

Site Inventory Form

State Historical Society of Iowa

(November 2005)

State Inventory No. 92-00347

New Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 92-00349

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 Methodist Episcopal Church (Christian Church)

other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-002

2. Location

street & number 301 West Second Street

city or town Washington

vicinity, county Washington

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision Original Plat Block(s) 6 Lot(s) 1 & 2

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
<u>1</u>	—
—	—
—	—
—	—
<u>1</u>	—

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

Title

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

06A01: church

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

06A01: church

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Gothic Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

04: Stone 8"

walls (visible material)

04: stone & 03: brick

roof

08A: Shingle

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 archeology or history.

County Washington Address 301 West Second Street
City Washington

Site Number 92-00347
District Number 92-00349

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
1891 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Architect/Builder

Architect
Foster & Liebbe of Des Moines, Iowa
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 Stacy A. Nielsen, volunteer Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport
organization Washington Historic Preservation Commission date May 6, 2012
street & number City Hall – 215 E. Washington St telephone 319-653-6584
city or town Washington state Iowa zip code 52353

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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<u>Methodist Episcopal Church (Christian Church)</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>301 West Second Street</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Address	City

This form was prepared as part of a research/survey/nomination project in 2011-2012 funded by a HRDP grant from the State Historical Society of Iowa for the nomination of the Washington Downtown Historic District. The project was primarily structured to develop the nomination for the downtown, with additional research on each building documented on an Iowa Site Inventory form. The information below is taken from the table in the August 2012 draft of the nomination, with additional information documented on the property and photographs in the following sections.

Methodist Episcopal Church (Christian Church) - 301 W. Second St - State #92-00347 - Map #14 ~ 1
contributing building (church) - 1892, 1921 - Late Gothic Revival

Historic information:

- 1891-92 - construction of new Methodist Episcopal Church - dedicated on 4-10-1892
- 1892-1914 - Methodist Episcopal Church; 1914 - moved to new church at 206 W. 2nd (92-00346)
- 1921 - Christian Church move here from 301 E. Jefferson - spire removed - some interior remodeling
- 1921-2010s - Christian Church
- 1962 - construction of education and fellowship wing
- 2012 - First Christian Church

Architectural information:

- Height: church - 1 story
- Walls: stucco on brick - stone trim
- Storefront: -
- Windows: stained glass
- Architectural details: "1891" on east side, corner tower, arch and lancet windows, stone details
- Architect/Builder: Foster & Liebbe (Des Moines, architect)
- Modifications: Historic: 1921 - remodeled for Christian Church - spire removed from tower; 1962 - construction of education and fellowship wing; Non-historic: -

7. Narrative Description

The church sits on the southwest corner of W. 2nd Street and N. 2nd Ave, with a square tower at the northeast corner of the building. The square tower is angled to the corner, with a double-door entry with arch stained glass transom window at the base. Midway up the steeple is a narrow center section defined by a decorative stone band above and below a set of four narrow rectangular windows. This detail and a similar set of windows is found on both sides of the steeple. The top section of the tower has a pair of pointed arch windows on the three main sides.

The east side of the church faces 2nd Ave. To the south of the corner tower is a gable-roof section with a set of three pointed arch stained glass windows. The center window is taller than the side windows, and decorative stone trim extends across the set of windows. Buttresses are found on either side of the gable section. A side entry within a smaller tower is centered on the south half of the elevation, with two narrow windows on either side. This double-door entry also has an arch transom and arch brick detail, and three narrow rectangular windows are found above the entry.

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The north side of the church faces 2nd Street. It is similar to the east elevation, though not as wide. A gable-roof section identical to the east one is located immediately west of the corner tower. It has buttresses, stone detail, and three stained glass windows. The north side entry is located in a projected entry vestibule with a small gable roof at the west end of this elevation. This double-door entry likewise has an arch transom window and brick arch detail. Small buttress are also found on this section.

The west side of the church has a projected angled section, located behind the altar area on the interior. This section has small rectangular stained glass windows with square transom windows. A chimney centered on this section appears to have been removed. A projected gable-roof section is found on the southwest corner of the building.

The south side of the church connects to a later addition. This gable-roof brick section faces 2nd Ave to the east. It has a main story above a raised basement.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Methodist Episcopal Church (Christian Church) appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the Washington Downtown Historic District.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1839 about one-and-one-half-miles south of Washington at the home of William L. Harvey. The church was moved into town in 1846 to the corner of Green and Jefferson. In 1856, they then built a new brick church at the southwest corner of 2nd Street (now Avenue B) and Madison (now Second St), and it was dedicated on June 27, 1857 at a cost of \$6,900. Membership was around 200 in 1880. In 1891, the church began to plan construction of a new building on this site, and they hired architects Foster and Liebke of Des Moines, who had designed the courthouse and were working on the new opera house in town. The church was built by local contractor Frank Edworthy for \$17,000. Total cost of construction was \$20,000. The new Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated on April 10, 1892 (*History of Washington County, Iowa* 1880: 561; *Washington Press*, May 13, 1891; *Washington Press*, December 23, 1891, 3; Burrell 1909, Vol. 1: 255).

The *Washington Press* reported:

“In the ceiling of the audience room, in the center, is a dome 15 feet in diameter and 7.5 feet in depth. In the apex is a ventilator, which is concealed by the sprays of electric fixtures, and all round the rim of the dome are incandescent lamps. The pews have birch ends and rail, oak seats and back. The general tint of the interior is a light terra cotta, though a better word is tawny. The colors of walls, ceilings, windows, wood finish, carpets, &c., blend into harmony. The fresco is delightful, The forms are taken from plant life – tendrils; ferns ray out in the corners; in the two square ceiling *panels* are elliptical wreaths, center-starred with thistle floss. The windows are rich, especially the two large ones, the central parts, which are flushed with yellows. There are seventeen memorials. The finishing wood is all hard pine, with hard oil finish, excepting the chancel and choir rails which are oak. H.L. Kendall did the

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painting. Foster and Liebke were the architects. The church also had an \$1,800 pipe organ." (Foster 1978: 151).

The church is depicted here on Sanborn maps from 1892, 1897, 1902, and 1909. In 1912, they began construction on a new building one block to the east at the northwest corner of Second Street and Marion Avenue, and they moved to this building in 1914 (extant - 206 W. 2nd - #92-00346). The 1917 Sanborn map shows the old church as vacant and still owned by the church body.

The Christian Church purchased this property (lots 1 & 2 of block 6 of the OP) from the Methodist Episcopal Church on June 1, 1921. The Christian Church was formed in 1892, and they met in the rear of the building at 118 E. Washington for several years. They built a small church at 301 E. Jefferson in 1913-14, and they dedicated this building on January 25, 1914. With the new high school built immediately to the east on the majority of this block in 1918, the church decided to move and acquired this larger vacant church from the M.E. Church on June 1, 1921. They completed some interior remodeling and removed the spire on the corner tower (Fisher 1978: 179). Membership of the church in 1976 was 407. The church was remodeled in the 1980s, and a parking lot built to the west.

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

City/Telephone Directories, Washington. Various publishers, various dates. Available at the Washington Public Library.

Deed Records, Transfer Books, Auditor's Office, Washington County Courthouse, Washington, Iowa.

Newspaper advertisements, various years/dates, on microfilm at Washington Public Library:

Washington Evening Journal
Washington Gazette
Washington Press

Patterson, Mary. Collection of historic images of Washington. Washington, IA.

Sanborn Map Company. "Washington, Iowa," Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pelham, NY: Sanborn Map Company, 1885, 1892, 1897, 1902, 1909, 1917, 1931, 1943.

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Location map



2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary

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Building/site plan (from assessor's website)



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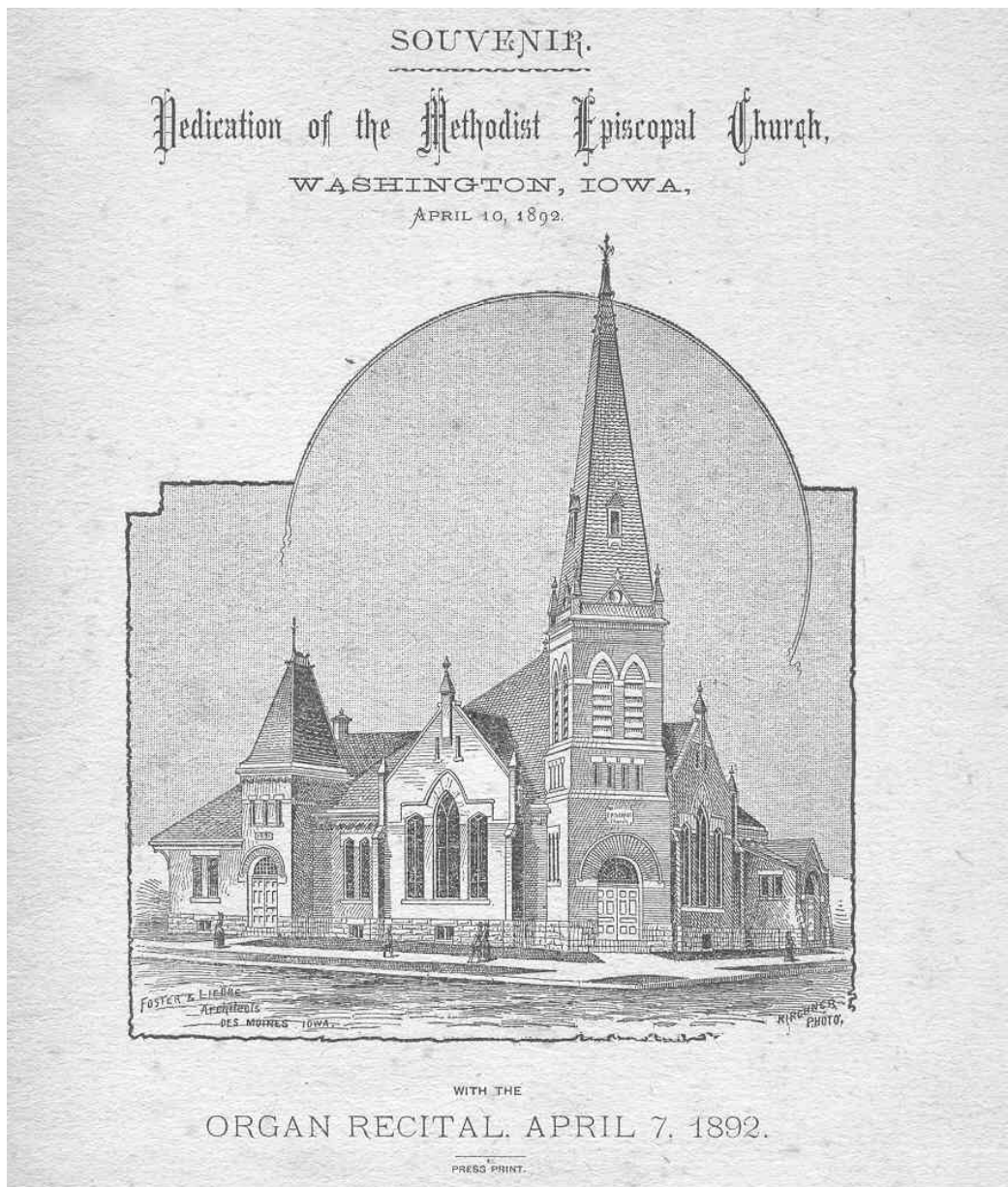
301 West Second Street

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Historic images



Methodist Episcopal Church (Patterson collection).

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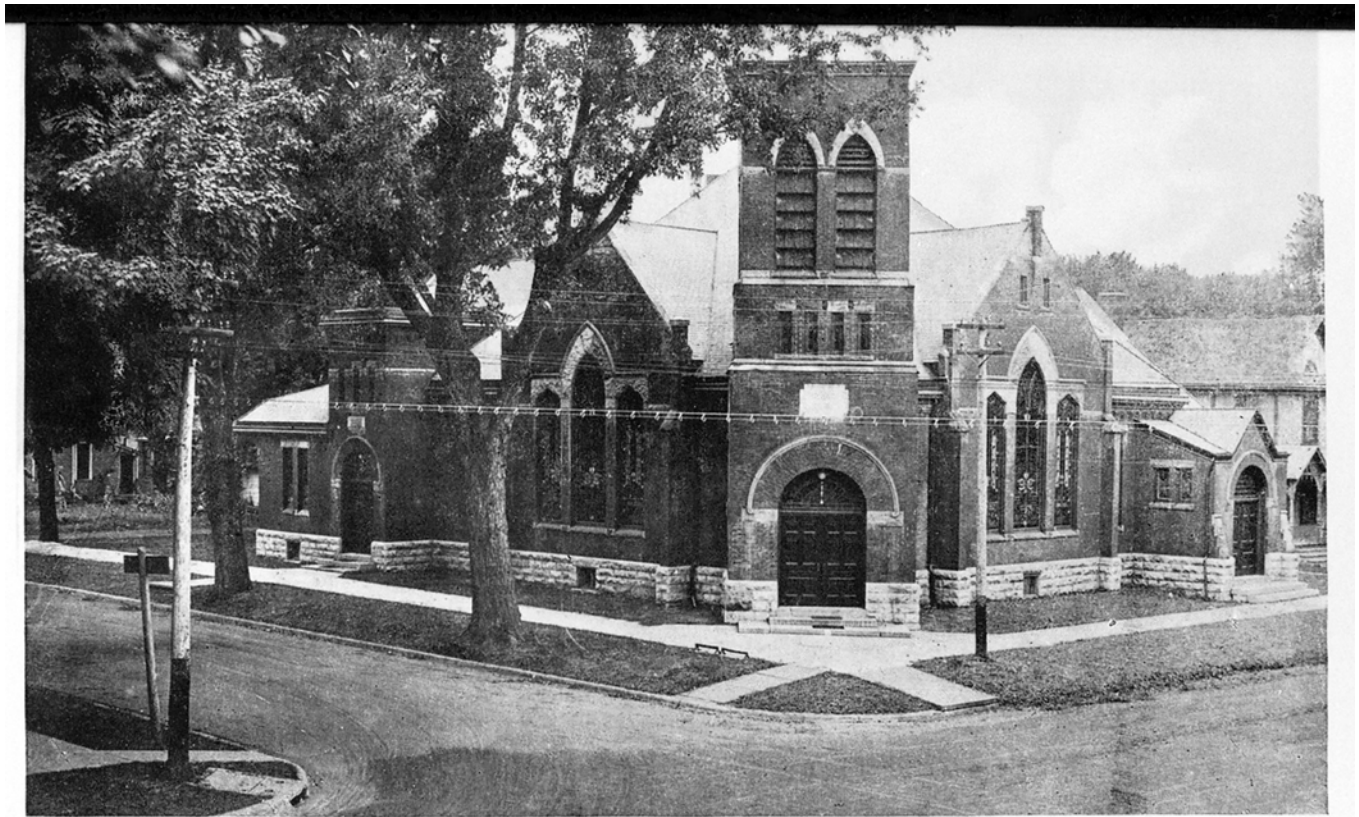
County

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CHRISTIAN CHURCH, WASHINGTON, IOWA.

Former M.E. Church after 1921 remodeled for Christian Church (Patterson collection).

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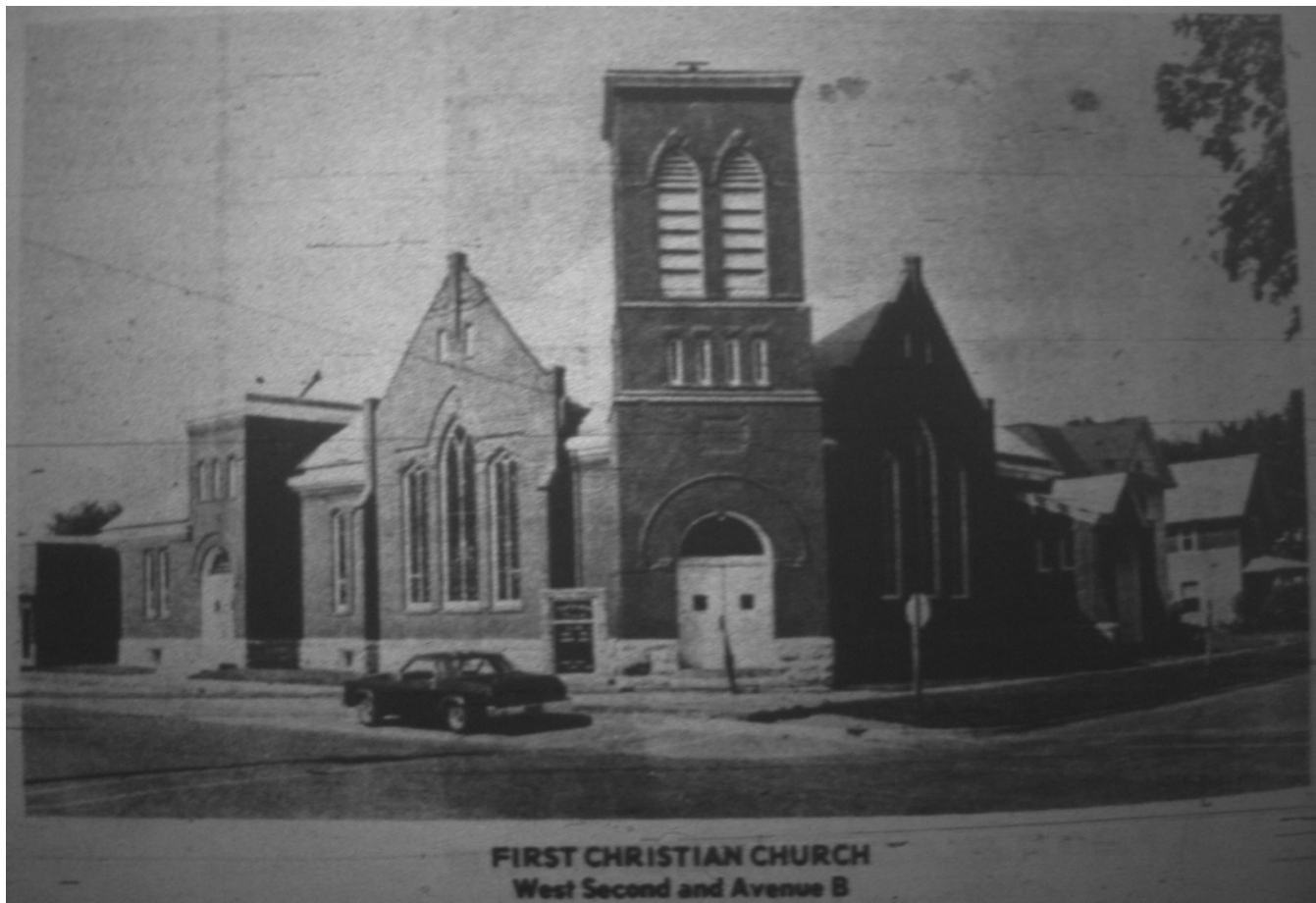
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Evening Journal, July 1, 1976, p132

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Digital photographs



Photograph 92-00347-001 - North elevation, looking south-southwest (McCarley, September 20, 2011).

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Photograph 92-00347-002 - East elevation, looking west (McCarley, September 20, 2011).

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Photograph 92-00347-003 - Detail on east entry, looking southwest (McCarley, September 20, 2011).

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Photograph 92-00347-004 - West elevation, looking east (McCarley, September 20, 2011).

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Photograph 92-00347-005 - South addition, looking southwest (McCarley, September 20, 2011).