

# Iowa Site Inventory Form

State Historic Preservation Office

(January 2016)

State Inventory Number: 44-02259  New  Supplemental

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Non-extant Year: \_\_\_\_\_

*Read the Iowa 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: Sater Blacksmith

B) Other names: 2023 downtown survey # DT-105

• **Location**

A) Street address: 205 E. Monroe 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): 15 Lot(s): Lot 4 - E 66.5' of W 110'

• **Classification**

**A) Property category:** *Check only one*

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

**B) Number of resources (within property):**

<i>If eligible property, enter number of:</i>		<i>If non-eligible property, enter number of:</i>	
<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>		
<u>1</u>	Buildings	<u>—</u>	Buildings
<u>—</u>	Sites	<u>—</u>	Sites
<u>—</u>	Structures	<u>—</u>	Structures
<u>—</u>	Objects	<u>—</u>	Objects
<u>1</u>	<b>Total</b>	<u>—</u>	<b>Total</b>

**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 Intensive Level Historical and Architectural Survey of Downtown Mt Pleasant, Iowa Historical Architectural Data Base # HADB-02986

• **Function or Use** *Enter categories (codes and terms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions*

**A) Historic functions**

02E04: COMMERCE/TRADE / blacksmith shop

**B) Current functions**

02E04: COMMERCE/TRADE / blacksmith shop

• **Description** *Enter categories (codes and terms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions*

**A) Architectural classification**

09F05: Commercial / brick front

**B) Materials**

Foundation (visible exterior): 10B: Concrete

Walls (visible exterior): 03: Brick

Roof: 15C: Rubber

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**C) Narrative description**  *SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED*

Site Number: 44-02259 Address: 205 E. Monroe St City: Mt Pleasant County: IA District Number: 44-02280

• **Statement of Significance**

**A) Applicable National Register Criteria:** *Mark your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria*

- Criterion A: Property is associated with significant events.  Yes  No  More research recommended  
Criterion B: Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.  Yes  No  More research recommended  
Criterion C: Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.  Yes  No  More research recommended  
Criterion D: Property yields significant information in archaeology/history.  Yes  No  More research recommended

**B) Special criteria considerations:** *Mark any special considerations; leave blank if none*

- A: Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.  E: A reconstructed building, object, or structure.  
 B: Removed from its original location.  F: A commemorative property.  
 C: A birthplace or grave.  G: Property less than 50 years of age or  
 D: A cemetery achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**C) Areas of significance**

*Enter categories from instructions*

05: Commerce

02: Architecture

**D) Period(s) of significance**

**E) Significant dates**

*Construction date*

1961  *check if circa or estimated date*  
*Other dates, including renovations*

**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*

**I) Narrative statement of significance**  **SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED**

• **Bibliography**  *See continuation sheets for the list research sources used in preparing this form*

• **Geographic Data** *Optional UTM references*  *See continuation sheet for additional UTM or comments*

Zone	Easting	Northing	NAD	Zone	Easting	Northing	NAD
1				2			
3				4			

• **Form Preparation**

Name and Title: Rebecca Lawin McCarley / research by Martha Wiley Date: March 19, 2024  
Organization/firm: SPARK Consulting / Mt Pleasant HPC E-mail: sparkconsulting@octaspark.com  
Street address: 1630 Park Ave SE Telephone: 319-200-9767  
City or Town: Cedar Rapids State: IA Zip code: 52403

• **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION** *Submit the following items with the completed form*

**A) For all properties, attach the following, as specified in the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions:**

- 1. Map** of property's location within the community.
- 2. Glossy color 4x6 photos labeled** on back with property/building name, address, date taken, view shown, and unique photo number.
- 3. Photo key showing each photo number on a map and/or floor plan, using arrows next to each photo number to indicate the location and directional view of each photograph.**
- 4. Site plan** of buildings/structures on site, identifying boundaries, public roads, and building/structure footprints.

**B) For State Historic Tax Credit Part 1 Applications, historic districts and farmsteads, and barns:**

*See lists of special requirements and attachments in the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions.*

**State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line**

*The SHPO has reviewed the Site Inventory and concurs 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: \_\_\_\_\_

SHPO authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Narrative Description**

This is a one-story brick commercial building that dates to work completed in 1961 for Sater Blacksmith Shop. The current façade was built across an earlier building on the west portion of the parcel, as well as across the addition to the east. The façade utilizes multiple color medium Shadow Tex brick, which is elongated with rough/projected center line. This type of brick is also noted on the 1952-53 façade of the Insurance Plan Savings and Loan building at 101 N. Jefferson St. The façade has a 10-light metal window with concrete sill, single-door entry, and garage door entry on the west/left half. It has a 10-light metal window with concrete sill, taller garage door entry, and smaller pedestrian door on the east half. The windows and pedestrian doors appear to be original, though the garage doors were replaced in the 1990s. An earlier pass-through space at the east edge of the property was enclosed for a garage in the 1970s, with vertical wood siding, a pedestrian door, and a garage door (also replaced in the 1990s). The rear/north elevation reveals these three periods of construction with differences in construction materials. The west/right section is related to the earlier building, with orange/tan tile block construction. This section has two eight-light metal windows with tile block sills. The original east addition has light red tile block construction and an eight-light window with concrete sill. The enclosure of the east/left portion of the property has later orange tile block construction, not tied into the section to the west. It has a rear entry and a six-light metal window.

**8. Narrative Statement of Significance**

Sater Blacksmith Shop 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, and it reflects the period of downtown development in the 1960s. 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. Sater Blacksmith Shop was a successful business in Mt Pleasant for many decades, and William Sater was a leader in the blacksmith and welding businesses by the 1960s. 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*

This building at 205 E. Monroe includes three parcels that that were historically separate parcels: one at 205 (west), one at 207 (middle), and one at 209 (east). The parcels were combined under the ownership of William Sater by 1945.

H. A. and Mary Zuhn are listed as owners in an abstract dated 1879. After the inheritance dispute in the Zuhn family in 1898, S.S. Case purchased the east half of Lot 4 and up to the Zuhn building in the west half of Lot 4. The 1899 Sanborn map shows the Case Bros Wagon Shop in a frame building on the west portion of this current property. A small blacksmith building is to its east. There was a S.S. Case business for several years in this spot. The property was sold to the Taft family, who then owned the corner

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building and several parcels to the east. The 1909 Sanborn map shows the west building as a blacksmith, with an addition to the rear. The small building to its east is a paint shop. The 1911 Henry County Directory lists 203 E. Monroe as the location for William Carpenter's blacksmith and repair. The west building served as a companion to space next door to the Zuhn Building, most often for blacksmithing and welding for E.E. Taft & Sons. Claude Taft inherited the property from E. E. Taft in 1934.

The 1920 Sanborn fire insurance map shows a one-story frame blacksmith and wagon shop on the west one-third of this property, and a one-story frame storage/machinery building on the middle of this property. A vacant lot is on the east portion of the current property. The 1942 Sanborn map shows the west building as a blacksmith, feed as the use the building on the middle section of the property, and a vacant lot on the east portion of the property.

The three separate parcels were all combined with the sale in 1944 and 1945 to William Sater. On March 24, 1944, A.F. and Anna Glanzman sold the E 23' of the W 91' of Lot 4 (middle section of the current building, or roughly east half of the brick front portion, feed building on 1942 map) to William Sater. On September 1, 1945, Claude C. and Mary Taft then sold the E 24.5 feet of the W 68' of Lot 4 (west section of current building, blacksmith on 1942 map) and the W 19' of the E 59' of Lot 4 (east section of current building, or the wood front portion, vacant on the 1942 map).

The two buildings on the parcel when William Sater acquired the property were then remodeled with an unified front of brick design siding for his blacksmith shop on E. Monroe in August 1947 ("Council Hears Several Requests," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, August 14, 1947, 5).

Telephone directories from 1948, 1950, and 1952 list Sater Blacksmith Shop at 205-207 E. Monroe St. The 1955, 1957, and 1960 city directories list Sater's Blacksmith Shop at the same address.

In May 1961, the *Mt Pleasant News* noted that a new building would be constructed on the east edge of the business district on E. Monroe St for William Sater. It would be a larger, modern brick and tile block building for his blacksmith shop, welding, and mechanical repair business. The east portion of the property (24'x80') would be completely rebuilt, with an entirely new front across this new part and the earlier west portion of the property. The new front was noted as multi-colored Roman brick, which would enhance the appearance of this second block off of the square. Large doors would be provided on the front of the building for large equipment ("New Building Started for Sater Firm," *Mt Pleasant News*, May 29, 1961, 1). A photograph of the new front of the Sater blacksmith shop was published in the newspaper in September 1961. The right/east room of the shop from the window to the right had been completely rebuilt, with the left/west portion remodeled. The building had housed a blacksmith shop for over 50 years ("Old Building Goes Modern," *Mt Pleasant News*, September 9, 1961, 1).

The city directories through the 1960s and 1970s continue to list Sater Blacksmith Shop at 205-207 E. Monroe St. The vacant lot / pass through area on the east portion of the property remained open into the 1970s. The area was then enclosed as a garage by adding a roof and walls, creating a new east bay of the building. The space was utilized for classic cars, a hobby of Bill Sater (per Martha Wiley).

According to his obituary, William O. "Bill" Sater was graduated from New London High School in 1934. He was a welder and blacksmith by trade, and he owned and operated the Sater Blacksmith Shop for 47 years. He retired in 1981. He helped form the local Welders and Blacksmiths Association, of which he

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became president in 1966. He was named Blacksmith of the Year in 1965 (?), and he was given a lifetime membership in 1981. He was also active in the Southeast Iowa Antique Car Club, Old Threshers, and served as part of the Mount Pleasant Fire Department from 1942 to 1981, including as chief from 1976 to 1981 ("William Sater," *Burlington Hawkeye*, November 18, 2000).

Sater Blacksmith was used as the name for the business even after Bill Sater retired. Robert Kerr became the blacksmith in 1981 and was the tenant when the Wiley family purchased the building on the corner. Todd and Pamela Bolt were the tenants in 1988.

The Wileys purchased the spaces from the Sater family in 1993. A building permit was issued for interior remodel in December 1993. The Wiley family worked together to clean out the old blacksmith shop so the attached building could be used as part of the Taft-Wiley plumbing, heating, and air conditioning business, which was located at the corner. Interior walls were added to create separate spaces (per Martha Wiley).

The east/garage portion still had a mostly dirt floor until concrete was poured about 2019. The sidewalk on the block was also re-poured at the same time as the floor, eliminating the flat metal doors that covered the coal chutes for deliveries to the basement. Those metal grates had complicated snow removal for years (per Martha Wiley).

Currently the west bay, 205 E. Monroe, is used by Taft Plumbing, Heating, and Air Conditioning in the brick building. The middle bay, 207 E. Monroe, is used for product delivery for Wiley's Interiors Furniture and Appliances and JCW Construction. The east bay, 209 E. Monroe, is used for the storage of vintage automobiles.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Building and sign permits, City of Mount Pleasant, Iowa

City and telephone directories, Mt Pleasant:

Mason, George T. *Directory of Henry County, Iowa, 1911-12*. Mt. Pleasant, IA: The News, 1911.

Mount Pleasant Telephone Company. Telephone directories issued in 1913, 1915, 1918, 1921, 1925, 1927, 1937, 1939, 1944, 1948, 1950, 1952.

Groce, W.H. *The City Directory of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa*. Mt Pleasant: Groce, 1938.

Johnson Publishing Co. *Mt Pleasant, Iowa*. City directories issued in 1955, 1957, 1960, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1873, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1993, 2001, 2011. Manitowoc, WI: Johnson Publishing Co.

*Cornerstones*. Mt Pleasant: Mt. Pleasant Beautiful Committee, 1991.

Henry County Bicentennial Commission (HCBC). *The History of Henry County*. Dallas, TX: National ShareGraphics, Inc., 1982.

Henry County Historical Society. Vertical files and albums in files at Mt Pleasant Public Library.

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Henry County Heritage Trust. Collection of historic images, in files and posted in Facebook albums. Collection in former Saunders School, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Henry County Recorder's Office / Henry County Auditor's Office. Property records, transfer books, and deed records. Henry County Courthouse, Mt Pleasant, Iowa

*History of Henry County, Iowa.* Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1879.

Jaynes, Peter H., ed. *Highlights of Henry County History 1833-1976.* Burlington, IA: Doran & Ward Lithographing Co., 1977.

*Mount Pleasant Beautiful.* Mt Pleasant: Mt Pleasant News Company, 1909. Reprint issued in 1988.

*Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Sesquicentennial, 1835-1985 (MPS).* Mt Pleasant, IA: The Committee, 1985

Naumann, Molly Myers. *Architectural and Historical Resources of Mount Pleasant, IA.* National Register of Historic Places Multiple Documentation Form, May 1991. On file with the State Historic Preservation Office, Des Moines, IA.

*Portrait and Biographical Album of Henry County, Iowa.* Chicago: Acme Publishing Co., 1888.

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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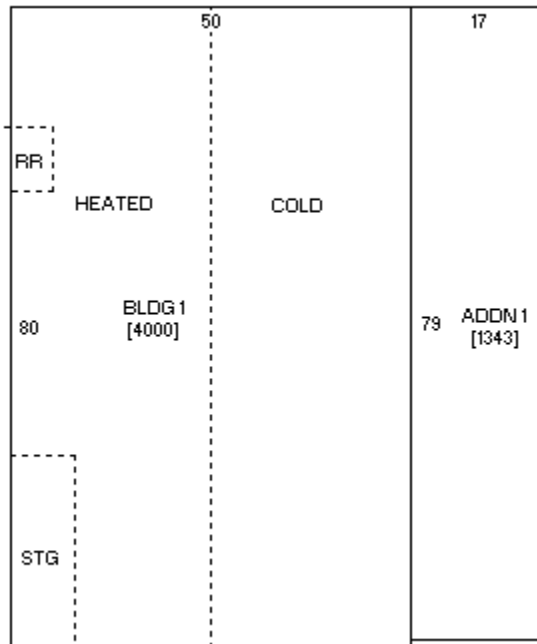
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**Building footprint**



Sketch by [www.camavision.com](http://www.camavision.com)

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



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**Historic images**



Edge of one-story building (S.S. Case) at right in 1900s (HCHT Facebook album)

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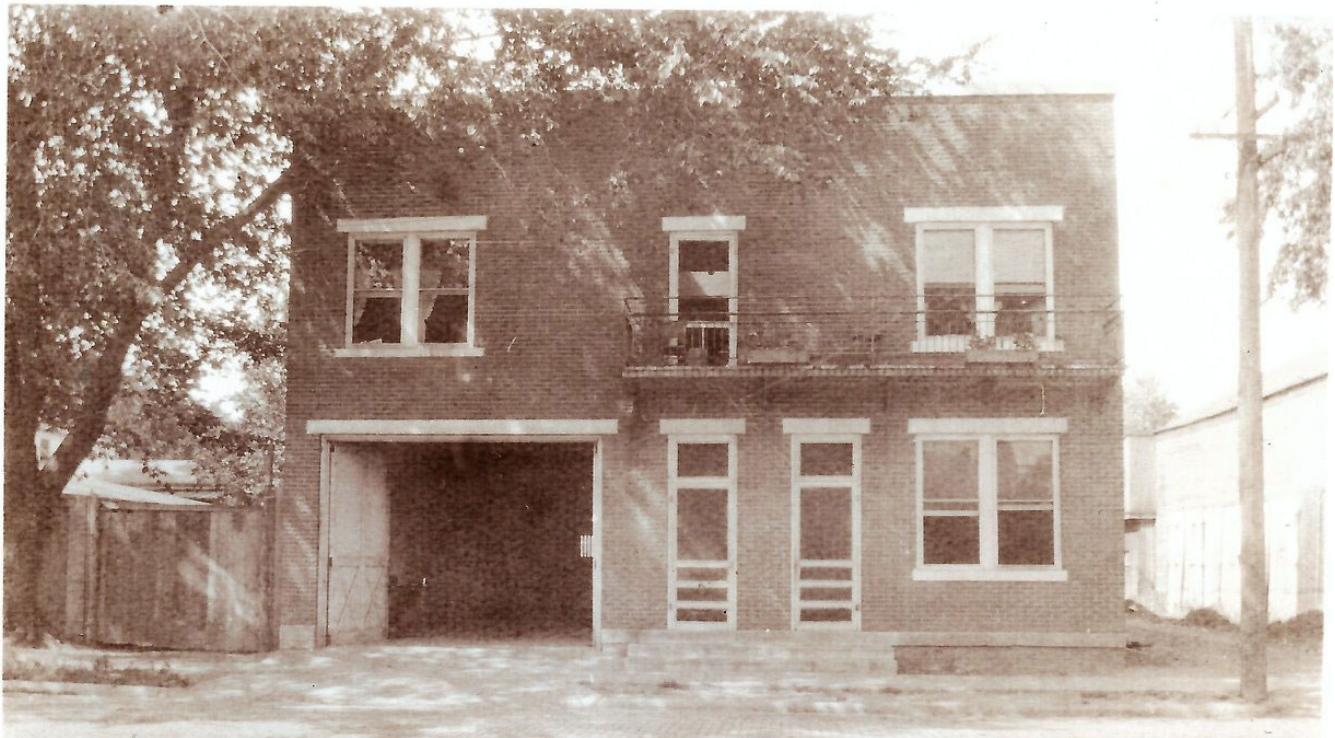
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**East portion of property at left to west of Dr. Hunt building (HCHT Facebook album)**

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**Building on east portion of 1947 aerial photograph of Mt Pleasant, looking north  
(HCHT files, printed in *Des Moines Register*, April 27, 1947, sec 9, p3, p83)**

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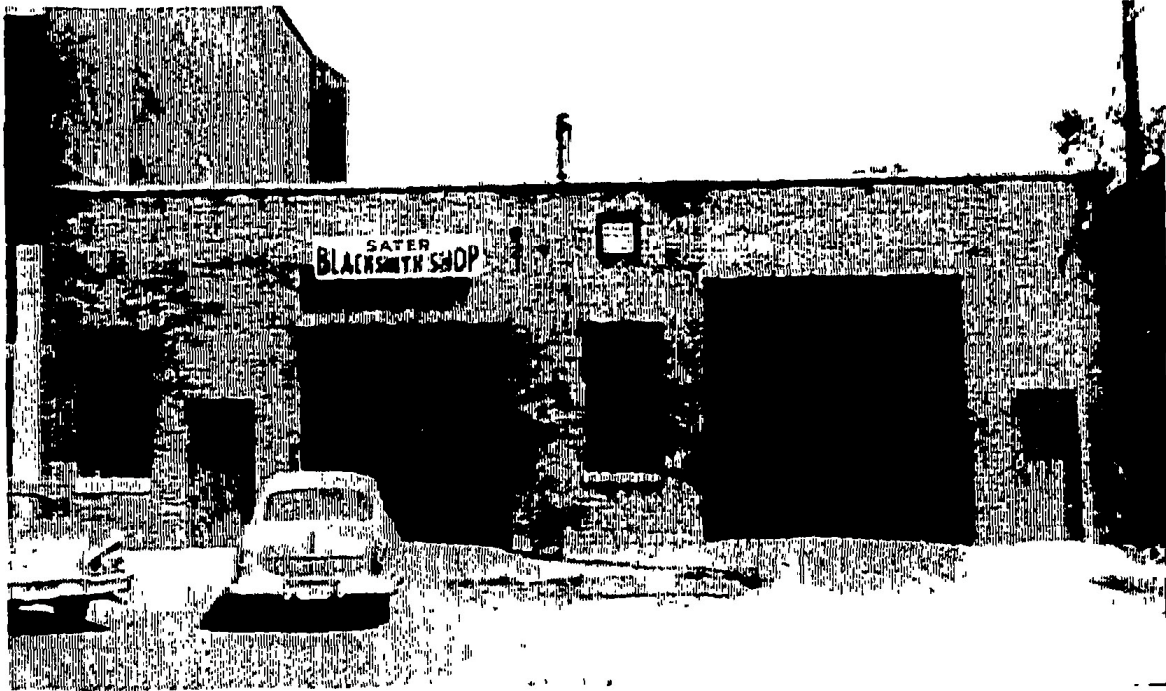
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**OLD BUILDING GOES MODERN** — This new front was recently added to the Sater blacksmith shop. The right room of the shop, from the window right, was completely rebuilt. The building has housed blacksmith shops for over fifty years.

**New front for Sater Blacksmith Shop (Mt Pleasant News, September 9, 1961, 1)**

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**Sater Blacksmith Shop in 1960s (HCHT Facebook album)**

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**Building at left in July 1965 (HCHT collection)**

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**Building at left in July 1965, with Bull Durham sign visible (HCHT collection)**

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1990 survey photograph (Naumann 1991)



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**Digital photographs**



**Photograph 44-02259-001. South elevation, looking north (October 2023)**

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Photograph 44-02259-002. North elevation, looking south (October 2023)