Iowa Site Inventory Form State Inventory Number: 44-00187 ☐ New ☐ Supplemental 9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number: _____ **State Historic Preservation Office** (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: Cole Brothers B) Other names: 2023 downtown survey # DT-063 Location A) Street address: 108 N. 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): 7 Lot(s): Lot 3 - S 26' of N 50' 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 70: VACANT 10G01: INDUSTRY / warehouse 09C11: AGRICULTURE / fruit and produce 11D03: HEALTH CARE / doctor office Description Enter categories (codes and terms) from the Iowa 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 05G: Romanesque Roof: 15C: Rubber

C) Narrative description

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED

Other:

Site Number: 44-00187 Address: 108 N. 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. 🛛 Yes 🗌 No 🗌 More research recommended
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 1872	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	
	h by Joanne McCabe Date: April 23, 2024 PC E-mail: sparkconsulting@octaspark.com Telephone: 319-200-9767 State: IA Zip code: 52403
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION Submit the follow	ving 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.	property/building name, address, date taken, view shown, and map 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:	
SHPO authorized signature:	Date:

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7. Narrative Description

This two-story brick building was built around 1872 for Cole Bros, a manufacturer of pumps and lightning rods. They used this building generally as an office and warehouse, rather than a retail store. The design of the first story reflects this use rather than a traditional storefront with large display windows for a retail business. The overall design of the building reflects similar Romanesque Revival details as the city hall building built to the south in 1871-72, which has large brick arches and pilasters. This building has brick pilasters that divide the facade into four bays, with a double-width entry bay offset to the right/south. The four bays are capped by decorative segmental brick arches with pointed brick bracket detail on each pilasters, with a wider decorative segmental brick arch over the wider bay. The first story openings have simple segmental brick arch lintels. The entry bay currently has a single-door entry with a large window to the right/south. Double-hung window openings are located to either side of the entry bay, with a singledoor entry to the second story in the north/left bay. The wider bay on the second story has two segmental arch windows under the wider decorative segmental arch detail, with a single window in the other three bays. All of the windows have smaller replacement double-hung vinyl sashes. Inset brick rectangular details are found on the frieze above each bay, with a brick cornice with space dentils and stone coping. The second story of the rear/east elevation has been clad in stucco. Three large double-hung segmental arch window openings are spaced across the second story, which also have smaller replacement doublehung windows. The one-story concrete block rear addition extends back towards the alley. It has a rear entry and a small window.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Cole Brothers 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 downtown, representing one of the earliest successful Mt Pleasant businesses and operating as a produce station for many years. While modified, the distinctive brick arch details on this building remain intact, reflecting its construction around the same time in the early 1870s as the former city hall to the south. 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 does not appear to likely be individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Assessment of the interior features and modifications would be required for a full evaluation of the individual eligibility of the building. Cole Brothers were a significant Mt Pleasant business, but the alterations to the building have impacted the historic integrity of the building from the period that they operated here.

Developmental history of property

This 2-story brick commercial building was built around 1872 for the Cole Brothers.

P.C. Tiffany owned Lot 3 and the west portion of Lot 4 at the corner to the south in the 1860s. He sold part of the south part of Lot 3 to the City of Mt Pleasant in 1870, who then built a building for city hall and the fire station on this lot to the south in 1871-72. The city building included space for the fire engine on

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the first story, as well as a small city jail (calaboose). The second story had the council chambers and a large meeting room. Horses were kept in an adjoining stable (MPS 1985: 9). On July 26, 1872, P.C. Tiffany sold the north 50' of Lot 3 to J.M., R.S. W.R., and J.J. Cole – the Cole brothers. This building was then likely built in 1872 on the south portion of the north 50' of Lot 3, either by Tiffany or the Cole brothers. The brick arch features on the building are reflective of the brick arch features also found on the city building to the south, suggesting perhaps the same contractor.

The Cole Brothers started manufacturing and selling lightning rods in Mt Pleasant in 1849 (*Mt Pleasant City Directory* 1893: 94). The business was started by two of the Cole brothers initially, with the 1859 city directory listing J.W. and R.S. Cole as dealers in lightning rods. William R. Cole then joined the firm, and then James A. Throop also joined the business (brother-in-law of W.R. Cole). In 1861, the four partners organized Cole, Throop, & Co. In 1863, A. Brockway was admitted to an interest in the pump business of the firm, and they immediately started manufacturing pumps at Greencastle, IN. In spring 1865, Throop was replaced by the fourth Cole brother, John J. Cole. The name of the firm was changed to Cole Brothers," *The Free Press*, December 3, 1874, 3).

An advertisement in December 1867 notes that the Cole Brothers were manufacturers and wholesale and retail dealers in pumps and lightning rods. In addition to their Mt Pleasant location, they also operated offices in Greencastle, Indiana, and St. Louis, Missouri. They had added the Morell Giant Force Pump to their manufacturing line, which was made fully of iron and would work well in wells of any depth. The pump was also constructed so that a hose could be quickly attached, which was particularly valuable in towns where there was no other means of extinguishing fires. It also was useful for watering gardens, sprinkling streets, and washing windows, carriages, etc. (*Mt Pleasant Journal*, December 27, 1867, 5). The 1867 city directory lists the office of the Cole Brothers at 27 N. Jefferson. The 1870 city directory lists the Cole Brothers at 25 N. Jefferson. The Cole Brothers then advertise at 24 N. Jefferson, upstairs, by August 1872 (*Henry County Press*, August 2, 1872, 1). In October 1872, their ad notes Cole Bros, manufacturers of and dealers in pumps and lightning rods, on N. Jefferson St in Mt Pleasant and in Greencastle, IN, and St. Louis, MO. They were prepared to furnish, at their store or from wagons, pumps for house and stock wells, pumps for cisterns, and large pumps for deep wells (*Henry County Press*, October 18, 1872, 3).

In December 1874, *The Free Press* provided a profile of the Cole Brothers, in business in town for 25 years. The business was noted as the largest pump and lightning rod business in the United States, with Mt Pleasant as the headquarters. They had a large wholesale trade, as well as employing many men with 75 teams traveling through lowa, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Dakota Territory, and Indiana. All their pumps and lightning rods were manufactured by the firm at their factories, with pumps in Greencastle, IN, and lightning rods in St. Louis. They produced about 150,000 feet of lightning rods and 1,500 pumps per month. The Greencastle pump and the Franklin Lightning Rod were household names and necessities across the country. R.S. and W.R. Cole were in charge of the home office in Mt Pleasant, where all the general business was transacted. More than 22,000 postage stamps were used annually by the local office. John J. Cole was in charge of the immense rod manufacturing business in St. Louis, and J.W. Cole was in charge of pump manufacturing in Greencastle, IN. Several branch houses were also operated: Cole Bros & Hart, Council Bluffs, IA; Cole Bros & Johnson, Kansas City, MO; Cole Bros & Eaton, Little Rock, Arkansas; Cole Bros & Fagan, Pana, IL; Cole Bros & Adams, Cedar Rapids, IA; Cole Bros & Hutton, Atlantic, IA; Cole Bros & Jennings, Osceola, IA; Cole Bros & Asher, Lawrence, KS; Cole Bros & Harris, Fort Dodge, IA; Cole Bros & Machos, Boonsboro,

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IA ("Cole Brothers," The Free Press, December 3, 1874, 3).

In January 1878, John J. Cole of St. Louis was in town meeting with his brothers J.W., R.S. and W.R. Cole. The firm of Cole Brothers was noted as "undoubtedly the oldest and largest dealers in lightning rods and pumps in this country." (*The Free Press,* January 10, 1878, 3).

John Cole sold his interest in the property to his brother, R. S. Cole, on September 3, 1879. On July 19, 1888, Mury Cole, et al, sold their interest in the property (N 50' of Lot 3) to the Cole Brothers.

The 1886 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows a brick 2-story building with stairs to the upper level along the north wall. This building is situated on the south portion of the north 50' of Lot 3. The use was noted as storage on the first story and an office on the second story. The building has a one-story rear warehouse section. A large frame livery is attached to the rear of this section. Its footprint extends into the north portion of the parcel as well. This livery was likely the building used for the city horses. The 1892 Sanborn map shows the same footprint and uses for this building. The rear frame section is noted as brick veneer. The livery attached to the rear of the building has been extended to the west along the north side of the building, extending to N. Jefferson St to the north of the brick building.

In March 1888, J.L. Goe & Son noted that they expected to open their new livery and sale stable about April 1 (*The Free Press*, March 25, 1888, 3). In May 1888, J.L. Goe & Son advertise their dray line and livery as the first door south of the Harlan House, which would be the livery that extended on the north side of this property. They provided freight hauling, moving household goods, pianos and organs a specialty (*The Free Press*, May 3, 1888, 2). The 1893 city directory lists the livery stable of Goe & Son at 122 N. Jefferson.

Cole Brothers continued to operate their main office from the brick building on this property through the 1880s and into the 1890s. The 1893 city directory also lists the Cole Brothers, manufacturers of lightning rods, etc, at 122 N. Jefferson. The directory noted that the business started in 1849 and now consisted of the manufacture of and wholesale dealers in lightning rods, pumps, prong plows, lumber, and house finishing goods. Mt Pleasant was their headquarters, with branch houses at Council Bluffs, and Greencastle, Indiana. They were partners in several other businesses: Harris & Cole Bros, Cedar Falls, poplar lumber, house finishing goods, and pumps; N.J. Cooper & Cole Bros, Lincoln, NE, wholesale dealers in plumbing, steam fitting, etc.; Cole Bros & Johnson, Sherman, TX, managers of a branch of the general business. The company shipped its goods to all parts of the south and west. W.R. Cole resided in Mt Pleasant and was noted as one of its foremost citizens (*Mt Pleasant City Directory* 1893: 94). William McCoy, who managed the local office, died in October 1894. Dan Risser continued to work as the accountant in the office for a couple years, until the active work was moved to the St. Louis office and he moved to Lincoln, NE as an accountant for Carter & Cole Bros ("Some Local History," *Mt Pleasant Journal*, February 16, 1899, 1).

An article on the Cole Bros appeared in the *Mt Pleasant Journal* in February 1899, noting that the office just north of the mayor's office is still known to some as the Cole Bros office. It remained lined with great safes, desks, and receptacles for documents, with the office managed by William McCoy for over 20 years prior to his death. W.R. Cole is noted as having put up the first Franklin lightning rod in Iowa, which still stands. They were pioneers in this country in the use of this reliable and enduring lightning rod. The manufacture of pumps had been discontinued at Greencastle, Indiana, with Harris & Cole Bros of Cedar

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Falls carrying the full pump trade and general lumber business ("Some Local History," *Mt Pleasant Journal*, February 16, 1899, 1).

On March 26, 1898, Cole Brothers sold the property to W.R. Cole. The 1899 Sanborn map still uses the old numbering of 514 N. Jefferson Street as the address. The two-story brick building has the same footprint as the 1892 map, and its use is noted as commission house. The rear frame section behind this building is noted as poultry. The frame livery that is iron clad is depicted as a narrow building on the north side of the brick building and rear poultry section.

The Mt Pleasant Produce Co was started by L.C. Snyder in March 1895 (*Mt Pleasant Daily News*, March 21, 1895, 4). Charles Stearns purchased half interest in the business in April 1895 (*Mt Pleasant Daily News*, April 16, 1895, 4). N. Jefferson Street was noted as a busy place in April 1895 with the delivery of nursery stock at Goe's Barn and reception of eggs at the Mt Pleasant Produce Co (*Mt Pleasant Daily News*, April 13, 1895, 4). In November 1897, the Mt Pleasant Poultry Co was sold, with Adam Weir as manager. They sought to buy poultry, eggs, and other produce ("Poultry and Eggs Wanted," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, November 23, 1897, 1). Charles Stearns accepted his old position with the company in February 1899 (*Mt Pleasant Daily News*, February 14, 1899, 4).

On April 23, 1904, W. R. Cole sold this building only (S 26' of N 50' of Lot 3) to C.L. Weir.

The 1909 Sanborn map shows the two-story brick building with the old address of 514 N. Jefferson. The rear sections have been demolished and replaced with a two-story frame rear section clad in iron that extends back to the alley. The building is used for produce. The parcel to the north, which was sold separately, has a new brick livery on it.

The 1911-12 city directory lists the Mt Pleasant Produce Co at 118 N. Jefferson. The subsequent telephone directories then list it at 119 N. Jefferson, which appears to be a misprint. In November 1919, Adam Weir sold his interest in the entire lines of the Mt Pleasant Produce Co, coal, feed, flour, cement, and poultry business to his brother E.L. Weir and the latter's son Clay Weir. Clay Weir would be the active manager of the Mt Pleasant Produce Co ("Adam Weir Sells Out," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, November 18, 1919, 4).

The 1920 Sanborn map shows this two-story brick building used for produce, with the two-story rear addition including hay and straw. An elevator is indicated in the rear portion of the building. The building to the north is used as a garage.

In 1922, Clay Weir decided to consolidate his coal and produce business, and he would vacate his downtown warehouse where the Mt Pleasant Produce Co was located on N. Jefferson St for years. William O'Connor then established the Farmers Produce Co in the building, envisioned to be a varitable famers store where a farmer could actually sell anything and everything that he could raise on his farm and buy staples in bulk or less at real farmers prices. By October, the business was successful and growing. The company was connected with Cudahy Packing Co, shipping live chickens and eggs for them. They would buy in any quantity from farmers, and they sold a wide range of products both retail and wholesale ("A Fast Growing Business," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, October 5, 1922, 1). The 1923 telephone directory lists Farmers Produce Co on N. Jefferson.

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In March 1925, the Farmers Produce Co on N. Jefferson, owned and managed by Mr. Cliff King, was sold to Swift & Co. King would remain in charge. Butter, eggs, and poultry would be handled ("Swift & Co. Buys Out Farmers Produce Co," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, March 3, 1925, 1). Swift & Co was then listed on N. Jefferson in the 1925 and 1927 telephone directories. Max Long was manager of the produce business for several years, replaced by R.E. Harris of Keokuk in March 1936 ("Keokuk Man Succeeds Max Long," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, March 12, 1936, 1). They remain listed on N. Jefferson in the 1938 city directory, under the categories of poultry dealer, produce, and cream station. Swift & Co is still listed on N. Jefferson in the 1939 telephone directory, then moved to W. Madison by 1944.

Max Long announced the opening of a new cream station in March 1936, located in the Goe Building on N Jefferson St. He was formerly connected with the Swift produce station (*Mt Pleasant News*, March 26, 1936, 5). The 1937 and 1939 telephone directories list Max Long Produce at 122 N. Jefferson St (now 110 N. Jefferson). The 1938 city directory lists him at the same location, under the categories of produce, poultry dealer, and cream station. The 1944 telephone directory has the same listing. In 1946, he retired from business, selling the building to the north at 110 N. Jefferson in November 1946.

The 1942 Sanborn map shows this two-story brick building with the same footprint and uses as the 1920 map. The front is labeled produce and rear is labeled hay and straw. The building to the north (Goe Building) is also noted as used for produce. Thus, Swift & Co continued operated in this building at 108 N. Jefferson, and Max Long Produce operated in the building to the north at 110 N. Jefferson in the early 1940s.

The 1944 and 1948 telephone directories list the Rahe Feed Store in this building on N. Jefferson. They sell Grains, Seeds & Poultry Supplies.

In November 1948, James Rahe announced that he sold his feed store on N. Jefferson St to Max Long. The name would be changed from Rahe Feed Store to Long Feed Store. Rahe had been in the feed business about 10 years, operating at the present site for five years. Long formerly operated the Long Produce Station in the building now occupied by the Mt Pleasant Motor Co (110 N. Jefferson) ("Rahe Sells Feed Store," *Mt Pleasant News*, November 3, 1948, 1).

In June 1950, Max Long bought the building where the Long Feed Store was located from Davis Weir. He had rented the building previously ("Ten Years Ago," *Mt Pleasant News*, June 16, 1960, 2).

In 1950 and 1952, Long Feed & Produce is listed on N. Jefferson. The 1955 city directory lists Long's Produce at 110 N. Jefferson, with the address then shifting to the current numbering of 108 N. Jefferson by the 1957 directory. Long's Produce remains listed at 108 N. Jefferson through the 1964 city directory. Max Long retired from Long's Produce in June 1965. He had been a local businessman for 40 years, working for Swift & Co for 10 years and then his own business for the last 35 years ("Max Long Will Retire," *Mt Pleasant News*, June 4, 1965, 1).

In the 1966 city directory, Dr. Ledru Kaufman operated his chiropractic office at 108 N. Jefferson Street, and Larry's Styling Salon was located at the same address. The 1968 city directory lists Larry's Styling Salon at 108 N. Jefferson, the office of Dr. Ledru Kauffman at 108A N. Jefferson, and Max Long living at 108 ½ N. Jefferson.

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On June 26, 1971, Stella Margaret and Max Long sold the property to Ledru D. and Lola Von Kauffman. Dr. Ledru Kauffman continued his chiropractic office here until 1975, with his son Dr. Scott Kauffman joining the practice. Kauffman's Chiropractic Office is listed here through 1975, moving to a new location at 203 S. Jackson St after moving and remodeling a building in that location. The 1976 city directory also lists Kathy's Klassics at 108 N. Jefferson, with a tenant in the second story apartment.

American Family Insurance was located at 108 N. Jefferson Street in the 1978 city directory.

On February 15, 1979, Dennis D. and Debra K. McClintic sold the property to Craig A. Smock. On March 30, 1979, Ledru and Lola Von Kauffman sold the property to Norman Snyder. On the same date, Norma and Linda B. Snyder sold the same property to Craig Smock. On April 2, 1979, Smock-McClintock Properties sold the property to Craig A. Smock.

An article on Operation Pride in April 1979 notes that the program had begun the previous year and would have tangible results by summer. Four projects had signed contracts for exterior work on their buildings as the second set of projects in 1979: Nesbitt's at 114 N. Main, Added Touch Decorating Center at 110 N. Jefferson, American Family Insurance building next door (108 N. Jefferson), and new dental offices of Dr. Richard L. Buss on E. Monroe. Craig Smock owned the two buildings occupied by Added Touch and the insurance office. The projects were focused on sandblasting and tuckpointing to clean and restore the original appearance of masonry, with an emphasis on restoring original features ("Operation Pride progress begins to show," *Mt Pleasant News*, April 6, 1979, 1).

The 1981 city directory lists The Ark at 108 N. Jefferson, with American Family Insurance and Norman Snyder Insurance at 108A N. Jefferson. A tenant lived in the apartment.

The 1993 city directory lists the Solid Rock Christian Book Store at 108 N. Jefferson. The 2001 city directory has the same listing.

In April 1997, Daryl Johnson acquired the property through an estate transfer. Daryl Johnson sold the property to Mary Ann Woodsmall in February 2002 for \$68,000.

The 2011 city directory lists Cheryl's School of Dance at 108 N. Jefferson, with two tenants on the second story.

In June 2022, Mary Ann Woodsmall sold the property for \$145,000 to Kaity Bench, the current owner of the building. The first story was vacant in fall 2023, with a sign remaining on the building for Cheryl's School of Dance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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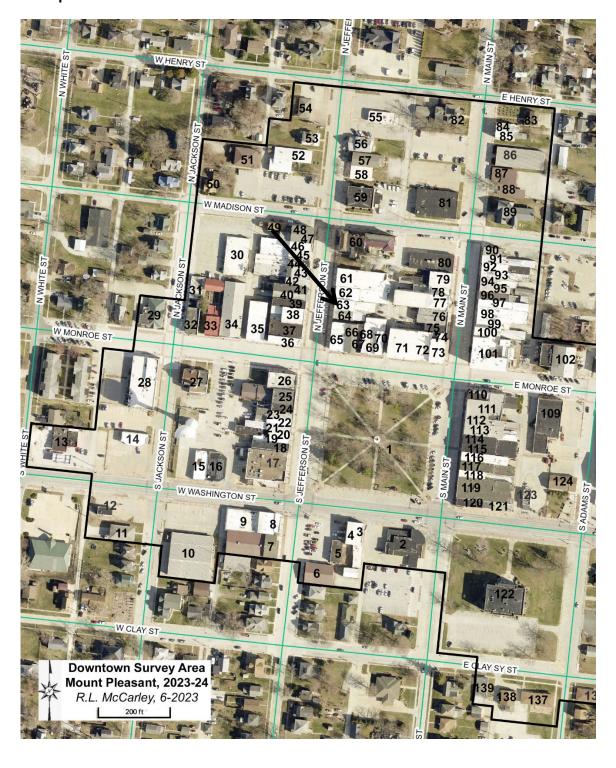
Sanborn Map Company. *Mount Pleasant, Iowa*. Fire insurance maps for 1886, 1892, 1899, 1909, 1920, 1942. Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division, Sanborn Maps Collection.

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Location map

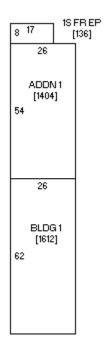


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Building footprint



Sketch by www.camavision.com

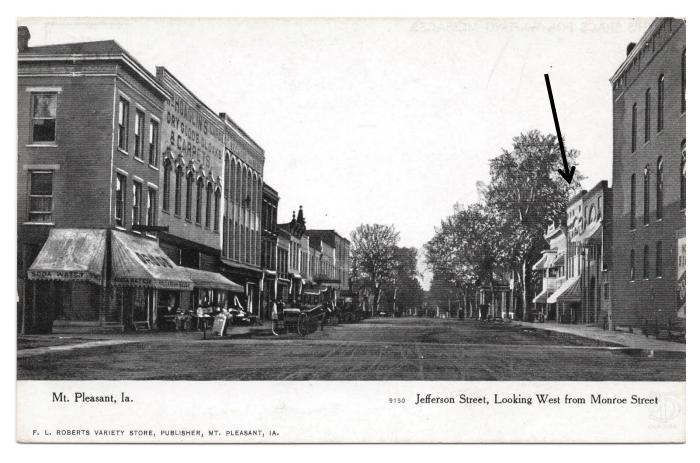
Henry County Assessor (https://beacon.schneidercorp.com)

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Historic images

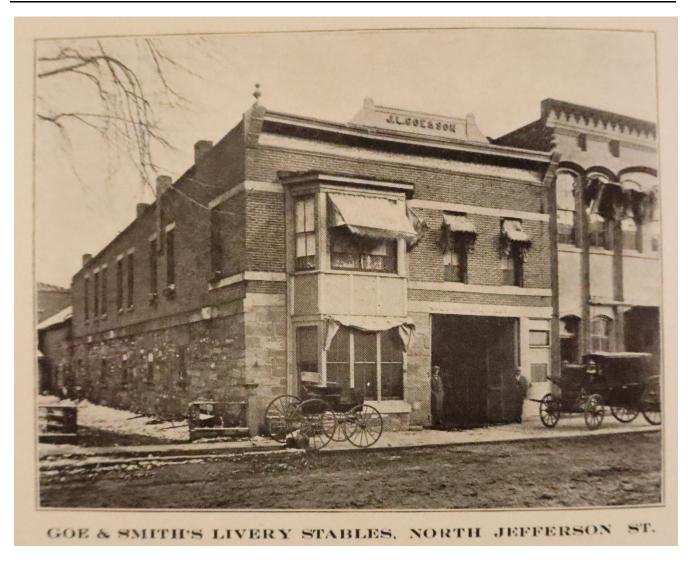


Looking north on 100 block of Jefferson St in early 1900s (HCHT Facebook album)

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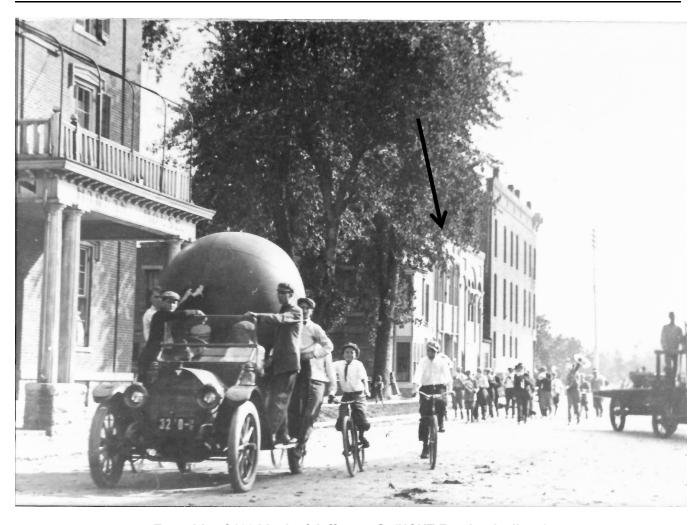
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Building at right in 1909 (Mt Pleasant Beautiful 1909: 28)

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East side of 100 block of Jefferson St (HCHT Facebook album)

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East side of 100 block of N. Jefferson in July 1965 (HCHT files)

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Building at left in May 1988 (City of Mt Pleasant building permits)

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Digital photographs



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Photograph 44-00187-002. East elevation, looking west (October 2023)