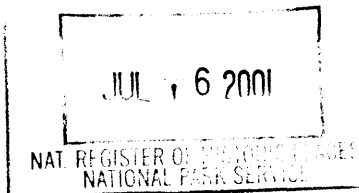


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUL - 9 2001

910



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 Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks Historic District

other names/site number Hose house, pump houses

2. Location

street & number 613 - 615 Clinton St.

N/A not for publication

city or town Grand Mound

N/A vicinity

state Iowa

code IA

county Clinton

code 045

zip code 52751

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).

Rowell J. Saitte

July 11, 2001

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

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:

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

ENTERED AUG 30 2001

Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Name of Property

Clinton County, 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>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
		sites
<u>1</u>		structures
		objects
<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Government – Town Hall

Government – Public Works

Government – Fire Station

Social – Meeting Hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other - Storage

Government – Public Works

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

No style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone - Sandstone

walls Wood – Weatherboard

Brick

roof Asphalt

other Metal - Steel

Concrete

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.)

- 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)

Politics/Government _____

Social History _____

Period of Significance

1892 - 1951 _____

Significant Dates

1892 _____

1915 _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

County Commission Office - DeWitt Annex

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number: 7 Page: 1

Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

Summary Statement

The Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District is a collection of two buildings, and two structures. The earliest building extant is the town Hall constructed in 1892. The water tower and the existing pump house were constructed in 1915. A prefabricated pavilion was added to the city property in 1968.

Detailed Description

Town Hall

The Town Hall is a simple, two-story wood frame building. It retains much of its original structure. The gable-front building has a three bay organization (see historic photos on pages 2 & 6). There was a central garage or barn type entrance flanked by two windows with two over two lights and three matching windows above them on the second floor. Today this entrance has been enlarged to the east to include the south window of the façade. All other fenestration is as appears on early photos. Entrance to the upstairs meeting room is through a door on the south side of the east façade. The most notable feature of the Town Hall is its belfry. The original bell is on a monument in front of the new pump house. The bell was used to call volunteer firemen among other purposes.

The interior consists of one simple room on each story with room for the stairway at the rear. There is an area in the southwest corner of the first floor that might have been the location of the early jail where there is metal siding. The "jail" probably consisted of only one cell.

Pump House

The ~~original~~^{second} pump house was constructed in 1915 on the site of the original pump house. It was a simple gable front building with a false front somewhat smaller than the Town Hall. It had a double door and one window on the façade (see historic photo page 2). Oral tradition relates that the first pump house blew up, but do not give a reason. It is supposed that a spark set off the fuel.

The second pump house occupies most of the location of the first one. This brick building is 20 feet by 24 feet and has one tall story with a shallow stepped gable facing the street. It remains as

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Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

originally constructed with the exception of three additions at the rear and east side of the building. There is a front door with windows on each side of it on the façade and a side door on the east side with a transom window.

The first addition was constructed of brick, 11 feet by 13 feet attached to the west side of the rear or south façade. The brick of this addition does not match the brick of the original building. A second addition was constructed of cement block and functions as a garage.

Water Tower

The 80 feet tall, 50,000 gallon steel tank and a new well were constructed in 1915. The tower plans appear to have been prepared by Iowa Engineering Company of Clinton, Iowa. The Des Moines Bridge and Iron Company constructed the tower. The water tower stands on trusses that are thirty-two feet apart. The cylindrical water tank is twenty-two feet in diameter.

Picnic Pavilion

A twenty-two by thirty-four foot open-sided picnic pavilion is located at the rear of the lot in the southwest quadrant. It has a gable roof.

Early View of the Town Hall and Pump House

From the Photograph Collection of the Central Community Historical Society



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

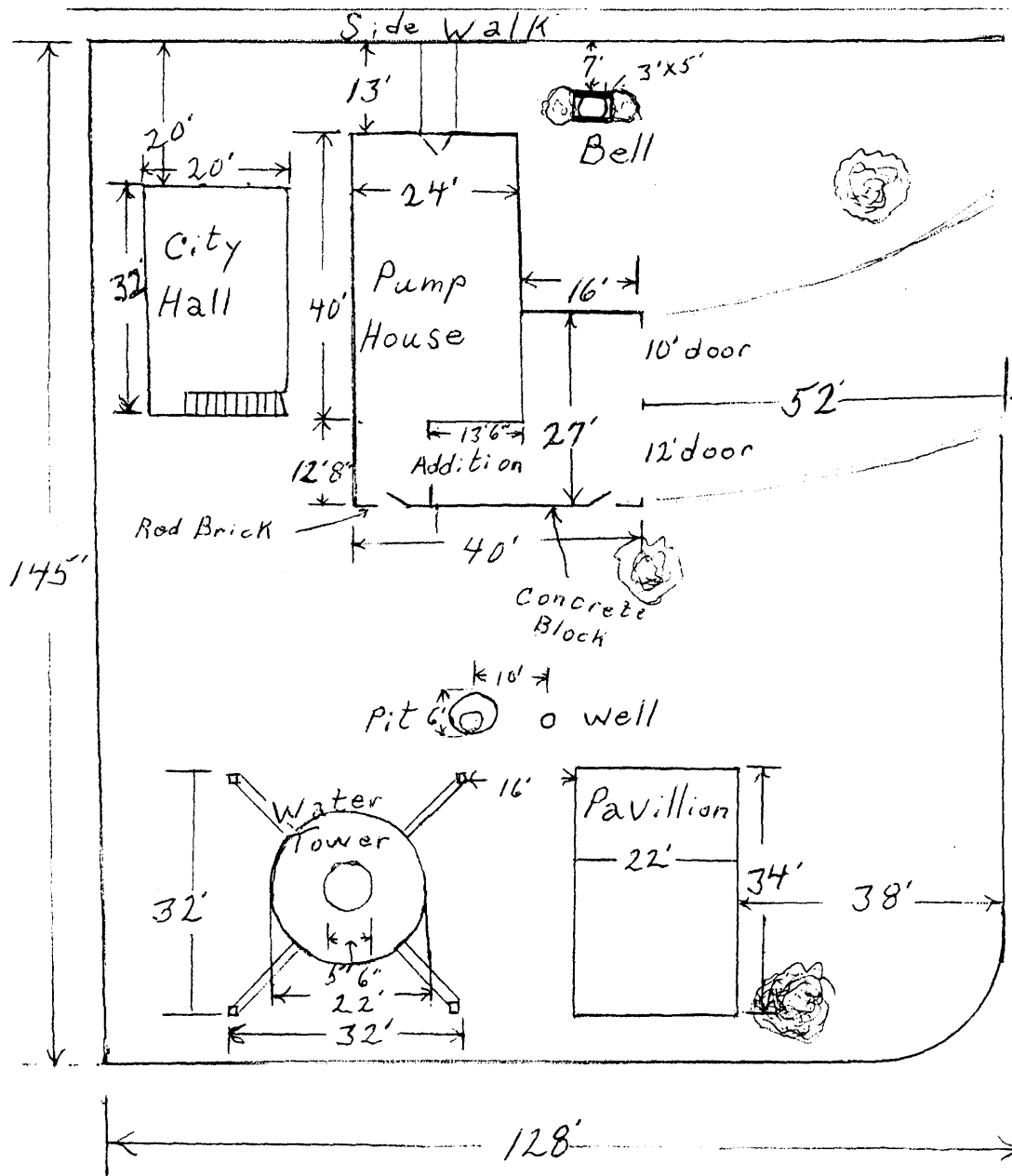
Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

Section number: 7 Page: 3

Plan of City Property

Drawn by Floyd Soenksen, January 2001.

Scale 1mm = 1' 10mm = 10'



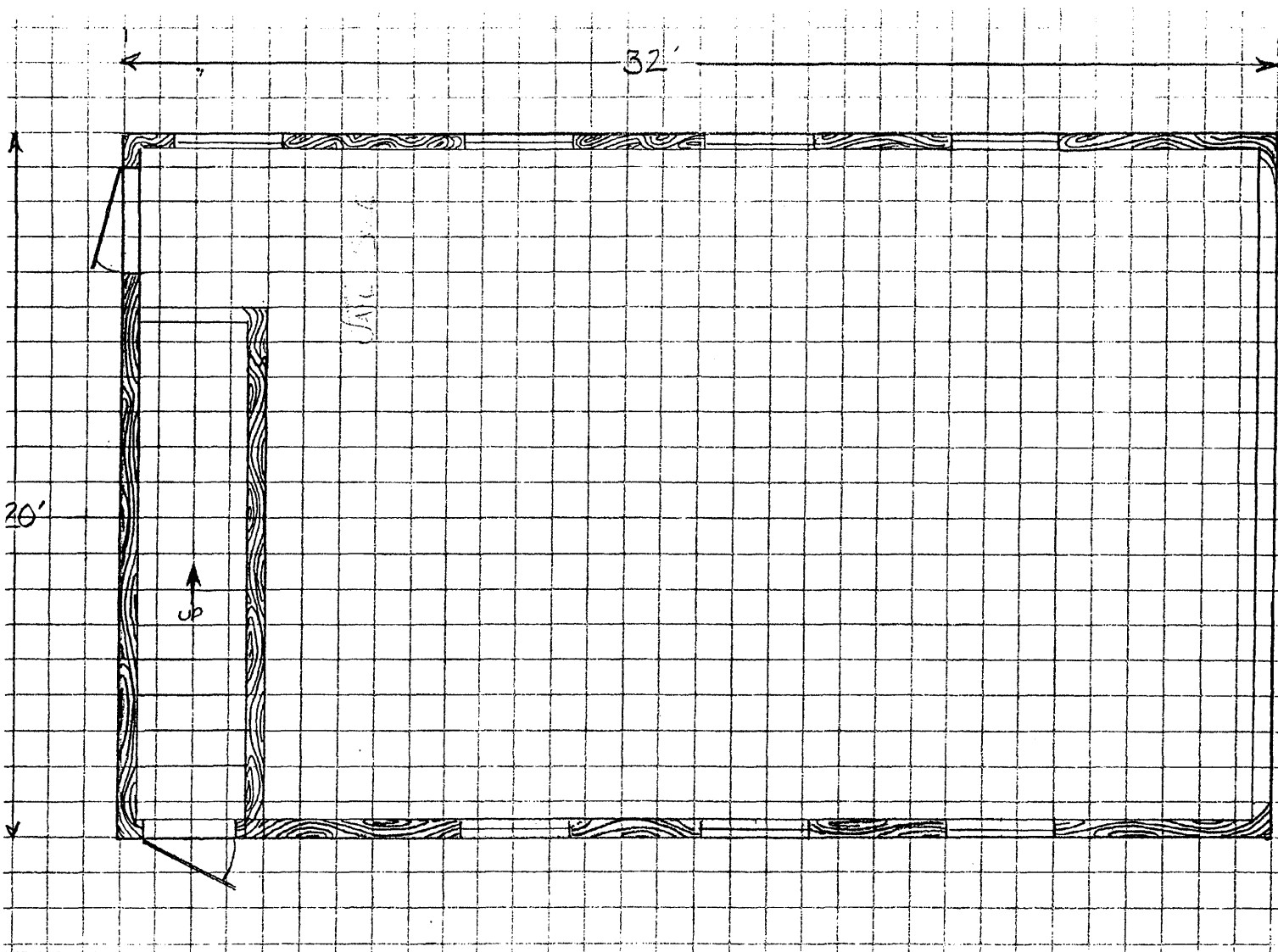
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Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

Plan of the First Floor
Measured and Drawn by Floyd Soenksen, January, 2001



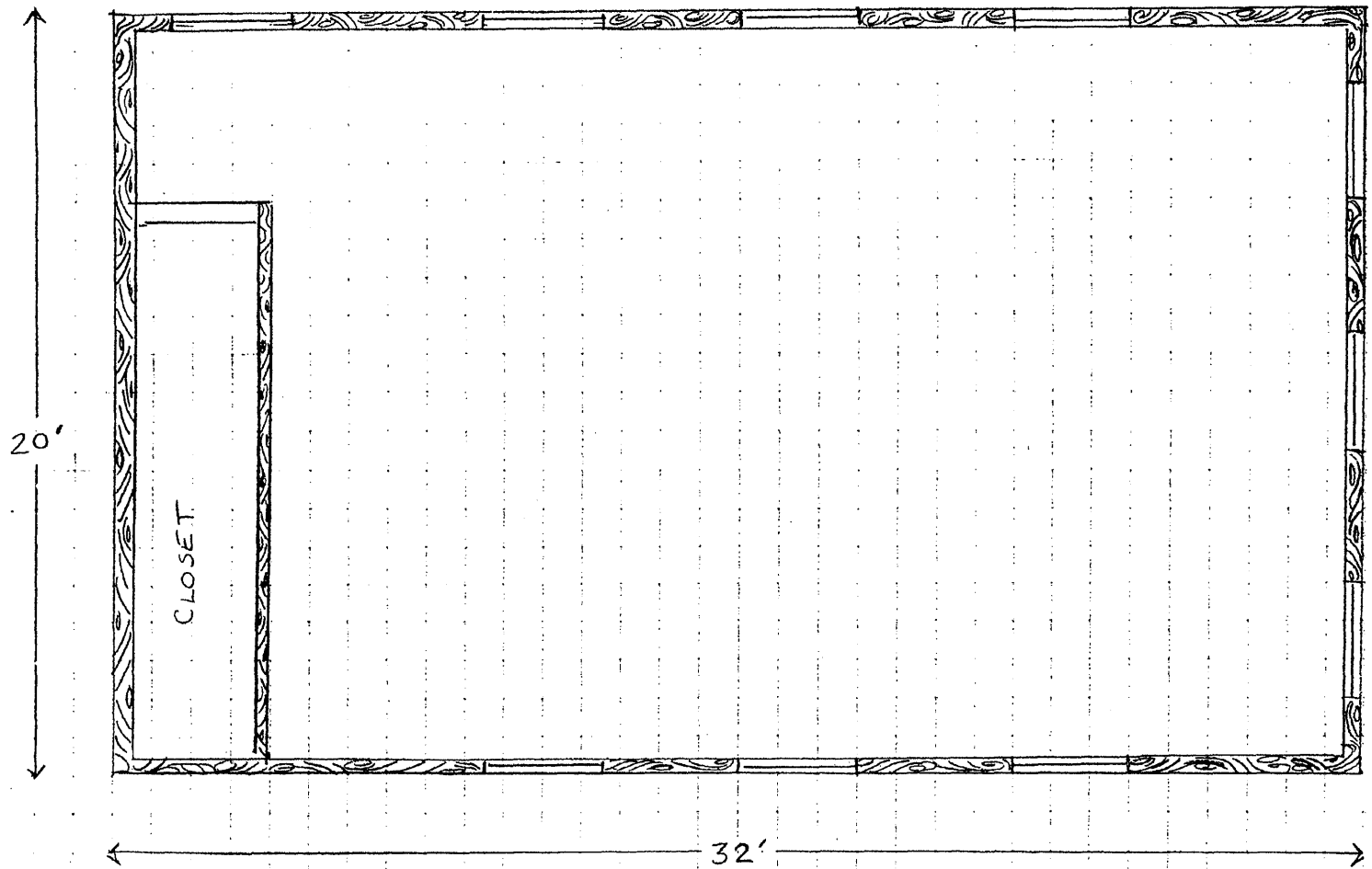
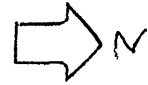
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

Plan of the Second Floor Town Hall
Measured and Drawn by Floyd Soenksen, January 2001



2ND FLOOR

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

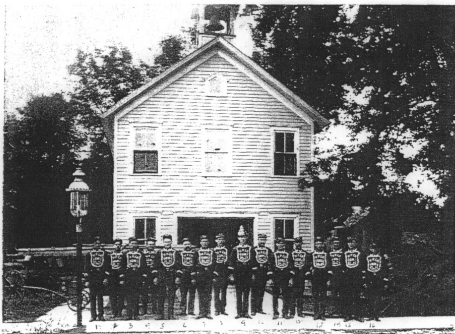
Section number: 7 Page: 6

Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

Historic Photograph of the Town Hall

From the Photograph Collection of the Central Community Historical Society.

Volunteer Fire Department



VOLUNTEER MEMBERS 1907

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

Section number: 8 Page: 7

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, Criteria A

Summary Statement

The Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District is locally significant under Criterion A for its importance to the social history and politics and government of the City of Grand Mound, Iowa.

Significance and Historical Contexts

Narrative Statement of Significance

Grand Mound, the principal city of Orange Township, was established in 1858 as a station along the Chicago, Iowa, and Nebraska Railroad. The town was platted by Horace Williams around the station in the same year, and the post office was established. The plat was filed in 1866, and the city was incorporated in 1884. The first elections were held at John Merrill's General Store. Merrill, who was the railroad station agent and first principal merchant in the town, was elected mayor.

The foreign-born population of the township peaked in the decade of the 1890's. As with the rest of Clinton County, most of those immigrants were German. The German population dominated Grand Mound's commercial district and city government by 1891, with council meetings held at Moeller and Detlef's Store. The growing community soon found itself in need of a permanent center of government. Therefore, a committee was appointed to "investigate the purchase of a town lot for the purpose of erecting a council chambers thereon." A proposition was submitted to the voters, allowing a special tax levy to buy a lot, not to exceed \$60, and to erect a building, not to exceed \$450. The levy passed, 33 to 3, in a special election held March 2, 1891.

Gustav Ahlff, owner of the local lumber yard, weighing station, and clay tile manufacturer, drafted the blueprints "for a building, dimensions 20 ft. wide, 32 ft. long, and 18 ft. posts, to be used as a council chambers, a place to store away hooks and ladder, fire supplies, etc., and that a small lock-up be built inside of same." The council accepted Ahlff's simple, utilitarian plans in regular session on June 13, 1892. The complete lack of ornamentation on the building reflected local social and political ethics. The council members did not deem it appropriate to erect an architectural monument to themselves or to government with taxpayer dollars. Three bids were read at the next meeting on July 2, 1892. The low bid of \$675 from Henry Ehlers was accepted, all yea except Detlef, who abstained. In a special session on September 16, 1892, it was moved and carried "that the City Hall be accepted and that an order be drawn on the Treasurer to Henry Ehlers."

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Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

The mayor reported at the regular October 10, 1892, session that the town hall had been insured. The council then voted that "the renting of the town hall be left optional with the Mayor, and that he charge not less than fifty cents nor more than three dollars for each meeting held in the hall." It was also decided "that the town hall be rented to The Band Boys for two dollars a month, fuel and lights furnished, with the understanding that they use the Hall decent." The Boys must have had a twelve-piece band, as the council further ordered "the council buy one dozen common chairs." Support for the musical arts was strong in the community, as the list of bands and orchestras in Clinton County contained at least seven from Grand Mound. Other bands likely practiced in the hall as well. Use of the town hall by various social groups was common, and picnics were often held there. Other documented users included the Vogel Schlessen and Schalgen (Kinderfest) Committee and the local boy scouts. Due to the poor condition of the upstairs hall today, its function as a social room has been discontinued. However, the equipment for the 112 year-old Kinderfest, now simply known as Children's Day, is still kept in the downstairs of the old building.

Vagrancy was a problem for Clinton County's small railroad towns, as hobos stopped off at their stations. After local prohibition laws were repealed, and Grand Mound began licensing saloons in March of 1894, drunkenness became a major problem as well. By April of 1894, discussions began on the need to hire a town marshal for Grand Mound. A disastrous fire broke out in the hotel stable on August 5th, likely started by vagrants spending the night. The fire ended debate on the need for law enforcement, and the first town marshal was hired soon afterwards. Iron grates and a prisoner bed were added to the Town Hall jail in that year to further aid in keeping the peace.

The jail cell proved adequate until after the repeal of the 1920 Prohibition amendment in 1933. By 1936, it had deteriorated badly. A drunk was arrested for beating his wife and taken into custody, but the old cell door wouldn't hold him. Three young men who were playing pool across the street were recruited to hold the door shut until the Sheriff could come and transport the offender back to the county jail in Clinton. The City soon advertised for a "used, on cell, all steel jail cell" in the American Municipalities magazine. Alton, Iowa offered a two cell unit in good condition for \$50.00. Local trucker J. W. Luey was hired for another \$50 to go and fetch it, with councilman L. J. Voss to accompany him and help with the loading. The new unit occupied a floor space of 6 1/2 ' by 9', was 6 1/2 ' high, and had 1/4" boiler plate top, bottom, and partition. The outside was constructed of 1/4" by 2" steel strips with 2 1/2" square openings. This cell served the community until law enforcement began being contracted to county agencies. No other jail facilities were ever built.

In 1955, the council decided to "erect a new town hall and fire station on lot 4 of block 5, original town." The old town hall began to be known as "the pump house," although no one precisely knows why. When the City installed its first water system in 1898, a wood framed building, very

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Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

similar to the town hall, was erected to house the pumping equipment directly north of the town hall site on the same lot. That building was torn down and replaced with the larger brick structure that currently stands in lot 7 of block 8. There is no written reference to indicate that the water tower pump was ever located in the town hall, nor is there any physical indication of the existence of water lines from the old town hall to the tower. "Pump House" is a misnomer, but so common in the local vocabulary that the townspeople had the name painted on the building's front facade. The name may have been a corruption of "Pumper House," since the town's first major piece of fire-fighting equipment (a hand pumper purchased in 1894) was also cherished by the citizenry. The old hand pumper survives, and is now housed in the Central Historical Society Museum in nearby DeWitt.

The actual pump house and water tower currently serving the City of Grand Mound was built in 1915. Council minutes from August 4, 1914, indicate that the tank of the existing water tower (located on the square at Fulton and Smith Streets) had been condemned. It was recommended that the tank "be replaced with a steel tank of larger capacity, and that we build a new pump station and install a new pump." The new pump station would be "20 feet wide by 24 feet long and ten to twelve feet high, with a steel roof to slope to the south." The roof of the town hall had been a constant source of maintenance to the city, so the sloping roof design specification for the pump house reflects the wisdom of the council's experience. Along the way, a meeting room was incorporated into the pump house plans. On August 31, 1914, the minutes record that "Iowa Engineering Company of Clinton to erect a 50,000 gallon steel tank, pumping station, new deep well pump, and the laying of 400 feet, 8 inch cast iron mains." The contract for construction was awarded June 2, 1915, to the Des Moines Bridge and Iron Company.

Grand Mound's city maintenance chief, William Bender, was asked if the pumping equipment was original. Mr. Bender believes the equipment and filters were replaced around 1968. From examination of the county property tax assessment card, it is likely that the equipment was replaced in 1967, when modifications were made to the building. A prefabricated pavilion was added to the back of the pump house to facilitate the many picnics held on the property.

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Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks District
Clinton County, Iowa

SOURCES

Published and Unpublished Histories and Surveys:

History of Clinton County, Iowa, 1976. A Bicentennial Project, Clinton County Historical Society, Clinton County American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, Iowa American Bicentennial Commission, 1978.

"Grand Mound," Centennial Booklet. 1958.

Other Sources:

Minutes of the Grand Mound City Council, 1884 to 1936.

Clinton County property tax assessment cards

Oral history transcriptions from various sources, collected by Helen Faye Green, local historian

Photograph Collection from the Central Community Historical Society

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Grand Mound Town Hall and Waterworks Historic District consists of Lots 7 and 8, Block 7, of the Original Town Plat for the Town of Grand Mound, Iowa.

Verbal Justification

The boundary consists of the legal description of the entire property including the buildings, tower, and adjacent lawn area that has historically been associated with this property since 1915.