

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 1/31/2019      Date of Pending List: 2/12/2019      Date of 16th Day: 2/27/2019      Date of 45th Day: 3/18/2019      Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

☒ Accept      ☐ Return      ☐ Reject      3/7/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer *Alexis Abernathy*      Discipline 3

Control Unit \_\_\_\_\_      Date 3/7/19

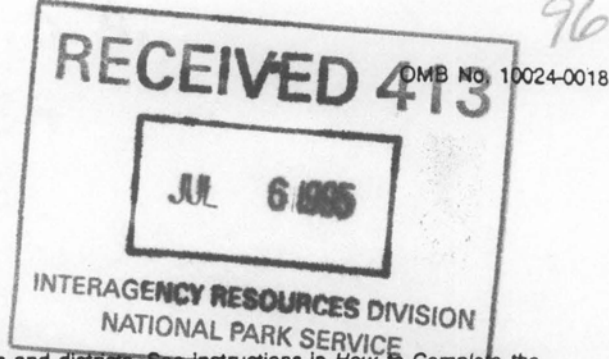
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:      see attached comments : No      see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

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 Benson Building

other names/site number Union Bus Depot

2. Location

street & number 214 East Second N/A not for publication

city or town Ottumwa N/A ☐ vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Wapello code 179 zip code 52501

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 O'Heeran, SHPO  
Signature of certifying official/Title

6-27-93  
Date

Idaho  
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:)

Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

8-11-95  
Date of Action

Entered in the  
National Register

Benson Building  
Name of Property

Wapello 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	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register**

Architectural/Historical Resources of Ottumwa, IA 0

## 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/Sports Facility

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCIAL/Speciality Store

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revival;  
Tudor Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Steel

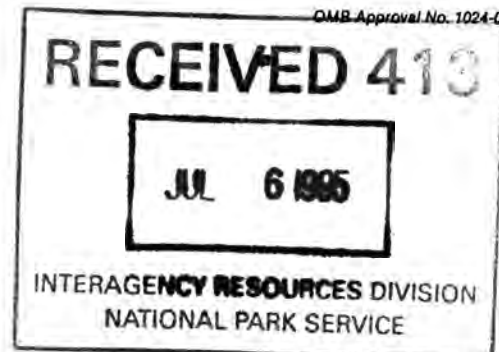
## Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1



CFN-259-1118

Benson Building  
Wapello County, IA

### DESCRIPTION:

The Benson Building (1930) illustrates the somewhat unusual use of a popular residential style for a commercial building: the Tudor Revival style. The rectangular building measures 45' x 132' and is located in the middle of the south side of the 100 block of East Second Street in downtown Ottumwa. The front 15' of the building appears to be one and one-half stories with a typical Tudor brick first floor and half-timbering in the gables. The roof is steeply pitched with a side gable on the right which has a small dormer window. The facade is asymmetrical, with a double door flanked by display windows under the main gable. The wing to the right (west) presently contains a narrow door with a small window on each side. The brick on the facade has been painted a cream color to match the stucco areas above, while the brick on the exposed east side has been left in its natural form. The brick is highly rusticated (or distressed) to create an appearance of age, and has been laid with deep mortar joints. Simple brick patterning defines the window and door openings, with vertical panels of herringbone pattern on each side of the display windows and a single herringbone panel is located on the west side. A tall slender brick chimney is located on the east side of the building.

The rear portion of the building is of hollow glazed tile with a steel truss roof. This portion is completely functional in design with no pretense of style. Along the east wall is an area covered with vertical metal siding. Originally a small building on the east adjoined in this location. The demolition of the small building required covering of this wall. From the alley the arched roof is clearly visible, as is the curving driveway leading into the building from the east. This drive dates from the 1940s and was just large enough to allow passage of over the road buses.

The interior of this building appears to have been one large open space originally. When it became the bus depot in the early 1940s a masonry wall was erected creating a 17' wide driveway along the west side of the building allowing passage from the alley in the rear to Second Street. Since that time walls have been added and removed, dividing the rest of the interior space as needed by the various occupants. The floor plan shows the present configuration, but the building is still capable of providing the large areas of open space that were available originally.

The major alteration to the exterior occurred when driveway opening onto Second Street was created in the '40s, and then closed in during the 1970s. No photographs have been located showing the facade in its original form. It is possible that this area may originally have looked much as it does today.

This building is of architectural interest due to the rather unusual use of the popular Tudor Revival style for a commercial building.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

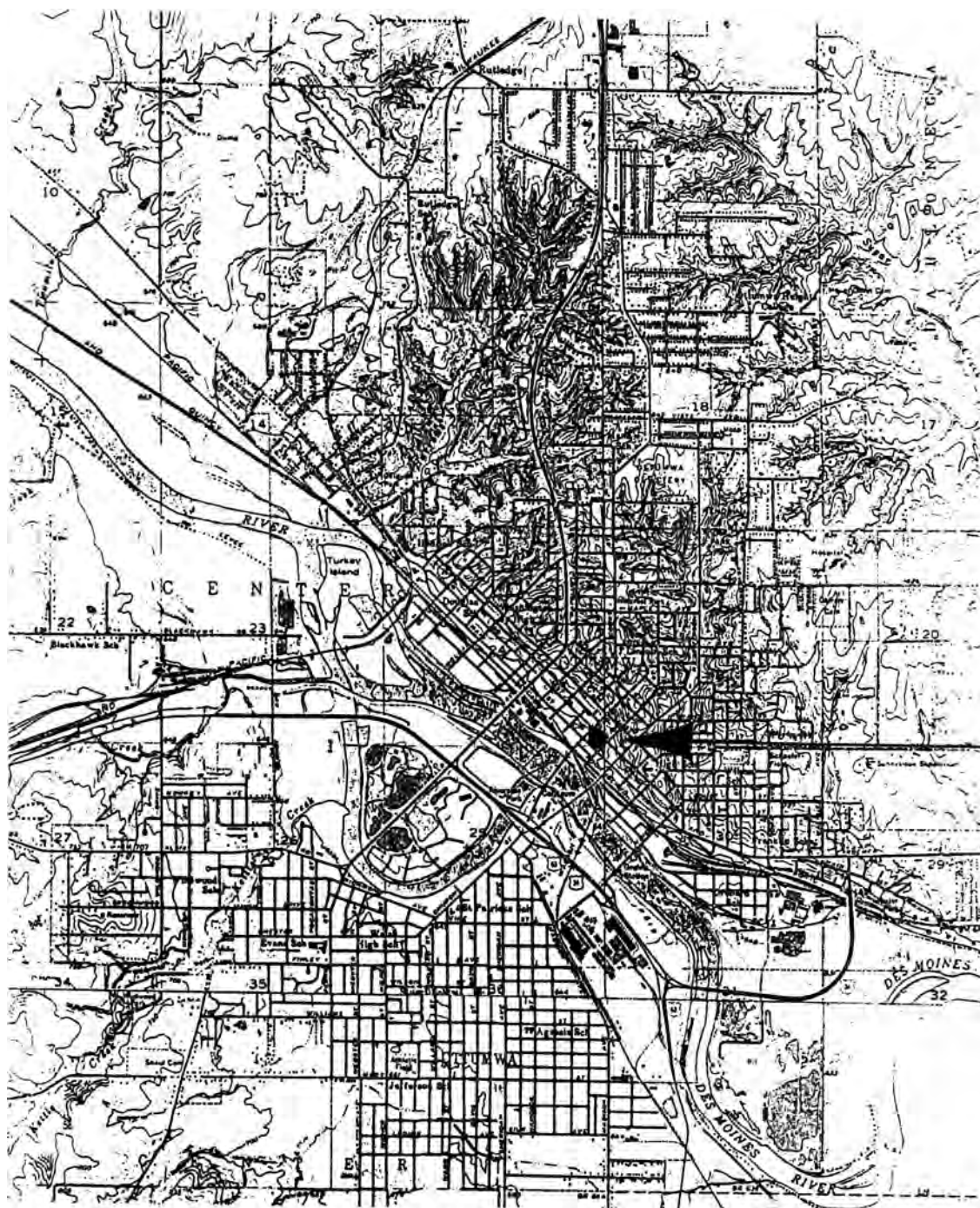
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116

Benson Building  
Wapello County, IA

DESCRIPTION (continued): U.S.G.S. map (reduced) indicates location in community.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

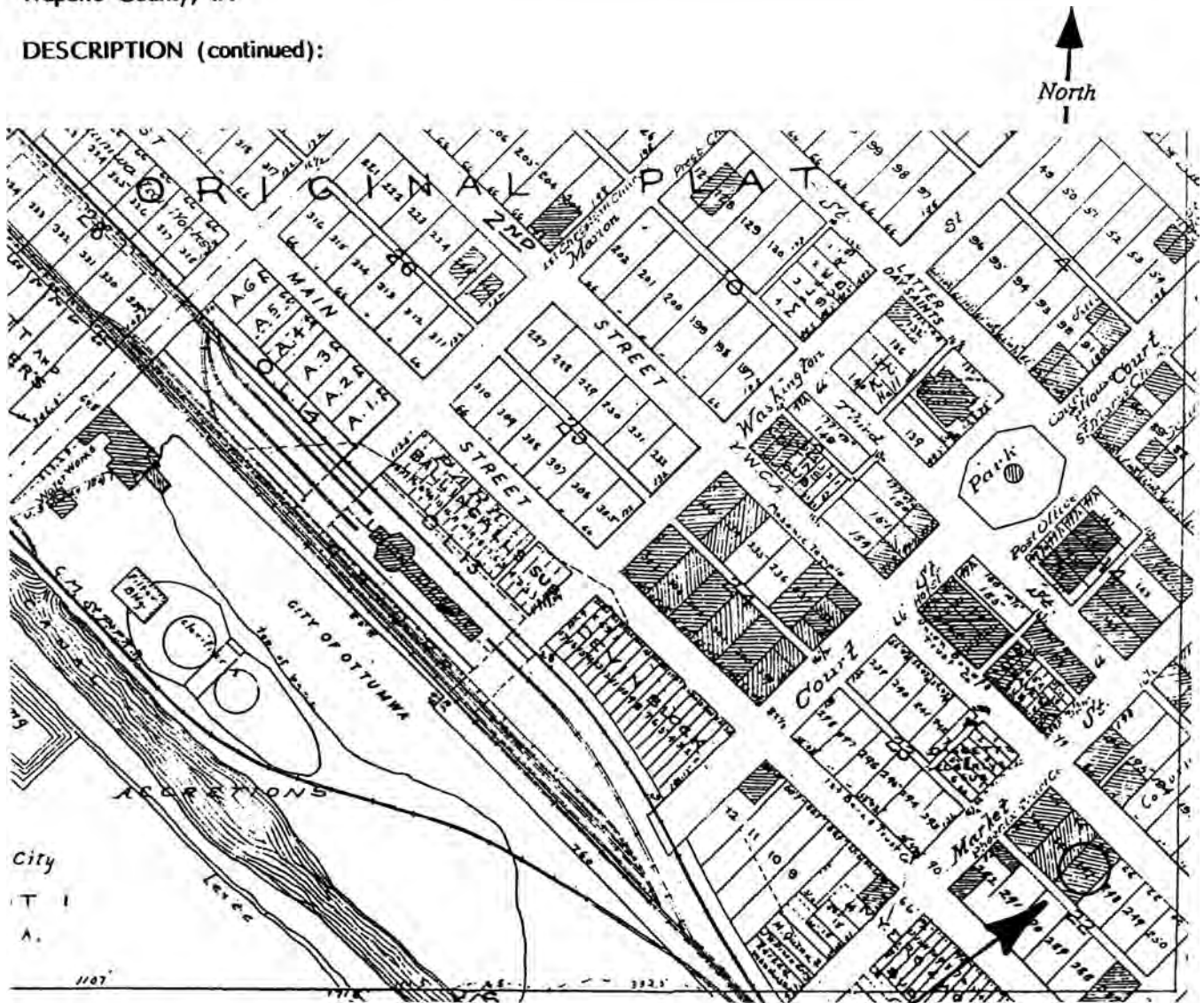
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

CFN-259-1116

Benson Building  
Wapello County, IA

DESCRIPTION (continued):



1939 Plat Map showing exact location.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

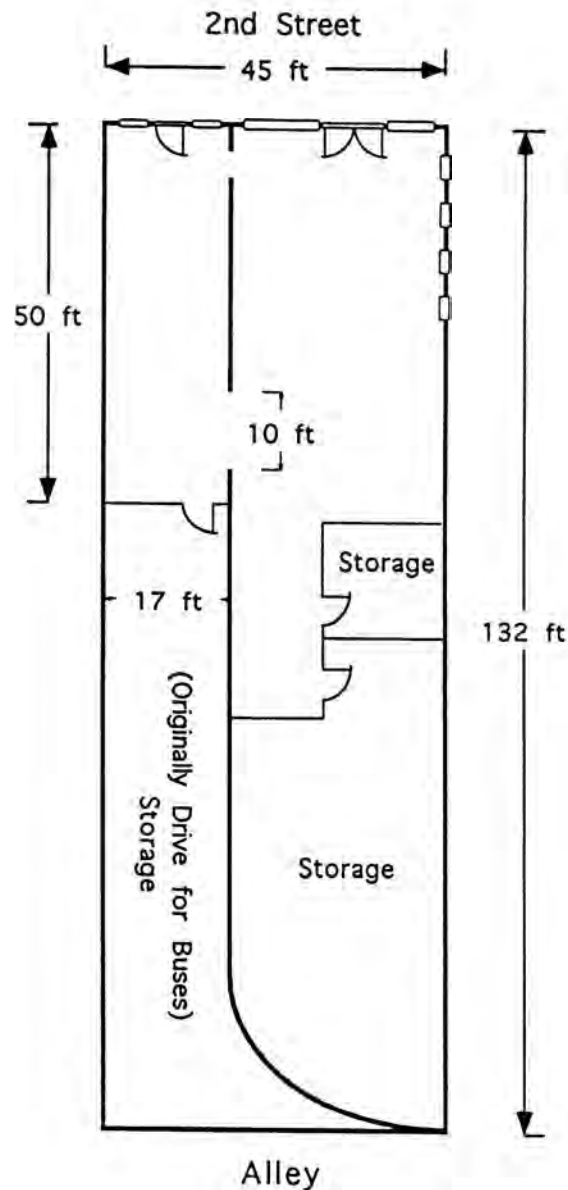
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

CFN-258-1116

Benson Building  
Wapello County, IA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):



Benson Building  
Name of Property

Wapello County, 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.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

### Period of Significance

1930

### Significant Dates

1930

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

### Architect/Builder

Unknown

### 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

CFN-259-1116

Benson Building  
Wapello County, IA

### SIGNIFICANCE:

The Benson Building (1930) is locally significant under Criterion C as a good example of the Tudor Revival style used in a commercial design.

The Tudor Revival style was quite popular in Ottumwa during the 1920s and '30s. Among the earliest examples of the style were the office buildings for John Morrell & Company Meatpacking which were designed by the Chicago firm of Hensheim and McLaren in the 1920s. Shortly after these buildings were constructed, members of the Morrell and Foster families began building large new residences of their own in variations of the style. It appears that most of these houses were designed by the firm of Tinsley, McBroom & Higgins. In addition to these large Tudor houses, many smaller English cottages are found throughout the community. Some of the best examples of the Tudor style, both the half-timbered and English cottage types, can be found in the Vogel Place Historic District.

While Tudor was a popular residential style, it was seldom used for commercial design. An exception to this is seen in the standardized designs developed for the Pure Oil Stations and some Phillips 66 stations. Those brick English Cottage stations with steeply pitched roofs became as commonly recognized as the red-roofed Pizza Huts of today. (There is an altered Pure Oil station on Church Street and a larger English Cottage station in altered condition a half block east of the Benson Building. Both of these were built after 1925 but no firm date has been established for either.) In the suburban areas near large cities the Tudor style was often used for neighborhood shopping areas. These often took on the "character" of an English village. Occasionally the style was used in a whimsical manner for recreational activities.

When the Benson Building was constructed in 1930, its first use was as an indoor miniature golf course. Although there were three outdoor "Pee Wee Golf" facilities in the community, this was the first that would be available during the winter months. The Ottumwa Courier noted that "It will be equipped with a fiber green which has been patented by Mr. Rudy (the leasee) and which he claims is the newest approach to bent grass that is available." Shortly after this course opened another was opened in the basement of a large service station at the corner of Second and McLean streets several blocks west of the downtown. The downtown location of Mr. Rudy's facility seems rather strange until it is realized that this new leisure activity was just two blocks down the street from the new high school, and was just around the corner from the movie theaters. Ottumwa native Baxter R. Smith remembers working after school sorting balls and polishing golf clubs at the miniature golf course. He describes the windmill and water hazards as being "pretty tough". The use of the Tudor Revival style for this recreation facility was a logical one as it made it highly visible. However, the miniature golf craze passed quickly in Ottumwa, and the building was left empty.

The next occupant, according to city directories, was a roller skating rink. Again, the style was appropriate for such use, and the open interior space was perfect. By 1937, that open space was filled with cars, as Snow Auto became the occupant. The large display windows and large unbroken interior spaces with concrete floor and steel truss roof were exactly what an auto dealer needed. In 1943 the building became the Union Bus Depot. The large open space was again

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

CFN-259-1116

Benson Building  
Wapello County, IA

### SIGNIFICANCE (Continued):

important as it provided an area for the curving driveway necessary for the buses. It is this use, as a bus depot, that is most remembered in Ottumwa. The larger bus depot was made necessary to provide service for the thousands of sailors stationed at the new Ottumwa Naval Air Station north of town.

No architect or builder have been identified for this building. However, it is a good example of the Tudor Revival style used in a commercial setting and illustrates the whimsy of placing a storybook cottage on "Main Street".

Benson Building  
Name of Property

Wapello County, Iowa  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	5
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5	4	9	5	8	0
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4	5	4	0	6	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

2 

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3 

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Zone Easting Northing

4 

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☐ 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 Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743

organization Ottumwa Historic Preservation Comm. date February 1995

street & number 105 East Third telephone (515) 683-0606

city or town Ottumwa state Iowa zip code 52501

### 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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Dwight and Donna Humeston

street & number 165 Vanness telephone (515) 682-0641

city or town Ottumwa state Iowa zip code 52501

**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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 & 10 Page 7

CFN-259-1116

Benson Building  
Wapello County, IA

### BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Abstract of Property, City of Ottumwa, Original Plat, Block 22, part of Lots 246 & 247.

Interview with Baxter R. Smith, conducted by Elsie Mae Cofer, September 1994.

Ottumwa City Directory, 1929, 1935, 1937, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1957.

Ottumwa Courier, 26 June 1930, p 21; 26 Aug 1930, p 15.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1925 and 1925 (updated).

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Part of Lots 246 & 247 in Block 22 in the Original Plat of the City of Ottumwa as follows: All of Lot 247 except the SE 22' thereof, also a strip off the SE side of Lot 246 said strip being 1.02' in width on 2nd Street and .96' in width at the alley in the rear.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

This is the area historically associated with this resource.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Photo \_\_\_\_\_ Page 8

CFN-259-1116

Benson Building  
Wapello County, IA

PHOTOGRAPHS: Benson Building  
214 E. Second St  
Ottumwa (Wapello County), Iowa

All photographs of the Benson Building were taken by Molly Myers Naumann in November, 1994, and all negatives are located in the State Historical Society of Iowa (SHSI), Des Moines, IA.

- #1 3/4 view of facade, looking SW
- #2 Side (east) wall, looking SW
- #3 Facade, looking SE along Second St.
- #4 Detail: half-timbering on facade gable, looking SW
- #5 Rear view from alley showing driveway for buses, looking NE



Benson Building

214 E Second, Ottumwa  
Wapello County, IA

Photo #1





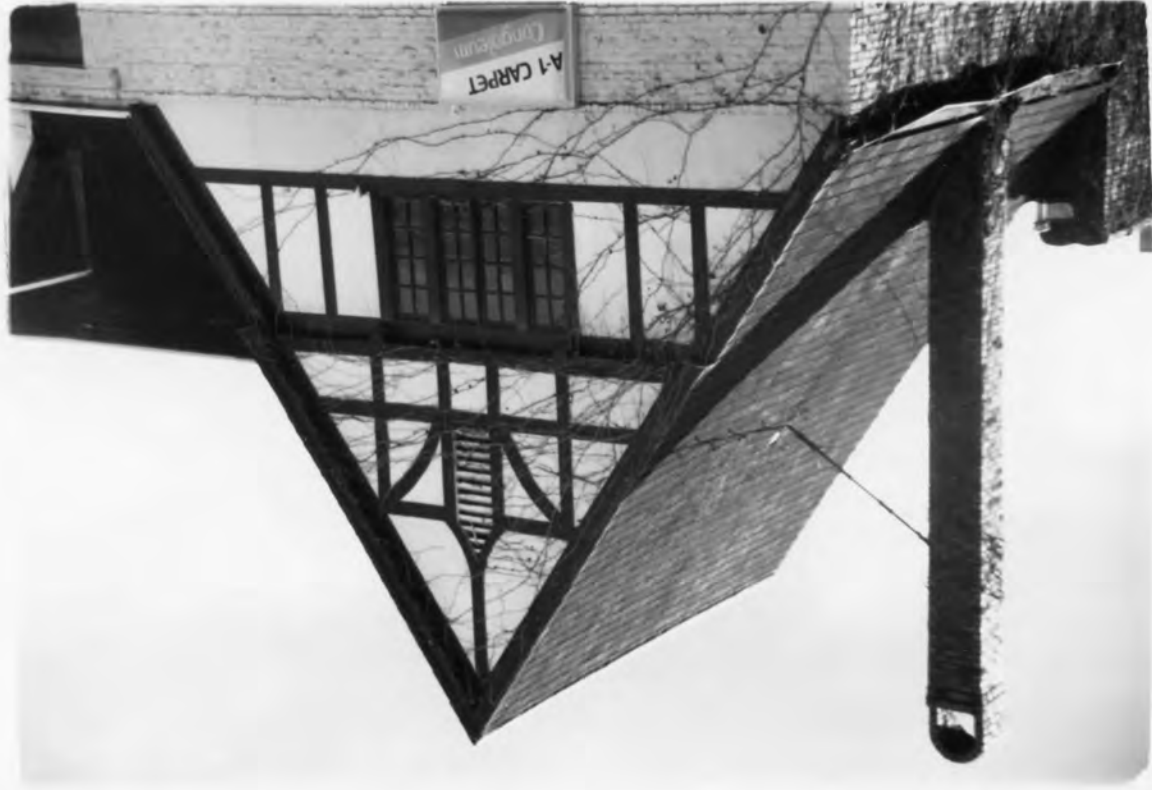
Benson Building  
214 E Second St, Ottumwa  
Wapello Co, IA

Photo #2



Benson Building  
214 E Second, St., Ottumwa  
Wapello Co, IA

Photo #3





Benson Building  
214 E Second St, Ottumwa  
Wapello County, IA

Photo #4



Benson Building

214 E Second St, Ottumwa  
Wapello County, IA

Photo #5

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500177

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Benson Building  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Ottumwa MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Wapello

DATE RECEIVED: 7/06/95 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/18/95  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/03/95 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/20/95  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 95000969

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 8.11.95 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: Entered in  
National --

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

# CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

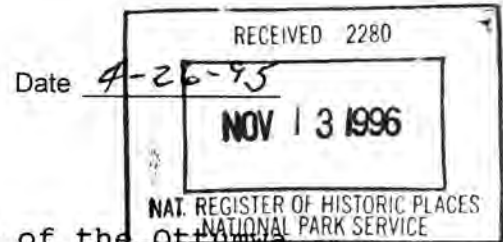
95000965

CLG Name City of Ottumwa Date of Public Meeting April 26, 1995  
Ottumwa Cemetery  
 Property Name Historic District Address 1302 N. Court, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501  
Wapello County Ottumwa MB

1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Roger E. Batterson  
 Roger E. Batterson, Chairman  
 Reason(s) for recommendation:



Recommended National Register eligibility of the Ottumwa Cemetery District based on it's architecture discussed by consultant Molly Meyers Naumann regarding the Roman Triumph Arch Gateway, Chapel Office built in Romanic Style, the stately Iron Fence and ornamental vault at the main entrance.

2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- ☐ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Dale M. Uehling Date May 2, 1995  
 Dale M. Uehling, Mayor  
 Reason(s) for recommendation:

Roman triumphant arch gateway  
 Ornamental lot at the main entrance  
 Ornamental iron fence along the front of the cemetery  
 Romantic style chapel/office

3. Professional Evaluation

Name RALPH J. CHRISTIAN

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Ralph J. Christian Date May 10, 1995  
 Reason(s) for recommendation:

See above

RETURN TO:

KERRY C MCGRATH, STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA, NEW HISTORICAL BUILDING,  
 600 EAST LOCUST, DES MOINES IA 50319-0290



# CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

15000967  
Ottumwa MPS

CLG Name City of Ottumwa Date of Public Meeting April 26, 1995  
Vogel Place  
 Property Name Historic District Address \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Roger E. Batterson Date 4-26-95  
 Roger E. Batterson, Chairman  
 Reason(s) for recommendation:

Recommended National Register eligibility of the Vogel Place District exhibited by the bungalows, English cottages, colonial revival designs and the St. Joseph Hospital built with Revival Style Architecture.

## 2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- ☐ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Dale M. Uehling Date May 2, 1995  
 Dale M. Uehling, Mayor  
 Reason(s) for recommendation:

Architect designed the homes.  
 Variety of styles of homes seen in the bungalows, English cottages, and the Colonial Revival Designs the architectural design of the St. Joseph Hospital.

## 3. Professional Evaluation

Name RAUPH J. CHRISTIAN

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Ralph J. Christian Date May 10, 1995  
 Reason(s) for recommendation:

Good example of early 20th Century Residential district Nominator.

RETURN TO:

KERRY C MCGRATH, STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA, NEW HISTORICAL BUILDING,  
 600 EAST LOCUST, DES MOINES IA 50319-0290

# CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG Name City of Ottumwa Date of Public Meeting April 26, 1995  
Property Name Benson Building Address 214 E. Second, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

Wapello Co.

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Roger E. Batterson  
Roger E. Batterson, Chairman

Date 4-26-95

Reason(s) for recommendation:

Recommended National Register eligibility of the Benson Building because of the unique Tudor Revival Style of architecture usually used for homes but in this case is used for commercial purposes and is located in the Central Business District.

2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- ☐ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Dale M. Uehling  
Dale M. Uehling, Mayor

Date May 2, 1995

Reason(s) for recommendation:

The unique building design of the building located in the Central Business District.

3. Professional Evaluation Name RAULF J. CHRISTIAN

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Ralph J. Christian

Date May 10, 1995

Reason(s) for recommendation: an outstanding example of the influence of the period Revival styles on small scale Commercial Architecture. Most are familiar with Tudor Revival influenced gas stations but even miniature golf courses increased in such buildings are rare.

RETURN TO: KERRY C MCGRATH, STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA, NEW HISTORICAL BUILDING, 600 EAST LOCUST, DES MOINES IA 50319-0290

# CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

Ottumwa MPS

CLG Name City of Ottumwa Date of Public Meeting April 26, 1995  
Property Name Jay Funeral Home Address 220 N. Court, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

## 1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Roger E. Batterson Date 4-26-95  
Roger E. Batterson, Chairman

Reason(s) for recommendation:

Recommended National Register eligibility of the Jay Funeral Home based on its unique Mediterranean Revival Design by Ottumwa Architect Arcie Eaton.

## 2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- ☐ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Dale M. Uehling Date May 2, 1995  
Dale M. Uehling, Mayor

Reason(s) for recommendation:

Mediterranean Revival Design by local architect.

## 3. Professional Evaluation Name RAUPH J. CHRISTIAN

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Ralph J. Christian Date May 10, 1995

Reason(s) for recommendation:

This building is significant not only because of its stylistic features but as a building type. This was the first "funeral home" in the community built as such and may be one of first in the state.

RETURN TO:

KERRY C MCGRATH, STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA, NEW HISTORICAL BUILDING,  
600 EAST LOCUST, DES MOINES IA 50319-0290

# CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

Ottumwa MPS

CLG Name City of Ottumwa Date of Public Meeting April 26, 1995

Property Name First National Bank Address 131 E. Main, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

## 1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Roger E. Batterson Date 4-26-95  
Roger E. Batterson, Chairman

Reason(s) for recommendation:

Recommended National Register eligibility of the First National Bank Building based upon the 20th Century Neo-classical Bank Design and being built of terra cotta.

## 2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- ☐ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Dale M. Uehling Date May 2, 1995  
Dale M. Uehling, Mayor

Reason(s) for recommendation:

Only bank in Ottumwa with a cream colored terra cotta exterior. The monumental columns.

## 3. Professional Evaluation

Name RALPH J. CHRISTIAN

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility  
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Ralph J. Christian Date May 10, 1995

Reason(s) for recommendation:

a very handsome building.

RETURN TO:

KERRY C MCGRATH, STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA, NEW HISTORICAL BUILDING,  
600 EAST LOCUST, DES MOINES IA 50319-0290

1

J. Blake Wade, State Historic Preservation Officer  
State Historic Preservation Office  
2704 Villa Prom, Shepherd Mall  
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Dear Mr. Wade:

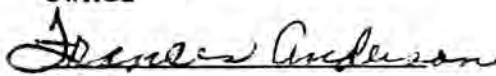
This will confirm that I was (we were) the owner of record at the time of National Register listing, 23 February 1995, and the current owner of the Threatt Filling Station, located at the Southwest corner of U.S. Highway 66 and Pottawatomie Road in the Luther vicinity, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma.

This also confirms that I am (we are) fully aware of the effects of listing a property in the National Register of Historic Places. I (we) recognize that, under the National Historic Preservation Act, I am (we are) entitled to object to the listing of the property by a notarized, written statement.

I (we) hereby waive my (our) right to object to the listing of the Threatt Filling Station in the National Register of Historic Places and confirm that I (we) did not object to listing of the property when it occurred.

Sincerely,

  
Owner

  
Owner

  
Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner

  
Notary Public Okla. Co.

Commission Expires  
Sept 24, 2000

RECEIVED

SEP 30 1996

BY SHPO





## Oklahoma Historical Society

Founded May 27, 1893

State Historic Preservation Office • 2704 Villa Prom • Shepherd Mall • Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Telephone 405/521-6249 • Fax 405/947-2918

October 2, 1996

Ms. Beth Boland  
National Register of Historic Places  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, D.C. 20013



Dear Beth:

Enclosed is a copy of the signed, notarized letter correcting the owner information for the Threatt Filling Station, located at the southwest corner of U.S. Highway 66 and Pottawatomie Road in the Luther vicinity, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma. The nomination was part of the Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma multiple property listing. The NRIS number is 95000038.

If you would like the original signed letter, please contact me at 405/522-4478.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Smelker  
Architectural Historian

enclosure



COPY

Brenda Case  
Ottumwa Historic Preservation Commission Chair  
Ottumwa City Hall  
105 E. Third Street  
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

December 17, 2018

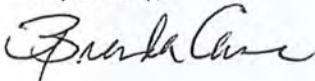
Paula A. Mohr, Ph.D.  
Architectural Historian and Certified Local Government Coordinator  
State Historic Preservation Office  
State Historical Building – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor East  
600 E. Locust Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Ms. Mohr:

It is with profound regret that the Ottumwa Historic Preservation Commission hereby petitions to remove the Benson Building from the National Register of Historic Places. This property, Ref. #95000969, at 214 East Second Street, Ottumwa, Iowa, no longer meets the criteria for listing in the National Register per Sec. 60.15 (a)(1). The building was completely lost to fire on January 6, 2018. S well as being listed individually, the Benson Building was an integral part of the Greater Second Street Historic District Ref. #16000365.

Enclosed is an Ottumwa Courier article on the blaze.

Respectfully,



Brenda Case  
Ottumwa Historic Preservation Commission Chair

Cc: Kevin Flanagan  
Fred Zesiger  
John Ohlinger  
Dennis Willhoit  
Stacie Latham  
Isaac Pezley  
Peggy Eskew

Enc.

[https://www.ottumwacourier.com/news/fire-destroys-bridal-cottage/article\\_2981ffd6-f342-11e7-b476-47855a965462.html](https://www.ottumwacourier.com/news/fire-destroys-bridal-cottage/article_2981ffd6-f342-11e7-b476-47855a965462.html)

EDITOR'S PICK

## Fire destroys Bridal Cottage

Mark Newman Jan 6, 2018



[f](#) [t](#) [g+](#) [in](#) [p](#) [@](#)

OTTUMWA — A fire consumed a long-time downtown business Saturday. Firefighters said they could not save the Bridal Cottage and battled to keep the blaze from spreading.

"At 5:06 p.m. a call came in, and we sent north and south side; any structure fire, we send both stations," said Assistant Chief Mike Craff of the Ottumwa Fire Department; both he and Chief Tony Miller were on scene Saturday evening.

Two engines and the tower were initially used to fight the fire both in front, on Second Street, and in back, the alley between Second and Main streets.

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"At first response, there were seven firefighters," said Craff. "When they arrived, they had heavy smoke coming from the attic and roof area. They made entry and found heavy fire at the back. The captain in charge called for a third alarm, which is an additional 10 firefighters."

They pumped water from inside onto the flames, but there was too much to knock down.

"Then, the fire vented itself by burning through the roof. That wasn't bad because it allowed heat and gas to release, but the ceilings were collapsing, and you worry about the roof caving in, so we pulled everybody out."

Minutes after that decision was made, the brick chimney snapped off and fell onto and through the still intact portion of the Bridal Cottage roof.

"At that point, we worked on protecting the exposures — the buildings around it. But we're still, at that time, trying to extinguish it [in the Bridal Cottage]. The biggest concern was the wall next to the [other buildings]. We don't want the fire to breach that wall; we worried about the fire extending."

In fact, whether they could keep the fire from spreading was in doubt at some points.



The mayor had arrived and spoke to firefighters early; after hearing from officers, he said he feared for downtown, especially the call center and the rental store.

The Bridal Cottage is directly accross from the Ottumwa Courier; at one point, a witness saw orange atop the photography studio next door; orange, however, was seen almost everywhere with a line of sight view of the Bridal Cottage.

"We weren't worried about it spreading in that direction," Craff said.

There was no one at the business at the time the fire started, and no firefighters reported being injured. Later, though no flames were visible from across the street, firefighters reported small fires continuing inside. There were also hot spots. Craff says the OFD will be on scene all night. The fire marshall had responded, but it will be a day or two before he can safely enter the structure to begin an investigation.



[https://www.ottumwacourier.com/news/bridal-cottage-demolition-begins/article\\_dd9479ae-3b6d-11e8-9c73-bf8778ed512f.html](https://www.ottumwacourier.com/news/bridal-cottage-demolition-begins/article_dd9479ae-3b6d-11e8-9c73-bf8778ed512f.html)

EDITOR'S PICK

## Bridal Cottage demolition begins

Matt Milner Apr 8, 2018



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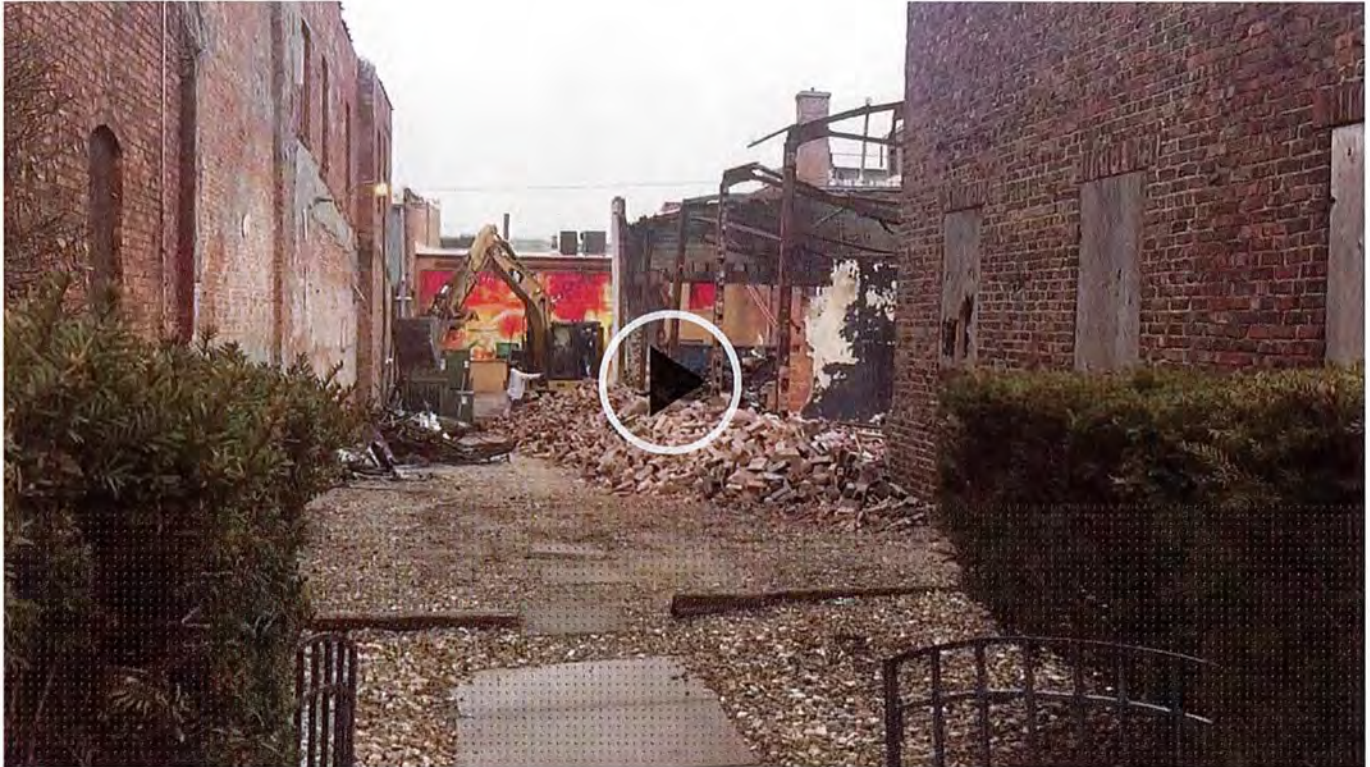
OTTUMWA — Demolition crews were making short work of one of the walls at the former Bridal Cottage in downtown Ottumwa over the weekend.

The shop, a Tudor-style building with a long history as a part of the downtown business scene, burned earlier this year in a fire that required quick work from the Ottumwa Fire Department. While the cottage itself was destroyed, there was minimal damage to adjoining buildings. That included a



call center that shares a wall with the burned structure.

Late last week red tape and a sign warning of possible asbestos in the ruins were posted. The area has been blocked off with yellow police tape since the fire.



#### SPONSORED CONTENT

Beautifully crafted from the inside out.

By Cadillac

#### Matt Milner

Matt Milner currently serves as the Courier's Managing Editor. Milner is a trained weather spotter and is usually outside if there are storms. He joined the Courier in 2002.





IOWA DEPARTMENT OF  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR  
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

CHRIS KRAMER, ACTING DIRECTOR

**COPY**

December 18, 2018

Tom Lazio, Mayor  
City of Ottumwa  
105 East Third St  
Ottumwa, IA 52501

Re: **Benson Building**  
**214 East Second Street**

Dear Mayor Lazio:

It has come to the attention of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of Iowa that the Benson Building at 214 East Second Street in Ottumwa, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1995, was lost to fire on January 6, 2018. Because of this, the building no longer meets the criteria for listing in the National Register.

We are providing notification that the SHPO will be requesting that the National Park Service delist/remove the property from the National Register of Historic Places. If we do not hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter we will move forward with the delisting.

Kind regards,



Laura Sadowsky  
State Historian and National Register Coordinator  
[laura.sadowsky@iowa.gov](mailto:laura.sadowsky@iowa.gov) | 515.281.3989 | [iowaculture.gov](http://iowaculture.gov)

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF  
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CHRIS KRAMER, ACTING DIRECTOR

**COPY**

December 18, 2018

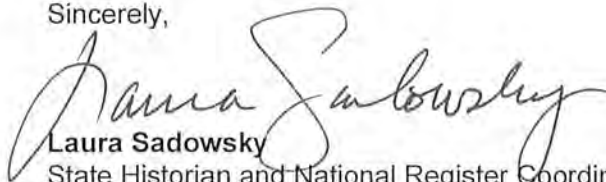
Kristie Durflinger  
420 E Main  
Agency, IA 52530

Dear Property Owner:

It has come to the attention of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of Iowa that the Benson Building at 214 East Second Street in Ottumwa, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1995, was lost to fire on January 6, 2018. Because of this, the building no longer meets the criteria for listing in the National Register.

We are providing notification that the SHPO will be requesting that the National Park Service delist/remove the property from the National Register of Historic Places. If we do not hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter that this information is in error, we will move forward with the delisting.

Sincerely,



**Laura Sadowsky**

State Historian and National Register Coordinator

[laura.sadowsky@iowa.gov](mailto:laura.sadowsky@iowa.gov) | 515.281.3989 | [iowaculture.gov](http://iowaculture.gov)

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

KIM REYNOLDS, GOVERNOR  
ADAM GREGG, LT. GOVERNOR

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

CHRIS KRAMER, DIRECTOR

January 29, 2019

Joy Beasley, Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms Beasley:

The Iowa State Historic Preservation Office is requesting the removal of three resources from the National Register of Historic Places due to demolition:

**Burnstein-Malin Grocery, #98001277**

- 1241 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Des Moines, Polk County.
- Demolished at some point between 2013 and 2016.
- Enclosures:
  - Notifications to owner and chief elected official.
  - 1983 photos of resource from SHPO files and Google Street image from 2018.

**Midland Packing Company, #79000952**

- 2001 Leech Avenue, Sioux City, Woodbury County.
- Demolished in 2010.
- Enclosures:
  - Notification letters to owner and chief elected official.
  - Online news report of demolition and Google Earth photos from 2006 and 2018.

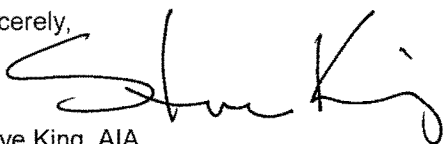
**Benson Building, #95000969**

- 214 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Ottumwa, Wapello County.
- Fire and subsequent demolition in 2018.
- Enclosures:
  - Notifications to owner and chief elected official.
  - Letter of notice of loss from the Ottumwa Historic Preservation Commission and online news accounts of fire and demolition.

In accordance with 36 CFR 60.15, the chief elected officials and owners of each property have been notified in accordance with the state's established notification procedures and were given 30 days to respond. No responses were received from any party. Copies of all letters are enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Laura Sadowsky, State Historian and National Register Coordinator, at [laura.sadowsky@iowa.gov](mailto:laura.sadowsky@iowa.gov).

Sincerely,



Steve King, AIA  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
[steven.king@iowa.gov](mailto:steven.king@iowa.gov) | 515.281.4013 | [iowaculture.gov](http://iowaculture.gov)

Enclosures.

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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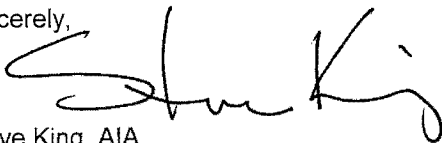
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Enclosures.

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Ottumwa Historic Preservation Commission Chair  
Ottumwa City Hall  
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Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

December 17, 2018

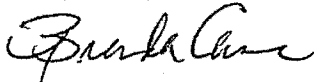
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Ottumwa Historic Preservation Commission Chair

Cc: Kevin Flanagan  
Fred Zesiger  
John Ohlinger  
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Stacie Latham  
Isaac Pezley  
Peggy Eskew

Enc.