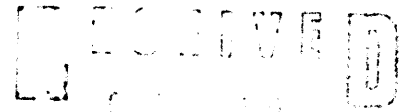


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Oskaloosa City Hall
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number NE corner S. Market St & 2nd Ave E not for publication
city, town Oskaloosa vicinity
state Iowa code IA county Mahaska code 123 zip code 52577

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	_____ objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Architectural & Historical Resources of Oskaloosa, IA Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official [Signature] Date 12/13/91
State Historical Society of Iowa
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet. 12/13/91

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 [Signature] Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/City Hall

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/City Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals:

Renaissance Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Tile

other Stone Trim

Steel Truss Roof

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Oskaloosa City Hall is a two story brick building on a high brick foundation, located on the northeast corner of Market Street and Second Avenue West. The building is treated as free-standing, with a primary facade facing Market, and two secondary facades, one facing Second, and the other facing the alley along the north side of the building. On the east side, the City Hall is attached to the Fire Station. The exterior is of dark brown brick, laid in a running bond. Stone is used for quoins, the watertable, a string course just below the corbelled brick cornice, and above the jack-arched windows. The facade is symmetrical, with double doors flanked by brick pilasters, with stone bases and capitals. Windows throughout are jack-arched, double hung on the two lower levels, and triple hung on the top floor where the court room/council chamber is located. The hip roof is of red tile. The City Hall matches the Fire Station in both design and building materials (dark brown brick, stone trim, tile roof). With the high foundation, quoined corners, and jack-arched windows, it is a good example of Renaissance Revival design executed in brick. The bell tower which links the two buildings is of similar design.

The City Hall and Fire Station originally faced two other Wetherell designed buildings at the corner of Market and Second: the Lacey Hotel (non-extant) was on the northwest corner; and the Oskaloosa Public Library is on the southwest. The intersection is one block south of the Square. Both the City Hall and Fire Station are included in the City Square Commercial Historic District.

Records indicate that tracings exist for both the Oskaloosa City Hall and the Fire Station in the files of Wetherell and Ericsson in Des Moines. Only the drawings for the Fire Station could be located for this project. However, the similarity of design, scale, proportion, and building material, leave little doubt that this is a Wetherell design.

This project has dealt primarily with the exterior of the Wetherell buildings, and the nominations are based on exterior significance and integrity. The only apparent exterior alteration has been the installation of one new door at the lower level, just south of the main entrance on Market Street.

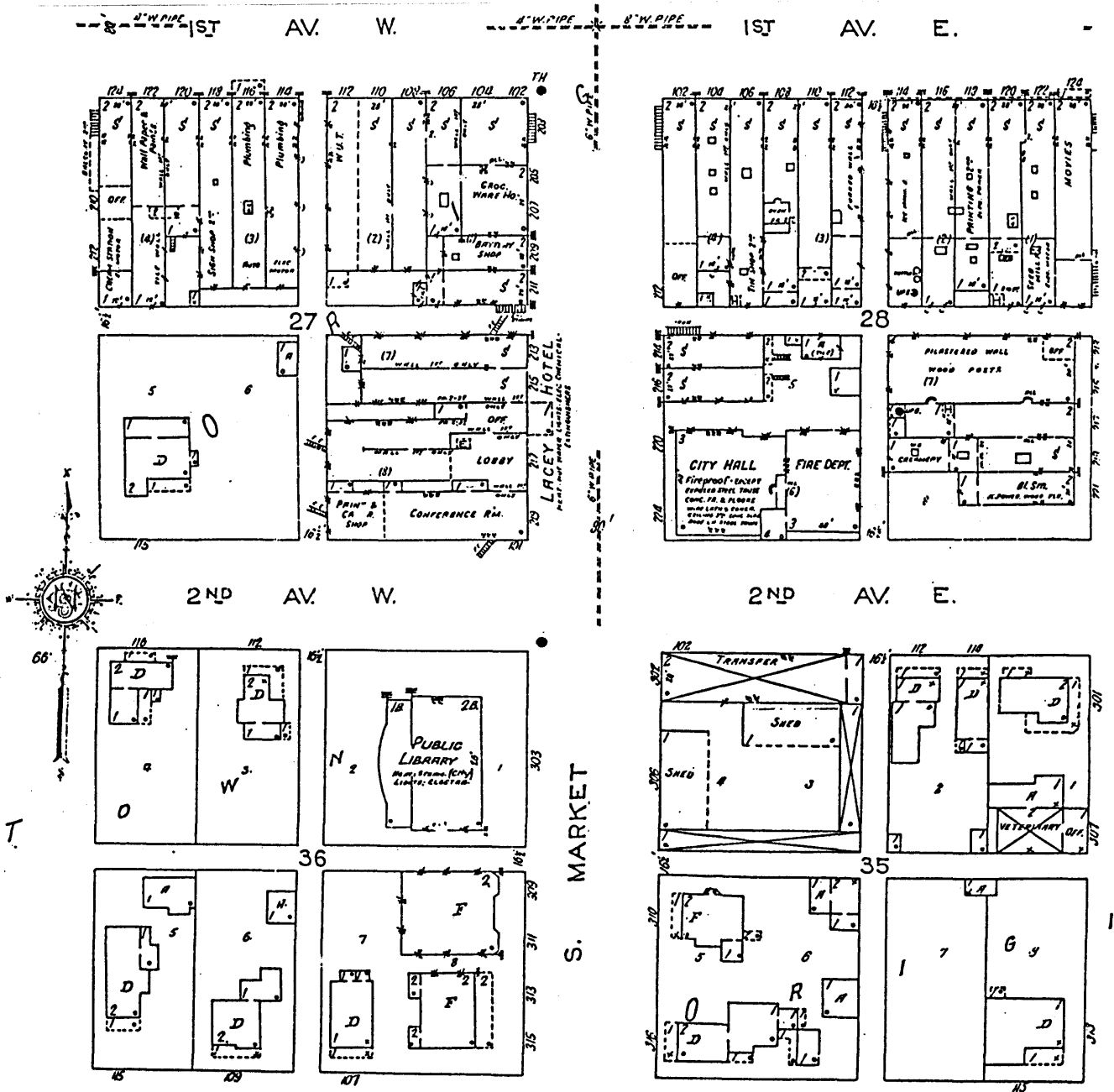
See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116



This map shows the relationship of City Hall to the Fire Station, to the Oskaloosa Public Library diagonally across the street, and the non-extant Wetherell designed Lacey Hotel.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

1911

1911

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.

Significant Person

N.A.

Architect/Builder

Wetherell, Frank E. (Archit)

Sinclair, S.B. (attributed)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Oskaloosa City Hall is significant under Criterion C as a good example of Wetherell's public buildings from the early 20th century, and demonstrates his interest in a variety of styles, using Renaissance Revival here, and Neo-Classical and Tudor Revival for other public buildings (as noted in the "Works of Frank E. Wetherell: 1892-1931" context). This is an example of phased construction. It was designed to be built after the Fire Station, adjacent to the east, but the two buildings match in terms of style and materials. There has been some confusion over the years as to who the architect was for these two buildings. Locally, the City Hall has been attributed to S.B. Sinclair, an Oskaloosa contractor who sometimes advertised himself as an architect. Drawings for the Fire Station dated 1908 by Frank E. Wetherell indicate that he was the designer of that building. Due to the similarity of both design and materials, and the fact that Wetherell executed drawings for both buildings in 1905, it appears fairly certain that Wetherell was actually the architect for City Hall when it was finally built in 1911.

While many Renaissance Revival buildings were constructed of stone, it is logical that brick was used for this building. Often in smaller county seat towns, the public buildings, like the library across the street, were of brick rather than stone. Brick was commonly used for fire stations, and the similarity of design called for similarity of materials in this instance.

Wetherell had been involved with the design of this building since 1905, about the time he moved to Des Moines. His original plans called for a building to cost approximately \$40,000. He offered to superintend the construction, as well as provide the plans for a fee equal to 4% of the cost of the building, 1% less than the normal

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

CFN-259-1116

architect's fee. The city council thought it was too much, and after much discussion, Wetherell finally unwillingly accepted a flat fee of \$1,200. S.B. Sinclair was a member of the city council at that time, and he is said to have called for many changes. It was always anticipated that the Fire Station and City Hall would be built at two different times, but why construction did not start on City Hall until the fall of 1911 is uncertain. It is interesting that Wetherell was still very involved with major projects in Oskaloosa during his first years in Des Moines.

The Oskaloosa City Hall meets the integrity requirements set out in the Multiple Property Document for Wetherell related works.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Oskaloosa Weekly Herald, 2 February 1905, p.8, c.1.
24 February 1912, p.17, c.1.
26 December 1913, p.2, c.3.

Tracings in the files of Wetherell & Ericsson, Des Moines.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A

1	5	5	2	0	7	8	0	4	5	7	1	2	1	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Original Plat, Blk 28, S 1/3 Lots 5 & 6, City of Oskaloosa.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the area that has been traditionally associated with this resource.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743
organization Oskaloosa Historic Preservation Comm. date June 1991
street & number City Hall, P.O. Box 1010 telephone (515) 673-8361
city or town Oskaloosa state Iowa zip code 52577