Site Inventory Form

State Inventory No.  92-00551    [x] New  [ ] Supplemental
Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.)  92-00349

Relationship:  [x] Contributing  [ ] Noncontributing
[ ] Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries
National Register Status:(any that apply)  [x] Listed  [ ] De-listed  [ ] NHL  [ ] DOE
9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number ______
[ ] Non-Extant  (enter year) ______

1. Name of Property

historic name    Journal Building

other names/site number    Downtown Survey Map # DT- 012

2. Location

street & number    111 (109-111) North Marion Avenue

city or town    Washington

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

(If Urban) Subdivision    Original Plat    Block(s)    Lot(s)    E (North 48' of lots 7 & 8)

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

[ ] building(s)    If Non-Eligible Property    If Eligible Property, enter number of:

[ ] district

[ ] site

[ ] structure

[ ] object

Enter number of:

- 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

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)    Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02A05: newspaper

02A05: newspaper

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)    Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

08C: Art Deco foundation  10B: poured concrete

walls (visible material)  03: brick

roof  08B: Rolled Asphalt

other  04C: Limestone decoration

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 archeology or history.
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
02: Architecture

Significant Dates

Construction date
1930

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)

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☐ 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
1. Map: showing the property’s location in a town/city or township.
2. Site plan: showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
3. 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
1. Farmstead & District: (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or noncontributing status)
2. Barn:
   a. A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
   b. A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
   c. 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:  ________________
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.

Journal Building - 111 (109-111) N. Marion Avenue - State #92-00551 - Map #9 ~ 1 contributing building (A and C) - 1930 - Art Deco

Historic information:
1930 - new building constructed for Washington Evening Journal - newspaper owned by Orville Elder and R.E. Shannon
1930-2000s - Washington Evening Journal
2nd story - various offices - mostly physicians/dentists, some finance/loan companies
2012 - Washington Evening Journal

Architectural information:
Height: 2 story
Walls: brick veneer
Storefront: center entry with large office windows
Windows: 1/1 windows - replaced
Architectural details: multi-color brick, vertical/Art Deco details, stone accents
Architect/Builder: -
Modifications: Historic: -; Non-historic: 1970s - windows replaced

7. Narrative Description

This is two-story, three-bay, brick commercial building with Art Deco influence. The building has a concrete foundation. The facade is decorated with brickwork designs on embedded brick columns set between each pair of windows, and with limestone cornices and limestone caps on the columns. The facade (east) of the building has centrally located entry and one side entry at the far left hand corner, which leads to the second story. The side door is topped with a limestone pediment set into the brick wall. There are two large first story windows on either side of the main entrance, which appear to be replacement windows from the 1970s. On the far right hand side of the first floor, there is another window which is similar in size and shape to the door on the far left and appears to be an entry converted to window. The second story has large double window openings under a shared segmental arch brick lintel, with windows replaced and arch filled in.

The facade is divided into three sections by brick pilasters. There is one pilaster at either corner of the building, topped by a three course limestone cornice. The lower band of these cornices is decorated with stylized Art Deco detail. Two smaller pilasters are located on either side of the central entry, extending into the segmental arches of the second story windows. The pilasters consist of turned bricks to create a "fluted" look for the columns, with simple limestone capitals. A band of limestone roughly
the size of two courses of bricks runs horizontally across the frieze between the corner columns and above the second floor windows/pilasters. A name plate stating "Journal" is centered on the frieze, with simple Art Deco detail at either end. The parapet is capped in limestone, with a small pinnacle near the center.

The north side of the building extends along the side alley from the front to rear of the lot. Window and door openings are cut simply into the brick with no lintel detail and simple stone sills. The first story has three double-hung windows at the east end, a small double-hung window and side entry, and eight window openings to the west, seven of which are bricked-in. The second story has three double-hung windows at the east end, a small window likely on stairs, and eight double-hung windows to the west, six of which are covered.

A one-story tile block section extends across the rear of the building. It has large doors on the north and west sides. The exposed second story has five double-hung windows, three of which are covered. A large square chimney extends up from the southwest corner of the building.

Local surveyor's note: the interior of the building is substantially unchanged from its original condition, including original layout of rooms, steel staircase and railing, and wood doors and trim.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Washington Evening Journal Building appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the Washington Downtown Historic District.

This building was completed in the fall of 1930, according to a plaque on the exterior. It appears on the 1931 and 1943 Sanborn Maps. Cora L. Scofield et al sold the property to Orville Elder and R.E. Shannon on April 24, 1930. These two business men were the beginning of the Washington Evening Journal. Orville Elder and wife & et al sold the property to Elder & Shannon & Co. on August 8, 1931. Two major construction projects occurred within a block of each other in 1930 - the new Masonic Temple at the northwest corner of the square and the Journal Building. The combined costs of $100,000 contributed to one of the largest construction totals in Washington ("Spend Nearly $500,000 for Public Works," Centennial Edition, Evening Journal, August 1939, 74).

Much history on the newspaper is recounted in the Washington Evening Journal, 60th Anniversary Edition, February 27, 1953:

Journal Building

Name of Property

111 (109 – 111) North Marion Avenue

Address

County

Washington

City

- page 1 – history of newspapers in Washington
- page 2 – photo of site of Journal building at 111 N. Marion before built – newspaper was on E. Main St where Willis Motor Co was in 1953
- page 2 – more on Orville Elder and history of newspaper
- page 3-7 – photos of staff and presses
- page 8 – newspaper carriers – boys


The Washington Evening Journal continues to occupy this building.

Several offices were located on the second story of the Journal Building. The 1932 Telephone Directory lists Dr. Clow, and Osteopath, and Dr. WS Kyle, physician, with offices on the second floor. Dr. Clow advertised in a 1931 issue of the Journal for this same location. The 1935 City Directory lists both the “Democrat Independent Weekly” and Gambles Store Agency with offices on the second floor. Simpson Finance Company, offering small loans, was located on the second story by 1936. The 1941 City Directory lists Dr. EE Stutsman – physician, Simpson Finance, and dentist – Dr. HF Masson with offices on the second floor (111 ½). The 1952 Telephone Directory lists Dr. LB Sicher – dentist, and PL Etter – osteopathic med, Credit Bureau of Washington, Eastland Optometry “EQ” Optometrist, and Dr. MJ Cruise – dentist with offices on the second floor (111 ½). In 1955 and advertisement in the Journal mentions the Gem Loan Co. - loans for personal cash, on the second floor also.
Journal Building
Name of Property: 111 (109 – 111) North Marion Avenue
County: Washington
Address: City

9. Major Bibliographical References


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

- Washington Evening Journal
- Washington Gazette
- Washington Press


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**Address**

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**Location map**

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

Building plan (from assessor's website)

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| ADDN 1                  |
| [540]                   

42

BLDG 1
[4704]

112
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**Historic images**

Collage of 1971 photographs (Wagner 1971).
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Digital photographs

Photograph 92-00551-001 - East and north elevations, looking southwest (McCarley, September 20, 2011).
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Photograph 92-00551-002 - East elevation, looking west (McCarley, September 20, 2011).
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Photograph 92-00551-003 - Detail on east elevation, looking west (McCarley, September 20, 2011).
Journal Building

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Address | City
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Photograph 92-00551-004 - Detail on east elevation, looking west (McCarley, September 20, 2011).
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Photograph 92-00551-005 - West elevation, looking southeast (McCarley, September 20, 2011).