

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Cedar Rapids City Directories, 1900-81.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Cedar Rapids, New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1913, 1913/31.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Cedar Rapids South

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	5	6	1	0	5	9	0	4	6	4	7	8	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

All of Lot 3, Block 12, City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n.a. code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

organization Iowa SHPO

date 10 January 1983

Historical Building

street & number East 12th & Grand Avenue

telephone 515-281-4137

city or town Des Moines

state Iowa 50319

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Adrian A. Anderson*

title Executive Director, Iowa State Historical Department

date 24 November 1982

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date

2/17/83

*John Lowell Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1910 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Lattner Building represents a unique combination of modern commercial and residual classical ornamentation in its design. It further represents an early combination of multiple economic uses which insured its financial success.

Paul Lattner, owner of Cedar Rapids Auto & Supply Company built "Lattner Auditorium Building" in 1910. the building housed an auto salesroom on the first floor, auto storage on the second floor, and a neighborhood dance hall on the third floor. The building is quite possibly a very early instance of the construction of a building specifically for an automobile sales related purpose. The inclusion of a theater/dance hall indicates perhaps that the owner wished to insure the building's economic viability at a time when automobile related firms suffered a rapid turnover and inconsistant success. Automotive related firms occupied the building through 1935, and included the Ajax-Greib Rubber Company, Lattner Motor Company, Reliance Motor Truck Transportation Company, Collicot's Used Car Exchange, Fourth Avenue Used Car Exchange, Montrose Garage, and Lattner's original firm. The auditorium is listed in local city directories through 1925. The Century Engineering Corporation occupied part of the building as early as 1928 and all of the building by 1936, continuing as sole occupant through 1951.

The Lattner Building is one of a small number of surviving early 20th Century commercial structures which survive in the original commercial area of the city.

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Lattner Auditorium Building is significant as an example of the retention of classical decorative features in an otherwise straight forward commercial building of its time. The facade is symmetrical in design. The first floor is divided by five pilasters of brick with stone bases into two full sized and two half bays, the latter being placed on each end. Industrial type windows (25 lights) have replaced the original showroom windows. The ground level windows are actually deeply recessed, the pilasters being flush with the overall facade, and the window headings are corbelled out in two stages to be flush as well. Between the first and second floors, a plain stone panel insert visually connects the first floor fenestration, terminating on either side at a point above the outer edges of those windows. Second story windows are placed above a projecting stone ledge which incorporates the sills of those windows into itself. Windows on the upper floors consist of seven centered double hung sash windows, with a set of paired windows on either side. The latter are distinguished by being of a casement type and are vertically divided by a sill which forms window areas of eight and twenty lights. The second floor window headings are corbelled out to support a corbelled brick panel which separates the upper two floors. Third floor windows have separate sills but the identical corbelled headings. Above the latter, a bracketted stone shelf is centered between wheel windows on either side. A stone name plate on the parapet proclaims the word "LATTNER" and is centered above the projecting ledge. Two pairs of stone blocks are in-laid beneath the parapet coping above each wheel window.

The building is rectangular on plan (140' by 60'), has a trussed roof that slopes very gradually to the rear. The parapet wall above the roof is coped with tile and the wall is stepped downward in four stages on each side wall. In wall flues are located at the southwestern and southeastern corners. Brick work is American bond with header courses on the side walls being composed of tile inserts, thereby producing a horizontal banded effect. Side fenestration is minimal, being confined to the upper two floors, and consist of industrial type windows.

A large stage was centered on the northwest (front) side of the third floor (not extant). An original freight elevator remains inside the southeast corner.

The building is located near the commercial center of Cedar Rapids. At the time of construction, the block was largely residential. Over the years adjoining buildings were constructed only on the northeast face. The latter has been removed.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received **JAN 17 1983**  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Lattner Auditorium Building

and/or common Lattner Building

**2. Location**

street & number 217 Fourth Avenue <sup>SE</sup> S. E.  not for publication

city, town Cedar Rapids  vicinity of

state Iowa code 19 county Linn code 113

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>n.a.</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Century Place Partnership

street & number 221 Fourth Avenue S.E.

city, town Cedar Rapids  vicinity of state Iowa

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk's Office

street & number Linn County Courthouse

city, town Cedar Rapids state Iowa

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title n.a. has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state