**1. Name of Property**

historic name  **George W. Stewart Hardware**

other names/site number  **Downtown Survey Map # DT-154**

**2. Location**

street & number  **107 W. Washington Street**

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)  **18**  Lot(s)  **Lot 2 – E 8.25’ – Lot 1 – W 12.5’**

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification [Skip this Section]**

**4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]**

**5. Classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Property (Check only one box)</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ building(s)</td>
<td>If Non-Eligible Property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If Eligible Property, enter number of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contributing</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ district</td>
<td>Enter number of:</td>
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<td>☐ site</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ structure</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>objects</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Total</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).

**6. Function or Use**

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

| 02E05 Commerce / hardware store |

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

| 03C Social / Central Park Community Center |

**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)

Significant Dates
Construction date 1868
check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation early 1910s - facade remodel

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 __ __ __ __ __ __
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 April 4, 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 # __ __ __ __ __ Date Taken __ __ __ __ __
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   Roll/slide sheet # __ __ __ __ __ 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: ___________________________
George W. Stewart Hardware - 107 W. Washington - State #92-00603 - Map #103 ~ 1 contributing building (A and C) - 1868, c.1910s façade - early 20th century commercial

Historic information:
1868-1872 - L. Whitcomb & Son - hardware; 1872-1884 - Smouse hardware (L. & W. Smouse)
1884-1897 - Stewart Brothers (George & Frank) - hardware (Sanborns show hardware here in 1885 then one store west in 1890s; here 1902-1926+; may have used both in 1890s)
1897-1931 - George W. Stewart - hardware store; 1931-1935 - George W. Stewart Estate Hardware
1935-1952 - T.H. Peters Hardware
1952-1977 - Connelly Hardware
2012 - Central Park Community Center

Architectural information:
Height: 2 story
Walls: brick
Storefront: center entry with large storefront windows - part of prism glass transom visible?
Windows: 1/1 wood
Architectural details: stone lintels/sills, brickwork
Architect/Builder: -
Modifications: Historic: early 1900s - façade remodel (or rebuilt); Non-historic: 2010 - storefront remodel

7. Narrative Description

This is a two story brick commercial building. Though the core was built in 1868, the facade brick and design date to the early 1910s. The storefront was remodeled in 2010, with a recessed central entry door and two large glass and aluminum windows. At that time, the bulkhead below the windows was covered with 16" square tile. A portion of the prism glass transom from the early 20th century is revealed on the frieze. There are three one-over-one-light double-hung second story windows with flared stone lintels and stone sills. Above the windows is a rectangular outline in stone with five cross stone block details. The simple cornice has bricks creating brackets. This parapet section was extend to a taller height with the c.1910s facade work.
8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The George W. Stewart Hardware building appears to contribute historically and architecturally to a Washington Downtown Historic District.

Court house records indicate that Lyman Whitcomb purchased the property on March 18, 1867. In the January 29, 1868 edition of the Washington Press, page 2, a notice titled Building states "Mr. L. Whitcomb has contracted with M. Wodenbeck for the brick for a two story building to go up on the site of Van Nostrand's meat market, with a ware room in the rear reaching to the alley. He proposes to have in it a No. 1 stock of hardware at an early day in summer." In August 1868, an ad in the Washington Press announces "New Hardware Store / Washington Iowa / L. Whitcomb & Son / Have fitted up their New Brick Block adjoining their old stand on the south side of the square with a / GENERAL STOCK / of / Shelf Hardware / Wagon Material / Nails, Iron, / Farming Implements, / Carpenter' Tools, / &c.,&c.,&c. A two story building is shown here on the 1869 birds-eye view of Washington. Whitcomb & Simmons were in the hardware business per the Press on September 27, 1871. On July 24, 1872, the Press reported that Mart Whicomb sold his stock of hardware to the Smouses, who will occupy the same building. Smouse Hardware advertised in 1881, run by L. & W. Smouse. Whitcomb sold the building to L. & W. Smouse on May 19, 1874.

In 1884, the Stewart Brothers – Frank and George – bought the south side implement and hardware business, reportedly doing great business in 1893 ("Men Who Make a City," Washington Gazette, January 6, 1893, 6). Frank retired in 1897, and George W. Stewart continued in business by himself. He purchased the property on January 31, 1898. It appears shortly after this time, perhaps in the decade of the 20th century, that the facade was remodeled. By the 1910s historic images, the current facade with tall lintels and upper brickwork is clearly visible here. He was noted as running a reliable hardware store and implements business in 1913 (Journal, April 26, 1913, 41). George Stewart continued in business here until his death in 1931.


Washington Evening Journal, 60th Anniversary Edition, February 27, 1953, page 35 – "Farmers Implement Once was Owned by John Deere Company" – Farmers Implement started in 1925? – previously George Stewart hardware on south side of square was Deere dealer
For a few years, George W. Stewart Estate Hardware continued to operate in this location. In 1935, Tom H. and Edna Peters bought the store, opening T.H. Peters Hardware. This store is listed here in the 1935 and 1941 directories and a 1943 advertisement.


The current occupant is the non-profit Central Park Community Center, a gathering place for senior citizens.

9. Major Bibliographical References


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

Patterson, Mary. Collection of historic images of Washington. Washington, IA.


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Location map

2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary
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**Building plan (from assessor’s website)**

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21
|
Bldg. 1
[2772]

132
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Historic images

1869 *Birds-eye perspective of Washington, looking south*
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South side of the square in the 1910s, prior to increased parapet height (Patterson collection - Ray)
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South side of the square in the late 1930s (Patterson collection)
George W. Stewart Hardware                      Washington
Name of Property                                County

107 W. Washington Street                       Washington
Address                                         City

Building in 1971 (Wagner 1971)
George W. Stewart Hardware

107 W. Washington Street

Digital photographs

Photograph 92-00603-001 - North elevation, looking south (McCarley, September 20, 2011)