

Site Inventory Form
State Historical Society of Iowa
 (November 2005)

State Inventory No. 50-01702

New Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 50-01703

Relationship: Contributing Noncontributing

Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries

National Register Status:(any that apply) Listed De-listed NHL DOE

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number _____

Non-Extant (enter year) ____

1. Name of Property

historic name Bob's Skelly Service

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 321 1st Ave. W.

city or town Newton

vicinity, county Jasper

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____

Township No. _____

Range No. _____

Section _____

Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision Original Town

Block(s) 18

Lot(s) Part of 4

3. State/Federal Agency Certification [Skip this Section]

4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]

5. Classification

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

If Non-Eligible Property

Enter number of:

1 buildings
 — sites
 — structures
 — objects
1 Total

If Eligible Property, enter number of:

Contributing Noncontributing

— — buildings
 — — sites
 — — structures
 — — objects
 — — Total

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).

Title

Downtown Newton, Iowa

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

50-010

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

14D07 TRANSPORTATION/gas station

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02A COMMERCE/TRADE/business

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

09D02 Roof Form/gable

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____

walls (visible material) 05F METAL/steel

roof 05F METAL/steel

other _____

Narrative Description (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" representing your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria)

- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended

- A Property is associated with significant events.
- B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
- C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
- D Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Jasper
City Newton

Address 321 1st Ave. W.

Site Number 50-01702
District Number 50-01703

Criteria Considerations

- 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)

Significant Dates

Construction date
1962 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Architect/Builder

Architect

Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet for citations of the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form

10. Geographic Data

UTM References (OPTIONAL)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	—	—	2	—	—
3	—	—	4	—	—

See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathy Jones, Commissioner/Alexa McDowell, Architectural Historian

organization Newton Historic Preservation Commission

street & number 101 W. 4th St. S.

city or town Newton

state Iowa

date 06/01/2012
telephone 641-792-2787
zip code 50208

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (Submit the following items with the completed form)

FOR ALL PROPERTIES

- Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
- Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
- Photographs:** representative black and white photos. If the photos are taken as part of a survey for which the Society is to be curator of the negatives or color slides, a photo/catalog sheet needs to be included with the negatives/slides and the following needs to be provided below on this particular inventory site:

Roll/slide sheet #	___	Frame/slot #	___	Date Taken	___
Roll/slide sheet #	___	Frame/slot #	___	Date Taken	___
Roll/slide sheet #	___	Frame/slot #	___	Date Taken	___

See continuation sheet or attached *photo & slide catalog sheet* for list of photo roll or slide entries.

Photos/illustrations without negatives are also in this site inventory file.

FOR CERTAIN KINDS OF PROPERTIES, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS WELL

- Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or noncontributing status)

2. Barn:

- A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
- A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
- A sketch floor plan of the interior space arrangements along with the barn's exterior dimensions in feet.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line

Concur with above survey opinion on National Register eligibility: Yes No More Research Recommended

This is a locally designated property or part of a locally designated district.

Comments: _____

Evaluated by (name/title): _____

Date: _____

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Bob's Skelly Service	Jasper
Name of Property	County
321 1 st Ave. W.	Newton
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7. Description

Site Description

Bob's Skelly Service is located at the southeast corner of the intersection of W. 1st Ave. and W. 4th St. S. The building is sited near the east boundary of its lot with its façade facing west. A paved driveway/parking bounds the building on the south and west, with an alley located immediately to the north.

Property Description

Bob's Skelly Service building is rectangular in form with a gable roof (its ridgeline running north to south). The building's visual character is defined by its use of vertically oriented, steel siding and complete absence of historic character. Two pedestrian entrances are located on the west elevation, with windows set into what were likely the historic bay windows of the original occupant, Bob's Skelly Service.

Integrity Considerations

Bob's Skelly Service building retains a very poor level of historic integrity as it relates to design, materials and workmanship. The relatively recent addition of steel siding and roofing has obliterated all details that created the historic identity; only the recessed areas in the location of the former garage bays remain as clues to the historic function.

Although a sense of integrity related to location, setting and association remain, it does little to overcome the loss of integrity of design and materials.

8. Statement of Significance

Due to a complete loss of historic character, Bob's Skelly Service is considered a non-contributing resource to the Newton Downtown Historic District.

Historical Background

Newton was platted as the Jasper County seat in 1847. The commercial district grew up around the courthouse square with the earliest buildings, which commonly housed both commerce and dwellings, constructed of wood. The development of the downtown from its platting in 1846 to c.1890 is tied to its status as the county seat and the 1867 arrival of the Mississippi-Missouri Railroad. The character of the commercial downtown is recorded in images of the contiguous brick commercial Italianate buildings surrounding the courthouse square.

Beginning in the 1890s, it was industry, specifically the washing machine industry, that drove Newton's economy and the commercial success of its downtown. Due to the success and longevity of the Maytag

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

Company, its history presents the greatest impact on Newton's downtown commercial district. From 1890-1920, a period in Maytag history marked by the company's incorporation and the development of the first electrically powered washing machine, a number of significant buildings were constructed in the Newton Downtown District. The addition of these buildings (and others) introduced a 20th century architectural sensibility to the district; moving the visual character away from the Late Victorian era Italianate style that had previously dominated the streetscapes.

During the decade of 1920 to 1930, Newton's population nearly doubled. The period is marked by the Maytag Company's ascension to the nation's leading manufacturer of washing machines. The economic prosperity brought by the company's success is reflected in the Newton Downtown Historic District with the construction of some of its most important buildings including the First Newton National Bank (1920) and the Maytag Hotel (1926). Both buildings lend a sense of importance to the downtown district.

The visual character and composition of the downtown district remained generally constant through the Depression era and war years – a period when industry and commerce (including the Maytag Company) were focused on surviving and on supporting the war effort. The boom that came in the wake of Maytag's 1946 introduction of the automatic washing machine was apparent in the Newton Downtown Historic District by the mid-1950s. Between about 1954 and 1963 the downtown buildings underwent dramatic alteration, a nearly wholesale removal of the Italianate façades and replacement with those reflecting a mid-20th century Modern aesthetic. Buildings altered during that period line the streetscapes of the district. In addition to the Victorian era buildings that were re-faced during this time, a number of new buildings (including Jake & Bob's Skelly Service) were constructed, their historic stylistic character reflective of the era.

Although the washing machine industry in Newton is now a thing of the past, its mark on the Newton Downtown Historic District is undeniable.

Property History

The Skelly Oil Company established a filling station at this location in 1930 leased by James H. Ross. Robert "Bob" Spain started working at the station in 1947. Bob Spain and Lawrence Jacobs took over the station as a partnership under the name of Jake & Bob's Skelly Service. Bob Spain took over sole ownership of the business circa 1955-1990.

In 1961, a new construction of 28 foot by 62 foot one story concrete building for the filling station was complete, which is the building on the site today.

Around 1985 the station changed its name from Bob's Skelly to Bob's Texaco. Larry Wells ran Larry's Texaco, until the early 1990s. From the mid-1990s-early 2000s, Newton Auto Service and Repair was on this site.

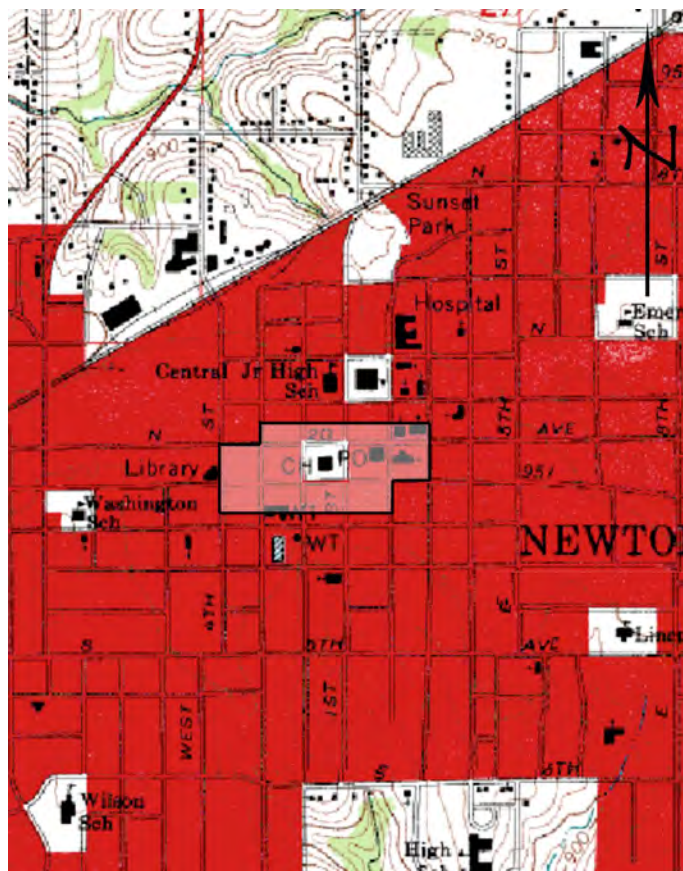
In 2002, David Halziser filed a request for a remodel of the interior with the installation of a truss roof over the existing roof for a new store, Newton Pawn and Gun, who remains the current occupant.

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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – NEWTON QUAD (1965)



(MAP SOURCE: <http://www.trails.com>. Accessed 06/21/2011.)

The location of the Newton Downtown Historic District, within which the resource is sited, is indicated.

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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

ASSESSORS PARCEL MAP - 2011



(MAP SOURCE: <http://www.beacon.schneidercorp.com>. Accessed September 2011)

The location of the resource is indicated.

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

PHOTOGRAPHS



View of the resource, looking southeast from 1st Ave. W and W. 4th Street S.

(Image by Susan Smith for the Newton Historic Preservation Commission, September 2011.)

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

HISTORIC IMAGE – 1957



(SOURCE: Celebrating 150 Years - A pictorial history of Newton, Iowa by News Publishing Co., 2007.)

Bob's Skelly Station -1957

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number **50-01702**
Related District Number 50-01703

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9. Reference Resources

Assessor's Record. <http://www.beacon.schneidercorp.com>.

Jasper County Genealogical Society.
Heritage Tour of Jasper County Vol. 1, Jasper County Writers, 1980
Newton City Directories
Newton City Phonebooks

Newton Public Library.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>.

State Historic Preservation Office of Iowa.
Resource database. Berry Bennett, Resource Coordinator.