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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any 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 Memorial Building

other names/site number Dyersville City Hall

2. Location

street & number 340 1st Avenue East

not for publication N/A

city or town Dyersville

vicinity N/A

state Iowa code IA county Dubuque

code 061 zip code 52040

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally.

(___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

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 for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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Dubuque County, Iowa

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this 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): _____

Lon Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

4-9-13
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

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

N/A

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>GOVERNMENT</u>	Sub: <u>City Hall</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>	Sub: <u>Post Office</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>	Sub: <u>Police Station</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>	Sub: <u>Firehouse</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	Sub: <u>Auditorium</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	Sub: <u>Gymnasium</u>
<u>EDUCATION</u>	Sub: <u>Library</u>
<u>SOCIAL</u>	Sub: <u>Civic</u>

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>GOVERNMENT</u>	Sub: <u>City Hall</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>	Sub: <u>Police Station</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	Sub: <u>Gymnasium</u>
<u>SOCIAL</u>	Sub: <u>Civic</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions):

Cat: LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS Sub:

Materials (enter categories from instructions):

foundation	<u>CONCRETE</u>
roof	<u>TERRA COTTA</u>
walls	<u>BRICK</u>
other	<u>ASPHALT</u>
	<u>STONE/Limestone</u>
	<u>METAL/Steel</u>
	<u>BRICK</u>

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

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.)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A | Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B | Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 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 individual distinction. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | D | Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. |

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Criteria Considerations

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

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B removed from its original location
- C a birthplace or a grave
- D a cemetery
- E 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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1929-1962

Significant Dates 1929

Significant Person (complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder Ralston & Ralston
Klass, Raymond

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

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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 #

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>15</u>	<u>554449</u>	<u>4705328</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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.)

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Camilla Deiber, Architectural Historian

organization The Louis Berger Group, Inc. date 2/11/13

street & number 950 50th Street telephone 319-730-3028

city or town Marion state Iowa zip code 52302

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Dyersville (Mick Michel)

street & number 340 1st Street East telephone (563) 875-7724

city or town Dyersville state Iowa zip code 52040

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Memorial Building, built in 1929, is a two-story Colonial Revival style building constructed of brick, concrete slab floors, steel beams and joists, and a clay tile roof. The main façade features four fenestrated bays defined by corbelled brick and pre-cast concrete keystones, two pre-cast concrete date plaques with iron lettering in between spelling out “Memorial Building”, and a side gable clay tile roof with concrete capped parapets. The interior retains many original spaces and features such as the main open staircase, large community hall, wood doors with surrounds, and built-in cabinetry.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Memorial Building is located at 340 First Avenue East on the east end of downtown Dyersville (Figure 1). An alley runs along the north side of the building. A one-story commercial building is adjacent to the building on the east. The two-story Dyersville Public Library is adjacent to the building on the west (Figure 2). A doorway on the west wall of City Hall lobby leads directly to the main floor of the library.

The 43 feet tall, 108 feet long, and 66 feet wide building is constructed of concrete blocks and steel beams and joists finished with a mottled buff colored brick on the main façade and red brick on the secondary facades. The steel roof is clad with terra cotta tiles on the side gable section and a built-up type roof on the flat section. The floors are constructed using a concrete joist and beam system. The interior partition walls are clay tile. Large steel I-beams were used for headers and load-bearing walls and openings (e.g. windows and doorways and wall joists).

The main (south) façade features four equally spaced fenestrated bays and a side-gable clay tile roof. The base of the building is visually formed by a three foot tall pre-cast concrete water table. All four bays are recessed slightly from the main plane of the façade. These floor to ceiling bays originally contained three storefronts and a set of double doors at the original location of the fire station. The two central bays are emphasized with corbelled surrounds and large pre-cast concrete keystones, one for each opening on the first floor and two on the second floor. The two outer bays have smaller pre-cast concrete keystones with the same arrangement as the central bays. Above each of the outer bays, a circular pre-cast concrete plaque is set with the numbers, “19” and “29” indicating the construction date of the building. Iron letters denoting the building’s name, “Memorial Building”, are set above the two central bays. The main façade is finished with a corbelled cornice surmounted by a metal box gutter. The brick parapets on the east and west ends of the building have pre-cast concrete copings and are visually supported on the main façade by small pre-cast concrete corbels. The clay tiles of the roof have varying colors from a light orange-red to a deep, almost purple tinged red created a mottled effect similar to the brick on the main façade.

In 2004, the building was remodeled on the exterior and interior. Much of the exterior remodeling removed aluminum windows and doors, and an aggregate veneer on the first floor of the main façade, constructed in 1971 when the police station was relocated to the west side of the building (Figure 3). The aluminum windows and stone veneer was replaced with steel windows and doors that had a fenestration pattern similar to the original openings. Globe lights were placed on either side of the main entrance in the location of the original light fixtures. Original wood sash in the upper story windows were replaced with steel sash with a similar 1/1 light pattern. Existing window frames were clad with steel. The building’s original clock, removed in 1967, and main entrance light fixtures are also no longer present. However, two original wrought iron flag holders remain and are still in use.

The rear façade also has four fenestrated bays that were significantly altered during the 2004 remodeling. The façade has multiple steel fire escapes for the first and second floors. A small, concrete block loading dock was installed ca. 1950. All

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of the windows and doors on the rear (north) façade were either replaced with steel windows or enclosed with pre-finished metal panels in 2004. On the first floor, two sets of three 1/1 windows were removed and the openings were downsized with brick to accommodate one 1/1 steel window with a transom. All of the large window openings on the second floor were enclosed with steel panels. Two single window openings on the second floor were replaced with shorter steel windows.

Interior Arrangement

The entrance vestibule of the Memorial Building has a ceramic tile floor, wood baseboards, plaster walls and ceiling, and an open metal staircase with rubber treads and risers (Figure 4). Two metal pendant light fixtures provide light to the space. Original three panel wood doors with a single light and original trim on either side of the vestibule lead to the county treasurer's office and the police station lobby. The doorway to the police station has an original transom.

A hallway on the north side of the vestibule provides access to the remainder of the first floor. Finishes in the vestibule such as the tile floor, wood baseboards, and plaster walls are continued into the hallway. The ceiling, however, has been lowered with acoustical tile and has recessed fluorescent lighting. An elevator, installed in 2003, and restrooms are located off the west side of the hallway. A doorway to the police break room is also located on the west wall of the hallway. A glass partition and modern wood doorway are located at the north end of the hallway. A small vestibule beyond the partition provides access to a janitor's closet, the booking room of the police station, and a second glass partition and doorway that mark the entrance into the city offices. Finishes in the hallway are continued into the vestibule.

The main lobby and reception area of the city offices is a large, L-shaped space with carpeted floors, wood baseboard, painted plaster walls, and an acoustical tile ceiling with recessed fluorescent lighting. Small offices are located off the north, east, and south walls of the reception area. A set of double doors on the west wall lead to a small research room. This space also has carpeted floors and plaster walls. Double doors on the west wall of the small research room lead directly into the Dyersville Public Library.

The police station, on the east side of the main hallway, is comprised of several rooms including a small lobby, two offices, a booking room, interview room, vault and restroom. Most of original partitions in this area, except for the vault, were removed and the space was reconfigured in 2004. The booking room, restroom, and interview room have vinyl tile floors. The remaining rooms are carpeted. All of the rooms have plaster walls and acoustical tile ceilings. All of the doors within the police station were installed in 2004.

While the first floor has been extensively remodeled, the second floor remains relatively intact (Figure 5). The open staircase leads to a wide, central hallway with vinyl tile flooring, a rubber baseboard, plaster walls, wood chair rail, and a plaster ceiling. There are original wood doors and surrounds on the east and west sides of the hallway leading to the Dyersville Historical Society library and workroom. The door on the east side has an original American Legion painted emblem in the upper panel of the door. The elevator is situated on the north side of the staircase.

The historical society work room on the east side of the hallway is comprised of two large rooms connected by a double doorway, a vault, a small restroom, a closet and a small pass-through hallway that leads to the community hall on the north side of the space. All of the rooms have a vinyl tile floor, plastered walls, a wood chair rail, and an acoustical tile ceiling probably installed in the 1960s. The east wall of the large workroom, which is the outer wall of the building, is clad with wood paneling. Large cast iron radiators are situated beneath the large windows on the south wall of both large rooms. The vault has a steel door with fluted trim surmounted by Corinthian style capitals and an ornate cornice.

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The Historical Society research room is one large space with carpeted floors, plastered walls and ceiling, wood chair rail, and wood paneling on the south wall. A section of floor to ceiling built-in cabinets with a large porcelain sink is located on the east wall of the room. The built-in features cabinets with wood doors above and below glass-front cabinets and wood front drawers. The sink on the north end of the unit may have been added in at a later date.

At the north end of the second floor hallway are original wood double doors with transoms that lead to the large community hall that measures 64 feet wide by 69 feet long. This large space has a wood tongue and groove floor, plastered walls, wood chair rail, and an acoustical tile ceiling. A large stage is set in the center of the north wall. The ceiling is lowered in the west two-thirds of the space, cutting the stage to half of its original height (Figure 6). Doorways on either side of the stage feature original three panel wood doors and wood surrounds with pediments. Original plaques above each door denote the room's use: "Stage" and "Check Room". A five riser staircase along the back wall of each of these rooms provides access to the backstage. Two windows and a door are situated on the north wall of the "Stage" room. Three doorways are located on the south wall of the community hall, two of which lead into the historical society rooms. The third door, denoted as the "Ladies Room" by the metal plaque above the door, leads to a small lounge area and restroom. The lounge room has plaster walls, a tile floor, and a wood coat rail with metal coat hooks. The tile floor continues into the restroom.

The open stairway leads down to a small hallway in the front half of the basement (Figure 7). The hallway has a vinyl tile floor, a rubber baseboard, plaster walls and ceilings, and surface mounted fluorescent lighting and electrical conduit. Small storage areas, located on the south and west walls of the hallway, appear to have been constructed ca. 1990 with late twentieth century hollow-core wood doors and modern plasterboard walls.

A set of original three-panel, wood, swinging double doors is located on the east side of the hallway, leading to a small vestibule with doorways to a restroom and the internet technology (IT) room for the building. The tile floor and wood baseboard in the hallway extends into the vestibule and restroom. The vestibule and restroom have plaster walls and a plaster ceiling. The IT room has a carpeted floor, plaster walls, and a drop ceiling with fluorescent lights. The rehabilitation of this room was completed 2004.

The elevator is located behind the staircase on the west wall of the small hallway. At the end of the hallway, a late twentieth century wood door with a wood frame sidelight provides access to the back half of the basement, which includes the city council chambers, offices, storage rooms, and mechanical rooms.

The council chambers occupy almost half of the basement [location of former gymnasium]. Two structural steel posts stand out in the middle of the chamber room. The concrete beam and joist structure of the floor above is also visible in the chamber room. This floor structure is newer than the steel beam and concrete system in the remainder of the building. The floor of the chamber is carpeted and the walls are plaster. Two small rooms, one a city office and the other a storage room for recreational equipment, are located on the west side of the chambers. The office has a window and a door and is finished with carpeted floors and plaster walls. The storage room has the original maple, tongue and groove flooring from the gymnasium, plaster walls, and a mid- to late-twentieth century beam and block ceiling with surface mounted lighting, plumbing pipes and conduit.

A steel door on the west wall of the recreational equipment storage room provides the only interior access to the mechanical room, which runs almost the full length of the building. The room has a concrete floor and stone walls on the north, south, and west sides. The east wall is a wood partition finished with plaster. Small sections of the north wall have

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been enclosed with concrete block. A steel door on the north wall provides access to the exterior. The stone appears to be the foundation remnants of the previous city hall building that burned down in 1928. The ceiling of the room has exposed steel beams that run in an east/west direction, opposite of the ceiling structure in the rest of the basement. Metal lathe and poured concrete sit atop the steel beams. This appears to be the original floor construction.

A large storage room is located on the south side of the chamber room. The room has a concrete floor, plaster walls, and a plaster ceiling with surface mounted lighting and electrical conduit. This was likely one of the shower rooms installed in 1931 along with the basement gymnasium.

The public works office, a small storage room, and a rear entrance hallway are located off the north wall of the chamber room. The public works office has a vinyl tile floor, modern plaster walls with metal studs, and a beam and block ceiling. The small storage room has a maple, tongue and groove floor, plaster walls, an exposed metal stud wall, and a beam and block ceiling. A short doorway with three concrete steps leads to a second small storage room that is located beneath the post office dock. Remnants of the brick wall and stone foundation of the previous city hall can be seen on the east wall of this room. The north wall is concrete block. The ceiling is a heavy gauge corrugated metal. All of the rooms have surface mounted lighting and electrical conduit.

The Memorial Building maintains a moderate degree of all seven aspects of integrity including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The building maintains high integrity of **location**. The structure is in its original location and hasn't been moved or expanded beyond its original footprint.

The exterior of the building retains a high degree of integrity of **design**, despite alterations. The main façade of the building retains its original fenestration pattern, wall materials, decorative features such as corbelled surrounds and large pre-cast concrete keystones; and clay tile roof. The exterior of the building was altered with a renovation in 1971 that changed the configuration of the first floor entrances and window and door materials. However, the 2004 exterior renovation, for the most part, matched the general fenestration pattern of the original building. Because the new fenestration design did not include the original configuration of the double doors that were associated with the fire station, the building was not considered to have sufficient integrity to be eligible under Criterion C, though the architecture of the building is unique within the local context of Dyersville. The interior has retained its integrity of design in key public spaces such as the hallways, historical society research and work rooms, and community hall. Other interior spaces have been altered to accommodate reorganization of functions over the course of the building's history. While many of the finishes in the first floor have been updated and some interior partitions changed, the central hallway and main staircase remain intact as well as some original wood doors and surrounds. The gymnasium in the basement has been partitioned and original maple floor covered with carpet. The upper story of the gymnasium has been enclosed by a new floor, which now contains the main city hall office. However, the second floor remains virtually intact with the community hall, former American Legion rooms, and offices all retaining original materials, spaces, and interior features such as a large stage, built in cabinets, wood doors, and decorative door surrounds. While the exterior and interior have been altered, the building still retains sufficient integrity of design to convey its original design as a multi-use community building, with many of the key spaces remaining intact.

The building has a high integrity of **setting**. Construction of a new library in 2002 on the building's west side has somewhat changed the setting. Other than the new library, the demolition of a building for a parking lot on the south side of the street has slightly altered the general setting of the building (Figure 8).

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The exterior maintains a moderate to high degree of integrity of **materials** as it still retains its original brick walls, corbelled surrounds with large pre-cast concrete keystones, wrought iron flag holders, circular pre-cast concrete plaques, corbelled cornice with metal box gutters, and clay tile roof. The replacement of window and storefront materials are the only alterations on the main and rear façade. On the interior, the first floor and basement have been substantially altered and thus, has very poor material integrity. However, the material integrity of the second floor is very high with very few alterations. With a moderate degree of integrity overall, the building retains sufficient integrity of materials to convey the period of significance of the building, particularly on the main façade.

As described above, the integrity of **workmanship** on the main façade and second floor are high to moderate with very few alterations. Alterations described in the paragraphs above have diminished the integrity of the building's workmanship on the first floor storefronts, and interior of the basement and first floor. Despite these alterations, the building retains sufficient integrity of workmanship to convey the building's age and historic period.

The building has a high degree of **feeling** on the exterior. Rehabilitation of the building in 2004 improved the appearance of the exterior with more sympathetic first floor storefront configurations. The feeling of the interior on the first floor and basement is moderate to low because of alterations conducted during that same time. The second floor interior has a high degree of feeling having the most intact floor plan, room arrangements, and interior finishes in the building. Overall, the building has a moderate to high degree of feeling and thus retains sufficient integrity to convey the building's historic period.

The building retains a high degree of **association** as it continues to be used as the city hall and police station for the community.

Overall, the building retains sufficient integrity of feeling, association, location, setting, materials, design, and workmanship to convey its period of significance and association with the development and continued use of the multi-purpose city hall and memorial building.

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SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Memorial Building is locally significant under Criterion A as it is associated with the growth and development of governmental facilities in Dyersville. The Memorial Hall was designed as a multi-purpose building with city functions such as police, fire, and municipal offices; and social spaces such as the large community hall and gymnasium. The building also functioned as a memorial building, overseen by the local American Legion, which was housed in several rooms on the second floor. The building served as the political and social center of the community from its construction in 1929 to the present day. The renovation of the exterior in 2004 removed unsympathetic aluminum storefronts of first floor and installed new windows and doors that alluded to the original fenestration pattern of the building without replicating it. Most of the significant interior spaces remain intact including the central hall and stair, former American Legion rooms, and community hall. Most of the original functions except the American Legion, fire station and post office are also located within the building. While the basement and first floor interior have been remodeled, the second floor retains a high degree of integrity with a large community room with original stage, wood doors with decorative surrounds; and former American Legion rooms with an original vault with decorative door surround, and a built-in cabinet. Despite alterations, the Memorial building retains sufficient integrity of design, workmanship, materials, feeling, association, location, and setting to be eligible under Criterion A.

The Dyersville Memorial Building is significant in the area of politics and government and social history as it served as the center of the almost all city functions such as police, fire, and municipal offices; the post office; as well as other community functions such as the library, community hall, and gymnasium. This arrangement was established early in the city's history when the first permanent city hall was constructed in 1893 at the present site of the Memorial Building with all of the aforementioned functions except the library and gymnasium in one building. The building served as the social center of the community with extensive use of the building's community hall for dances, club meetings, banquets, and even burlesque comedies. Throughout the history of the Memorial Building, new functions were added that further cemented the building's position as the political and social center of the community. Just six months after the building's completion, a gymnasium was completed in the basement, where regional basketball games were held. In 1959, a public library was established in the basement of the building. These important functions remained centralized in one building until the 1960s when the post office vacated the building. In 2002 and 2003 the library and American Legion vacated the building. The former American Legion rooms have since been occupied by another community organization, the Dyersville Area Historical Society. This centralization of important political and social spaces in one building is rarely found in city halls in Iowa.

RESOURCE HISTORY AND HISTORIC CONTEXT

On June 4, 1928, the Dyersville City Hall was damaged by a fire that appeared to start in the jail section of the building. As the fire department was housed in the same building, the alarm was sounded and the fire truck was taken out of the building to extinguish the blaze. Fire companies from nearby Farley, New Vienna, and Dubuque were also called to the fire as the blaze intensified, being fueled by oil painted scenery and other stage equipment located in the building's opera house. The rear section and the central tower of the building were badly burned. Only the post office was able to provide service the next morning. The city hall at that time contained the fire department, jail, opera house, city council rooms, and the post office. By August 2, 1928, the City received an insurance settlement of \$11,801 for the damage to the building. While the total coverage was \$16,000, not all of the building was seriously damaged including the post office section.

On October 17, 1928, the city held a special election for a \$30,000 bond issue to construct a new memorial building that would also serve as the city hall. The city was able to issue bonds for the building under Chapter 37 of the Iowa Code,

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allowing "Memorial buildings and monuments designed to commemorate the service rendered by soldiers, sailors, and marines of the United States may be erected and equipped at public expense". The issue failed by a margin of four votes. The possibility of building a sewage disposal plant at the same time as the new city hall with an additional tax levy prompted some to vote against the issue. Once it was made clear by the city that a new disposal plant was not yet necessary, a second special election was held on January 16, 1929 and the bond issue passed by 151 votes.

By the end of January 1929, the city council had certified the passage of the bond issue and hired the Waterloo architectural firm of Ralston and Ralston to complete plans and specifications for the new building. On March 4, 1929, the Memorial Hall Commission was created and four American Legion members were appointed: Postmaster A. C. Link, W. A. McVane, W. B. Barry and A. L. Davidsaver at a joint city council and memorial commission meeting. As the bonds were issued under Chapter 37 of the Iowa Code governing construction of memorial buildings, the Commission had "charge and supervision" over the construction of the building and management of the building after it was completed. By March 7, 1929, the building plans were completed and a notice for bids was published in the local newspaper, *The Dyersville Commercial*. The building cost was not to exceed \$45,000.

As early as 1919, the Iowa Code provided for a dependent soldiers' and sailors' tax to finance the erection of monuments. Chapter 37 was added to the Iowa Code in 1924 to allow municipalities to issue bonds for construction of a memorial building or monument "designed to commemorate the service rendered by soldiers, sailors, and marines of the United States" (Homestead Company 1919; State Printer 1924). That same year, a memorial building was constructed in Audubon and a memorial armory constructed in Shenandoah. A large number of Iowa communities continued to construct, coliseums, park pavilions, libraries, and halls in memory of soldiers and sailors under this code. Memorial buildings/halls were constructed in Waterloo (1915), Cedar Rapids (1920), Lake City (1920), Sigourney (1922), Audubon (1924), Dyersville (1929), Des Moines (1934), Vail (1938), and West Branch (1948). Only three of the aforementioned buildings were also used as city halls: Cedar Rapids, Dyersville, and Sigourney. Other large memorial buildings built in Iowa include the Memorial Union at Iowa State University (1927) and Veteran's Memorial Auditorium in Des Moines (1955).

On April 15, 1929, contractor Raymond Klass of Louisburg, Wisconsin began demolition of the old city hall. The post office, which continued to operate in the building after the fire, moved to the Goerdts building on west Main Street. Just three days later, Mr. Klass was awarded the contract to construct the new memorial building at a cost of \$37,315. As the cost for construction was higher than expected and the budget could not exceed \$45,000, several items were eliminated from the plans including a mastic floor for the gymnasium, showers for the gymnasium, and the floor in the boiler room. The plumbing and heating contract was awarded to Schueth Brothers of Dyersville for \$6,164. The \$1,372 electrical contract went to Cedar Falls Electric and Hardware Company. Electrical fixtures were provided by Loecke Brothers in Dyersville.

The new Memorial Building was completed on December 12, 1929 for just over \$40,000 (Figure 9). On December 19, 1929, the city council had its first session in the new building. The council reviewed the architect's report on the completed building, approved completion of the building, and held an extra evening session to place insurance on the new building and to let contracts for furnishings in the building.

The dedication ceremony was a four day affair starting on January 6, 1930 with an open house. The building was again open during the day on January 7 with a city council session and the dedication ceremony in the new building that evening. The primary dedication speech was given by Father Hoffman of St. Francis Church, who paid tribute to the citizens of Dyersville remarking that, "the community was overwhelmingly German by descent, but overshadowed most American communities by the spontaneity and enthusiasm of its sacrifices and efforts. They were deserving of far more credit than

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most other communities because they had to overcome ties of blood and sentiment which made their sacrifice truly heroic ones." Mayor M. B. Andelfinger of Dubuque, former mayors D. W. Armstrong and H. R. Willenborg, and President of the Commercial Club George Ham also gave speeches at the ceremony, which ended with the key to the building being given to Dyersville Mayor Schuster by Memorial Commission member A. L. Davidsaver. Dances were held in the community hall the evenings of January 8 and 9. The music was provided by Hunt's Orchestra and Rubly's Orchestra.

The first floor of the new building contained a post office, rest rooms, fire department, "fire-proof" jail, band room, and the upper area of the gymnasium, which now contains the current city hall office. The second floor contained the community hall with an eighteen foot by twenty-eight foot stage, kitchen, American Legion rooms, mayor and clerk's offices, council chamber, and check room. The basement was left uncompleted due to budget constraints.

Though the building was, for the most part, complete, the contract with the U.S. government for the post office operations in the building had not yet been signed. The interior arrangements of the post office were specified separately from the main building. The Corbin Cabinet Lock Division of the American Hardware Corporation provided the plans for the post office boxes, counter, office, and restroom (Figure 10). The post office occupied the southeast quarter of the building with two entrances on the main façade and a third entrance from the central interior hallway [now the police station entrance]. It wasn't until the second week in February 1930 that the post office was moved into the Memorial Building.

The first social activity to occur in the community hall was the annual banquet of the Dyersville Commercial Club held on February 4, 1930. On February 7 and 12, 1930, a burlesque comedy sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion was held in the community hall. Dances were a regular occurrence on Wednesday nights with bands such as Harold Lyman and His Orchestra and Spider Kurth's Orchestra.

On June 30, 1930, William Kramer & Son was awarded a \$2,039 bid for the completion of the gymnasium in the basement of the Memorial Building. The contract included laying a maple floor in the gym, plastering walls, installing the plumbing and plastering the walls for the girls and boys shower and locker rooms. The only major feature left uncompleted, according to the *Dyersville Commercial*, was the balcony [the current police station booking room, adjacent vestibule, restroom, and janitor's closet].

Just over one month later, it was announced in the local newspaper that the City of Dyersville was to have its own basketball team. Former local basketball player, Charles Gebhard, was chosen to be the coach of the "Dyersville Fliers". A basketball league was also being organized to include teams from across northeast Iowa. By early December a community league of six teams from Dyersville, Edgewood, Winthrop, Manchester, Greeley, and Delhi had formed. The gymnasium was completed by December 12, 1930 for the first basketball game of the season between Xavier High School and the Dyersville Fliers. Popularity of independent league basketball continued to grow. In February 1931, a 13-team basketball tournament held in the Memorial Building brought record crowds into the newly constructed gymnasium.

In September 1959, a new public library, named the Hoffman Library after local Monsignor M. M. Hoffman, was established in the gymnasium of the Memorial Building. In 1970, the library expanded into a room on the main floor [the current location of the research room].

The upper area of the gymnasium was enclosed with the installation of a beam and block floor at some unknown date [the current location of the main lobby, reception area, and adjacent city offices]. Though, it is possible that its construction coincided with the need for more room for the library. The beam and block construction suggests mid-to late-twentieth century construction (Figure 11).

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In 1954, the Memorial Building was again remodeled, including the post office space. At that time, the post office entered into a 10 year lease with the city. In 1963, the post office constructed a new building and vacated the Memorial Building (Weber 2012).

In 1971, the building was renovated on the interior and exterior. The former fire station, located on the first floor, was subdivided into four rooms for the police station. The former police station, located on the east side of the central hallway on the main floor was enlarged and remodeled to accommodate the water department. The four openings on the ground floor of the main façade were completely remodeled with metal frame fixed windows, glass doors, and panels of crushed stone set in concrete.

In 2002, the new James Kennedy Public Library was constructed on the west side of the Memorial Building. The library in the basement was then moved into the new building. A doorway on the west wall of the Memorial Building connects the new library to the city hall.

In 2003, the American Legion vacated their offices on the second floor and moved to the former fire station building owned by the city.

Dyersville had two city halls prior to 1929. The first city business was conducted in a school house at the corner of DeWitt and Union Streets until the early 1890s. The building served the dual purpose of city hall and school until 1877, when the building was purchased for sole use as the city hall. In 1893, a large, two-story brick town hall was constructed on First Avenue East [present site of the Memorial Building]. The city hall contained the council and mayor's offices, fire department, jail, post-office, and community hall and opera house.

The Memorial Building clearly defines the Colonial Revival style in the details of its façade. The symmetrically arranged façade, clearly defined bays with corbelled brick, a front entrance with transoms and sidelights, and cast concrete keystones are classic elements of the style. The clay tile roof and shaped parapets illustrate the Dutch influence in the architecture. The Colonial Revival style was favored in the early twentieth century for use in public buildings from schools to post offices and city halls in small towns to larger cities in Iowa. Interest in looking back to the Federal, Georgian, and Dutch Colonial architecture of America's founding period began with the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876 and continued during the Columbian Exposition of 1893. In Iowa, Colonial Revival became a popular style for residential architecture around the turn of the twentieth century. The style gained prominence in the architecture of public buildings after World War I.

Ralston & Ralston

In Waterloo, Iowa in 1927, John Glen Ralston formed the firm, Ralston & Ralston with his son, Glen E. Ralston. The father, John, worked as a carpenter for the architectural/contracting firm of Murphy & Wallace from 1892 to 1897. In 1897, after moving to Waterloo, Iowa, John began contracting work with W. F. Murphy and the firm of Murphy and Ralston was created. Upon Murphy's death in 1904, John Ralston practiced architecture on his own as J.G. Ralston. By 1912, Murphy & Ralston and J.G. Ralston had designed 79 commercial and institutional buildings, 33 of which were in Waterloo. Public buildings included the Ackley School Building (1907), Traer Public Library (1916), and the Waterloo East and West Public Libraries (1906). Ralston actively sought commissions with school districts during the consolidation period of the early twentieth century. In the mid-1920s, Ralston & Ralston focused on county courthouses and other public buildings such as the Chickasaw County Courthouse in New Hampton (1929), Fayette County Courthouse in West Union (1922-24), and the Hand County Courthouse in Miller, South Dakota (1926). In 1953, John G. Ralston retired from his

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practice as the oldest practicing architect in the state (Shank 1999:134-136).

This project was produced under the terms of a Memorandum of Agreement, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, among the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, the State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and the City of Dyersville, Iowa regarding the demolition of historic properties in Dyersville, for which FEMA administered Federal disaster assistance as a result of flooding in the summer of 2008.

Future Plans

The city currently has a quote to install an exterior clock similar to the original one as shown in Figure 9. The city plans to remodel the interior of the community hall on the second floor within the next few years for council chambers, which are currently located in the basement.

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Section 9 Page 11

name of property: Memorial Building
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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Anonymous

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Dubuque County Assessor

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Dyersville Commercial

- 1928a Dyersville City Hall is Guttled by Treacherous Fire. June 7, p. 1.
- 1928b Good Settlement Is Made Insurance In City Hall Loss. August 2, p. 1.
- 1928c Dyersville Will Vote On Memorial Hall Wednesday. October 11, p. 1.
- 1928d Dyersville Will Again Vote On The Memorial Building. December 20, p. 1.
- 1929a Question Building Memorial Hall To Be Submitted Again. January 10, p. 1.
- 1929b Question Building A Memorial Hall Is Carried At Election. January 17, p. 1.
- 1929c Waterloo Architect To Furnish The Plan For Memorial Hall. January 31, p. 1.
- 1929d Council Asks Bids For Memorial Hall. March 7, p. 1.
- 1929e The Council Adopts Specification For Memorial Building. March 21, p. 1.
- 1929f Wisconsin Man Gets Contract For New Memorial Building. April 18, p. 1.
- 1929g The Old Town Hall Building is Being Wrecked Rapidly. April 25, p. 1.
- 1929h Memorial Building to Be Completed Today; To Pass on the Work. December 12, p. 1.
- 1929i Council In Session Formally Accepts Memorial Building. December 19, p. 1.
- 1929j Dyersville's New Memorial Building. December 26, p. 1.
- 1930a Dyersville's New Memorial Building Dedicated Tuesday Evening. January 9, p. 1.
- 1930b Stage All Set For The Annual Banquet of Commercial Club. January 30, p. 1.
- 1930c Burlesque Comedy At Memorial Hall. February 6, p. 1.
- 1930d First Post Office Dyersville Was in Bigelow Drug Store. February 13, p. 1.
- 1930e To Complete Gym Early in September. July 3, p. 1.
- 1930f Dyersville to Have Basket Ball Team. November 6, p. 2.
- 1930g New Gymnasium To Be Completed Soon. November 6, p. 3.
- 1930h League Basketball Meet Here Tonight. December 4, p. 1.
- 1930i Basketball Season Opens Friday Night. December 11, p. 1.

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- 1931 Mammoth Basketball Tournament To Be Staged in Dyersville the Coming Week. February 19, p. 1.
1971a Wedewer Crew At Work Remodeling The 'City Hall'. February 11, n.p.
1971b Remodeling at City Hall. April 15, n.p.
1971c City Hall Project. July 1, n.p.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 13

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

Dyersville, Original Town Plat, E 2/3 LOT 426 & W 1/3 LOT 427.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the building.

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Section Photos Page 14 name of property: Memorial Building
county, state: Dubuque County, Iowa

The following items apply to all photographs:

Property Name: Memorial Building

Location: Dyersville, Dubuque County, Iowa

Photographer: Camilla R. Deiber

Date of Photographs: February 21, 2012

CD-R No. & Location: CD-R #283; State Historical Society of Iowa, Historic Preservation Office, Des Moines

Digital Ink and Paper: HP Gray Photo Print Cartridge (HP-100) and HP Premium Plus Photo Paper, High Gloss

Individual Photograph Identifications:

1. Overall view, looking north
2. Overall view, looking southwest
3. Overall view, looking northeast
4. Main façade window openings and cornice, view north
5. Main façade flag holder, view northeast
6. Main staircase, view northwest
7. Second floor hallway, view northeast
8. Community hall main doorway, view north
9. Community hall, view north by northwest
10. Community hall doorways, view south
11. Stage room, view northeast
12. Historical society work room, view south
13. Vault door, second floor, view north
14. Historical society research room, view northwest

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15. Historical society research room, built-in cabinets, view northeast
16. Basement, original swinging double doors, view northeast
17. Sports equipment storage area, view northwest

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FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP OF MEMORIAL BUILDING

(NAIP, Dyersville East NW 2010)

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FIGURE 2. SITE PLAN MAP OF MEMORIAL BUILDING

(Dubuque County Assessor 2007)

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FIGURE 3. MEMORIAL BUILDING IN 1972

(Dyersville Area Centennial Corp. 1972)

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county, state: Dubuque County, Iowa

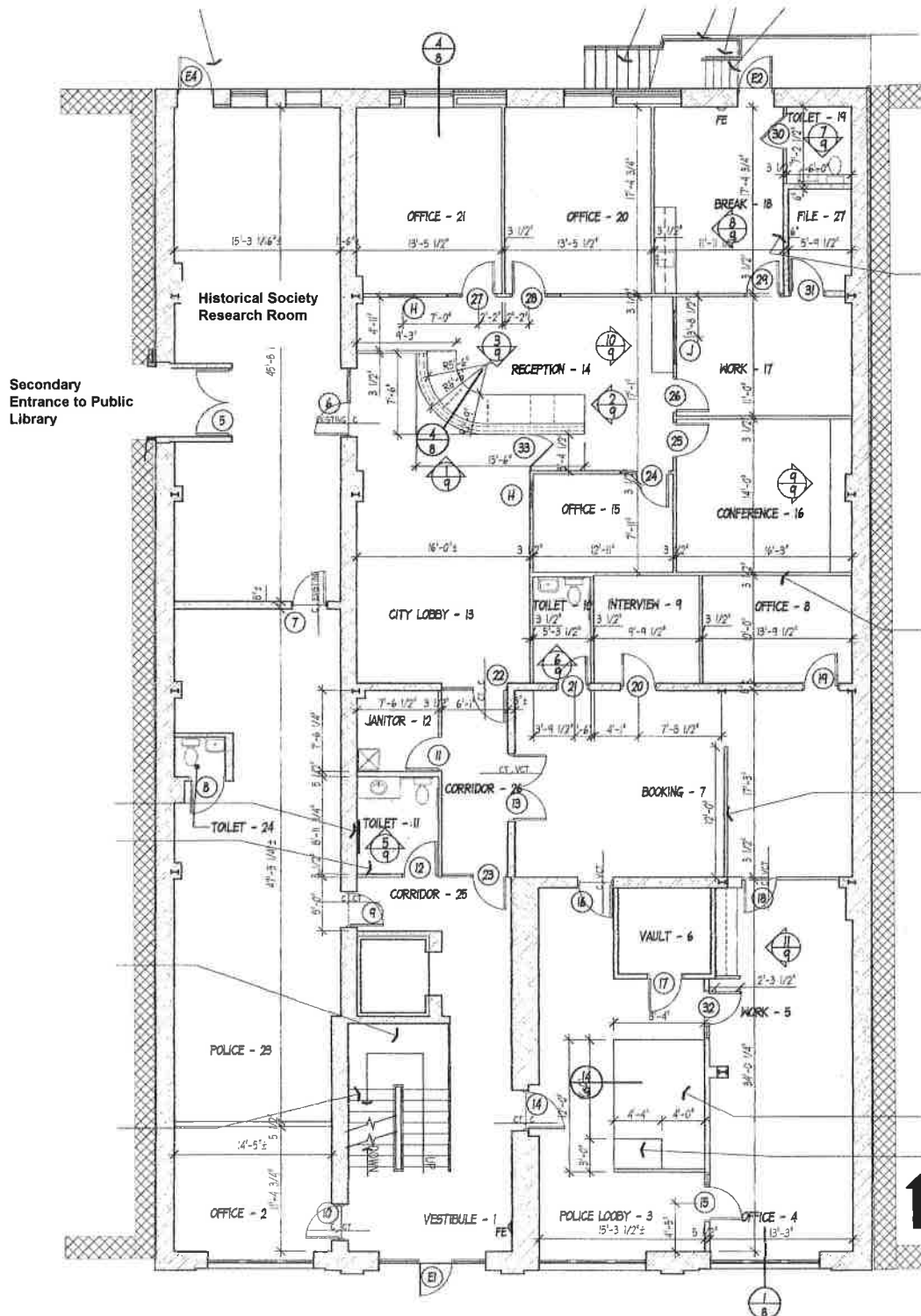


FIGURE 4. FIRST FLOOR PLAN, NOT TO SCALE (Gardner Architecture 2003)

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county, state: Dubuque County, Iowa

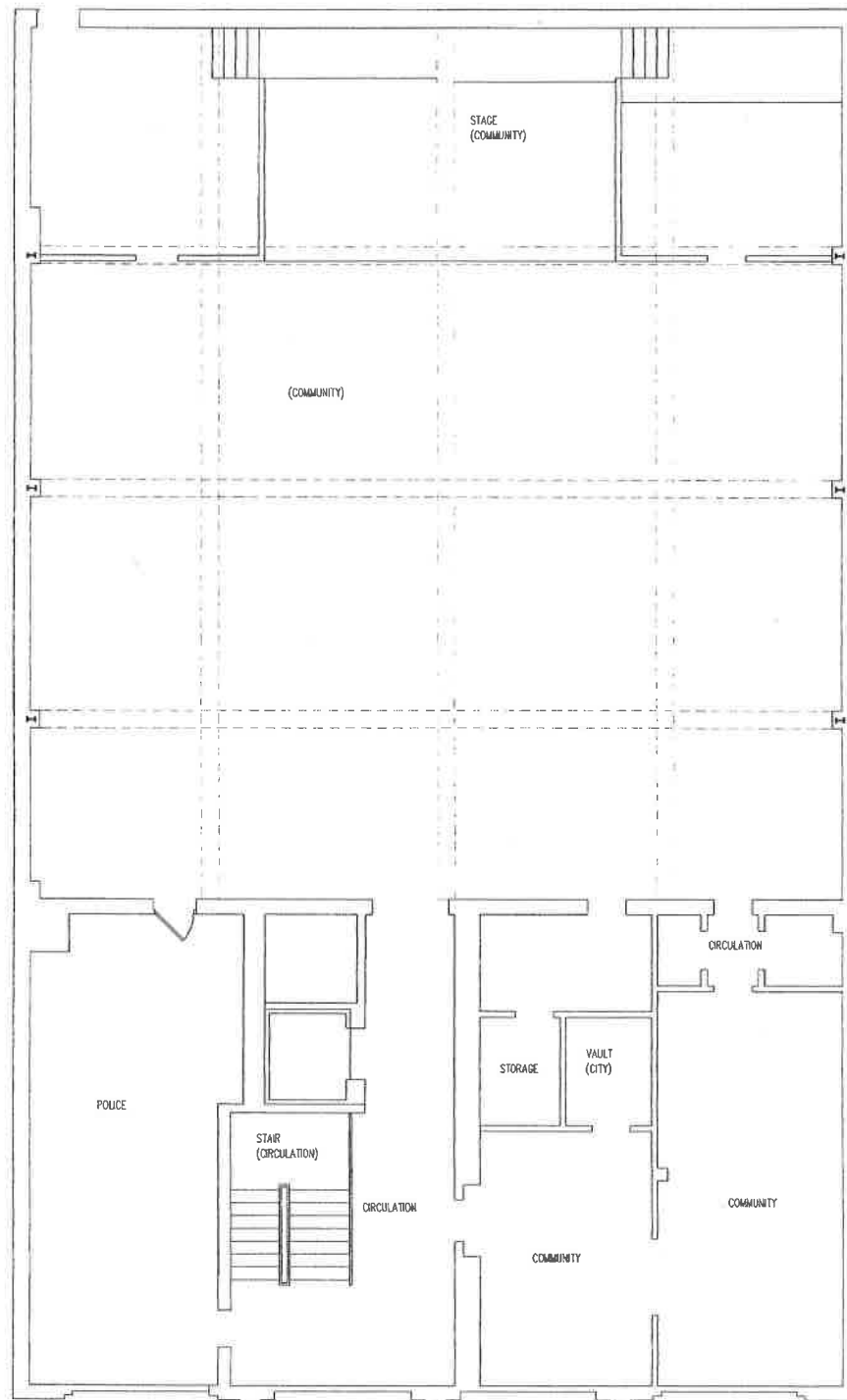


FIGURE 5. SECOND FLOOR PLAN, NOT TO SCALE (Gardner Architecture 2003)

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FIGURE 6. COMMUNITY HALL INTERIOR, CA. 1972

(Dyersville Area Centennial Corp. 1972)

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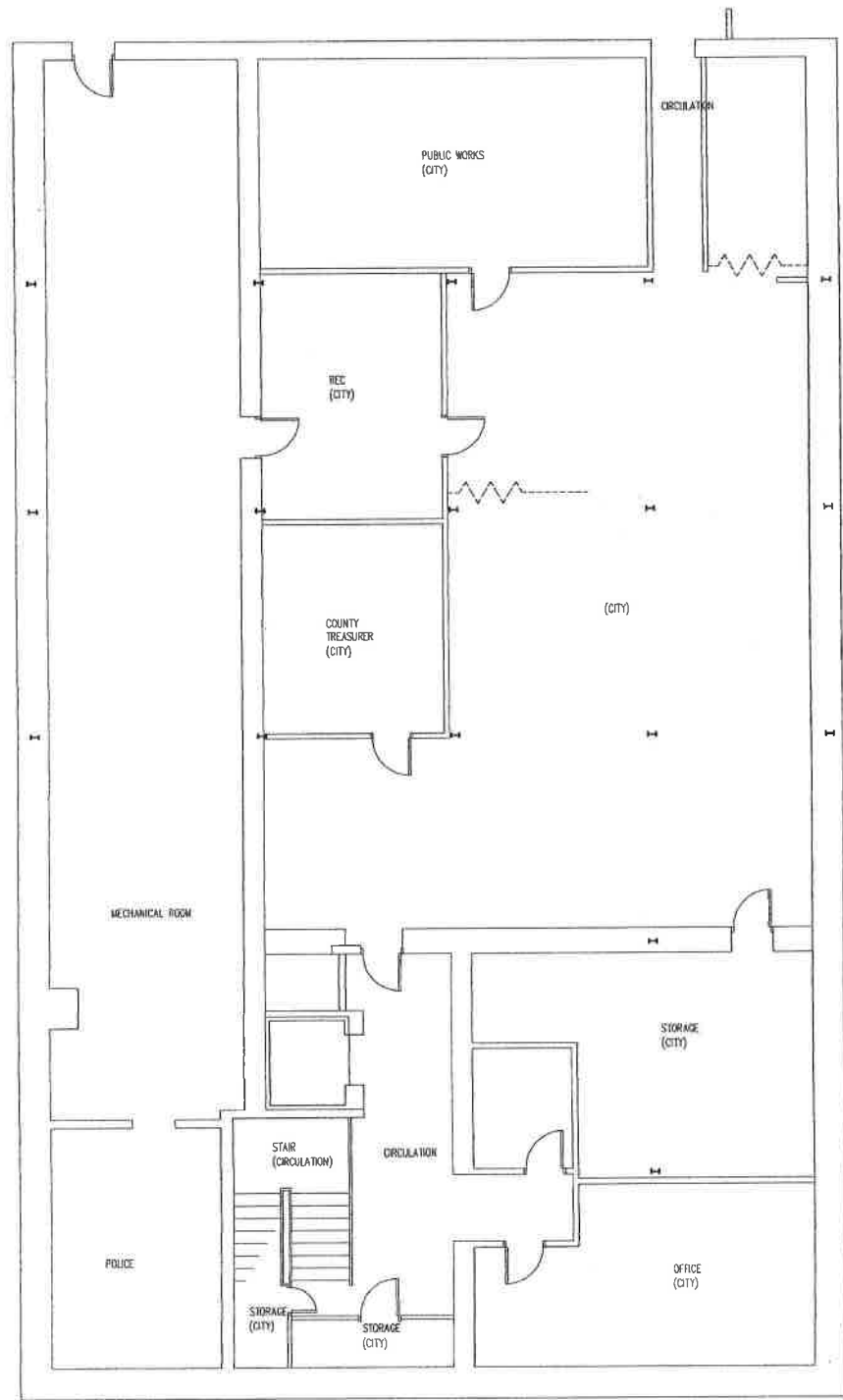


FIGURE 7. BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN, NOT TO SCALE (*Gardner Architecture 2003*)

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Section Imbedded Images Page 23 name of property: Memorial Building
county, state: Dubuque County, Iowa

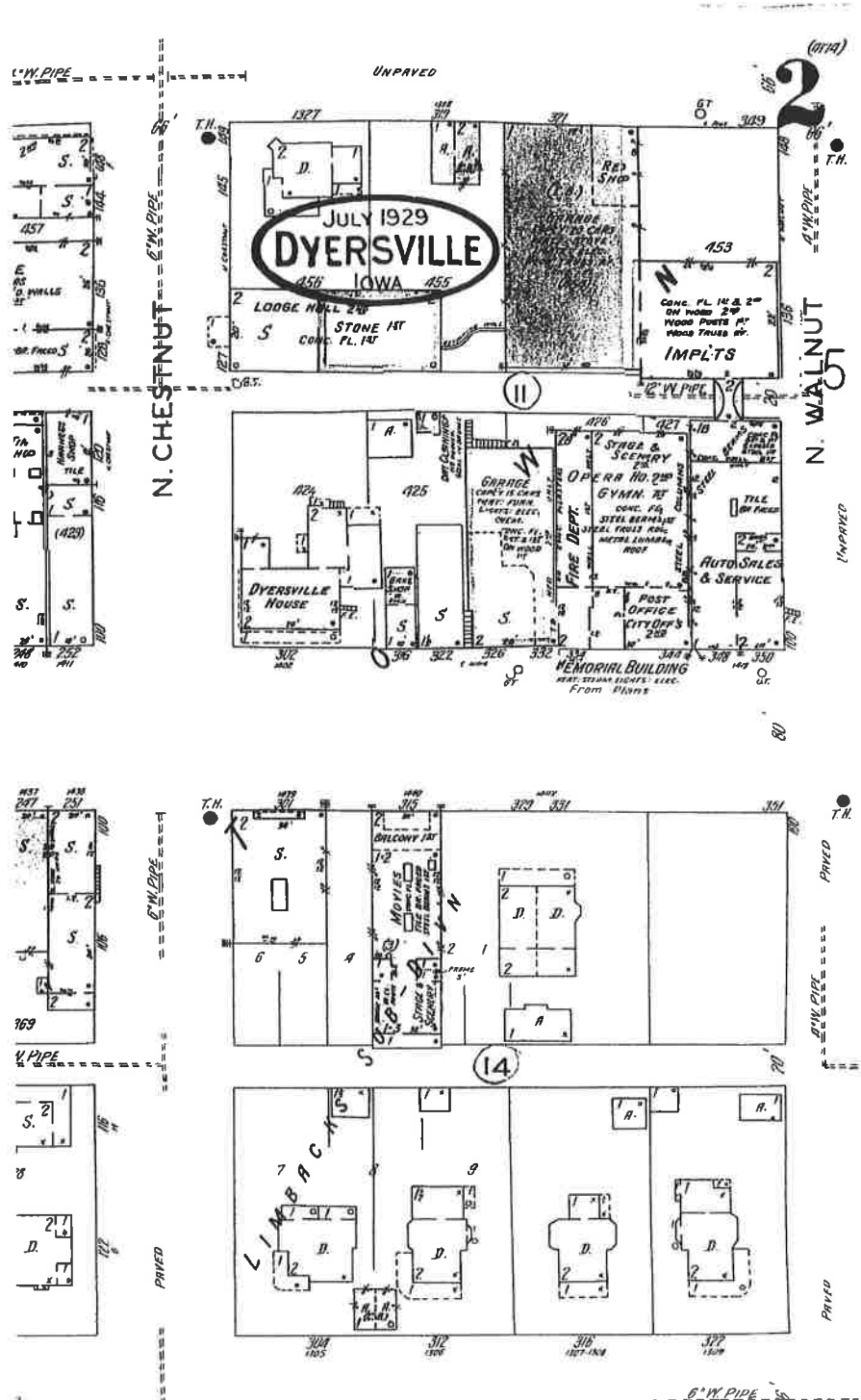


FIGURE 8. SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP, 1939 (Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. 1939)

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FIGURE 9. MEMORIAL BUILDING, CA. 1930

(Dyersville Area Historical Society)

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Section Imbedded Images Page 25 name of property: Memorial Building
county, state: Dubuque County, Iowa

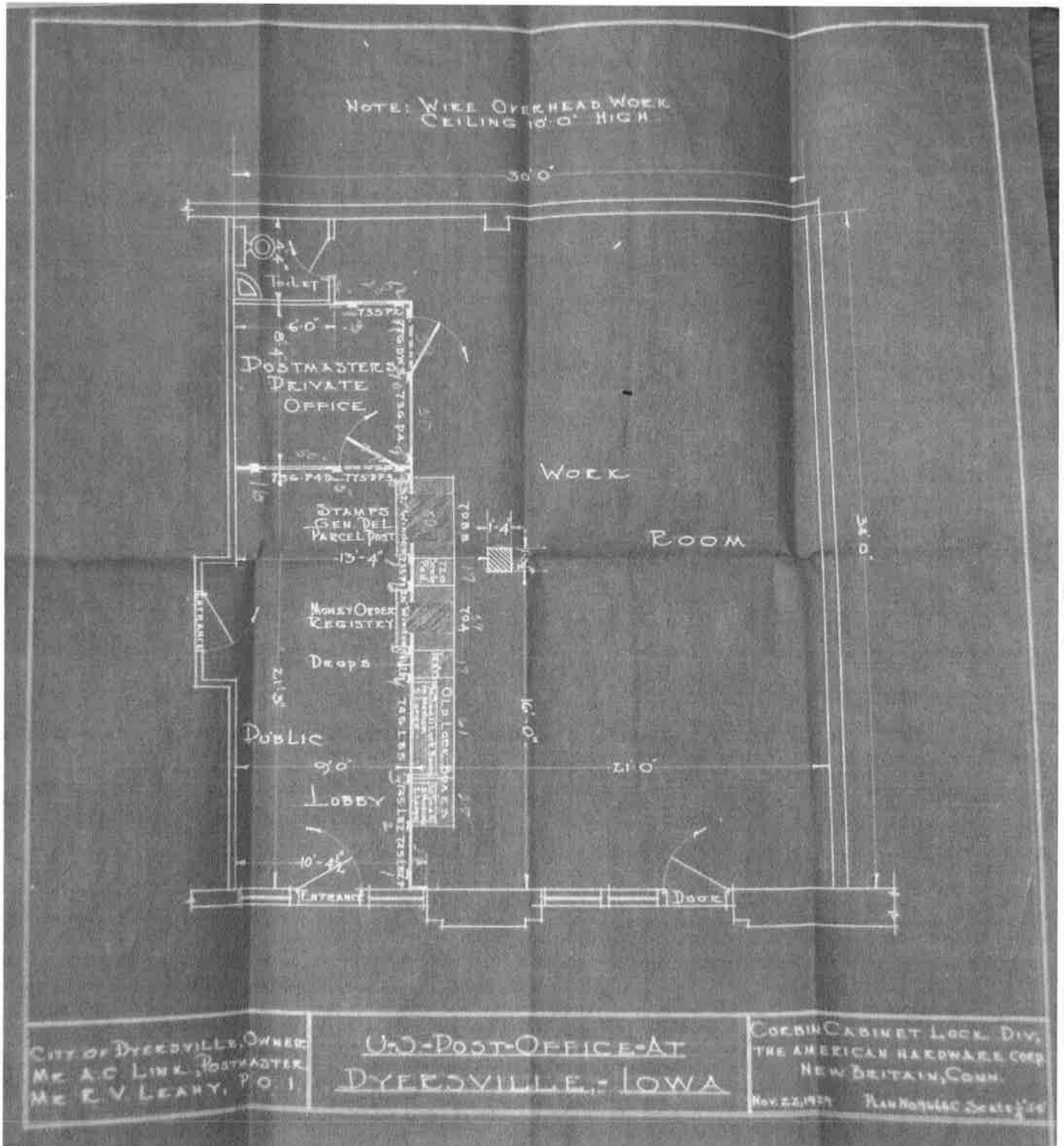


FIGURE 10. INTERIOR PLAN FOR POST OFFICE, 1929

(American Hardware Corp. 1929)

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Section Imbedded Images Page 26 name of property: Memorial Building
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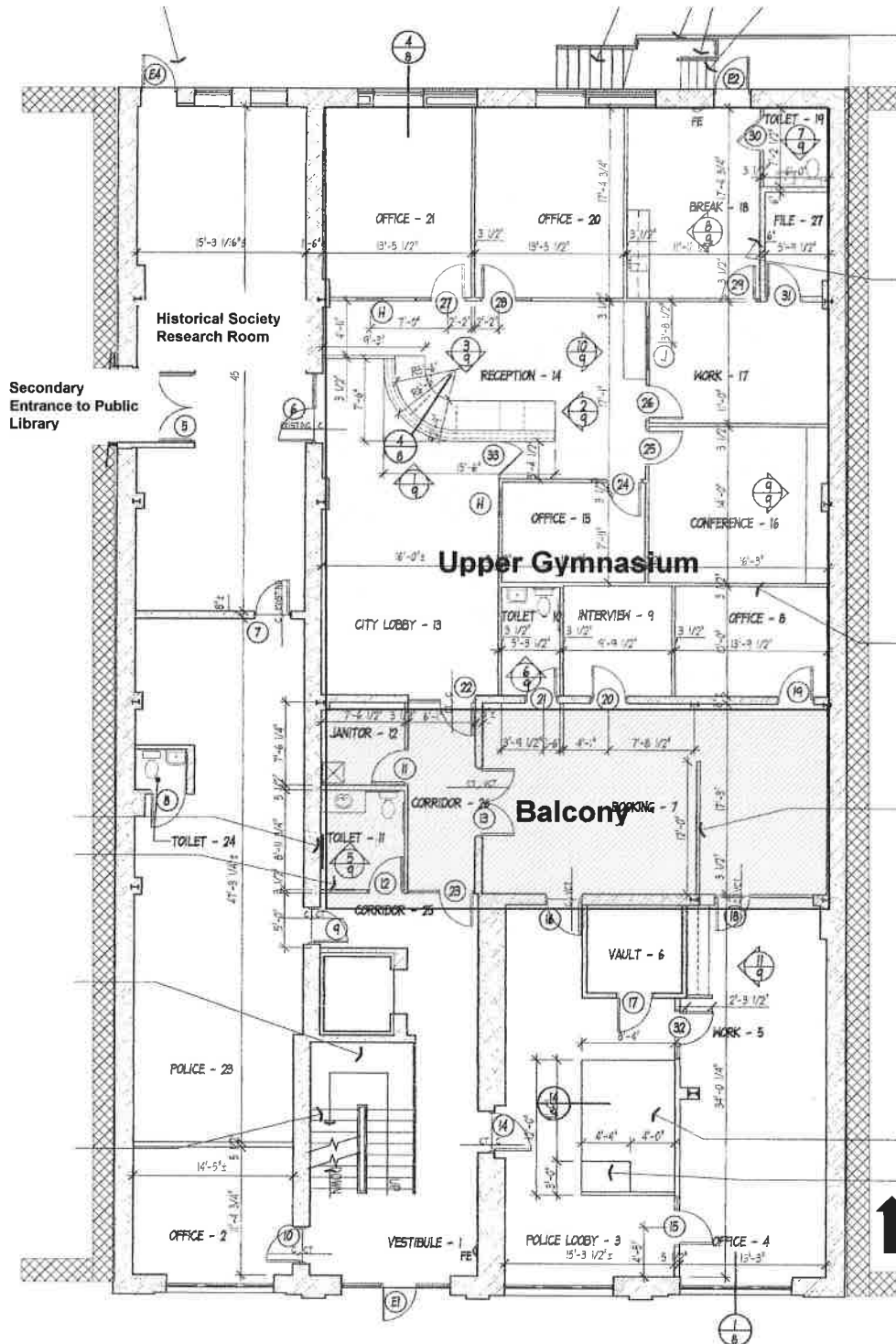
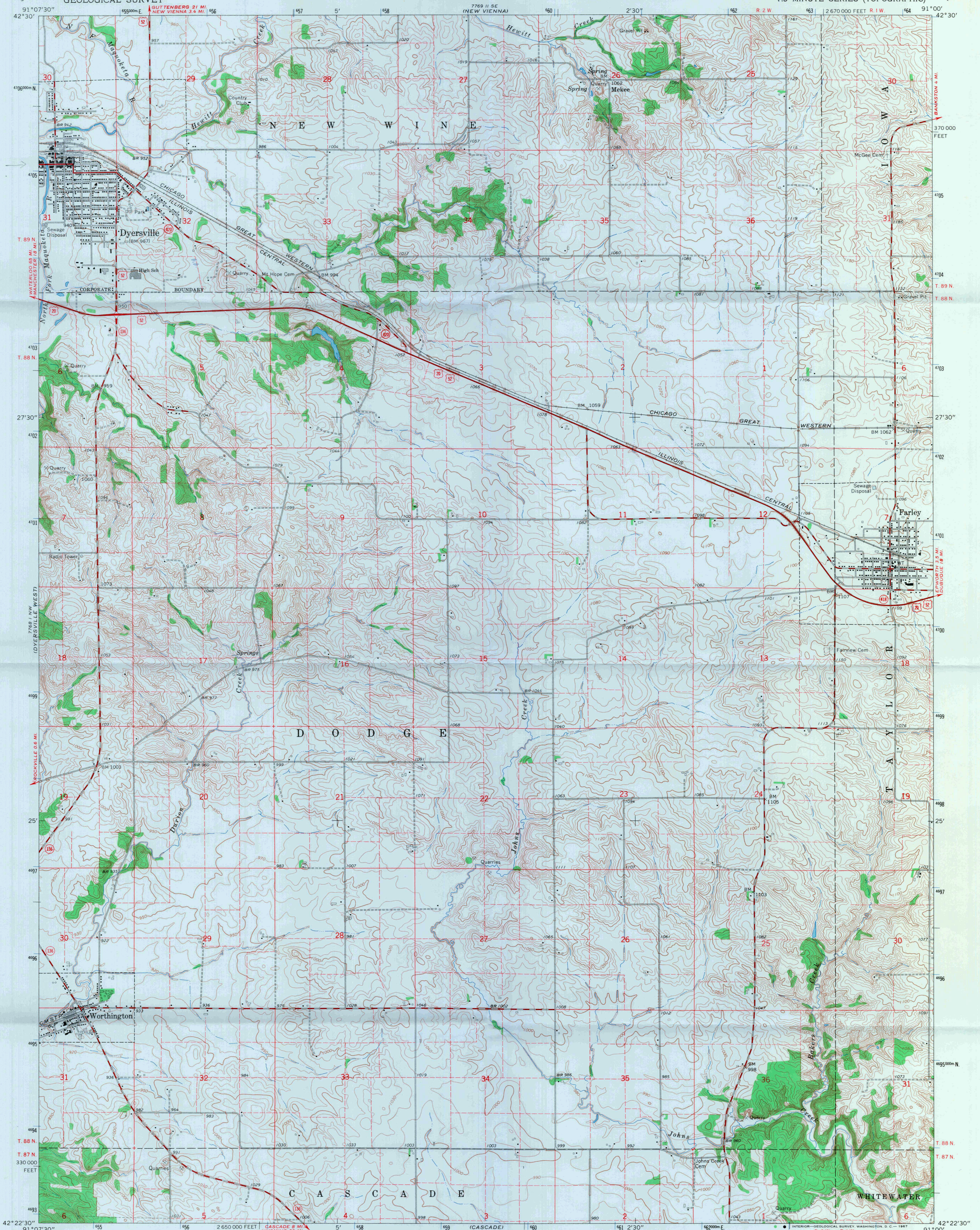


FIGURE 11. UPPER AREA AND BALCONY OF GYMNASIUM, NOT TO SCALE (Gardner Architecture 2003)

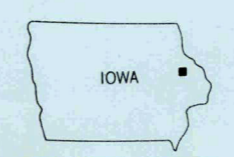
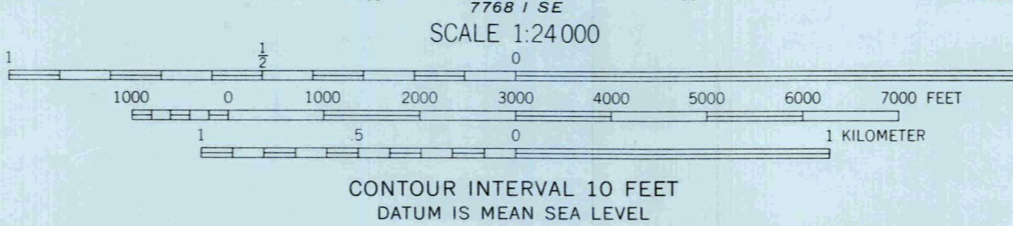


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1965
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Iowa coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs
This information is unchecked

UTM GRID AND 1965 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
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A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

DYERSVILLE EAST, IOWA
N4222.5—W9100.7.5

1965

AMS 7768 I NE—SERIES V876



MEMORIAL BUILDING

19

29



POLICE PARKING ONLY

CITY HALL

POLICE

POLICE PARKING ONLY

5



348

MASSACHUSETTS







19

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DO NOT ENTER





2







When you believe in yourself, anything is possible.

Doing your best means never stop TRYING.

THE THREE D'S TO SUCCEED:
D ESIRE
D ISCIPLINE
D ETERMINATION

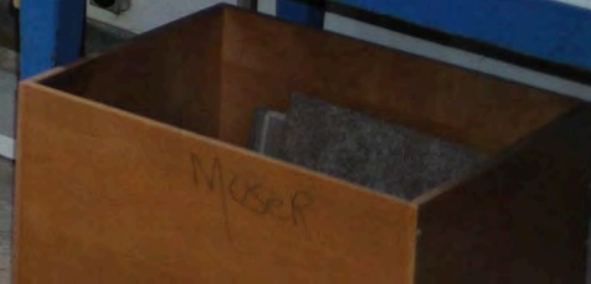
If You Think You Can't...



LADIES ROOM



EXIT







Stack of papers or documents on a wooden surface.



Royal Purple







DY
HIS
S





PUEBLO COUNTY

6

GILDAN
SETTING THE STANDARD
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BABE RUTH II

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Memorial Building
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Dubuque

DATE RECEIVED: 2/22/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/21/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/05/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/10/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000148

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4.9.13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF

CULTURAL

MARY TIFFANY COWNE, DIRECTOR

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

FEB 28 2013

STATE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY of
IOWA

JEROME THOMPSON
ADMINISTRATOR



MATTHEW HARRIS
ADMINISTRATOR

600 E. LOCUST
DES MOINES, IOWA
50319

T. (515) 281-5111
F. (515) 282-0502

CULTURALAFFAIRS.ORG

February 19, 2013

Carol Shull, Chief
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, N.W.-- 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

The following National Register nomination(s) are enclosed for your review and listed if acceptable.

- F.W. Fitch Company Historic District, 300-306 16th Street; 1510-1526 Walnut Street, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa
- Memorial Building, 340 1st Avenue East, Dyersville, Dubuque County, Iowa

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Foster Hill

Elizabeth Foster Hill, Manager
National Register and Tax Incentive Programs