**Site Inventory Form**

State Historical Society of Iowa

(October 2005)

**State Inventory No.** 92-00583  **[X] New  [☐] Supplemental**

- Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 92-00349
- Contribution:  [☐] Contributing  [☑] Noncontributing
- National Register Status: (mark 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* Cox Motor Company

*other names/site number* Downtown Survey Map # DT-110b

### 2. Location

*street & number* 112 W. Second Street

*city or town* Washington

*Circuit, county* Washington

**Legal Description:**

- (If Rural) Township Name __________ Township No. __________ Range No. __________ Section __________ Quarter __________
- (If Urban) Subdivision __________ Original Plat __________ Block(s) __________ Lot(s) __________

*Non-Extant (enter year)* __________

### 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If Non-Eligible Property</th>
<th>If Eligible Property, enter number of:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enter number of:</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>buildings</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sites</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>structures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>objects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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)

- 14D09 Transportation / automobile service or repair

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

- 02E11 Commerce / grocery

### 7. Description

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

- 09F05 Commercial: Brick Front

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation
- 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.
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended  B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended  C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
- Yes  No  More Research Recommended  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

Significant Dates

Construction date

1920

☑ 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: Mary Patterson, Chair

Rebecca L. McCarley, consultant, Davenport

organization Washington Historic Preservation Commission

date March 27, 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.

**Cox Motor Company - 112 W. Second St - State #92-00582 - Map #48 ~ 1 contributing building (A) - c.1920 - early 20th century commercial**

**Historic information:**
- c.1920-1930 - Cox Motor Company; c.1930-c.1935 - Buick Garage
- 1940s - L.C. Willits Company - also in 114, 1950s-60s - Sieg Company (auto parts) - also in 114, then 114-116 as well
- 2012 - La Tienda de la Cruz

**Architectural information:**
- Height: 1 story
- Walls: brick veneer on tile block
- Storefront: metal beam for lintel across top
- Windows: -
- Architectural details: tile block construction with brick veneer façade
- Architect/Builder: -

**7. Narrative Description**

This is a one story brick building with the storefront remodeled. The storefront area is infilled with vertical wood siding that extends from a metal header beam across the full width of the facade to the sidewalk. It has a centrally located entry door of aluminum and glass. On the left side of the door is a small two light horizontal window. At the right hand corner of the building there is a brick pilaster which does not match the rest of the building, and it was part of the earlier building to the east. The parapet wall is multi-color textured brick, typical of the 1910s and 1920s. The exposed east wall shows tile block construction for this building, with the brick facade.

**8. Narrative Statement of Significance**

This building appears to contribute historically to the Washington Downtown Historic District.

William Scofield and wife sold the east 22' of the south half of Lot 6 in Block 3 to F.A. Long on May 21, 1910. The 1910 directory lists Long Blacksmith at 108 W. 2nd Street. The 1917 Sanborn map shows a one-story blacksmith shop at 112 W. 2nd Street. In 1918, it transferred to Ida Long, who then sold it on September 19, 1919 to Ralph E. Dougherty. He operated a clothing store, Dougherty Brothers, on the
west side of the square. He had previously acquired the south half of the remaining portion (west 44') of Lot 6. With the joint brickwork, it appears that he then built this one-story building and the adjacent two-story building at 114-116 at the same time, likely in 1919 or 1920, as investment properties. The 1931 Sanborn map shows this building - "auto sales and service" - as tile block construction along with the new building to the east - "machine shop" at 108-110 W. 2nd Street on the west 2/3 of Lot 2 (property sold by Winfield Smouse to George Teas on February 14, 1921, who owned it when it died in 1935). The building to the west at 114-116 W. 2nd St appears separate, with a battery station (114), auto sales (116), and lodge hall (second story of both). Cox Motor Company is listed at 112 W. 2nd Street in the 1926 city directory. Ray Cox began his auto service business in 1915, with Cox Motor Company established in 1924. He moved to the 200 block of W. Washington in 1930 (Evening Journal – Washington County Centennial Celebration – July 1936 - page 31). The 1932 directory then lists 112 W. 2nd Street as the Buick Garage.

In 1936, L.C. Willits Company was noted at 108 W. 2nd Street, and they were then listed at 114 W. 2nd Street in 1941. 112 was not listed in the 1941, 1952, 1956, or 1964 directories. The 1943 Sanborn map shows an opening cut between 112 and 114 to the west. "Auto Repair" is noted in both storefronts. Thus, they appear to have used the double-storefront space. In 1953, Willits Motor Company was at 110 E. Main and offered Oldsmobile and Cadillac cars and GMC trucks. On November 21, 1945, Jessie Dougherty sold the building (east 22' of south half of Lot 6) to John Patterson. The 1952 and 1956 directories list Sieg Company (auto supplies) at 114 W. 2nd Street - again, apparently also using 112. The 1964 directory lists them expanded to the west as well, at 114-116 W. 2nd Street.

La Tienda de la Cruz, a Mexican grocery store, is the current occupant.

9. Major Bibliographical References


Newspaper advertisements, various years/dates, on microfilm at Washington Public Library:
  Washington Evening Journal
  Washington Gazette
  Washington Press

<table>
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<tr>
<td>112 W. Second Street</td>
<td>Washington</td>
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**Location map**

*2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary*
Cox Motor Company
Name of Property
112 W. Second Street
Address
Washington
City

Building plan (from assessor’s website)

Historic images

none identified
Cox Motor Company

Name of Property: Cox Motor Company
County: Washington

Address: 112 W. Second Street
City: Washington

Digital photographs

Photograph 92-00583-001 - South and east elevations, looking northwest (McCarley, September 20, 2011)