**Site Inventory Form**

State Inventory No. 92-00604

State Historical Society of Iowa

(November 2005)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship:</th>
<th>Contributing □</th>
<th>Noncontributing □</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.)</td>
<td>92-00349</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>National Register Status: (any that apply)</td>
<td>Listed □</td>
<td>De-listed □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-Digit SHPO Review &amp; Compliance (R&amp;C) Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Non-Extant (enter year)</td>
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1. **Name of Property**

   historic name Washington Public Library (new)

   other names/site number Downtown Survey Map # DT-080

2. **Location**

   street & number 115 W. Washington 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) Lot(s) Lot 3 – E 33.5’ – also Lot 2 exc E 8.25’

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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building(s) (If Non-Eligible Property)</th>
<th>If Eligible Property, enter number of:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ district</td>
<td>buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ site</td>
<td>sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ structure</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ object</td>
<td>objects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
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6. **Function or Use**

   Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

   05C Education / library

   Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

   05C Education / library

7. **Description**

   Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

   Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

   foundation 08: Concrete

   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)

   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.
- 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)

Significant Dates

- Construction date: 2009
- Check if circa or estimated date
- Other dates, including renovation

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Architect/Builder

- Architect: OPN Architects, Inc. of Cedar Rapids IA
- 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>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Patterson, Chair

organization Washington Historic Preservation Commission

date April 3, 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/slides sheet # _______ Frame/slot # _______ Date Taken _______

   Roll/slides sheet # _______ Frame/slot # _______ Date Taken _______

   Roll/slides sheet # _______ Frame/slot # _______ Date Taken _______

   See continuation sheet or attached photo & slide catalog sheet for list of photo roll or slide entry.

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: ___________________________

Historic information:
(109 - Rothschild's Clothing - 1910s-1950s, Seifert's - 1950s-1970s)
(111 - Biklen Variety Store - 1920s-30s, Iowa Southern Utilities store - 1950s-60s)
(113-115 - McNamara's Furniture and Undertaking - 1910s-1920s, Montgomery Ward - 1930s-1960s)
2009 - new library built
2012 - Washington Public Library

Architectural information:
Height: 2 story
Walls: brick veneer
Architectural details: -
Architect/Builder: OPN Architects, Inc (architect, Cedar Rapids)
Modifications: -

7. Narrative Description

This is a newly constructed, two story public library. The facade faces Central Park to the north. Wide brick pilasters separate the building into four segments, following the traditional rhythm of the historic downtown. There is a band of limestone at the base of the facade, with the date that the library was established at one end and the date this building was constructed near the entry. The third of the four segments is recessed into the facade, and it contains the three double-height windows. Above these windows is a locally made round stained glass window depicts the skyline of Washington. The left (east) two sections follow a traditional downtown facade design, with large first story "storefront" windows and three double-hung second story windows. A horizontal panel of decorative brick in a basket weave pattern is located between the first story and second story windows. Window hoods over the second story windows are flared jack arch brick lintels. The brick cornice has a dentil pattern topped with a cove shaped limestone cap. The right (west) section has the main entry on the first story, with a fixed glass window on each side of large double doors and transom windows over the windows and doors. Over the entrance, brushed metal lettering says Washington Public Library. On the second story, there is a copper clad oriel window with three double-hung windows.
8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Washington Public Library is non-contributing in the Washington Downtown Historic District due to its 2009 construction.

Washington Free Public Library was organized by a few volunteers in 1877, and housed in a small room in the Washington Press building. A few years later the library moved into an extra room in the city hall, now known as the McCreedy Building. In 1901, Jane A. Chilcote, widow of Dr. Alexander Chilcote, bequeathed her house at 120 E. Main to the City of Washington to use as a public library. In 1952 the city undertook the construction of a new building on the same site, and then expanded that building in 1991. The Washington Free Public Library Foundation purchased two buildings on the south side of the square in Washington and donated them to the City of Washington for the express purpose of being the site of a future public library, and in 2005, began actively planning and fund raising for a new library building. The historic buildings on the site were deemed unfit for further use and demolished. A steel beam and sections of metal ceiling from the old buildings were saved and reused in the new building. Businesses in these historic buildings had included Rothschild's Clothing (109 - 1910s-1950s), Seifert's (109 - 1950s-1970s), Biklen Variety Store (111 - 1920s-30s), Iowa Southern Utilities store (111 - 1950s-60s), McNamara's Furniture and Undertaking (113-115 - 1910s-1920s), and Montgomery Ward (113-115 - 1930s-1960s).

In October 2009, the new building opened to the public. It is a L.E.E.D. Certified building which was designed by OPN Architects, Inc. of Cedar Rapids IA. In 2010, it was awarded Best New Infill Construction by Main Street Iowa.

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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Location map

*2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary*
Washington Public Library (new)  
Name of Property  
Address  

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Building plan (from assessor’s website)
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Historic images

South side of the square in the 1910s (Patterson collection - Ray)
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**South side of the square in the late 1930s (Patterson collection)**
Washington Public Library (new)                                      Washington
Name of Property                                                  County

115 W. Washington Street                                          Washington
Address                                                            City

Buildings on site of future library in 1971 (Wagner 1971)
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Digital photographs

Photograph 92-00604-001 - North elevation, looking south (McCarley, September 20, 2011)