

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

State Inventory No. 50-01674 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 E.E. Duer Mercantile
 other names/site number Santen Bros., A & P Store, Firestone Store

2. Location

street & number 116 N. 2nd 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) 9 Lot(s) 6 W1/2E43'

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)	Number of Resources within Property	
	If Non-Eligible Property Enter number of:	If Eligible Property, enter number of: Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	— buildings	<u>1</u> — buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> district	— sites	— — sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site	— structures	— — structures
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	— objects	— — objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object	— Total	<u>1</u> — 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)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>02E05 COMMERCE/TRADE/hardware store</u>	<u>02E COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store</u>
<u>02E11 COMMERCE/TRADE/grocery</u>	—
<u>02E10 COMMERCE/TRADE/appliance sales</u>	—

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>08 MODERN MOVEMENT</u>	foundation <u>03 BRICK</u>
—	walls (visible material) <u>03 BRICK</u>
—	roof _____
—	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)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	A Property is associated with significant events.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	D Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Jasper
City Newton

Address 116 N. 2nd Ave. W.

Site Number 50-01674
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)

05 COMMERCE

Significant Dates

Construction date
1870 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation
ca.1955

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 Dr. Tom Hoover & Larry Ray Hurto, Commissioners date 06/01/2012
 organization Newton Historic Preservation Commission telephone 641-792-2787
 street & number 101 W. 4TH ST. S. city or town Newton state Iowa 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)
- 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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E.E. Duer Mercantile	Jasper
Name of Property	County
116 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
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7. Description

Site Description

The E.E. Duer Mercantile building is located on the north side of Second Avenue West near the middle of the block, its façade faces south. It is adjoined on the west and on the east by two-story brick buildings with which it forms a visual unit. These adjoining buildings form a block of six adjoining commercial brick buildings from the corner of West 2nd Street North to the alley on the east.

Property Description

The E.E. Duer Mercantile building is a rectangular block that stretches 132 feet from its 23-foot frontage on N. 2nd Ave. W. Typical of commercial buildings, the roof is flat. Although it has always functioned autonomously, the E.E. Duer Mercantile building is one of six visually connected buildings. Each of the six buildings features an identical upper story façade of yellow brick, installed in, or before, 1963 in an attempt to provide a progressive, unified appearance in the business district. The buildings are differentiated from each other by their upper story window treatments, storefront canopies, and ground floor cladding.

The storefront of the E.E. Duer Mercantile building features a center, recessed entrance with large glass display windows set in steel frames. The storefront bulkhead is black, glazed terra cotta brick. A fixed, cloth awning is attached to the transom area.

The building's upper story façade has three steel casement windows. In keeping with its modern influence, the fenestration lacks applied trim, though are now fitted with green shutters of non-historic materials. The upper wall is finished with turned inset of red brick, within which the present business's signage is mounted.

Integrity Considerations

Because the façade alteration dates to approximately 50 years ago for this building and its neighbors, and because it reflects a significant period in the transformation of the business district buildings, the present façade is considered historic and its level of integrity as it relates to design, workmanship, and materials is high. As it relates to integrity of location, setting, and association, the building also retains a high level of integrity and contributes significantly to the integrity of feeling created by the generally intact commercial corridor found in Newton.

8. Statement of Significance

The building is considered a contributing resource to the Newton Downtown Historic District. The building is eligible under Criterion A in association with the history of Newton commerce, significant in its ability to contribute to our understanding of the evolution of the business district and the impact of the business district on the overall economic success of the community of Newton.

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

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 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 the E.E. Duer building) were constructed, their 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.

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

Property History

Before 1911 this property was 116 W. McDonald St.

John Clippinger (1835-1907), an old soldier, had a hardware store here in the 1877-78 period. This is shown on the MAP OF BUSINESS PORTION OF NEWTON, IOWA issued by the United States Commercial Map Company. "He was employed as a clerk in the William Thrift hardware store and later was interested in a hardware establishment on the north side of the square," his obituary states. At that time there were five storefronts located in the half-block whereas today there are six.

In 1895, Foster & Callison bought Lamer's drug store in Newton. In 1899, W. O. Foster became the sole proprietor of the Cash Drug Store, 116 W. McDonald St., which sold fancy goods, perfumes, prescriptions, etc. Some of Foster's own preparations were Foster's Dyspepsia Tablets, Foster's Clear Crystal Cough and Cold Cure, Foster's Porous Plasters for Backache, No. 6 Blood Purifier and Liver Regulator, and "Wild Flowers" Perfume. G. H. Nollen (q. v.) was a clerk in the store. In 1899-1900, Foster was also manager of the Mutual Telephone Co.

The grocery firm of Duer & Nott may have been at this location from 1901 to ca. 1902. Then Nott sold out to Duer who operated the grocery from ca. 1902 to 1903. From 1903 to 1905, this was the firm of Duer & Widell, 116 McDonald St. Elmer E. Duer and Wm. K. Widell were the grocers. In January 1905, Duer & Widell became Duer & Russell. T. G. Russell, who moved to Newton in 1902, bought Widell's interest in the firm. The new partnership was short-lived, and Duer was back on his own in 1906.

A directory from the Jasper County Telephone Co. (1908?) has E. E. Duer, Dry Goods, Groceries in the Griebeling Block. In the 1910 City Directory, it was listed as Elmer E. Duer, Dry Goods, Groceries, Fruits, and Confectionery, 116 W. McDonald St.

The Newton Daily News for November 27, 1912 told of extensive improvements Duer made to his grocery:

"While many of the business houses of Newton have ample reason for Thanksgiving, E. E. Duer, of this city, who has the popular grocery and dry goods establishment on the north side of the square, is of the opinion that his reasons are the best. He is about to close up the best year he has ever had in the mercantile business in Newton and with it he has made more material improvements in his store here than he has made for several years.

"During the past few months he has expended more than \$600 in interior improvements. Three new show cases, made of the finest of oak, and display glass, now grace the front part of his store – one of the cases being for confectionery and the two others being used in the dry goods department. These cases were manufactured right here in the city and are just as fine as money could provide. A new pair

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

of scales, a new coffee grinder, a new dried beef cutter, a raised display floor for his grocery window, and a new display case which was especially built for the purpose of wrapping dry goods and the display of the same, are a few of the minor improvements that have recently been made in the E. E. Duer grocery.

“Mr. Duer is deserving of the congratulations of his friends and he will doubtless receive them. It is good to see such an evidence of prosperity and progressiveness on the part of the Duer grocery.”

In 1913, Duer installed the first coffee pulverizer in Newton.

In the 1920 City Directory, this was Ernest [sic] E. Duer, Groceries and Dry Goods. Bayard G. Duer was a clerk.

In the August 10, 1957 issue of *The Newton Daily News*, there is an article entitled “Santen Stores Here 30 Years.” It says, “In 1927 three brothers – Doc, Joe and Pete [Santen] purchased the meat department of the A&P store which was located near Marshall’s Hardware. Shortly afterward, however, the brothers opened their own meat store on the northwest corner of the square, where the Jack & Jill store is located” [124 N. 2nd Ave. W.].

In the May 1928 Telephone Directory 116 was Santen Bros., meat market. In 1929, the property was listed as both the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., groceries, Timothy Carey, manager, and Santen Bros., meats. The City Directory lists P. Joseph Santen, Laurence D. Santen, and Felix P. Santen as comprising the Santen Bros. firm. The June 1929 Telephone Directory lists Santen Bros. at this address with no mention of the A & P store. By the following year the meat market had moved to 124 N. 2nd Ave. W. P. J. Santen died in Seattle on August 6, 1932.

In August 1933, Santen’s Mkt. was listed in the A & P Store. The phone number was the same as that of P. J. Santen’s market the year before so I assume that the A & P was at the 116 location. Santen Bros. was still at 124.

In the 1939 City Directory, the property is listed as the A & P Grocery Co., grocers and meats, with Merle Benson as manager. This was William Merle Benson (1909-2000). He must’ve been a relative newcomer to Newton at this time, having married his wife, Betty, in Washington, IA, just the year before. A war veteran, he later owned and operated the Farmer Super Market, retiring from the furniture business in 1965. The A & P had moved to 113 W. 2nd St. N. by 1945.

In the February 1944 Telephone Directory, 116 was listed as Home Auto Supply Store Colville & Watkins. Elmer L. Watkins was the store manager. The first mention I found that this was a Firestone store was in 1947. In 1964, Mayo P. Colville, president of the store, was listed as retired.

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In 1965, the firm was listed as "WALT & RAY'S FIRESTONE, Walter C Northcutt Pres, Raymond O Wilkening Sec, Firestone Home and Auto Supplies, Amana Appliances, Schwinn Bicycles and Gifts, 116 N 2d av W, Tel 792-4242." In 1968, the property was vacant.

Starting in 1969, the property was a series of paint stores. In 1969-72, 116 was Lowe Brothers Paint (Branch). The property was listed as Sherwin-Williams Paint in 1974-80.

In 1981, it became the Diamond Vogel Paint Center, its present use.

The history of the upstairs, 116½, is as follows:

Dr. E. F. Besser had his office upstairs in 1910. Ten years later, Henry P. Byers (sic), another physician, was also at this address.

In 1929, the K. K. K. (!) was listed here. Newton did have a klavern of the Ku Klux Klan from 1923 until 1930. It was organized in the Eagles hall (where?). Art Hansuld wrote at the time of the Newton

Centennial that they met in the Modern Woodmen Hall (109½ 1st Ave. W.). 116½ is also listed as vacant, so I'm wondering if there weren't two apartments there.

In 1939, Cecil R. Wright, a dentist, had an office at this location. He also made his home there with his wife, Leitha.

In 1945, Arthur F. Lorton, a tailor, was located upstairs. He also lived there with his wife, Ruth. They were still there in 1947.

In 1951, Lorton still had his tailor shop there but he did not reside on the premises. A social club called the Alano Club (Alcoholics Anonymous?) was also located at 116½.

By 1954, Lorton was dead. The "Alano Club meets Tuesday 8 PM" was still located upstairs as late as 1956.

In 1980-81, Martha Smith, a secretary in the Swanson Law Offices, was living above the paint store.

The upstairs seems to have been vacant since then.

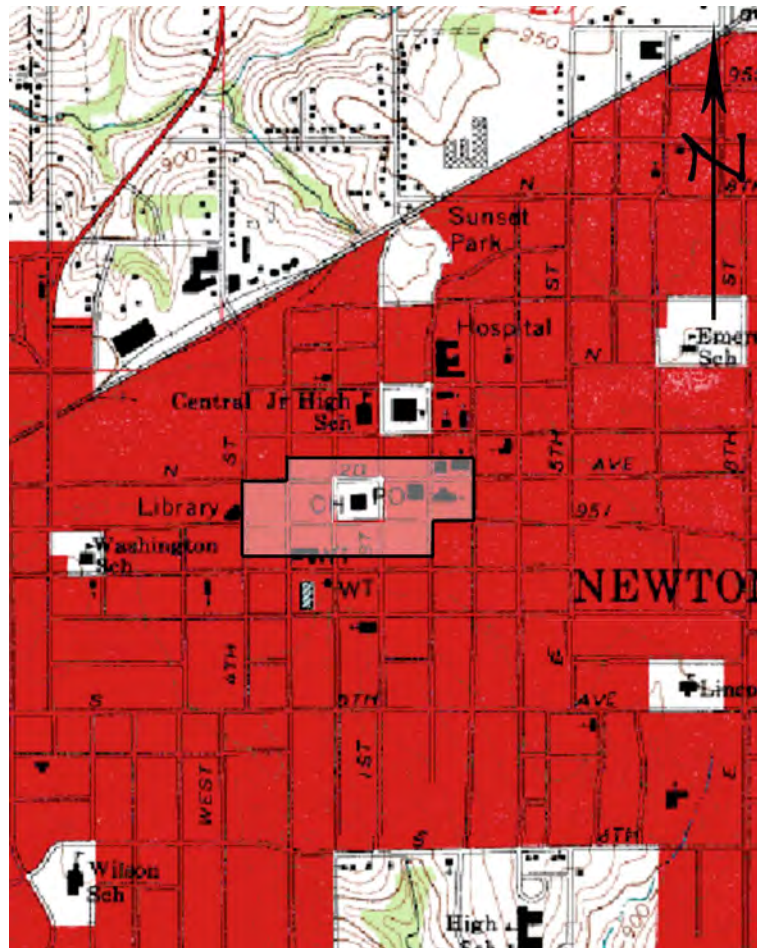
C. F. and Marilyn K. Murphy currently own the building.

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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – NEWTON QUAD (1965)



(MAP SOURCE: <http://www.trails.com>. Accessed 09/21/2012.)

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

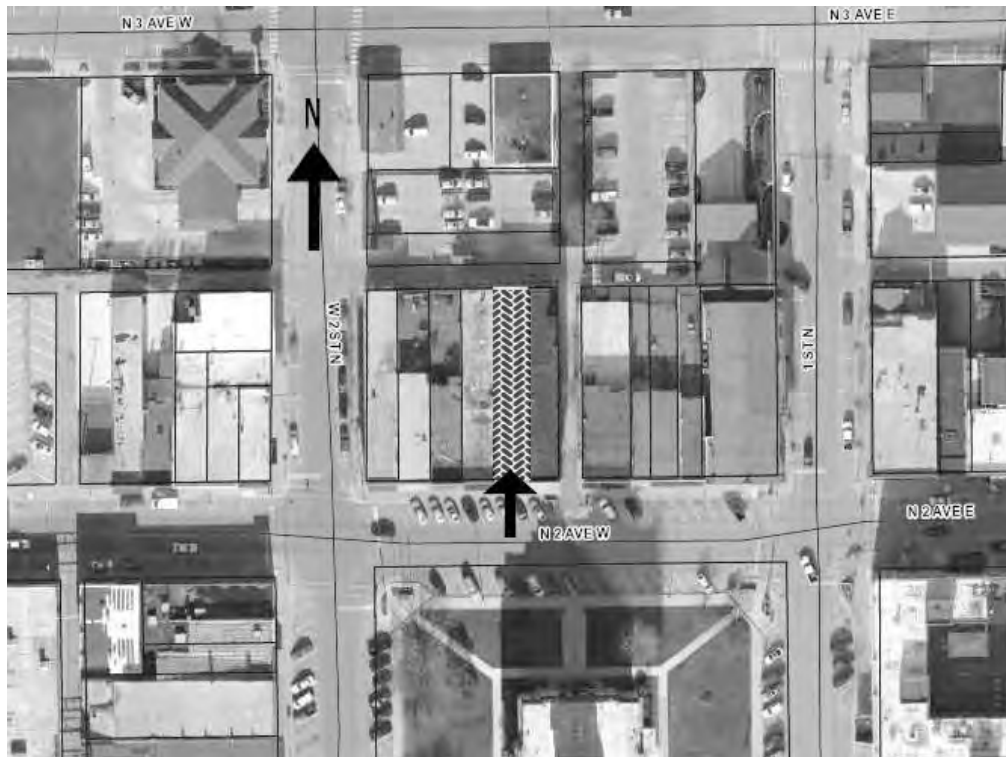
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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

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 northwest across N. 2nd Avenue W.

(Images by Sue Smith – October 2011)

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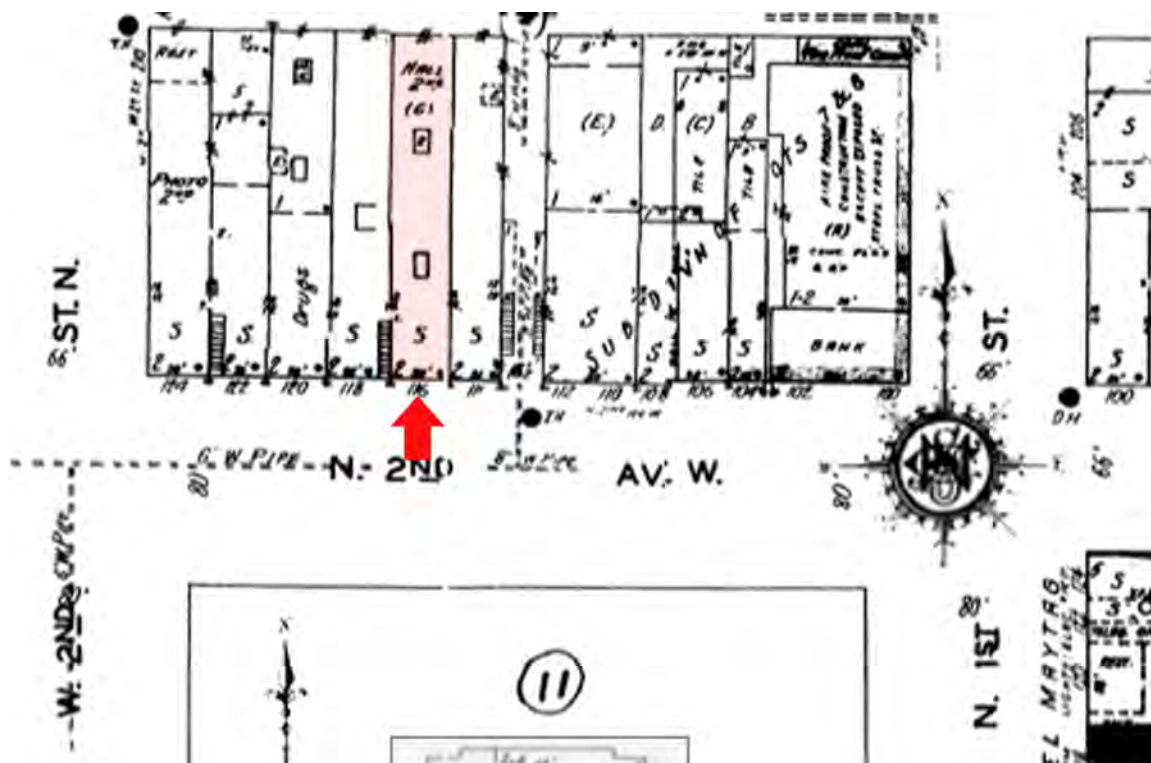
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SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1949 Revision of 1927



(SOURCE: <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>. Accessed 12/26/2011)

The resource is indicated.

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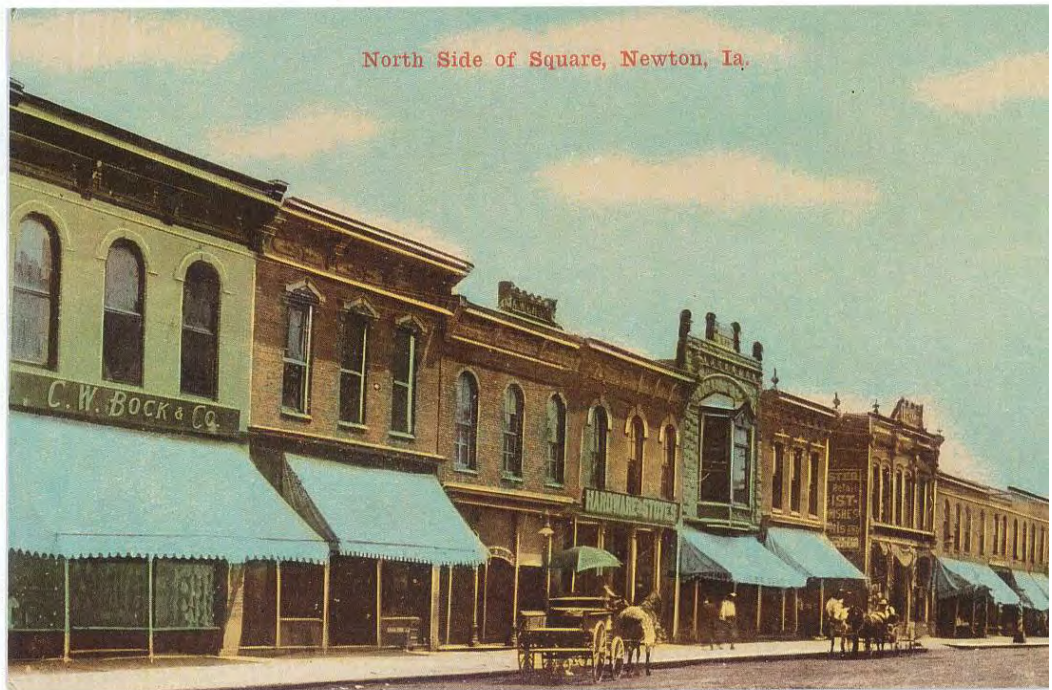
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HISTORIC IMAGE – ca. 1910



(IMAGE SOURCE: Mary States)

The E. E. Duer store is the fifth building from the left in this postcard photograph of the north side of the Newton square. Its original appearance is a far cry from its present.

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11. Additional documentation, cont'd.

HISTORIC IMAGES – ca. 1920



(IMAGE SOURCE: Larry Ray Hurto Collection)

This photo from ca. 1920 shows the E. E. Duer store at 116 N. 2nd Ave. W. It appears that the storefront at the right, 114 N. 2nd Ave. W., is being used as a warehouse for the E. E. Duer business. Lyle Tyler, longtime chronicler of Newton events, took this photograph. At the top left of the photo, Dr. H. V. Byers is leaning out of his office window.

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HISTORIC IMAGES – ca. 1940



North Side of Square, Newton, Iowa, About 1940

(IMAGE SOURCE: Avery Wilson Collection, Newton Public Library)

E. E. Duer is shown as the fifth building from the left in this photo of the north side of the Newton square (indicated).

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HISTORIC IMAGES – ca. 1961



(IMAGE SOURCE: Larry Ray Hurto Collection)

This image by Tyler Studio (ca. 1961) shows the re-facing of the buildings on N. 2nd Ave. W. to modern modular brick and steel frame windows. E. E. Duer (indicated) is shown as the Colville & Watkins Firestone store.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Mike Burggraaf and Tom Southard. *The Antique Bottles of Iowa, 1846-1915*. Volume 2. Northfield, OH: Ohio Wholesale Copy Service, 1998.

[Directory] *Jasper County Telephone Co., Newton and Colfax*. [1908?]

Directory Jasper County Telephone Company, Newton, Iowa 1921. Newton, IA: News Printing Company.

Directory Jasper County Telephone Co., Newton, Iowa [May] 1922. Newton, IA: News Printing Company.

Directory Jasper County Telephone Company, Newton, Iowa 1925. Newton, IA: Press of the News Printing Co.

Directory Jasper County Telephone Company, Newton, Iowa 1926. Newton, IA: Press of the News Printing Co.

Directory Service Co's. Newton City and Jasper County, Iowa Directory 1935. Newton, IA: Directory Service Company, Publishers.

Gary Henderson. *Iowa Trade Tokens*. Port Clinton, OH: BNR Press, 2010.

Larry Ray Hurto, comp. and ed. *A History of Newton, Iowa*. Dallas, TX: Curtis Media Corporation, 1992.

Iowa State Telephone Company. *Telephone Directory, Newton, Iowa, May 1928*.

Iowa State Telephone Company. *Telephone Directory for Newton, Iowa, October, 1935*. Newton, IA: News Printing Company.

Keiter Directory Co's. Newton City and Jasper County, Iowa Directory 1929. Vol. I. Rochester, MN and Norfolk, NE: Keiter Directory Company, Publishers, 1929.

R. L. Polk & Co., comp. *R. L. Polk & Co.'s 1910 Jasper County [Iowa] Directory*. Volume I. Des Moines and Detroit: R. L. Polk & Co., 1910.

Polk's Newton (Jasper County, Iowa) City Directory 1939. Omaha: R. L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1939.

Smith's Directory of Newton and Jasper County, Iowa for 1920. Dorchester, MA: Edgar Smith, 1920.

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Gen. James B. Weaver, ed. *Past and Present of Jasper County, Iowa*. 2 volumes. Indianapolis, IN: B. F. Bowen & Company, 1912.

9. Major Bibliographic References, cont'd.

J. M. Young, comp. *Newton City Directory. 1899-1900*. Newton, IA: Journal Print, 1899.

The Newton Daily News, January 16, 1905; January 29, 1906; September 25, 1907; November 27, 1912; August 8, 1932; August 10, 1957.

The Newton Journal, January 31, 1906; September 25, 1907.

Jasper County Genealogical Society: Clippinger Family History

Internet resources

Jasper County Assessor www.iowaassessors.com

National Register of Historic Places www.nps.gov

Iowa State Historic Preservation Office

Database of Iowa resources www.iowahistory.org
Berry Bennett, Inventory & Information Management

Topographic Maps

Source for USGS Topographic maps www.beacon.schneidercorp.com