

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ Page _____

Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: MP100004555

Date Listed: 11/1/2019

Property Name: Lisbon Main Street Historic District
(Iowa's Main Street Commercial Architecture MPS)

County: Linn

State: IA

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



Signature of the Keeper

11/1/2019

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Significance:

The Areas of Significance should read: *Commerce and Ethnic Heritage-European (German)*.

The IOWA SHPO was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

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

4555

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Lisbon Main Street Historic District

other names/site number _____

Name of Multiple Property Listing Iowa's Main Street Commercial Architecture

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

2. Location

street & number 101-145 E. and W. Main Street, 102-122 W. Main Street not for publication

city or town Lisbon vicinity

state Iowa county Linn zip code 52253

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance: ___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria: X A ___ B ___ C ___ D

[Signature] 20 SEPT 2019
Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

State Historical Society of Iowa
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

X entered in the National Register _____ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register _____ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

[Signature] 11/1/2019
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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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

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
15	5	buildings
		site
		structure
		object
15	5	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- COMMERCE/TRADE/business
- COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant
- COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution
- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- SOCIAL/meeting hall
- RECREATION AND CULTURE/music facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- COMMERCE/TRADE/business
- COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant
- COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution
- DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
- SOCIAL/meeting hall
- INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility
- EDUCATION/library

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate
- LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque Revival
- LATE VICTORIAN/Classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- foundation: STONE
- walls: BRICK
- WOOD
- roof: ASPHALT
- other: STUCCO
- VINYL

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph (Briefly describe the current, general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The Lisbon Main Street Historic District is located in the City of Lisbon in Franklin Township in the southeastern corner of Linn County, Iowa. The historic commercial district extends along the 100 blocks of East and West Main Street, with the center point at the intersection with Washington Street. The district is roughly bounded by S. Jackson Street on the east, the alleys one-half block north and south of Main Street, and the lot lines approximately one-half block east of Walnut Street. The district encompasses commercial buildings that are one to two stories in height with one free-standing three-story building. The buildings are primarily brick, with a few frame buildings. Most of the brick buildings are constructed with bricks made locally in Lisbon and nearby Mount Vernon. Foundation material is commonly limestone, also quarried locally. The buildings are vernacular commercial architectural types but show some influences from the Italianate, Classical Revival and Romanesque Revival styles, all of which were popular for commercial architecture in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Significant features include pressed metal and wooden bracketed cornices, cast iron storefronts, and cornice overhangs of some the storefront levels of the buildings. The district has seen the typical updates expected in Iowa's Main Street commercial architecture, particularly as storefronts were updated through the years. But the upper stories on many of the buildings retain historic components that represent their original designs. There are 20 buildings within the district, 15 of which are counted as contributing and five as noncontributing because they were either built or completely modified after the period of significance. Overall, the district retains historic integrity sufficient to convey the district's historical significance.

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable.)

(Iowa SHPO Additional Instructions: After the main **Narrative Description**, discuss any physical alterations since the period of significance under the subheading **Alterations**, and the seven aspects of integrity as it applies to the resource in a **Statement of Integrity** with each aspect discussed in its own paragraph.)

The Lisbon Main Street Historic District lies in the center of Lisbon in southeastern Linn County in Franklin Township (Figures 1 and 2). The city is a rural community with a population of about 2,200 residents, its own school district, and a steady commercial and manufacturing economy. Franklin Township is somewhat unique in that there are two stable, incorporated towns within its borders. Mount Vernon is less than one mile west of Lisbon and is a community of about 4,400 residents, has its own strong economy, and is home to Cornell College, a four-year liberal arts institution. The proximity of these two towns runs counter to a basic tenet of geography wherein towns were typically spaced at least six miles apart so as not to overlap and compete for economic and natural resources (Figure 3).¹ However, Lisbon and Mount Vernon both survived and thrived as separate communities with their own schools, churches, business districts, and governments. The most obvious reason for their survival is that Mount Vernon has always been the college town and Lisbon has been the farm town where the grain elevators and other farm services always concentrated. Lisbon, like Mount Vernon, is positioned in an area where distinctive ridges, known as pahas, rise above the Cedar River and floodplain to the south.² Lisbon was sited on a more level plateau bordering the paha ridges to the south. The historic commercial areas of both communities are connected to one another by a continuous road extending along paha ridges. Several branches of Spring Creek drain the south and east sides of Lisbon and flow into the Cedar River just over three miles to the southwest.

¹ If spaced closer together, one town usually survived and the other was either absorbed into the stronger community or ceased to exist altogether.

² Pahas are "the last topographic and stratigraphic remains of uplands that were once part of a higher, older, continuous Pre-Illinoian glacial plain" (Prior 1991:73). These erosional remains are comparatively narrow ridges oriented in a northwest-southeast direction.

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The historic commercial district in Lisbon includes the 100 blocks of East and West Main Street, with the district centered around the intersection with Washington Street. The district is roughly bounded by S. Jackson Street on the east, the alleys one-half block north and south of Main Street, and the lot lines approximately one-half block east of Walnut Street. The buildings on West Main Street are within the original town plat, while those on East Main Street are within several additions to the original plat including: Kurtz' 1st Addition and Neidig's 1st Addition to the north side of East Main Street and Barkley's 1st Addition on the south side of East Main Street. The district encompasses 20 commercial buildings that are one to two stories in height with one three-story, free-standing building. The buildings are primarily brick construction using locally made bricks with a few frame buildings. Most are vernacular expressions of commercial architectural types but include some features reflecting influence from Late Victorian and Early 20th Century Revival styles. Currently, the streets in the district are paved with asphalt and concrete, but some remnants of brick pavement, including sections of the ties from the former interurban, remain underneath the surface pavement. The sidewalks are concrete but now have a modern brick-colored stamped concrete border between the sidewalks and the curb and curving out into the street at the four corners of each intersection. Large concrete planters have been added as streetscape enhancements at some corners. Of the total 20 buildings in the district boundaries, 15 are counted as contributing and 5 as noncontributing. The noncontributing buildings represent buildings either added after the period of significance, which is 1875-1952, or have facades that were completely modified in the modern era.



Figure 1. Lisbon Main Street Historic District (white dotted outline). Base Map: 2016 Spring Orthophoto.
Image Source: Iowa Geographic Map Server, accessed October 2018.

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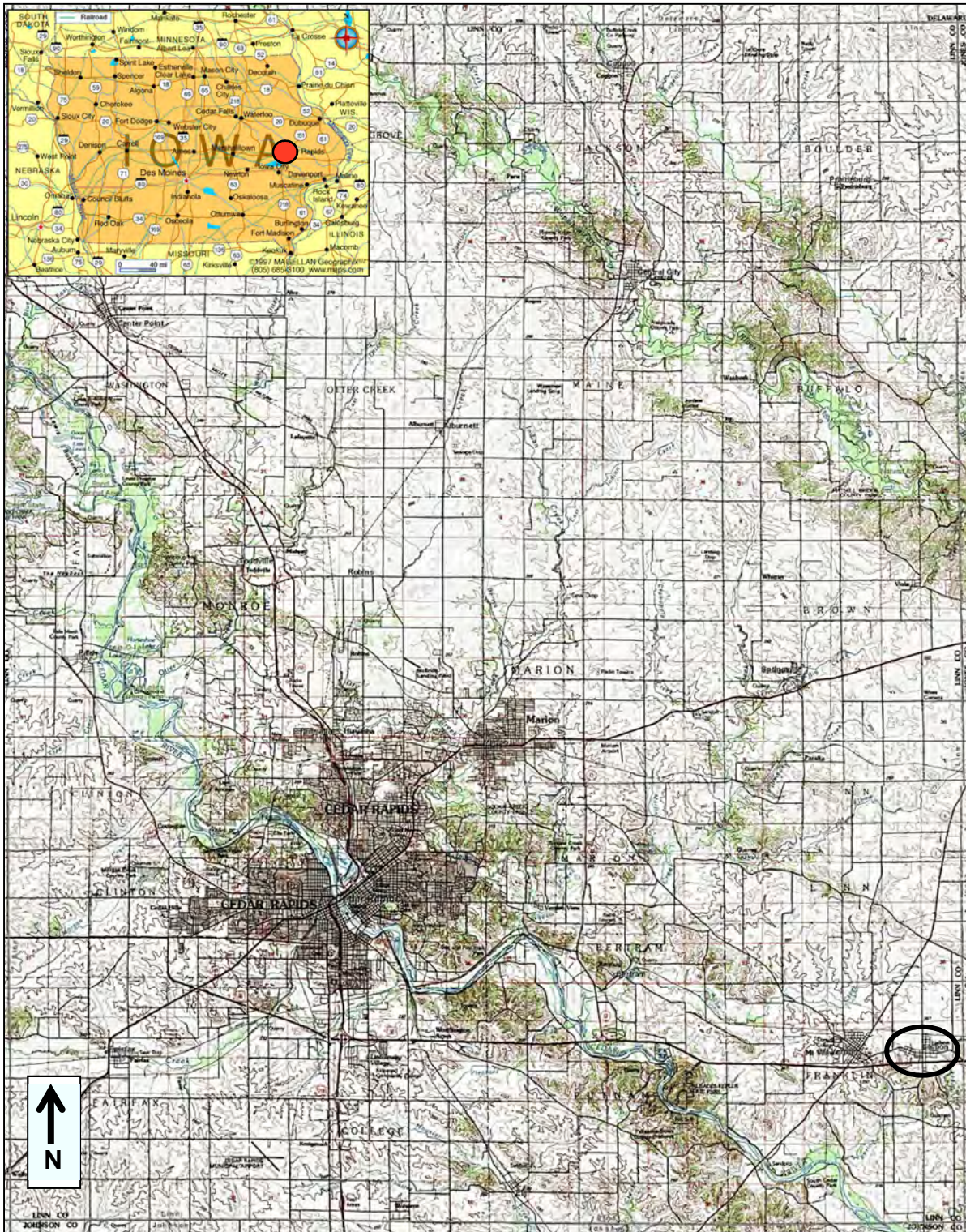


Figure 2. Location of Lisbon (circled) within Linn County, Iowa. Image Source: USGS Linn County Topographic Map, ArcGIS mapping software, accessed November 2018.
Inset upper left: General location of Lisbon within the State of Iowa.

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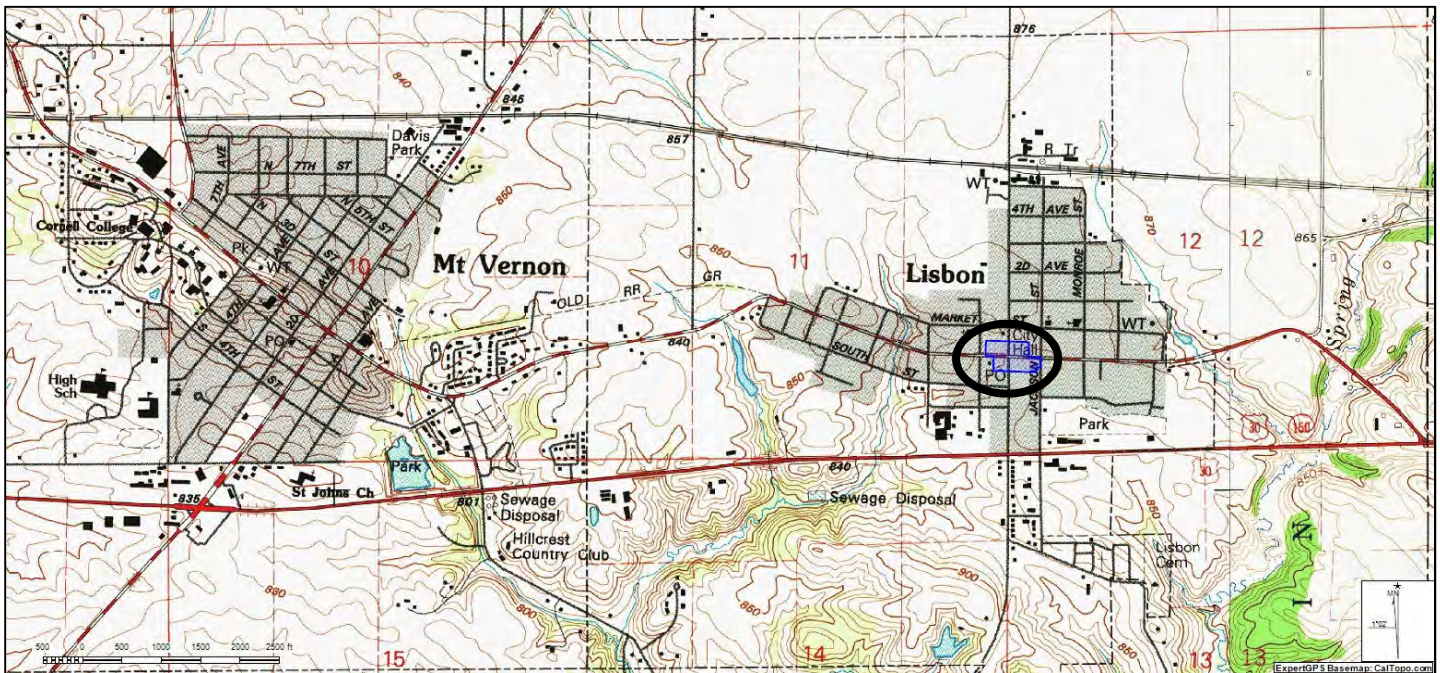


Figure 3. Topographical map showing the location of Lisbon and Mount Vernon. The circled area encompasses the Lisbon Main Street Commercial District boundary. Source: USGS Mt. Vernon, IA Quadrangle Map, 7.5' Series, 1994, obtained from ExpertGPS mapping software, 2018.

COUNTING SYSTEM FOR BUILDINGS

The counting system for buildings within the district is based on the original configuration of each building and their separation from adjacent buildings by structural walls and not by internal store unit divisions. Therefore, a block building constructed as a separate and distinct building from adjacent buildings but having any number of internal store unit divisions, would count as only one building even though it might have two or more storefront units with separate ownership.

PROPERTY TYPES

The property types follow those devised for the *Iowa's Main Street Commercial Architecture* Multiple Property Submission to the NRHP (Nash 2002). These include: Type I, which is the commercial district itself; Type II, which consists of the first generation of buildings, structures, sites and objects constructed around the main street; Type III, which represents the second generation of construction often tied to a building boom associated with prosperity and growth; Type IV, which consists of specialized buildings constructed for a specific purpose such as a courthouse, public library, post office, grain elevator, or gas station; Type V, which represents properties that have undergone substantial modification reflecting the updating of commercial properties in the form of façade remodeling as well as buildings, structures, sites and objects that are late additions to the district but within the period of significance; and Type VI, which consists of properties added to the district after the period of significance.

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INDIVIDUAL BUILDINGS

(Following the district in a clockwise pattern, beginning with the north side of the street from west to east, then following the south side of the street from east to west)

Historic Name: Lisbon Opera House/IOOF Hall

Current Use: Lloyd Table Co. (manufactory)

Street Address: 122 W. Main Street

Property Type: IV

Date of Construction: 1893

Architect/Builder: Jacob Henry, Abe Meyers, Dick Woods and Jess Woods

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This three-story, free-standing brick building retains a high level of exterior integrity. Its Romanesque Revival decorative features and brick and stone materials have remained largely unchanged, though a metal shed addition has been attached to the rear/north side. The building is situated on the north side of W. Main Street near the intersection with Walnut Street and has always remained a solitary building with no shared walls. The building was erected on a high limestone foundation made of quarry-faced blocks likely obtained from local quarries. The façade features a centered Romanesque round-arched entry, with wooden stairs leading to several sets of doors that enter various parts of the building. The walls of the entry have wooden beaded-board wainscoting. The entry is recessed and open. The main entry doors have replacement glass-paned doors. The original door surround extends higher than the current entry doors suggesting that there was a transom originally. There are two single doors to either side of the entry facing east and west, with another single door at the foot of the stairs on the east side of the entryway. This door leads into the former ticket office and the stairs down into the basement.



Current view looking NW on 09-19-2018.

Above the main entry is a limestone name plate that reads "I.O.O.F" indicative of the building's origin as a fellowship lodge for the International Order of Odd Fellows. Romanesque arches of rowlock bricks form the door and window lintels on all three floors, with bands of corbelled brick ornamentation between the second and third floors and as a continuous lintel coupled with pairs of round-arched lintels above the third story windows. The façade is capped by a corbelled brick cornice with round-arched exaggerated dentils. The cornice wraps around each corner of the façade. The windows flanking the centered entry are paired 1/1 windows with staggered brick soldier courses in an angled configuration as lintels. The windows across the second story consist of paired single-pane windows that are round-arched to fit the exaggerated round-arched brick lintels with rusticated limestone impost blocks (façade only). Six 1/1 double-hung windows span the third floor and are arranged in pairs, each with a brick arched lintel. All of the windows have wooden sashes/frames and rusticated limestone sills. The east and west sides of the building retain much of their integrity as well. The window fenestration of the façade is repeated on the sides, with the exception of the second story windows that lack the stone details and the panels of corbelled brick below the arched windows. On the sides, the lower area of these windows has 1/1 double-hung windows instead. The east side of the building retains a wrought metal fire escape that may be original and three brick chimneys along each side of the building.

Modifications to the exterior of the building have been limited largely to the installation of metal storm windows on the exterior of the original wood-frame 1/1 double-hung windows and the rear addition. The interior has also been modified in some areas for its current use as a manufactory. One of the notable interior modifications was the removal of the balcony that once surrounded the gymnasium/opera house level of the

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building. However, many original elements remain intact including: the bulls-eye molded woodwork and metal hardware on the door and window surrounds; original wood-paneled doors; the ticket office in the east side of the front entry vestibule; original hardwood flooring on some of the stories; large interior support posts and beams on some floors; original wallpaper remnants on the fraternal hall floor along with plastered walls and ceilings; some rooms on the fraternal hall level with older feather-patterned linoleum; and mopboards.

Building History: Locally known as the Opera House, this building was erected in 1893 by the Lisbon Lodge #162 of the International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF). Contractors for the building's construction were Jacob Henry, Abe Meyers, Dick Woods, and Jess Woods. Construction of the stone foundation began in May 1893, with the completed building dedicated in December of that same year (*Lisbon Sun*, 20 May 1893 and 15 December 1893). Its primary function was to serve as an opera house/theatre, having a stage at the north end and a balcony on the three other sides of the lower level. This area was used for plays, sporting events, graduations, and even a roller skating rink over the years. The building's other original function was to hold fraternal meetings on its third floor.



Circa 1930s photograph of the Lisbon Opera House looking NNE. The Opera House remains one of the most identifiable landmarks on Lisbon's Main Street. *Photo Source: Lisbon History Center.*

However, the IOOF Lodge No. 162 defaulted on a mortgage in February 1900, with W.C. Stuckslager purchasing the building. From that time, possession of the property passed through many hands: W.C. & Eloise Stuckslager, the partnership of J.D. Wolfe and T.L. & Ora M. Wolfe, Mac J. & Katherine S. Randall, W.J. & Ethel A. Porter, and Boetious H. & Mary H. Sullivan. On 10 May 1917, the now-widowed Mary Sullivan sold the property to Lisbon IOOF Lodge #71. In September 1920, the Lisbon American Legion (Cyclops) Post #109 provided a mortgage to the IOOF, and for the sum of \$2,500, the IOOF agreed to sell the Opera House to the Cyclops Post No. 109.³ This agreement gave the Legion post ownership of the building and the IOOF

³ The Lisbon American Legion Cyclops Post No. 109 was established in August 1919 and initially met in the "Mystic Workers Hall over Ramsey's Drug Store" (*Lisbon Herald*, 28 August 1919). This drug store was located in the Merchants Block at 102 E. Main Street with the name correctly spelled Ramsay.

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lodge ownership of the grounds, with the two fraternities then sharing the use and expenses of the building. By the 1920s, the IOOF lodge had to disband due to low membership and conveyed its interest in the upper floor of the building to the Cyclops Post No. 109 in March 1928.

In the 1910s, the "Lisbon Opera House" was touted as "The Only Theatre in Lisbon and Mt. Vernon, Iowa," with J.B. Wickham the manager (Lisbon Opera House Stationery in the Lisbon History Center collections). But business must have fallen off by June 1925, when the Lisbon Independent School District purchased the Opera House portion of the building from the Lisbon Legion (Cyclops) Post #109. The school used this area as a gymnasium and auditorium until a new school and gymnasium had been built elsewhere in town. In 1941, the school district sold its portion of the building to George B. Young. In 1947, the Legion post purchased 111 West Main Street for their new meeting hall, with the Legion selling the former IOOF Hall in the opera house to the Lisbon Benjamin Franklin Lodge A.F.& A.M. No. 574 in 1953. The Masons had been using the meeting space since 1951 and continued to use the third-floor meeting hall through 1970. The Masons then conveyed their rights to the space to Donald L. Barnett, who owned the building by that time. With this conveyance, the fraternal use of the upper floor came to an end.

Among the post-1940 owners of the building were George B. Young's Lustre-Sheen Products Company from 1941 to 1947; Aidex Corporation from 1972 to 1973; the Johnson Wax Company; and the Lloyd Table Company, which still owns it, utilizing the space for manufacturing of medical tables and material storage. The Lloyd Table Company retained much of the historical machinery in the basement workshop; built a complete second floor at the balcony height to give the space additional square footage; and installed a self-built elevator for moving heavy pieces up and down the floors.

Name: Lisbon Post Office

Current Use: Lloyd Table Co. Bldg. A, electronics and accounting departments

Street Address: 120 W. Main Street

Property Type: VI

Date of Construction: 1966

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Noncontributing

Building Description: This single-story, gable-front building was built in 1966. It is a frame building with exterior brick veneer. It has asphalt shingles on its low-pitched roof and a concrete block foundation. The building's façade has three small windows near its west end and a modern metal-and-glass entry near its east end.

Building History: The 1894 Sanborn maps indicate that the former buildings on this parcel included several businesses. In the early 20th century, a gas station serving motorists, along what was then part of the Lincoln Highway (i.e., Main Street), was on the west part of this parcel. The building at 120 W. Main was originally built in 1966 as the Lisbon Post Office. The current use is for the Lloyd Table Company's electronics and accounting departments.



120 W. Main Street looking NNE in 2017.

Name: Lloyd Table Company Building B

Current Use: Lloyd Table Co. manufactory and offices

Street Address: 102 W. Main Street

Property Type: VI

Date of Construction: 1979

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Noncontributing

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Building Description: This one-story, flat-roofed building is constructed of reinforced concrete in the tilt-up style. It sits on a concrete foundation and has a rubber membrane roof. The main entry door is on the south-facing wall at its east end.



102 W. Main Street looking NW in 2017.

Building History: The prior building on this site was the historic City Hotel, which operated under various names. The current building was constructed in 1979 as a part of the Lloyd Table Co. operation and has been used as the main plant and office for that manufactory.

Historic Name: Merchants Block

Current Use: Lisbon History Center (102), residence (104), storage (110), and office (114)

Street Address: 102-104-110-114 E. Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: 1878

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This two-story commercial building occupies the northeast corner of E. Main and Washington streets. It was built as a four-unit commercial block (or row) known as the Merchant's Block. It has served as a busy commercial hub since the time of wooden buildings that predated it on this site. As a corner building, it was imparted with some distinction, namely the distinctive smooth dressed stone quoins on its southwest corner. The storefronts along E. Main Street have been renovated to varying degrees through the years. Modern materials are present on all four storefronts. The corner unit (102) has a historic-looking storefront that represents a late 20th century remodel, with the entry door moved from the center of the storefront to the side nearest the intersection. Historically, steps extended from the sidewalk level to the storefronts, today a ramp has been added to the 102 unit for ease of access. The entry door to the upper level between this unit and the 104 unit to the east is still intact, with cast iron posts still exposed on either side of this doorway. The second story windows on the 102 and 104 units have also been modified from their original Italianate style. The decorative hoods that once capped tall, multi-sashed windows were removed and replaced by shorter, double-hung windows made of modern materials. The second-floor windows along Washington Street have been modified in the same way. The bricks on the façade and Washington Street sides of 102 have been painted red; though they were painted white for much of the later 20th century. The bricks on the upper story of the 104-114 units are unpainted but were repaired through the years. The brick parapet on the 110 and 114 units was rebuilt with darker red bricks when the metal cornice was removed. The masonry on the second story of the 114 unit was also noticeably repointed.



102-104-110-114 E. Main Street. looking NNE. 09-19-2018

Notable original Italianate elements on the 102 and 104 units are the pressed metal cornices that cap the façades. The units at 102, 110, and 114 also retain the smaller pressed metal cornices across the top of the storefronts, while that on 104 is now covered by a half-gambrel roofed wooden frame addition that serves as an entryway to the building. This addition extends out into the sidewalk area and obscures the storefront level

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of the 104 unit. According to a former owner, the façade had two large plate-glass windows flanking the centered front door, which had metal posts to either side in the late 20th century. The front was subsequently covered over; however, it is believed that the windows and metal posts are extant underneath the cover-up. The metal posts were likely part of the original cast iron storefront, as seen exposed on the other units.

Originally, the top cornice on the 102 unit wrapped around the west-side corner of the building, but this was later removed and the stepped parapet exposed. The intact top metal cornices have molded panels with circular patterns and paired brackets and corbels under the cornice overhangs. One of the three brick chimneys remains on the west side of the 102 unit but has been rebuilt in the modern era. The two doors once on the west side have been filled with bricks or modern windows.

Both the 110 and 114 units are missing the top cornice, which is now a simple corbelled brick parapet. However, both units retain the tall windows across the second story that still have their original pressed metal hood molds. Both units also retain the pressed metal cornice just above the storefront but the storefront areas on both have been covered and infilled with modern materials. The 110 unit has a wooden vertical board cover-up façade, with brick veneer over the transom window area. This storefront has a modern metal-and-glass door recessed in the center with modern vinyl windows to either side. Concrete steps lead up to the door that are flanked by turned wooden posts that are not original. There is a doorway to the second floor above 110 and 114 located between the two storefronts. This door is a modern door that is reached by a concrete step. The 114 unit has always had two windows on the second story that extend below the base of the other windows, but the tops of the windows are on the same plane as the other historic window openings. The pressed metal hood molds on the 114 unit windows are the best preserved on this block building but as with the other windows, the windows are modern replacement windows. The storefront on the 114 unit has been covered with modern vinyl siding and has modern vinyl windows to either side of a centered modern door; however, two cast iron posts that flank the door opening are original. The transom area is covered with a sign.

Building History: The Merchants Block was built in 1878. Prior to its construction, this location had wooden store buildings that housed the general store of Littlefield & Runkle on the corner, with the Fletcher & Runkle Drug Store in the next store to the east, and Jonas Gauby's furniture store to the east of that. In 1878, John E. Kurtz replaced the wooden buildings with the extant brick block.



Circa 1890 photograph of the Merchant's Block looking NE. Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

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Littlefield & Runkle continued their general store in the 102 unit for many more years. Abraham Runkle ran the store from 1878 through about 1904 and was also a carpenter. The 102 unit housed the Ramsay Drug Store as of 1919 and later served as the Alfred Wilson grocery store, the Earl Willson grocery store and even later the Lion's Den. Today, the building is home to the Lisbon History Center. The 1894 Sanborn map also noted a printing business on the second floor and a barber shop in the basement, which could be entered from the front below street level. The 1928 Sanborn map indicated a hall on the second floor.

The 104 unit continued to be the Fletcher & Runkle Drug Store until circa 1885 followed by the City Restaurant, the Peirce & Bittle hardware store, a clothing store, and a shoe repair shop. In the mid-to-late-20th century it was the Sidell Restaurant and the Greenhouse Restaurant and Lounge. George Fletcher was a physician and surgeon. His partner, William H. Runkle was a druggist. Both settled in Lisbon in 1876 and began their business partnership that same year. Fletcher saw patients in his office at the rear of the drug store (Fletcher & Runkle Drugstore Records, 1876-1885).

The 110 unit variously housed the Jonas B. Gauby Furniture Store, drug stores (the J.A. and Lee and Stone Drug Store by 1916, with a drug store noted here on the 1894, 1900, and 1906 Sanborn fire insurance maps), Hoefft Hardware, and Blarney's Tavern (Notes at the Lisbon History Center; Oral history interview 12 June 2018 with Virgil Clark). The fire insurance maps also showed a hall on the second floor used by the Knights of Pythias at least in 1900. By 1928, a tin shop was shown in this building (Sanborn 1900, 1928). The 114 unit historically housed Smith & Runkle Confectioners, with the Sanborn fire insurance maps showing a barber shop here in 1894 and 1900, the unit vacant in 1906, and simply listed as a store in 1928.

Historic Name: Patterson/Dr. Burd Building
Current Use: salon (116); glass art studio (122)
Street Address: 116-122 E. Main Street
Property Type: III
Date of Construction: 1886; current stucco added: 1932

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: A circa 1890 photograph shows this one-story, two-unit building having a united façade, and the 1894 Sanborn map clearly shows a connecting wall between 116 and 122. Therefore, both 116 and 122 were originally built as a single building with two store units. In fact, there is only a frame wall covered with lath and plaster between the two units.



116-122 E. Main Street looking NW, March 2019.

The entire building is capped with a brick corbelled parapet that has exaggerated dentils. A historical photograph shows that the bricks were painted white below the dentils on the 116 unit. In 1932, the facades on both units were covered with stucco making the dentils even more exaggerated. However, a circa 1900 photo shows at least 122 already had some type of stucco coating. It is likely that the 1932 coating was a refurbishing of the older stucco coating. Currently, the 116 unit has large, modern single-pane windows on either side of its centered modern door representing modern infill of the historic storefront, which had a recessed central entryway originally. The stucco was recently painted black. The 122 unit has a wooden and glass storefront that has a historical look but is not original. The door is now recessed to the right side of the storefront. The current front door on 122 is a historic-age wooden door with large glass pane and transom windows above. The stucco on this unit is painted a light green.

Building History: The 116 unit was a meat market historically, as can be seen in several historical photographs and is identified as such on the 1894-1906 Sanborn maps. In fact, a large meat hook is present on the interior towards the rear of the building. This building has also been called the Patterson Building after

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the name of the owner of the building and the meat market. From 1886 to 1922 the 122 unit was owned by Dr. Edwin Burd, an eye doctor and surgeon. It was then purchased by Dr. Edward P. Bigger, a dentist, and his wife Jennie Mae. In 1965, it was purchased by Dr. Paul Koch, a dentist, and his wife, Anna, who owned it through 1992. The 1894 and 1900 Sanborn maps lists this as an "office," with the 1906 map noting it was a doctor's office.



Circa 1890 photograph showing 116 and 122-126 E. Main Street with the brick below the cornice painted white on 116. The "Meat Market" sign is at the edge of the sidewalk in front of the 116 building, with the 126 unit having a wooden awning that extends out over the sidewalk to the street curb. *Photo source: Lisbon History Center.*

Historic Name: Lisbon Post Office

Current Use: restaurant

Street Address: 126 E. Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: circa 1883; stucco 1932

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This one-story brick building originally had a united façade with 116-122 E. Main that featured exposed brickwork and a parapet with exaggerated corbel brick dentils. Historical photos from circa 1890 (see above and below) shows this building had a centered recessed entry with the storefront sheltered by an unusual wooden awning that covered the entire sidewalk area and had what appeared to be a curving metal roof. This building no longer retains the exaggerated dentils, with the current parapet having a simple smooth band across the top with a stucco finish below. Reportedly, the stucco was applied in 1932 when the buildings to the west were but the parapet was altered in the process. The storefront does retain a centered recessed front entry that is now flanked by modern, fixed-pane square windows. It is the strength of the retention of the recessed center entry that makes this building contributing.

Building History: The construction of this building appears to date from the early 1880s when it was owned by Phineas Howes followed by Laurence Easterly, Jeremiah Runkle, and then Benjamin Hoover by 1883. The sale to Hoover in 1883 included the contents of a building, which is suspected to be the extant building. While the circa 1890 photograph above suggests that the 116-122 and 126 were built as a united block, the Sanborn maps showed that 116-122 was a single two-unit building, while 126 was a separate building. Therefore, one or the other matched the style of their facades to that of the older building, which may be 126



126 E. Main Street looking North, 6-10-2018.

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E. Main. The Sanborn maps show that in 1894, the Lisbon post office was located in the subject building, with a harness shop here in 1900 and 1906. Modern uses of the building have included apartments and more recently restaurants.



Circa 1890 photograph of 126 E. Main (left) and 132 E. Main (right; see also below). Note that 122 (far left) and 126 already appear to have their brick fronts coated with stucco. Photo source: Lisbon History Center

Historic Name: Candy and Confectionary Shop

Current Use: non-retail business/residence

Street Address: 132 E. Main Street

Property Type: V

Date of Construction: circa 1880; 1958

artificial stone finish applied

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Noncontributing

Building Description: This one-story building

consists of two store units that are now a

single business. In 1958, the building was

remodeled including the application of an

artificial stone application that has come to be

commonly known by a brand name of

"Permastone;" however, this particular application

was done by a company from a nearby town. The application involved attaching metal lath to the brick front,

then applying a thin coat of cement, which was then brushed, leaving grooves. Once this dried, the stone look

was applied using large trays of colored mortar mix, with the coloring sprinkled into the bottom of the tray and

the cement/mortar mix then added. The tray would then be pushed up against the grooved surface and a

lever on the tray would be pulled to release the mixture. This finish was applied one tray at a time (Virgil Clark,

personal communication with Ann Opatz, March 2019). The 1958 remodel also included the installation of two

rows of glass blocks across the transom area above each storefront, which remain in place. However, the

lower storefronts had large plate-glass windows (likely metal framed) on either side of a centered door on

each unit (*Mount Vernon Sun*, March 30, 1958).



132 E. Main Street looking North, 6-10-2018.

Today, these storefronts are covered in vertical corrugated metal siding, with modern window inserts (reduced in size from original windows), and a shed-roofed overhang with corrugated metal roofing. The recessed

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central door in the west unit is a modern glass-and-metal door but does reflect the storefront of the 1958 remodel. The door opening on the east side of the building has been covered over with the metal siding. Because the artificial stone application and storefront remodeling was done in 1958 after the district's period of significance, this building is considered noncontributing. However, it should be re-evaluated if the artificial stone application is ever removed and the brick façade as shown in a circa 1920s photograph is intact (see also circa 1890 photograph above for 126 E. Main Street). The 1920s photograph below shows that the storefronts on 132 E. Main had distinctive three-sided, hip-roofed bay windows that projected out from the façade. In this view, the brick above and along the sides of the storefronts was painted white, which appears to have been the case in the circa 1890 photograph as well (see above).



Circa 1920s view of 132 E. Main Street looking NW. Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

Building History: The circa 1890 photograph shows “Restaurant” and “Grocery” printed on the awning of the east unit. The Sanborn maps for the east unit showed a sundry, dry goods, newspaper, candy, and restaurant in this building in 1894, with a general store, newspaper, candy, and restaurant shown in 1900. By 1906, it housed dry goods and groceries and a restaurant. In 1928, a bank and store were shown here. The Sanborn maps for the west unit showed jewelry and dry goods in 1894, a general store in 1900, dry goods and groceries in 1906, and the bank in 1928. At one time, the Lisbon library was located here. The building also housed a pool hall at one time. It is best known for its mid-to-late 20th century history as the Best Oil. Co. operated by owner Clarence Carbee and his son, Dick. They sold oil, gas, fuel oil, propane, and appliances. It was during Carbee’s ownership that the 1958 remodel of the façade was completed. When Clarence retired, Les and Carmel Meyer bought both units and made the east unit into an apartment where they lived. Carmel ran the office and Les ran the Best Oil business. Les retired around 1963-64, and Paul Krob of Lisbon took over the operation. When Paul left the business, Les & Carmel Meyer took the office section back and expanded their living quarters into it. Then current owner Travis Allen purchased both units, with one unit used for a business and the other for a residence.

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Historic Name: Dr. Bigger House & Dental Office

Current Use: plumbing business

Street Address: 134 E. Main Street

Property Type: V

Date of Construction: 1881

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This two-story brick Italianate style residence was built on a limestone foundation that has a dressed stone cap. The low-pitched truncated hip roof flares at the wide eave overhang, with a wide frieze board that has small brackets and sawtooth dentils under the eaves. The house has a squarish footprint, with a tall vertical emphasis to the design. Each side of the facade has two windows on each the first and second floors, with those on the first floor flanking the centered entry door that is reached by a set of concrete steps.

The windows above the lower windows flank a stone date plate of "1881" centered on the façade just below the frieze board. The windows are modern replacement windows that have faux 6/6 muntins. Each window is capped with a dressed stone drip mold lintel and has dressed stone sills. The bricks have been painted red. The front door is covered by a modern hipped-roofed portico porch that has sawtooth dentils below to compliment the historic denticulated frieze board. This porch has two square posts and railings to either side. The sides of the house have two windows on both stories that have simple stone sills and lintels. Historic photographs show the original portico front porch had full-height square posts and some decorative trim (see below). The front yard once had tall pine trees.

Building History: This building was a residence for much of its history and was shown as such on the Sanborn maps from 1894-1928. However, in 1936, Dr. Bigger had his residence on the first floor and his dental office on the second floor, linking this former dwelling into the business history of the commercial district. In recent years, it was saved from demolition through efforts of the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission and has been refurbished. It now houses a plumbing business.



134 E. Main Street looking NNW, 6-10-2018.



Circa 1900 photographs showing 134 E. Main Street in the background.

Photo Source: Lisbon History Center.

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To the east of this building over to Jackson Street are two modern garage/shop buildings and another dwelling that is of historic age but has been modified. Because of the modern infill and modification to the house, all three would be noncontributing if the boundary of the district was extended to Jackson Street on the north side of Main Street. As a result, there was no justification for extending the northeast boundary of the district to Jackson Street. Thus, the northeast corner of the district boundary ends at 134 E. Main Street.

The district boundary does extend east to Jackson Street on the south side of Main Street, with a large corner brick block building at the southwest corner of Main and Jackson. This building is at 145 E. Main Street, with the descriptions of the south-side Main Street buildings as follows.

Historic Name: Adam Runkle Building

Current Use: apartments

Street Address: 145 E. Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: 1899

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This two-story, brick commercial block is now used as an apartment building. The façade retains the original pressed metal cornice that has a bracketed cornice overhang, finials at either end, and a sawtooth denticulated frieze below the brackets. Most notably the cornice retains its original center pediment with the date "1899" and a finial on top. The second-story of the facade has four 1/1 vinyl replacement windows that are also reduced from the original window height, with the top portion of each opening now covered with asphalt-shingled awnings. These windows also have short metal railings attached to their base. The brick on the upper façade and flanking pilasters are unpainted bricks laid in a running bond (vener). The original brick lintels for the upper-story windows are intact and slightly visible above the top of each shingled awning. While not readily visible, the window sills are probably stone. The storefront level has been covered with modern wooden shake siding painted red, with four modern 1/1 vinyl windows inserted, two to each side of the recessed central entry that has three doors (the center being a historic wooden, 4-paneled door providing access to the second floor stairs, and two flanking doors that are modern replacements). Notable features on the storefront are the original cast iron posts that flank the recessed entry. These posts and the large asphalt-shingled awning covering the transom area of the storefront suggest that more of the original cast iron storefront could be intact underneath the cover-ups. The building sits on a rough-cut stone block foundation. Modern vinyl siding covers the other three sides of the building, with the windows on the sides being modern, reduced window inserts. A historical photograph from circa 1909 confirms that the recessed centered storefront entry is original as is the pedimented cornice.



145 E. Main Street looking SSW, 6-10-2018.



Circa 1909 photograph of 145 E. Main looking SSE.

Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

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Building History: This brick block building was reportedly built by Adam Runkle in 1899. The Runkle family were among the pioneer settlers of Lisbon and were associated with several of the commercial buildings still extant in the district. The Sanborn fire insurance maps show that prior to the construction of this corner block building, there was only a frame dwelling on the far west corner of the lot in 1894. In 1900, the first floor of the extant building had two store units that were both labeled as vacant, with both units still vacant in 1906. However, the 1928 map showed two unidentified stores in the units on the first floor and a hotel on the second floor. The store in the east unit was labeled “bake shop” and had a large oven identified on the fire insurance map (Sanborn 1928). At one time, the W.H. Runkle insurance agency was at this address.

Historic Name: A.A. Albright Blacksmith & Wagon Shop

Current Use: non-retail business

Street Address: 141 E. Main Street

Property Type: V

Date of Construction: circa 1894

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Noncontributing

Building Description: This false-front wooden frame building is one story tall and was completely remodeled in 2016. Modern vinyl siding and artificial stone veneer cover the façade and sides of this building. Two large fixed-pane windows flank a centered modern metal-and-glass entry door, with a modern bubble-type awning above the door. Historical photographs show that originally, this building did not have a false front parapet and was simply a front-gabled building with a flat-roofed addition (nonextant) to the east side.

There was a front-gabled cupola on the roof ridge. The historic façade also had a centered entry that was double-door wide and flanked by two regular-sized double-hung windows. There was a circular feature in the gable peak where there is now an octagonal panel with a small window and two vents. A photograph from the mid-20th century of this building shows that the building then had a false front parapet and an overhead garage door cut into the façade for its function as the town’s fire station. Given that this façade has undergone at least two major alterations, including the insertion of an overhead garage door in the mid-20th century, there appears to be little potential for any original material to remain underneath the modern façade. However, if future remodeling uncovers historic material to be intact, then the building’s status should be re-evaluated.



141 E. Main Street, looking South, 6-10-2018.



Circa 1909 photograph (left) showing the sign of A.A. Albright on the façade and mid-20th century (right) showing the modifications made for the use of the building as the Fire Station.

Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

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Building History: This building had been built by the time of the 1894 Sanborn fire insurance map, which showed the front-gabled building with the cupola on the roof but lacking the side addition. However, this building may be a much older building given its frame construction. In 1894, the building was labeled as a blacksmith and wagon shop. In 1900, it was still a blacksmith shop with the cupola on the roof labeled as a raised vent. The east-side addition had not yet been made in 1900. It remained a blacksmith shop until at least 1909, with the addition now made to the east side but listed as “vacant.” After housing a blacksmith and wagon shop for many years, this building became the town’s fire station by 1928 and remained so until March 13, 1975 when it was relocated to a new fire station. By 1928, the building had been added onto with a one-story store unit to the west and continued to have the small one-story store unit on the east side. Behind the fire department building, the 1928 fire insurance map showed a 50-foot hose tower as a separate square structure. The hose tower is nonextant.

Historic Name: commercial building

Current Use: construction business

Street Address: 139 E. Main Street

Property Type: V

Date of Construction: circa 1920

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Noncontributing

Building Description: The façade of this single-story, false-front building was completely modified in 2016. The façade was in poor condition prior to this remodel, with the current front representing more of a rebuilding of the façade rather than a cover up. As a result, there appears to be little potential for historic material underneath. Currently, there is a double entry door on the left (east) side of the façade, with an overhead garage door to the right. The raised parapet has a slight wooden cornice overhang and vertical wooden-paneled effect across the parapet. Wooden pilastered columns flank the storefront, with transom windows above the door openings.



Current view of 139 E. Main (left) and mid-20th century view (right).

Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

Building History: The 1928 Sanborn map is the first to show this building then in place. On that map it was shown attached to the fire department building next door (141 E. Main) but was functioning as an unidentified store. A mid-20th century photograph shows this building as a store with a centered entry flanked by large plate-glass windows and a covered or painted transom window above. Mid-20th century owners of this building included George Lewis & Grace Mae Albright and George J. Albright, the father of George Lewis, in

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1940. George J. Albright died in 1951, and the building remained in the Albright family until 1990. Currently, the building houses Walton Construction, who built the current façade.

Historic Name: George J. Albright Building

Current Use: vehicle body shop

Street Address: 133 E. Main Street

Property Type: V

Date of Construction: 1918

Architect/Builder: George J. Albright

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This wide single-story building is faced with polychrome brick and has a stepped parapet across its façade. Lighter brick shades on the parapet suggests either a later rebuilding of that feature or cleaning of the upper portion and not below.



133 E. Main Street looking South, 6-10-2018.

At the center of the façade is a large overhead door for automobiles and other implements to access the largely open interior garage/shop. There is a walk-in entry door to its right that has a glass transom window above. To either side of the façade are two large windows that have rectangular single panes in the lower half and three smaller square panes in a row above. The parapet has a simple band of brick corbelling for decorative effect, with a larger band of corbelled brick below the parapet and across the length of the façade. Historical photographs of this building show that the windows are original in their configuration as is the centered garage door with the entry door and transom window to the right. The only obvious modification has been the replacement of the overhead garage door in the modern era. The white-painted band above the storefront was the location where businesses had their signs painted in years past.



Circa 1933 photograph of 133 E. Main Street looking South. Note the brick street in front of the building and the gas pump to the right side. Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

Building History: Prior to the construction of this building, Samuel Kurtz's lumberyard had been on site, followed by the W.M. Stuart Lumber Company, and then the C.W. Chapman Lumber Company. When George J. Albright and his wife Millie purchased the property in 1917, George had the previous building demolished and the extant building built, completing construction in 1918. Albright died on January 5, 1951. Millie and his other heirs became the owners of the property, with his grandson Dave Albright renting the building in 1959 from Millie Albright for his D&D Body Shop in partnership with Don Smith. In 1970, Dave Albright purchased the building and continued doing business as D&D even though he was no longer in

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partnership with Smith. Dave Albright is still the owner of this building but his son Dan Albright now owns and operates the body shop business (as of January 2019). Historically, the building first housed automobile dealerships including those of Sandrock Motors; C.H. Dahn, who operated a Chrysler and Plymouth car dealership and repair garage; and the Moeller Motor Company operated by Ralph Moeller, which was believed to be the last new car dealership in the city. Moeller also sold Chrysler and Plymouth automobiles. In 1933, the building housed the Petersen Implement Company, selling Case farm implements and tractors (see photograph above). The building's early 20th century history as an automobile dealership and repair garage, with gas pumps out front, links it to the traffic along Main Street, which was then part of the transcontinental Lincoln Highway and its later designation as U.S. Highway 30.

Historic Name: Runkle Jewelry

Current Use: laundromat and residence

Street Address: 129 E. Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: circa 1906

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This two-story, two-unit brick block building features a corbelled brick cornice that has bands of bricks laid vertically as soldier courses but turned so that their corners produce a ridged effect. The second-story fenestration consists of four evenly-spaced 1/1 double-hung windows that have segmental-arched lintels made of two courses of rowlock bricks. The windows may have stone sills, with the windows appearing to be later replacements; however, the original windows were also 1/1 windows. The first-story storefront is covered with modern siding including a band of wooden shingle siding stained reddish brown above wide vinyl siding. The large recessed central entry is original but has three modern doors and the modern siding covering. Two small square windows flank the doorways and are modern inserts. To either side on the storefront are larger single-pane window inserts. Window air conditioners have been installed in the smaller openings. Notable is the second-story exposed brick that was laid in a running bond as a veneer; the retention of the metal beam/cornice that extends across the façade just above the storefront; and the two exposed metal posts that flank the recessed entry that are also original features of the storefront. A circa 1909 photograph shows that except for the cover-up siding on the storefront, this building appears much as it did then.



129 E. Main Street looking South, 6-10-2018.



129 E. Main Street circa 1909, looking SW. Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

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Building History: Prior to the construction of this building, there was a one-story office/blacksmith shop building on this lot (Sanborn 1900). This two-story building had been built by the time of the 1906 Sanborn when it was shown as having a grocery store in the west unit and a jewelry store in the east unit with a telephone office on the second floor. It is known that Runkle Jewelry was in this building in the early 20th century. The telephone exchange remained in the same second-floor location through at least the 1928 Sanborn map.

Historic Name: millinery shop

Current Use: restaurant

Street Address: 125 E. Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: circa 1906; storefront remodeled in 2010

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This single-story brick building retains its simple brick corbeled cornice (denticulated) and a simple metal cornice across the top of the storefront. While modern windows and doors have been inserted into the storefront along with a variety of modern infill materials, the wooden-framed storefront

and cast iron columns flanking the recessed central entry are historic, if not original to its construction. The ceiling of the recessed entry is also covered with beaded-board siding of historic age if not original. Therefore, a storefront that at first appears to be a completely modern modification actually retains the basic structure and cast iron elements of the historic façade (see historical photograph below). The bricks, which are laid in a running bond (veneer), have been painted dark red.

Building History: While the 1894 and 1900 Sanborn maps show two adjacent one-story buildings on this site that functioned as a bakery (east building) and millinery (west building), they were represented as having separate abutting walls, rather than sharing an internal wall like the extant building, and one building was slightly larger than the other. In addition, the 1894 Sanborn showed these buildings were completely frame in construction. However, by the 1906 Sanborn, the extant building was definitely in place with the building shown as having a brick veneer and internally had two units that shared a dividing wall. In 1906, a millinery store was still in the west unit but the east unit was vacant. By 1928, there were two unidentified stores in the building. Beginning circa 1948, Donald Dean Clark and Ruth Clark operated a Firestone store from this location.



125 E. Main Street looking South, 6-10-2018.



125 E. Main circa 1909 looking SW. Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

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Name of Property

County and State

Historic Name: restaurant

Current Use: insurance agency

Street Address: 119 E. Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: 1899

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This two-story, single-unit brick building has a simple corbelled brick very similar to that on 129 E. Main Street built circa 1906. This example has a solid band of soldier course bricks turned at an angle to form a ridged effect across the entire parapet. The second story has three evenly-spaced 1/1 double-hung windows (that appear to be original wood-sash windows) that have segmental-arched lintels formed by two courses of rowlock bricks. The brick on the second story façade is unpainted brick laid in a running bond (veneer). While the second story retains good historic integrity, the storefront is a modern remodel that is covered with vertical wooden siding panels and has a modern door to the right and a large three-pane modern window insert to the left. However, notable original features directly above the storefront include a rough-faced band



119 E. Main Street looking SSW, 6-10-2018.

of thin stone blocks, with the sills of the second floor windows and the capstones along the flat parapet of the same stone. The upper story on the east side is visible from Main Street and is the same unpainted brick with segmental-arched windows. While the storefront is not historic, the original recessed entry door is just inside the current front door and retains the cast iron pillars from the original storefront. This, coupled with the strength of integrity of the second story of this building, makes it contributing to the district. It is also suspected that there could be other original cast iron storefront elements underneath the modern cover-up siding.

Building History: The building on this lot in 1894 was a one-story frame building that housed a boots and shoe store (Sanborn 1894). However, by the time of the 1900 Sanborn map, this two-story building had been built and housed a restaurant. The 1906 Sanborn showed a doctor's office on the second floor but it was vacant on the first floor. The doctor's office was still in this building by the 1928 Sanborn map. According to research materials at the Lisbon History Center, the building also housed George D. Sailor's law office. Sailor was also the postmaster. It is also known that the building housed the medical office of Dr. John Raphael Gardner, a physician and surgeon who came to Lisbon in 1900. Dr. Gaylord Andre joined Gardner's practice in 1937 and practiced for a number of years. Gardner's medical practice spanned over six decades (Chapin 2001). He also served as Lisbon's mayor from 1906-1916. Later, the building housed the insurance business and gift shop of Iris Plattenberger followed by the Bruce Munson insurance agency. The building currently houses the Lisbon Insurance Co.

Circa 1909 photograph of 119 E. Main Street looking SW.

Photo source: Lisbon History Center.



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Historic Name: Albright Building

Current Use: non-commercial retail (1st floor); residence (2nd floor)

Street Address: 117 E. Main Street

Property Type: V

Date of Construction: 1877; 1938 (stuccoed)

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This two-story commercial block building was once exposed brick but has been coated in stucco. Above its second story is a concrete plaque that reads "Albright, 1877, 1938," which are the dates the building was built and renovated, respectively. Therefore, while the stucco coating is not original, its application was within the district's period of significance and reflects the use of stucco on other brick buildings in the district in the 1930s to "facelift" older buildings. The second story has three evenly-spaced 1/1 windows that are modern replacement windows but the openings retain their original stone sills. The storefront level has a modern aluminum-and-glass door to the left and has a fixed-pane transom window above. To the right side of the storefront is a large single-pane rectangular window that has a decorative metal awning and sign above. The storefront is covered with stuccoed panels that are modern. There could also be some original elements in place underneath the storefront cover-up as well. A historical photograph shows that the building originally had a decorative cornice and hood molds on the second-floor window lintels. The design of this building in 1877 used the same type of cornice and fenestration as on the adjacent Centennial Block built the year prior (see 111-109 E. Main Street).

Building History: This building was built in 1877 by Daniel Buck for a general merchandise store (*Cedar Rapids Gazette*, 5 April 1964). At least one source refers to this building, along with the two-unit building next door built in 1876 and the corner building to the east of that built in 1875, as the "Centennial Block" (*Western Historical* 1878:574). However, for the purposes of this nomination, these are separated into three separate buildings because they were built at different times and were built as separate buildings. The only one labeled herein as the "Centennial Block" is the two-unit block building at 111-109 E. Main Street that was actually built in the nation's centennial year. A circa 1890 clearly shows that the brick façade on this building is separate from that on the adjacent Centennial Block confirming that although they are similar in design, they were built separately.

Circa 1890 view of 117 E. Main Street looking SE.

Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

By the 1890s, this building housed the dry goods and clothing store of J.M. Furnas & Son (see photo at right). In 1900, it housed a boots and shoes and jewelry store; and in 1906 a clothing store (Sanborn 1894, 1900, 1906).

S.G. Fouse worked as a clerk in Furnas' store, and on January 1, 1896, he purchased the business along with U.D. Runkle, with the business then called "Runkle & Fouse" (*Lisbon Herald*, 13 September 1917; *Mount Vernon-Hawkeye Record and Lisbon Herald*, 3 October 1929). Their partnership lasted until 1901 when, Fouse bought out Runkle's interest and for the next 16 years conducted the business under the Fouse name. While it is assumed that Runkle and Fouse initially continued the



117 E. Main Street looking S, 6-10-2018.



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business in the Furnas store at 117 E. Main, there is a faded painted sign on the upper rear wall of 115 W. Main Street that appears to read "Runkle and "Fo...." This sign suggests that Runkle and Fouse had moved their store to 115 W. Main Street prior to 1901. The subject building later housed Orville Crawford's Heating & Electric and LeVan's Plumbing & Heating.

Historic Name: Centennial Block
Current Use: salon (111) and bar (109)
Street Address: 111-109 E. Main Street
Property Type: III
Date of Construction: 1876
Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing
Building Description: This two-story brick block building has a pressed metal cornice with large brackets and corbels below the overhang. This cornice appears to be largely intact based on historical photographs. A frontispiece bearing the building's year of construction of "1876" is centered on the façade just below the cornice. There are five evenly-spaced windows across the second story that have corbelled brick hood molds with stone keystones and stone lintels. Three of the windows are 1/1 double-hung windows of historic age, but the two on the east side of the façade are modern, reduced and replaced windows, with wooden panels inserted in the top of the window openings. The storefront on the east side is more modified than that on the west. Both storefronts have modern doors in their recessed central entryways and modern siding infill and modern square fixed-pane windows flanking each doorway. The east unit is missing the bracketed overhang that the west unit retains, with the east unit lower walls coated with cement stucco, while those on the west side are covered over with siding. The bracketed overhang of the storefront was shown in a circa 1909 photograph to have been continuous across both units but also extended to the east on the building at 117 E. Main Street.



111-109 E. Main Street looking South, 6-10-2018.

Circa 1909 photo of 111-109 E. Main.
Photo Source: Lisbon History Center

Both storefronts on the Centennial Block have portions of their original cast iron storefront elements exposed including the framing columns on the storefronts. There is a centered doorway to the second story between the two storefronts that retains its original wooden door and transom. Comparison with historical photographs shows that the integrity of the second story is very high, with the retention of the cast iron storefronts and one of the bracketed overhangs on the west unit making this building contributing to the historic district.

Building History: John Kurtz and Adam Runkle purchased the lots on which this building sits in 1865. The extant building was built for Mrs. Amos Runkle in 1876 and became known as the Centennial Block because it was built during the nation's centennial year. The east unit was occupied by Amos and Jerry Runkle's shoe shop. An 1879 advertisement called it the "Boot and Shoe Emporium of Amos K. Runkle." Above it was Dr. A.H. DeLano's medical office; he was a physician and



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surgeon. Mrs. L.M. Hempey also had a millinery on the second floor for a time, with Dr. Jason D. Kinsley having his dental office on the second floor circa 1890 into the early 20th century based on historical photographs and advertisements, which placed his office in the "Runkle Building." He practiced in Lisbon for 26 years.

The Sanborn maps show a drugstore on the west side and the boots and shoe store on the east side in 1894. Originally the west-side drugstore was that of Dr. J.A. Armstrong and Solomon Kettering (*Cedar Rapids Gazette*, 5 April 1964). By 1900, the drug store also carried wallpaper and stationery, with the boots and shoe store still in the east unit. This remained the configuration on the 1906 Sanborn map.

Historic Name: Wink & Hauser Building

Current Use: Lisbon Public Library

Street Address: 101 E. Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: 1875

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This two-story corner brick building is the oldest extant building in the district. It is a single store unit wide and has a hall on the second story. The brick walls on the façade and west sides are currently unpainted, but historical photographs show that it was painted white for much of the 20th century, with the paint removed and the building repointed circa 1990 (*Cedar Rapids Gazette*, 15 January 1990). The bricks on the façade are laid in a running bond (vener), with those on the west side and rear laid in an 8:1 common bond of eight courses of brick stretchers for every



101 E. Main Street looking SSE, 6-10-2018.

single row of brick headers and are structural walls. The windows on the second story on the façade and west side all have segmental-arched lintels of three courses of rowlock bricks, with each row progressively stepped outward from each other. The first row is inset in the wall, with the next row flush with the wall, and the third extending out slightly from the wall. These unusual lintels appear to be unique in the district. The windows also have stone sills that are carved to look like cornice molding with lower corbels on either end. The windows are 4/4 double-hung, wooden-sash windows that have segmental-arched headers along with fixed four pane storm windows that also have segmental-arched headers. The storm windows are new but are wood-framed. The façade has a simple corbeled brick cornice with brick "bracket" details below. The cornice is capped with thin stone slabs. Below the cornice are three inset brick panels that have the same type of brick lintels as described above but instead of windows have the brick structural wall exposed. There are three windows below each panel as described above on the façade. The storefront retains the original flat wooden overhang with metal scrolled brackets under the overhang. The cast iron storefront is exposed, with the deeply-recessed central entry retaining a large transom window. The transom glass and the large plate-glass windows to either side of the entry are replacements, but the wooden-paneled kickplate area below the windows appears to be original. The west side of the second story has an entry door for the hall at the north side that is an alteration of a former window opening, with four windows to the right evenly-spaced along the wall and described above. The first story has a segmental-arched entry door towards the rear on the west side. The chimney on the west side wall was rebuilt in the late 20th century. This building retains excellent exterior integrity.

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**Left: Circa 1890 view of 101 E. Main looking SSE and showing the brick walls unpainted and the presence of the overhang with metal brackets above the storefront;
Right: Circa 1909 view of 101 E. Main looking WSW (right) showing the painted exterior.**

Photos source: Lisbon History Center

The interior of the first floor is now the Lisbon Public Library and retains its tall ceiling height but has been updated in recent years. A modern tin ceiling and crown molding have been added to impart a historic look to the library's interior. The second-floor hall has also been renovated and is still used as a gathering place and concert hall. Portions of the original wall were exposed during the renovation revealing areas on the walls where early speakers and musical groups had scribbled their names on the wall. These sections were left exposed and preserved as part of the building's history.

Building History: The original building at this corner was owned by the Rabenau family, and the firm Rabenau & Schaum operated out of it. Littlefield was the successor to that business. The current building was erected in 1875, and the Wink & Hauser store opened here before construction was even complete. "Wink & Hauser's Hardware, Tinware, Grocery and Notions Store" is the oldest extant commercial building in the district. The second floor of the building was a social hall. It was noted in the September 4, 1875, *Sun* newspaper that "the new hall of Hauser & Wink has been furnished with chairs suited for concert and convenience of an audience. It is lighted, too, with a very neat and expensive chandelier and is probably one of the best appointed public halls in the county." Radl (1974:16) further noted:

This hall, the first such public meeting place in Lisbon, was quickly put to use. Gala entertainments were now offered by dramatic and singing groups, the Lisbon Cornet Band gave a series of concerts 'appreciated by all,' and a practical cheese maker from Springville, a Mr. Hill, rented the hall to inform his audience that if they would offer him sufficient inducements, he might erect a cheese factory in their town. Late in October a booking at the H & W Hall contributed its small share to the growing air of friction between Lisbon and Mount Vernon. The Continental Costume Concert Company was scheduled to appear here on the night of October 30. As the advance publicity put it: "We are disposed to urge full house on this occasion, for the company comes to Lisbon with the hearty endorsement of the press and public. The program will be composed of quartets, trios, solos, comic songs and dances, musical eccentricities selected from a repertoire of over 150 pieces" (Radl 1974:16).

On the 29th the advance agent for this fabulous entertainment group arrived in Lisbon to beat the drum for his clients. He decided, by some mysterious power of divination known only to booking agents, that Lisbon did not have the look of a 'money town' whereas Mount Vernon did. He therefore switched the scheduled appearance of his singers from Lisbon to Clark & Hazlett's hall in Mt. Vernon. On the evening of the 30th a

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Lisbon audience, quite unaware of the last-minute change and eagerly anticipating a pleasant and entertaining time, found itself staring at an empty stage. It did not soothe ruffled Lisbon tempers, the following week, to read in the Mount Vernon press that "The Continentals gave one of their unrivaled concerts. This troupe showed themselves to be masters of their profession" (Radl 1974:16).

A subsequent partnership was the hardware and grocery store of Auracher and Wink (*Cedar Rapids Gazette*, 5 April 1964). For a time, the building was owned by Blessing & Handley, who had a store. Children would often buy penny candy at their counter. The business had machinery in a one-story addition to the rear of the building. The business was then operated by R. McElhinney. In 1896, this building became home to the Stronge & Jones Hardware Store. A circa 1910 photograph looking back at this building from the next block to the west shows this building with a large painted sign on the corner side wall that reads "C.J. McHugh &" [not visible but possibly "Son" or "Co"], with the business advertising "builder's hardware, queensware, stoves and ranges, and farm implements" (Photograph in the collections of the State Historical Society of Iowa Research Center in Iowa City).

The Sanborn fire insurance maps showed the grocery and hardware store in the building in 1894 through 1900, with the 1906 map showing hardware on the first floor and a tin shop on the second floor. In 1894-1906, the rear frame addition was used for an implement warehouse. By 1928, the rear addition had been rebuilt or remodeled as a two-story brick-veneered building that was being used as a carpenter shop (Sanborn 1894-1928). This building still had an internal connection to the main store building. The first-floor business was identified only as a store in 1928. In 1929, S.G. Fouse opened his new grocery store in the "Auracher and Wink" building having contracted for the building three months prior (*Mount Vernon-Hawkeye Record and Lisbon Herald*, 3 October 1929). The 1929 article noted that this historic building had been made "from brick burnt in the kiln that occupied the location now the site of Herbert Walmer's barn," with Henry Sailor making the brick. Fouse remodeled the interior for his new store, including installing a "steel ceiling and a yellow pine floor" over the old in the main room (*Mount Vernon-Hawkeye Record and Lisbon Herald*, 3 October 1929). This article went on to note that Fouse had been in business since January 1, 1896 when he and U.P. Runkle had succeed J.M. Furnas and Son (see 117 E. Main Street). In 1945, one of Fouse's employees, Charles Williams, purchased the business from Fouse and continued to operate it as a grocery store in the subject building until his retirement (History provided by Martin Davis, e-mail dated 24 June 2019). Martin Davis started working for Williams in 1945 and he recalls that the business, being located on Highway 30, was convenient for travelers, who would stop to purchase snack food to eat on the road (Davis, e-mail dated 24 June 2019).

In 1956, the Lisbon Public Library moved into this building where it remains to the present day (Delaney 1997). In 1990, the newly-formed Lisbon History Center was housed on the second floor before moving to their current location across the street at 102 E. Main Street. The second floor was renovated in 1997 for the current Heritage Hall, which is used for concerts, meetings, and presentations (Delaney 1997).

Historic Name: Stuckslager & Auracher Bank

Current Use: bank

Street Address: 103 W. Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: 1894

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: This building is located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Main and Washington Street and is part of a two-story brick block that was built following a disastrous fire in 1894, which destroyed the previous buildings on this entire block. This building features Romanesque Revival stylistic influence as seen in the use of round-arched windows on both floors including large round-arched

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windows on the storefront of the façade. Originally, there were only two round-arched openings on the first floor in the corner unit, with a recessed central-entry storefront in the unit to the west.



103 W. Main Street looking SW, 6-10-2018.



103 W. Main Street (corner bank building) looking SW circa 1912. Note the stone fountain that once stood in the center of the intersection of Main and Washington streets visible in the lower left corner. The street lights had been installed in 1912. Photo source: Lisbon History Center.

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A major façade renovation in 1968 resulted in a very modern-looking lower level on both the front and east side, with the first story of the façade completely removed and replaced with a series of tall narrow windows with metal panels and a double door to the right (see photo to right). The round-arched window openings were left on the east side but were filled in with masonry (Newspaper clipping dated January 1968, Lisbon History Center).



1979 photo showing the remodeled storefront on 103 W. Main Street. Photo source: Lisbon History Center

However, in 1991 the first floor façade and east side were returned to a more compatible historic look using round-arched door and window openings that are there today (*The Sun*, 20 June 1991). In the early 1990s, the building unit to the west was joined to the corner bank building to enlarge the interior space for the bank. Historically, the unit to the west was part of the Union Block construction and is considered part of that block building (see west half of 103 and 111-119 W. Main below).

The subject building has a wrap-around brick parapet that is stepped higher above the roofline of the Union Block to the west. This raised parapet has inset panels across both the front and east sides. Just below the parapet is a terra-cotta cornice that also wraps around the façade and east side. There are terra-cotta dentils below the cornice, with a wide frieze band made of bricks. The second story façade has classical brick pilasters framing the paired round-arched windows (two sets) on the second story. The windows have round-arched surrounds that connect in the center of each pair to form an arcaded effect. The lintel areas are formed with brick soldier courses. The east side of the second story has four pairs of round-arched windows that are spaced a little farther apart but also have the soldier course lintels. The second-story windows are all the original 1/1 double-hung wooden sash windows that have round-arched upper sashes that fit the round-arched brick openings. The bricks used in the bank construction are a dark red pressed brick that would have been brought on the railroad rather than produced locally. The pressed bricks are laid with a very narrow mortar joint and in a running bond (veneer). The mortar has been tinted so that the joints visually disappear but some repointing in later years used a lighter mortar without the tint. However, those repointed areas are limited in extent. There is a band of narrow rough-faced stone slabs that serve as the sills but extends across the north and east sides of building at sill level.

The main modification to this building has been the modern remodeling of the storefront level of the façade. As noted above, this included inserting a round-arched door and a round-arched window on facade similar to, but smaller than, the original round-arched door and window. The east-side round-arched windows had been infilled during the 1968 remodel but were returned to windows in 1991. A modern "BANK" sign was added to just above the storefront along with a vinyl bubble awning placed above the main entry door to the bank. However, the rough-faced stone blocks of the original foundation are still in place around the entire façade and east side and extends several feet above the sidewalk level imparting that contrast of rough stone and smooth brick characteristic of the Romanesque Revival style. A projecting lighted sign is a modern addition to the exterior but is attached to the corner in such a way that it does not seriously impact the integrity of the brick wall.

The interior on the first floor has been modernized through the years for the bank, but the historic safes and safety deposit box room are intact along with a pressed tin ceiling in the front portion of the bank. The second floor above the bank retains the original interior for the Knights of Pythias Hall including wallpaper stamped with their emblems, hardwood floors, a raised stage along the north wall, wooden-paneled doors with brass hardware, ante-rooms with two closets for robes and other items, a beaded-board cabinet, light fixtures,

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woodwork, and the main interior entry door with a textured glass pane, bell, and peep hole. The stairs from the first floor also have turned balusters and a newel post with bullseye pattern.

In general, this corner block building has good integrity on both the exterior and interior. It is a significant bank building that was likely architect designed, although at present the architect's name is unknown. It also reflects the rebuilding on Iowa's Main Streets that occurred in the wake of disastrous fires, a surprising number of which occurred in the 1890s and resulted in the introduction of the Romanesque Revival style along many Main Street districts in the state including Lisbon and Mt. Vernon.

Building History: This building has been home to banks for its entire history, starting with the Stuckslager & Auracher Bank at its opening. It became the Lisbon Bank and Trust by the late 20th century and is Hills Bank and Trust today. The hall above the bank was noted on the 1928 Sanborn map but it had been previously listed as an office in 1906. The second floor was home to the Knights of Pythias lodge meetings and was also used for city council meetings.

Historic Name: Union Block/Post Office

Current Use: Bank, Legion Hall, Restaurant

Street Address: west 1/2 of 103 & 111-119 W.
Main Street

Property Type: III

Date of Construction: 1894

Architect/Builder: Unknown

NRHP Status: Contributing

Building Description: What is now the west unit of the bank at 103 W. Main was originally part of the subject block building and is considered part of this block for this nomination. This block was a rebuild of the original Union Block, which burned in 1894. Some of the rear structural walls may have survived the fire and were incorporated into the extant building. This block was designed in the Classical Revival style as seen in the center pedimented unit that has a Greek Temple look to its upper story. The overall design also used some elements of the Romanesque Revival, which is seen in the arched, round-arched single windows across the second story of the two units that flank the center unit (see also circa 1912 photograph on page 29). This center unit was owned by the Lisbon American Legion Cyclops Post No. 109 after 1947.



W1/2 103, 111-119 W. Main Street looking South, 6-10-2018.

The triangular pediment of the center unit has a pressed metal date plate painted white that reads "Erected 1894." The flat parapet above the pediment has brick dentils below the clay tile cap and a centered corbelled brick chimney and a series of rectangular openings below across the parapet imparting the look of a balustrade. The pediment has terra-cotta cornice molding and brick dentils below the cornice and inside the pediment as well as along the frieze band below the pediment. The second-floor façade of the center unit has four rectangular windows that now have modern vinyl replacement windows but these windows have a look similar to the original windows having 1/1 sash windows with single-pane transoms above. The second story façade and windows are framed by Classical brick pilasters, with the window surrounds formed by soldier courses of brick and brick corbeling framing the lintel and sides of each window. These windows have individual rough-faced stone sills rather than the continuous lintel course on the bank building to the east. The entire façade of this unit bumps out from the façade further enhancing the temple-front effect of its design. A metal beam extends the width of the façade of the center and west units and has decorative diamond-shaped fasteners and egg-and-dart molding.

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Historically, there were cast iron storefront units across the entire façade of this block that had recessed centered doorways and flanking display windows. Today, only two recessed entryways remain on the center and west units and only two of the cast iron posts are still exposed; however, other posts appear to remain under the siding cover-ups on the center and west units. The center door of the unit at 111 still has steps up to the door that lead to the stairs to the second story. This door is a modern replacement as are all of the doors extant on the façade of this block. The cover-up/infill modern materials on the center unit include vertical metal siding, modern brick veneer (light gray in color), and stuccoed panels.

The west unit of the block has three round-arched windows across the second story with the same brick lintels and rough-cut stone sills as the center unit but the windows are covered over with wooden panels painted brown. The masonry on the second story of this unit has a different look than the rest of the block because this upper wall was repointed using a mortar with no tinting. The storefront level of the west unit is completely covered with faux brick veneer panels with three modern windows and a modern door with transom inserted. However, on the interior of this door, some of the original cast iron components are still in place suggesting the possibility that additional portions of the cast iron storefront could still be in place but now covered over.

The second story of the east unit retains the original four round-arched windows with brick lintels and has the same denticulated frieze band and cornice molding as the rest of the block. The parapet above this section is now partially covered with metal but a remnant of the tile cap remains. The first-floor storefront is now part of the Hills Bank in the east half of 103 W. Main Street as noted previously. The current storefront consists of a dark red, modern brick veneer with three large round-arched windows. This storefront reflects a 1991 remodeling for the bank. The interior of this unit shows fire damage on the second floor, which is now an open room with few finishes. There is a service elevator of historic age on this upper floor. The first floor has a modern interior and is open into the bank to the east.

In 1994, a 1.5-story addition was made to the west side of this block and is connected to the historic building on the interior. This addition has a brick veneer facade. It provided additional seating space for Gwen's Restaurant in the western unit of the block building. Despite the storefront cover-ups/infill and the addition to the west side, the Union Block as a whole retains good integrity particularly of its second story, but also in the retention of some of the cast iron storefronts.



Early 20th century photographs of the Union Block looking SE (left) and the 119 unit looking SSE (right).

Photo Source: Lisbon History Center.

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Building History: The extant brick block was preceded by another large brick block of store buildings known as the Union Block and built in 1875. That building was largely destroyed in an 1894 fire, although some of the rear structural walls may have remained standing. Adam Runkle's furniture store was housed in part of the earlier Union Block along with the J.S. Gauby Store and the First National Bank. Runkle and Gauby's stores were later purchased by Henry Bucher, who joined them together under his name. Bucher operated a furniture store and served as a mortician. Bucher was succeeded in the furniture and undertaking business by the partnership of Johnston & Son, specifically Robert Johnston and his son Clint B. Johnston. After the 1894 fire, the Johnston & Son business continued in the west unit (119) of the new building, and by 1917, Robert's other son, Guy H. Johnston, joined the family business. The business also dealt in furniture, sewing machines, carpets, linoleum, and floor oil cloths, with Johnston providing funeral director services. Circa 1919, Robert Johnston sold out to his sons, and circa 1930 Guy's son, Howard R. Johnston passed his state embalming examination and joined his father and uncle in the business. The firm expanded into Mount Vernon as well. In 1947, Clinton B. Johnston was joined by Jack P. Morgan in the partnership of Johnston & Morgan. The Sanborn maps show the furniture store in the west unit with a repair shop and warehouse behind in 1900. The 1906 map identifies the furniture business as including undertaking, with a carpenter shop and storage to the rear. The 119 unit later housed restaurants and taverns and a furniture/carpet store called Village Interiors. Among the later restaurants were the Dinner Den and Gwen's Restaurant (since 1981). For a time, the Lisbon Library was in the two rooms above the Dinner Den.

The 1900 Sanborn map shows a hand printing shop on the first floor of the east side of the center unit (111) and a general store in the west side of the center unit (115), with a hall on the second floor above both units. The stairs to the second floor are centered between the two units. The general store in 1900 appears to have been the business of U.D. Runkle and S.G. Fouse, with Fouse buying out Runkle in 1901. There is a faded painted sign on the rear of this unit that reads "Runkle and Fo....," likely from their business. By 1906, the center units housed the post office (111), with the general store still on west side (115), with the hall still noted on the second floor. In 1906, the general store was probably that of S.G. Fouse; however, in 1909 he moved his store into the west half of the 103 W. Main Street unit where it remained until 1929 (see below). The Lisbon Post Office remained in the 111 unit until 1942. The 111 unit of the building was purchased in 1947 by the American Legion (Cyclops Post No. 109), which had their meeting hall in the basement, renting the second floor hall to the Eastern Star and the main floor to Jerry Bennett, who operated a tavern. In the late 1960s, the Legion purchased the west side (115) unit, and in 2015, the Legion sold their entire building to Eric Krob (Countryman 2019).

The easternmost unit of the Union Block, currently the west half of 103 W. Main Street, has housed hardware stores, tin shops (on the second floor), and general/grocery stores through the years. As noted above, S.G. Fouse had his general store in this unit from 1909-1917 and again from 1918-1929 (*Lisbon Herald*, 7 January 1909; *Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, 22 March 1945). Two circa 1912 photographs show Fouse's name above the storefront at that location (Photographs from the Lisbon History Center and the State Historical Society of Iowa in Iowa City). A 1917 news item reported that "the large general store of S.G. Fouse has been traded for a five hundred acre farm near McGregor to Mr. W.M. Gardner, of Stanwood" (*Lisbon Herald*, 13 September 1917). When Fouse finally retired and sold his business in 1945, the newspaper noted that "the Fouse store was sold during the last war and Mr. Fouse was out of the store for about a year" (*Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, 22 March 1945). Therefore, the 1917 transaction only stopped his business for a year before he reopened. In 1929, it was reported that S.G. Fouse was opening his new grocery store in the building at 101 E. Main Street where it remained until he retired in 1945 (*Mount Vernon-Hawkeye Record and Lisbon Herald*, 3 October 1929 and 22 March 1945). The McClelland Café also operated in the subject unit for 36 years. This unit is currently joined to the Hills Bank and has office and conference rooms for the bank on the first floor. It is vacant on the second floor.

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Statement of Integrity

The Lisbon Main Street Historic District continues to serve as the community's central hub of commercial activities, just as it did in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Its component buildings retain sufficient integrity in the aspects of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and reflect its historical significance as a cohesive district. Most buildings follow the basic pattern common to two-story commercial block buildings, such as: corbelling, cornices, second-story fenestration, and masonry detailing (Price 2017). The stand-alone buildings are consistent with the historic contexts and physical integrity of the district, as not to detract from the overall feeling or setting. Though some buildings have been modified and modern buildings infill some areas of the district, these do not significantly detract from the historical significance of the district. Most buildings have some replacement materials, some have been modified greatly, but again, the integrity of the district is sufficient to convey its historical significance. The most important aspects of integrity for this district include: design, setting, materials, feeling, and association.

Overall the district has good integrity of location being the place where the commercial buildings of Lisbon were first built and then replaced with most of the extant buildings in the late 19th century. The district retains fair integrity of design. Many of the buildings retain their original form, plan, space, and structure, with stylistic details still extant on many of the second-story facades. The integrity of setting is good for this district. It is still a commercial hub, located in the heart of a small rural community in eastern Iowa. Much of the residential neighborhoods that surround it are little changed, and the streets that bisect the district in either direction are still the town's two main thoroughfares, though modern transportation infrastructure (such as US Highway 30) has redirected "through traffic" around the town entirely. Most of the buildings retain good integrity of materials. Though nearly all of the storefront levels have been modified, covered over, or replaced through the years, some of these changes are now considered historic (such as stucco applications in the 1930s). Three of the buildings have been deemed noncontributing because the facades were completely modified or covered over in the late 20th to early 21st centuries. The integrity of workmanship is also good, with the work of local masons and carpenters still evidenced primarily on the second stories of these buildings. Overall, the district retains good integrity of feeling. The aesthetic of the district as an early commercial hub, with 19th century commercial architecture has been retained. The feeling of nostalgia associated with "Main Street, USA" locations such as this is still fully present. The integrity of association is good for this district, as the local population still owns and operates many businesses here, and it is the local population that supports these business since the town was bypassed years ago by Highway 30, which is the main thoroughfare through town but well south of the commercial district.

Of the 20 buildings in this district, three are noncontributing due to compromised historic integrity (Figure 4). These are 132 E. Main Street, 139 E. Main Street, and 141 E. Main Street, which have been modified in such a way that they no longer meet the necessary criteria. Two other buildings, 102 W. Main Street and 120 W. Main Street, are non-historic buildings and therefore counted as noncontributing to the district. The rest of the buildings are counted as 15 contributing buildings.

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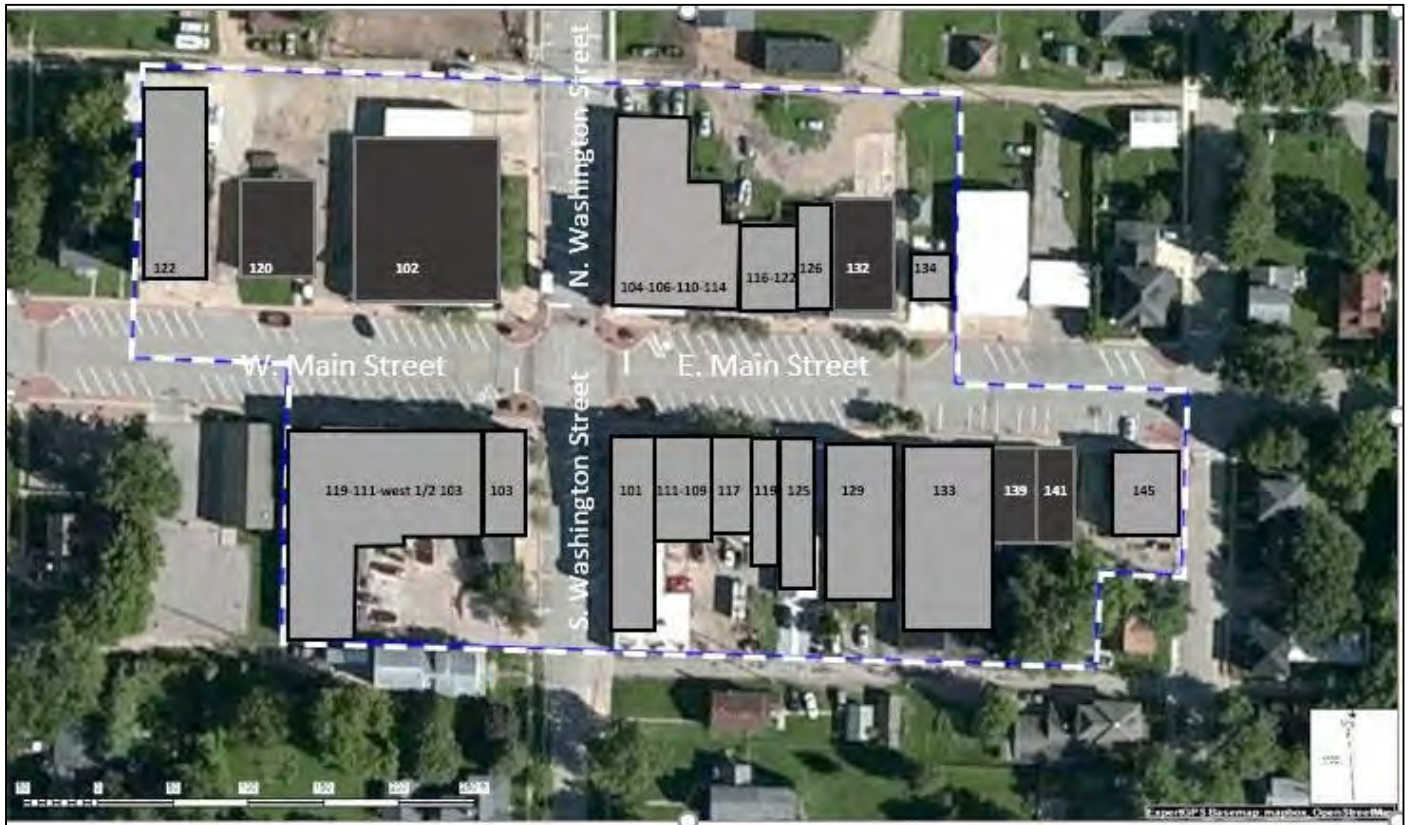


Figure 4. Aerial map showing property by address number and contributing (light gray-shaded) and noncontributing (dark gray-shaded) buildings within the historic district boundary (white dashed outline). Source for map: 2013 aerial obtained from ExpertGPS Mapping Software, 2019.

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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.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

ETHNIC HERITAGE

Period of Significance

1875 - 1952

Significant Dates

1875

1893

1894

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

Architect/Builder

Henry, Jacob

Meyer, Abe

Woods, Dick

Woods, Jess

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Statement of Significance

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Lisbon Main Street Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A for the historical significance of its important role as the commercial hub for Lisbon and the surrounding rural areas of southeastern Linn and western Cedar counties. It is significant in the areas of Commerce and Ethnic Heritage. In the late 19th to mid-20th centuries, the district was the focal point for the town's commerce including retail businesses, financial and public institutions, professional offices, and social halls and cultural buildings. The district also reflects the Pennsylvania German ethnic heritage of the town's settlers as the location where the community ethnic heritage celebration known as Sauerkraut Days began, expanded, and continues to be held on Lisbon's Main Street. This celebration continues to draw hundreds of people not only from Lisbon but the region as well. As a hub for commerce and community activities, this two-block stretch of Main Street represents the local history of Lisbon like no other part of town. The district's period of significance is 1875 to 1952 encompassing the heyday of commercial development in the district. The beginning date is the year that the earliest extant building was constructed (101 E. Main). The end date of 1952 represents the peak of the commercial area along Main Street as the traffic and commerce would start to shift to the south edge of town along the U.S. Highway 30, which was completed the following year. Significant dates include: 1876 when the Centennial Block was built, 1878 when the Merchants Block was built, 1893 when the Lisbon Opera House was built, and 1894 when the extant Bank and Union Block were built in the wake of a disastrous fire. The Lisbon Main Street Historic District meets the registration requirements under Criterion A for Commercial Districts as set forth in the *Iowa's Main Street Commercial Architecture* Multiple Property cover document (Nash 2002). This district is associated with the settlement and growth of the town over an extended period of time and served an important role in the survival of this town. The extant resources in the district are primarily associated with the development and later building phases of the town's commercial district.

Narrative Statement of Significance

 (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

(**Iowa SHPO Additional Instructions:** For properties not nominated under Criterion D, include a statement about whether any archaeological remains within or beyond the footprint of the property were assessed as part of this nomination under the subheading **Archaeological Assessment**.)

The Lisbon Main Street Historic District as Property Type I meets the integrity considerations and registration requirements set forth in the *Iowa's Main Street Commercial Architecture* MPS by retaining sufficient integrity and by reflecting the settlement and development of the town of Lisbon (Nash 2002). The district has the expected alterations to storefronts, with the upper stories retaining more original and/or historic materials and stylistic details. It contains the mix of building types and construction periods that reflect the district's growth and development. It lacks empty lots within the district boundary and is not marred by extensive modern building construction (Nash 2002:F38). It has been noted that the heart of the Lisbon Main Street Historic District, centered at the intersection of Main and Washington streets, retains most of "its historic profile and thus its historic identity" (Price 2017:5).

The district also reflects how the town's economy and commercial development was affected by the railroad and later the automobile as well as how the town responded to several devastating fires in the late 19th century. The district represents the importance of Lisbon as an agricultural center during the period of significance, which enabled the town to compete in such close proximity to Mt. Vernon. The buildings in the district reflect the early expansion of Lisbon's commercial development, with a number of extant buildings constructed in the 1870s. They also reflect the impact of fire on the district including an 1890s fire that removed an entire block of buildings, which were then rebuilt. The majority of the buildings in the district were built from 1875 to 1899, with some notable additions representing the importance of the automobile and the interurban railway in the early to mid-20th century.

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Criterion A - Historical Significance of the Lisbon Main Street Historic District

Commerce

The Lisbon Main Street Historic District is historically significant in the area of commerce because this district represents the town's late 19th to mid-20th century commercial growth and development. Lisbon developed as a commercial hub in the region by catering to the rural farm community. Its boom in commerce followed the railroad's arrival in 1859, and it was in the late 19th century that the commercial district was built to its full extent. Most of the extant buildings in the district were built between 1875 and 1899. However, the district also reflects the town's adaptations to major changes in the early to mid-20th century, including the decline of the railroad and the rise of new modes of transportation (interurban and automobile) that now extended along Main Street. These adaptations included adding commercial services that catered to the automobile and the traveling public such as automobile dealerships, service garages, gas stations, and cafes. The end date of the district represents the peak of the Main Street area's dominance as Lisbon's primary commercial hub with the shifting of the highway traffic off of Main Street to a new bypass south of town. The new highway also made the commercial services of the city of Cedar Rapids more accessible further challenging the viability of retail businesses on Lisbon's Main Street.

Early Settlement (1851-1859)

Lisbon was founded in the 1850s in a grove of trees in the Spring Creek watershed. It was platted along an early road that extended from the Mississippi River town of Bloomington (the original name for Muscatine) to the Linn County seat of Marion. Mount Vernon's commercial area was also built along this early road, where that road intersected with another early road known as the Military Road. That road connected Iowa City, then the State Capital, and Dubuque on the Mississippi River. Mount Vernon was platted in 1847, with Lisbon platted in 1851. In 1853, Mt. Vernon became the site for the Iowa Conference Male and Female Seminary, which eventually grew into present day Cornell College. Immediately the two closely-spaced towns struggled to compete with one another given their overlapping and competing market spheres. In this type of situation, one town would typically fail to thrive and would either disappear or be absorbed by the stronger community. However, this is not what happened to Lisbon and Mt. Vernon. Both survived as separate communities and both found ways to both cooperate and compete in such close proximity. They did so in part by developing different focuses, with Mt. Vernon the college town and Lisbon the farm town but also by the strength and identity of their respective initial settlements.

While the town of Lisbon was not officially platted until 1851, this area had been settled at an earlier date, with the settlers attracted by the natural resources of its location including a large grove, springs, and creeks. This early settlement became known as "Yankee Grove," because the initial settlers hailed from New York. The first of these settlers was Charles C. Haskins, who settled along Spring Creek in 1838. Simon Archer soon settled on land within the subsequent Lisbon town plat where Robert Dean and John J. Gibson also had early claims. William Young was another important early settler of the Lisbon vicinity having set up a saw mill on Clear Creek about four miles south in the 1840s. In 1857, Young erected the Golden Sheaf Mill (Radl 1974:3). This mill and the support services in Lisbon for area farmers was a stimulus for growth, and by 1859, the population of Lisbon had grown to 583 (Western Historical 1878:568-569).

Pennsylvania immigrants to Linn County included a colonizing group from Lancaster County, who migrated to Lisbon in the spring of 1847, when it was still known as Yankee Grove. This group initially consisted of 60 United Brethren members led by their pastor, Christian Hershey. Their settlement gave a tremendous boost to the fledgling community, and they encouraged other Pennsylvania United Brethren to follow. The influence of

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this "Pennsylvania Dutch" group in the settlement of this community is reflected in the town's later nickname of "Dutch Town" (Radl 1974:3-4).⁴

Christian Hershey was a United Brethren preacher and, "soon after settling down in Lisbon, he began to hold services in private homes or, in pleasant weather, in the shady groves around town" (Radl 1974:3-4). In addition to Hershey and members of his family, the original colony included the families of John E. Kurtz, Michael Hoover, Jacob Breneman, J.H. Eby, and Jacob S. Pfautz. Many of these members purchased the claims and farms of earlier settlers including some where dwellings had already been built. Many of the earliest homes in Lisbon were located on what is now West Main Street. J.H. Eby was reportedly the first of the Pennsylvania colony to actually build a house on the town site (Western Historical 1878:568-569).

The members of this first colonizing group wrote enthusiastic letters to friends back home in Pennsylvania encouraging them to migrate. In the following years, many of these friends made their way to Lisbon adding to the growing United Brethren congregation in this community. Included in the second migration were Fred W. Rabenau and David Dorwart, who brought along a large stock of general merchandise, with which they opened a store upon arriving in Lisbon. "Their business place, sold to J.E. Kurtz and Son in 1852, was for a long time known as the Dutch Store" (Radl 1974:4). Other early businesses included: D.G. Ziegenfus' blacksmith shop established in 1850 and operating for 27 years; Alexander Renfrew's wagon shop; and J.H. Eby's cabinet shop (Western Historical 1878:569).

In 1850, a post office was established at this location with David Runkle the first postmaster. Runkle was a new arrival in town, having come to Lisbon from Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, as part of the company of 84 persons who comprised the second "colony" of United Brethren. They traveled by river to Bloomington and then overland to Lisbon on the Bloomington to Marion Road, or the Bloomington Road for short.⁵ The following year, the town of Lisbon was platted by John E. Kurtz, John H. Eby, and Michael Hoover, all three members of the Pennsylvania colony and two of whom (Kurtz and Hoover) were sons-in-law of Christian Hershey (Centennial Committee 1948:23; Radl 1974:4).

Therefore, Lisbon owed its early viability to its location in a grove that offered fuel and building materials for early settlers; along several streams that offered springs and running water sufficient to operate early saw and grist mills; along a road that connected the location to a Mississippi River port town, the Military Road, and the county seat of Linn County; and to a major influx of a cohesive group of settlers who shared an ethnic and religious history that bound them together and to this location. These factors helped Lisbon early on to survive the highly competitive environment of its too-close rival of Mount Vernon. Lisbon grew slowly in its early days and has always lagged behind Mount Vernon in population and size. However, it would come to benefit from another major industry that would, of course, also benefit Mount Vernon—that of the Chicago and North Western Railroad, which arrived in both towns in 1859 with depots established at both locations. The arrival of

⁴ The "Dutch" in this appellation is not a reference to Dutch people or the Dutch language but rather is a verbal corruption of Pennsifaanisch-Deitsche, which roughly translates to Pennsylvania Germans. Pennsylvania Dutch refers to "people originally of eastern Pennsylvania whose characteristic cultural traditions go back to the German immigrants of the 18th century" (Merriam-Webster online dictionary accessed at <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Pennsylvania%20Dutch>, January 2019. Pennsylvania Dutch were associated with a number of religious affiliations including: Lutheran, Reformed, German Reformed, Catholic, Moravian, Church of the Brethren, Mennonite, Amish, and several others.

⁵ The Bloomington road began in territorial days prior to the establishment of the State of Iowa and intersected with the Military Road in nearby Mount Vernon. Both the Military Road and the Bloomington Road developed into major post and stage roads in the county, with the Military Road largely followed in later years by what is now part of State Highway 1 and U.S. Highway 151. The Bloomington Road became better known in later years as Mount Vernon Road and was followed in part in the southeast part of Linn County in the early 20th century by the Transcontinental Route, later known as the Lincoln Highway.

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the railroad signaled the end of the Early Settlement Era in this region, with the railroad effectively ending the frontier economy and environment and ushering in new industrial and commercial development.

The original town was platted on the land of three relatives. Lots 1 through 62 were on the land of John E. Kurtz (1817-1900) who arrived in Lisbon early in the year of 1847 (Figure 5). The next 12 lots were on the land of John Eby (Kurtz' nephew), and the remaining lots were on the land of Michael Hoover (Kurtz' brother-in-law). Kurtz and the others are credited with laying out the initial town in 1851. It was surveyed by S.J. Dunham in May of that year. Early Lisbon contained 144 buildings (Radl 1974: 2-5). The plat was centered on Main Street and was bounded on the east by what is now Washington Street and on the west by Eby Street. It extended north to Market and south to South Street. Subsequent small additions to the original plat included Graul's Additions on the northwest and southwest sides, Eby's Addition on the west side, Ringer's Addition on the northeast, and Ringer's 2nd Addition on the southeast side. Several larger additions were made to town east of Washington Street, including: Pfautz' Addition, Neidig's 1st and 2nd additions, Barkley's Addition, and Gauby's Addition. When the Chicago & North Western Railroad was built through this area, a large parcel of land on the north side of town was platted by Mr. Kurtz and the Iowa Land Company as the Iowa Land Co.'s Addition (Western Historical 1878:569).



Figure 5. John E. Kurtz.
Image Source: Western Historical 1878.

While there are no Early Settlement Era commercial buildings still standing, the historic district is the original commercial center of town and is located on the original town plat. The intersection of Main and Washington streets still represents the center of the commercial area and the main corner on which the earliest extant building (1875) and three major commercial blocks were rebuilt in the late 1870s and early 1890s. One of those commercial blocks, the Merchants Block, was built in 1878 by John E. Kurtz on the northeast corner of Washington and Main to replace his earlier wooden buildings on those lots.

Expansion (1859-1914)

The Expansion Era begins with the arrival of the railroad into the county in 1859, which signaled the end of the frontier conditions of the Early Settlement Era by linking Linn County towns like Lisbon with regional and national markets (Rogers 1992:61). The Chicago and North Western Railroad was the first railroad to be built through Linn County entering from the east and siting a stop at Lisbon.⁶

During the Expansion Era, Lisbon was the fourth largest community in Linn County behind Cedar Rapids, Marion, and Mount Vernon. Like Mount Vernon, Lisbon benefited from its location along the Chicago and North Western Railroad. The railroad built a depot in Lisbon, to which was added a water station and turntable by the 1880s. The growth spurred by this direct rail connection allowed Lisbon to achieve incorporation in

⁶ This railroad achieved a Mississippi River to Missouri River connection by 1867, when it was completed all the way to Council Bluffs on the west side of the state. This line was the first to link the cities of Chicago and Council Bluffs. It eventually became the Iowa Division of the Chicago & North Western Railroad having been absorbed into that system by the late 1870s. This rail line represented one of two main line railroads to cross Linn County, the other being the Milwaukee Railroad, which extended through Marion and Cedar Rapids (Conard and Cuning 1990:E1-6, 11; Rogers 1992:61; Western Historical 1878:515).

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1875. It was in that year that the earliest extant brick building in the Main Street Historic District was built at the southeast corner of Main and Washington Streets. It was followed by a series of new brick buildings and blocks to the east built in 1876 and 1877 and to the north at the same intersection in 1878. By the 1880s, the town's population had risen to over 700, and by 1890, the town's population peaked at 1,079 residents. The population gradually declined after 1890 to 846 by 1910 (Radl 1974:7; Rogers 1992:52).

During this period, Lisbon's close neighbor, Mount Vernon, had the distinct advantage in having Cornell College, an academic institution that still contributes to the economic viability of that town to the present day. However, the citizens of Lisbon made a concerted effort in the 1880s to obtain Western College, a United Brethren College established in south-central Linn County in the former town of Western. However, the town of Toledo, Iowa, became the college's new home. As a result, Lisbon remained focused on being the farm service town, which actually helped set it apart from Mount Vernon (Radl 1974:17).

As a result, Lisbon prospered and grew during the Expansion Era. Important businesses and industries included: a creamery along Main Street within the original town plat; the Samuel A. Kurtz logging operations, which were established in 1875 and cleared 3,000 acres within a six mile radius of Lisbon; two agricultural implement manufactories established in the 1870s; two brickyards, including the Dawson and Meakin brickyards; the nearby Golden Sheaf Mill, which was then being operated by A.E. and D.H. Kurtz and expanded into the early 1880s; and the William Cook woolen mill.

It was during this period that the majority of the extant brick buildings on Main Street were built, with many replacing older frame commercial buildings and a block of large brick buildings that burned in 1894 but was soon rebuilt. Most of these buildings were built in rows with fire walls in-between, but a few free-standing buildings were added as well, such as the three-story Lisbon Opera House and IOOF Hall built in 1893. Notable civic improvements during this period included: the installation of street lights in 1912, board sidewalks, and the early paving with macadam of the business district streets (Radl 1974; Western Historical 1878:569-575; Rogers 1992:52-53).

Like so many Linn County communities during this era, Lisbon also experienced setbacks from disastrous storms and fires, the largest of which directly impacted the Main Street commercial area and occurred in 1894 when a fire burned down an entire block of businesses along the south side of Main Street west of Washington Street. However, this block was quickly rebuilt, resulting in stylish additions to Lisbon's Main Street.

Lisbon achieved incorporation in 1875. By 1878, Lisbon boasted "four general stores, two furniture, two hardware, two boots and shoes, two millinery, two meat markets, two drug stores, two hotels, two confectionery shops, two harness shops, three blacksmiths, two agricultural implement factories, two brick yards, a lumber dealer, dentist, grain dealer, stock dealer, bank, barber, wagon shop, livery stable, marble shop, printing office and billiard hall" (Western Historical 1878:574). In addition, there were three physicians and one lawyer (Western Historical 1878:574).

Contractor builders, carpenters, and stone and brick masons who operated in and around Lisbon in the late 19th century included: A. Armentrout, who settled in Lisbon in 1868; John H. Eby, carpenter and cabinetmaker; Benjamin Gauby, a stone mason; Jonas Gauby, a carpenter and builder; H. Goodman, a brick mason; John F. Hahn, stone quarry operator in Mount Vernon; Levi Halderman, a carpenter in Lisbon; Daniel and Peter Lees, brickmakers in Lisbon; B.R. Weber, a stone mason in Lisbon; and John R. Wetherell, a contractor and builder in Lisbon (Radl 1974:12). The brickyard of George M. Meakin was a notable enterprise in the area (Radl 1974:70). The local brick manufactories and the limestone quarries in the vicinity supplied much of the building materials for the Main Street buildings in the late 19th century. The exceptions are the pressed brick, terra cotta panels, and the cast iron storefronts used for façade construction on some of the

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Main Street buildings. These materials would have arrived in Lisbon via the railroad from larger manufactories in Midwestern cities such as Chicago and St. Louis.

Consolidation (1914-1953)

The Consolidation Era in Linn County began with the establishment in 1914 of the nation's first transcontinental highway extending from New York City to San Francisco. This highway would become known as the Lincoln Highway and even later renumbered as U.S. Highway 30, with the original route purposely established along small town main streets across the nation (Figure 6). Lisbon, Mount Vernon, Marion, and Cedar Rapids were the Linn County towns along the original route. Marion was later cut off the route when Mount Vernon Road was extended to the west directly into Cedar Rapids.

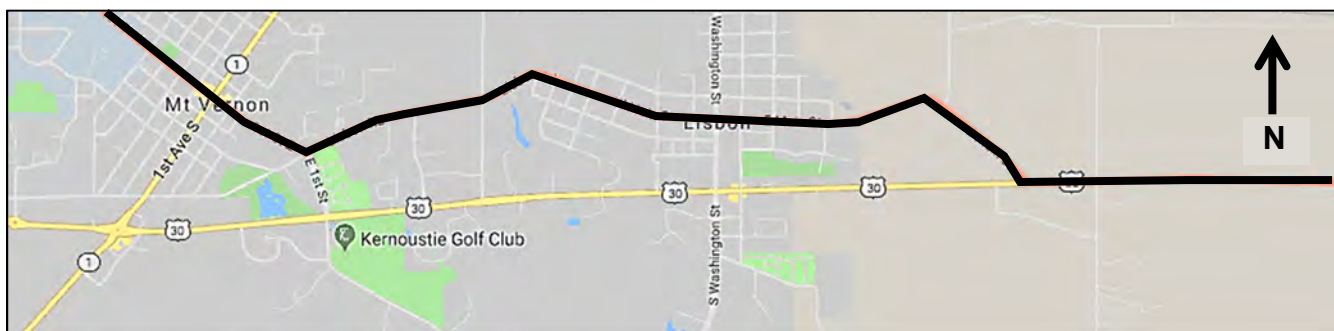


Figure 6. Historic Lincoln Highway Route (black line) through Lisbon and Mount Vernon, overlaid on modern Google Maps image. Image Source: Iowa DOT website.

Shortly after the Lincoln Highway had been designated, Lisbon and Mount Vernon further benefited from the construction of an interurban rail line linking the two towns with Cedar Rapids (Figure 7-8). This line was completed in 1914 and was an extension of the CRANDIC (Cedar Rapids and Iowa City) interurban line, which had been built first between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City in 1901-02. The 1914 extension east to Lisbon was primarily used for passenger service but also carried some express and small freight loads. Trains ran hourly during the day and several times at night. The line actually terminated in Lisbon where the cars were turned around for the trip back to Cedar Rapids. However, the interurban line only operated for 14 years, shutting down in 1928 because it was unable to compete with the growing number of privately-owned automobiles and the freedom of movement that automobiles provided (Conard and Cuning 1990:E40; Rogers 1992:63).

At first, these transportation improvements were a boon to Lisbon. In response, automobile and tourist-related businesses were added along Lisbon's Main Street including gas stations, service garages, and cafes (Figure 9). The service garages were often part of automobile dealerships such as the extant building at 133 E. Main Street. However, the improved road system made it easier for residents of the small communities to shop, trade and work in the larger cities, such as Cedar Rapids. As a result, the retail businesses along Main Street in Lisbon found it increasingly harder to thrive as the 20th century progressed. The improved road system had the additional effect of giving rise to the trucking industry, which was destined to overtake the railroad industry and played a large role in the railroads' overall decline in the early-to-mid-20th century (Rogers 1992:79).

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Figure 7. Photograph of Main Street in 1921 showing the interurban tracks (white arrows point to the tracks) in unpaved or macadam streets with a cobblestone cross walk on the south side of Main Street at the Washington Street intersection (circled). View is looking ENE. Note the concrete sidewalks and electric street lights, which were installed in 1912. Obtained from the Lisbon History Center collections.



Figure 8. 1928 postcard photograph labeled "Lincoln Highway Lisbon Iowa" looking east along Main Street. The Lincoln highway became U.S. Highway 30 in 1928. Main Street was paved with bricks in 1923. The interurban line extends along the center of the street with electric power provided from the overhead lines; 1928 was the final year that the interurban line would be in operation. Obtained from the Lisbon History Center collections.

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Figure 9. 1922 photo of Byers fueling station (later DX station) that once stood at the site of 122 W. Main Street just east of the Lisbon Opera House (extant). Obtained from the Lisbon History Center collections.

Lisbon's economy was also impacted by the railroad's decline, with passenger and freight service to Lisbon along the Chicago & North Western Line terminated in the 1950s. The depot and other railroad-related buildings were removed. The tracks are still in use today as part of the Union Pacific Rail System, but the trains no longer stop in either Lisbon or Mount Vernon.

In the early 1950s, U.S. Highway 30 (the old Lincoln Highway) was rerouted along the south edge of Lisbon away from Main Street. This bypass was completed in 1953. The most obvious impacts of the highway relocation were the moving of some businesses to locations along the new highway and the loss of trade for the businesses that remained along Main Street. Lisbon and Mount Vernon both continually struggle with maintaining viable businesses in their "Main Street" buildings. In 2019, it is projected that the new U.S. 30 bypass around both towns will be completed. As with the first, this bypass is even farther south, which will likely continue to draw residential and commercial development away from Main Street.

Notable civic improvements during the Consolidation Era included: the paving of Main Street with brick in 1923,⁷ the installation of a town sewer system in 1915 and its improvement into a modern sewage treatment plant after 1950; the installation of 24-hour electric light service in the 1910s; and the paving of the Lincoln Highway west of Lisbon all the way to Cedar Rapids by 1925.

Population totals for Lisbon between 1920 and 1970 went from 803 in 1920 to 1,329 by 1970. Currently, the populations of both Lisbon and Mount Vernon are growing again as both communities have added a number of housing developments that continue to enhance their popularity as places to live for commuters. Most remarkable of all is that even in the present residential boom, both towns are still able to maintain their separate identities even as their boundaries become increasingly blurred. Lisbon retains a number of viable

⁷ A recent sewer project in Lisbon uncovered brick pavement just below the modern street surface along with remnant ties from the interurban tracks. It is expected that much of the brick pavement and interurban ties remain in place along Main Street within the historic district.

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businesses including a bank and has added small industries, notably the Lloyd Table Company, which now occupies three buildings in the historic district. Two of these buildings were added after the period of significance but part of their manufacturing operation is housed in the former Lisbon Opera House/IOOF Hall, with that historic building adapted for the manufactory but with an effort to preserve as much of the historic integrity as possible.

Today, Lisbon still has its own schools, its own public library, and its own city government and services such as a police force and fire station. The schools, under the overarching organization of the Lisbon Community Schools, includes an early childhood education center and elementary, middle, and high schools on the same campus at the south edge of town along current U.S. Highway 30. The community voted on school consolidation in 1950, 1960, and 1980; however, each time Lisbon voters consistently voted against merging with Mount Vernon's schools. The voting pattern in each case is telling of how strongly Lisbon residents feel about maintaining their community schools (Herrick 1986).

While the highway continues to draw commercial businesses and services away from Main Street, the historic district is becoming more successful in maintaining businesses and attracting new ones in the historic buildings. Some of the former commercial buildings have been adapted for residential or office use, with two now owned by the City of Lisbon and used for the Lisbon History Center and for the Lisbon Public Library.

A further indication of the unique ways in which Lisbon has maintained a sense of community focused on Main Street was that until 1997 residents in Lisbon had to pick up their mail at the post office, which has always been located on Main Street just in different buildings through the years (Delaney 1997). Because residents had to come to Main Street to get their mail every day, they would often combine the trip with shopping, eating at a café, or visiting on Main Street. Today, the post office is still on Main Street but is just outside of the historic district.

Ethnic Heritage

The Lisbon Main Street Historic District is also significant under Criterion A in the area of ethnic heritage because of its association with the colonizing groups from Pennsylvania, who helped settle and develop the town and the commercial district. These groups were of German heritage and members of the United Brethren Church. Two large colonizing groups settled in Lisbon in 1847 and 1850 and quickly dominated the commercial development of the community. The town was platted in 1851 by three members of the original colony (John E. Kurtz, John H. Eby, and Michael Hoover), with many of the buildings still standing along Main Street built by members of this group, those that followed, and their descendants. While the settlement of the rural area surrounding Lisbon later came to be dominated by immigrants from the Slavic regions, most notably Bohemia, Lisbon's ethnic and religious identify remained strongly Pennsylvania German and United Brethren.

The colonizing groups hailed from Pennsylvania, were of German heritage, and affiliated with the United Brethren Church. The first group migrated to Yankee Grove from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in the spring of 1847. This group initially consisted of 60 United Brethren members led by their pastor, Christian Hershey. They encouraged other Pennsylvania United Brethren to follow. The second "colony" of United Brethren to settle in Lisbon consisted of 84 persons who migrated here in 1850 from Lebanon County, Pennsylvania (Centennial Committee 1948:23; Radl 1974:4).

While the United Brethren Church dominated the religious development of Lisbon during the Early Settlement Era, it was joined by seven other churches in the Expansion Era to bring an amazing eight churches to this small town by the 20th century. The other denominations included: the Methodist Episcopal, Reformed, Catholic, Lutheran, Evangelical, Advent, and Radical United Brethren. Most were located along Market Street, one block north of Main Street, with the Evangelical Church located along West Main Street and the Advent Church on 2nd Avenue and Monroe Street (Radl 1974; Western Historical 1878:570-571).

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One of the notable impacts of the dominance of the United Brethren and Methodist churches in Lisbon and Mount Vernon in the Early Settlement and Expansion eras was their advocacy of temperance and prohibition. Both towns fought efforts to establish saloons in these towns, and in 1868, when the state of Iowa passed a law prohibiting the sale of alcohol within two miles of any incorporated town, Lisbon and Mount Vernon residents played a role in its passage. In fact, Lisbon was incorporated in 1875 in part to try to control their perceived saloon problem. The strength of the United Brethren and Methodist churches in these two communities was the driving force for both towns becoming essentially “dry towns” in the late 19th century (Radl 1974:7-11; Rogers 1992:71).

In 1909, the Lisbon community began celebrating its “Pennsylvania Dutch” heritage by holding an annual celebration known as Sauerkraut Day. This single-day celebration was held on a Thursday in September. It was intended to be a homecoming day and an advertisement for the community (Herrick 1992). The first celebration was complete with “Dutch” costumes, even wooden clogs (Figure 10). Other activities included “two ball games, all day music by the Kurtz band, two evening concerts, a grand dance at 8:30 pm, exhibitions of grains, vegetables, and food dishes, exhibitions of fine horses, and foot races” (Herrick 1992). “Sauerkraut and wieners were served free at lunch and dinner times” (Herrick 1992).



Figure 10. Photograph of the first Sauerkraut Day Celebration in Lisbon held on October 7, 1909, in a lot on the southwest side of the district looking North. The buildings in the upper right are those that were located where 102 and 120 W. Main are now located. *Photo source: Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission.*

The 1912 celebration included the turning on of the new street lights on Main Street. The paving of Main Street in 1923 “helped greatly in comfortably handling the large crowds in any weather” (Herrick 1992). Between 1914 and 1928, the celebrations saw the crowds swell with people from Cedar Rapids arriving on the interurban. After 1928, buses were used to transport visitors from Cedar Rapids. In 1933, beer was publicly sold legally for the first time at the celebration, a notable event given that Lisbon had been a dry since 1878. However, the beer sold in 1933 was billed as “non-intoxicant” being only 3% alcohol. The event was not held for several years around the two World Wars given the level of public discomfort for those of German

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heritage during those periods. In 1919, after the Armistice, the celebration was renamed “American Day” for one year before returning to being Sauerkraut Day. For a time after World War II, the celebration was organized by the American Legion and called “Pig Barbecue Days” (Herrick 1992). The celebration returned in 1961 as “Sauerkraut Days” held over more than one day in August instead of September. For a time it was renamed “Lisbon Pork Days” Finally, in 1981, “under the leadership of LaVonne Bova,” the Sauerkraut Days name was revived and continues to be held on the third weekend in August (Herrick 1992).

The height of Sauerkraut Day’s popularity was in the 1930s when crowd sizes were estimated at 15,000 people (see Figures 10 and 11). As the size of the crowds grew, Main Street would be closed for pedestrian traffic only and a stage would be erected at the intersection of Washington and Main for the main events (Figure 12). The celebration served to reinforce community pride and the town’s historical ethnic identity as well as to draw people to Lisbon’s Main Street where the businesses certainly benefitted from the influx of people.



Figure 11. Photograph of Sauerkraut Day, this one held on Thursday, September 22, probably in the 1930s. This view shows the large crowds extending nearly the entire length of the historic commercial district.
Obtained from the Lisbon History Center collections.

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Figure 12. Two photographs taken during the September 30, 1930 Sauerkraut Day celebration. There is a banner on the Centennial Block in the above view that proclaims it Sauerkraut Day. Of note in the lower photo is the sign on the corner storefront of the Merchants Block that identifies the “Ye Olde Dutch Inn Café.” In the bottom photo, The men in the foreground are sitting on a large wooden platform erected in the middle of the Main Street intersection with Washington Street in the heart of the historic district. *Obtained from the Lisbon History Center collections.*

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Archaeological Potential

There have been no archaeological investigations conducted in the Lisbon Main Street Historic District. Therefore, eligibility under Criterion D is not claimed. Most of the buildings in the district occupy nearly the entirety of their lots, thus greatly limiting archaeological potential to the rear of each building. There are some spaces, particularly on the northwest portion of the district, where there used to be a number of commercial buildings, including a large hotel, where some remnant archaeological evidence could be intact below the surface. It is known that some of the brick pavement and ties from the interurban line are intact under the current street pavement.

Acknowledgments

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Disclaimer

The activity that is the subject of the National Register nomination has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior.

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Price, Jennifer A. *Lisbon Main Street Historic District TAN Report*. Price Preservation Research. March 2017.

Prior, Jean C. *Landforms of Iowa*. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1991.

Radl, R.M. *A History of Lisbon, Iowa, and Surrounding Countryside, 1838-1888*. Lisbon, Iowa, 1974.

Rogers, Leah D. *Comprehensive Planning Project: Linn County, Iowa*. Prepared for Linn County Historic Preservation Commission and the State Historical Society of Iowa, 1992.

_____. *City of Lisbon, Linn County, Iowa: Planning for Preservation Project*. Final report prepared for Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission and the State Historical Society of Iowa, 2007.

Western Historical. *History of Linn County, Iowa*. Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1878.

Other Sources:

Archives of the Lisbon History Center, Lisbon, Iowa.

Fletcher & Runkle Drugstore Records, 1876-1885. State Historical Society of Iowa Collections, Iowa City.

Jacoby & Barnes photograph album of Lisbon buildings, circa 1890. State Historical Society of Iowa Research Center Collections, Iowa City.

Linn County, Iowa Assessor website. Accessed at <https://linn.iowaassessors.com>, 2018-2019.

News items in the historic Mount Vernon/Lisbon newspapers accessed at www.mvhpc.org, 2019 and including the following:

IOOF/Opera House construction and dedication, *Lisbon Sun*, 20 May 1893 and 15 December 1893.

S.G. Fouse moving store, *Lisbon Herald*, 7 January 1909.

S.G. Fouse trading business for farm, *Lisbon Herald*, 13 September 1917.

Lisbon American Legion Cyclops Post No. 109 establishment and early history, *Lisbon Herald*, 28 August 1919.

Lisbon Main Street Historic District

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

History of S.G. Fouse store and Fouse retiring, *Mount Vernon-Hawkeye Record and Lisbon Herald*, 3 October 1929 and 22 March 1945.
Remodeling of 132 E. Main Street, *Mount Vernon Sun*, March 30, 1958.
Auracher and Wink hardware and grocery store, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, 5 April 1964.
101 E. Main Street remodeling, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, 15 January 1990.
Renovation of Lisbon Bank building, *The Sun*, 20 June 1991.

Property history and abstract research conducted by the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission.

Oral history informal interviews with long-time Lisbon residents conducted by the Lisbon Historic Preservation Commission and the Lisbon History Center.

Sanborn fire insurance maps, 1894, 1900, 1906, 1928, digital copies accessed at statelibraryofiowa.org, 2019.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 57-11315

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 5 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>41.921830</u>	<u>-91.386540</u>	3	<u>41.920740</u>	<u>-91.384220</u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	<u>41.921780</u>	<u>-91.384560</u>	4	<u>41.920790</u>	<u>-91.386210</u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

Lisbon Main Street Historic District
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the Lisbon Main Street Historic District is shown as the dashed line on the accompanying map entitled "Aerial map showing the boundary of the Lisbon Main Street Historic District as a white dashed line."

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the Lisbon Main Street Historic District encompasses the primary historic commercial area along both sides of Main Street from Jackson Street to a half-block east of Walnut Street and including the intersection of Washington Street.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leah D. Rogers/Consultant and Ray J. Werner/Project Historian date September 16, 2019
organization Tallgrass Archaeology LLC telephone 319-354-6722
street & number 2460 S. Riverside Drive email lrogerstallgrass@gmail.com
city or town Iowa City state IA zip code 52246

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

Lisbon Main Street Historic District

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

Aerial map showing the boundary of the Lisbon Main Street Historic District as a white dashed line.

Latitude-Longitude points are green dots as indicated. Map source: ExpertGPS mapping software, 2018.



Lisbon Main Street Historic District

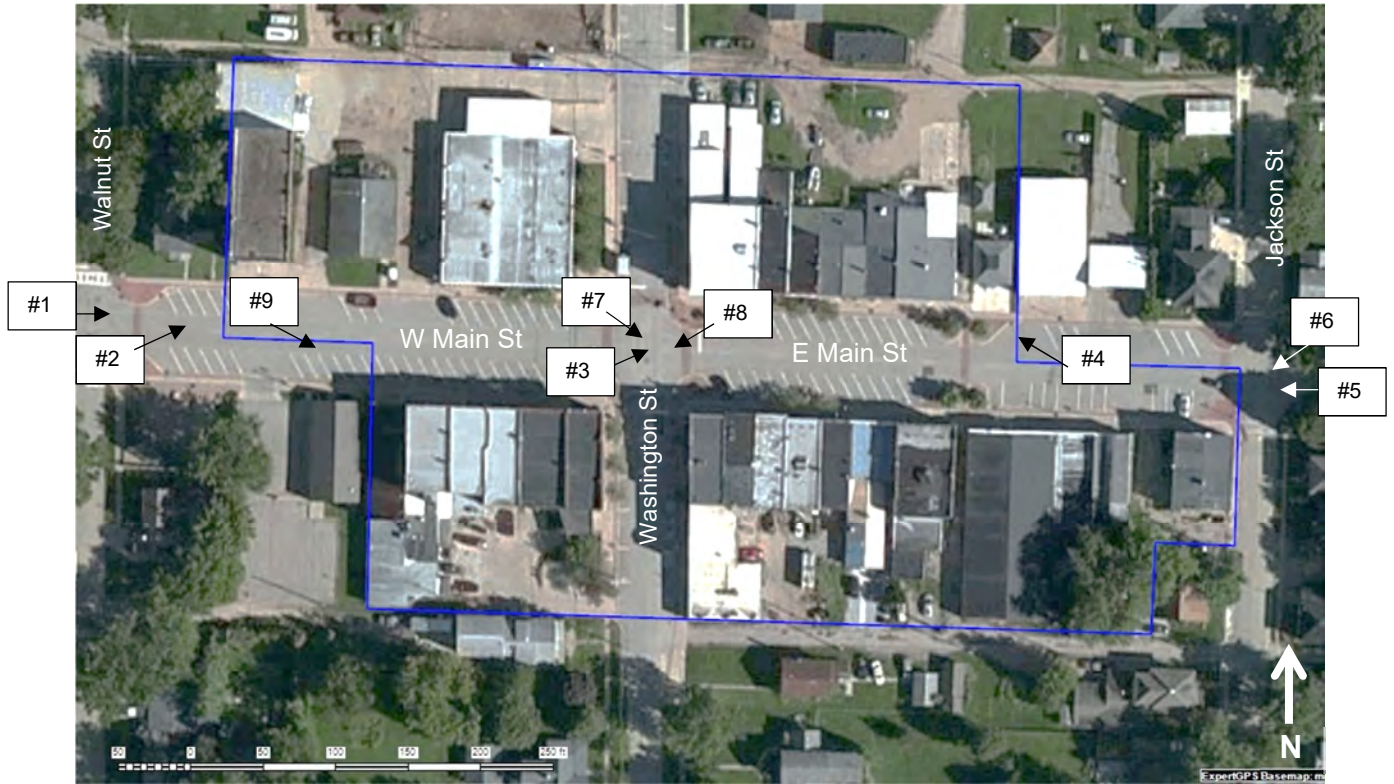
Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

Photo Location Map showing direction of Photos 1-9

Map source: ExpertGPS mapping software, 2018



Lisbon Main Street Historic District
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs under separate cover. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and does not need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Lisbon Main Street Historic District
City or Vicinity: Lisbon
County: Linn **State:** IA
Photographer: Rick Boots
Date Photographed: June 10, 2018 (#1-3 and #5-9) and March 31, 2019 (#4)

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 9: Lisbon Main Street Historic District looking East from Walnut Street
- Photo 2 of 9: North side of West Main Street in District looking NE from near Walnut Street
- Photo 3 of 9: North side of East Main Street in District looking NE from corner with Washington Street
- Photo 4 of 9: North side of East Main Street in District looking WNW at the block east of Washington Street
- Photo 5 of 9: Lisbon Main Street Historic District looking West from Jackson Street
- Photo 6 of 9: South side of East Main Street in District looking SW from corner with Jackson Street
- Photo 7 of 9: South side of East Main Street in District looking SE from corner with Washington Street
- Photo 8 of 9: South side of West Main Street in District looking SW from corner with Washington Street
- Photo 9 of 9: South side of West Main Street in District looking SE from near Walnut Street

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



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1898

WALK N

LIBRARY



1899

WALT-N
COFFEE & BAKERY
439



1878

LISBON
PUBLIC LIBRARY
&
Heritage Hall

MAIN ST
WASHINGTON ST

LISBON
PUBLIC LIBRARY
&
Heritage Hall

LISBON
PUBLIC LIBRARY
&
Heritage Hall

PEPSI

LIBRARY
BOOK RETURN



Hills Bank
and Trust Company
2400 Main St.

BANK

Hills Bank
and Trust Company

CYCLE POST
AMERICAN BEER

AMERICAN BEER



Hills Bank
and Trust
Company
24 HOUR ATM

SAWS

CYCLOPS POST
AMERICAN LEGION

Gwens

UNITED STATES
POST OFFICE
LISBON, IOWA 52253

STOP

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Lisbon Main Street Historic District

Multiple Name: Iowa's Main Street Commercial Architecture MPS

State & County: IOWA, Linn

Date Received: 9/24/2019 Date of Pending List: 10/16/2019 Date of 16th Day: 10/31/2019 Date of 45th Day: 11/8/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: MP100004555

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 11/1/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Lisbon Main Street Historic District is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Ethnic Heritage-European (German). The fairly small district reflects the cohesive core of Lisbon's downtown commercial area. Serving a small agricultural trade community, Lisbon's Main Street buildings reflect the late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century commercial growth and development of the town and represented the focal point for local commercial and financial activities, civic institutions, and major social and fraternal halls. The district buildings, many built by early Pennsylvania Dutch (German ethnic) families, and the Main Street crossroads area also served as the hub for important ethnic and cultural activities, particularly those perpetuating and celebrating local ethnic identity and traditions.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept NR Criterion A

Reviewer: Paul Lusignan

Discipline: Historian

Telephone: (202)354-2229

Date: 11/1/2019

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

Laura Sadowsky
State Historian/ National Register Coordinator
600 East Locust St.
Des Moines IA 50319

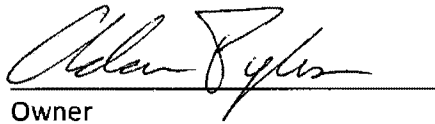
Adam Pyles
410 East 1st Ave.
Lisbon IA 52253

Greetings Laura

I am the sole owner of the property located at 129 E. Main St. Lisbon IA 52253. I am informing you that I object and do not consent to above property being placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Please send all correspondence regarding this matter to 410 E. 1st Ave Lisbon IA 52253. Thank you.

Respectfully

Adam Pyles


Owner


Notary



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

RIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

CHRIS KRAMER, DIRECTOR



IOWA ARTS
COUNCIL

September 20, 2019

PRODUCE
IOWA

Joy Beasley, Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

STATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF IOWA

Dear Ms Beasley:

The following National Register nomination from Iowa is enclosed for your review and listing if acceptable. There are 29 owners in this historic district. One objection was received 84 days past the due date, but is still enclosed with this request.

STATE HISTORICAL
MUSEUM OF IOWA

Lisbon Main Street Historic District

STATE HISTORICAL
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

The Lisbon Main Street Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A for the historical significance of its important role as the commercial hub for Lisbon and the surrounding rural areas of southeastern Linn and western Cedar counties. It is significant in the areas of Commerce and Ethnic Heritage. In the late 19th to mid-20th centuries, the district was the focal point for the town's commerce including retail businesses, financial and public institutions, professional offices, and social halls and cultural buildings. The district also reflects the Pennsylvania German ethnic heritage of the town's settlers as the location where the community ethnic heritage celebration known as Sauerkraut Days began, expanded, and continues to be held on Lisbon's Main Street. As a hub for commerce and community activities, this two-block stretch of Main Street represents the local history of Lisbon like no other part of town. The district's period of significance is 1875 to 1952 encompassing the heyday of commercial development in the district. The beginning date is the year that the earliest extant building was constructed (101 E. Main). The end date of 1952 represents the peak of the commercial area along Main Street as the traffic and commerce would start to shift to the south edge of town along the U.S. Highway 30, which was completed the following year. Significant dates include: 1876 when the Centennial Block was built, 1878 when the Merchants Block was built, 1893 when the Lisbon Opera House was built, and 1894 when the extant Bank and Union Block were built in the wake of a disastrous fire. The Lisbon Main Street Historic District meets the registration requirements under Criterion A for Commercial Districts as set forth in the Iowa's Main Street Commercial Architecture Multiple Property cover document (Nash 2002).

STATE HISTORIC SITES

STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
OFFICE OF IOWA

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Laura Sadowsky
State Historian and National Register Coordinator
State Historical Society of Iowa

IOWA HISTORICAL
FOUNDATION

Enclosures.