

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Iowan's Hotel

other names/site number Essex Hotel; Rose Hotel; Commercial Hotel; Bradley Hotel; Butler Hotel; Essex House; Railroad Inn

2. Location

street & number 508 East Railroad Street not for publication N/A
city or town Essex vicinity N/A
state Iowa code IA county Page code 145
zip code 51638

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 nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Barbara Mitchell / DSHPO December 15 2008
Signature of certifying official Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

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

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Elson H. Beall 1.29.09

entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the

National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the

National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

for

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- Private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

N/A

Iowan's Hotel

Page 3

Page County Iowa

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	<u>Domestic</u>	Sub:	<u>Hotel</u>
	<u>Commerce/Trade</u>		<u>Restaurant</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	<u>Domestic</u>	Sub:	<u>Hotel</u>
	<u>Commerce/Trade</u>		<u>Restaurant</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/ Colonial

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

roof Asphalt

walls Brick

other _____

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

8. Statement of Significance

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

- x 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.
x 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.)

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
Commerce
Social History

Period of Significance 1906-1957

Significant Dates 1906

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Iowan's Hotel

Page 5

Page County Iowa

Architect/Builder Belt, Denton

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

=====
9. Major Bibliographical References
=====

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

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

- Primary Location of Additional Data
- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property Less than one

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	305460	4522922	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

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

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

Iowan's Hotel

Page 6

Page County Iowa

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert Samon

organization Railroad Inn Bed and Breakfast date November 24, 2008

street & number P O Box 129 telephone (712)246-8063

city or town Essex state IA zip code 51638

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

Property Owner

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

name Connie J. Freeman

street & number 100 Market Street #313 telephone 515-669-4951

city or town Des Moines state IA zip code 50309

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Narrative Description

Completed and first occupied in November 16, 1906, the hotel is a 2-story, brick building located on the eastern edge of downtown Essex, Page County, in the southwest corner of Iowa. The building rests on a brick foundation with a basement, which rises one-half story above grade. The building's main block is rectangular in shape and is covered by a hipped, asphalt shingle roof. The hotel is situated on the east side of East Railroad Street at its southeast intersection with Burlington Avenue. The CB&Q Depot originally stood directly across Railroad Street to the northwest. Railroad Street serves as Highway 48 through Essex, so that the hotel enjoys high visibility to the community and the traveling public.

A one-story, brick wing is situated on the east elevation of the building. A one-story, frame addition is attached to the south of this wing and is situated within the ell formed by the wing and the main block. This addition resulted from the removal of an open porch and new construction.

A cast concrete water table surrounds the main block, and a belt course of cast concrete separates the first and second floors of the block.

The primary façade of the building faces to the west. This façade features a symmetrical arrangement of five bays with a center gable slightly projecting from the main block. This projection rises above the roofline of the main block and is surmounted by an arched parapet flanked by brick columns. A round, blind window is situated in the gable end. The projection features the main entrance with double doors at grade. An arched transom surmounts this entrance. An arched window is situated between the first and second floors. The window to the left of the front door was bricked in back in the 1950's, I have no idea why.

The north façade faces Burlington Avenue. This façade features a symmetrical arrangement of original windows with an entrance at the basement level which is not original.

The east façade features a symmetrical arrangement of original windows with an exit off of kitchen. The exit which was originally a porch was changed in 2000 to a service area for the kitchen.

The south façade, which faces the alley and main street one block over, has a symmetrical arrangement of original windows but has had a fireplace added in the 1950's replacing the middle window on the first floor.

Fenestration is generally 1/1, double-hung sash. Some of the windows on the first and second floors and in the basement are paired. The original large windows are present on the first floor flanking the projecting entrance and on the north wall. Now they feature a single pane of thermo-pane glass, although they originally featured 1/1, double-hung windows. Over the years, the weight of this glass caused the sash to fail. The original sash has been repaired. The big picture windows replaced the original 1/1, double-hung when the sash was repaired.

In the interior, the first floor is accessed by a half-flight of stairs within the foyer area of the building. The first floor features two connecting dining halls on the north, a central hall, a dining room, a fireplace room, the

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

kitchen, and several service areas. The frame addition features a service area for the commercial kitchen. A wood deck, accessed by a handicap ramp is situated on the south end of the frame addition. A modern patio area, surrounded by a wood privacy fence, is also situated on the south elevation of the building.

The first floor interior features many architectural details, including pressed metal ceilings with crown molding. French doors, original wood floors, a ceramic tile floor in the foyer, and a speak-easy window installed in the 1920's to monitor visitors as they entered the building. This window is located in one of the risers of the foyer's half-flight of stairs to the first floor and is viewed from the basement.

The second floor is designed as a double loaded central hall. Currently, the second floor features a total of five guest suites and the manager's office. The second floor originally featured 13 rooms, but various alterations completed in 2000 have combined these rooms into suites, without negatively impacting the original second floor's sense of space.

The basement is accessed by a half-flight of stairs from the foyer. A bar as well as service and mechanical areas are located in the basement. An outside entrance to the building is situated on the north elevation of the basement near the northeast corner of the building.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Statement of Significance

The hotel is National Register eligible at the local level under Criterion A, which is the primary eligibility, as the largest surviving edifice associated with the railroad in Essex. The hotel provides a tangible reminder of the importance of the railroad to the community during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The hotel is National Register eligible under Criterion C as secondary eligibility, and on the local level. The building calls attention to the influence of Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals styling on its design and a strong regard for the infusion of natural light into its interior spaces.

Community Development

Essex, Iowa, owes its establishment to the Burlington and Missouri Railroad, which later became the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. Platted in 1870 as a station on the line, Essex grew as a community to export locally grown agricultural products and to provide staple goods and services to the surrounding countryside. By 1900, the town's population stood at 710.

The Burlington and Missouri Railroad completed its first line through Essex on August 1, 1870. The town's depot opened for business in April 1871. According to "Centennial History" published in 1970, during the community's early years, the railroad depot provided the center for social life in the community. "Most business and social meetings took place in the station and occasionally even music for dances rang through its walls." In 1878 when the Lindel Hotel was built most of the events previously held at the depot were moved to the hotel.

The Iowan's Hotel was completed on November 14th, 1906 to provide lodging for the traveling public and a social center for the Essex community. The new building replaced the Lindel Hotel, an earlier generation building constructed in 1878 on the same site. Subsequently damaged by fire and neglect, the Lindel Hotel was pulled down in 1902. In the spring of 1905, in the Essex Independent, there was an article discussing the erection of a modern hotel. According to this article, "The traveling men are not coming to town and spending their money as they used to do when hotel accommodations were better than they are at the present time. Mr. Stout is not to blame for the condition of the building but he is not justified in placing his money into an old shell and no way to see his way out."

Later that month, the Essex Independent reported, T.K. Elliott, an investor in the property, was in town "attending some business matters in connection with the hotel."

In October of 1906, the Essex Independent reported, "The inside work at the hotel will be completed this week. Mr. Belt tells us that he will close a contract soon and then it will not be long until we have a hotel in full operation" By this statement, we know that the earlier hotels were closed by this time. As documented in an advertisement in the Essex Independent (noted on page 18 of this document), Denton Belt was the local contractor.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

With the October 19th, 1906 issue of the Essex Independent stating, "Hotel Leased", "Last Wednesday the deal was closed whereby Mrs. Charlotte Campbell gets our new hotel for the term of five years:

She formerly lived in Yates Center, Kansas, where she operated a hotel and for many years she has traveled with her husband so has a good idea of what a good hotel should be. She left yesterday morning for Kansas City where she will buy only a part of the furnishings for the house. In conversation with her, she told us that she intended to buy the bedclothes, linen, hardware, tin ware, etc., in this town Mrs. Campbell said further, that she estimated that it would take \$2000.00 to furnish the house as she intends to furnish it and that all will be ready to open by the first of November. She fully realizes that it is to her advantage to do business with the merchants here as far as possible.

With the November 9th issue of the newspaper, an article with the headline "The Big Dinner" told of the grand opening scheduled for November 14th:

Mrs. Campbell, of the Iowan's Hotel, will give her big opening dinner next week, Wednesday, commencing at six o'clock. The tickets for the plates are now ready and she would like to have all those who intend to buy to do so as early as possible so that she will know how many to get ready for. She intends to have one of the best meals possible to get up at this time. A good orchestra will be present to dispense music and help to make the evening a very pleasant one. Thirty six can be served at one time in the dining room and plenty of waiters and help will be on hand to see that the guests are properly taken care of and make things as pleasant as can be and all should enjoy the occasion. Everybody should say a good word for the proprietor and help all they can for she has undertaken something all should appreciate. We have been without a good hotel so long that it will be sometime before the traveling public will get to routing their trips so as to stop here for accommodations. At the time of the big dinner, all are welcome to inspect the house from top to bottom. It is in fine shape, or will be as soon as the workman can place it so. Let the word be "boost" and the hotel will be a success. In case more tickets are sold than can be taken care of the first evening arrangements will be made to serve the rest the following evening. In conversation with Mrs. Campbell later she says that there will be no tickets sold after Saturday evening at six o'clock.

The November 16th issue of the paper, an article titled, "The Hotel Formally Opened" read:

Wednesday evening the Iowan's Hotel was opened by a large banquet, there were about 225 people present, or served at the supper. At each table there were toast by some of the best speakers in this section Mr. Ferguson, of Shenandoah, spoke at the first table. At the second table Senator-elect Jamieson, of Shenandoah, addressed the gathering. The third table listened to Col. Joe Buck and the fourth was entertained by H.E. Deater, of Shenandoah, and John G. E. Carlson, of Essex. Each speaker took the people back to when we were without or about as good as without, a hotel. Now they praise the efforts of Mr. Belt for enterprise in giving Essex, the best town in southwestern Iowa, the best hotel in the same section Equal credit was given Mrs. Campbell for the manner was taking a hold of the business and fitting up the house, and each of the toast concluded with best wishes for her success. About twenty-five were

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

served after the four full tables were cared for and they, not to be outclassed had toasts from Mayor Kinney and Prof. White. Prof. Mitchell, of Shenandoah, favored the lingering guests with a few piano selections.

Mrs. Campbell was assisted in the work of the evening by eight young ladies of the city and they took a hold of the work just like ones thoroughly accustomed to such occasions. Much credit is due them. The orchestra was composed of E.T. Hales and Miss Ethel and Dr. C. L. Kinney, who also acted as toast-master. The musicians played when ever they could get a chance.

The dining room was neatly decorated with tissue paper hung from the center of the ceiling to the sides of the room. It was found necessary to take one table out and put it in the office room on account of the extreme crowded condition when the guests were seated. Owing to the fact that more came than were expected the last table was not as well served as the others and it is hoped that they will overlook the matter and call at the hotel at some time when it is not so crowded and they will be treated better.

We could go on for sometime and tell more of the minute details of the supper, but we will conclude by saying that if you were not there you should have been It was a love feast in every since of the word. Everybody was glad we had such a good hotel and they were all in the best of spirits and were telling their friends all the good things they could think of about everybody, the hotel included. It was really a cropping out of a desire to follow the ideas left us by Dr. Sears in his lecture last Friday evening.

The next week, the paper listed the menu for Thanksgiving Day November, 29th, at the Iowan's Hotel. The menu consisted of cream of tomato soup, celery, sweet pickles, roast young turkey and dressing, cranberry sauce, roast of pork, applesauce, hot corn bread, deviled Irish potatoes, baked macaroni and cheese, scalloped sweet corn, Boston baked beans, English plum pudding, green apple pie, pumpkin pie, ice cream and cake, cheese, assorted fruit, milk, tea and coffee. Dinner was served from 12:30- 2:00pm.

Over the years the hotel changed hands several times. These dates are documented later. According to Southwest Iowa History, page 484:

This new hotel was operated under the name of the Essex Hotel, Iowan's Hotel and Rose Hotel for many years. A. B. Rose purchased the business and had a large rose painted on the circular brick over the entrance. In 1913 the hotel was sold to J. C. Murry, who changed the name to The Commercial Hotel. Mr. Murry featured special fifty-cent full-course Sunday dinner. In the years that followed, a family by the name of Hurst took over the management. Their financial condition went from bad to worse with the coming of the depression Businessmen of Essex raised funds to help the family stay in business. However, they were not able to make the business a success.

In about 1933 "B." Bradley and his wife Frances, purchased the hotel: did considerable redecorating and operated the Bradley hotel for over twenty years. After the death of Mr. Bradley, Frances continued to

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

manage the business until 1956, when she sold the hotel to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Johnson of Fremont. The couple operated the hotel with limited success until 1957 when they sold it back to Mrs. Bradley.

In the "Remember When" column of July 26th, 2007 "60 years ago- 1947", we see that the hotel continued to serve as a community center:

Last Thursday the Commercial Club held their monthly meeting at the Bradley Hotel. Dinner was served at 7:00pm and after the meeting dinner was held.....

Located directly across the tracks from the depot, the hotel was one of the largest buildings ever constructed in Essex. Its presence in the community and its location adjacent to the railroad call attention to the importance of transportation for the growth of the community.

The building was used for meetings, lodging, dining, dancing and other social events, plus traveling public including salesmen. The other hotels in operation between 1874 and the early 1900's have disappeared as well, and only the Iowan's Hotel (now Railroad Inn) remains. These earlier hotels were the Morgan House, the Union House, the Cottage House. Not much is known about these hotels other than that they were small frame buildings that had gone out of business by the time the Iowan's Hotel was built.

The railroad yard in Essex stood on the west side of Railroad Street. At the turn of the 20th century, this yard consisted of a four city block-long siding track, depot, two coal sheds, two elevators, and stock yards. (Centennial History pgs. 60-61) None of these facilities remain extant except a modern grain elevator. All tangible signs of the historic railroad improvements have virtually disappeared from Essex except for the rail lines are still being used today.

Owners of the hotel have changed its name over the years. Business names have included Iowan's Hotel, Essex Hotel, Rose Hotel, Commercial Hotel, Bradley Hotel, Butler's Hotel, Essex House and Railroad Inn. The current name of the business, "Railroad Inn," reflects the building's original purpose. This is a Bed and Breakfast business, approved by the Iowa Bed and Breakfast Innkeepers Association. It is owned by Connie J. Freeman and managed by Bob Samon. They have respectfully maintained the historic fabric of the building, while adapting it to a bed and breakfast. The website www.homeinstead.com provides current information about their business.

Architecture

According to the Centennial History book and the Essex Independent newspaper, the Iowan's Hotel was built by Denton Deo. Belt, of Essex, owner of the property. Contemporary newspaper advertisements indicate Mr. Belt was a local contractor-builder, but very little is known about his work.

The hotel shows a strong regard for the infusion of natural light into its interior spaces and the influence of Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals styling on its design, which was also shown in the construction of the new school in Essex that was constructed in 1907, (non-extant).

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 7

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

The infiltration of natural light into the interior spaces of the building is achieved through large exterior windows and expanses of glass between the interior rooms. The latter includes French doors, glass transoms above doors, and a large, multi-paned window between a dining room and the central hall on the first floor. The entire north wall of one of the dining rooms is given over to windows---a length of some 24 feet.

It should be noted that this period coincided with Arts and Crafts Movement in the United States, which shared similar views about the health benefits of natural light.

The local architecture of the buildings in the City of Essex have been either altered by stuccoing and lack of care or have been torn down, as was the High School in 1970 due to being a danger if occupied. There are no other known commercial or public Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals buildings in the area.

The hotel shows the influence of Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals styling, where modern "copies" of early Colonial architecture were instead freely interpreted with details inspired by the Colonial precedents. The hotel's primary façade, facing the main road and including the entrance of the building, exhibits the Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals styling more clearly. The windows are paired multi-pane sashes. The repeated arch motif above doors and windows, the symmetrical design of the front façade with its centrally placed pediment, and the belt courses, surrounding the building are all hallmarks of this influence.

The windows are simple with the arch over the door and window above. The door is quite ornate, with its arched glass above it, and sidelights within a Colonial frame without the supporting pilasters. This accentuates the overall appearance and makes the entrance more appealing.

Every detail of the building is perfect. Understated elegance and quiet simplicity in building design is what the style is all about. There is a small influence of Edwardian and Beaux Art along with some Arts and Crafts in the overall appearance of the hotel and its interior with the tin ceilings, which are very ornate with the design in the ceiling and the edges are aligned with men's faces.

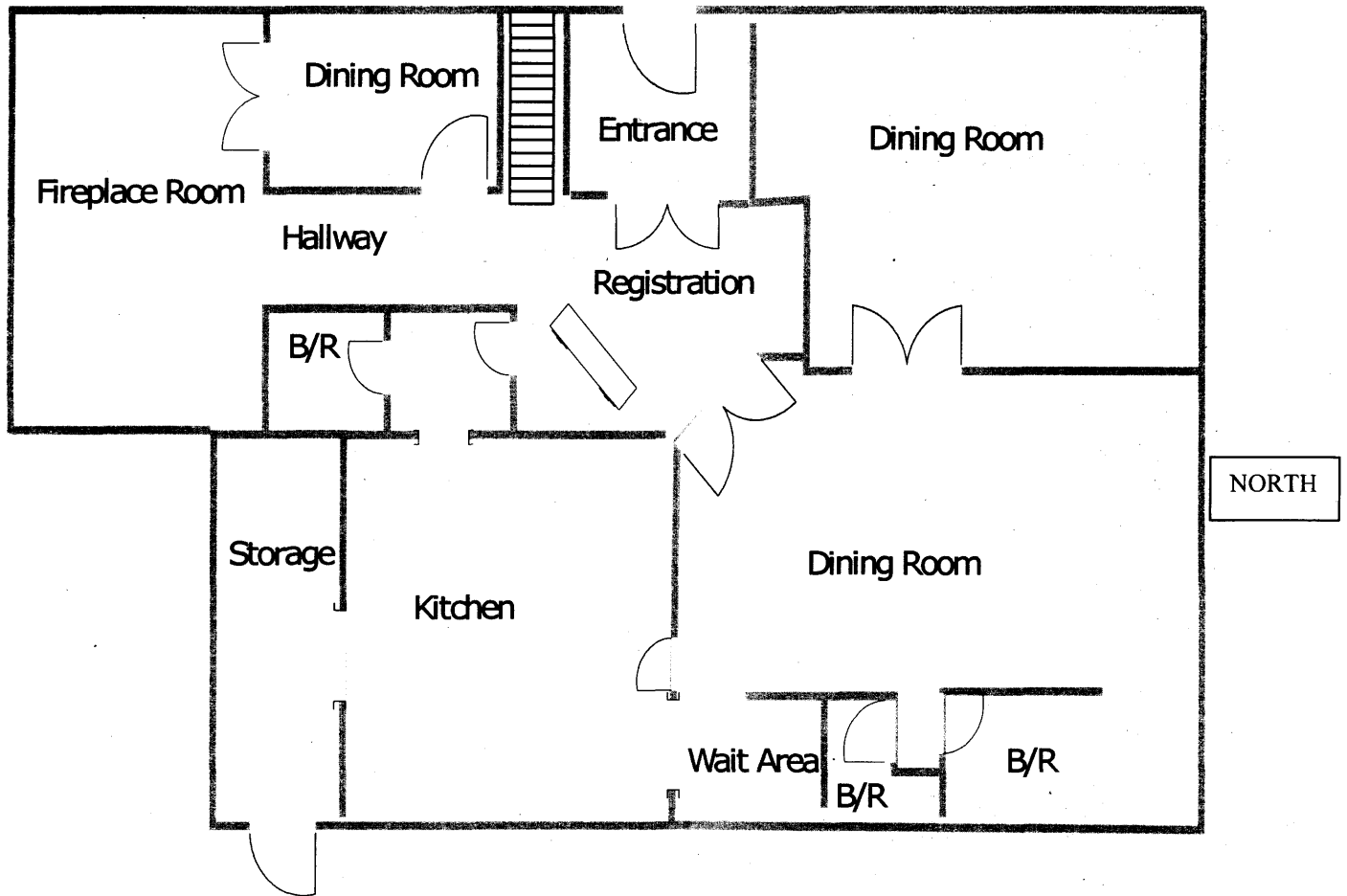
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Floor Plan Sketch Map, First Floor
June 2004, Prepared by Bob Samon, Innkeeper



Not to scale....

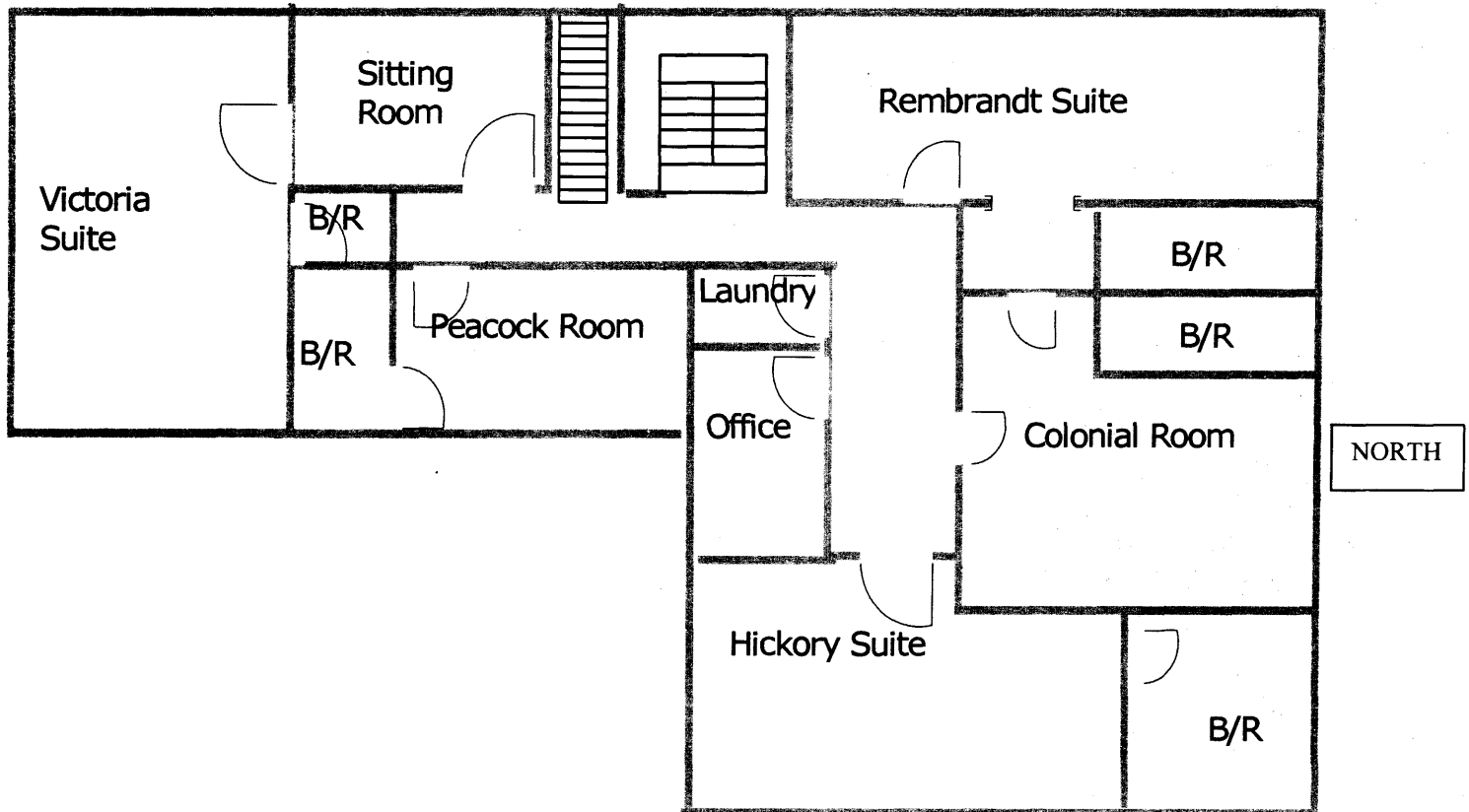
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Floor Plan Sketch Map, Second Floor
June 2004, Prepared by Bob Samon, Innkeeper



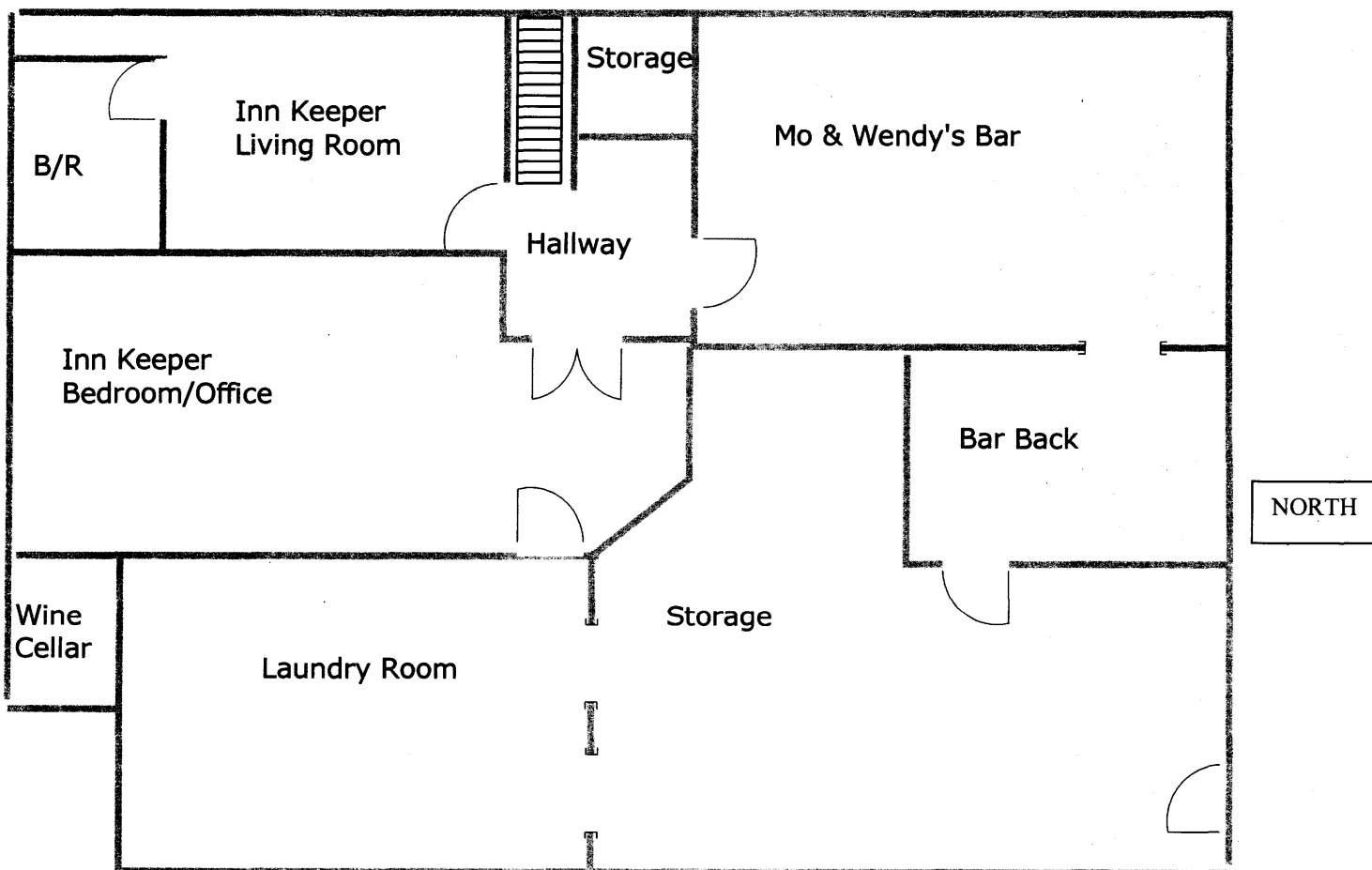
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Basement Sketch Map
Prepared by Bob Samon, Innkeeper



Not to scale....

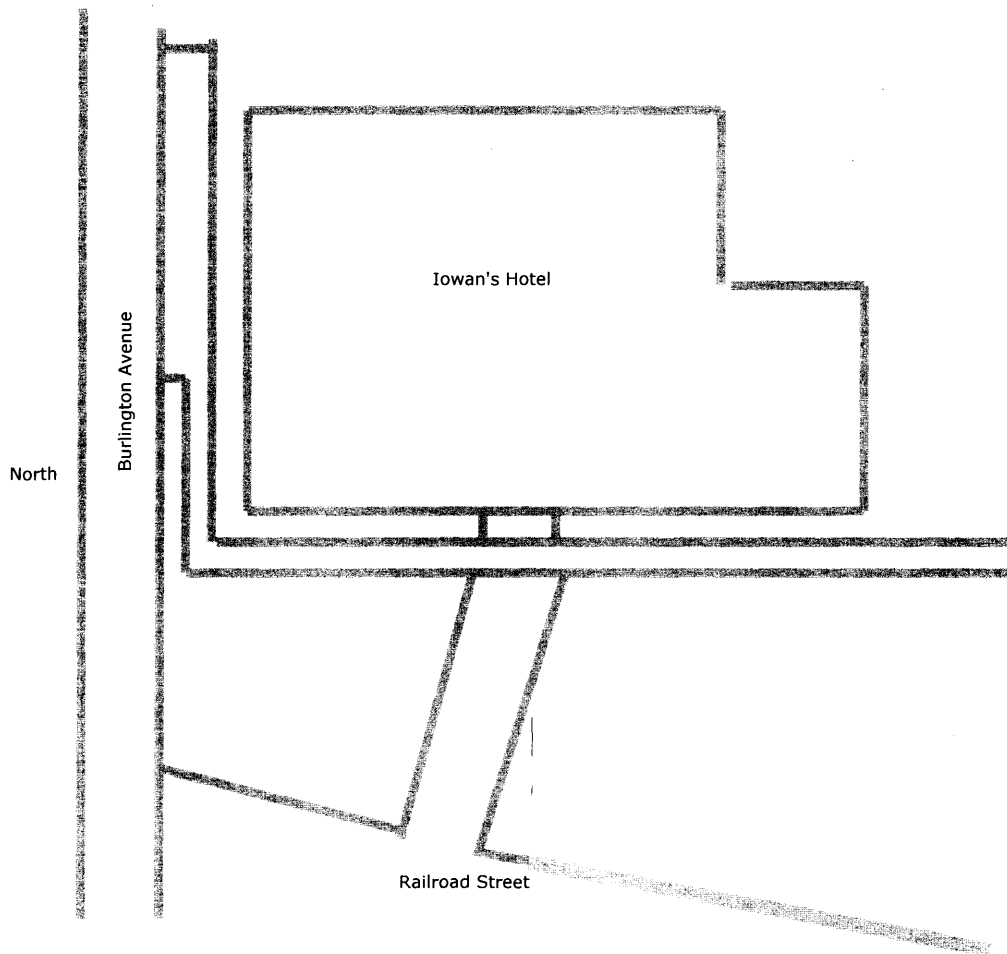
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Site Plan Sketch Map
Prepared by Bob Samon, Innkeeper



Not to scale....

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

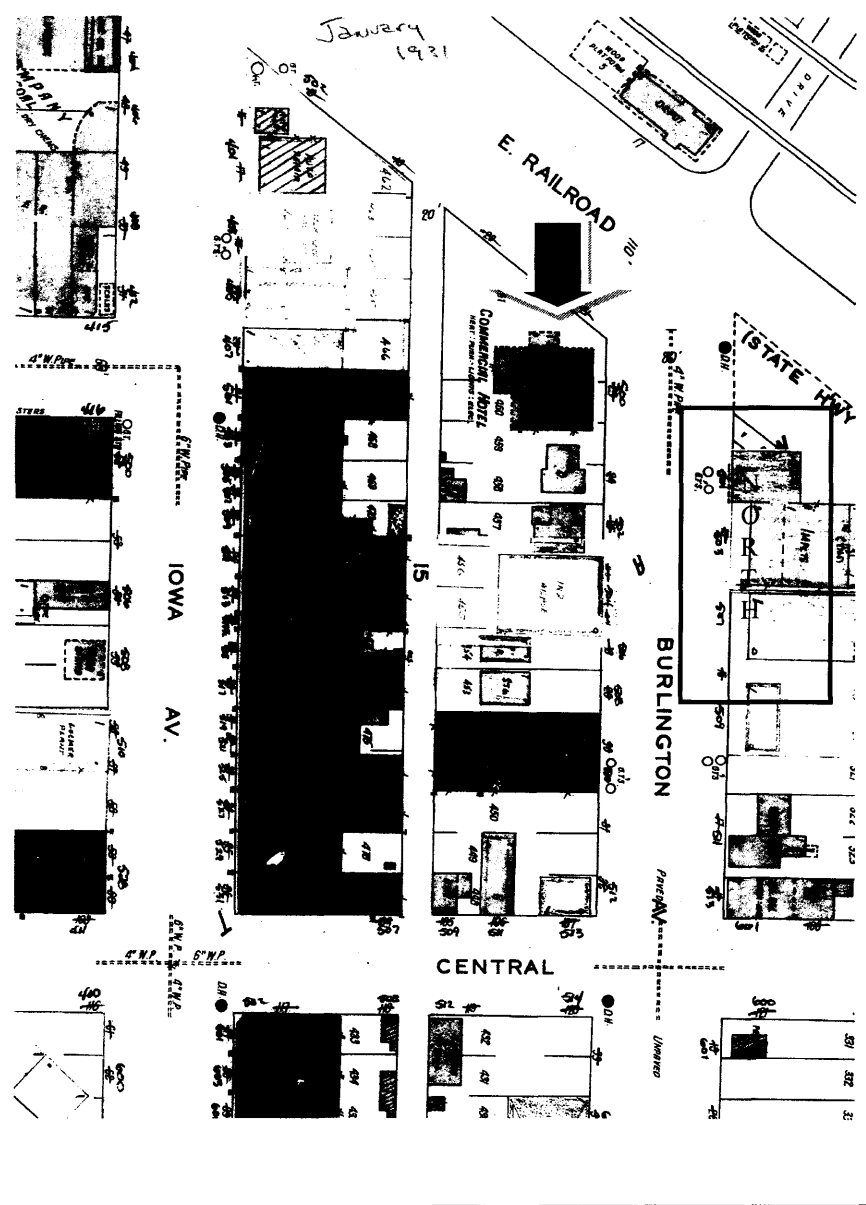
Section number 8 Page 12

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Plat Map

Sanborn Map Company, January, 1931

The Commercial Hotel, as the Iowan's Hotel was called in 1931, sits on the corner of Burlington Avenue and East Railroad Street, across the road from the train depot



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 13

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Major Bibliographic References

Andreas, A.T.

1875 *Andreas Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa*. Chicago, Andreas Atlas Co.

Centennial Committee

1970 *Centennial History*. Essex, Iowa. Lester King, Printer, Essex, Iowa.

Essex Independent

1902- February 2nd advertisement for Denton-Deo Belt, builder.

May 1905

October 1906

November 1906- Nov. 9, 16 and 23rd.

July 26th, 2007

Goudy, Willis

1988 "Population in Iowa's Incorporated Places: 1850-1986." Iowa State University Extension pamphlet CRD 264, March, 1988, Ames, Iowa.

Iowa Historical Society

1880 *History of Page County, Iowa: A History of the County, Its Cities, Towns, Etc.* Iowa Historical Society, 1880.

Kershaw, W.L.

1909 *History of Page County, Iowa*. S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago.

Southwest Iowa Pioneer Association

1972 *Southwest Iowa Heritage; A History of Page and Fremont Counties, Bicentennial Edition*

State Historical Society of Iowa

2004 "Site Inventory Form" prepared by William C. Page, Public Historian and Preservation Planner, Des Moines, Iowa. Final product for a Technical Advisory Network (TAN) contract between the State Historical Society of Iowa and Connie J. Freeman, owner, completed June 24, 2004.

2005 *The Elements of Style: An Encyclopedia of Domestic Architectural Detail*, Edited by Steven Calloway, revised and updated by Alan Powers

1984 *A Field Guide to American Houses*, by Virginia Savage and Le McAlester. Published by Alfred A Knopf, Inc.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 14

Iowan's Hotel
Page County, Iowa

Legal Description

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot 460, Lot 461, west 10 feet of south half of Lot 458, south half of Lot 459, and west 10 feet of north half of Lot 459 in Original Plat of City of Essex, Page County, Iowa. Zone is 15, Easting 305460, Northing 4522922.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Iowan's Hotel.

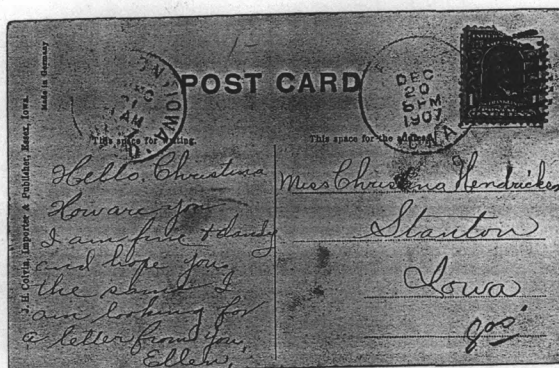
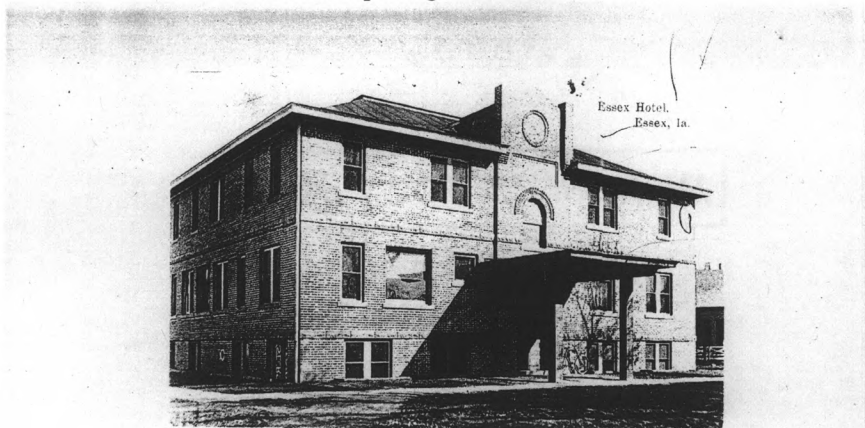
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 16

Iowan's Hotel
Page County Iowa

Post Card Depicting Essex Hotel in 1907



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

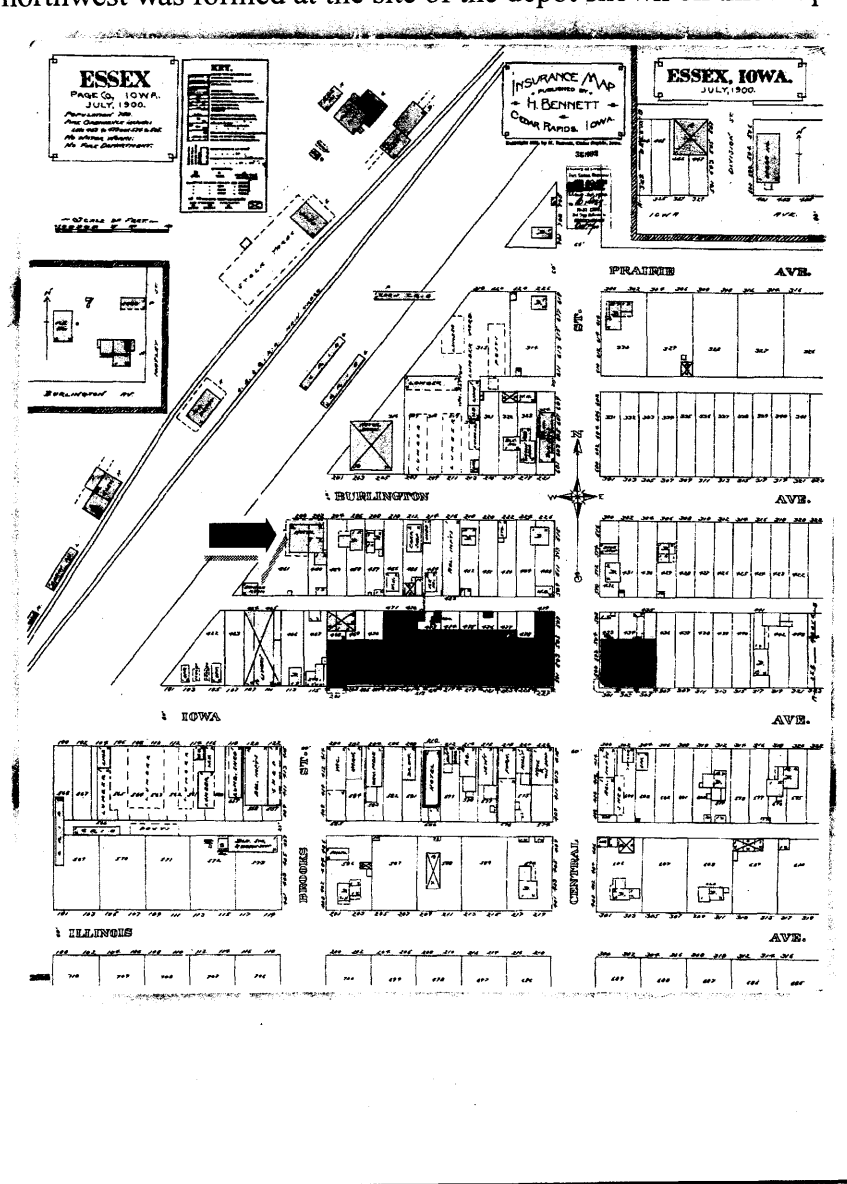
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 17

Iowan's Hotel
Page County Iowa

1900 H. Bennett Insurance Company Map

Previous wood frame Lindel Hotel at the corner of Burlington Street and the Highway is shown on the site where the Essex Hotel was built in 1902. The Depot on this map was burned in 1901. The replacement was built directly across the highway from the hotel. A "T" intersection of a new road into Essex from the northwest was formed at the site of the depot shown on this map.



East

North

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 18

Iowan's Hotel
Page County Iowa

“Essex Independent” advertisement of contractor
Denton DeO. Belt, who built the Iowan’s Hotel

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Denton DeO. Belt
CONTRACTOR
and BUILDER

Shop and office 3rd door east of
Lindel Hotel

Plans and specifications furnished on application. Estimates given on all kinds of buildings. Job work neatly and promptly done. Designing, saw-filing and screening are among my specialties.

All work guaranteed to be satisfactory, solidly, neatly and mechanically fitted and made together.

Your patronage respectfully solicited.

Essex Independent, February 2, 1902

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Iowan's Hotel
Page County Iowa

Section number Additional Documentation Page 19

Ownership of the Essex Hotel Land
Prepared by Bob Samon, Innkeeper in April of 2007

August 24, 1870	J.A. Dennison, Trustee
April 6, 1880	Rachael Gladden, Mortgage
November 21, 1900	T.K. Elliott
March 14, 1902	Lucy Grove and Fred Grove
1904	Anders P. Falk
1904	R.D. Emrie
March 3, 1906	Joseph Teverner
1906	Denton Deo Belt
July 12, 1907	J.B. Jennings
1910	J.B. Porter
July 1911	A.B. Rose
1913	First Abstract
May 22, 1937	Francis Bradley
June 1958	Grace Butler
September 1989	Polters
1999	Petersen
June 2000	C.J. Freeman

Note: Ownership passed back and forth from 1900 to 1907, mainly for taxes.