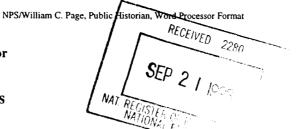
#### **National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**



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

1. Name of l	roperty	
historic name _	WHERRY BLOCK	
other names/site	number Wherry's Hall; Scruby Brothers Grocery; Scruby's Grocery;	Store
2. Location		
street & number	1600-1602 6th Avenue	N/A not for publication
city or town	Des Moines	N/A vicinity
state <u>Iowa</u>	code <u>IA</u> county <u>Polk</u> code <u>153</u> zip code	50314
3. State/Fed	ralpA onc Certification	
Histor (X me _ state Signal State	est for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in c Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In mets _ does not meet) the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significantly (	y opinion, the property gnificant (_ nationally
Signat	ure of certifying official/Title Date	
State	r Federal agency and bureau	
I hereby certify Ventered: See determ Nation See determ Nation remove Regist	Park Service Certification hat the property is: In the National Register. continuation sheet. In the eligible for the all Register continuation sheet In the National Register continuation sheet In the National Register continuation sheet In the National Register In the N	Date of Action 10/22/98

Wherry Block			Polk County, Iov		
Name of Property			County and Stat	e	
5. Classification		<del></del>	····		
Ownership of Property Ca (Check as many lines as apply)	tegory of Property (Check only one line)	Numb		within Property previously listed resources	in the count.)
X private _ public-local _ public-State _ public-Federal	<ul><li>X building(s)</li><li>_ district</li><li>_ site</li><li>_ structure</li><li>_ object</li></ul>			Noncontributing 0	sites
Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not p	roperty listing art of a multiple property listing)			ontributing resources ted in the National Re	•
Towards a Greater Des M	Moines (Amended 1997)	_		0	
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructio	ns)		Current Func (Enter categorie	etions s from instructions)	
COMMERCE/TRADE/speci	alty store		VACANT/NO	T IN USE	
DOMESTIC/multiple dwel	ling	_			
		<del></del> 			
		<del>-</del>			
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instruction			Materials (Enter categorie	s from instructions)	
LATE VICTORIAN		_	foundation	Brick	
		_	walls	Brick	
			roof	Asphalt	
			other	•	
				Metal	

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

Wherry Block		Polk County, Iowa			
Name	of Property	County and State			
8. St	tatement of Significance				
(Mark	icable National Register Criteria "x" on one or more lines for the criteria qualifying the property ational Register listing)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)			
<u>X</u> A	Property is associated with events that have made	COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT			
	a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE			
_ В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.				
<u>X</u> C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses				
	high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack	Period of Significance			
	individual distinction.	1887			
_ <b>D</b>	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.				
	eria Considerations "x" on all the lines that apply)	Significant Dates			
•	erty is:	1887			
_ A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.				
_ B	removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)			
_ C	a birthplace or grave.	N/A			
_ D	a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation			
_ <b>E</b>	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.				
_ F	a commemorative property.				
_ G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Architect/Builder			
	within the past 50 years.	Wherry, S. C.			
Narra	ative Statement of Significance - (Explain the significance of	the property on one or more continuation sheets)			
9. M	Iajor Bibliography References				
Bibli	ography	one or more continuation about			
	the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on clous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:			
	previous determination of individual listing (36	X State Historical Preservation Office			
_	CFR 67) has been requested	Other State agency			
	previously listed in the National Register	_ Federal agency			
	previously determined eligible by the National	_ Local government			
	Record	_ University			
_	designated a National Historic Landmark	_ Other			
_	recorded by American Buildings Survey #	Name of repository			
_	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #				

Wherry B Name of				k County, Iowa unty and State
10 Co	ographical Data	<del></del>		
	e of Property <u>Les</u>	s than one acre		
·	• • •	5 than one acre		
	k <b>eferences</b> ditional UTM referen	ces on a continuation sheet.)		
1   15	447840	4606220	1	Verbal Boundary Description
Zone	Easting	Northing		(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)
2	<b></b>		1	Boundary Justification
Zone	Easting	Northing		(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)
3	<u> </u>		1	
Zone	Easting	Northing		
4	<u> </u>		1	
11. For	m Prepared By			
name/tit	le	William C. Page, Public	Historian; J	oanne R. Walroth
organiza	tion	River Bend Association,	Inc.	date <u>April 30, 1997</u>
street &	number	520 East Sheridan Aven	ue	telephone <u>515-243-5740; FAX 515-243-7285</u>
city or to	own <u>Des Moines</u>	state <u>Iowa</u>		zip code <u>50313-5017</u>
Addition	nal Documentation	n		
		h the completed form:		
	ation Sheets	in the completed form.		
Maps	deton Sheets			
-	A USGS map (7.5	5 or 15 minute series) indicating	ng the propert	y's location.
	- '			e acreage or numerous resources.
Photogr	_	ive black and white photogra		•
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	Owner			
•	· ·	est of SHPO or FPO.)		
		City of Des Moines, Iow		-1- 515 000 4500
		•		telephone <u>515-283-4500</u>
city or to	own <u>Des Moi</u>	nes state	<u>lo</u>	wa zip code <u>50309</u>
Panerwa	rk Reduction Act St	atement: This information is bein	g collected for	applications to the National Register of Historic Places to

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

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

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

#### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Wherry Block is a 2-story commercial building constructed of masonry load-bearing walls. Built in 1887 by S. C. Wherry--a prominent Victorian contractor-builder in Des Moines--it is conceived within the vernacular traditions of Victorian commercial architecture. The word "block" in this building's title denotes the presence of two store-rooms on the first floor and distinguishes it from a commercial "building," which possesses only one store-room on the first floor. The block's two-storeroom floorplan is evident on the facade with its centrally placed entryway. One storeroom flanks each side of that entryway. The Wherry Block features a rectangular footprint, flat roof, and symmetrical configured facade. When first built, it was a prominent improvement in North Des Moines because of its early date of construction and, for a suburban commercial edifice of the period, its large size.

The integrity of this building is good, and its condition is fair.

#### COMMERCIAL BLOCK

The main portion of this block measures approximately 44' x 60' (width by depth), for a total of about 2,640 square feet on each of its two floors.

The building rests on a brick foundation. It contains a full basement featuring a concrete floor. The building is constructed of brick with the exterior walls now painted a pinkish color. A stone water table surrounds the building. The Wherry Block also features cast stone trimwork, including window hood molds on the second floor of the facade. Other windows on the second floor feature segmental arches.

A cornice of pressed metal is situated on the facade, and a cornice worked in brick is situated on the south elevation of the building. The original configuration of this cornice was slightly different from its current one, as seen in an historic drawing of the building (see Continuation Sheet 7-10), with corbels having been removed. The original cornice also featured a pediment situated at the center of the facade with the year date "1887," probably worked in pressed metal. The pediment is also nonextant. Sometime during the life of this building, it appears that the cornice was raised. As a result, the chimneys on the south elevation, which originally free-stood about two feet above the cornice, now form a part of it.

A series of three exterior wall chimneys is situated on the south elevation. The central of these runs from the first through the second floors, while the flanking chimneys begin at the second floor level, supported at their base by brickwork in a battered design. These chimneys are clearly shown in the historic drawing noted above. The roof is flat and covered with composition material.

On the interior, Floor 1 served commercial purposes for many years, although it is not presently in use. Floors 1 and 2 feature hardwood floors covered with asphalt tile. The walls feature plaster finishing. Floor 2 served as apartments for many years. Up until about 1987, there were five

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

apartment units, but these are not presently in use. A double door entrance is situated on the south elevation at the southwest corner of the building. This entrance features double doors and is covered with a segmental arch. There is a full basement under the building with a concrete floor.

Overall the building is in fair condition. The first floor storefront has been altered by installation of infill materials over the original window cavities. Although this infill is visually distracting, their window cavities remain intact. Although electrical boxes and conduit have been installed on the south elevation of the building (and are visually distracting), these alterations are reversible. It should be noted that the overall integrity of this building remains good for a commercial building in Des Moines of comparable age. The tendency in the city has been the demolition of pre-1900 commercial buildings.

The River Bend Neighborhood Association is presently planning the rehabilitation of the Wherry Block, in conjunction with several commercial buildings directly north of it. The association applied for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in 1996 to support this work. Although that grant was unsuccessful, the association continues to pursue this end.

#### SITE

The Wherry Block is situated on a portion of Lot 7 and a portion of Lot 8 in Block IV of the Official Plat of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Township 79 North Range 24 West. Another name for this plat, often used but unofficial, is the Polk County Homestead & Trust Company's Addition in the City of Des Moines, Iowa. Another description of this site is that it stands on the northwest corner of the intersection of 6th and College Avenues. This is a major intersection in North Des Moines.

The 6th and College commercial node is located at this intersection. It includes a series of 1-story and 2-story commercial buildings. The 2-story Wherry Block stands on the northwest corner. Another 2-story Victorian commercial block similar to the Wherry Block and known as the Perry and Brainard Block (NRHP) stands directly across the street on the northeast corner of the intersection. A modern, 1-story commercial building and parking lot are situated on the southeast corner, and a parking lot is also located on the southwest corner.

The Perry and Brainard Block, mentioned above and located at 1601 6th Avenue, is similar in design to the Wherry Block. The former is slightly smaller in size, with a footprint measuring 40' x 60' (width by depth), for a total of about 2,400 square feet on each of its two floors. Each building was originally conceived with two commercial rooms on the first floor. These two buildings anchor the 6th and College commercial node.

The circa 1888 image of the Wherry Block (see Continuation Sheet 7-10) suggests that 6th Avenue was served by a storm water sewer at this time. A drain appears to be located on the corner between two wooden ramps from the streets to the pedestrian walks. If so, this infrastructure improvement would have provided a welcomed amenity. The drawing also shows a horse-drawn wagon poised at

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

the curb next to the rear entrance of the store. This depiction suggests the delivery service offered by merchants at the time. Several long-time residents of the River Bend neighborhood have noted that Scruby's Grocery Store, occupant of the Wherry Block for many years, continued to make home deliveries by horse-drawn wagon in the 1930s. (Lewis and LaVere Royal informant interview)

The immediate site of the Wherry Block is generally level in topography. To the east, College Avenue slopes downward to the Des Moines River valley, and to the west it runs slightly upward. Both to the north and south, 6th Avenue is generally level before steeply sloping into the Des Moines River valley about four blocks to the north.

The Des Moines City Assessor's Office describes this site as in a "blighted area." The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has designated this neighborhood as "slum blight."

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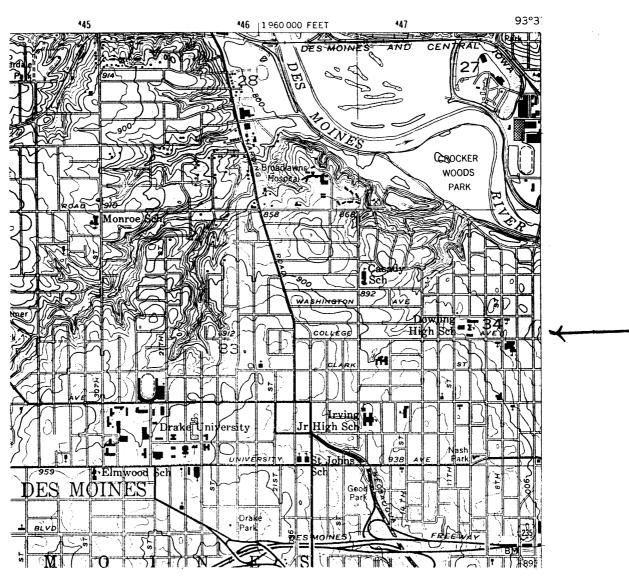
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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

### SITE MAP

#### ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY





Source: U.S.G.S. Map (7.5 Minute Series), Des Moines SW Quadrangle, 1956, Photorevised 1976.

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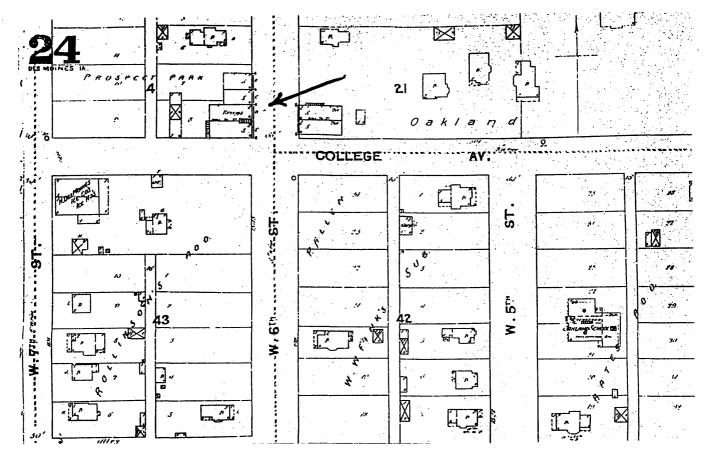
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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

### 1891 FIRE INSURANCE MAP

#### ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY





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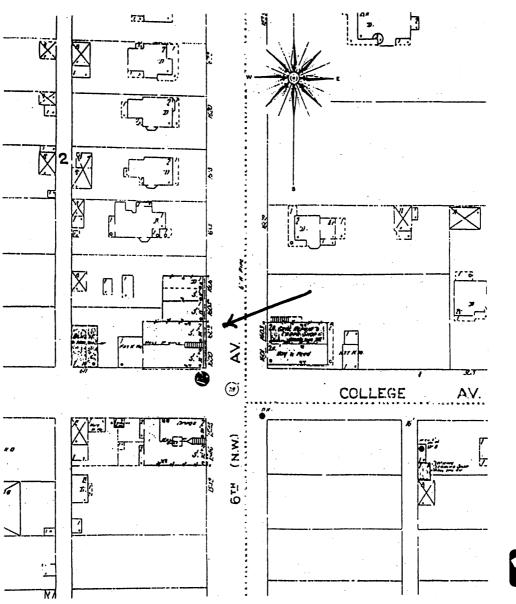
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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

### 1901 FIRE INSURANCE MAP

#### ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY





Source: Sanborn Map Company, Des Moines, 1901, p. 76.

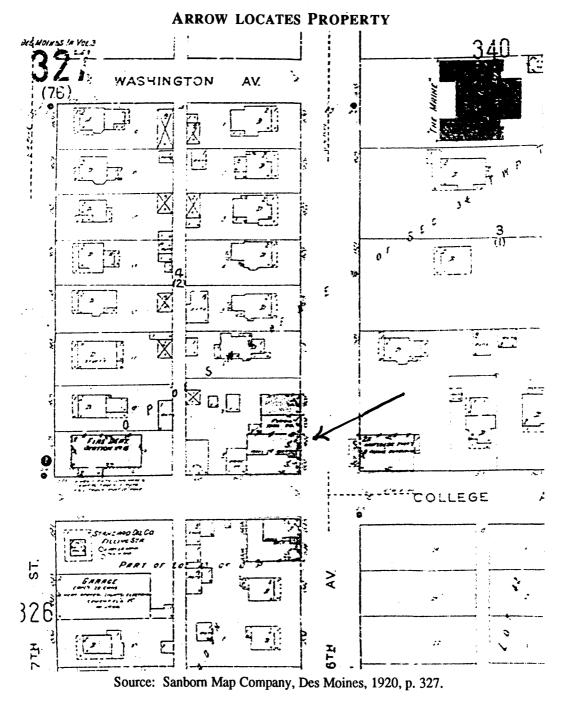
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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

### 1920 FIRE INSURANCE MAP





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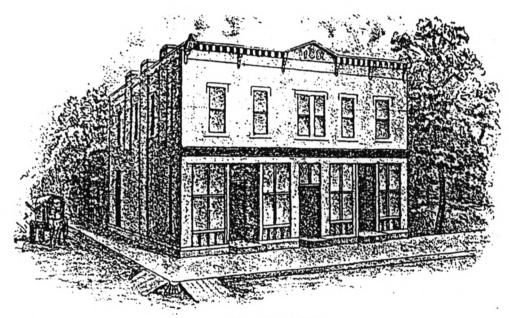
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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

## DRAWING OF WHERRY BLOCK

**CIRCA 1888** 



WHERRY BLOCK.

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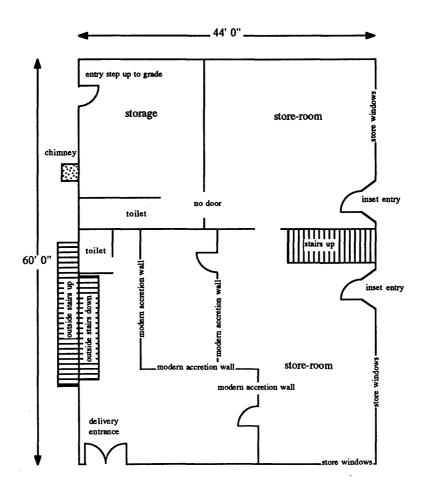
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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

### FIRST FLOOR SKETCH PLAN





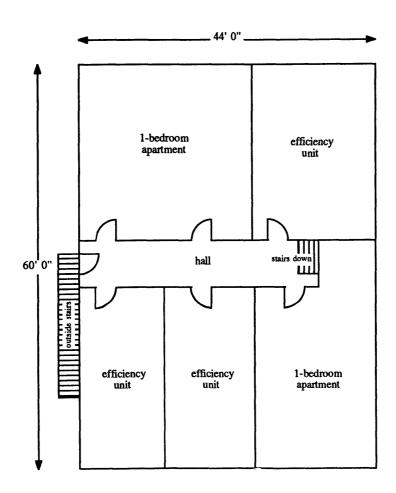
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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

### SECOND FLOOR SKETCH PLAN





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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

#### SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built by S. C. Wherry, a contractor-builder of North Des Moines, and first occupied in 1887, the Wherry Block calls attention, under Criterion A, to community development in "the big suburb" of North Des Moines. The construction of this substantial two-story brick building anchored the intersection of 6th and College as commercially significant in that Victorian suburb. This block inaugurated construction of other commercial establishments nearby, including the Perry & Brainard Block (NRHP) directly across the street in 1889. Sixth and College soon emerged as one of two commercial nodes in North Des Moines--the other being the Sixth and Forest Historic District (NRHP).

The Wherry Block also possesses architectural significance locally under National Register Criterion C. It illustrates the considerable skills of S. C. Wherry, its builder, and the influence of Late Victorian commercial styling on its design.

The period of significance, under Criterion A, for the Wherry Block is 1887, the time when it inaugurated commercial growth at the intersection of 6th and College. The period of significance, under Criterion C, is 1887, the year the building was completed and first occupied.

The property contains one resource for this nomination-the building itself.

#### COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Wherry Block calls attention to community planning and development in suburban North Des Moines because it anchored Sixth and College as an emerging commercial node in that Victorian suburb.

#### Anchor for Commercial Expansion

The Wherry Block was the first commercial building of size constructed at the intersection of 6th and College Avenues, and it anchored the emergence of that intersection as a commercial node in North Des Moines. By 1891 this commercial node had become sufficiently significant within the City of Des Moines to warrant a special insert map in the Sanborn fire insurance maps of Des Moines for that year. Only selected properties outside the downtown warranted this coverage. (See Continuation Sheet 7-5.) In contrast to the ubiquitous small grocery stores, which stood throughout the metropolitan area as "stand-alone" businesses, suburban commercial nodes featured a cluster of buildings housing businesses, providing a wider range of merchandise and services. The South Main Street commercial node in Sevastopol and the University Place node along University Avenue provide two other examples in Victorian Des Moines.

North Des Moines possessed two such commercial nodes--one at the intersection of Sixth and Forest Avenues and one at the intersection of Sixth and College Avenues. The fact that North Des Moines

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

could sustain two of these suburban commercial nodes calls attention to the fact that this community was the largest of the independent incorporations surrounding Des Moines prior to annexation in 1890.

Built as an investment and an income-producing property, the Wherry Block anchored the later expansion of the Sixth and College node. This new construction included the Perry & Brainard Block (NRHP) at 1601-1603 6th Avenue in 1889, the Storer Block at 1546-1548 6th Avenue (nonextant) in 1895, and several smaller commercial buildings. The Sixth and College commercial node, however, does not appear eligible for nomination to the National Register as an historic district due to integrity concerns.

The history of commerce housed in the Wherry Block illustrates that North Des Moines was a good place to do business during much of the Twentieth Century. Already by 1899, the Scruby Brothers had occupied the Wherry Block and operated their grocery business from its premises. (City Directory 1899:907) Pronounced to rhyme with "movie," Scrubys remained on this site for many years. Long-time residents of the River Bend neighborhood recall the business and its operations in the 1930s, for example. (Lewis and LaVere Royal informant interview)

#### **Promotion**

The Wherry Block illustrates advertising techniques employed by local real estate developers to promote the sale of building lots in North Des Moines. Polk County Homestead & Trust Company, the proprietors of the new plat where the Wherry Block is located, featured a drawing of that edifice in an early advertisement. This promotional piece illustrates how real estate brokers in Victorian Des Moines promoted newly platted land by showcasing improvements already on the ground. This advertising technique instilled confidence and trust among potential buyers. It also encouraged them to invest in building lots and to erect improvements upon them.

The line drawing of the Wherry Block figured prominently in the Polk County Homestead & Trust Company's "Plat of Prospect Park," a professionally designed and printed map of this new real estate tract. (See Continuation Sheets 7-9 and 7-10.) This circa 1888 advertisement featured seven notable improvements. All but the Wherry Block are nonextant. Others included the Prospect Park Methodist Episcopal Church at the southeast corner of Washington and 8th Streets; two views of J. A. Jackson's massive residence "Dorham Cottage" on the northeast corner of 6th and Arlington Avenues; University of Des Moines (also known as Des Moines University), whose campus was located on the northwest corner of 9th and College Avenue; the residence of L. W. Goode, which location has yet to be identified; and Oakland School House at 1531 5th Street.

The presence and graphic representations of these improvements showed that substantial investment had already taken place in the area. This was calculated to promote trust among potential buyers that this newly platted section of North Des Moines offered financial security. These illustrations also showed the presence of qualities deemed desirable for prospective homeowners--educational institutions, commercial enterprises, religious institutions, and respectable neighbors.

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

#### **ARCHITECTURE**

The Wherry Block is architecturally significant because it illustrates the considerable skills of S. C. Wherry, its builder, and because it calls attention to Late Victorian styling on its design.

#### S. C. Wherry

The Wherry Block is architecturally significant because it illustrates the considerable skills of Samuel C. Wherry, its builder. Although largely responsible for building the improvements of North Des Moines, Victorian contractor-builders from this area remain elusive. Biographical information is fragmentary at best. To date, only a handful of these individuals have been identified. Within this context, identified contractor-builders include Charles Weitz and Charles Weitz Sons, Detweiler and Bedford, and S. C. Wherry.

In 1886-1887 Wherry lived on the northeast corner of 7th and North Streets in North Des Moines (City Directory 1886-1887). By 1889-1890, Wherry was residing on the northwest corner of 8th Street and Indiana. From this information, it appears that Wherry engaged in speculative house construction, occupying one house while building another, then repeating the pattern. Unfortunately, neither of these dwellings is extant.

An article in the *Iowa State Register* in 1882 documents Wherry in partnership with a Mr. Nelson and lists their improvements completed in 1881.

### "NELSON & WHERRY'S LIST of buildings and improvements:

"J. M. Shankland, house on Woodland-av	\$2,500
M. P. Turner, barn for street car, etc, Seventh	1,000
Harry Standford, store repairs and improvements, Walnut	1,500
Geo. Lonsberry, store Walnut	800
Nelson & Wherry, shop, First	200
Beckwith & Harlan, coal office and yard, Ninth and Locust	500
St. L. D. M. & N., freight depot, corner Seventh and Cherry	7,000
Sleeth & Newell, fitting store, Walnut	1,500
Iowa State Leader, office improvement Walnut	1,000"

Source: Iowa State Register, January, 1882.

This list is included among lists of three other contractor-builders in Des Moines--H. Keemer, H. M'Kinney, and John A. Woods, as well as "by various builders."

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

Several years later, a local newspaper reported that:

Mr. S. C. Wherry has the contract for the carpenter work on Percival & Hatton's new four story block on Ninth and Walnut streets. This is a sufficient guarantee that the work will be well done, as all who have had dealings with Mr. Wherry know him to be a conscientious builder, and his work is always well done. (*Iowa State Leader* 1883)

This public endorsement of Wherry's workmanship could not have failed to help his business.

Concerning the illustration of the Wherry Block, it is unclear whether it was pictured by Wherry's subscription or whether it was included gratis by the Polk County Homestead & Trust Company as part of their promotion.

Wherry later relocated to Fort Dodge, Iowa, around 1897, where he practiced as an architect with the firm of Wherry & King (Thomas C. King). By 1899, Wherry was practicing alone in both Des Moines and Oelwein, Iowa. He maintained his Des Moines practice as late as 1901. (Shank)

#### Architectural Style

The Wherry Block exhibits the influences of Late Victorian commercial styling on a large building, as practiced in North Des Moines during the fourth quarter of the Nineteenth Century. Characteristics of this styling including the central entrance to the building, its symmetrically conceived facade, the hood molds over its windows, exterior wall chimneys visible on the south elevation, and a cornice, which surrounds the building on three sides.

Although the first floor storefront has been altered by the in-filling of windows and the pressed-metal pediment above the second floor has been removed, the cornice of this building remains substantially intact. The integrity of this building should be judged within the context of surviving pre-1900 commercial architecture in Des Moines. Few of these resources remain extant let alone in pristine condition. The Wherry Block retains much of its integrity in comparison.

#### REPRESENTATION IN OTHER CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEYS

This building was surveyed in 1994 as part of the "Towards a Greater Des Moines" reconnaissance survey of Des Moines' Victorian suburbs. As one resource within the intensive survey of the River Bend neighborhood, the Wherry Block was evaluated as not individually eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. At the time, the original cornice was thought to have been altered, impairing the integrity of the building. Since 1994, an historic image of the building has come to light, picturing the cornice's original design. (See Continuation Sheet 7-10.) This image shows the present cornice to be substantially as constructed. The Wherry Block's 1887 date of construction also came to light since the 1994 survey. It demonstrates that the building provided an anchor for the

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

subsequent expansion of the Sixth and College commercial node. The Wherry Block previously had been thought to post-date the 1889 construction of the Perry & Brainard Block. This new information prompted a re-evaluation of the Wherry Block's National Register eligibility, which found it individually eligible.

#### POTENTIAL FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Although the site's potential for archaeological research is, as yet, unevaluated, there appears to be little in this regard. Construction of this building in 1887 disturbed much of the site on which it stands. Subsurface data from ancillary buildings located near the rear of the property and pictured on the 1891 fire insurance map might be found.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND REGISTRATION

It is recommended that a survey attempt to identify buildings listed on the catalogue of Nelson and Wherry's 1881 improvements and determine if they remain extant.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Please refer to Section I of the Multiple Property Documentation Form for complete bibliography.

#### **PRIMARY**

Des Moines City Directory, 1899, 1920.

- Huebinger, M.; Map of the City of Des Moines, Iowa; Des Moines; The Iowa Publishing Company; 1909.
- Iowa State Leader; August 23, 1883. Reports on S. C. Wherry as the contractor-builder for the Percival & Hatton commercial block at 9th and Walnut in Des Moines.
- Iowa State Leader; January 5, 1896. Reports M. Storer having built a 2-story brick block at 6th and College at a cost of \$10,000.
- Plat of Prospect Park. Undated promotional plat map [circa 1888], prepared for the Polk County Homestead & Trust Company. State Historical Society of Iowa; Des Moines, Iowa. Contains a line drawing of the "Wherry Block."
- Prospect Park, Des Moines, Iowa. Undated concept plan [circa 1885]. State Historical Society of Iowa; Des Moines, Iowa.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for 1891, 1901, and 1920.

#### **SECONDARY**

Brigham, Johnson; Des Moines, the Pioneer of Municipal Progress and Reform of the Middle West together with the History of Polk County, Iowa, the Largest, Most Populous and Most Prosperous County in the State of Iowa; Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company; 1911; 2 volumes.

Des Moines City Assessor's Office; Property Record Card.

Page, William C., and Joanne R. Walroth; *Towards a Greater Des Moines: Early Suburbanization and Development, circa 1880-circa 1920*; Intensive cultural resources report prepared for and on file at the Des Moines Historic District Commission and State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines; 1992.

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

Page, William C., and Joanne R. Walroth; *Towards a Greater Des Moines: Early Suburbanization and Development, circa 1880-circa 1920*; Multiple Property Documentation Form prepared for and on file at the Des Moines Historic District Commission and State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines; 1996.

Page, William C., and Joanne R. Walroth; Sixth and Forest Historic District; National Register of Historic Places nomination on file at the State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines; 1996.

Shank, Wesley I.; Letter of Correspondence to William C. Page and Joanne Walroth; February 16, 1998. Shank outlined information concerning Samuel C. Wherry to be published in his forthcoming directory of Iowa architects.

#### **ORAL HISTORY**

Royal, Lewis and LaVere; Informant interview with William C. Page; November 12, 1996.

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The west 58.58 feet of Lot 7, except the east 69.5 feet, and the north 13.9 feet of Lot 8, in Block IV of the Official Plat of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Township 79 North Range 24 West, also known as the Polk County Homestead & Trust Company Addition to the City of Des Moines, Iowa.

#### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The National Register boundary contains all land historically associated with this resource.

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Wherry Block, Polk County, Iowa.

#### LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1. Wherry Block
  1600-1602 6th Avenue
  Des Moines, IA 50314
  Looking northwest
  William C. Page, Photographer
  June 2, 1997
- 2. Wherry Block
  1600-1602 6th Avenue
  Des Moines, IA 50314
  Looking northeast
  William C. Page, Photographer
  June 2, 1997