Iowa Site Inventory Form State Inventory Number: 44-00207 ☐ New ☐ Supplemental **State Historic Preservation Office** 9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number: _____ (January 2016) □ Non-extant Year: Read the lowa Site Inventory Form Instructions carefully, to ensure accuracy and completeness before completing this form. The instructions are available on our website. **Property Name** A) Historic name: Ernst Building B) Other names: 2023 downtown survey # DT-022 Location A) Street address: 111 S. Jefferson St B) City or town: Mount Pleasant (Vicinity) County: Henry C) Legal description: Rural: Township Name: ___ Township No.:___ Range No.:___ Section: Quarter: of Quarter: Urban: Subdivision: Original Block(s): 5 Lot(s): Lot 6 - N 20' of S 39' Classification A) Property category: Check only one B) Number of resources (within property): If eligible property, enter number of: □ Building(s) If non-eligible property, ☐ District Contributing Noncontributing enter number of: ☐ Site 1 Buildings Buildinas ☐ Structure Sites Sites ☐ Object Structures Structures Objects Objects Total **Total** C) For properties listed in the National Register: National Register status: Listed De-listed NHL NPS DOE D) For properties within a historic district: Property contributes to a National Register or local certified historic district. Property contributes to a potential historic district, based on professional historic/architectural survey and evaluation. Property *does not* contribute to the historic district in which it is located. Historic district name: Mt Pleasant Downtown Historic District Historic district site inventory number: 44-02280 E) Name of related project report or multiple property study, if applicable: MPD title Historical Architectural Data Base # Intensive Level Historical and Architectural Survey of Downtown Mt Pleasant, Iowa HADB-02986 Function or Use Enter categories (codes and terms) from the lowa Site Inventory Form Instructions A) Historic functions **B)** Current functions 02E02: COMMERCE/TRADE / specialty store / bakery 02E: COMMERCE/TRADE / specialty store **Description** Enter categories (codes and terms) from the lowa Site Inventory Form Instructions A) Architectural classification **B) Materials** 09F05: Commercial / brick front Foundation (visible exterior): <u>04C: Limestone</u> Walls (visible exterior): 03: Brick Roof: 15C: Rubber

Other:

Site Number: 44-00207 Address: 111 S. Jefferson St	City: Mt Pleasant County: IA District Number: 44-02280
Statement of Significance	
A) Applicable National Register Criteria: Mark your opin Criterion A: Property is associated with significant events. Criterion B: Property is associated with the lives of significant p Criterion C: Property has distinctive architectural characteristics Criterion D: Property yields significant information in archaeology.	s.
B) Special criteria considerations: Mark any special cond ☐ A: Owned by a religious institution or used for religious p ☐ B: Removed from its original location. ☐ C: A birthplace or grave. ☐ D: A cemetery	
C) Areas of significance Enter categories from instructions 05: Commerce	D) Period(s) of significance
02: Architecture	
E) Significant dates Construction date 1850s	F) Significant person Complete if Criterion B is marked above
G) Cultural affiliation Complete if Criterion D is marked above	H) Architect/Builder Architect
	Builder/contractor
Bibliography See continuation sheets for the list reset Geographic Data Optional UTM references See con Zone Easting Northing NAD Zone 1 2 3 4	
Form Preparation	
	by Pat White Date: March 5, 2024 PC E-mail: sparkconsulting@octaspark.com Telephone: 319-200-9767 State: IA Zip code: 52403
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION Submit the follow	ring items with the completed form
unique photo number. 3. Photo key showing each photo number on a monumber to indicate the location and directional views.	roperty/building name, address, date taken, view shown, and ap and/or floor plan, using arrows next top each photo iew of each photograph. g boundaries, public roads, and building/structure footprints. historic districts and farmsteads, and barns:
State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only E	
The SHPO has reviewed the Site Inventory and concurs with a ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ More research recomme ☐ This is a locally designated property or part of a lo	ended
Comments:	

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7. Narrative Description

While the core of this building dates to construction in the 1850s, the façade remodel was completed in 1940, resulting in historic integrity from this period. The building retains excellent integrity from this remodel, which was one of the earliest façade remodels completed in downtown Mount Pleasant. The entire front of the building was removed, with a new storefront installed and a new upper story façade installed. The storefront retains its recessed center entry with large aluminum display windows with small black tile squares on the bulkhead under the windows. A wood door with a large window and transom remains in place to the right of the storefront, providing access to the upper story apartment. A historic striped awning, which cranks out, remains on the building, under the storefront transom area that was utilized for signage. The second story has red brick from 1940 installed, with slightly projected course of brick defining the lower edge of the frieze above the windows and a rowlock course of brick across the top of the parapet wall. The windows are set in simple openings with buff brick utilized for the sills and lintels, providing a simple accent detail. The one-over-one-light double-hung windows have replacement vinyl sashes. The rear of the building on the second story has been clad in stucco, with two windows and a rear entry accessing the roof top of the rear one-story addition. The rear one-story addition is constructed of concrete blocks. It has a rear entrance at ground level.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Ernst Building appears to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing building within the potential Mount Pleasant Downtown Historic District. The building contributes to the historic commercial character of the downtown. The building façade was remodeled in 1940, among the earliest façade remodels in downtown. This remodel reflects this earlier period of improvement in the downtown, and it retains excellent integrity from this period. The building was occupied by Roederer's Bakery at the time, and then occupied by Wing's Bakery from 1943 to 1976. The building retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a historic commercial building in a historic district.

Based on research and evaluation conducted to date, this building appears to be potentially individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and/or C. The building was occupied by Wing's Bakery after the remodel for over three decades, and further research is recommended on this business. The façade remodel from 1940 represents one of the earliest efforts to improve the downtown in this manner, and it retains excellent integrity from this period. Further research and assessment of the interior features and modifications would be required for a full evaluation of the individual eligibility of the building.

Developmental history of property

As with several other buildings on the west side of the square, the core of this brick commercial building appears to have been built in the 1850s. The façade was remodeled in 1940 to the current brick, windows, and storefront configuration.

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This brick commercial building appears to have been built in the 1850s, during a period of intense construction in Mt Pleasant related to the arrival of the railroad. Buildings were originally numbered from the south corner of this block, with this building as the tenth storefront. "Hawkins & Swinford, Grocers" is shown in the 1859-1860 Henry County Directory alphabetical listing of residents (page 49). The business was located at No. 10 Jefferson, west side of the public square. Eli Hawkins (1814-1899) and James MC Swinford (1811-1882) appear in the 1859-1860 directory, and both are also enumerated in the 1860 Mt. Pleasant, Henry County census. Hawkins' occupation is grocer; Swinford's occupation is merchant. Mrs. Jane Glenny operates a millinery and dress shop on the 2nd floor of No. 10 Jefferson, as listed in the 1859-1860 directory. J.M.C. Swinford advertises cheap groceries on May 5, 1865, with no location noted.

Eliza Bowman owned this property (N ½ of the S ½ of lot 6 block 5) in the 1860s (Transfer Book "A", page 6). The 1867 Mount Pleasant City Directory advertises J.B. Lyons & Co., Apothecary and Druggist, offering Oils, Paints, Varnishes & Lamp Goods, at #10 Jefferson. A circa 1865 photo of the west side of the square clearly shows a 2-story brick building in this location. DRUG STORE., with J.B. LYONS & CO. printed beneath it, is shown in large, bold lettering, centered above the store's entryway.

On 26 May 1869, Margaret and James Lyon(s), sell the property (N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of lot 6 block 5) to J.D. Spearman (Transfer Book "A", page 6). It is unclear how or when the Lyons acquired the property.

In the 1870 Mount Pleasant City Directory, the business of Van Cise & Lyons is listed twice, once at #10 Jefferson (Oils, Paints and Varnish) and at #31, west side of the square (Druggists). An ad for physicians Van Cise & Roberts on May 6, 1875 (*Free Press*) notes that they operate over Van Cise & Lyons Drug Store. They are listed the same in ads throughout 1877. Dr. E.G. Van Cise is then listed above the drug store in 1879. An advertisement for Van Cise & Co on May 1, 1879 (*Free Press*) lists the drug store at No. 10, west side of park. Van Cise & Co continues to be listed at No. 10 in ads into May 1885.

The 1886 Sanborn fire insurance map shows a grocery store operating in this 2-story brick building, with an address of #10. There is a stairway on the north wall of the front part of the building, leading to the 2nd floor. A one-story brick addition at the rear is accessed through an open doorway. The 1892 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the use still as a grocery store. It is the same 2-story brick building with the same footprint as the 1886 map. The address is now 121 S Jefferson (119 is shown also), as well as #10. The 1893 Mount Pleasant City Directory advertises J.H. Mills operating a grocery store at 121 S Jefferson.

On 7 January 1874, J.D. Spearman sold the property (N ½ of the S ½ of lot 6 block 5) to Charles Snyder (Snider) (Transfer Book "A", page 50). Charles Snider died in 1891, and the property appears to have been transferred to his son Howard E. Snider. Charles Snider had run a drug store for many years in the community, was associated with the First National Bank and president at the time of his death, and was in charge of the Mt Pleasant Gas Company ("Death of Mr. Charles Snider," *Free Press,* March 5, 1891, 2). Howard E. Snider appears to have taken over as superintendent of the Mt Pleasant Gas and Electric Light Company after his father's death, as well as completing plumbing work himself.

The 1899 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the building used for plumbing. It is a 25', 2-story brick building, extending to a 1-story brick addition at the rear. The building's footprint has not changed. The

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interior stairway from previous years is not shown. The address is 121 S Jefferson, with no reference to #10 S Jefferson.

Howard E. Snider was noted as superintendent of the Mt Pleasant gas works in January 1893, and the company was noted as doing all kinds of plumbing and fitting (*Mt Pleasant Journal*, January 19, 1893, 3). Mt Pleasant Gas and Electric Light Company built a generating plant in 1894. Their ad in December 1894 notes that they were manufacturers of gas and electricity for lighting, heating, and cooking purposes, and they offered all kinds of plumbing by competent workers (*Mt Pleasant Daily News*, December 15, 1894, 5). In November 1894, H.E. Snider was the plumber to install the steam boiler from the American Boiler Company for the heating system for the Harlan House (*Mt Pleasant Daily News*, November 21, 1894, 4). Mt Pleasant Gas and Electric Light Company was awarded the contract to light the streets of Mt Pleasant with arc lights on October 22, 1896. Secretary and treasurer of the company at the time was H.E. Snider. On December 22, 1896, current was turned on for the 11 miles of wire and 65 arc lights with 800 candle power installed ("Light at Last," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, December 22, 1896, 1). By July 1898, they were advertising gas stoves for sale at cost (*Mt Pleasant Daily News*, July 9, 1898, 1). Mt. Pleasant Gas and Electric Light advertised gas, stoves, and plumbing services in the *Mt Pleasant Daily News* throughout the early 1900s. No location was noted, but they were the only "plumbing" ads identified in this period. The 1909 Sanborn map identifies the use as gas company office.

On 19 October 1906, H.E. Snider (son of Charles Snider) and wife, sold the N 20'of the S 39' of lot 6 block 5, for \$2,500, via warranty deed to T.F. Barker (Transfer Book "B", page 10). On 16 November 1908, via warranty deed, T.F. Barker and wife sell the property to Mary McDorman (Transfer Book "B", page 10).

The 1909 Sanborn fire insurance map shows this 2-story brick building to be 24' in height. There continues to be a one-story brick addition, which now has a concrete loading platform at the rear, with a frame stairway extending to the west. The address is 121 S Jefferson and the Gas Company uses the front of the building for its offices; there is not a specific, separate use listed on the map for the rear of the building.

The 1911-12 county directory and the May 1913 and November 1913 Mount Pleasant Telephone Directory indicate this was the location of the Mt. Pleasant Gas Company offices.

Mary McDorman and husband sell the property on 14 January 1910, to Adam Weir, who in turn transfers the land to H.C. Weir in February 1911. (Transfer Book "C", page 10). Note: Adam Weir is most likely the son of Henry Clay Weir (1835-1933). Via warranty deed, H.C. Weir sells the property to George R. Jericho for \$3,750 on 1 May 1917 (Transfer Book "1", page 6).

The 1920 Sanborn fire insurance map shows this 2-story brick building to be 24' in height, with a frame porch off the rear of the 2nd floor. The address is 121 S Jefferson and the front is used for a "Near Beer" Saloon. The 1-story brick back of the building, with a concrete loading dock and stairs at the rear, is used for a cigar factory.

George R. Jericho sells the property to J.L. Ernst on 14 June 1928. (Transfer Book "1", page 7)

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A *Mount Pleasant News* article (May 1, 1929, page 1) announces Roederer's Bakery move to the west side, into the Ernst building occupied by Jake Ernst's cigar store. Roederer will lease from Ernst for five years. Per an advertisement in the *Mount Pleasant News* (Thursday, May 21, 1931, page 4) Roederer's Bakery is located on the west side of the square. Roederer's Bakery continues to be listed on the west side of the square in the 1937, 1938 (E.A. Roederer, owner/baker), and 1939 Mount Pleasant city and telephone directories. However, in the 1938 and 1941 directories, the street address has changed from 121 S Jefferson to 119 S Jefferson.

The *Mt Pleasant News* announced in September 1940 that a new front would be installed on the Jacob Ernst building on the west side of the square. It would be similar to the front installed on the Burket hardware building, which was also owned by Ernst. The new façade would hopefully be the first of a series of new fronts on the west side. The entire front of the two-story structure that houses Roederer's bakery had been taken down and would be replaced as rapidly as possible ("New Front for West Side Building," *Mt Pleasant News*, September 5, 1940, 1)

The 1942 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the entire building is now used for a bakery, with an oven in the back. It is the same 2-story brick building, 24' in height. There continues to be a frame porch at the rear of the 2nd floor. The one-story brick addition has a concrete loading platform at the back, with stairs at the rear. The address is 121 S Jefferson. There is a one-story tile shed by the alley.

In the October 9, 1943, edition of the *Mount Pleasant News*, announcement is made that "Wings Take Over Roederer Bakery." Wing's Bakery is listed on the west side of the square in the 1944 and 1948 telephone directories.

On 1 December 1944, the title of the property changed from the J.L. Ernst Estate to Ora Arnold Ernst. (Transfer Book "1", page 7) Jacob Luther Ernst died March 19, 1944, and per his will, his business properties (occupied by Wing's bakery and Burket's hardware) were left to his wife, Ora (Arnold) Ernst. (*Mount Pleasant News*, April 5, 1944, page 1). After Ora Ernst's July 27, 1954 death, the lot was sold by her estate to Marvin A. and May J. Wing on 1 April 1955 (Transfer Book "2", page 6).

Wing's Bakery is listed on the west side of the square in the 1950, 1952, and 1955 directories. By 1957, the address of this property is specified as 111 S Jefferson. Wing's Bakery, with Marvin A. Wing as owner and baker, is shown in this location through mentions in city directories through 1976.

In 1979, with Roy Ross as owner, the Sports Shack is located at 111 S Jefferson, offering equipment, trophies and apparel for team sports. Sloan's Printing Service, W. Wray Sloan owner, operates at this address in 1983, 1986, and 1993.

After owning the building for 30 plus years, Marvin A. and May J. Wing sold the property to Arnold De Jaynes on 1 February 1989 (Transfer Book "3", page 6; Deed Book 493, page 77)

The building has been owned since September 30, 2003, by Christian Lamore, who purchased it from Shirley Bittle-Farley. Healthy Inspirations Therapeutic is listed at 111 S. Jefferson in 2011.

This commercial building is currently occupied in 2023 by Big Dog Tattoos, offering tattoos and piercings.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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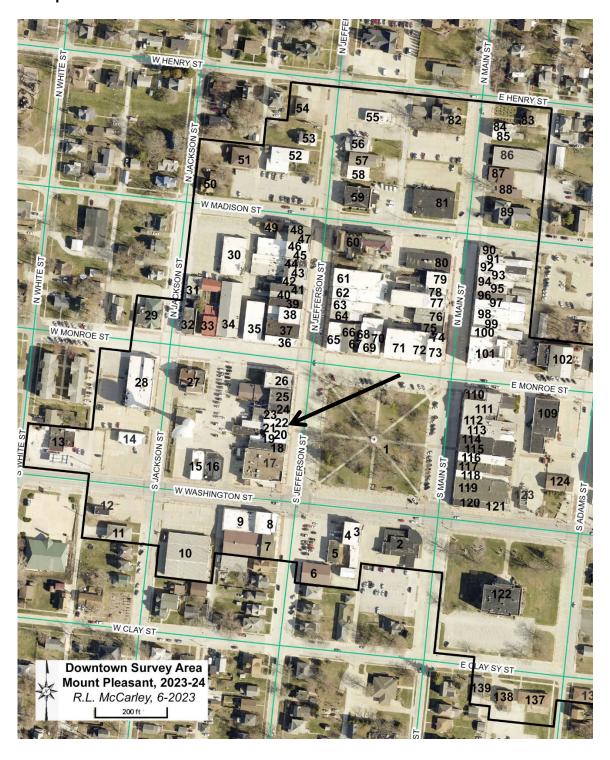
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Location map



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Building footprint



Sketch by www.camavision.com

Henry County Assessor (https://beacon.schneidercorp.com)

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Historic images



West side of square (100 block S. Jefferson St) in 1860s (HCHT Facebook album)



West side of square (100 block S. Jefferson St) around 1910 (HCHT Facebook album)

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West side of square (100 block S. Jefferson St) around 1918 (HCHT Facebook album)



West side of square (100 block S. Jefferson St) in 1940s (HCHT Facebook album)

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West side of square (100 block S. Jefferson St) in 1950s (HCHT Facebook album)

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West side of square (100 block S. Jefferson St) in 1965 (HCHT collection)

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West side of square (100 block S. Jefferson St) around 1978 (HCHT Facebook album)

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Building in May 1991 (City of Mt Pleasant building permits)

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Building in January 1999 (City of Mt Pleasant building permits)

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Digital photographs



Photograph 44-00207-001. East elevation, looking west (October 2023)

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Photograph 44-00207-002. West elevation, looking east (October 2023)