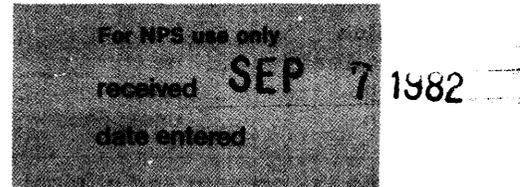


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic Hedge Block
and/or common Johnson-Rasmussen Bldg.

2. Location

street & number 401-407 Jefferson Street not for publication
city, town Burlington vicinity of congressional district 1
state Iowa code 19 county Des Moines code 057

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

Eleanor Long, Henry Murray (401), same address; R.M. Richardson, (403), 2500S. 3rd,
name Burlington; Buettner Furniture Co. (405-407), 411 Jefferson, Burlington
street & number see above
city, town Burlington vicinity of state Iowa

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Des Moines County Recorder's Office
street & number Des Moines County Courthouse
city, town Burlington state Iowa

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Burlington Architectural Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1976-77 federal state county local
depository for survey records Office of Historic Preservation
city, town Des Moines state Iowa

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Built in 1880, the Hedge Block is a particularly fine example of the Victorian Gothic commercial style. Its rich ornamentation and massive presence render it unique in downtown Burlington. The structure occupies a half block on what is now a pedestrian mall in the midst of the central business district. The streets are a grid pattern that runs parallel to the Mississippi River four blocks away. Although similar in mass and height to nearby buildings, which date from the 1870s to the 1910s, the Hedge Block stands out by virtue of its corner location, variety of building materials and heavy, irregular orientation.

The local limestone used on the main facade features a chamfered one-bay corner, a three-bay gabled portion with a steeply pitched parapet and irregular towers flanking the gable, and then a smaller gabled fifth bay that marks the ground floor entrance to the second floor. In original condition, this heavy Gothic-arched entrance leads to steep stairs and the original second floor double doors inside. Segmentally arched and Gothic-arched hood molds having rounded pilasters surround tall narrow windows. Heavy piers separate windows, and heavy ornament projecting above the cornice further divides the design into units of three or four bays along Jefferson Street.

The brick facade along 4th Street is simpler and flatter than that of the front. Use of stone for keystones, hood molds, imposts, sills, small columns and belt courses creates a polychrome effect associated with the Victorian Gothic, especially when combined with the slate roof and terra cotta. The desired irregular outline is carried out through various window treatments, a variety of false gables (one has been removed), parapets and pilasters, and brick corbelling and stone dentils for the cornice. Only one of the five chimneys remain.

The Hedge Block was actually a combined effort on the part of four Burlington entrepreneurs to build commercial space on the site of the burned Lawrence House, and the plan of the structure reflects this multiple ownership and use. Each of three men owned a 20' frontage, and the fourth owned 27' on the corner. The building is generally separated in this manner with long-narrow stores on the ground floor and larger connected areas above. Pine woodwork having headblocks with bull's-eyes are found on these upper floors.

The greatest modifications have been periodic storefront remodeling. The most serious change involves removal of large, heavy stone columns at the corner entrance. A single circular display space now incongruously occupies the space beneath the chamfered corner. A brick parapet and fire stairs from the 4th Street facade as well as iron cresting have also been removed. Two side and four windows on 4th Street have been enclosed.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1880-present **Builder/Architect** Charles A. Dunham

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Thomas Hedge, Sr., E.H. Carpenter, John M. Gregg and Wesley Bonar joined together to build the Hedge Block as an investment. They hired local architect Charles A. Dunham to provide the design. Dunham designed the Hedge Block when he had been practicing for fifteen years. After a ten-year apprenticeship with Burlington architect A.G. Bassett, Dunham established his own office (for a time in partnership with Mr. Jordon) in 1865; he was active until 1907, designing a variety of buildings in a variety of styles ranging from the Victorian Gothic to the Stick Style. Since several of his larger commissions (Warren County Courthouse, Burlington High School, Old Main at Iowa State) are not extant, the Hedge Block emerges as an even more important representative of this Iowa architect's work.

The ground floor shops first housed Naudain Brothers dry goods store and A.A. Perkins silverware, china and glass shop. It is unclear what was the original use of the remaining space. Between 1880 and 1913, a business college (Orchard City Business College, later called Elliott's Business College) occupied the second and third floors of the corner portion. Thomas Hedge, Jr., an Andover, Yale and Columbia Law School graduate, had his law offices in the building as well. Later president of his father's lumber business, Hedge went on to represent the district in Congress.

Thomas Hedge, Sr., was an early and successful Burlington businessman. He started his commercial career in that city in 1843 and by 1866 was an owner of the wholesale lumber company, Gilbert, Hedge & Co. Hedge was an active promotor of the Burlington & Northwestern Railroad in the 1870s, serving as the company's first president.

9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Burlington

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UMT References

A

1	5	6	6	0	0	1	0	4	5	1	9	2	7	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification The easterly 27 feet of town lots nos. 530 and 531 in the original city of Burlington, Des Moines County, Iowa.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N.A. code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Beving Long and Ralph J. Christian, Architectural Historians

organization Office of Historic Preservation

date August 1982

street & number East 12th and Grand Avenue

telephone 515/281-6825

city or town Des Moines

state Iowa

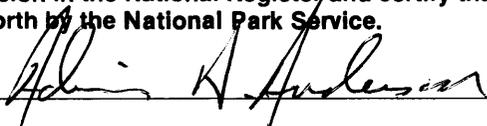
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Director, Iowa State Historical Department

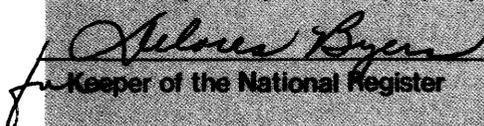
date September 1, 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register

date 10/7/82



Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

Business Directory of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway, (Chicago: R.R. Donnelley & Sons, 1882), p. 39.

*Charles I. Barker, Burlington City Directory for 1881-82 (Burlington: C.I. Barker, 1881), pp. 281, 83 and 69.

Augustine Antrobus, History of Des Moines County, Iowa and its People (Chicago: S.J. Clark Publishing Co., 1915), pp. 209 and 467.

Biographical Review of Des Moines County (Chicago: Hobart Publishing Co., 1905), pp. 967-077.

*Burlington Daily Gazette, 10 and 19 July 1880; 20 August 1880; and 28 September 1880.

City of Burlington Directory, 1893, p. 137; also city directories for 1881-82, 1883, 1915 and 1926.