

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97000963

Property Name: Lewis Hotel

County: Cherokee State: Iowa

none
Multiple Name

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.

Linda McCullard
Signature of the Keeper

September 15, 1997
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8. Period of Significance. The period of significance is, hereby, amended to read "1899 to 1909" to correspond to the hotel's first decade of operation and the period of association with owner-builder Robert Lewis.

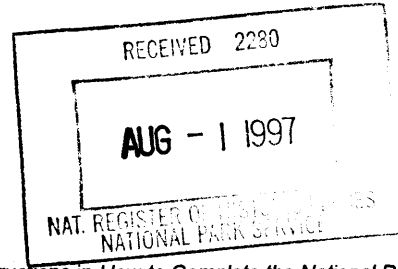
Lowell Soike of the Iowa State Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

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

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 LEWIS HOTEL

other names/site _____

2. Location

street & number 231 W. MAIN STREET [NA] not for publication

city or town CHEROKEE [NA] vicinity

state IOWA code IA county CHEROKEE code 035 zip code 51012

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Patricia Chalkley 7-29-97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- 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): _____

Linda McClelland 9/15/97

LEWIS HOTEL
Name of Property

Cherokee, Iowa
County and State

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

Name of related multiple property listing

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: hotel

COMMERCIAL/TRADE: restaurant/specialty store

-

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

COMMERCIAL/TRADE: restaurant/specialty store

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls BRICK

STONE

roof ASPHALT

other _____

Narrative Description

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

LEWIS HOTEL
Name of Property

Cherokee, Iowa
County and State

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1899

Significant Dates

1899

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Lewis, Robert A.

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Josselyn and Taylor, Architects

Lewis, Robert A.

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Cherokee Area Archives

LEWIS HOTEL
Name of Property

Cherokee, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>115</u>	<u>2911100</u>	<u>4735940</u>	2	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing						
3	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patricia Eckhardt, Ph. D.

organization Eckhardt Research date June 12, 1997

street & number 514 N. Linn Street telephone (319) 338-3386

city or town Iowa City state Iowa zip code 52245

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the complete 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 SHPO or FPO.)

name LEWIS APARTMENTS PARTNERSHIP

street & number 2006 N. 101st Street telephone (402) 592-0300

city or town Omaha state Nebraska zip code 68134

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Description

The Lewis Hotel In Its Environment

The Lewis Hotel is one of the most impressive buildings on Main Street in Cherokee, Iowa. Conveniently located on the south side of Main Street at its intersection with Fourth Street, adjacent to the railroad tracks and near the station. It is ideally placed to serve visitors to Cherokee arriving by train where it greeted them with its impressive stepped back facade along Fourth Street. It is one of only a handful of three-storied buildings in Cherokee, and its brick and stone facades give a substantial emphasis to the west end of Main Street.

Architectural Description

The hotel is irregular in plan due to the trapezoidal shape of its property. The railroad and Fourth Street cut across the grid of the city at an angle. While the front, north, facade is perpendicular to Main Street, the west facade steps back in a series of jogs rather than following the oblique route of Fourth Street. These setbacks are not regular, but of different depths and widths. See plan.¹

An early source comments that Mr. Lewis had the vision, as well as the experience, to design a building to make use of the "wide-angle" corner.² Earlier buildings on the site were of wood,³ Some residents welcomed the removal of the "old shacks" at that location to make way for the hotel. In spite of the angle of Fourth Street and the railroad tracks, early structures along that street were always aligned with the town grid with their corners jutting toward Fourth Street. The Lewis Hotel followed this same pattern for its Fourth street facade. The Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of 1893 and 1899 show the change from the wooden structures to the hotel.

The three-story hotel has a limestone lower story with the two upper stories constructed of brick. The limestone lower story has corner quoins and a narrow, projecting cornice separating it from the brick upper stories. Two colors of brick are used for the upper two stories, a light one for the body and a dark red one for details. The many corners along Fourth Street are treated with quoins on the first story and emphasized with dark red brick in a quoin-like pattern on the upper stories. A wide wooden cornice with brackets and corbels caps the composition. Windows have simple limestone lintels and cornices, but they are of various sizes and grouped in pairs and threes on some bays. Modern windows fill the openings today, and they are shorter than

¹ Cherokee, Iowa, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1883, 1888, 1893, 1899.

² "Robert Lewis Builds Fine, Large Hotel," clipping, Lewis Hotel file, Cherokee Area Archives.

³ Cherokee, Iowa, Fire Insurance Maps, 1883, 1888, 1893.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

the original windows. The upper portions of the window openings are filled in with siding. The only original windows extant are stained glass ones over the Fourth Street entrance which say "The Lewis", and possibly, the windows in the doors themselves.

Vertically, the building is organized into irregular bays with even the straight north facade divided into bays of different widths with different patterns of fenestration. Within these bays, windows roughly correspond on each story. The lower story has one window for each bay. On the matching second and third floors there are groups of two or three windows and an occasional single-window bay.

The two entrance bays have subtle emphasis. A stone hood supported on carved brackets is placed over the entrance on the north facade facing Main Street. This bay once had a pointed parapet at its top extending above the cornice.⁴ On the stories above the entrance, a dark red brick "frame" joins and outlines the paired windows in the upper two stories, a frieze with diamonds in dark brick is placed between the floors.

The entrance on the west is also emphasized. Encompassing the entire second setback, this entrance is below grade as the land slopes down toward the south on Fourth Street. It has a entrance hood of a different design from that on Main Street. The windows above this entrance are placed lower on each story as well, and do not line up with windows in other bays horizontally. This difference in height also is necessary to light the interior stair with its different landing levels. The upper window has a triple-arched window over two rectangular ones. Dark brick Xs decorate the space above these windows beneath the cornice giving emphasis to this entrance which could be seen from the train station. Stained glass remains in the double entrance doors.

The east one-third of the building has always been devoted to commercial space. This store, originally a drug store, has a commercial-style store front with an entrance and display windows. The original store front is now lost, but appears to have been a mostly glass front with a recessed central entrance.⁵

A fourth entrance, at the southwest corner was originally an entrance to the dining room, but by 1914, it was used to access a small commercial space which encompassed only that bay. Today, this commercial space has expanded into the former dining room area. It has a simple entrance at grade. The entrance is centered with large store windows on each side set above tile panels.

The use of variously colored materials and a variety of shapes and sizes of windows and other details is characteristic of Late Victorian taste. This is also characteristic of the work of the hotel's architects, Josselyn and Taylor of Cedar Rapids. Josselyn and Taylor were just completing the Hospital for the Insane in Cherokee when the Lewis Hotel was constructed.

⁴ Historic Photo, Lewis Hotel file, Cherokee Area Archives.

⁵ Ibid.

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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Although some local sources name Lewis as the building's architect beginning with the McCulla "History of Cherokee County, Iowa,"⁶ announcements in the American Contractor, a national weekly publication on construction activity published in Chicago, relates on March 5, 1898, that "R. A. Lewis will erect a 3-story brick and stone hotel, after plans made by archts. Josselyn and Taylor Co. of Cedar Rapids, Iowa."⁷ On March 20, 1898, the American Contractor notes that "Archts., Josselyn & Taylor Co., of Cedar Rapids have made plans for a hotel for R. A. Lewis, Cherokee. Probably day work." Robert A. Lewis worked as superintendent of the works on the hospital and was certainly the superintendent of construction for his own building. It was Lewis' familiarity with Josselyn and Taylor that probably led him to have them design his hotel.

The interior has been changed over time, but part of the original lobby and the main stair is intact. The dining room is given over to commercial space. The lobby is intact, but only a portion of its wood paneling and stenciled designs remain. There are three lincrusta panels extant, and perhaps there were more originally. One remains in the lobby near the stairs, and there are two on the second floor, one on each base of the arch. These panels might have symbolic significance and might refer to Lewis himself and his previous work as a nurseryman. All portray female allegorical figures wearing gossamer dresses and standing in trees. One, for example, portrays a female figure grasping a branch and pulling it down.

The upper two floors housed the hotel rooms. The original floor plan on these floors still exists with some changes to accommodate apartments. Some individual rooms have been combined to make apartments, and modern baths and kitchens have been installed. The upper halls follow their original plan, and some original details remain such as the arch on the second floor with its lincrusta design. These leather reliefs are glazed to look like aged bronze. Below these panels is a tile-patterned Lincrusta. This decoration might have existed throughout the hallways, but only the arch area retains it today.

The building is undergoing rehabilitation into apartments on the upper two floors. An elevator has been installed to allow some of the apartments to be used by the handicapped. The owner is taking advantage of the Historic Preservation Tax Act for rehabilitating structures.

⁶ McCulla, Thomas. History of Cherokee County, Iowa. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1914.

⁷ These sitings from the American Contractor appear in a letter from Ralph Christian, State Historical Society of Iowa, to Jeffrey Harcum, SIMPCO, Sioux City, Iowa, April 24, 1991.

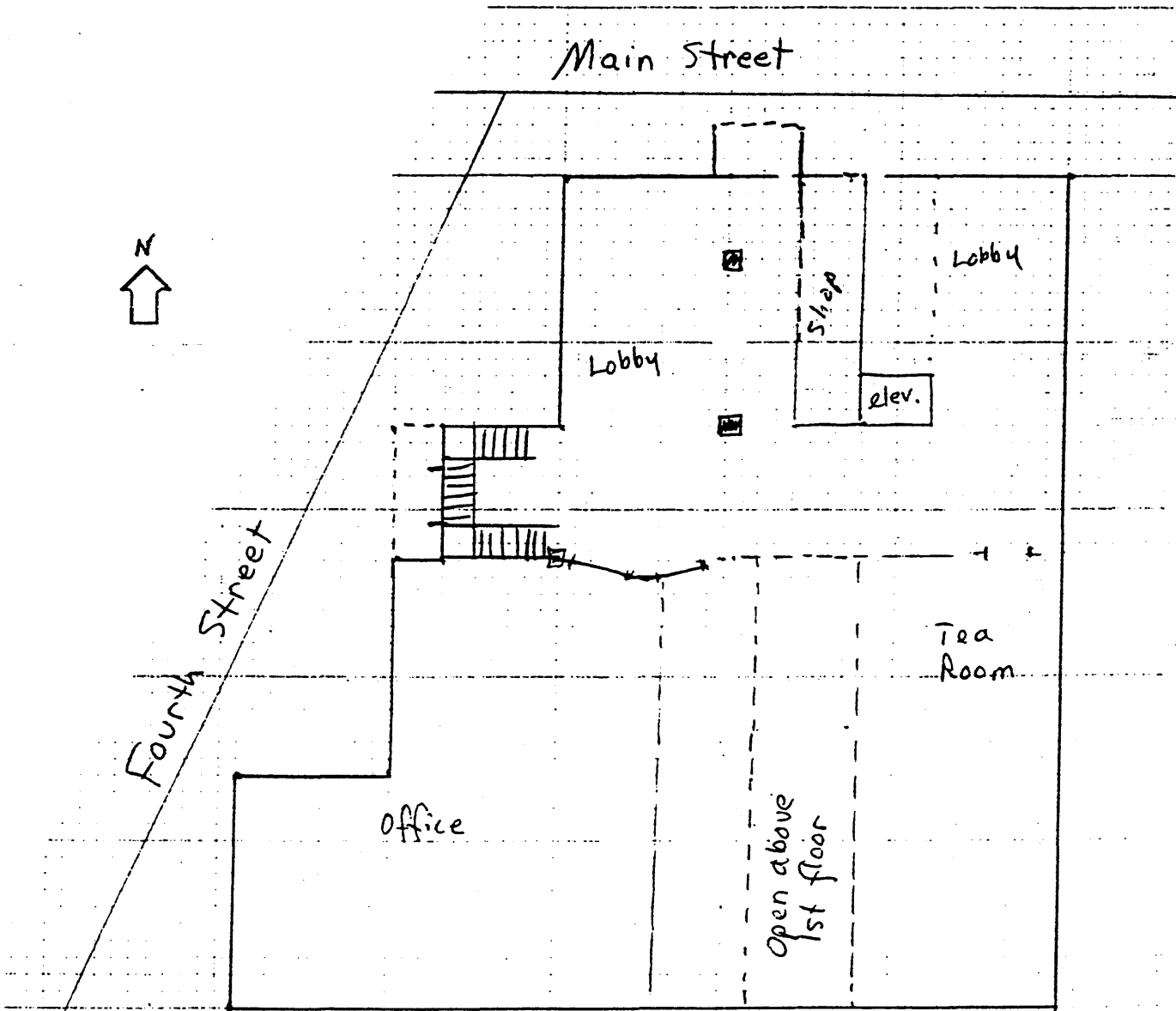
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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Sketch Plan



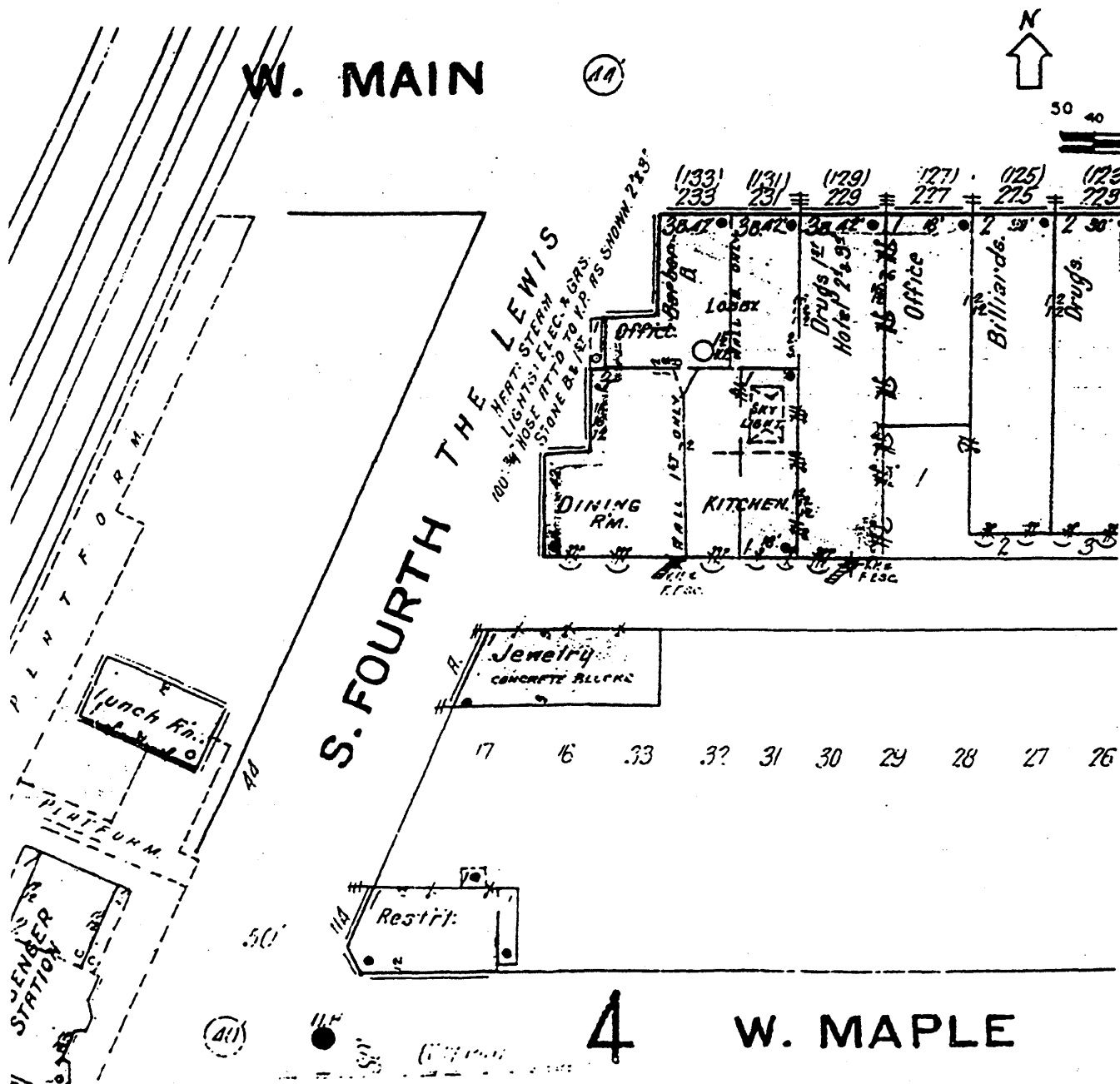
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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Fire Insurance Map, 1909



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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Historic Photos of Lewis Hotel

Top: about 1914; Bottom: before 1930, both from Cherokee Area Archives



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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Statement of Significance

Summary of Significance

The Lewis Hotel possesses local architectural significance under three National Register Criteria. The 1898 hotel is also significant under Criterion A since it has to be considered a significant manifestation of a major boom in the community that saw a massive expansion of the state mental hospital, the rail yard, and the downtown commercial area. Additionally, the Lewis hotel is significance as it represents its builder, R. A. Lewis, a locally important businessman and entrepreneur. The hotel qualifies under Criteria C as one of the best examples of Italian or Second Renaissance Revival influenced design in Cherokee, and as a noteworthy example of the work of Josselyn and Taylor, one of the state's most important architectural firms in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

For a hotel building of this era, the Lewis appears to have a relatively high degree of exterior integrity and to have retained a significant amount of original interior fabric as well.

Significance, Criteria A

The turn of the century marked the beginning of a period of prosperity for the town of Cherokee that lasted until 1946, according to Molly Myers Naumann.⁸ Ms. Naumann has determined three historical periods for further development as historic contexts: Early Settlement, 1856-1870, The Foundations of Prosperity, 1870-1902, and Prosperity and Change, 1902-1945. The construction of the Lewis Hotel occurs at the end of the second period. It is part of the "Foundation for Prosperity" which begins with the coming of the railroad and ends with the beginning of the Mental Health Institute, but it is also part of the following period of "Prosperity and Change." It is both a foundation for prosperity and a partaker of it.

Significance Criteria B: Robert A. Lewis

Robert A. Lewis was an important early citizen and developer of Cherokee. He stands as an example of the type of entrepreneur who helped settle the Midwest, building its towns armed mostly with the willingness to work and a few trade and business skills. Born in 1836 in Concord New York, Robert A. Lewis grew to be a man of many talents and interests most of which he employed in commercial businesses of

⁸ Molly Myers Naumann, "A Report On A Planning for Preservation Project for Cherokee, Iowa," for the Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission, 1996.

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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

different types.⁹ His father, a millwright by trade, moved his family first to McHenry County, Illinois and then to Independence and Quasqueton, Iowa in 1852. Robert had some schooling, but left school to learn the trade of carpenter and joiner which he practiced until 1863 when he entered the mercantile business in Quasqueton. Lewis took a college course in contracting according to Marguerite Whiting, and built a mill near Quasqueton to cut lumber for a small furniture factory, probably the mercantile business mentioned.¹⁰

Lewis came to Cherokee in 1872. By 1873, he began his Green Hill nursery and began developing his interest in beekeeping as well. This business occupied him for almost 25 years, and his success is well documented. His development of fruit trees and the growing of small fruits, and his development of the bee industry in Cherokee County is described at length in his biographical Sketch in the 1889 county history.¹¹

He built a very impressive brick house on his property in a mixture of the Italianate and Queen Anne styles. Locally it has been referred to as the "Gothic" house. This structure, like the Lewis Hotel, has a ground story of stone and upper stories of brick. The house is extant and there is a historic photo in the in the Cherokee Archives.

Somehow, during this period he continued to practice carpentry and building construction from time to time. A few of his biographers call him an architect,¹² and his training in carpentry and his subsequent work as a building construction supervisor would probably have made him quite competent in this field--architects were not always formally trained in the 19th century. However, architecture does not seem to have been his major occupation. He most likely did supervise construction the Lewis Hotel, but was not its architect.¹³ McCulla states that Lewis supervised the construction of several of the structures which form the Hospital for the Insane and designed and supervised the construction of the Lewis Hotel. His obituary states that he superintended the main building of the state hospital, the county courthouse (non-extant), and many other buildings including his residence south of town.¹⁴

⁹ Details of the life of Robert A. Lewis are taken from the following sources: "Robert A. Lewis," Biographical History of Cherokee, Iowa (Chicago: W. S. Dunbar and Company, 1889), pp. 505-506; Thomas McCulla, History of Cherokee County, Iowa (Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1914), pp. 58-59; "Another Pioneer Has Passed Away, obituary, Robert A. Lewis File, Cherokee Area Archives; Marguerite Whiting, "Robert A. Lewis Started As Carpenter: Old Hotel Lewis--Now Sheffield--Was Build by Man of Courage and Vision, Cherokee Daily Times, May 29, 1968.

¹⁰ Whiting, *ibid.*

¹¹ "Robert A. Lewis," Biographical History of Cherokee, Iowa.

¹² The 1889 biography of Lewis makes no mention of his practice of architecture. The 1914 biography in McCulla (listed in previous note) begins this assertion. This might indicate that he took an interest in this later in life.

¹³ Christian, letter.

¹⁴ *ibid.* note #3.

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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Lewis retired from the nursery business and moved into town. He began his hotel project around 1897. He was the, contractor and proprietor of the Lewis Hotel. He even traded his home for a house in town belonging to his brother-in-law, Fred Fuhrmann, in order to obtain extra capital for the project.¹⁵ The hotel project was by all accounts a successful one in spite of the fact that it was thought to be risky at that time. Some even thought it would cause Lewis' "financial destruction."¹⁶ Perhaps Lewis foresaw that the opening of the Mental Health Institute in 1902 would bring visitors and prosperity to the area. Cherokee needed the hotel, and Lewis created a successful business for himself which lasted well beyond his death. The Lewis Hotel remained in his family until 1966.¹⁷

Robert A Lewis was a leader in Cherokee county. Every one of the many references to him are laudatory. He was a successful business man and a good citizen. Although he did not run for public office, he was a well known figure in the development of the Cherokee area. He died on July 24, 1909. His obituary refers to the Lewis Hotel as a "monument to his spirit of enterprise."

Significance, Criteria C

The Lewis Hotel is one of Cherokee's major commercial structures. Its three-story height makes and its placement at the intersection of Main Street with the railroad, and its colorful architectural design make it visually conspicuous. But it had high visibility on the social map as well. It served not only to house visitors to Cherokee, but as a center for social gatherings. Its dining rooms were the setting for many parties, family celebrations, and club meetings.

The building is characteristic of the style of its architects, Josselyn and Taylor of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Josselyn and Taylor were among the first academically trained architects to work in Iowa. The firm consisted of three men, Harry S. Josselyn, George Josselyn, Harry's father, and Eugene Hartwell Taylor.¹⁸ As a young man, Harry S. Josselyn worked for his father, George, a contractor and construction supervisor, He worked for a time with the Chicago architect, Wheelock and Thomas, and attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) program in architecture. He dropped out of

¹⁵ Several sources attest to this: "Research comments" by Gilbert Duconnum in Lewis Hotel file, Cherokee Area Archives; and .

¹⁶ McCulla, p. 473.

¹⁷ Whiting, newspaper article, *ibid*.

¹⁸ Wesley I. Shank, "Iowa's Historic Architects: A biographical Dictionary," preliminary draft, May 14, 1997; Alan M. Schroder, compiler, Directory of 19th Century Iowa Architects (Iowa City: Iowa State Historical Department, Division of the State Historical Society, 1982, pp. 28-29, and Galen C. Wenger, "Josselyn and Taylor, Architects," unpublished paper, February 21, 1985.

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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

the two-year course after six months. He worked various jobs including a period in the office of the architect, William Foster of Des Moines. In August, 1879 he left for Europe where he traveled for more than one year. After returning, he formed his first architectural firm with his father called George Josselyn and Son Architects of Independence, Iowa.

Eugene H. Taylor, a graduate of Grinnell College, completed his two-year course in architecture at MIT where he met Harry Josselyn.¹⁹ In 1882, they formed Josselyn and Taylor. George Josselyn was not a partner, but a consultant to the firm.

Buildings designed by the firm in addition to the Cherokee Hospital for the Insane are Morrill Hall at Iowa State University (1890-91), the first University of Iowa Hospital which comprises part of the present day Seashore Hall (1897), and the Hall Family mansion, Bruce more, in Cedar Rapids, 1884, a National Trust Property. They also designed the Iowa Pavilion at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 and the Iowa Building at the Trans-Mississippi International Exposition in Omaha, Nebraska in 1898.²⁰

Although the basic facade of the Lewis Hotel with its stone first story and upper stories of brick is common throughout America, this format, joined with the play of two colors of brick, is characteristic of the work of Josselyn and Taylor. Their work follows a late Victorian taste for variety in color, texture, and an irregular, if not asymmetrical plan. Even at the turn of the century, when Josselyn and Taylor were building the hospital in Cherokee, they kept to this style in spite of the fact that Beaux-arts classicism had already begun to take over as the style for civic and institutional buildings. Their style exhibits the Victorian picturesque aesthetic characterized by the use of multiple materials, asymmetry, irregular massing and variety in texture and shape. Their buildings exhibit a variety of materials such as white cut stone, rough textured red or brown stone, several colors of brick, and employs details from several late Victorian styles, such as Romanesque arches and Queen Anne details. This late use of the picturesque is rather old fashioned for the turn of the century.

The diamond frieze one sees on the Lewis hotel is part of their decorative language. A second example of this specific detail in their work can be found beneath the cornice on the original wing of University Hospital (southwest wing, Seashore Hall).

The Lewis Hotel presents a surprisingly calm and unified appearance in spite of the many and varied entrances and fenestration. The effect of the horizontal stripes of color created by the light stone on the first story, contrasted by the red brick upper stories

¹⁹ *ibid.*, and Wesley I. Shank, The Iowa Catalog, Historic American Buildings Survey (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1979), p. 59; Wesley I. Shank, Proj. Dir., "Cherokee Hospital for the Insane," Studies of Historic Iowa Architecture, II, 9 (Ames, Iowa: Engineering Research Institute, 1975), p.6.

²⁰ For a more complete list see Wesley I. Shank, "Iowa's Historic Architects: A Biographical Dictionary."

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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

and the thick, white cornice, override the complex details and irregular plan. The lighter lower story with its simple openings, plain surfaces, and its relatively small scale details gives the building a calm, classic look at street level.

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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Robert A. Lewis

From photograph in Cherokee Area Archives, box 180, Cherokee, Iowa.



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Lewis Hotel
Cherokee, Cherokee County

Bibliography

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- Cherokee Area Archives. Many resources.
- "Cherokee did have...", Cherokee Daily Times, September 9, 1969.
- Cherokee, Iowa, Plat Map.
- Cherokee, Iowa, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of 1883, 1888, 1893, 1899, 1909, 1914, 1924.
- Christian, Ralph J., Architectural Historian, State Historical Society of Iowa, to Jeffrey Harcum, SIMPCO, Sioux City, Iowa, letter, April 24, 1991.
- "History of Cherokee, Iowa," Cherokee Chamber of Commerce.
- "Hotel Lewis Introduced," Cherokee Weekly Times, May 4, 1899.
- "Hotel Lewis Is To Build Modern Coffee Shop, March, 5, 1941, clipping in Robert A. Lewis File, Cherokee Area Archives.
- "Hotel Lewis Will Shut Friday," December 14, 1966, clipping, Lewis Hotel file, Cherokee Area Archives.
- McCulla, Thomas. History of Cherokee County, Iowa. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1914.
- Naumann, Molly Myers. "A Report on a Planning for Preservation Project for Cherokee, Iowa," for the Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission, July 1996.
- "Robert A. Lewis." Biographical History of Cherokee, Iowa. Chicago, W. S. Dunbar and Company, 1889.
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 1 and 36 and a fraction of lots 34 and 35 in block 11 of New Cherokee Addition. Lots 34-35 are only fractions due to the course of Fourth street at an angle to the north-south grid of town streets. The building fills the entire property.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Lewis Hotel.

Location Map

