

Iowa Site Inventory Form

State Historic Preservation Office

(January 2016)

State Inventory Number: 44-00301 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: Louisa Building

B) Other names: 2023 downtown survey # DT-119

• Location

A) Street address: 120 S. Main 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): 10 Lot(s): Lot 4 - S 57.5' of N 60'

• 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>	Total	<u>—</u>	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 Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions*

A) Historic functions

02E03: COMMERCE/TRADE / dry goods

02E09: COMMERCE/TRADE / furniture

02F01: COMMERCE/TRADE / department store

B) Current functions

02E03: COMMERCE/TRADE / dry goods - clothing

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

A) Architectural classification

05: LATE VICTORIAN

B) Materials

Foundation (visible exterior): 04C: Limestone

Walls (visible exterior): 03: Brick

Roof: 15C: Rubber

Other: _____

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

Site Number: 44-00301 Address: 120 S. Main 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

1901 *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 Deb Savage & Pat White Date: March 25, 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

The Louisa Building was built in 1901 on a site that had been vacant for several years after a fire destroyed an earlier building on the property. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991. The narrative description of the building from the nomination states:

This two story brick, triple storefront building (57'x140') is located near the south end of the east side of the Square at 120 S. Main. Built in 1901, it features a symmetrical facade, with two doors located in the center third. It has always been used as a single store, not two or three individual ones. The treatment of the second floor follows this same tri-partite division. It has three sets of three tall slender windows with rusticated stone lintels. Above the middle window of each group is a brick patterned roundele (for ventilation?), and a corbeled brick frieze is found just below the metal cornice. This is a bracketed cornice that originally featured a triangular name/date pediment (THE LOUISA, 1901), with finials on each side of the pediment, and at the north and south ends of the cornice.

Alterations to this building include: new windows and doors following a 1930s fire, and the loss of the pediment and finials. A photograph from 1909 shows the original facade configuration. The street level alterations are more intrusive in terms of material and color than design. The second floor windows originally had transoms at the top, and it is very possible that the present panels simply cover these transoms. The loss of the decorative elements from the cornice area is lamentable but not crucial.

On the interior, the space is unbroken by walls in the front three quarters of the building, with iron columns providing structural support. A pressed metal ceiling remains in place. The second floor was originally undivided open space from front to back. However, it was remodeled into several apartments following the 1930s fire. None of the alterations are sufficient to negate eligibility

The current storefront dates to remodeling in 2003, with the design reflective of the original storefront visible in historic photographs. The storefront had been remodeled in 1958, which was likely also when the cornice was simplified with the removal of the pediment and finials. The historic metal columns were retained, which have the name plate at the base: "The Union Iron and Foundry Co, St. Louis." This company was likely the source of both the storefront columns and metal cornice. The historic photographs from the 1960s and 1970s show the cornice in its current appearance, without the pediment and finials. The awnings have also been removed since 1991 from the second story windows, which retain their rusticated stone lintels and continuous stone sill. The other features of the building on the exterior remain as described. The interior was not assessed as part of the survey project.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Louisa Block 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. It is one of the few buildings constructed around the turn-of-the-century in downtown Mt Pleasant, a large building project that provided a triple-storefront square footage since its construction. The building retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a historic commercial building in a historic district.

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The Louisa Block was listed under Criterion C for its architecture on the National Register of Historic Places on September 6, 1991. The nomination written by Molly Myers Nauman states:

This building is significant under Criterion C as it represents a transitional design in Mount Pleasant architecture between the late Italianate buildings, and the Neo-classical buildings that were to become popular in the first quarter of the 20th century. The triple storefront Louisa Building (1901) presents a strong image on the east side of the Square. It is the same two story height of other buildings in the block, the same multiple storefront width as several others, and has a metal cornice like the others. However, the design of the building created more of a horizontal emphasis, and there was less of a visual distraction due to lots of small details on the facade. The simplification in design began at street level. The triple storefront was composed of three equal parts (display window, double doors, display window) that were not broken into three separate entrances with windows. The second floor continued the tripartite division with three sets of three windows, but the strongest emphasis is seen in the heavy rusticated stone lintels above the windows. These are a definite departure from the elaborate cast hoodmolds, and/or simple brick patterned hoods, of the Italianate style buildings of the previous decades. The metal cornice appears similar to those on earlier buildings, but there is a simplicity of design, fewer brackets, less details, and the pediment itself was less elaborate, and broader physically, thus emphasizing the horizontal character of the building. These differences may appear minor, and perhaps even to be rather subtle, but they indicate the changing taste of the times. The exuberance of the late Italianate commercial buildings was about to be replaced by the symmetry and simplicity of Classical design.

Developmental history of property

This large, 2-story, brick building located at 120 South Main Street was built in 1901 for George H. Spahr. When built, it was named 'The Louisa', likely in memory of his late wife.

A circa 1860 photograph of the east side of the square shows a three-story brick building on the north half of Lot 4, with two two-story buildings to its south on the south half of the lot. The large three-story building was known as Ambler Block, constructed by Henry Ambler. The building was built prior to Union Block on the north side of the square in 1861, which was a joint project of Henry Ambler and E.L. Penn. Transfer books shows that attorney Henry Ambler owned the S 38' of the N ½ (40') of Lot 4 and James Dawson, a butcher, owned the two-story building to the south on the north half of the south half of Lot 4 (north of the corner two-story building). These two parcels combined make up the legal description of the Louisa Building site: S 57 ½' of N 60' lot 4. The south building was sold to Theodore Fort immediately prior to fire striking the east side of the square on October 2, 1883. The fire destroyed the Ambler Block, as well as the building of H.L. Timmerman to its north and the buildings of Theodore Fort and O.V. Stough to its south (*The Free Press*, Thursday, October 4, 1883). On December 24, 1883, Theodore Fort sells the N ½ of the S ½ of lot 4 block 10 to Henry Ambler (Transfer Book "A", page 53). Thus, Henry Ambler now owns the entire site of the Louisa Building. However, he did not proceed with construction at this time, with the site of both buildings shown as vacant on the 1886 Sanborn map. It has the notation: "*Brick Ruins of Fire*".

On October 5, 1891 (recorded 10/25/1892), Henry Ambler & wife sold the S 37 ½' of the N ½ and the N ½ of the S ½ of lot 4 to George H. Spahr (Transfer Book "B", page 9).

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The 1892 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the same lot with the same notation: “*Brick Ruins of Fire*”. At the front of the property are two, very small 1-story frame structures/sheds. The address of the site is 124–126–128 S Main. The 1899 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the same lot with the same notation: “*Brick Ruins of Fire*”. The small sheds are gone and there are no addresses shown for the property.

The *Mount Pleasant Journal* noted in November 1900, “Mr. Spahr is about to begin the erection of a fine store building on the east side of the square...There has been a yawning gap for fifteen years.” Price & Spry were expected to consolidate their hardware and implement store and lease the building. George H. Spahr had erected a high board fence in front of his vacant lot to be used for bill board purposes” (*Mount Pleasant Journal*, November 27, 1900, 1, 7).

The *Mt. Pleasant Daily News* chronicled the construction of the building over the next year:

- Mr. Henry Melcher has gotten two car loads of Bedford granite – for construction of the new German chapel and the new business block of Spahr on the east side (*Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, February 2, 1901, page 4).
- The new Price & Spry building is rapidly going up, and will no doubt be ready for occupancy by the first of June (*Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, March 23, 1901, page 4).
- George H. Spahr will as soon as spring opens up, put in a fine business block... The structure will be about ninety feet wide and 120 feet long, being the width of three ordinary store rooms, but will be all in one room. It will be two stories high and the foundation was nearly completed last fall and this winter (“Progress of Our City”, *Mt. Pleasant Republican*, April 11, 1901, page 2).
- “The Louise” (sic) is the name of the new Spahr business block on the east side (*Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, May 1, 1901, page 1).
- Work on the Price & Spry building is rapidly progressing... now being piped for gas and wired for electricity (*Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, May 4, 1901, page 4).
- The plate glass has been placed in the front windows of the new Spahr block on the east side. “The Louise” is the admiration of every one... (*Mt. Pleasant Republican*, May 30, 1901, page 5).
- Price & Spry expect to get into their new building in about two weeks (*Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, May 31, 1901, page 4).
- The handsome and immense business house of George H. Spahr on the east side of the square was an improvement of the most desirable character... (“Town is Growing”, *Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, September 18, 1901, page 1).

George H. Spahr was married to Louisa Maria (Wagner) Spahr, who died on September 16, 1893. The building was apparently named for his late wife.

The Frank Price Mercantile Company was announced as the successor to Price & Spry in January 1904 (*Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, January 16, 1904, page 8).

The 1909 Sanborn fire insurance map now shows this one large, 2-story, brick building, 30’ in height, with 12’ ceilings. There are iron post supports on the 1st and 2nd floors, rather than dividing walls. The building is used for a furniture and hardware store. No address is shown, though the building to its north is 122 and the building to the south is 130.

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The 1911-1912 Henry County Directory shows Price Mercantile Company, furniture and hardware, on the east side of the square. Telephone directories continue to show Frank Price Mercantile Company through 1917. In the 1915 directory, they advertise stoves, carpet...bottom prices.

In 1918, Coffman & Dunne become successors to the Frank Price Mercantile Company (*Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, July 17, 1918, page 3). The 1919 telephone directory lists Coffman & Dunne Mercantile Co on S. Main, selling dry goods, home furnishings, and hardware.

The 1920 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the same footprint for this building as the previous map. There is a small, 1-story, concrete block rear addition on the south end of the rear/east elevation along the alley. An elevator is shown along the north wall towards the rear of the building. The building is used for a furniture and hardware store. No address is shown, with the building to the north remaining as 122 and building to the south as 130.

In October 1920, the new King Furniture and Hardware Company, which succeeds Coffman & Dunne, was preparing to make itself known in the community... ("New Undertaker for City," *Mt. Pleasant Daily News*, October 30, 1920, page 4). The 1921, 1923, 1925, and 1927 telephone directories list King Hardware on S. Main. A May 1925 ad for King's Hardware and Furniture advertises swings, oil stoves, cedar chests, and ice boxes.

On July 24, 1923, the N ½ of the S ½ of lot 4 plus the S 37 ½' of the N ½ of Lot 4, was transferred by the Executors of the Spahr Estate (W.F. Kopp & Wm. H. Evans) to Louise Spahr. She then immediately sells the property to Wm. Hoaglin on July 25, 1923 (Transfer Book "1", page 12).

Fire struck King's Hardware and Furniture in July 1930. The damage to the building owned by William Hoaglin was estimated at \$5,000 with \$35,000 damage to stock. Two large sections of plate glass at the north of the entrance cracked and fell onto the sidewalk. Near the stairway at the rear of the store, a large hole was burned through the floor, the stairway was burned until it collapsed and the floor above was badly damaged ("Heavy Damage at King's Hardware and Furniture," *Mount Pleasant News*, July 7, 1930, page 1). C.S. Rogers notes a couple weeks later: "It's bad business. Nothing has so stirred up the town in many years as the arrest of Mrs. Bessie King, manager of the King Hardware company on the east side of the square and Mr. George Brown, a clerk, each charged with the crime of arson in connection with the disastrous conflagration which was discovered during the early morning hours of July 6th and caused heavy damages to the stock of goods and to the building..." ("The Bystanders Notes", *The Mount Pleasant News*, July 22, 1930, page 2).

On January 26, 1931 (recorded 2/23/1932), Wm. Hoaglin sells the property to Corn Land Investment Company (a Hoaglin family corporation). "*Louisa Building*" is noted.

In September 1935, a number of improvements were noted in town, with the pending construction of the new federal post office and city hall. William Hoaglin was noted as spending around \$15,000 on remodeling the Louisa Block on the east side, which had been gutted by fire some years ago. There would be two stores on first story. Offices would be located on the front of the second story, and the rest would be living quarters ("The Bystander's Notes," *Mt Pleasant News*, September 18, 1935, 2).

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Announcement was made in April 29, 1937 of a new store opening in the building: "Brown Lynch Scott Company leases entire first floor of Louisa Building, at the southeast corner of the square from the Hoaglin Estate... The location was formerly occupied by the King hardware company which discontinued business when a fire destroyed most of the building and much of the contents... The front of the building has been rebuilt and the second floor converted into a large number of apartments... The first floor will not be remodeled for the new firm... Mr. Harry Pontifex will manage ("New Store Will Open in June," *Mount Pleasant News*, April 29, 1937, page 1).

For many subsequent years, this building was known as the Brown Lynch Scott building. Brown Lynch Scott was known as BLS, and it was a department store that sold hardware, auto parts, household goods, clothing, etc. The 1938 city directory lists Brown Lynch Scott under the categories of department store, hardware, paints, wallpaper, clothing, shoes, harness, auto parts and accessories, radio sales and service, refrigerators, electrical appliances, washing machines, and stoves.

Several offices and small businesses are also listed in the Louisa Building in this period, including Margaret's Beauty Shop (1937), Jean Beauty Salon (1939), Dr. J.H. Garretson, osteopathic physician (1937-1952), and Highway Com Div Maint Engr Office (1937-1952).

On April 29, 1941, Corn Land investment Company sells the building to Edith M.H. Chase & Wilfred B. Hoaglin (Transfer Book "1", page 12).

The 1942 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the same footprint for this building as the two previous maps. The building is used for a furniture and hardware store.

The law office of Herman E. Elgar was listed on the east side of the square by the 1944 telephone directory. In June 1951, Alanson Elgar announced that he had passed the state bar examinations and would become associated with his father in the Elgar law firm, located on the second story over the Brown Lynch Scott store. He had graduated last week from the law course at Drake University ("Alanson Elgar to Enter Law Firm Here with Father," *Mt Pleasant News*, June 29, 1951, 1). An advertisement for Elgar Law Office in December 1957 lists the office as over Brown Lynch Scott on the east side of the square. The firm included Herman E. Elgar (1910), John F. Elgar (1950), and Alanson K. Elgar (1951). The firm dealt in estates, property rights, tax law, patents, and abstracts (*Winfield Beacon*, December 26, 1957, 5). In December 1958, the Elgar law offices were moved from this second story location over Brown Lynch Scott at the southeast corner of the square to the Elgar property on N. Jefferson. The new location was the former home of attorney H.E. Elgar and his wife, across northwest from the post office. Attorneys John and Alanson Elgar planned to make changes in the former residence to adapt it to their office needs. Mr. and Mrs. H.E. Elgar had moved to the new home at 607 N. White ("Elgars Move Law Offices," *Mt Pleasant News*, December 29, 1958, 1). In May 1959, the real estate firm of Cordes – Jensen (Dean Cordes, Willard Jensen) announced that they had opened in the Louisa Building, in the former Elgar Law Office location (*Mt Pleasant News*, May 15, 1959, 4).

Brown Lynch Scott continues to be listed as a department store on the east side of the square through the telephone directories in the 1940s and 1950s. In 1950, it is listed under Hardware, Auto Accessories, Repairs, and Paint & Wallpaper. The 1957 city directory is the first one to show the address shift to the current address of 120 S. Main St. In 1958, a new storefront was installed on the building and interior of Brown Lynch Scott was remodeled ("Big Local News of Year Centered in Dr. Van Allen's Part in Space

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Satellites," *Mt Pleasant News*, December 31, 1958, 1). Brown Lynch Scott continues to be listed at 120 S. Main St through the 1960s and in the 1972 city directory. It continued to be listed with a focus on hardware, furniture, and other items through 1964. By 1966, it shifted focus to more clothing, though remained a department store.

The Louisa Apartments are listed on the east side of the square beginning in the 1950 telephone directory, listed at 120-122 S. Main St in the 1957 city directory and later. Several other offices remain listed on the upper stories, including Marvin Deed, insurance (1952-1955), Bankers Life Co (1957), Alanson K. Elgar, attorney (1952-1960), John F. Algar, attorney (1955-1960). Louisa Apartments is then only listed here in the 1960s. The 1968 city directory lists 11 tenants in apartments.

In October 1972, the new Martha Brown Ltd store was introduced as formerly Brown Lynch Scott. It featured the latest in styles and fashions from Chicago, California, Dallas, and New York, offering the convenience of a specialty store with the wide selections and services of a major department store. The name Martha Brown was that of the wife of the late Senator John S. Brown, former president of Brown Lynch Scott, and grandmother of R.C. Lafferty, current president. The store reiterated that it had been in Mt Pleasant for over 35 years (*Mt Pleasant News*, October 3, 1972, 3). The 1977 city directory lists Martha Brown Ltd as the business in this building. They advertised Bobbie Brooks clothes. The store remained here until June 1993.

In November 1993, APAC TeleServices opened an office and calling center in this building, employing 75 local residents. This was their 11th center in Iowa, with more planned to open in the next year ("APAC holds grand opening," *Mt Pleasant News*, November 11, 1993, 4). They continued to operate here for several years.

On July 15, 1999, Builders, Inc. sold the building to J&J Real Estate for \$115,000. They then sold the building to Property Partners LLC on July 17, 2000, for \$275,000.

A building permit was issued in September 1999 to demolish the front offices added in 1993 and remodel the space for video rental. In the early 2000s, Mr. Movies Store was listed in the building. In 2003, a building permit was issued to remodel the storefront, creating three entries. The 2011 city directory lists the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in part of the first story, and Tazza Bella, a coffee bar and deli, in another part. Three storefront spaces operated in 2015: Sip, a coffee and wine bistro, Lillian Grace Boutique, and Amy Becker Photography.

On December 7, 2015, Property Partners LLC sold the building to Stephen Gray, Susan Gray, Ryan Lauer, and Sarah Lauer. They then transferred the building to LG Investments LLC on December 29, 2015, who continue to own the property.

The building is currently occupied by the Lillian Grace Boutique, with apartments on the upper stories.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Biographical Review of Henry County, Iowa. Chicago, IL: Hobart Publishing Company, 1906.

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Building and sign permits, City of Mount Pleasant, Iowa

City and telephone directories, Mt Pleasant:

- Bowron, Watson. *Henry County Directory for 1859-60*. Burlington, IA: Watson Bowron, 1859.
Annawalt & Lawrence's Bi-ennial Mt Pleasant Directory. Burlington, IA: Hawk-Eye Steam Printing House, 1867.
Annewalt, E.H., compiler. *Mount Pleasant City Directory*. Burlington: Daily Gazette, 1870.
Mount Pleasant City Directory for 1893. Mt. Pleasant, IA: Francis D. Craig, 1893.
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, 1973, 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.

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.

Koch, Augustus. *Birds-Eye View of the City of Mount Pleasant, Henry County, Iowa*. Chicago, IL: Merchants Lithographing Co, 1869. In collection of Henry County Heritage Trust and Mount Pleasant Public Library, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

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.

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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.

Location map



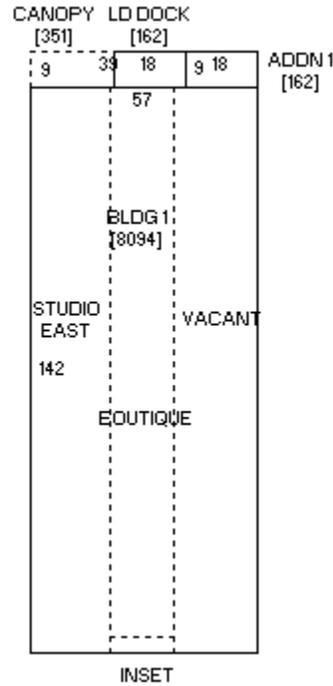
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Building footprint



Sketch by www.camavision.com

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

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City

Historic images



Spahr Block – aka “The Louisa” – in 1909 (*Mt Pleasant Beautiful 1909: 28*)

Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



100 block of S. Main St in 1910s (Hayes collection, HCHT Facebook album)

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



100 block of S. Main St around 1925 (HCHT Facebook album)

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



100 block of S. Main St in 1946 (HCHT Facebook album)

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



Building in 1960s (HCHT Facebook album)

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
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South portion of 100 block of S. Main St in 1962 (HCHT Facebook album)

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



Building around 1974 (HCHT files)

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



South end of 100 block of S. Main St in early 1980s (HCHT Facebook album)

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



1990 survey photograph (Naumann 1991)



1990 survey photograph (Naumann 1991)

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State Historic Preservation Office
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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City

Digital photographs



Photograph 44-00302-001. West elevation, looking east (October 2023)

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State Historic Preservation Office
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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



Photograph 44-00302-002. West elevation, looking east (October 2023)

Iowa Site Inventory Form
State Historic Preservation Office
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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



Photograph 44-00302-003. East elevation, looking southwest (October 2023)

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Louisa Building
Name of Property

Henry
County

120 S. Main St
Address

Mount Pleasant
City



Photograph 44-00302-004. East elevation, looking northwest (October 2023)