Site Inventory Form

State Inventory No. 92-00554  ☑ New ☐ Supplemental

State Historical Society of Iowa
(November 2005)

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  Farmers Implement Company

other names/site number  Downtown Survey Map # DT- 033

2. Location

street & number  210 N. 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)  Lot 5 – N 33’ (¼) and Lot 6 – N 33’ (¼)

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)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

If Non-Eligible Property
Enter number of: 

If Eligible Property, enter number of:
Contributing  Noncontributing

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)

02E01 Commerce / auto showroom

14D09 Transportation / automotive service or repair

02A07 Commerce / implement dealer

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02A Commerce - Other / alternative power installation

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

09F01: Commercial / False Front

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls (visible material)  10A Concrete / Block

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.
☐ E A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
☐ B Removed from its original location.
☐ F A commemorative property.
☐ C A birthplace or grave.
☐ G Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.
☐ D A cemetery

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

05: Commerce

02: Architecture

Significant Dates

Construction date

1910 (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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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☐ 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 19, 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 entry.

☐ 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: __________________________
Farmers Implement Company - 210 N. Marion Avenue - State #92-00554 - Map #52 ~ 1 contributing building (A and C) - c.1910, c.1950s remodel - early 20th century commercial

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic information:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1910-c.1912 - B.F. Dixon Auto Sales (Buick) - owned by Winfield Smouse; 1913 - Hawkeye Welding Company (H.D. Smith) - welding and auto repair work; 1909 and 1917 Sanborn maps also shows 12 car garage here with shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926 - Louck Garage, 1932 - Stewart's Auto Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935-1981 - Farmers Implement Company (John Deere dealer) - Jim Stewart owned part from 1935 to 1953 - continued by Nate Young and T.G. Garner, moved in 1981 to east side of town</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995 - George's Auto Parts, 2008 - Powercom</td>
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<td>2012 - Powercom</td>
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Architectural information:
- Height: 1 story
- Walls: concrete block - rusticated; later block on façade
- Storefront: remodeled with later block in 1950s
- Windows: -
- Architectural details: rusticated concrete blocks
- Architect/Builder: -
- Modifications: Historic: 1950s - storefront remodeled jointly with 208; Non-historic: -

7. Narrative Description

This is a one story commercial building that was originally built with rusticated concrete blocks, which are visible along the north/alley side. In the 1950s or early 1960s, the facade was rebuilt with "modern" smooth concrete blocks, along with the storefront of the building to the south. This new storefront has a glass and aluminum door in the center and large windows on either side of the entry. The parapet is clad in metal siding. Along the alley side there are four windows and one door in the original building, and four additional, in-filled windows on a later rear addition. This addition spans behind this building as well as the one to the south at 210 N. Marion.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Farmers Implement Company appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the Washington Downtown Historic District. The building appears to have been built around 1909 as a rusticated
concrete block garage, the earliest identified in Washington. Farmers Implement, a John Deere dealer, moved here in 1935. The facade was remodeled with concrete blocks in the 1960s for the company, which falls within the period of significance for the district. The original block remains visible on the north (alley) elevation.

The property was purchased by real estate developer and agent Winfield Smouse in 1894, and it included the north half of both lots 5 & 6. He immediately sold off the south halves of the north halves of these lot, retaining the north half of the north half of lots 5 and 6. The next recorded sale is from Jessie Dougherty (Smouse's daughter) to the Farmers Implement Company in 1945. The 1897 and 1902 Sanborn maps show a vacant lot.

The 1909 Sanborn map shows a one-story concrete block garage has been built, and the 1910 City Directory lists Dixon Auto Sales. B.F. Dixon was in real estate for a number of years before entering the automobile business in 1909. He was a Buick dealer ("B.F. Dixon" - April 26, 1913 – *Evening Journal* – 20th anniversary edition - page 3). Dixon had been in the automobile business in Washington for seven years, but had conducted a garage here for only the last three years (since 1909), two of them in his present location (since 1910) (*Washington Evening Journal*, February 20, 1912). Burrell's 1909 county history notes that "B. F. Dixon has a private garage to store the two machines he handles" (Burrell 1909, Vol. 1: 434). This appears to have been the first concrete block garage in Washington, and it was then likely built in 1910 for Dixon by Smouse. In April 1913, the Hawkeye Welding Company (H.D. Smith) was located at 210 N. Marion. He did automobile welding repair and all other kinds of welding (April 26, 1913 – *Evening Journal* – 20th anniversary edition - page 42). The 1917 map shows a garage here with 12 car capacity, cement floor, shop in rear, and two gas tanks buried in front. The 1926 Telephone Directory lists Louck Garage, which had been at 116 W. 2nd Street in a May 1924 ad. The 1931 Sanborn map shows the concrete block garage with a 12 car capacity and repair shop in rear. The 1932 directory lists Stewart's Auto Shop at 210 N. Marion. By 1935, Stewart Garage moved to 301-305 N. Iowa.

By the 1935 City Directory, Farmer's Implement Store has moved into this building at 210 N. Marion. Farmer's Implement was a John Deere dealer, which was run by Jim Stewart for several years. The name shifted to Farmers Implement Company by the early 1950s. Stewart sold his interest to partners Nate Young and T.G. Garner in 1953, and they made plans to remodel and expand the store. They acquired the building to the south at 208 N. Marion in 1960s, and they jointly remodeled the storefronts with concrete block and installed the canopy. They also built a large rear addition to the east of both buildings. Farmer's Implement Store continues to occupy the building through the 1970s. They sold the joint properties in 1981, and the store moved to the east side of Washington. 


Farmers Implement Company  
Washington 
Name of Property  
County 
210 N. Marion Avenue  
Washington 
Address  
City 


*Washington Evening Journal, 60th Anniversary Edition, February 27, 1953, page 35 – “Farmers Implement Once was Owned by John Deere Company” – start in 1935 – previously George Stewart hardware on south side of square was Deere dealer – one time also at Ross Garage – 1943 – partnership of Clarence Goff and Jim Stewart – put dealership into private ownership – John Patterson bought Goff out in 1946 – T.G. Garner of Grinnell also buy interest – Nate Young later bought out Patterson – 1953 – Stewart sold to Young and Garner – Young active in management – up-to-date service – mechanized age of agriculture – planning to remodel store*


George’s Auto Parts was here in 1995, followed by A Bit of Everything, a resale shop, in 1998, and the current occupant, Powercom, who moved there in 2008. Powercom supplies, installs, and services energy efficient generators and small wind plants. They occupy both 208 and 210 N. Marion.

9. Major Bibliographical References


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

Farmers Implement Company  

210 N. Marion Avenue  

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Location map
Farmers Implement Company

210 N. Marion Avenue

2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary
Farmers Implement Company  Washington
Name of Property  County
210 N. Marion Avenue  Washington
Address  City

Building plan (from assessor's website)

Historic images

none identified
Farmers Implement Company                                                                                       Washington
Name of Property                                                                                              County
210 N. Marion Avenue                                                                                          Washington
Address                                                                                                         City

Digital photographs

[Image of the building with a description]

Photograph 92-00554-001 - North and west elevations, looking southeast (McCarley, September 20, 2011)