accomplished in conjunction with the submission of this revised multiple property document. Additional recommendations are:

1. Nominate the South Bluff Historic District.
2. Develop a walking tour and map of the Front Street Historic District.
3. Continue to maintain and expand the local historical inventory. Make it available to the public by depositing it or a copy at the public library.
4. Continue to research the historic contexts developed in this report, identifying associated properties.
5. Focus research attention on the construction of Guttenberg's stone buildings, c.1855-65, identifying builders and designers.
6. Focus research efforts to locate contemporary descriptions of Guttenberg in area newspapers and journals.
7. Develop detailed master community survey and district maps to reflect current NRHP listings, and surveyed properties.

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## MASTER LIST OF HISTORICAL PROPERTIES IN GUTTENBERG:

Bolded text indicates the property has been demolished since 1979. A shaded gray highlight indicates that the property is either National Register listed or is eligible for listing.

State Historical Society Site Inventory Number	Address	Name	NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations
22-00294	Near Lakeside Ballroom	Sternwheeler Louise	
22-01024	103 North First	Ellen Johnson	
22-01025	107 North First	Jan Frommelt	
22-01026	115 North First	Tuecke House	SHPO DOE
22-00301	(120) 118 North First	Johannsen Bldg	
22-01027	119 North First		SHPO DOE
22-00302	(121) 123 North First	Eglseder House	
22-00303	127 North First	Ihm House	
22-01028	130 North First	Hartman House	SHPO DOE
22-01029	210 North First	Michael & Jill Sasse	
22-01000	226 North First	Virgil Niehaus	
22-00304	227 North First	Dennis, Gayle Hanna House	SHPO DOE
22-01001	230 North First	Jim Ihm	
22-01002	302 North First	Dennis, Julie Zittergruen	
22-00305	311 North First	Uriel Grocery	
22-00306	318 North First	Eberhart House	
22-01003	322 North First	Karyl, David Fensterman	SHPO DOE
22-00307	403 North First	Moser House	
22-01004	415 North First	H. Duwe	SHPO DOE
22-00308	510 North First	House/White House	
22-01005	519 North First	Ronald, Connie Fischer	
22-01006	730 North First	Catherine Brink	
22-00963	103 South First	Borman	SHPO DOE
22-00962	110 South First	Tuecke	
22-00961	114 South First	Grace Sargent	
22-00310	118 South First	Kuempel Stone House	
22-00960	122 South First	Sara Noack	
22-00959	123/25 South First	Hess Apartment	
22-00311	130 South First	Masonic Hall	
22-00312	202 South First	Halstead Mem. Meth. Church	
22-00313	<b>207 South First</b>	<b>Tuecke Funeral Home</b>	<b>Demolished, new bldg. 203-07-11</b>
22-00314	(208) 210 South First	Borrett Stone House	
22-00315	<b>211 South First</b>	<b>Moser Stone House</b>	<b>Indiv. Listing Demolished</b>
22-00316	212/214 South First	St. Paul Luth. Church	
22-00317	215 South First	Jacobs Brick House	
22-00318	(216) 218 South First	House/Dettbarn House	

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22-00319	219 South First	House/Evers House	
22-00320	222 South First	Northwestern Bell Telephone Office	
22-00321	223 South First	House/Pfaffly House	
22-00322	(230) 226 South First	Meyers Cigar Factory	
22-00323	(300) 302 South First	McClaine House	NRHP
22-00324	(302) 304 South First	Friedline House	
22-00325	303 South First	House/Christen House	
22-00326	(304) 306 South First	Office bldg.	
22-00327	(306) 308 South First	Bldg/Ratskeller Lounge	
22-00328	307 South First	Bldg/house/Al's Barber Shop	
22-00329	(308) 310 South First	Wach's Shoe Shop	
22-00330	(310) 314-16 South First	Bldg/John's Radio & TV	
22-00331	(403) 407 South First	Gas station/Mike's DX Station/ Detail Shop	
22-00332	406 South First	House/Dubbels House	
22-00333	411 South First	House/Winkler Stone House	
22-00334	(410-12) 410 South First	House/Meyer House	
22-00335	(413) 415 South First	Eckert House	NRHP
22-00336	418 South First	House/Cassut House	
22-00337	(421) 419 South First	House/Eckert House	
22-00338	422 South First	House/Degnan House	
22-00339	423 South First	House/Eckert-Vonderhaar House	
22-00340	430 South First	St. Clair Hotel	
22-00341	502 South First	Gutt. City Mun. Bldg.	
22-00342	503 South First	Fuerste House	NRHP
22-00343	507 South First	Schultz House	
22-00344	510 South First	Hess House	
22-00345	511 South First	Dewgies Auto Parts	
22-00346	512 South First	Hess Furniture Company	
22-00347	518 South First	Saeugling House	
22-00348	519 South First	U.S.P.O.	
22-00349	520 South First	Millham Laundromat	
22-00350	522 South First	Kennedy-Charlesworth House	
22-00351	523 South First	Central Hotel/Klaes Apts.	
22-00352	(526) 530 South First	Jacobs House	
22-00353	527 South First	Iowa State Liquor Store	
22-00354	(611) 611-13 South First	Ford Service Center	
22-00355	(612) 614 South First	Groth House	
22-00356	(613) 615 South First	Tomkins House	

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State Historical Society Site Inventory Number	Address	Name	NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations
22-00357	618 South First	Lois Backes House	
22-00358	(617) 619 South First	Jaquette House	
<b>22-00958</b>	<b>618 South First</b>	<b>Same as 357?</b>	
22-00359	622 South First	Alley House/Leonette Duwe House/Klein	
22-00360	620-620 1/2 South First	Stone house	SHPO DOE
22-00361	623 South First	Lundt House	
22-00362	631 South First	Schute House	
22-00363	703 South First	Backhaus House	
22-00364	(704) 702 South First	Eppens House	
22-00957	711 South First	Morteo	
22-00365	715 South First	Nieland House	NRHP
22-00999	718 South First	Frommelt	SHPO DOE
22-00998	722 South First	Anderson	
22-00997	726 South First	Eglseder	
22-00996	730 South First	Deb Morman	
22-00993	802 South First	Wes Baier	
22-00992	811 South First	Noggel	
22-00991	823 South First	Tony Hess	
22-00990	826 South First	Virgil Hyde	
22-00989	831 South First	Kickbush	
<b>22-00988</b>	<b>910 South First</b>	<b>Ice House</b>	<b>SHPO DOE</b>
22-00366	1014 South First	Jaeger House	
22-00559	110 North Second	Reth House	
<b>22-00367</b>	<b>214 North Second</b>	<b>Enderes Tool Co.</b>	<b>Demolished</b>
<b>22-00368</b>	<b>306 North Second</b>	<b>Wessell House</b>	<b>Demolished</b>
22-00369	310 North Second	Wm. Behn House/ Hansel House	
22-00370	(313) 319 North Second	Kottke House	
22-00371	314 North Second	Ulrich House	
22-01008	326 North Second	Kuemple	SHPO DOE
22-01009	423 North Second	Nanvy McClellan	
22-01010	531 North Second	Gertrude Christen	
22-01011	614 North Second	Blanche Kruse	
22-01012	722 North Second	Howard Hubble	
<b>22-00372</b>	<b>119 South Second</b>	<b>Ulrich House</b>	<b>Demolished</b>
22-00967	207 South Second	Loren and Sharon Moser, Old Meth. Parsonage/ Bosckerking House	
22-00969	214 South Second	Wilma Berns House	
22-01031	218 South Second	Hefel House	
22-00373	223 South Second	Felder House	
22-00374	302 South Second	Roelphe House	

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State Historical Society Site Inventory Number	Address	Name	NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations
22-00375	307 South Second	L. Gerder House	
22-00376	402 South Second	Horstman House	
22-00970	410-412 South Second	Claude Frommelt	SHPO DOE
22-00377	411 South Second	Kuempel House	
22-00378	418 South Second	Baches House	
22-00971	422 South Second	Anton Willie/Tim Heller	SHPO DOE
22-00972	423 South Second	Virginia Saeugling	
22-00402	South Second, Herder	St. Mary Parish Historic District	SHPO DOE
22-00379	502 South Second	Sisters' House, St. Mary Church	
22-00384	518 South Second	St. Mary Cath. Church	NRHP/DOE
22-00387	(526-30) 520 South Second	St. Mary Cath. Church. Parsonage	
[22-00975]	[214 Herder]	[St. Mary Grade-High School]	[NRHP/SHPO DOE]
22-00380	503 South Second	Berns House	
<b>22-00382</b>	<b>511 South Second</b>	<b>Hess House</b>	<b>Demolished</b>
22-00383	515 South Second	Boge House	
22-00385	519 South Second	Goheen House	
22-00386	523 South Second	Lou Ann Hess House	
<b>22-00388</b>	<b>527 South Second</b>	<b>Orcutt House</b>	<b>Demolished</b>
<b>22-00389</b>	<b>603 South Second</b>	<b>Kann House</b>	<b>Demolished</b>
22-00390	(621) 623 South Second	Kann House	
22-00977	622 South Second	Steve Rausch	SHPO DOE
22-00978	703 South Second	Glee Kuempel	
22-00979	718 South Second	Martin Hefel/ Dennis Peterson House	SHPO DOE
22-00391	(804) 802 South Second	Mikota House	
22-00392	831 South Second	Hacket House	
22-00393	1015 South Second	Parker House	
22-00394	109 (110?) North Third	Breiman House	
<b>22-00395</b>	<b>310 North Third</b>	<b>Friedlein Hotel</b>	<b>Consultant Recommendation</b>
22-00397	631 North Third	Jackie Palmer House	
22-00398	903 North Third	Kellerer House	
22-01013	1003 North Third	Jerome Wach owns Cecil Torrey tenant	
22-00399	1030 North Third	Alice Althoff House	
22-00964	114 South Third	Marg. Minger House	
22-01014	118 South Third	John and Kathy Greve	
22-00400	230 South Third	Donnan House	
22-00401	418 South Third	Parker House	
22-00421	500 South Third		



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22-00403	(615) 618 S. Third Lane	Matt-Bahls-Nieland House	NRHP
22-00405	(813) 810 S. Third Lane	Ward-Tielbar House	
22-00958	930 North Fourth	Moser/Sodawasser	SHPO DOE
22-00406	(1214) 1202 1210 South Fourth	Lakeside Pavilion-ballroom	
22-00976	(514) 1210 South Fourth	Helen Troester	
<b>22-00407</b>	<b>1210 1210 South Fourth</b>	<b>Kaspar House</b>	<b>Demolished</b>
22-00425	[710 N. Bluff] 630 North Sixth	Saeugling House (duplicate entry)	
22-00451	1231 South Fourth	Leighen-Ingles	
22-00410	511 Acre	Chas. Patzner Dairy	
22-00411	511 Acre	Same, house	
22-00412	511 Acre	Chas. Patzner Barn	
22-00413	511 Acre	Chas. Patzner outbldg.	
22-00414	511 Acre	Same, bldg.	
22-00415	511 Acre	Same, outbldg.	
22-00416	(426) 515 Acre	Dunker's Winery	
22-00417	515 Acre	Same, house	
22-00418	515 Acre	Same, shed	
22-00419	314 North Bluff	Dale Tuecke House	
<b>22-00420</b>	<b>302 North Bluff</b>	<b>Harter House</b>	<b>Demolished</b>
22-00423	318 North Bluff	Elmer Herman House	
22-00424	602 North Bluff	Berns House	SHPO DOE
22-00425	710 North Bluff	Saeugling House	
22-00426	114 South Bluff	Fassbinder House	
22-00427	(120) 118 South Bluff	Benskin-Cunningham House	
22-00428	(126) 122 South Bluff	White House	
22-00429	130 South Bluff	Felder House	SHPO DOE
22-00430	402/410 South Bluff	Jungt Brewery, see small stone house to south, Naser, Patricia Shahrivar	SHPO DOE
22-00431	402 South Bluff	house	SHPO DOE
22-00432	402 South Bluff	Stable house	SHPO DOE
22-00433	402 South Bluff	Granary	SHPO DOE
22-00434	402 South Bluff	Storage shed	SHPO DOE
22-00435	502 South Bluff	Randal House	
22-00436	602 South Bluff	Schultz House	
22-00437	606 (no current #) South Bluff	Michelle Felder House	
22-00438	614 South Bluff	Steen House	
22-00439	630 South Bluff	DeCooke House	

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State Historical Society Site Inventory Number	Address	Name	NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations
22-00440	(702) 706 South Bluff	Rodenberg House	
22-01034	South Bluff Residential District	8 houses including two non-contributing	SHPO DOE
22-00441	1014 South Bluff	Sadewasser Farmstead	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-00442	1014 South Bluff	Same, house #1	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-00443	1014 South Bluff	Same, barn	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-00444	1014 South Bluff	Same, smoke house	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-00445	1014 South Bluff	Same, spring house	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-00446	1016 South Bluff	Same, house #2	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-00448	1022 South Bluff	Pensel House	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-01034	1100 South Bluff	Intrusive property	Non-contributing as part of a proposed district
22-00449	1106 South Bluff	Stoeffler/Gloria Pierce House	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-01035	1110 South Bluff	Intrusive property	Non-contributing part of a proposed district
22-00447	1114 South Bluff	Geuder/Grewelow House	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-00409	1030 S. Hwy 52	Heck House (duplicate entry)	Eligible as part of a proposed district
22-00408	1215 S. Bluff	Schrunk House	
22-00450	1218	Moser House	
22-00451	1231 S. Hwy. 52/South Bluff	Leitgen-Ingles	SHPO DOE
22-00452	222 Garber Road	Lake House	SHPO DOE
22-00453	131 Garber Road	Vanstaden Distillery	
22-00454	131 Garber Road	House	
22-00455	131 Garber Road	Spring house	
22-00456	131 Garber Road	Shed	
22-00457	231 Garber Rd.	Kregel House	
22-00458	10 China	Bolsinger House	SHPO DOE
22-00459	303 China	Mueller Holstein Dairy	
22-00460	303 China	Same, south barn	
22-00461	303 China	Same, north barn	
22-00462	3 Goethe	Frank Walter Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00463			
22-00464	(5) 7 Goethe	Chicago House/Kann Bldg./Degnan Bldg.	
22-00465	(12) 10 Goethe	Schwaller House/ Kann House	
22-00466	(12) 10 Goethe	Same, stone barn	Indiv. Listing, demolished
22-00467	15 Goethe	Gutt. State Bank/Security State Bank	Indiv. NRHP Listing, being added to Front Street District
22-00468	106 Goethe	Scholtz House	
22-00469	110 Goethe	Kolker House	NRHP
22-00470	114 Goethe	Horstman House	

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22-00471	10 Herder	Troester House	
22-00472	11 Herder	Nading Beauty Shop	
22-00473	(14) 12 Herder	Cathi's Salon	
22-00474	15 Herder	Agnes Tap	
22-00475	107 Herder	Briar House	
22-00476	110 Herder	Weyant House	
22-00477	111 Herder	The Bee Hive	
22-00478	115 Herder	Mahowald House	
	210 Herder	See St. Mary School	
22-00973	211 Herder		
22-00975	214 Herder	St. Mary Grade-High School	SHPO DOE
22-00402			
22-00974	215 Herder	C. Urbalejo House	
22-00980	114 Hermann	Randy Hoeger	
22-00479	11 Koerner	Duwe House	
22-00480	(106) 103 Lessing	Hess House	
22-00481	210 Lessing	Nadine Sportsman House/Frommelt House	
22-00983	Lock & Dam Lane #10	Lock Keeper's House, locks, dam	NPS-SHPO DOE
22-00901	110 Lorenz Lane	Century Lodge Motel	
22-01032	311 Main	Betty Musengo	
22-00482	406 Miners Creek	Pelzer Flour Mill/ Freeman House	
22-00483	114 Pearl	Aulwes House	SHPO DOE
22-00295	203 Pearl	St. John American Lutheran Church	
22-00966	302 Pearl	Larry, Monica Turner	
22-00965	303 (also 126 S. 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) Pearl		
22-00484	Prince	Buechel House	
22-00485	Prince	Junk House	
22-00396	307 Pryam (Correction from 413 N. 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	Gutt. Corn Canning Co./ Kann Mfg. Co.	NRHP
22-00486	102 North River Park Drive	Rentschler House	
22-00487	118 North River Park Drive	Ihm House	SHPO DOE
22-01015	126 North River Park Drive	W. Keener	
22-01016	130 North River Park Drive	Kramer/L. Manson	SHPO DOE
22-01017	202 North River Park Drive	William and Mary Meyer	SHPO DOE
22-01018	222 North River Park Drive	R. Reinitz	
22-01019	302 North River Park Drive	G. Moser	
22-00488	310 North River Park Drive	Scholz House	
22-01020	318 North River Park Drive	Fiddler's Green Robert Chadima	SHPO DOE

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State Historical Society Site Inventory Number	Address	Name	NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations
22-01021	322 North River Park Drive	E. Walter	SHPO DOE
22-00489	(328) 326 North River Park Drive	Barnhart-Whisting House	Demolished
22-01022	410 North River Park Drive	Morley/J. Geuder	SHPO DOE
22-00490	518 North River Park Drive	Nichols House	
22-01023	522 North River Park Drive	N. Esslinger	
22-01030	930 North River Park Lane	Dr. D. E. Meder	SHPO DOE
22-00491	South River Park Drive	Beuskin Boat House	
22-00492	114 South River Park Drive	Tangeman House	
22-00493	130 South River Park Drive	Dave Bahls	
22-00494,	131 South River Park Drive	Gutt. Public Schools	
22-00495			
22-00496	(204) 202 South River Park Drive	Boyce House	
22-00497	206 South River Park Drive	Corine's Beauty Shop	
22-00498	210 South River Park Drive	Kuemple Plmbg & Heating	Demolished
22-00003	South River Park Drive	Front Street Historic District	Listed NRHP
22-00501	(216) 214 South River Park Drive	Bellamy House/ Jenkins Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00502	(222) 218 South River Park Drive	Albertus Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00503	(224) South River Park Drive 222	Schultz Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00504	226 South River Park Drive	Troester House	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00505	230 South River Park Drive	Cerny House	Contributing, Front District
22-00507	(300) 302 South River Park Drive	Dubpernell Store/ Village Green	Contributing, Front District
22-00508	(302) 304 South River Park Drive	BAIER BLDG.	Contributing, Front District
22-00509	(304) 306 South River Park Drive	Degan Ins. & Realty	Contributing, Front District
22-00510	(306) 308 South River Park Drive	Ihm Store/Merrick	Contributing, Front District
22-00511	(308) 310 South River Park Drive	Aulwes Bakery/ Degnan Bldg./Kann	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00512	(310) 312 South River Park Drive	Giesler's Millinery/ Schuster House	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00513	(312) 314 South River Park Drive	Gull Jewelry/Books & Soforth	Contributing, Front District
22-00514	(314) 316 South River Park Drive	Webster Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00516-19	(315) 331 South River Park	Gutt. Nat. Fish Hatchery &	Contributing, Front District/c and Gutt. Nat.

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State Historical Society Site Inventory Number	Address	Name	NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations
	Drive	Aquarium	Fish Hatchery & Aquarium District
22-00516	(315) 331 South River Park Drive	Same, Aquarium	Same
22-00517	(315) 331 South River Park Drive	Same, Supt's Res.	Same
22-00518	(315) 331 South River Park Drive	Same, garage	Same
22-00519	(315) 331 South River Park Drive	Same, pump house	Same
22-00520	(316-18) 318 South River Park Drive	Mick & Schuster Law Office	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00522	(400) 402 South River Park Drive	Beum's Drug Store/ Schmidt Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00523	(402) 404 South River Park Drive	Central Meat Market/ Purple Princess Salon	Contributing, Front District
22-00524	406 South River Park Drive	Gilbertz House	Contributing, Front District
22-00525	410 South River Park Drive	Harris House	Contributing, Front District
22-00526	412 South River Park Drive	Essers Shoes	Front District Demolished
22-00527	414 South River Park Drive	Horsch Tailor Shop/ Tujetsch Ins. Agency	Front District Demolished
No number	412-14 South River Park Drive	new building	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00528	(416) 418 South River Park Drive	Mr. Roger's Hair Styling Salon	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00529	(418) 420 South River Park Drive	Kris and Karins Fashions/Style Shop	Contributing, Front District
22-00530	422 South River Park Drive	IOOF Bldg./Big River Marketing	Contributing, Front District
22-00531	(424) 426 South River Park Drive	Old Post Office/ Moxies Tavern/ Bakery Company	Contributing, Front District
22-00532	(426) 428 South River Park Drive	Cassuth Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00533	430 South River Park Drive	Falkenhainer-Kuempel-Lake Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00534	431 South River Park Drive	Schmees-Sullivan Warehouse/ Cafe Mississippi	Contributing, Front District
22-00535	(500) 502 South River Park Drive	Esser's Clothing Store	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00536	504 South River Park Drive	Earle Bldg./Connie's Apparel	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00537	(508) 506 South River Park Drive	Ben Lake Bldg./G& G	Contributing, Front District

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State Historical Society Site Inventory Number	Address	Name	NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations
22-00538	(510) 508 South River Park Drive	Dahlstrom Jewelry Store	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00539	512 South River Park Drive	Mahowald Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
22-00540	(514) 514-16 South River Park Drive	Niemeyer's Store/ Schroeder Hardware	Contributing, Front District
22-00541	518 South River Park Drive	Barnhardt Bldg.	Contributing, Front District
<b>22-00542</b>	<b>519 South River Park Drive</b>	<b>City Fish Market</b>	<b>Demolished, Front District</b>
22-00543	(526) 522 South River Park Drive	Byer Goddard Bldg.	Front District/c
22-00544	(530) 528 South River Park Drive	Kann Imports	Non-contributing, Front District/c
22-00545	531 South River Park Drive	Fleck Warehouse	Contributing, Front District
<b>22-00546</b>	<b>600-700 South River Park Drive</b>	<b>Comm. Fishermens' Shanties</b>	<b>Demolished, Front District</b>
22-00547	602 South River Park Drive	Meder's Dentist Office	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00548	(606) 608 South River Park Drive	Klein's Brewery/ Brown's Ford/ Joe's Pizza	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00549	607 South River Park Drive	Chase-Dahm Studio/ Groth House	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00550	610 South River Park Drive	Sadewasser House	Contributing, Front District
22-00551	614 South River Park Drive	Palmer-Ives House/ Kirschbaum House	Contributing, Front District
22-00552	618 South River Park Drive	Walter House/ Brown House	Contributing, Front District
22-00553	622 South River Park Drive	Mick House	Non-contributing, Front District
22-00554	626 South River Park Drive	Brown House	Contributing, Front District
22-00555	630 South River Park Drive	Dr. Duffin House/ Niemeyer House	Contributing, Front District
22-00556	703 South River Park Drive	Weist-Class Bldg./Landing	Contributing, Front District
22-00557	700 South River Park Drive	Wiest-Class Warehouse	Contributing, Front District
22-00984	722 South River Park Drive	Parker House	
22-00558	730 South River Park Drive	Kann House	
22-00560	802 South River Park Drive	David Brown House	
22-00561	806 South River Park Drive	House	
22-00985	810 South River Park Drive	Finch House	
22-00986	814 South River Park Drive	Bolsinger	
22-00562	822 South River Park Drive	Weber House/ Freidlein House	NRHP
22-00563	902 South River Park Drive	Hoeger/Bob Lake	
22-00564	910 South River Park Drive	Wehmer House/ Lake House	NRHP
22-00987	912 South River Park Drive		
22-00565	6 Schiller	Niemeyer House	

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<b>State Historical Society Site Inventory Number</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations</b>
22-00566	7 Schiller	Fleck Store	Contributing, Front District
22-00567	10 Schiller	Fleck Warehouse	
22-00568	11 Schiller	Klaes-Barnhardt House	
22-00569	14 Schiller	Pufahl Electric/ Images By Lisa	Demolished
22-00570	102 Schiller	Wallin Garage	
22-00571	106 Schiller	Jefferson-Freidlein Hotel/Hefel's Lounge	SHPO DOE
22-00572	115 Schiller	Orcutt House	
22-00573	202 Schiller	Gratace House	
22-00574	206 Schiller	Hoeger House	SHPO DOE
22-00994	10 Wieland	Jim Case House	
22-00575	11 Wieland	Duwe/Thein House	
22-00995	15 Wieland	Roger Lowell	

### **The History of the Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission**

By Jim Kuempel, January 2001

A Certified Local Government ("CLG") agreement was signed in 1986 by Mayor Karen Merrick. This agreement was between the City of Guttenberg and the State of Iowa Office of Historic Preservation. Guttenberg will now be referred to as a CLG. An ordinance establishing a Historic Preservation Commission for the city of Guttenberg was signed in 1990 by City Manager Loyce Dumke. The original commission had nine members, but that was lowered to five in 1993 when an ordinance was signed. In 1995 an ordinance took effect saying that one of the five members could be a non-resident, as long as they owned a business located in the City.

Previous to these years a very important Survey of Guttenberg had taken place. In 1979, a field intern, James E. Jacobsen, did an experimental cooperative on-site survey of Guttenberg. It was innovative in terms of its scope, methodology, and attention to historical documentation. This first survey covered the town, but structure-by-structure inventory work was limited to the main part of the city and covered 225 buildings. The survey resulted in having fifty-four properties on Guttenberg's Front Street (Front Street Historic District) and twelve individual properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1991 the Commission applied for and received a HRDP Grant in the amount of \$15,000 to rehabilitate the facades of two properties in the Historic District and one commercial property which abuts the district and is National Register eligible. The Central Meat Market (Toni's Hair at 402 S. River Park Drive) and the Beutel House (Roger and Becky Hefel at 11 Schiller) were renovated. The other building, Fleck General Mercantile (Doug's Steak House at 7 Schiller St.) did not take part in the project of exterior rehabilitation.

In 1991 the Commission began correspondence with the Corps of Engineers, proposing the saving and development of the Lockmaster's House at Lock and Dam #10. They also began efforts to encourage the nomination of the Guttenberg Fish Hatchery and Aquarium to the National Register of Historic Places. With the help of the State Historical Society of Iowa, the last effort was successful.

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In 1992 the Commission applied for, and was granted, a HRDP Grant in the amount of \$3,100 to produce an educational tabloid. The grant was a matching one, and since the City of Guttenberg decided not to budget for this item, the Commission had to decline the grant.

1996 and 1997 saw efforts to obtain permission to use the Fish Hatchery as a Welcome Center. During the year, members attended a meeting in Des Moines at the State Historical Building. Kerry McGrath, CLG Program Coordinator, gave a Basic Training Workshop in Guttenberg and in addition, the local Heritage Society gained a five-year lease from the Army Corps of Engineers for the Lockmaster's home and has created a museum. The house is furnished as it was when built in 1935 and the walls are covered with pictures of the early days of Guttenberg and also pictures of the construction of Lock and Dam #10.

The Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission meets on the second Monday of each month in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Throughout the following years, commission members participated in various workshops concerning Historic Preservation. Members continued to work on Building Biographies that are published in the *Guttenberg Press*. As article is written and a picture taken of one of the Historic Buildings in Guttenberg. The articles contain information taken from the 1979 survey. These are on survey sheets kept in a large black book at the Municipal Building. The Building Biographies are published about every other month.

In 1998, the Iowa Preservation Alliance Award for Small Businesses was given to the Mississippi River Mercantile building in Guttenberg. The building had been renovated, according to State standards, from a home to a business place. It is within the Front Street Historic District. Commission members went to Des Moines to accept the award. This year was also the first year that the Commission applied for a CLG Architectural-Historical Survey Evaluation grant. This effort was unsuccessful.

In 1999 two members of the commission carried the purposes and activities of the Historic Preservation Society to the community. They spoke to a high school Housing Class, to a Federated Club, and to Rotary. One member took part in Preservation TrainNet which was an experiment for training commission members via the computer. In August of this year Guttenberg hosted a "How to Survey" workshop conducted by Kerry McGrath. Sixteen members from the community participated in the workshop. The commission again applied for a CLG Architectural-Historical Evaluation Survey Grant, but were unsuccessful. The newly restored Municipal Building was submitted for an award from the Iowa Preservation Alliance, but the building did not qualify because of the addition of the handicapped elevator to a side of the building where it was easily seen. It was added so that it was near the front door, but historic members said that it should have been added to the rear of the building.

The year 2000 brought an award of a CLG Architectural-Historical Evaluation Survey Grant in the amount of \$6,900. A consultant, Jim Jacobsen, was hired. He arrived in Guttenberg and helped organize the project. A drive-through of the town was done and houses to be surveyed were identified. There were ninety-three houses that will be surveyed. Community members and Commission members took part in the training of how to survey. People from the community volunteered to do various jobs such as finding newspaper articles, taking photographs, and getting information on themes. One member was able to go to the County Courthouse and obtain copies of the Assessors' sheets for each surveyed property. These were put into folders, along with an Owner Questionnaire, and volunteers took these to each house to be surveyed. The consultant, Jim Jacobsen, returned to Guttenberg throughout the project. Members kept in touch with him concerning work to be done, via e-mail. At this time, we are in the middle of the survey and will finish the project by June 30, 2001. Another project that the Commission is working on is to secure matching funds to purchase brass plaques to put on the buildings in the Front Street Historic District.



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