

**Site Inventory Form**  
**State Historical Society of Iowa**  
 (November 2005)

State Inventory No. 50-01673

New  Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 50-01703

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 Taylor Building

other names/site number Marshall Hardware

**2. Location**

street & number 114 N. 2nd Ave. W.

city or town Newton  vicinity, county Jasper

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name \_\_\_\_\_ Township No. \_\_\_\_\_ Range No. \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter of Quarter \_\_\_\_\_

(If Urban) Subdivision Original Town Block(s) 9 Lot(s) F

**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

| If Non-Eligible Property |            | If Eligible Property, enter number of: |                 |
|--------------------------|------------|--|-----------------|
| Enter number of:         |            | Contributing                           | Noncontributing |
| —                        | buildings  | <u>1</u>                               | —               |
| —                        | sites      | —                                      | —               |
| —                        | structures | —                                      | —               |
| —                        | objects    | —                                      | —               |
| —                        | Total      | <u>1</u>                               | —               |

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).

Title Downtown Newton, Iowa Historical Architectural Data Base Number 50-010

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02E COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

02G COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

02E05 COMMERCE/TRADE/hardware store

\_\_\_\_\_

02B COMMERCE/TRADE/professional

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

08 MODERN MOVEMENT

foundation 03 BRICK

\_\_\_\_\_

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 archaeology or history.

County Jasper  
City Newton

Address 114 N. 2nd Ave. W.

Site Number 50-01673  
District Number 50-01703

**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  
1885  check if circa or estimated date  
Other dates, including renovation  
ca.1955

**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 Kathy Jones, Commissioner/Alexa McDowell, Architectural Historian  
organization Newton Historic Preservation Commission  
street & number 101 W. 4th St. S.  
city or town Newton state Iowa date 06/01/2012  
telephone 641-792-2787 zip code 50208

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (Submit the following items with the completed form)**

**FOR ALL PROPERTIES**

- Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
- Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
- 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**

- Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or noncontributing status)
- Barn:**
  - A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
  - A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
  - 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Taylor Building    | Jasper |
| Name of Property   | County |
| 114 N. 2nd Ave. W. | Newton |
| Address            | City   |

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## 7. Description

### Site Description

The Taylor Building is located on the north side of the courthouse square in the Newton Downtown Historic District. The building is at the east end a continuous series of adjoining buildings extending along N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue from W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street N. to the alley at the mid-block. On street parking is located on the south side of the building and a public sidewalk provides access to the building at its entrance on the south.

Before the current street numbering system was adopted for the city of Newton in 1911, North 2nd Avenue West was known as West McDonald Street.

### Property Description

The Taylor Building is a two-story, brick building constructed on a brick foundation. The building is visually defined by its continuity of design and building materials with adjoining retail stores to the west. The storefront has a recessed, central entrance flanked by large display windows. A rigid metal awning is mounted over the entire storefront at transom level.

As an alley property, the building's secondary elevation (east) is fully exposed. It is this elevation that reveals the building's original stylistic character. A series of windows, although now boarded, retain the height and arched head common to the Commercial Italianate commonly utilized during the Victorian era. The elevation has been painted.

The building's upper façade features three modest sized windows of industrial steel frame and mullion construction. The windows lack applied ornamental detail - a simple sill of turned-brick and non-historic, inoperable, plastic shutters being the sole decorative devices. The upper façade wall is absent decorative adornment save a "frame" of contrasting brick within which signage for the building's present occupant, "Uncle Nancy's Coffeeshouse & Eatery," is mounted.

### Integrity Considerations

The Taylor Building retains a generally high level of historic integrity related specifically to a significant modernization movement of the mid-twentieth century, which drastically altered the building's facade. Because the façade's alteration dates to 50-plus years ago, and because it reflects a significant historic period in the history of the community, the present façade is considered historic and its level of integrity as it relates to design, workmanship, and materials is high. Further, retention of the Victorian era Italianate elements on the secondary elevation provides a look at the community's early commercial architecture, which, in the Newton Downtown Historic District, was most commonly removed during the mid-twentieth century making that of the Taylor Building a rare example.

As it relates to location, association, and setting, the building retains a high level of integrity and contributes to the integrity of feeling created by the generally intact commercial district found in Newton.

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## 8. Statement of Integrity

The building is considered a contributing resource to the Newton Downtown Historic District. The building is eligible under Criterion A in association with the history of Newton commerce, significant in its ability to contribute to our understanding of the evolution of the business district and the impact of the business district on the overall economic success of the community of Newton.

### Historical Background

Newton was platted as the Jasper County seat in 1847. The commercial district grew up around the courthouse square with the earliest buildings, which commonly housed both commerce and dwellings, constructed of wood. The development of the downtown from its platting in 1846 to c.1890 is tied to its status as the county seat and the 1867 arrival of the Mississippi-Missouri Railroad. The character of the commercial downtown is recorded in images of the contiguous brick commercial Italianate buildings surrounding the courthouse square.

Beginning in the 1890s, it was industry, specifically the washing machine industry, that drove Newton's economy and the commercial success of its downtown. Due to the success and longevity of the Maytag Company, its history presents the greatest impact on Newton's downtown commercial district. From 1890-1920, a period in Maytag history marked by the company's incorporation and the development of the first electrically powered washing machine, a number of significant buildings were constructed in the Newton Downtown District. The addition of these buildings (and others) introduced a 20<sup>th</sup> century architectural sensibility to the district; moving the visual character away from the Late Victorian era Italianate style that had previously dominated the streetscapes.

During the decade of 1920 to 1930, Newton's population nearly doubled. The period is marked by the Maytag Company's ascension to the nation's leading manufacturer of washing machines. The economic prosperity brought by the company's success is reflected in the Newton Downtown Historic District with the construction of some of its most important buildings including the First Newton National Bank (1920) and the Maytag Hotel (1926). Both buildings lend a sense of importance to the downtown district.

The visual character and composition of the downtown district remained generally constant through the Depression era and war years – a period when industry and commerce (including the Maytag Company) were focused on surviving and on supporting the war effort. The boom that came in the wake of Maytag's 1946 introduction of the automatic washing machine was apparent in the Newton Downtown Historic District by the mid-1950s. Between about 1954 and 1963 the downtown buildings underwent dramatic alteration, a nearly wholesale removal of the Italianate façades and replacement with those reflecting a mid-20<sup>th</sup> century Modern aesthetic. Buildings altered during that period line the streetscapes of the district. In addition to the Victorian era buildings that were re-faced during this time, a number of new buildings were constructed, their stylistic character reflective of the era.

Although the washing machine industry in Newton is now a thing of the past, its mark on the Newton Downtown Historic District is undeniable.

# Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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| Name of Property   | County |
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## 8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

### Property History

The Taylor Building was constructed in 1885 on a site formerly occupied by a building (also known as the Taylor Building) housing F.W. Cozad, Dry Goods and Millinery. That business was located at this address by the 1870s, but perhaps as early as 1855.

The Newton Journal on July 15, 1885 report that "the Taylor boys have commenced tearing down the old Taylor building...to make room for a fine 2-story brick building." By December of that year the Newton Journal indicated "...Mr. Geo. Taylor is ready to receive his friends, and sell them feed and grain of all kinds in one of the handsomest rooms in the city."

The 1888 Sanborn fire insurance map supports the presence of the larger building of George Taylor Flour, Feed & Grain. The building also served as the United States Express with the upper floor housing, a real estate and abstract office.

In 1906, Marshall & Johnston Hardware occupied the building, remaining at this location until 1970. For the next 20 years, from the early 1970s into the 1990s, the site served as a fabric store, Worlds of Fabric and Fabric-Textile. Today the site is serving the community as Uncle Nancy's Coffeehouse and Eatery.

Like many of the facades surrounding the courthouse square, that of the Taylor Building was refaced as part of the city's effort to modernize its downtown during a period from about 1954 to 1963.

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs  
State Historical Society of Iowa  
**Iowa Site Inventory Form  
Continuation Sheet**

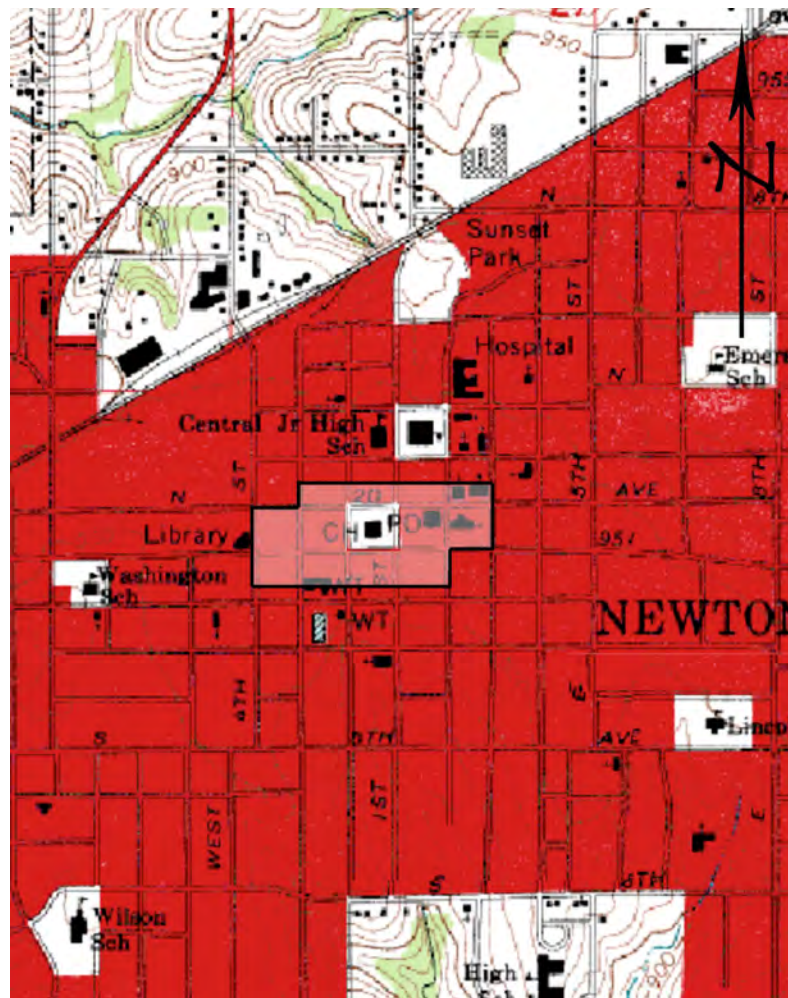
Site Number **50-01673**  
Related District Number 50-01703

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**11. Additional Documentation – Maps**

**USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – NEWTON QUAD (1965)**



(MAP SOURCE: <http://www.trails.com>. Accessed 06/21/2011.)

The location of the Newton Downtown Historic District, within which the resource is site, is indicated.

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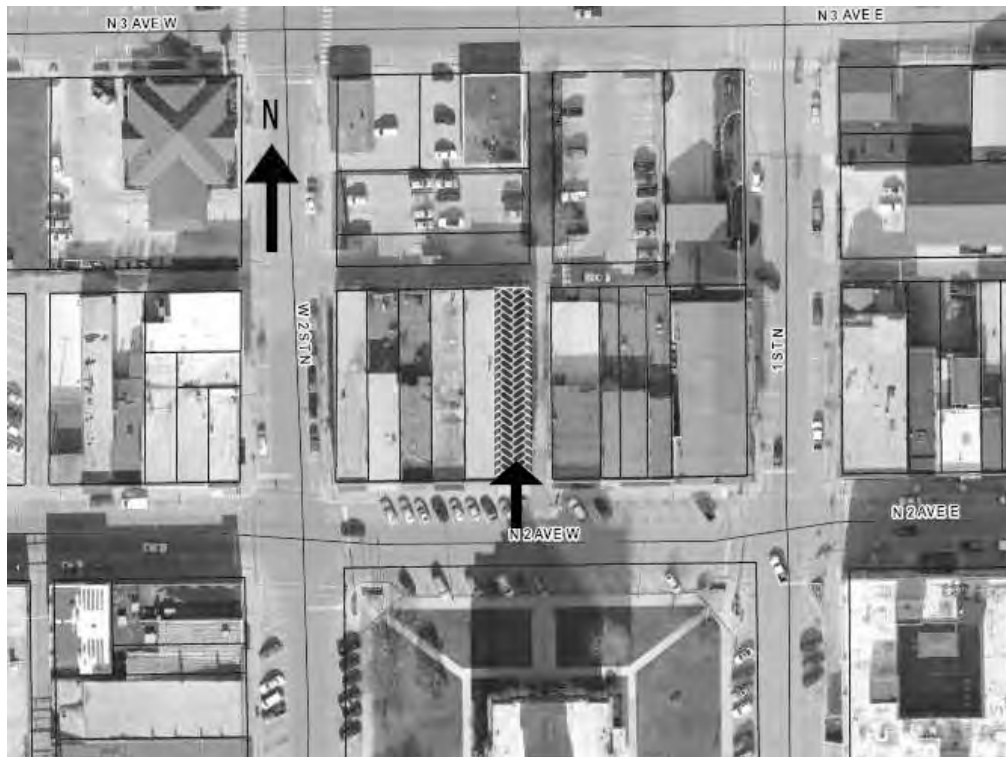
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**11. Additional Documentation – Maps**

**ASSESSORS PARCEL MAP - 2011**



(MAP SOURCE: <http://www.beacon.schneidercorp.com>. Accessed September 2011)

The location of the resource is indicated.

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**11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.**

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



View of the resource, looking north across N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue W.

(Images by Sue Smith – October 2011)



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**11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.**

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



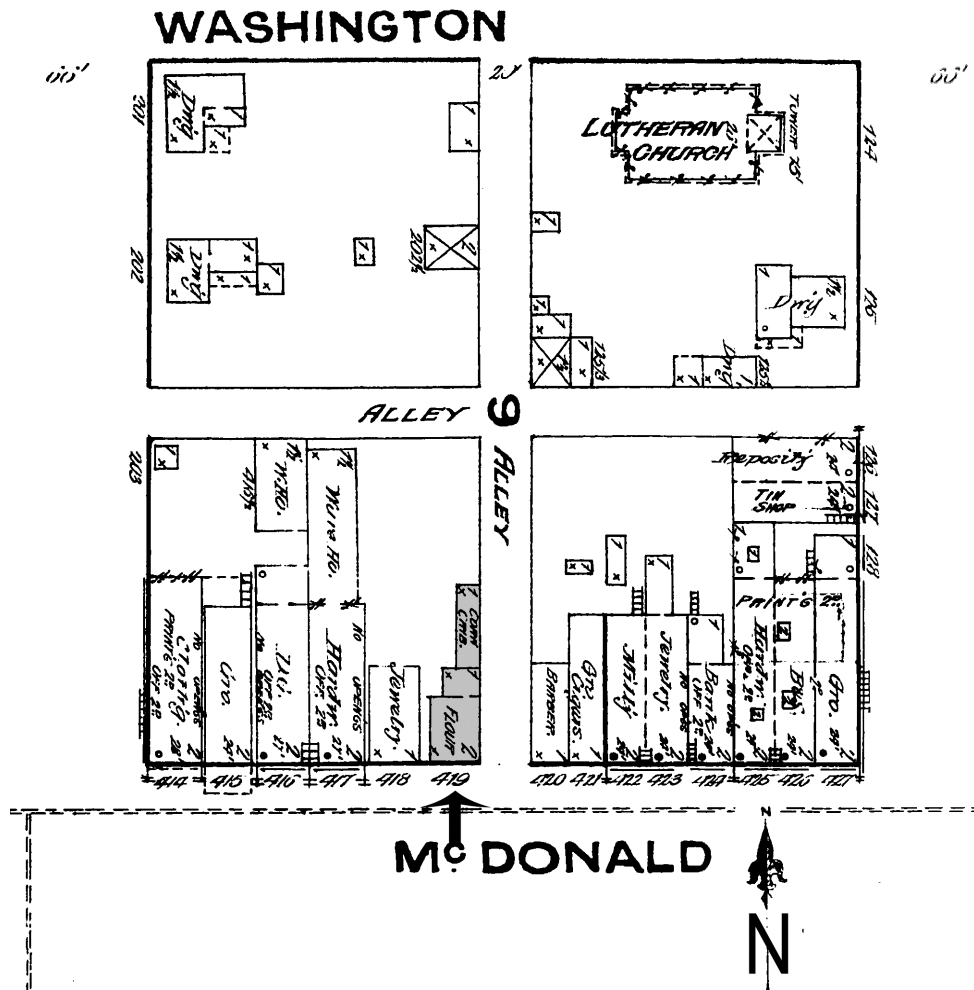
View of the east (alley side) elevation, looking northwest.

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1883



(SOURCE: <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>. Accessed 12/26/2011)

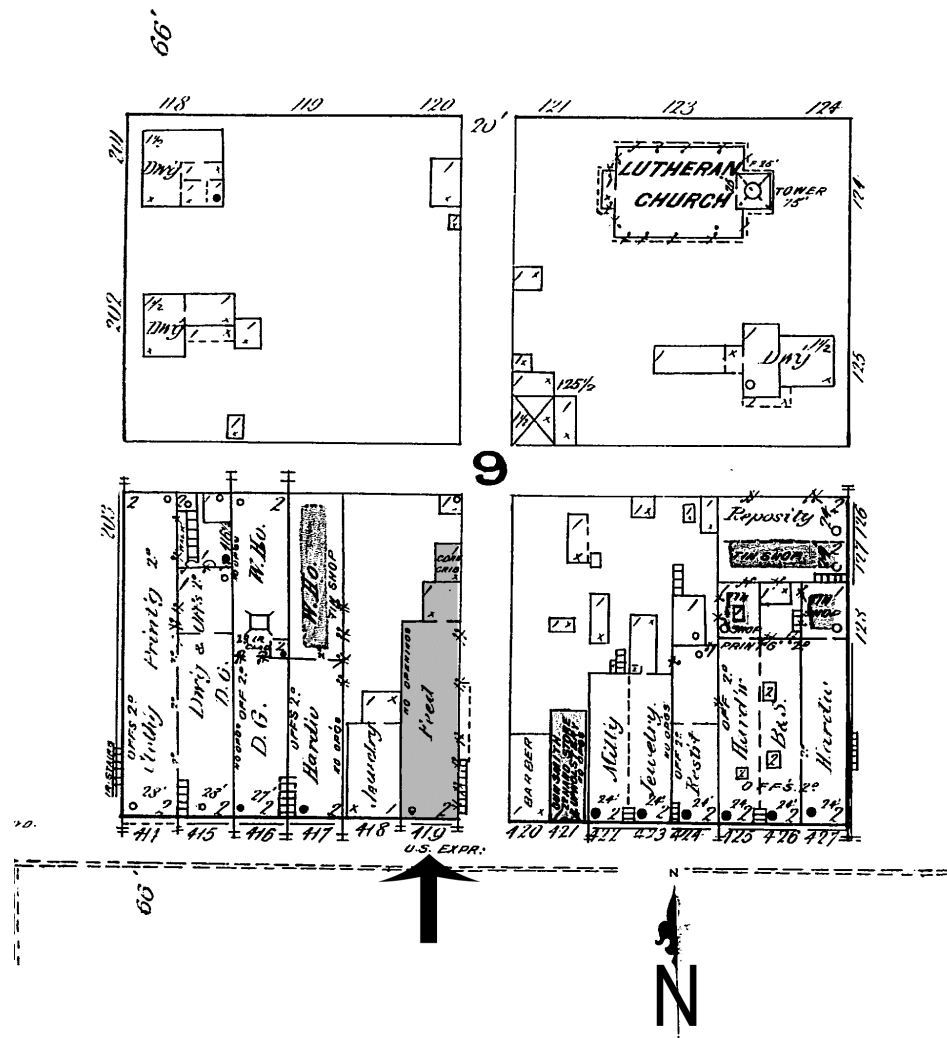
The location of the first Taylor Building is indicated. Note that at this time 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue was known as McDonald Street and the building was number 419.

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1888



(SOURCE: <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>. Accessed 12/26/2011)

By 1888 the present Taylor Building (indicated) was in place and occupied by a feed store with the office of U.S. Express also utilizing space in the building.

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**11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.**

**HISTORIC IMAGE – c.1918**



(SOURCE: Jasper County Historical Society)

This view looking northeasterly from the courthouse documents the resource (indicated at left) in about 1918. The image provides confirmation of the building's original Italianate character.

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### 9. Reference Resources

Assessor's Record. <http://www.beacon.schneidercorp.com>.

Jasper County Genealogical Society.

Newton Public Library.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>.

State Historic Preservation Office of Iowa.

Resource database. Berry Bennett, Resource Coordinator.