

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

State Inventory No. 70-00979 **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 Commercial Building
 other names/site number Gaeta Building, Field Site #: FS-047

2. Location

street & number 101 E. Mississippi Drive
 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) 12 Lot(s) S 60' W 1/3 Lot 1

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>02G01: Commercial / Cafe</u>	<u>11D03: Healthcare / Doctor's office</u>
<u>11D03: Healthcare / Doctor's office</u>	<u>01B02: Domestic / Apartment building</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>09F05: Commercial/Brick Front</u>	foundation <u>03: Brick</u>
<u>09D01: Flat Roof</u>	walls <u>03: Brick</u>
	roof <u>08B: Rolled Asphalt</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
City Muscatine

Address 101 E. Mississippi

Site Number 70-00979
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
1920s check if circa or estimated date

Other dates
1941-42 - new brick facade

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 Penny Gordy, volunteer; Devin Pettit, MHPC (R.L. McCarley, Consultant)

organization Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission date September 2004

street & number City Hall 215 Sycamore telephone 563-263-1554

city or town Muscatine state Iowa 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: _____

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 3

<u>Commercial building</u> Name of Property	<u>Muscatine</u> County
<u>101 Mississippi Drive East</u> Address	<u>Muscatine</u> City

7. Narrative Description

This is a three story, two-bay, two-part commercial building. According to a c.1937-38 photograph, it was historically three bays (#35566, Grossheim photograph) On the exterior walls of the façade and west elevation, the building's foundation appears to be of poured concrete, however, interior observations reveal stone reinforced with concrete. The building's original soft, red brick was refaced with blonde brick around 1941, now evident only on the front and west elevations (Vince Gaeta interview). The brick is of running bond with soldier brick courses under the windows on each story and along the frieze. The single door entry with a transom window is on the southwest corner of the building in a square "cutaway" supported by a brick column at the extreme southwest corner. Catty-corner from the door is a window of privacy glass blocks set directly in the wall. On the façade of the first floor are two single-light fixed wood window with rowlock brick sill. Two wood, single-over-single-light double-hung windows are found on the second and third stories. Two small square vents sit next to each of the 2nd and 3rd story windows on the east.

On the first story of the west elevation are three single-light fixed wood windows with rowlock brick sills and a single entry door with a transom window. The smallest, central window is boarded over, and the northern large window has privacy glass block. On the second and third stories each are eight single-over-single-light double-hung windows. There are two more small square vents, one each on the second and third stories at the north end, similar to the front. There is a soldier course of brick at the frieze with a concrete pediment labeled "Gaeta" for the building's owner when it was remodeled around 1941. The building cap is also concrete. The east elevation is a former party wall that is now smooth concrete with 9 visible tie-rod ends. The north elevation is a party wall with 107 Iowa, which was remodeled in conjunction with this building.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

This building does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C, but it does appear to be a contributing building to a downtown historic district. The current appearance dates to the c.1941-42 remodeling. Since this time, the doctor's office has occupied this building. Neither this business nor the doctor appear to be particularly prominent in the community, and the building is not an outstanding example of an architectural style or type.

Though it lacks individual distinction, it contributes to the historic commercial nature of this district and retain sufficient integrity to convey this significance. The new brick face in c.1941 reflects a historic "updating" of the building within the period of significance for the district. It falls within one historic context identified for this district: "20th century Business and Industry.

This building appears to have been constructed between 1919 and 1928, as the width of the building changes from 34 feet to 42 feet in this period. E.R. Caudle opened a restaurant here by 1910. In 1923-24, the restaurant's name changed to People's Café, with E.R. Caudle acting as manager. In 1927 John

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 4

<u>Commercial building</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>101 Mississippi Drive East</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Address	City

Downey started Booster's Café at this address. Based on the Sanborn maps, the building was reconstructed, at least partially, during its tenure as a restaurant. Work may have occurred around 1927 with the change in ownership. Mr. Downey operated the restaurant until 1937 when he sold out only to buy it back in May 1939. At that time he undertook an interior remodel ("Booster's Café," May 31, 1940, 142).

Shortly after this work, the Gaeta family purchased this building. They remodeled it by adding the new yellow brick and new windows along with the building they owned behind this one at 107 Iowa (Gaeta interview). Originally the building had soft red brick. The Booster Café continued to operate here until 1950, under various management.

In 1952 Dr. Robert Goad an eye doctor located here, and stayed until the early 1960's. The building is currently used by Edkin Chiropractic.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"52" June 1877, Historic Photograph, Graham Collection, Musser Public Library, Muscatine, Iowa

"897," 1901, Historic Photograph, Oscar Grossheim Collection, Musser Public Library, Muscatine, Iowa.

"35566," c.1937-39 Historic Photograph, Oscar Grossheim Collection, Musser Public Library, Muscatine, Iowa.

"Booster's Café," Muscatine Journal Centennial Edition, May 31, 1940, 142.

City Directories, Muscatine. Various publishers, 1919-1959. Available at the Musser Public Library.

Gaeta, Vince, son of Louis Gaeta, building owner. Interview by Penny Gordy, August 6, 2004, Muscatine, Iowa.

Sanborn Map Company. "Muscatine, Iowa," Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pelham, NY: Sanborn Map Company, 1905, 1912, 1919, 1928, 1946. Accessed online at: sanborn.umi.com

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Site Number 70-00979

Related District Number _____

Page 5

Commercial building
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

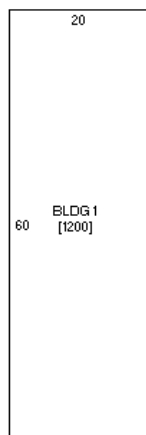
101 Mississippi Drive East
Address

Muscatine
City

Location Map



Plan (from assessor's office)



(front - Mississippi)

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 6

Commercial building
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

101 Mississippi Drive East
Address

Muscatine
City

Photograph of building (digital image)

