

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

State Inventory No. 70-00969 **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 Muscatine County Jail & Sheriff's Office (1909)
 other names/site number Field Site #: FS-124

2. Location

street & number 405 E. Fourth 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) 74 Lot(s) 1, 2, 3, 4, & 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:	
<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>04C02: Government/Correctional Facility/Jail</u>	<u>04E: Government/Government Office</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>07E: Early 20th Century American Movements/Craftsman</u>	foundation <u>10B: Concrete/Poured</u>
_____	walls <u>04C: Limestone</u>
_____	roof <u>08: Asphalt/Shingle</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 405 (401) E. 4th Street Site Number 70-00969
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)

026: Politics/Government

Significant Dates

Construction date 1908-09 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates 1950, 1972 (addition)

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Architect/Builder

Architect J.E. Mills, Detroit, MI
Builder J.H. Selden, Muscatine, IA

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 Jim Rudisill, Planning & Community Development Coordinator (R.L. McCarley, Consultant)
organization City of Muscatine date January 31, 2005
street & number 215 Sycamore telephone 563-264-1554
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: _____

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<u>Muscatine County Jail & Sheriff's Office (1909)</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>405 (401) E. 4th Street</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Address	City

7. Narrative Description

This two-and-one-half-story irregularly massed building was constructed in 1908-09 as a new county jail and sheriff's office. A cement block addition was constructed to the back and west elevation in 1972. The voters approved funding for the original structure during the May 7, 1907 referendum that also approved a bond issue for a new county courthouse.

The original building was 42' x 70' and built of Bedford limestone, as was the courthouse. The first story of the building included a living room, dining room, pantry, kitchen and sheriff's office, with a corridor leading to the jail proper. A steel apartment to hold juveniles and total of 12 cells in two separate sets were on the ground story. Three bedrooms were located on the second story, which also contained the women's unit and two padded cells for insane prisoners. The second story was designed so 12 additional cells could be added later if that was necessary.

The building includes a side-gable center section from which two wings at the east end of the center section extend to the south (front) and north (rear). The south end served primarily as the private residence for either the sheriff or the jailer, while the north extension was the primary cellblock for adult males. Shingles are present in the gables of the main roof. Other gable ornamentation includes floral brackets under all the gabled roof ends and exposed rafter tails under the roof eaves, rusticated stone cladding on the foundation and stone belts between the stories.

The façade (south) faces 4th Street and consist of two main sections, the projecting south end of the cross gable and the main, setback hip-roof block. The gable-front portion has an open porch with a sloping roof that is supported by three, square, stone columns on the outside and two pilasters next to the house. The right side of the porch roof is gabled to match the end gable of the projecting south wing. Rafter tails extend under the eaves. A set of stone or concrete steps lead up to the porch on the right side. The entry door is located under the porch on the right side of the projecting cross gable. Additional first-story fenestration includes two one-over-one-light double-hung windows to the left of the door. Two similar first-story windows are located to the east (right) of this gable section. Each opening on the first story façade is matched by a similar opening directly above it on the second story, except for the entry door. A window, which matches the other units on this façade, is located directly above that opening. The front gable is clad in shingles and brackets support the curved returns. It also has a pair of one-over-one-light double-hung windows. A hip-roof dormer is located to the right of the front gable. This dormer has a pair of non-historic, sliding, windows.

The east elevation of the original building contains a large dormer with two windows that is centered on the elevation's hip-roof. The second story includes a one-over-one-light, double-hung window located below the dormer. A similar window is located to the left of this center window, while two openings are located to the right. The far right opening is a similar window, but the inside opening is a steel door that provides access to a metal fire escape. This opening and structure would not appear to be original. The first-story openings on the east elevation of the original structure include a pair of one-over-one, double-hung windows on the far left side of the building. An original opening to the right of these windows has been blocked up. To the right of this former opening is a set of three, vertical casement windows. There

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is also a basement entry on this elevation that is located along the center of the structure. The entry includes a steel door and a blocked-up window to its right. To the left of the basement entry are three non-historic basement windows.

The west elevation has been altered from its original appearance with the construction of the side addition. It historically contained a stone porch with a hip roof that was supported by at least two square stone pillars. This entry was the primary entry to the jail, while the Fourth Street entry to the building was used for the private residence of either the sheriff or the jailer (Muscatine Journal 1908, 19). A set of stone steps was located on the south side of the original jail entry porch. The porch has been demolished and a one-story concrete block structure constructed along this elevation. The addition does not hide the entire west elevation of the original building. The side of the south cross-gable wing remains exposed, with a one-over-one-light double-hung window on both the first and second story. The two windows are aligned. The remaining second story openings of the original building appear to be intact with this west gable section. Two sets of barred windows are located within the gable front. The right set is smaller than the left set and are slightly elevated above them. A pair of attic windows is located within the top portion of the gable. Four matched, barred windows are equally spaced along the west elevation of the back cellblock.

The first story of the original building's north (rear) elevation is also hidden by the new addition. The second story openings include two sets of barred windows that are equally spaced along the back wall.

The 1972 one-story addition on the west and north sides of the building, which included an evidence room, conference room, drunk tank, garage and day room for prisoners, has hidden the original first-story fenestration of these elevations of the original building. The addition's south end is sided with aluminum. A set of concrete steps on this elevation leads to the entry, a single steel door with a large light in the upper half. A picture window is located to the far left of the entry. The west wall of the addition shows the exposed concrete block, which is arranged in a diamond block design. There are a number of openings on this side. Two fixed, single sash windows are located in the upper half of the wall at the extreme western end of the building. To the right (south) of this pair is a steel door with a boarded-over light and a transom. A solid steel door and transom combination is located to the right of the first door. Continuing to the south, five pairs of fixed, single-sash window units are equally spaced along the upper half of the wall. The north elevation of the new addition has no window openings, but it does have an overhead steel service door in the center of the building. This opening is flanked on each side by a single, solid, steel door. The right door is located within a recessed entry, while the left door is flush with the exterior wall. The only opening on the new addition's east elevation is a permanent opening for a window air conditioner.

The back portion of the addition however also has a projecting east wing that has some additional openings. There is no fenestration on the north elevation of this wing. The east side has a single, solid, steel door that is slightly to the right of center of the wall. There are two, long, narrow recessed openings to the right of this door. The left opening appears to be a blind opening, while a steel plate covers the right slit. The south elevation of this wing does not have any openings.

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The interior of the original building has not been altered a great deal, although most of the ceilings have been lowered. A wood stairway provides access to the upstairs and most of the other original woodwork remains. Several connecting doorways provide access throughout the downstairs. Most of the cell rows and much of the original jail furnishings, including bunks, stainless steel toilets and sinks and similar equipment, are still located in the facility. The newer addition includes offices space, storage and other rooms. Most of this space continues to be used by the county for the purposes intended.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The 1908-09 Muscatine County Jail and Sheriff's Office appears individually eligible for the National Register under Criteria A. In addition, it may be a contributing building in a potential courthouse district or downtown historic district.

This building was the third building to be used a county jail, and together with the Muscatine County Courthouse, marks a critical point in this period of Civic Pride and Accomplishment in Muscatine. Pride and accomplishment was prevalent throughout the community during this time through construction of both public and private buildings. In addition to construction of a new courthouse and jail, a new post office was going up on Iowa Avenue. Down the street from the new post office, construction of the new Hotel Muscatine was nearly complete. The Hershey Building was also close to completion and the German-American Bank was under construction. The community was optimistic of its future growth and was expressing that optimism through building construction and economic activity. The new courthouse and jail, along with the other buildings constructed during this time in the downtown area, were a community project to demonstrate their pride and accomplishment. The development of the building in conjunction with the county courthouse illustrates the importance that residents at the turn of the century gave to law enforcement and their own community pride. The structure was not only a functional jail, but provided another architectural gem that complemented the imposing county courthouse. Though an one-story addition has been constructed on the north and west elevations, the original form of the building clearly rises above this addition. As the county's primary site for holding criminals and housing sheriff's personnel, the original building provided a key site for the criminal justice system in the county. This important function helped the community move forward throughout the 20th century to build additional civic pride, business and industry. While the later side/rear addition detracts from the historic appearance of the jail, the original form, design, massing and scale remains intact. Thus, the Muscatine County Jail and Sheriff's Office appears individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A.

The Muscatine County Courthouse was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1981 as part of the "County Courthouses in Iowa" Multiple Property nomination under Criterion C for its architecture. A broader Courthouse District nomination also focused on Criterion A could include the elements located on the square (landscape, monuments), courthouse, 1909 jail, and old jail. This nomination would include the early designation and 19th century development of the square, construction of the old jail adjacent to the square, erection of monuments on the square in the 19th century, and construction of the 1908-09 new courthouse and jail. The 1908-09 jail is distinctly linked to these other properties, particularly the

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courthouse. It originally housed the boiler for the courthouse, making this a necessary building for the daily operations of the courthouse. Further, it was constructed at the same time, with the same architect. Additionally, its location next to the 1856 jail provided continuity of location for the jail, while reinforcing this block as a support area for the courthouse.

The Muscatine County Jail and Sheriff's Office might also be a contributing building in a potential downtown historic district. It strongly falls within one historic context identified for the district: "Civic Pride and Accomplishment" as further noted above. Whether or not the jail will be within the district depends on the final boundary for the district. While it is not within the recommended boundary of the core district, but it is within a potential "governmental" expansion section, which includes the courthouse, square, old jail, and new 1909 jail.

The courthouse and the jail were both approved by voters on May 7, 1907. While the courthouse question passed by a 504-vote margin, the jail squeezed by with 236 votes. The bond issue for the new jail was \$15,000 and 2,988 residents voted in the referendum. The new structure replaced a brick building that had been constructed in the mid-1850s on the neighboring lot. Architect J.E. Mills, Detroit, who designed the new courthouse, provided the design for the new jail as well. The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors approved those plans in May 1908. J.H. Selden, Muscatine, was awarded a contract worth \$14,600 on July 6, 1908. Pauly Jail Building Company, St. Louis, Missouri, installed the steel cages and fittings at a cost of \$6,250. Construction on the building was completed in March 1909 ("Splendid Monuments to Muscatine's Progressiveness," December 17, 1908, 19; Richman 1911: 99).

The new structure included some of the most current incarceration equipment and also was well designed to handle a variety of prisoners, including juveniles, females and persons with mental or emotion disorders. An early report on the new facility described it as "a handsome structure and the material used in its construction the best" ("Splendid Monuments to Muscatine's Progressiveness," December 17, 1908, 19). The new facility contained separate facilities for juveniles on the first story, while females were housed in a second-story section. There were also padded cells for prisoners who were believed to have mental or emotional conditions. The cellblock for adult males consisted of two rows of six cells each. A cement wall separated the two rows. The jailer was able to control the cell doors from a central location using a mechanical arm. An adjoining kitchen was constructed on the first story and a connecting passageway provided easy access between the kitchen and the cellblock. Although most of the equipment that was originally in the cells has been removed, the individual cells remain intact. The equipment that controlled the cell doors is still functional, but has been disconnected as a precaution to accidental incarceration. With its intact equipment, including various cells and detention rooms, and basic design integrity, the 1908 jail provides a significant opportunity to study an early 20th century local penal facility.

The 1908-09 jail met the county's criminal detention and office needs through much of the 1900s and was only replaced in the early 1980s when a new facility was built across Walnut Street. Most of the 1972 addition continues to be used by the county's juvenile offenders office. The county also continues to use several portions of the original building for staff offices and storage. Most of the jail portion is no longer used and the county has started to transform some of the cells into other uses.

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The opportunity to present a 150-year story of law enforcement in the community is also preserved in this building, in combination with the county's 1856 building and the current Public Safety Building, which was built around 1980. While the 1856 building retains little of its original detention equipment, its design still can be easily compared to the 1908-09 building. The 1980 building offers a similar opportunity for comparing the 1908 building. There is no similar mixture of penal buildings in Muscatine, and most likely anywhere in Iowa, that offers such an opportunity to view how incarceration designs and programs changed over the last 150 years.

9. Major Bibliographical References

City Directories, Muscatine. Various publishers, 1856-present. Available at the Musser Public Library.

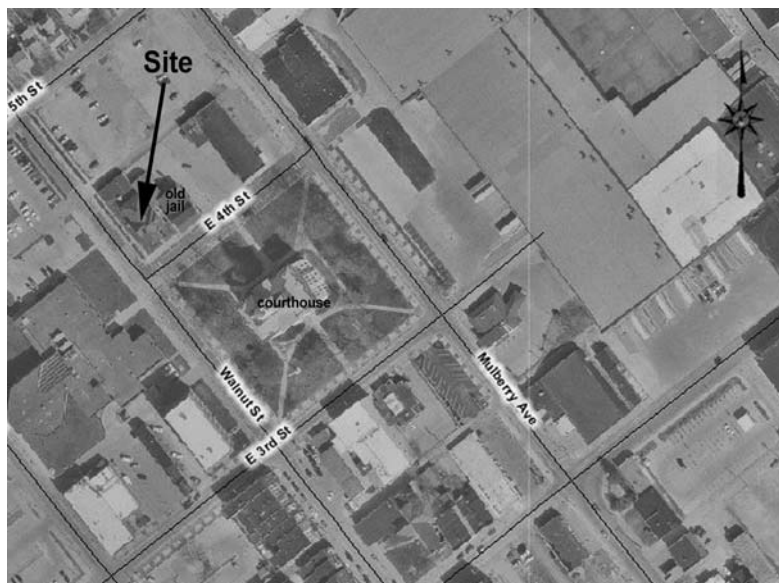
"New Addition To Sheriff's Office," *Muscatine Journal*, October 31, 1972, 2.

Richman, Irving B. *History of Muscatine County Iowa Vol. 1*. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing, 1911, 96-102.

Sanborn Map Company. "Muscatine, Iowa," Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pelham, NY: Sanborn Map Company, 1883, 1888, 1892, 1899, 1905, 1912, 1919, 1928, 1946. Accessed online at: <http://www.sanborn.umi.com>.

"Splendid Monuments to Muscatine's Progressiveness," *Muscatine Journal* Building Section, December 17, 1908, 19.

Location Map



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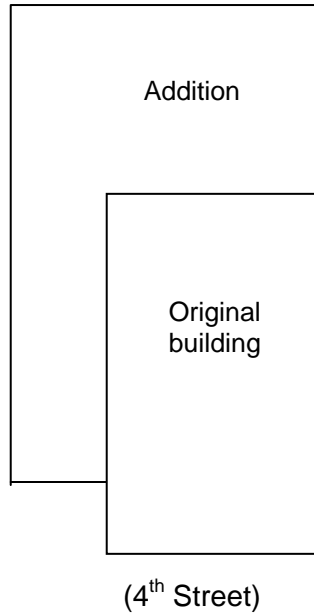
Muscatine County Jail & Sheriff's Office (1909)
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Plan



Photograph of building (digital image)

