

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

State Inventory No. 70-00961  **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 Joseph Bridgeman House  
 other names/site number Union Hall, Field Site #: FS-132

**2. Location**

street & number 222 West 2<sup>nd</sup> 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) 10 Lot(s) 9

**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)	_____	Contributing _____ Noncontributing _____
<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____
	<u>1</u> Total	_____ buildings _____ sites _____ structures _____ objects _____ 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**

<b>Historic Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions)	<b>Current Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>01A01: Domestic / Residence</u>	<u>70: Vacant</u>
<u>03A: Social / Meeting Hall</u>	_____
<u>03A02: Social / Union Hall</u>	_____

**7. Description**

<b>Architectural Classification</b> (Enter categories from instructions)	<b>Materials</b> (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>09A04: 2 story, side gable roof (I-House)</u>	foundation <u>03: Brick?</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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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 222 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Site Number 70-00961  
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)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

Construction date  
1856  check if circa or estimated date  
Other dates  
1963 additions

**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 Devin Pettit Vice-Chairman M.H.P.C. (R.L. McCarley, Consultant)  
organization Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission date September 29, 2004  
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>Joseph Bridgeman House</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>222 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
Address	City

## 7. Narrative Description

The original building at 222 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street is a c.1856 two-story brick house with an L-shaped plan, but with most of the original building is hidden by later front and rear additions. The original building is constructed of soft red brick, and shows two historic window openings on the north elevation that have been covered up with wood. One of those historic windows is barely visible, and the other has had a smaller, modern window in its place. The only other visible feature of the original building is a historic entry on the east elevation.

The front addition of this building is a 1½ story, running bond brick, commercial building built in 1963. The permit for construction was issued on May 6, 1963 ("Building Permits..." December 30, 1963, section 3, page 8). The west half of the façade is yellow wired brick with east half being faux red brick(concrete). The west half of the façade includes a modern entry with a canopy above. The storefront on this side of the façade includes two windows divided into five panes, with a small canopy above them. The east half of the façade has two sides; one facing north, the other facing northwest. There are four windows; two on each face. On the top half of this side of the façade the building is metal clad.

The east elevation includes a covered up window or entry with plywood, plus an older entry surrounded by cement block. This part of the elevation is part of a later addition, which includes the façade.

The rear addition is concrete block. There is a metal staircase on east elevation leading to a loading entry that has been filled-in with newer concrete block. The south elevation has a loading entry filled-in with newer concrete block, and replaced by a modern entry. At the bottom of the elevation there is a window filled in with wood. At the top of this rear addition there is clad metal siding.

## 8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Joseph Bridgeman House does not appear individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C, and it does not appear to contribute to a potential downtown historic district. With the non-historic additions on the front of the c.1856 house, the integrity of the older house has been lost. These additions have significantly altered the appearance of this building. These additions occurred in 1963, outside the typical fifty-year cutoff and outside the projected period of significance for the district. Thus, it does not appear to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The rear portion of the current structure originally served as the house of Joseph Bridgeman. This structure appeared in the 1856 City Directory (the city's first one). The date of construction appears to be around 1856, because the log cabin that Joseph Bridgeman had lived in since 1839 (where 212 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street is now) was moved to Weed Park in that year (GR 2, Graham Collection). From 1856 until 1900 the city directories show that Joseph Bridgeman lived at this address. It has been known variously in the directory as 105 Second Street, 59 West Second Street and finally 222 West Second Street. At times

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<u>Joseph Bridgeman House</u>	<u>Muscatine</u>
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during this period, both the city directories and the Sanborn Maps show Mr. Bridgeman's office as being either at his home address or at 224 West Second Street, which was an addition to his home. Joseph Bridgeman came to Muscatine in 1837. His first business venture was in general merchandise with Chester Weed, and was called Bridgman & Weed, this original business started in 1846, where the building at 206 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street now stands. In 1855 they moved into a new building block they erected next door at 208 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. They also acquired an additional partner in a Mr. Kent, the firm becoming Weed Bridgman & Kent. They gradually got away from general merchandise, concentrating on dry goods and notions, this part of the business continuing on until 1873. Mr. Weed and Mr. Bridgman also started an Insurance business in 1846, this occupied at first the old building at 206 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, then the new building until about 1886 when it moved to 224 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, essentially an addition to Mr. Bridgman's home at 222 ("Bridgeman Firm Prominent in Local Business," December 8, 1910, 77).

The Sanborn Maps at 222 show originally an L-shaped plan that is two stories, and with a one-story addition in the back. By 1888, a small office addition is noted on the west elevation, this being the insurance business of Bridgman and Weed. The 1899 Sanborn Map shows that this addition becomes 224 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. By 1912 the one story addition at the rear of 222 is gone, and the building then remains the same until an addition is added in 1963.

From 1900 thru 1913, various other residents lived here, with the exception of 1908-09, when the Batterson Button Company was here briefly. From the 1916 City Directory thru the 1943 directory, the Knights of Columbus and various other Catholic groups were located here.

From 1946 until relatively recently this was the location of various labor and trade unions. In 1963 two additions were added to the building by the Muscatine Labor Activities ("Building Permits..." December 30, 1963, section 3, page 8). The building is currently vacant.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

"Bridgeman Firm Prominent in Local Business," *Muscatine Journal* 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Industrial Edition, December 8, 1910, 77.

City Directories, Muscatine. Various Publishers, 1856-1959. Available at Musser Public Library.

"GR 2," early 1850s?, Graham Photograph Collection. Prepared for the Musser Public Library by E.L. Graham in 1908-1910; historic photographs with captions collected by, not photographed by, E.L. Graham.

Jarrett, Lauren, grandfather of Devin Pettit, Interview by Devin Pettit, October 7, 2004, Muscatine, Iowa.

"Building Permits..." *Muscatine Journal*, December 30, 1963, section 3, page 8.

Richman, Irving B. *History of Muscatine County, Iowa*. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing, 1911. Volume 2.

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Joseph Bridgeman House  
Name of Property

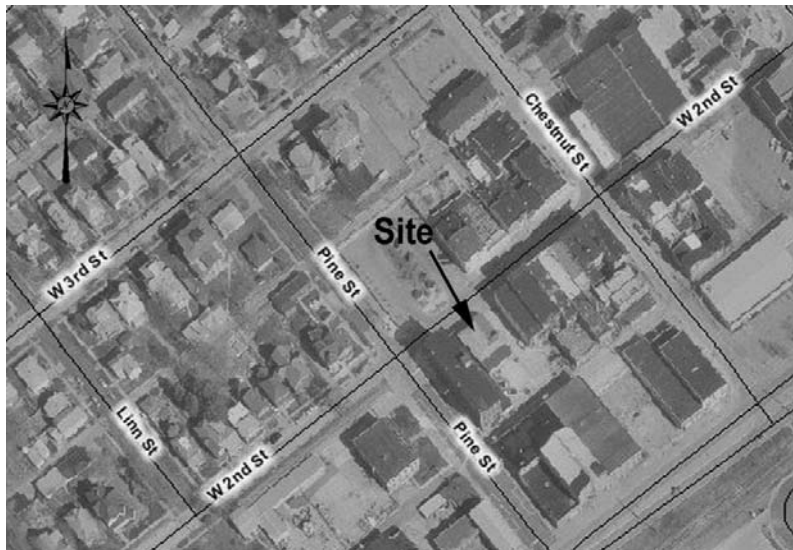
Muscatine  
County

222 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Address

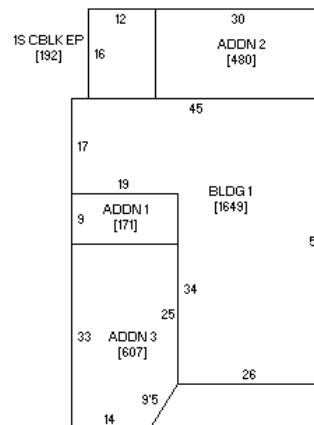
Muscatine  
City

Sanborn Map Company. "Muscatine, Iowa" Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. Pelham N. Y: Sanborn Map Company, 1883, 1888, 1892, 1899, 1905, 1912, 1919, 1928, 1946. Accessed online at: sanborn.umi.com.

## Location Map



## Plan (from assessor's office)



(front – W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St)

# Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

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Joseph Bridgeman House  
Name of Property

Muscatine  
County

222 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
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## Photograph of building (digital image)

