

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

State Inventory No. 70-00954 **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 Garage
 other names/site number Field Site #: FS-115

2. Location

street & number 507-511 East Second 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) 29 Lot(s) 2 & E20' lot 1 & W20' lot 3

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:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Enter number of:	Contributing Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____ buildings	<u>1</u> _____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____ sites	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____ structures	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____ objects	_____ objects
	_____ 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>14D09: Transportation / Auto Service or Repair</u>	<u>10G01: Industry / Storage / Warehouse</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>07E : Late 19th & Early 20th Century / Craftsman</u>	foundation <u>10B : Concrete</u>
_____	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 509-511 East Second Street Site Number 70-00954
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
02: Architecture

Significant Dates

Construction date 1920 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates _____

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 Maryrose and John Peterschmidt (Member and Volunteer) (R.L. McCarley, Consultant)
organization Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission date February 28, 2005
street & number 215 Sycamore Street telephone 563-264-1550
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

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<u>Garage</u> Name of Property	<u>Muscatine</u> County
<u>507-511 E. 2nd St</u> Address	<u>Muscatine</u> City

7. Narrative Description

This building is a unique Craftsman style garage with an arched roof. The structure is two stories high in the middle and measures about 80' wide and 140' long. The 1928 Sanborn map notes concrete block construction, a concrete floor, and a metal truss roof. The building also originally had steam heat and electric lights. From the southwest corner there is a progression of entries and windows crossing the building's façade. Historically on this facade, there was, from the west end, a pedestrian entry with adjacent window and a small, glass transom. Next, there was a large opening for automobiles, followed by three large display windows in the center, then, a second pedestrian entry with window and transom, then one large window on the east end. Above all windows was a fixed in place transom of 3" x 3" translucent glass panes, installed five high. (Grossheim photo. 9-19-31, OG#3334 – see end of form).

Currently, working from left to right (west to east), the first bay has a single metal door entry and small window in the opening that previously had a pedestrian door and a large window. The additional space is covered by metal panel. The second bay has a large, metal roll up door for auto entry. This opening has been enlarged vertically from the original automobile entry. The center bay features a large display window space that is mostly filled in by metal panels and a small, metal framed window. The fourth bay is a mirror image of the first bay, except that there is no window. In the eastern-most bay of the south façade there is a large display window space that has also been filled in with metal panel and a small, metal framed window. Above the windows are two parallel bands of concrete with three courses of brick between them. These bands are continuous across the façade, interrupted only at the roll-up auto entry. The lintel of the original auto entry was at the bottom of the lower band (Grossheim photo. 9-19-31, OG#3334). Above the banding, running bond brick work rises to a parapet that is a gentle arch. The arch reveals the primary structural design of the building to be open steel trusses that carry the roof weight to the east and west walls, eliminating the need for interior columns. This provided ample interior space for the 80 car capacity. Originally, a pair of large, square skylights illuminated the interior. Also, above the stone banding and embedded into the brick work is a concrete flat slab with the word GARAGE and 1920 inscribed in it. On the upper two corners of the south elevation is found a concrete cross embedded in the brick. The east, west and rear elevations of this structure are windowless walls, clad with modern metal panels.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

This garage appears individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C as a unique architectural example of a historic garage. Additionally, it is the oldest extant garage in Muscatine, and the architecture reflects this historic use. It is likely further east than the boundary for the potential downtown historic district.

Of the 15 garages listed in the 1923 city directory, this is the only commercial garage that remains standing that was constructed for this function. Thus, it is significant as the oldest remaining garage in Muscatine. Only a couple other extant historic garages have been identified in town. In the 1910s and 1920s, the automobile gained in popularity, resulting in the birth of many new businesses tailored to the

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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<u>Garage</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>507-511 E. 2nd St</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Address	City

automobile. Garages provided needed parking space for communities. The architecture of these garages ranged from functional to more stylistic. This particular garage has unique concrete detail reflective of the Craftsman style. Though the windows have been covered, the historic openings remain discernible, and the fenestration pattern is the same. Therefore, this garage appears eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C as an early example of a garage in Muscatine.

Historically, several combinations of addresses have been associated with this building, including 505, 507, 509, and 511. The original owner from 1920 to 1924 was Howard and Deems Auto Supply. In an advertisement published in the Muscatine Journal in their first year of operation, Howard and Deems touted their fire-proof, modern garage with ladies free rest rooms, day storage of cars for twenty five cents and all night storage for fifty cents. They advertised car washing, repairing and storing services, as well as selling genuine Ford parts, accessories, tires, tubes, oil and “visible” gasoline (“Title,” December 23, 1920, page 4). Howard and Deems are listed as one of 15 “garages” in the 1923 city directory. The 1928 Sanborn map depicted the building as a large, concrete block structure with a concrete floor and a steel truss roof. It had steam heat and electric lights. More significantly, it had the capacity of 80 cars. Most of these garages in the directory appear to have been parking structures on the 1928 map, though perhaps associated with a repair or sale business. Capacities ranged from about 50 to over 100 cars, according to the 1928 Sanborn map.

Over the next decades, ownership of the garage changed several times. It was operated in 1931 as M & W Chevrolet Co., in 1934 as B & J Garage, and in 1937 as Muscatine Car Market. The Muscatine Car Market sold Nash and Willys automobiles, Goodyear tires and other auto accessories, as well as used cars. (“Muscatine Business Directory,” *Centennial Edition Muscatine Journal* 1940, 26).

In 1938, the “Garage” was purchased by Klein Motors and was operated as a Ford sales and service center. Klein Motors prospered in the post war years and remained in business at this location until 1957, when, according to city directories, the property was sold to M & M Ford Sales, Inc., which is still in business in Muscatine. It is currently used as a warehouse by its owner, HON Industries.

9. Major Bibliographical References

City Directories, Muscatine. Various publishers, 1859-1959. Available at the Musser Public Library.

“Howard & Deems” advertisement, *Muscatine Journal*. December 23, 1920, page 4.

M & W Chevrolet Co. OG #3334, Photograph, Grossheim, Oscar, September 19, 1931.

“Muscatine Business Directory,” *Centennial Edition Muscatine Journal*. May 31, 1940, p. 26.

Sanborn Map Company. “Muscatine, Iowa,” Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pelham, NY:

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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Garage
Name of Property

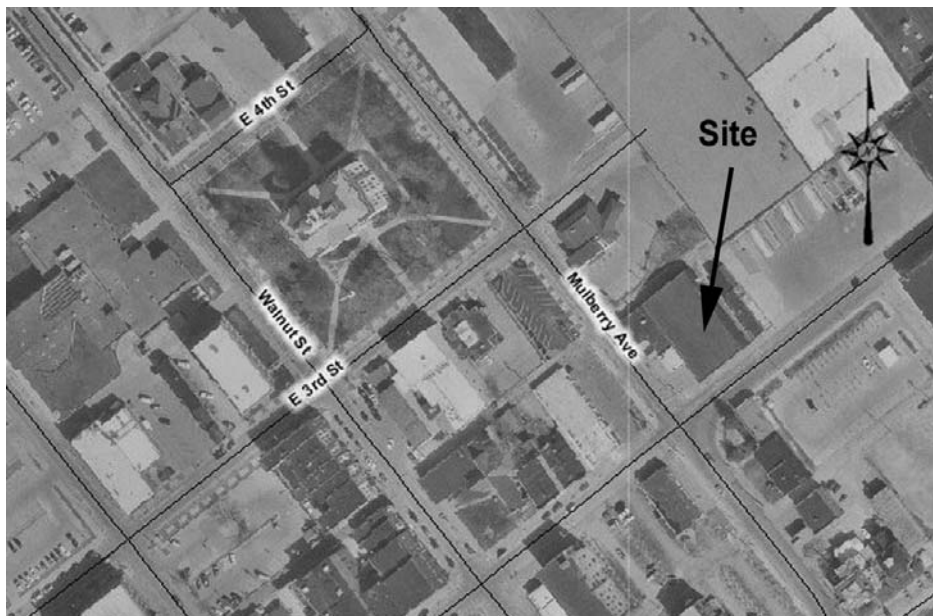
Muscatine
County

507-511 E. 2nd St
Address

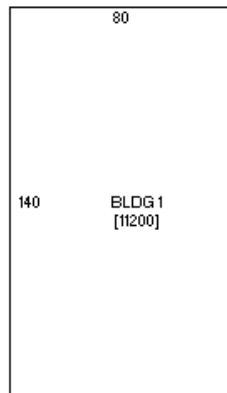
Muscatine
City

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 – 2nd St)

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Garage
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

507-511 E. 2nd St
Address

Muscatine
City

Photograph of building (digital image)



Historic Photograph – 1931 - M & W Chevrolet Co. OG #3334 – Grossheim Collection

