

Site Inventory Form
State Historical Society of Iowa
 (December 1, 1999)

State Inventory No. 70-00161 New Supplemental
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) _____
 Relationship: Contributing Noncontributing
 Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries
 National Register Status: (any that apply) Listed De-listed NHL DOE
 Review & Compliance No. _____
 Non-Extant (enter year) _____

1. Name of Property

historic name J.A. Reuling Bakery
 other names/site number Field Site #: FS-015

2. Location

street & number 201-203 W. 2nd St
 city or town Muscatine, Iowa vicinity, county _____
 Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____
 (If Urban) Subdivision Original Town Block(s) 35 Lot(s) 5

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		
	If Non-Eligible Property	If Eligible Property, enter number of:	
	Enter number of:	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	_____ buildings	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____ sites	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____ structures	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____ objects	_____	_____ objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____ Total	<u>1</u>	_____ 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 _____

Historical and Architectural Survey and Evaluation of the Downtown Commercial District 70-013

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>02E02: Commerce/Bakery</u>	<u>02G04: Commerce/Restaurant/tavern</u>
<u>02E11: Commerce/Grocery</u>	<u>01B02: Domestic/Apartment</u>
<u>02G04: Commerce/Restaurant/tavern</u>	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>05H Victorian/Renaissance Revival</u>	foundation _____
_____	walls <u>03 Brick</u>
_____	roof <u>08B Asphalt/Rolled</u>
_____	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)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	A	Property is associated with significant events.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	B	Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	C	Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	D	Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Muscatine Address 201-203 West Second Street Site Number 70-00161
City Muscatine District Number _____

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 1852 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates late 1940s

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 Jay Brady, Chair (R.L. McCarley, consultant)

organization Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission date December 13, 2004

street & number 215 Sycamore telephone 563-264-1554

city or town Muscatine state IA zip code 52761

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 non-contributing 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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<u>J.A. Reuling Bakery</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
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Address	City

7. Narrative Description

This building is a c.1852, two-story, six bay, brick commercial building with a storefront that has been extensively modified. The building was once a three-story building with the upper story removed after the 1946 Sanborn map was published, likely in the late 1940s or early 1950s. The 1943 city directory is the last to list a third story tenant, and previous owner Mary Phelps states that the third story was definitely removed by 1955. The 1866 Graham Photograph shows the three-story building present. The photograph caption indicates that “on cor 2nd & Chestnut is Reuling’s Block, built in 1852” (GR26, V1, 1866).

The storefront is divided into two symmetrical halves separated by a brick center column. This non-historic 20th century storefront has a brick wall for the lower half and windows for the upper half. The entry for each half is a modern metal and glass door, located at the east end of its half. The second story retains six windows that also reflect the windows that were on the third story. The single-over-single-light double-hung windows have non-historic sashes but retain the original triangular hoods and brackets beneath each hood on both sides of each window. The bracket farthest to the east (right) is missing. The window hoods, frames, and sills are wood. The roof parapet is plain, reflecting the removed third story.

The east elevation along Chestnut Street has five bays. These windows also have the triangular hoods with brackets seen on the façade and non-historic sashes. The window in the second bay from the front has been converted to an entry to the apartment and in the process the triangular hood was removed. The modern storefront wraps around the corner to the east side. The lower portion is brick with a large single window above. The storefront wrap was a later (20th century) modification. The 1879 Graham photograph (Second and Chestnut Photograph, GR 162, 1879), does not show the storefront wrap. Two first story windows also have the same triangular hoods as the 2nd story windows.

The west side is a party wall with 205 West Second. Much of the back wall is obscured by the attachment of the next building along Chestnut Street. The wall visible at the roof eave is brick.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

This building does not appear individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C. Only the second story of this building reflect historic elements of this three story building. The removal of the third story occurred in the late 1940s or early 1950s. A building permit was taken out on August 15, 1957 to remodel the store of 203 W. 2nd St, but the extent of the work is unknown at this time. Thus, this building does not appear to retain the integrity needed to convey its significance as a three-story, historic building in order to be individually eligible under Criteria A, B, or C.

This commercial building does, however, appear to retain sufficient integrity to be a contributing building in a potential downtown historic district. It falls within two historic contexts identified for this district: “19th

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century Business and Industry” and “20th century Business and Industry.” The building is associated with two longtime Muscatine business, the Mull Grocery business and Reulings family businesses dating back to the 1850s. The building has had a number of different commercial businesses, but was the location of Reulings family businesses (bakery, grocery) from the mid 1850s to 1928. Additional business operated here in the mid-20th century. With the removal the third story in the late 1940s or early 1950s, this major alteration is within the period of significance for this potential historic district.

J.A. Reuling operated his bakery “J.A. Reulings Oyster Saloon and Bakery” at 201 W. 2nd Street from 1856 to 1875. John A. Reuling was born in Germany on December 21, 1824 and came with his parents to America in 1838. The Reuling family first settled in Burlington, Iowa. J.A. Reuling came to Muscatine in the early 1840s and began work as a baker under Henry Funck. He started his restaurant and bakery trade and later engaged in the grocery business from which he retired in 1888. J.A. Reuling died on November 7, 1898. His son, George W., continued the grocery business until 1927 (*Old Settler's Register*, P. 464).

A bakery continued to operate at this location into the 1920s. George Koehler operated a bakery/confectionery/restaurant from 1876 to about 1896. George of Koehler Brothers, confectioners and bakers at the corner of Chestnut and Second streets, was born in Germany in 1848, immigrating to Muscatine in 1849. In 1879, Koehler Brothers kept a large stock of confectionery, tobaccos and cigars (*History of Muscatine County, Iowa* 1879: 608). Frank Braun operated a bakery and confectionery subsequently to 1907. In 1907, Carl H. Braun operated a bakery and ice cream store from 1908 to 1913. In 1916 Gries and Reich was operating a bakery with Ed Reich taking over in 1919. In 1921 Lyon Bakery was at this location and continued operations until 1924. From 1907 to 1909, Browning College, a typing and stenograph school was operated at this location by Miss Sue Browning on the second story.

The building at the rear of this lot, 212 Chestnut (70-00973), appears to have been associated with the bakery at 201 W. 2nd Street. The 1883 Sanborn shows an earlier as a two section one-story bake house and oven. The 1888 Sanborn maps shows the new bake house and oven as a nearly square, about 30'x25' building with a small rear extension for the oven. The 1892 Sanborn map shows the same layout, and the 1899 Sanborn map shows a rear one-story addition in the space created by the “L” layout. It continues to be depicted as a bake house with oven at 212 Chestnut with this layout on the 1905 and 1912 maps. Between 1912 and 1919, the rear section was rebuilt around the oven section to enlarge this space, demolishing the earlier one-story rear addition to the south and building a smaller one-story addition on this side. Since 201 W. 2nd Street is not indicated with an interior oven, it seems probable that they were using this building at the rear of the lot.

From 1927 to 1931, 201 W. 2nd Street was apparently vacant. The bake house has been converted to storage on the 1928 Sanborn map, with side additions filling in the space between the two buildings. In 1931 Clara Guessragen operated a restaurant for a brief period and then the building was again vacant in 1934. In 1936, Western Auto was located here. In 1938 through 1941 Zear J. Hinshaw had his grocery at this location. In 1943 the store was again vacant. Kath's Army Store was located here in 1946 and Mrs. Ellen L. Collier lived there in 1949. Finally in 1952 the Triangle Inn Tavern started a long span at this location until a name change in 1986.

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At 203 W. 2nd Street, the Mull Grocery business appears to have operated here for a brief period from 1874 to 1876. By 1883, Reuling, having ceased his bakery at 201, moved his grocery operation into this space where his son, George W., would continue at this location until 1927. At this time, Reuling operated one of about 30 groceries in Muscatine. Throughout the end of the 19th century and into the early 20th century, about 30 grocery stores continually operated in Muscatine. In 1929, E.H. Schulz was operating a grocery at this location that would continue until 1937.

This storefront was vacant in 1938-39. Elfers Electric began operations at this location in 1940 and continued into the 1950s. Elfers Electric was started by Louis Elfers in July 1920 in the South Side Electric Shop in south Muscatine. The firm moved to 227 East 2nd in 1931 and to 203 W 2nd in 1938. Elfers electric supplied the fixtures and construction on the new Bellevue Hospital Addition. ("Elfers Electric Store", Centennial Edition of Muscatine Journal, May 31, 1940). By 1959 the Big Dollar Store had opened at this location.

A number of tenants occupied the upper floors over the years including: Clara Schmalz, dressmaker, 1895; August Thorman, 1899; W.W. Crockett, 1899-1903; A.J. Opel, 1902-1904; J. Beckey, Mrs. N.J. Moses, H.H. Lantz, 1903; E.G. Messenger, 1904; J.N. Burris, 1904; S.O. Collins, 1907-1909; F.E. Beaham, W.C. Norton, 1907; Mrs. A.E. Stephens, W.J. Hughes, 1908-09; M. Cottrell-1911, T.J. Duncan, Nellie Betzhold, 1913; F.E. Lee, Frank Graham, 1916; Mary Brown, Iva Wallace, C.H. Mills, Jason Rowe, 1919; L.G. Lyon, 1921-24. The upper floors were mainly vacant in the 1930s. Mrs. Emma Delong 1938 – 1946; Keith E. Gyler, 1940; Peter H. Naber 1946; Phillip H. Thompson, 1949-1959.

Fair Oaks Dairy operated out of the rear of the building in 1936-1939. The BPOE Hall and the Moose Hall was located on the third floor during 1902-03 and 1913-1916 respectively.

Listings for the third story disappear from the city directories after 1943. The 1946 Sanborn map appears to continue to indicate a third story, used as a hall. This information is exactly the same as the information depicted on the 1928 map. Previous owner Mary Phelps, who leased the 201 storefront with her husband to the Triangle Inn by 1952, believes that the story was likely removed prior to their purchase of the property. She definitely knows that it was removed by 1955.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"A Line-Up of Fine Carriages on East [West] Second Street" Photograph (Note that the photo caption mistakenly labeled the location as East Second Street), Bicentennial Edition of the *Muscatine Journal*, July 1, 1976, Sec. 3, p. 10.

City Directories, Muscatine, Various publishers, 1869-1959. Available at the Musser Public Library.

"Elfers Electric Store," Centennial Edition, Muscatine Journal newspaper, Muscatine, Iowa, May 31, 1940, Section 5, Pg 26. Available at the Musser Public Library.

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Old Settler's Register of Muscatine, Publisher and date unknown. p. 464. Available at the Musser Public Library.

Phelps, Mary, previous owner. Conversation with Jay Brady, Muscatine, Iowa, July 31, 2005.

Sanborn Map Company. "Muscatine, Iowa," Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pelham, NY: Sanborn Map Company, 1883, 1888, 1892, 1899, 1907, 1912, 1919, 1928, 1946. Accessed online at: sanborn.umi.com.

"Second & Pine Photograph," 1866, GR26 of Graham Photo Collection, Volume 1. Available at the Musser Public Library.

"Second and Chestnut Photograph," 1879, GR162 of Graham Photo Collection, Volume 4. Available at the Musser Public Library.

Location Map



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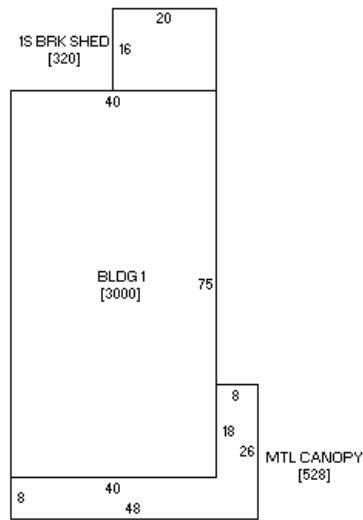
J.A. Reuling Bakery
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Plan (from assessor's office)



(front – 2nd Street)

Photograph of building (digital image)

