

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

State Inventory No. 70-00246 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 Old Jail
 other names/site number Muscatine County Jail; Field Site #: FS-125

2. Location

street & number 411 E. Fourth Street (405 historically)
 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:	
	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>04C02: Government/Correctional Facility/Jail</u>	<u>04: Government</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>03B: Federal</u>	foundation <u>04: Stone</u>
<u>04A: Greek Revival</u>	walls <u>03: Brick</u>
_____	roof _____
_____	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 411 (405) E. 4th Street Site Number 70-00246
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)

02: Architecture
26: Politics/Government

Significant Dates

Construction date 1856 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates _____

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Architect/Builder

Architect _____
Builder Hines & Milford

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 Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission 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: _____

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 3

<u>Old Jail</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>411 (405) E. 4th Street</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Address	City

7. Narrative Description

Historically known as Muscatine's old jail, this side-gabled, 40' x 64' brick structure includes a two-story front section that originally doubled as a sheriff's office and home; and a one-story back extension that served as a cellblock. There is currently no interior connection between the two sections and it is not known if there ever was such a passage. Hine and Mulford constructed the jail between 1856 and 1857 for an estimated \$12,500

The old (brick) jail has both Federal and Greek Revival features. The side-gable feature is a classic Federal influence, especially with the lack of any front portico. However, the five-ranked, six-over-six, double-hung windows on the second floor are common in both the Greek Revival and Federal style. The brick dentilization, pilasters and other features show a stronger Greek Revival influence. A classic front door surround creates a more recessed doorway than normally seen with a Federal building. While there is no front porch as is common with the Greek Revival style, the recessed doorway does create a three-dimensional effect that is a more common Greek Revival feature. A simple cornice line of brick extends considerably below the roofline. This simple line reflects a Federal style, but the additional emphasis caused by lowering the line creates a frieze effect that suggests a Greek Revival trim feature. The building also has gable returns characteristic of the Greek Revival style.

The foundation is a combination of brick and stone, and several courses of cut stone in the front of the building create a striking contrast to the brick walls. The stone water table adds to the contrast. The brick is laid in common bond, while the window lintels and sills are cut stone. Brick pilasters with stone capitals highlight the corners.

The five bay symmetrical facade features a front entry that includes a small landing with a matching set of steps leading up from each side. The single-door entry with a transom window has a surrounding reflective of the Greek Revival style. The pilasters are flat, and there is a double cornice line with dentils. The first story and second story windows have six-over-six-light double-hung sashes, stone sills, and stone lintels. The windows in the building are not historic, though they reflect the historic style. The simple entablature consists of a wide flat brick frieze with a row of brick dentils.

The two sides of the residential section of the old jail are basically identical. A pair of six-over-six-light double-hung windows is located in the second floor, and these windows also have stone lintels and sills. The first story fenestration on the east side include a window below each of the second story windows and an entry to the right (rear). The entry also has a stone lintel. Three windows are found on the west elevation, with no entry. The basement windows also have stone lintels. The cornice line of the gables include gable returns. The slightly projected flat frieze "resting" on the corner pilasters continues across the side elevations.

The only fenestration on the back of the jail's residential section is a single, six-over-six-light, double-hung window in the left corner of the second story and a three-over-three-light, double-hung window to the right of it. Although the six-over-six-light window matches the design of the other six-over-six

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 4

<u>Old Jail</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>411 (405) E. 4th Street</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Address	City

windows in the structure, it is about two-thirds of the size of the other windows. The three-over-three-light window appears to be half the size of its neighbor.

The original fenestration of the one-story cellblock section of the jail has been altered. On the east elevation, a set of steel double doors has been installed in the south part of the wall. To the left of these doors and towards the top of the wall are two narrow openings that are lined with stone. It is assumed these were window units into individual cells, although there are no longer any bars on them. To the right of these openings is a 24" x 72" barred window.

The only fenestration on the north (rear) elevation of the old jail is a steel double-door entry in the center of the structure and a steel single-door entry on the far right. The double-door is located within an opening that has been framed down from what apparently was a much larger opening. The door on the right provides an outside entrance to the basement.

The west elevation of the cellblock has the most openings. At the far right of the cellblock is an opening that apparently provided an outside access to the cellblock. A heavy, wood door is still located in the recessed opening and iron hinges are still present. The opening is about 28" wide and 72" high. It has been sealed and an air conditioner installed in the door. To the left of this opening is a 24" x 24" coal chute. Two barred windows, each about 36" x 36" are located in the north half of the cellblock wall. Between these two windows, and low to the ground, is a 24" x 18" basement opening that is bordered with stone.

With the exception of the cellblock, much of the interior of the jail has not been substantially altered. A small entry hall is immediately inside the front door. The hall includes the stairway to the second story, and on the backside of this stairway, the basement steps. Single rooms are located on either side of the hall. Upstairs, the pattern includes a single room on the west side of the stairs right and a short hallway on the left that leads to a suite of three rooms that include a bathroom, a small storage room and a larger bedroom. Earlier reports indicate this suite might have originally been one room (Tracy 1973). Much of the original woodwork remains, including a plain wood banister that lines the stairway to the second floor.

An interesting feature in the basement is a brick-lined tunnel that runs under Fourth Street from the old jail to the county courthouse. The tunnel apparently was installed during the 1907 courthouse construction project. That project also resulted in the construction of a new jail facility just west of the old jail. After this work, the 1912 and 1919 Sanborn maps carried a notation identifying the old jail as containing a heating plant. The tunnel provided a passage for steam pipes to run from the boiler at the old jail to the newly constructed courthouse. That system of heating continues to the present. The undated photo that accompanied the old jail's 1976 National Register of Historic Places application, shows a chimney that was considerably taller than the structure that currently is present.

Since the Old Jail was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974, the only major alteration to the building appears to have been the installation of an overhead service door in the rear wall of the building. This door permits the county to use the former cell block as a maintenance shop area. The original cells were removed, and in addition to the installation of the overhead door, the twin, steel units

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 5

<u>Old Jail</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>411 (405) E. 4th Street</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Address	City

on the building's east elevation were also installed. The residential area of the jail building does not appear to have been substantially altered.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Old Jail was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974 during the first phase of survey work in Muscatine. It was listed individually under Criterion C for its architectural significance. Its National Register nomination identified the boundary as "Lot 2 and southwesterly one-third of Lot 3, Block 74, of Original Town," the lot historically associated with the building.

A revision to this nomination might include the addition of Criterion A with the context of Early Settlement of Muscatine. This context was not considered at the time of the original nomination. The construction in 1856 of this second jail for the community marks a step forward in the town development. Rather than constructed on the square, this lot across the street was selected, somewhat separating the functions of county courthouse and jail though they remained closely link. The original jail was a simple, 16' x 24' wood structure that had been constructed sometime after 1839 in the northwest corner of the public square. Within less than 20 years, a new jail was constructed across Fourth Street and north of the square. This building would include a sheriff's residence, in addition to the jail. Although the old jail is actually a second-generation public structure, its construction in 1856-57 still places it within Muscatine's Early Settlement historic context.

In 1981, the Muscatine County Courthouse was also 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 construction of the old jail across 4th Street from the courthouse in 1856 marked a distinct period of development in the county government, and began the association of this block with the courthouse square. The relationship was further enforced with the construction of the neighboring 1908-09 jail and sheriff's residence, in conjunction with the courthouse. The old jail is also distinctly linked to these later 1908-09 properties, particularly the courthouse. It originally housed the boiler for the courthouse, making this a necessary building for the daily operations of the new courthouse. It continues to serve this purpose.

The Old Jail might also be a contributing building in a potential downtown historic district. It strongly falls within one historic context identified for the district: "Early Settlement" as further noted above. Its replacement with the new jail and converted function providing power for the courthouse is also strongly associated with the context of "Civic Pride and Accomplishment." 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.

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 6

<u>Old Jail</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>411 (405) E. 4th Street</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Address	City

The original jail was a simple, 16' x 24' wood structure that had been constructed sometime after 1839 in the northwest corner of the public square. It was the first building on the square, constructed prior to the original courthouse. However, within less than 20 years, a new jail was constructed across Fourth Street and north of the square as a more substantial brick building. Construction started in 1856, but was not completed until 1857. Contractors for the project were Hine and Mulford. They built it for an estimated \$12,500. The old jail is the only government building remaining in Muscatine that exhibits the Greek Revival or Federal style. There has been little alteration to the exterior since it was constructed in 1856-57.

The building continued to function as the primary county penal facility until residents voted to approve building a new facility in 1907. At this time, it appears that the old jail was reused as a heating plant for the courthouse, with the boiler located in the basement. A brick-lined tunnel runs from the old jail, under Fourth Street, to the county courthouse. The tunnel apparently was installed during the 1907 courthouse construction project. That project also resulted in the construction of a new jail facility just west of the old jail. After this work, the 1912 and 1919 Sanborn maps carried a notation identifying the old jail as containing a heating plant. The tunnel provided a passage for steam pipes to run from the boiler at the old jail to the newly constructed courthouse. The courthouse continues to receive its heat from this source.

From 1910 to the present, in addition to its function as a heating plant, the building has been primarily used for storage. The residential area is still used to house old records and other documents. There has not been any remodeling work completed in this area to enhance the storage capabilities of the building, or provide for any other type of use.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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.

Tracy, James B. "Old Jail," National Register of Historic Places nomination form. Prepared by James B. Tracy for Mrs. C. Maxwell Stanley, member of the Board of Advisors, National Trust for Historic Preservation. January 13, 1973.

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 7

Old Jail
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

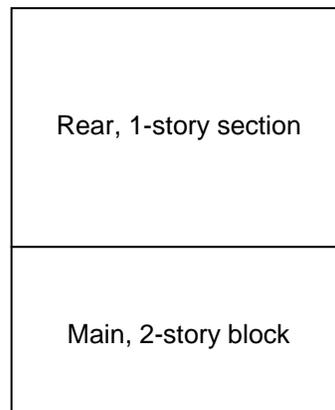
411 (405) E. 4th Street
Address

Muscatine
City

Location Map



Plan



(4th Street)

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 8

Old Jail
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

411 (405) E. 4th Street
Address

Muscatine
City

Photograph of building (digital image)

