1. Name of Property

historic name Lemke Electric Motor Shop

other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-032

2. Location

street & number 214 N. Marion Avenue

city or town Washington

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name ____________________________

(If Urban) Subdivision ____________ Original Plat ____________ Block(s) ____________ Lot(s) ____________

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 ☐ 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)

0299 Commerce / Other - plumber

14D09 Transportation / automotive service or repair

7. Description

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

09F Commercial foundation 10B Concrete - Poured

walls (visible material) 16 Tile block

roof 05F Steel

09F Commercial other 10A Concrete Block - alley facade

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)

Significant Dates
Construction date 05: Commerce 1955
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)

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[ ] See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Patterson, Chair
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 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: _______________________________
Lemke Electric Motor Shop - 214 N. Marion Avenue - State #92-00556 - Map #53 ~ 1 contributing building (A) -
c.1955 - 1950s commercial modern

Historic information:
  c.1955-1980s - Lemke Electric Motor Shop
  2012 - Washington Plumbing Company

Architectural information:
  Height: 1 story
  Walls: tile block façade, concrete block sides
  Storefront: single window changed to two windows
  Windows: -
  Architectural details: -
  Architect/Builder: -
  Modifications: Historic: -; Non-historic: 1980s - low gable roof added

7. Narrative Description

This is a small, one story block building with a tile block façade and concrete block sides. The front
door is glass and aluminum, and it is located on the right (south) side of the facade (west). There are
two large side by side windows to the left of the entry. The gable end of the low gable roof is clad with
metal siding. The building originally had a flat roof. On the alley (south) elevation, there are two double
hung windows with transom windows, and a third window which has been filled with concrete block. There
is an addition at the rear which has a single garage door and an entry door to the left of the
garage door. The addition is painted white while the concrete block that makes up the remainder of the
alley facade is unpainted. The north side follows a similar pattern with three windows on the main
section (two filled with block) and a painted rear addition with side entry.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Lemke Electric Motor Shop appears to contribute historically and architecturally to the Washington
Downtown Historic District.

Sanborn maps from 1897 to 1943 show a small blacksmith shop here in an earlier building. The south
22' of Lot 4 was sold by Adolph and August Wessler to R.G. Wessler in August 1943. He then sold it
in September of 1945 to George Pratt. An ad in the Washington Evening Journal of 1949 identifies the
Lemke Electric Motor Shop

214 N. Marion Avenue

Address

City

Washington

County

The address as the service shop for Bell & Gevock Firestone Tires; the tire store itself was located at 208 S. Iowa Avenue. George Pratt sold the property in April 1953 to Clarence Goff and George Miller. The assessor lists a 1955 construction date. In the 1964 city directory, it is the home of Lemke Electric Motors. A newspaper ad on July 1, 1976 (page 91) shows the building with the Lemke Electric Motor Shop here, run by Alfred A. Lemke and established in 1950. The gable roof has been added since this date to improve drainage.

It is currently occupied by Washington Plumbing Company.

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: 214 N. Marion Avenue, Washington

Location map

2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary
Lemke Electric Motor Shop

Building plan (from assessor’s website)
### Iowa Site Inventory Form

**Continuation Sheet**

**Page 5**

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#### Historic images

### Iowa Site Inventory Form

#### Continuation Sheet

**Page 6**

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**Address**

**City**

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**Digital photographs**

**Photograph 92-00556-001 - West and south elevations, looking northeast (McCarley, September 20, 2011)**
Lemke Electric Motor Shop | Washington
---|---
Name of Property | County
214 N. Marion Avenue | Washington
Address | City

Photograph 92-00556-002 - North and west elevations, looking southeast (McCarley, September 20, 2011)