

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

**NRIS Reference Number: 93000960**

**Date Listed: 10/1/93**

Estes Park Band Shell  
**Property Name**

Hardin  
**County**

IA  
**State**

Architectural & Historical Resources of Iowa Falls, Iowa MPS  
**Multiple Name**

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*for* Patrick Andrus  
**Signature of the Keeper**

10/1/93  
**Date of Action**

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

**Level of Significance:**

The level of significance for this resource is local.

**UTM:**

The UTM coordinates were omitted from the nomination form. The correct coordinates were obtained from the attached USGS map.

This information was confirmed with Beth Foster of the Iowa SHPO.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

**National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

RECEIVED

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

AUG 20 1993

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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" in the appropriate box 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 Property

historic name Estes Park Band Shell  
other names/site number N.A.

2. Location

street & number Estes Park  not for publication  
city or town Iowa Falls  vicinity  
state Iowa code IA county Hardin code 083 zip code 50126

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David L. ... 8/13/93  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
State Historical Society of Iowa  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patrick Andrews

10/1/93

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Contributing Noncontributing
1 buildings
sites
structures
objects
1 Total

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Architectural & Historical Resources of Iowa Falls, IA 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION & CULTURE/Music Facility

RECREATION & CULTURE/Music Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th/Early 20th C. Revival

Concrete

Spanish Colonial Revival

foundation

Stucco

walls

Tile

roof

other

Narrative Description

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

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Entertainment/Recreation

Architecture

Period of Significance

1931-43

Significant Dates

1931

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N.A.

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.

Architect/Builder

Designed by L.L.Klippel

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Criteria for previous documentation on file (NPS).

Primary location of additional data:

- Criteria for primary location of additional data.

Name of repository:

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 478265 4707410
Zone Easting Northing

3 Zone Easting Northing
4 Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743
organization Iowa Falls Historic Preservation Commission date May 1993
street & number City Hall, 321 Stevens telephone (515) 648-2527
city or town Iowa Falls state IA zip code 50126

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Iowa Falls
street & number City Hall, 321 Stevens Street telephone (515) 648-2527
city or town Iowa Falls state IA zip code 50126

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.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

CFN-259-1116

Estes Park Band Shell  
Hardin County, Iowa

### Description:

The Estes Park band shell (1931) is a single story rectangular building measuring 18'x44'. It is located on the south edge of the park, with the stage opening to the north, toward the center of the park.

The building is Spanish Colonial Revival in design with exterior walls of highly textured cream colored stucco with brown trim. The hip roof is of red clay tile, with bracketed eaves below. All openings are round arched except for the proscenium. The north elevation is symmetrical, with the stage flanked by projecting bell towers. Each of the towers has triple arches at the upper level on the north and side elevations, and a single round arched door opening onto a balcony at the stage level. A smooth textured belt course defines the two levels. The stage floor is approximately 3' above the ground and projects outward in a gentle curve. The rear wall of the stage is concave to create the "shell" effect. The stage area was designed to hold between 50 and 60 musicians at one time.

The band shell rests on a high (approximately 3') concrete foundation. The basement was finished as rehearsal space for the band and had both heat and plumbing. A pair of basement windows is found on each end and two pairs are located on the south elevation. Entry to the basement level is gained through a single door at each end.

The rear (south) elevation features a flat roof at the belt course level, with the center portion approximately 18" higher than the sides. A single round arched window is located at each end, while the rear portion of the stage is defined by pilasters. Decorative concrete panels are inset above the rear windows.

A complete landscape design was created in 1931 as part of the overall beautification of Estes Park. This included an amphitheater area in front of the band shell, a drinking fountain and ornamental pool, as well as walks and plantings. While remnants of this design remain, a loss of integrity over the years precludes the nomination of the entire park. The band shell itself has retained a very high level of integrity.

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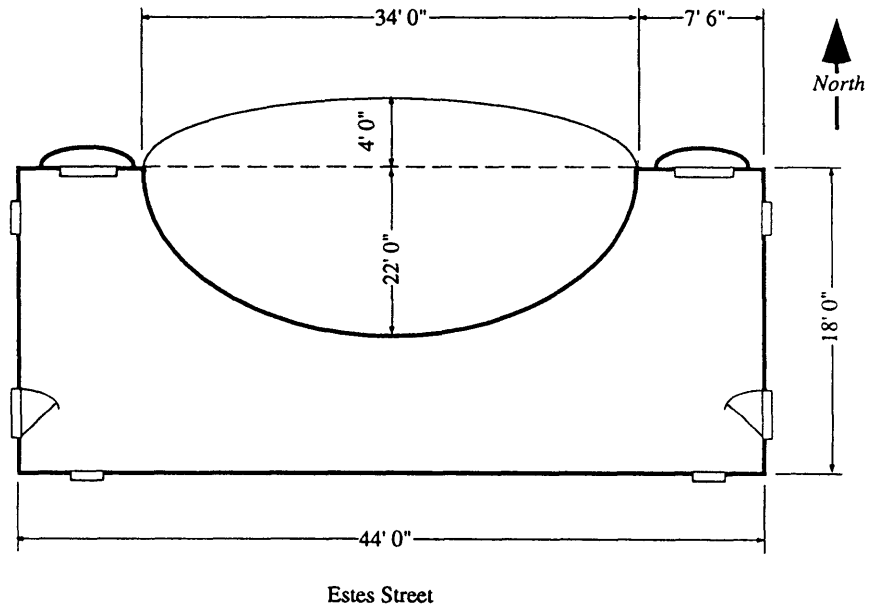
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116

Estes Park Band Shell  
Hardin County, Iowa

Description (continued):



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

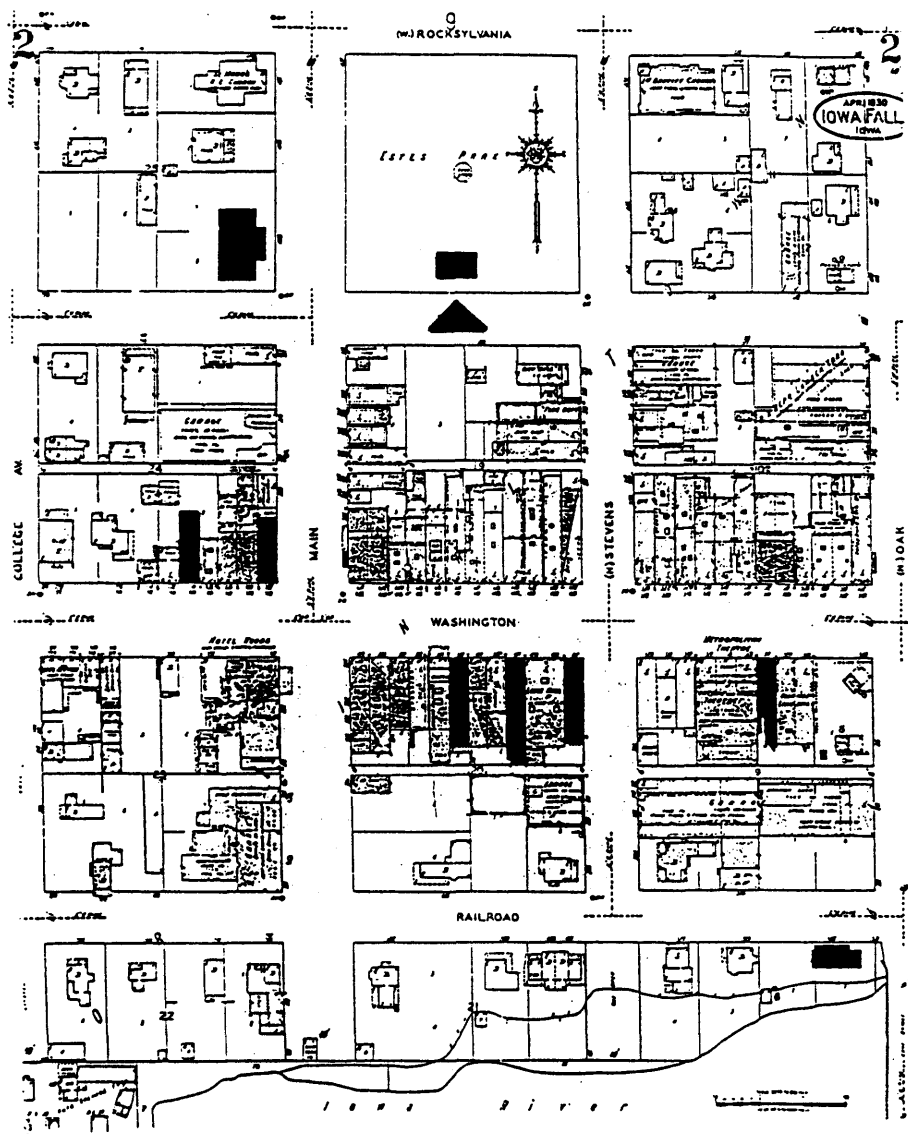
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

CFN-259-1116

Estes Park Band Shell  
Hardin County, Iowa

Description (continued):



## IOWA FALLS BUSINESS DISTRICT

Shaded buildings are those being nominated.

▶ indicates specific building being nominated.



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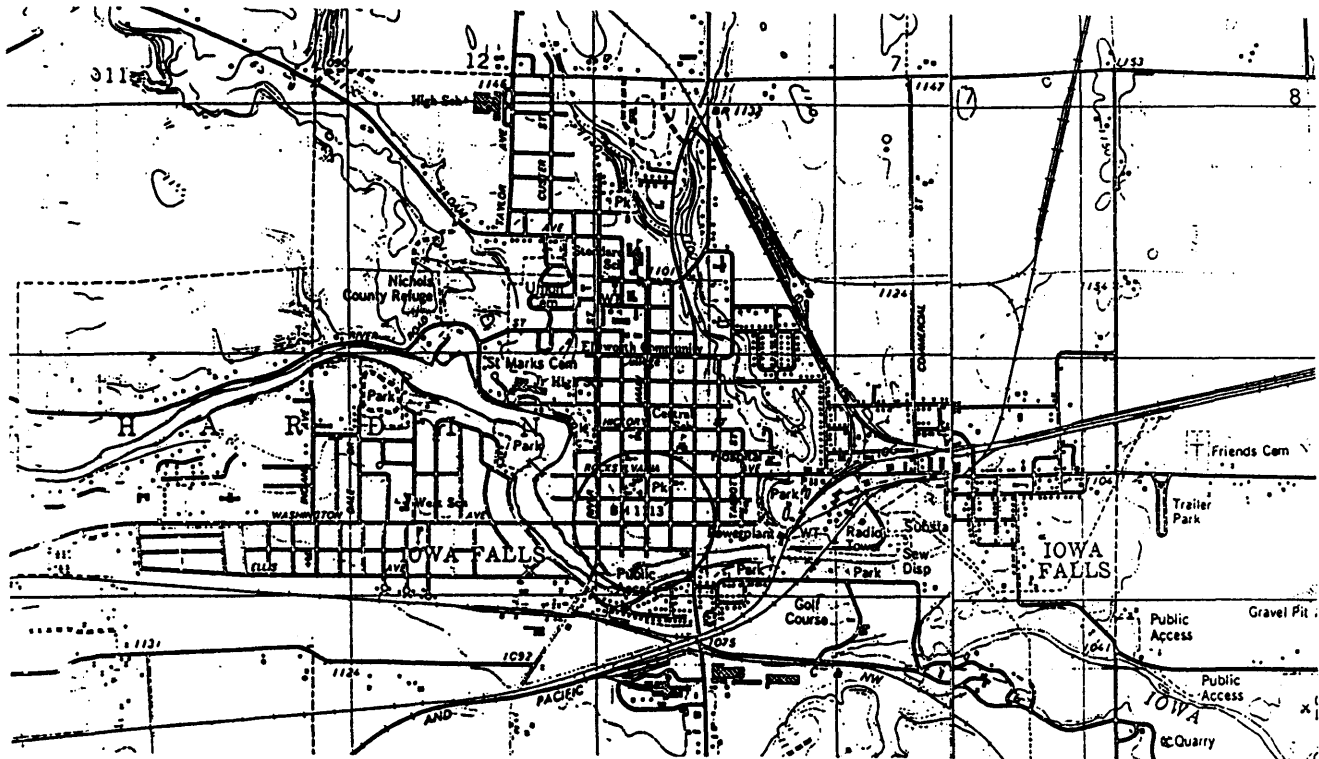
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

CFN-259-1116

Estes Park Band Shell  
Hardin County, Iowa

Description (continued):



Central Business District is circled.  
U.S.G.S. Map

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

CFN-259-1116

**Estes Park Band Shell  
Hardin County, Iowa**

**Significance:**

The Estes Park Band Shell (1931) is locally significant under Criterion C as an unusual midwestern example of Spanish Colonial Revival design, and under Criterion A as an important part of the community's cultural and recreational life. The period of significance begins with the date of construction, and extends to 1943 based on the continued use for recreation and entertainment purposes. While that use continues today, 1943 was selected because it marks the 50 year requirement.

Although not mentioned in the newspaper, the designer has finally been identified as L.L. Klippel, a man with family ties to Iowa Falls, who appears to have spent some time in California. The style had become popular in California and the southwest in the early years of this century. It was based very broadly on the Spanish missions located throughout that area. As the style developed there was a growing interest in Spanish architecture in general, not just the missions. Hallmarks of the style include the use of stucco for the exterior, red tile for the roof, round arched fenestration, and wrought iron gates, balconies, etc. Often, as in the case of this band shell, a building will feature bell towers reflecting the mission origins. Following W.W. I it became widely used for hotels, resorts, and grand movie theaters. For this reason it was often associated with the movie industry, and leisure activities. Although a state-wide survey of this style and associated building types has not been conducted, there appear to be relatively few examples of this style in Iowa, and most of those that do exist represent some type of recreational activity (such as a boat house or theater).

The Hardin County Citizen started carrying articles about the need for a band shell in Estes Park in May 1930. The suggestion was to build the shell about the center of the park and people could sit on the hillside. They estimated the cost to be about \$1500 and thought that park board funds could cover it. The discussion continued for months, with the park board contributing \$500, the band director offered \$200 of his salary, and the community was to raise the rest of the money. While they were at it, it was suggested that Estes Park should be landscaped and beautified. "This park looks like a rooted-up hog pasture. Now is the time to start." (Citizen, February 19, 1931) By April 1, 1931 "Plans are Being Perfected for New Band Shell in Estes Park. Hope to Be Ready for Opening of Concert Season." The newspaper of April 16, 1931 carried a sketch of the proposed band shell (as it looks today) and in the accompanying article noted "In addition to the band shell, why not build cement flag stone walks in different colored slabs, why not have a fountain and fish pond, why not place the seats along the walks, why not cut out some trees and have some grass, why not plant some flowers and shrubbery?"

On April 30 the paper heralded

New Band Shell is to Be Built in Estes Park

Committee Now Soliciting Funds

Up to Yesterday \$2135 Raised

The new band shell in Estes Park is going to be built. A committee of some dozen men met Monday evening and decided to do business. The cost is to

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

CFN-259-1116

Estes Park Band Shell  
Hardin County, Iowa

### Significance (continued):

be \$3,500. The shell will accommodate both the town and schools bands at one sitting. Between fifty and sixty players will have room. The basement is to be nicely fixed up.....The committee soliciting funds started in yesterday and the amount raised at 2:00 o'clock was \$2135. (Each day the list of donors and the amounts was to be placed in a downtown store window.)

The Citizen hopes and believes that all our citizens who possibly can will want to help.....there are two strong reasons that should influence us. One reason is community and town pride..... The other reason is that community improvement just now is a business getter. While other towns are asleep and nursing their wounds, let Iowa Falls move out. The public likes a town that does things. The public trades at a town that paints up its buildings and cleans up the streets. The public does business in a town that has an air of progress and life.

The band shell is only the beginning. The Garden Club had a landscape artist here from Sioux City Monday looking over the city. Yesterday the Woman's Club had up for consideration the forming of an Iowa Falls Civic Improvement association, the idea being to form a permanent organization, to formulate a general plan for the whole town and to fill in some of the plan each year.

Two weeks later they had raised \$3,622 and the material was ordered for the band shell. "The ladies had N.F. Guernsey of Sioux City here last Friday to make the preliminary survey of Estes Park." The landscape artist Guernsey left, taking with him the plans for the band shell to help him decide exactly where it should be located and where he should locate the drinking fountain and pool, shrubbery, etc. The fountain and pool were built from money left by E.S. Ellsworth for the construction of a public drinking fountain.

The band shell was dedicated in late summer with a concert by three bands, Iowa Falls being joined by Hampton and Ackley. The business community recognized the advantages of the new facility and scheduled fashion shows for September 10, 1931. A children's show took place after school and the regular adult show in the evening. Music for the afternoon show was furnished by the school band, and the municipal band played for the evening performance.

The Estes Park band shell has continued to be the focal point of community activities. In 1940 the Republican Party held a gigantic rally to hear presidential nominee Wendell Wilkie speak at the band shell. Band concerts are held on a regular basis, teen dances are sponsored during the summer, with Big Band dances for the adults. The Riverbend Rally over the 4th of July makes extensive use of the facility for all sorts of entertainment activities, and the local labor unions have held a labor day rally at the band shell since 1982.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 & 10 Page 7

CFN-259-1116

Estes Park Band Shell  
Hardin County, Iowa

**Bibliography:**

Hardin County Citizen, May 22, 1930, p 1, c 3  
February 19, 1931, p 1, c 4  
April 1, 1931, p 1, c 5  
April 16, 1931, p 1, c 1  
April 30, 1931, p 1, c 1  
May 14, 1931, p 1, c 5  
May 21, 1931, p 1, c 6  
May 28, 1931, p 1, c 6  
August 27, 1931, p 1, c 5  
September 10, 1931, p 1, c 3

Correspondence from Franklin O. McCord, November 28, 1992.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984, pp. 408-429.

Nichols, Ira A. History of Iowa Falls, 1900-1950. Iowa Falls: Hecht Printing Co., 1956, pp 240-242.

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

A rectangular area located in the City of Iowa Falls, Original Plat, Block 24, beginning at a point ten feet south of the southwest corner of the band shell; thence west ten feet; thence north forty-two feet, thence east sixty-four feet; thence south forty-two feet; thence west fifty-four feet to the point of beginning. This allows for an area of ten feet on all four sides of the band shell.

**Boundary Justification:**

This is the area historically associated with this resource.