National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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

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5. Function or Use Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Eurotier	a (ontor optogorion from instructions)	
	Current Functions (enter categories from instru COMMERCE/specialty		
<u>COMMERCE/speciality</u>	COMMERCE/Specialcy		
RECREATION/music facility			
GOVERNMENT/city hall			
7. Description			
Architectural Classification enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)		
	foundation	Limestone	
Mid-19th century	walls	Limestone	
vernacular			
	roof	Asphalt	
	other		

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This two story limestone building, was constructed in 1868 as a Dry Goods and Clothing store for Christian Kucheman and J.H. Hinke. The original building measured 30'x75', with the narrow end of the rectangle facing Second Street, the flat roof sloping gently to the rear. Sometime between 1902 and 1914 an addition of approximately 50' was made to the west end of the building. Since it sets on a corner lot, the building has both a primary and a secondary facade. The primary facade is four bays wide, with segmental arched windows at the second floor level having very simple stone hoodmolds. The street level facade has been altered with new materials, and the entrance offset to the left side. A stone cornice with arched metal pediment is located at the top of this east elevation. Fenestration on the secondary facade is segmental arched on the early 20th century portion, but the doors and windows on the original part of the south elevation have limestone sills and lintels. The stonework on this building is similar to that seen on the other commercial buildings: stone blocks of varying size (eight inches being common) laid in courses, dressed stone used for the sills, lintels, watertable, and hoodmolds, and stone piers defining the storefront proper. In this case, only the two corner piers survived the remodeling.

This building is located on the northwest corner of State and Second streets, a major intersection in Bellevue. While Riverview (Water/Front) Street was an important commercial street for river traffic and services, Second Street (one block west) appears to have been the important commercial street for everyday local business activity. The railroad runs down the middle of Second Street, but in no way hampers businesses. A review of Sanborn maps shows a variety of businesses, from dry goods to hotels, to lumberyards and creameries, were located along Second. It continues to be an important part of the business district.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this proper	rty in relation to other properties: statewide X locally	
Applicable National Registor Critoria 🗌 A 🛄 B 🔀 C	[]D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	D E F G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)Architecture	Period of Significance 1868	Significant Dates 1868
	Cultural Affiliation	
Significant Person N . A .	Architect/Builder Unknown	

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

This building is significant under Criterion C as a good example of a commercial building executed in limestone.

217 limestone buildings and structures were recorded in Jackson County, including twenty commercial buildings. These commercial buildings appear to have been constructed between c.1850 and c.1870, with the majority (thirteen) located in the town of Bellevue. Bellevue was surveyed and platted in 1835, though land sales did not actually take place until 1844. The community served as the first county seat, and was a major trading center due to riverboat traffic. Some of the earliest commercial buildings in the county are located in Bellevue.

This is the only limestone commercial building in Bellevue for which an absolute date of construction has been determined (1868), and it appears to have been one of the last limestone commercial buildings constructed in the community. While the general size and shape of the building, and stonework technique used, are similar to the other stone buildings in the business district, there is one element of this building which is different. It is the only one of the limestone buildings to feature segmental arched windows. This indicated a somewhat later construction date even before it was determined through research. We also have a better idea of the uses of this building over the years, on both levels. It is known that it was built and used for the Kucheman & Son store. In addition, Sanborn maps show the second floor to have been used as an Opera Hall. Historic photographs, advertisements, and articles on Bellevue history, all identify this building as the site of City Hall on the second floor. Exactly how long it was used for this purpose has not been determined, but it appears to have been for several decades.

This building retains a high level of integrity and is representative of the widespread use of limestone as a building material in this part of Jackson County. In 1870, just two years after this building was constructed, the U.S. census listed sixty-three masons in Jackson County, forty-six of whom were stone masons. .

Atlas & Plat Book of Jackson County, Iowa. 189 History of Jackson County, Iowa. 1879; 1897. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1885, 1894, 1902, Kucheman & Son Outfitters. Our Golden Annivers Historic photographs, Bellevue Public Library, Society Library.	1914, 1928. sary. 1920.
	See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	Primary location of additional data:
previously listed in the National Register	Other State agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark	X Local government
recorded by Historic American Buildings	
Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering	Other Specify repository:
Record #	
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property Less than one acre.	
UTM References A [1] 5 [7] 1 2 4 5 0 [4 6 8 1 4 6 5] Zone Easting Northing Z	Cone Easting Northing
	See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description	
City of Bellevue, Original Town, Block 7, Lot	188 (S 30').
·	See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	
This is the area historically associated with	n this resource.
- <u></u>	See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant	(515) 682-2743

name/title	Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant		(515) 682-2	2743
organization	Jackson County H.P.C.	date	May 1991	······
street & number _	J.C. Courthouse, 201 W. Platt	telephone	(319) 652-3	181
city or town	Maquoketa	_ state	IA	zip code <u>52060</u>

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CFN-259-1116



The old store and the Bower House.



The old store. This picture was taken in the 70's.

Photographs from Our Golden Anniversary.

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CFN-259-1116

THE OLD RELIABLE FIRM



SI SI DEALERS IN-----,° Clothing, Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps, Ladies' and Gent's Furnishings, Etc.

We Carry the Largest and Best Selected Stock of Shoes in the city. Absolutely EVERYTHING in that line.

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OUR STOCK OF GROCERIES

Is Full and Complete. We make a specialty of litting out Campers, as we know JUST WHAT THEY WANT.

OUTING SHOES, MACKINTOSHES AND UMBRELLAS

We have a large number of clerks, and customers can always be waited upon.

Remember the" Old Reliable Firm" of

Kucheman & Son,

Second Street, under the City Hall

BELLEVUE, IOWA

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