

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

State Inventory No. 50-01678

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 Commercial Building

other names/site number Knights of Columbus Hall

2. Location

street & number 202-204 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) 8

Lot(s) B

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:

— buildings
 — sites
 — structures
 — objects
 — Total

If Eligible Property, enter number of:

Contributing Noncontributing

1 — buildings
 — — sites
 — — structures
 — — objects
1 — 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)

02E11 COMMERCE/TRADE/grocery

02G COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

03A SOCIAL/meeting hall

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

11D03 HEALTH CARE/doctor's office

03A SOCIAL/meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

08 MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation 04 STONE

walls (visible material) 03 BRICK

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)

- 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 202-204 N. 2nd Ave. W.

Site Number 50-01678
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
1884 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation
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 Kathy Jones/Commissioner
organization Newton Historic Preservation Commission
street & number 101 W. 4th St. S.
city or town Newton state lowa 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)
- 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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Commercial Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
202-204 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

7. Description

Site Description

The building is located on the north side of N. 2nd Ave. W.), northwest of the courthouse square in the Newton Downtown Historic District. The building is part of a continuous series of adjoining buildings extending west along N. 2nd Avenue between 2nd and 3rd Street N. Before the current street numbering system was adopted for the city of Newton in 1911, North 2nd Avenue West was known as West McDonald Street.

Property Description

The building is a two-story brick building constructed on a what is likely a stone foundation. The building is visually defined by its mass and general lack of adornment. The storefront has been remodeled in recent years, but retains the historic duality of function and the central staircase to the upper story. All materials of the storefronts are not historic.

The building's upper story façade features three windows on both halves of the building; the windows being evenly spaced within the boundary of the relevant half. No historic images have been located to document the historic appearance of these windows, but other downtown buildings re-facaded during the 1954 era modernizations commonly have steel framed, casement windows, so it is likely those at 202-204 are later retrofits.

Integrity Considerations

Despite the alteration of the storefronts, the building retains a good level of historic integrity related to a significant modernization movement of the mid-twentieth century which drastically altered the facades of many downtown Newton buildings; the overall level of integrity being good as it relates to design, workmanship, and materials used for the 1950's alteration of the façade. As it relates to location, association, and setting, the building retains a good level of integrity and contributes to the integrity of feeling created by the generally intact commercial district 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.

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,

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

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 (including the J.C. Penney building) 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-facaded during this time, a number of new buildings 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.

Property History

The Sanborn fire insurance map issued in 1888 indicates the building was a two-story, double-wide structure with a central staircase providing access to the armory (west half) and tailor (east half) located on the second floor. The west storefront was occupied by a billiards hall with a meat shop in the east storefront. In that year the building address was 410-412 McDonald St.

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

The 1894 Sanborn fire insurance map records the building has undergone no alterations of form and was then occupied by a billiards (west) and a grocery (east) at storefront level, with the armory and tailor shop remaining on the upper level.

By the issuance of the 1900 fire insurance map, the building had undergone some changes, the interior appearing to have been connected to the building sited around the corner at 207 N. Market Street, which was a warehouse. It may be that the warehouse was utilized by the grocery that occupied the east storefront of the building at 202-204. The 1900 fire insurance map also indicates skylights in both halves of the building. And, although the storefronts remained occupied by a billiards hall and a grocery, the second story occupants are not noted. By this time, the building numbers have been changed to 202-204.

The building and its occupants remain unchanged at the time of the 1906 fire insurance map, including the interior connection to the building on N. Market, which, at that time, was also a grocery. The map in that year does note the building's first floor ceilings are clad in iron (pressed tin).

By 1910 the building's first level, west storefront housed a restaurant – a commercial trend that was to continue for many years. Through the mid-1940s the storefront housed the Foster Restaurant, the Blackhawk Cafeteria, the Davis Cafe, the Waldrige Café, the Spot Tavern, and the Mint Tavern.

The east storefront remained a grocery until about 1918 at which time it was occupied by a confectionery. A variety of commercial enterprises occupied the east storefront over the ensuing years. In the late 1940s the building was used by the Scoreboard, a cigar store/news stand, and Westwood Press. The Newton Office used this location in the early beginning in the 1950s and remained there until 1964.

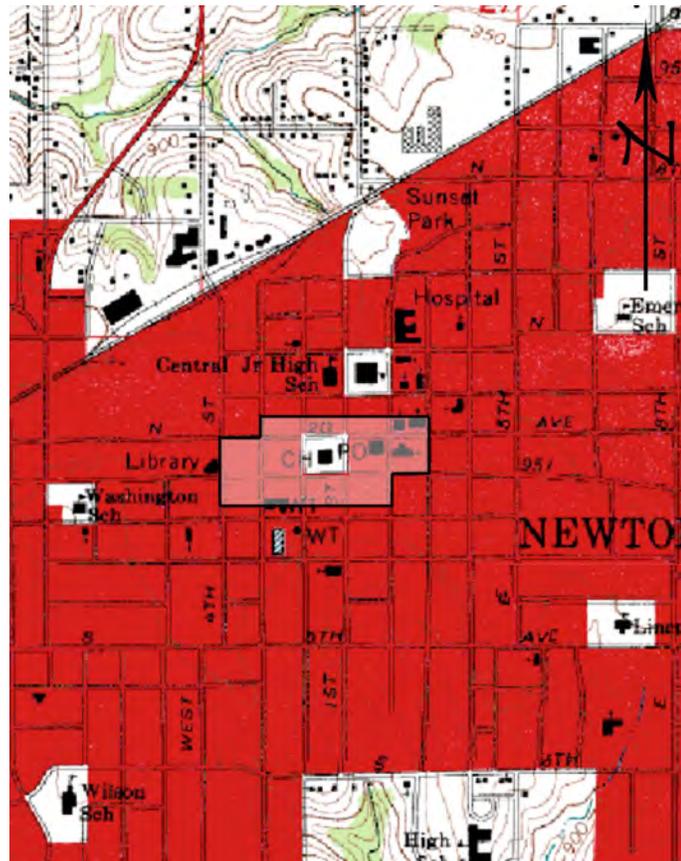
The building's upper level was served as apartments, offices, and, beginning in 1954, the Knights of Columbus meeting hall (west). It was during this period that the façade underwent a major rehabilitation. It's present appearance reflects the modernization movement prevalent in the Newton downtown at that time.

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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – NEWTON QUAD (1965)



(MAP SOURCE: <http://www.trails.com>. Accessed 09/21/2011.)

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 (indicated), looking north across N. 2nd Avenue W.

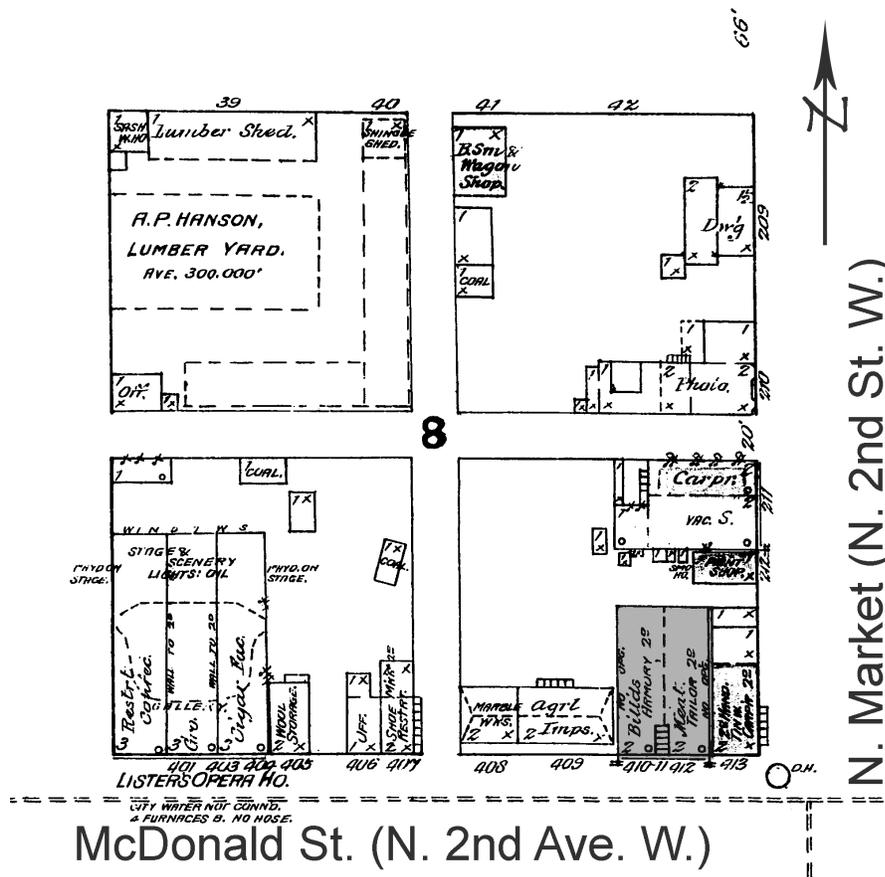
(Images by Sue Smith – October 2011)

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1888



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

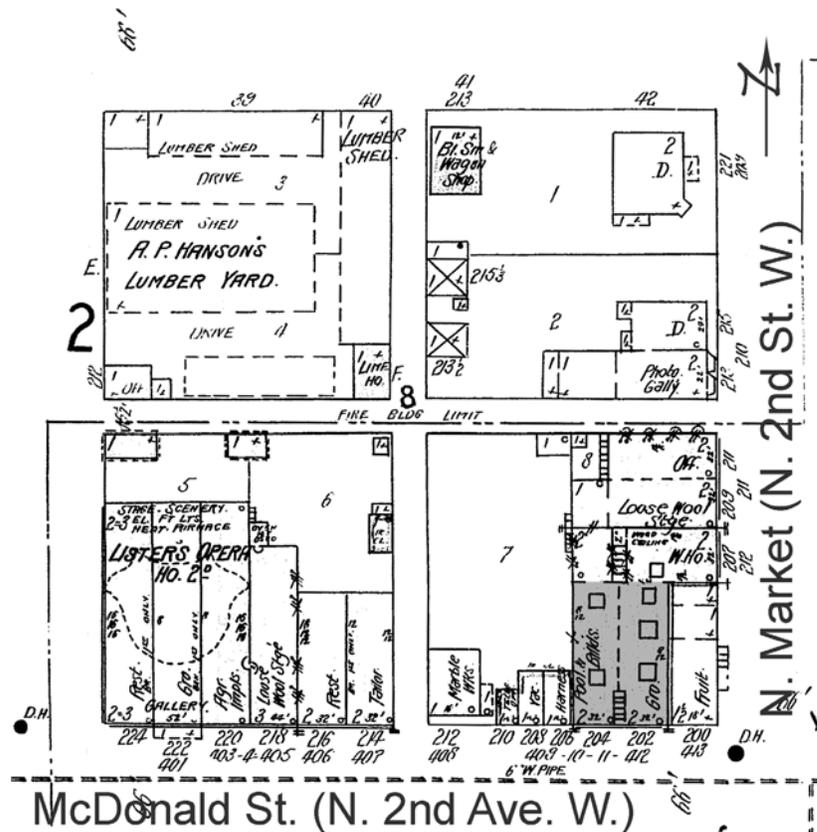
The location of the resource is indicated. As the map documents, the building was constructed as a double-wide structure with a central staircase providing access to the upper story.

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1900



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

The location of the resource is indicated. As the map documents, by 1900 the building's interior had been connected to the building sited on N. Market Street. This alteration was likely done to accommodate the grocery business located in the east storefront of the N. 2nd Ave. W. building.

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9. Reference Resources

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

Jasper County Genealogical Society.

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.