

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 10 1979
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Northwest Davenport Turner Society Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1602 Washington Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

Iowa

CODE

COUNTY
Scott

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: fraternal hall

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Northwest Davenport Turner Society

STREET & NUMBER

1602 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 52804

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Scott County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

4th Street

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Northwest Davenport Turner Society Hall was built in 1882. It was substantially enlarged in 1904, and a brick gymnasium added to the west end at this time. The Hall was remodelled again in 1926, giving the building essentially its present appearance.

1882: This was a two-story, nearly square (approx. 37 feet each side) building, four bays wide and deep. The roof was hipped, with bracketted eaves. The roof deck was edged with iron cresting, and there was a small gabled dormer centered above the front (east) facade. Windows were 2/2 d.h.s., in simple, flat surrounds. The main entrance (to right of center) was set in a flat frame topped with a shallow, triangular pediment. At the rear was the gymnasium, of wood frame construction, approximately 74' long and 48' wide, with a gable roof.

1904: With the addition of three more bays on the north side, and a central entrance, the width of the hall was nearly doubled. The addition was also two stories, and the original hipped roof was extended to cover it. Two small triangular roof dormers were added, to flank a second-floor projecting bay which culminated in a wall dormer with high pointed roof and flared eaves, and which effectively joined the two sections. Window treatment matched the 1882 section, except that the ground floor of the new section featured triple storefront windows flanking a secondary, central entrance. The main entrance, into the Hall proper, was tucked beneath the second story projecting bay.

The original gymnasium became a combination movie theater and dance hall, with banks of windows stretching along the north side. The new gymnasium (today basically in original condition) is a gable-roofed structure of brick on a stone foundation. The gable ends culminate in shallow shoulder parapets. The main floor is set on a raised basement. The side walls are divided into four bays, formed by flat engaged brick piers and rows of corbelling along the top. Within each bay is a pair of 6/6 double hung sash, beneath a multi-light transom panel, the whole set within a wide, segmental arch.

1926: Rather extensive alteration took place at this time. First floor windows on the main and south facades were enlarged, and the original double hung sash replaced with plate glass. The second floor projecting bay over the entrance was removed, as was the high pointed roof, leaving only a hipped-roof vestige of dormer. The iron cresting was removed, and the entire wood portion of the building sided with composition shingle. A full basement was dug under the wood portion. The front portion became two storefronts, with main entrance opening into a hall between them leading to the auditorium (dance hall). The second floor was converted into an apartment.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1882; 1904; 1926

BUILDER/ARCHITECT F.G. & R.J. Clausen, Davenport (1904)
Clausen, Kruse & Klein, Davenport

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(1926)

The Northwest Davenport Turner Society Hall is significant for its association with Davenport's most numerous and influential immigrant group -- the Germans -- and for its important role in the life of the northwest Davenport area German community. Beginning about 1850, and continuing through the rest of the 19th century, Germans came in large numbers to this river city and contributed substantially to the economic and cultural environment of the community. Perhaps the most important of their own cultural institutions was the Turner society (variously Turnverein, Turngemeinde), of which there were three organizations: the first, established in the 1850's; and the East Davenport and Northwest Davenport Turners, established in the early 1870's by a "second wave" of German immigration. A Turner society combined cultural, social, physical, benevolent and educational functions under one roof. The organization was developed in Germany, to promote gymnastics and physical (thus mental) well-being. In the U.S., other functions, including dances, cultural and political lectures, mutual assistance, musical events, and sometimes classes in English and the American governmental system became part of the program of this institution.

As the centerpiece of northwest Davenport's German social and cultural life, the Turner Hall is quite probably the most appropriate vehicle for recognition of this important immigrant group in the city. The Northwest Davenport Turner Society is one of three Turner societies still active in Iowa. Another is at Keystone, in Benton County, and the third is in East Davenport (and is included in the National Register nomination for the Village of East Davenport Historic District). The fact that Davenport has two of the remaining three active Turner societies in the state would attest to the strength of the German heritage in this city.

The Northwest Davenport Turner Society was founded in 1871. The first meeting place was Jacobsen's Hall at Locust and Division Streets, a combination boarding house and tavern, which burned in 1882. Shortly thereafter, the Society purchased lots at 16th and Washington, and arranged for the construction of their "Turn Halle". Over the next 20 years, membership grew appreciably, as German immigrants continued to arrive in Davenport. In 1904, a major building project expanded the original hall and produced a fine new gymnasium. F.G. Clausen was the architect; appropriately enough, he was a native of Schleswig-Holstein (from whence many of Davenport's German immigrants came) who opened an office in the city in 1870. The second remodelling, in 1926, was the work of Clausen's son in the firm of Clausen, Kruse and Klein.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Downer, Harry E. History of Davenport and Scott County, Iowa. Chicago: S.J. Clarke, 1910, Vol. 1, pp. 813-846.

Original plans and elevations, 1904 and 1906 (copies on file at Iowa SHPO)

Centennial Souvenir Book, 1871-1971, Northwest Turners, Davenport, Iowa.

Davenport Democrat and Leader, 50-Year Edition, October 22, 1905.

Behr, Henry J. "A Short History of the Northwest Turner Society", ms. (copy at Iowa SHPO)

Johnson, Hildegard B. "German Forth-Eighters in Davenport," Iowa Journal of History and Politics, LXIV, No. 1 (Jan. 1946), pp. 3-53.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Davenport East

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 70105210 461018210
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The easttwenty-two feet in Lot 5, all of Lots 6, 7, and 8 in Block 11, Sturdevant's Addition to Davenport

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.H. Bowers, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

May 1979

STREET & NUMBER

26 East Market Street

TELEPHONE

319/353-6949

CITY OR TOWN

Iowa City

STATE

Iowa 52240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Adrian A. Anderson

TITLE Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

5/18/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

William H. Graham
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7-10-79

ATTEST: *William H. Graham*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

7-5-79

DATE