

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

State Inventory No. 70-00379 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 Meeting House – Congregational Church
 other names/site number Record Printing Company, Field Site #: FS-033

2. Location

street & number 214 Chestnut Street
 city or town Muscatine vicinity, county Muscatine
 Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____
 (If Urban) Subdivision Original Town Block(s) 35 Lot(s) S 43' Lots 6 & 7

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 Enter number of:	If Eligible Property, 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>06A01: Religion / Church</u>	<u>02E08: Commerce / Beauty Shop</u>
<u>10E02: Industry / Communications/Print Plant</u>	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>04A: Greek Revival</u>	foundation _____
_____	walls <u>03: Brick</u>
_____	roof <u>08A Asphalt Shingles</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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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 214 Chestnut Site Number 70-00379
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 1857 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates c.1916, c. 1945, 2000

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 June 10, 2005

street & number 215 Sycamore telephone 563-264-1550

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>Meeting House</u> Name of Property	<u>Muscatine</u> County
<u>214 Chestnut</u> Address	<u>Muscatine</u> City

7. Narrative Description

This building originally was constructed in the Greek Revival style and contained portico across the front with brick columns at the corners and two center Ionic columns with a recessed three bay façade. A square belfry also projected above the peak (Richman 1911: 318; OG587 Photograph, c.1906). In 1916, the building façade was greatly altered by elimination of the large portico and recessed façade, bringing it forward and creating a five bay format. The current façade brick appears to date to this period. The new configuration included five single-over-single-light double-hung segmental arch windows on the second story and four single-over-single-light double-hung segmental arch windows on the first story with an entry in the north bay. Subsequently, between 1916 and 1975, the front elevation was again altered, likely in the mid-1940s when an auto dealer moved here. The alterations consisted of replacement of the first story windows with a four-light large display window set in the south portion of the elevation, a slightly off-center entry, and a garage door set in the north portion. The facade was again altered in 2000 when all of the windows were replaced, the large south display windows replaced with a series of five window, and the garage door replaced by an additional set of three display windows.

The front (east) elevation contains the original 1857 Greek Revival frame gable with vent set in the peak. The façade location and brick dates to the 1916 remodeling. The general layout of the first story appears to date to c.1945, with final modifications in 2000. The first story is characterized by a large display window divided into five sections, each three by six lights, located in the south half of the elevation. The business sign "Pro-Hair Design" is set above this display window. The off-center door is a modern steel replacement door with three-light by three-light arched window and a three-light by two-light door transom above. A three section display window, each three by six lights, adjoins to the north. The five bay second-story layout dates to the 1916 remodeling. The second story has modern replacement six-over-six-light double-hung windows in historic segmental arch openings.

The openings on the south side elevation appear to be generally in historic locations, though some of the openings appear to have been modified. All the windows have non-historic sashes, generally double-hung, from the 2000 remodeling. The windows all have prominent window lintels above with the second story windows equipped with deeper lintels to account for the brick corbeling. The 1916 photograph shows two windows on either side of a segmental arch entry in the front portion of the first story and three large window space in the remaining space of this story. The front window has been enlarged to a storefront type size, and the entry has been enlarged. A smaller window has been added between the two rear large windows. In 1916, the second story had seven windows, and an eighth has been added in the fourth bay from the rear. This windows cut into the corbelled frieze of this elevation, as they do now. These windows were added in this configuration when the interior second story was added, probably around 1916 when it was converted to commercial use. Originally, the sides each had five windows, which was taller than the current opening, seen in the brick patching. The lower portion of the brick wall (or foundation) slightly protrudes beyond the upper portion of the wall and has been coated with a cementitious material. The chimney runs up this elevation approximately 1/4 from the front and has been plastered with concrete. This chimney was not originally on the exterior, though a chimney was at this location. Four cast iron star tie-rods are set between the stories to secure the brick wall. The original

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wide brick frieze and extensive brick corbelling along the cornice remains intact. The brick capital of the front corner column also remains visible.

The north side elevation, like the north, appears to mostly have openings that date to the remodeling with the interior addition of the second story, probably in 1916. There are six windows on each story, and all the windows have replacement sashes, mostly double-hung, dating to the 2000 remodeling. A double window set is located in the front quarter of the elevation and is set between the first and second stories. A building chimney divides the elevation with two-thirds to the front and one-third to the rear. Three of the windows for each story are uniformly spaced in the back third west of the chimney and the remaining three windows are uniformly spaced to the east of the chimney in the middle third of the building. The east window set of the second story is a double window, as well as the windows in the second and third bays from the rear. Three cast iron star tie-rods in the brick wall are visible between the stories. The original wide brick frieze and extensive brick corbelling along the cornice remains intact. The brick capital of the front corner column also remains visible.

The rear (west) elevation is fairly plain with a plain brick gable with vent beneath peak. Two non-historic eight-over-eight-light double-hung windows are set in the second story with an entry with large concrete lintel set to the north of the second story. The door is a metal door set in a brick face that fills an older, wider opening. A recently constructed wood landing and stairs run from the second story door to the alley below. A modern metal door set in a wood frame to fill a large wall opening is located in the south corner of the first story elevation. The first story brick has been covered with a cementitious material to the bottom of the second floor. The upper corners of each of the corner "columns" have brick column capital of 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. However, it does appear to potentially be a contributing building in a potential downtown historic district.

The remodeling in 1916, c.1945 and 2000 have significantly altered the historic appearance of this building. Thus, it has lost the integrity need to convey its historic significance for its early history, particularly prior to 1916. The remodeling in 1916 first converted this church to commercial use, for the Record Printing Company. The Record Printing Company is a significant local business, but the later remodeling has impacted the integrity of the building from this period. The building appears to have been remodeled around 1945 for an automobile sales business, installing larger storefront windows, off-center entry, and an overhead garage door entry on the first story. This format was the converted to two sets of storefront windows with the center entry in 2000, when the windows throughout the building were replaced. Thus this building does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C.

However, the initial remodeling in 1916 and subsequent remodeling in c.1945 are directly tied to the conversion of the church/hall to commercial use. In 1916, the current façade location and materials were

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built, with the five bay layout on the second, as well as the first, story. This building was then used for the Record Printing Company from 1916 through 1943. The remodeling in c.1945 converted the five bay layout of the first story to a layout with a storefront window set, pedestrian entry, and garage door entry, for use as an automobile sales business. Though this business only remained here briefly, it appears to be responsible for the basic current format of the first story. In 2000, the windows were replaced, including the storefront window set, and the garage door entry converted to additional window space. However, the overall façade of the building retains its basic 1916 and c.1945 characteristics. The remaining walls continue to reflect their original 1857 construction. Thus, this building appears to potentially retain sufficient integrity to be contributing in a potential downtown commercial district.

The building does have an interesting and engaging history first as the third worship house of the Congregational Church. The first Congregational Church was erected at the southwest corner of 4th and Sycamore in 1844. In 1852, a brick building was constructed at the southwest corner of 3rd and Chestnut. In 1856, the grading of Third Street left the church building twelve feet up in the air, at the bottom of the foundation. In June 1857, it was decided that the church be taken down and rebuilt on the rear of the same lot, with thirty more feet in width purchased from the next lot, and that the dimensions of the new building be increased to ninety feet. Under the watchful eye of Joseph Bennett, the new church was built, and they resumed services here on October 11, 1857. This building was repaired several times, once in 1865, and again in 1873, and at other times. This building was used until the new church was erected at the corner of 3rd and Chestnut in 1893 (Richman 1911, Volume 1: 316-323). The 1883 and 1888 Sanborn maps indicate the Congregational Church at this location, and in 1892, this church is depicted with the future footprint of the neighboring church under construction. The 1899 Sanborn map notes that this building was used as a hall, as does the city directories of this period.

In 1901, Company C moved into the building, and it was indicated as the Armory Hall on the 1905 Sanborn map. A photograph of the building in 1906 continues to show the portico and recessed façade, though it appears that the belfry may have been removed by this date. The building was apparently remodeled in 1907 to house a combination drill hall and basketball court. By 1909 the militia had outgrown the building and moved to 114 W. 2nd. A.O.U.W. purchased the building and continued use through 1913 (Randleman 1981: 29). The 1912 Sanborn map shows the use as the A.O.U.W. Hall, and continues to depict the recessed façade with the portico. First Baptist Church briefly used the building, listed here in 1916.

Record Printing Company began operations at this location in 1916 and continued through 1943. A December 1916 photograph, likely taken soon after they moved in, shows that the columns and recessed façade have been replaced by the brick façade flush with the side columns and front of the portico. The 1919 Sanborn map no longer shows the recessed façade either. The 1919 Sanborn map notes that printing was located on the first story, and composing on the second story. Record Printing Company was established in May of 1899 by William Narvis. The company was first located over the old Journal office at 214 Iowa, later moving to Chestnut and Second Streets before relocating here in 1916. Stuart Narvis, son of the founder, entered the business in 1914 and upon the death of his father in 1928 took complete charge. Beginning in 1923, the firm published a monthly syndicated service for D.W. Ramsey advertising agency, Davenport, which was sent all over the U.S. In 1938, the firm installed a new Miller

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Mayor Automatic, which takes a sheet 27 by 40 and runs 3,000 an hour, and in 1940 installed another new Kelly cylinder press which takes a sheet 19 by 24 and runs 1200 an hour. The firm's motto in 1940 was "no job too large or none to small for us to handle." In 1940, the company was an agent for Shaw-Walker filing supplies and office furniture and for Meilink fire-proof safes, and carried Borum and Pease loose-leaf ledgers and forms, as well as the Wilson-Jones line ("Record Printing Company," May 31, 1940, section 3, page 18). In 1943, Earl R. Sissel took over the business at 214 Chestnut. By 1946 he had moved to 212 Walnut Street. By 1949, there was no Record Printing Co. listed.

Kurland Auto Sales by Hyman I. Kurland was listed here in 1946 city directory. Apparently, this was a short run business with no listings for Kurland Auto or Hyman Kurland in preceding or succeeding city directories. Though no building permit has been located, it is likely that they modified the façade to create a large storefront window space and a garage door entry. This would have provided them access to the interior for automobiles as well as display space. It seems less likely that the following tenant, Broud's Radio and TV from 1956 to 1979, would have added these features, and the storefront windows and garage door entry are clearly seen in a 1977 photograph of the building.

The building was vacant from 1949 through 1954. Then in 1956 Broud's Radio and TV moved here and operated at this location until 1979. Sidney M. Broud opened the radio and TV store at 214 Chestnut and continued to operate it until its closure. Sidney Broud was the son of Joseph C. Broud, who had operated an Army Store and hardware store at 123-125 W. 2nd Street from 1927 to 1946 and then Broud's Department Store at 123-129 from 1946 to 1952. Ring King Visibles was located here in 1980. Ring Kings Visibles was founded in 1972 and made microfiche housing systems. B.V. Massey was president. In 1979 Craig Drake became president and the business was moved to 215 W. 2nd Street with the wholesale branch being located at 214 Chestnut in 1980.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Environmental Planning and Research, Inc (EPRI). *Historic Architecture of Muscatine, Iowa*. Chicago, IL, 1977. Prepared for the City of Muscatine.

OG487, Co. "C", at Armory, 212 Chestnut, 1906 photograph, Oscar Grossheim Collection. Available at Musser Public Library.

OG1822, Record Printing Co., Chestnut Street, December 1916 photograph, Oscar Grossheim Collection. Available at Musser Public Library.

Randleman, Douglas. *Muscatine Pictorial Postcard History*. Muscatine: Knott Printers, Inc., 1981, 29.

Richman, Irving B. *History of Muscatine County, Iowa*. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing, 1911.

"Record Printing Company" Centennial Edition, *Muscatine Journal*, May 31, 1940, Sec. 3, p. 18.

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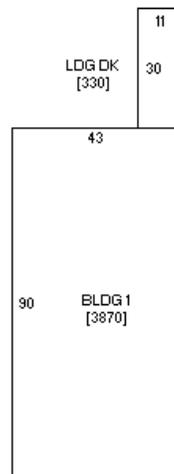
Muscatine
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Sanborn Map Company. "Muscatine, Iowa," Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pelham, NY: Sanborn Map Company, 1883, 1888, 1892, 1899, 1907, 1912, 1919, 1928, 1946. Accessed online at: sanborn.umi.com.

Location Map



Plan (from assessor's office)



(front - Chestnut)

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Photograph of building (digital image)



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Related District Number _____

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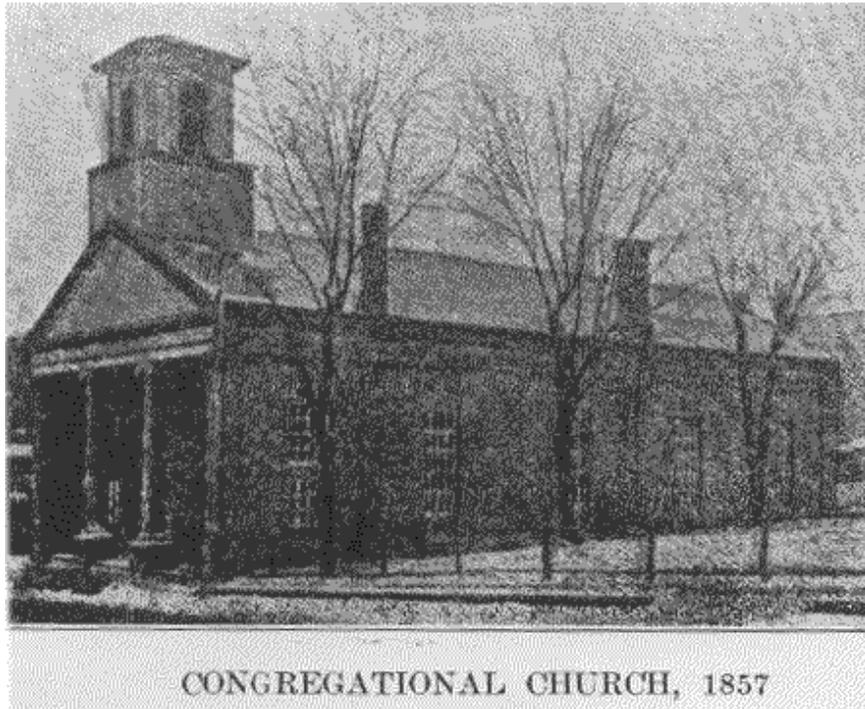
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Historic Photograph of building



Photograph from Richman's History of Muscatine County, Iowa, 1911

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Historic Photograph of building



From the collection of Musser Public Library

OG1822, Record Printing Co., Chestnut Street, December 1916 photograph, Oscar Grossheim Collection.
Online at <http://www.umvphotoarchive.org/cgi-bin/viewer.exe?CISOROOT=/muspl&CISOPTR=861>