State Historic Preservation Office January 2016)	9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number:  Non-extant Year:
Read the lowa Site Inventory Form Instructions form. The instructions are available on ou	tions carefully, to ensure accuracy and completeness before completing ur website.
Property Name	
A) Historic name: <u>Henry County Savings B</u>	ank
3) Other names: 2023 downtown survey #	<sup>1</sup> DT-129
Location	
-	
	( Vicinity) County: Henry
C) Legal description:	
· —	Range No.: Section: Quarter: of Quarter:
	Block(s): <u>38</u> Lot(s): <u>1-2-3-4</u>
Classification	Alumbar of recourage (within property):
	Number of resources (within property): If eligible property, enter number of:   If non-eligible property,
☐ District	Contributing Noncontributing enter number of:
☐ Site	1 Buildings Buildings
☐ Structure	Sites Sites
☐ Object	Structures Structures
	Objects Objects  1 Total Total
C) For properties listed in the National Req National Register status:   Listed   De-list	
D) For properties within a historic district:  ☐ Property contributes to a National Register or lo ☐ Property contributes to a potential historic distri ☐ Property does not contribute to the historic distri	ocal certified historic district. ct, based on professional historic/architectural survey and evaluation.
Historic district name: <u>Mt Pleasant Downtow</u>	n Historic District Historic district site inventory number: 44-02280
E) Name of related project report or multip MPD title Intensive Level Historical and Architectural	Historical Architectural Data Base #
	nd terms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions
A) Historic functions	B) Current functions
02D02: COMMERCE/TRADE / bank	02D02: COMMERCE/TRADE / bank
	rms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions
A) Architectural classification	B) Materials
08: MODERN MOVEMENT	Foundation (visible exterior): 10B: Concrete
09F: OTHER / Commercial	Walls (visible exterior): 10B: Concrete
	Roof: 15C: Rubber
	Other:

Site Number: 44-02270 Address: 301 E. Washington St	City: Mt Pleasant County: IA District Number: 44-02280	
Statement of Significance		
A) Applicable National Register Criteria: Mark your opinic Criterion A: Property is associated with significant events. Criterion B: Property is associated with the lives of significant per Criterion C: Property has distinctive architectural characteristics. Criterion D: Property yields significant information in archaeolog	Yes No More research recommended ersons. Yes No More research recommended Yes No More research recommended	
B) Special criteria considerations: Mark any special cons  ☐ A: Owned by a religious institution or used for religious pu ☐ 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  1975	F) Significant person Complete if Criterion B is marked above	
G) Cultural affiliation Complete if Criterion D is marked above	H) Architect/Builder Architect Becker and Associates (Alta, IA) Builder/contractor	
Narrative statement of significance	arch sources used in preparing this form	
Form Preparation		
Name and Title: Rebecca Lawin McCarley / research by Bob Mueller & Pat White Date: March 27, 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	ng items with the completed form	
<ul> <li>A) For all properties, attach the following, as specified</li> <li>1. Map of property's location within the community.</li> <li>2. Glossy color 4x6 photos labeled on back with prounique photo number.</li> <li>3. Photo key showing each photo number on a manumber to indicate the location and directional visit</li> </ul>	in the lowa Site Inventory Form Instructions:  operty/building name, address, date taken, view shown, and  ap and/or floor plan, using arrows next top each photo  ew of each photograph.  boundaries, public roads, and building/structure footprints.  istoric districts and farmsteads, and barns:	
State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only B	elow This Line	
The SHPO has reviewed the Site Inventory and concurs with ab  Yes No More research recommendation of the site of t	ove survey opinion on National Register eligibility: nded	
Comments:		

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#### 7. Narrative Description

Henry County Savings Bank was designed by Becker and Associates of Alta, Iowa, in 1973, with the building constructed from 1974 to 1975. The bank occupies a full half block on the east edge of the downtown, spanning four lots from E. Washington to E. Monroe St on the east side of S. Harrison St. The design of the bank reflects elements of the Brutalist style, with the overarching exposed concrete forms. The prevalent exterior material is precast concrete with an aggregate finish. The overall form of the bank is symmetrical, reflecting Classical antecedents typical for earlier bank designs. The bank faces E. Washington St and a parking area to the south, with an identical north elevation facing a parking lot to the north that extends to E. Monroe St. The center section of the bank is raised, with the heavy roof form above the heavy roof forms of the side section. The center section has a wall consisting of glass doors and windows, providing transparence for this section. The sections to the east and west have concrete "columns" support the heavy concrete roof form, with full-height windows or concrete panels recessed between the columns. This alternating pattern of concrete columns and tall windows or recessed concrete panels continues along the west side and the east side of the building. The east side has a drive-in banking window located to the north/rear of center, with a canopy that extends over the drive-in stations. This canopy was designed with the building, reflecting the same precast concrete with aggregate and heavy concrete roof form. Parking is provided to the south of the bank from E. Washington St, with an ample parking lot to the north of the bank to E. Monroe St. Both parking lots are poured concrete. Parking was a key feature for this new bank located on the edge of downtown.

#### 8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Henry County Savings Bank 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 1970s. Three significant projects for financial institutions were completed in downtown Mt Pleasant from 1974 to 1976, with Henry County Savings Bank as the oldest of these institutions. Their decision to construct a new building on the east edge of the downtown was one that reinforced the importance of the central business district during this period with increasing commercial development along corridors removed from downtown. The architecture clearly reflects bank design of the 1970s. 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. Henry County Savings Bank was a prominent local bank, the only one to survive through the 1920s and 1930s in Mt Pleasant and a bank that would celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1991 in this building. The architecture of the building is locally significant for its 1970s design reflecting Brutalism. Further research and assessment of the interior features and modifications would be required for a full evaluation of the individual eligibility of the building.

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Developmental history of property

This modern bank building was designed and built for Henry County Savings Bank in 1975.

Henry County Savings Bank was organized on February 24, 1891, in the First National Bank to "do business as a savings bank," with George H. Spahr as president. The first board of directors was George Spahr, John G. Budde, Charlie Snider, W.S. Withrow, and A.S. Kauffman. A new bank building was constructed in 1891 at 100 S. Main Street (extant) on ground leased from the Congregational Church (extant, listed on NRHP, see Iowa #44-00293). They purchased this property in May 1907, and Henry County Savings Bank remained at this location through 1930. While the bank had a loss in 1927, it recovered by 1929 and became stronger in 1930. On November 25, 1930, the Henry County Savings Bank assumed the assets and liabilities of First National Bank. As First National Bank had a newer building constructed in 1923, the Henry County Savings Bank moved across the square to their building at 101 S. Jefferson St (extant, listed on NRHP, see Iowa # 44-00203). Henry County Savings Bank was noted as one of the strongest banks in any agricultural county in the state with total deposits of \$2 million ("A Two Million Dollar Bank," Mt Pleasant News, November 25, 1930, 1; "\$2,000,000 Bank at Mt. Pleasant," Burlington Hawk-Eye, November 26, 1930; "Henry County Savings Bank Linked with First Mt. Pleasant Bank," Mt Pleasant News, November 13, 1961, 24; "Henry County Savings Bank marks 100 years," Mt Pleasant News, February 21, 1991, 5). The bank struggled in the early 1930s during the Depression, with the state superintendent of banking managing the bank from 1932 to 1934 when it was returned to local management. A new president, John P. Budde, was elected in 1934, remaining in this position until the new bank was completed in 1975. By 1935, the assets of the bank exceeded \$1 million and never fell lower than that figure again ("Henry County Savings Bank marks 100 years," Mt Pleasant News, February 21, 1991, 5). While other banks closed in the early 1930s, Henry County Savings Bank remained open. It was the only bank in Mt Pleasant through the end of the 1930s and into the 1940s, until Mount Pleasant Bank & Trust opened in 1947. Henry County Savings Bank remained in the 1923 bank building at 101 S. Jefferson St through the 1950s and 1960s.

Mount Pleasant Bank & Trust constructed a drive-in window at the rear of their building at 104 S. Main St in 1965, providing a new type of banking service. As their project was underway, Henry County Savings Bank announced plans for drive-in bank on S. Harrison on March 5, 1965 (Jaynes 1976: 162). With the need for a drive-in facility and looking forward to construction of a new building, they purchased property two blocks to the east of the square. The initial construction on the site was a drive-in bank.

On July 1, 1965, the Henry County Savings Bank bought four parcels of land in Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 from four separate property owners of four earlier houses on this site – one on Lot 1 on the corner of E. Monroe and Harrison, one on the south half of Lot 2 along Harrison St, and two to the south on the west/east halves of Lots 3-4 along E. Washington St. Thus, they owned the full half block. Demolition of the houses then proceeded, followed by construction on the drive-in facility in 1966. On October 13, 1966, an open house was held at the new drive-in facility for Henry County Savings Bank, with president J.P. Budde present. The 54 by 26 foot building had been built along Harrison St between Washington and Monroe, two blocks east of the square. The structure with redwood siding and easy drive-up lanes had been completed a few weeks ago. The facility featured two drive-up windows and one walk-up window in the lobby, all with bullet proof glass. The bank had transformed the appearance of the half block with the new building and landscaping. The bank was celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary when the drive-in facility was opened ("Open House Oct. 13 at Bank's Drive-In," *Mt Pleasant News*, October 11, 1966, 1). Henry

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County Savings Bank continued to operate their main bank at 101 S. Jefferson St at the northwest corner of the square.

In August 1973, John P. Budde, president of Henry County Savings Bank, announced plans for the bank to construct a new main bank building on the site of the bank's drive-in office. The one story building would have 10,000 square feet of banking area, including four drive-up windows. The present bank on the northwest corner of square would continue as an office, serving downtown merchants and shopping customers. The bank needed to expand due to the continued growth of the bank and the extensive growth of Mt Pleasant and Henry County. The Board of Directors had been notified of impending approval by Iowa State Superintendent of Banking and the FDIC, with the new bank building announced to staff at a dinner the previous evening. Becker and Associates of Alta, Iowa, had designed the structure and planned to supervise construction. Walter Becker was president of the company, and Glen David Huntington was the project architect. The company had 16 banks in various stages of construction in the Midwest. The new building would be a one-story pre-stressed concrete and recessed glass structure with a full basement that would be modern in architectural design. The new bank was planned to be a complete financial center oriented to customers. The main floor of the bank would include the trust and estate planning department, private offices for loan officers, a farm representative office, installment loan department, safe deposit and cash vault, two customer lounges, seven teller stations, a walk-up window, and four drive-in windows. The basement had two community rooms, one for group of 200 persons and a second room for group of 80 persons. It also had a kitchen facility, employee lounge, and necessary storage facilities. The site included expanded free parking lots for customers and use of groups. The construction was planned to begin as soon as possible. John Budde stated: "The decision to build on the present site of the drive-in office, as well as maintaining the office on the square, expresses the bank's feeling of confidence in the downtown Mt Pleasant business area." Henry County Savings Bank was formed in February 1891 with George H. Spahr as president, followed by W.S. Withrow in 1922 and Will Kitch in 1931. Budde had been president since January 1934 and had been in banking for 63 years. The policy of bank was to serve all the financial needs of this area, and the new bank would assist in maintaining that policy. The board of directors included Budde, William M. Hoaglin, Robert L. Norris, Robert L. Evans, Dr. Harold Rankin, Kenneth W. Hatch, and E.A. Hayes ("Henry County Bank plans new building," Mt Pleasant News, August 21, 1973, 1; "Henry County Savings Bank marks 100 years," Mt Pleasant News, February 21, 1991, 5).

By the 1970s, Becker and Associates were known for their bank designs. Walter Becker started a contracting firm in Alta, Iowa, after World War II, starting with remodeling farm houses and then building houses. In 1952, he remodeled the Early Savings Bank in Early, Iowa, which launched a specialty of banks. By 1956, the company was working primarily on banks. When designing a new bank or remodeling an older bank, Becker focused on the needs of the individual community, ensuring to include features that fit the profile of the area. His attention to detail led him to design lighting systems that tie the heat of the lights with the building's heating system by the early 1960s. Becker Manufacturing Company produces quality furnishings for projects that are designed with wood pieces that dovetail together than being glued or nailed. The company grew to 15 employees by 1979, with more than 400 banks jobs completed since 1952. About 70% of the company's work had been for financial institutions in Iowa, mostly in small towns. Walter Becker remained personally involved in each project, meeting with clients and understanding their needs. His son Robert Becker served as vice president ("Walter Becker: A mellow self-made man," *Des Moines Register*, June 24, 1979, 50, 4F). Glen David Huntington is noted as an architect working with Becker and Associates designing other banks in Iowa in 1973 to 1975 as

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well, including Pella National Bank in Pella and the Bohemian Savings and Loan branch in Cedar Rapids ("Dutch design for new Pella National Bank," *Des Moines Register*, December 30, 1973, 21, 7C; "Bohemian Savings and Loan Expands," *Des Moines Register*, September 15, 1974, 35, 13CC). Per the lowa AIA directory in *Iowa Architect* in their March/April 1981 issue, Glen D. Huntington then established his own firm in 1976, Huntington Architects / Glen D. Hunting and Associates. Through 1980, 75% of their projects were bank designs, with nine bank designs or remodeling noted in the firm profile.

A newspaper advertisement in January 1974 noted that for 84 years the Henry County Savings Bank has been providing the most up-to-date banking services to the residents of Mt. Pleasant, Henry County, and the surrounding area. Formed in 1891, with George Spahr as president, W.S. Withrow followed in 1922, Will Kitch in 1931 and John P. Budde in 1934. The Main Street bank was established in February 1891, and the modern drive-in facility was constructed in October 1966. Recently, Budde announced plans to construct a new main bank building on the site of the current drive-in office. Continued growth of the bank and of Mt. Pleasant and Henry County necessitated the expansion. The bank will also expand all of the financial services needed by the community ("Henry County Savings Bank – 84 Years of Progress," *Mt Pleasant News*, January 4, 1974, 6).

Though construction started in 1974, the project extended well into 1975. Henry County Savings Bank announced that their new banking facility would open on July 14, 1975, for all banking services. In addition to complete and convenient banking, they offered free parking. The "Uptown Bank" would continue to operate at the northwest corner of the square, with the "New Main Bank" at 301 E. Washington. The new bank had service inside the building, walk-up windows, and drive-in services (*Mt Pleasant News*, July 11, 1975, 6). Construction of the new Henry County Savings Bank was cited as one of the major construction projects in Mount Pleasant in 1975. The total project costs of \$468,000 placed it as third for the year behind the Henry County Care facility and vocational classroom building at the high school (located to the north of this property) ("Local construction book in '75," *Mt Pleasant News*, December 27, 1975, 1).

Henry County Savings Bank announced an open house at their new bank on August 16-17, 1975. The modern structure – now the "main" bank – was occupied in mid-July, with final details finished over the last month. The concrete for the rear parking lot was just poured that week. The exterior of the 104 by 89 foot building was precast concrete with an aggregate finish. The four-lane drive-in featured automatic tellers. The community room in the basement was noted to accommodate as many as 285 people and could be partitioned to host more than one meeting at once. More than 100 meetings were noted as already scheduled there for the remainder of the year. The downtown office at Jefferson and Monroe would continue to be open to serve downtown customers on the square. A photograph included with the article shows Mr. and Mrs. Glenwood Tolson, custodians for Henry County Savings Bank, discussing a list of items to complete in preparation for the open house. The Tolsons were prominent local African American residents ("Open house scheduled at Henry County Savings Bank Saturday and Sunday," *Mt Pleasant News*, August 14, 1975, 6).

As the bank construction was nearing completed, William H. Hoaglin constructed a parking lot across S. Harrison St to the west, which was noted as a parking option for the new bank though not initially owned by them. On September 10, 1973, William Tribby, conservator for Irma A. Tribby (retired county recorder), sold Lot 6 in Block 16 (one lot to south of southwest corner of E. Monroe and S. Harrison) to William H. Hoaglin. The house and garage shown on the earlier Sanborn map were demolished. Hoaglin

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developed a parking lot on this parcel along S. Harrison St in summer 1975. As the bank was preparing for an open house in July 1975, they advertised several features of the new bank, including free parking at both the north and south entrances of the bank. An added free parking was noted as soon to be available in a new parking lot west across Harrison St (*Mt Pleasant News*, July 17, 1975, 6). On December 27, 1979, William M. and Donna Hoaglin sold this parking lot on Lot 6 in Block 16 to Henry County Savings Bank.

With the new bank open, the drive-in facility was no longer needed. In August 1975, "the former Henry County Saving Bank drive-in facility, purchased recently by Dr. Ledru Kauffman, was moved to a location west of Mt. Pleasant. It will be remodeled and used as a chiropractic clinic" (Mt. Pleasant News, August 12, 1975, page 1). The drive-in facility, as remodeled in 1975, remains at 103 S. Jackson, just to the south of W. Washington on the west edge of the downtown core (see Iowa # 44-02240). It clearly continues to convey its original design as a drive-in bank.

On July 19, 1984, Ida M. Frazer sold Lot 5 in Block 16 (corner lot at southwest corner of E. Monroe and S. Harrison St) to Henry County Savings Bank for \$43,000. A second parking lot to the north of their parking lot on the west side of Harrison St was then developed on this property, with the earlier buildings demolished. No listings are found for these buildings by the 1986 city directory. Thus, the bank owned the two parking lots along S. Harrison St in the late 1980s.

The main office of Henry County Saving Bank remained in this building at 301 E. Washington St through the 1980s. The "uptown office" of Henry County Savings Bank remained in the older building on the square at 101 S Jefferson.

Henry County Savings Bank celebrated their 100th anniversary in February 1991. The bank offered a full range of banking services and had total assets in excess of \$92 million. The bank had been organized on February 24, 1891, to "do business as a savings bank." A new president, John P. Budde, was elected in 1934, remaining in this position until the new bank was completed in 1975. The business economy of Mt Pleasant shifted from an agricultural base to more of an industrial base by the 1950s. The growth of the community led to the need for expanded facilities by the early 1970s, with a new bank planned on land previously purchased to the east of the square. A drive-in bank had been constructed on this site in 1966, utilized until the new bank was completed in 1975. After the main office was moved to the new building, the "uptown" bank was remodeled, with many services still provided at that location in 1991. Henry County Savings Bank began to utilize the services of Banks of Iowa, Inc., Computer Center in Cedar Rapids after moving to the new bank for processing of many of its services. In 1975, Robert Norris became president of the bank, with John P. Budde retiring. In 1982, the board of directors signed a "letter of intent" to sell outstanding shares of stock in the bank to the Banks of lowa, Inc., an lowa-based holding company. This led to the sale of the bank on May 15, 1984. Dean E. Hicks was elected vice president of the bank on November 1, 1984. When Norris resigned as president, Hick became president on January 1, 1986, the sixth president in the history of the bank. In 1990, the lowa legislature legalized interstate banking. The board of directors of Banks of Iowa, Inc. entered into an agreement to sell the corporation to Firstar Bank Holding Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The sale had approval from the Federal Reserve but was pending approval from the Iowa Department of Banking in February 1991 ("Henry County Savings Bank marks 100 years," Mt Pleasant News, February 21, 1991, 5).

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Banks of Iowa, Inc. officially merged into Firstar Corporation on April 19, 1991 ("Firstar Bank MP in midst of changes," *Mt Pleasant News*, March 8, 1996, 4). In June 1991, the name of Henry County Savings Bank was changed to Firstar Bank Mount Pleasant. A newspaper ad noted that though they had a new name, they maintained the commitment to personal, dependable service from local people. The Firstar Bank in Mt Pleasant remained locally managed, with the added resources of the Firstar Corporation, which was one of the nation's strongest bank holding companies. Firstar Bank advertised their main bank at 301 E. Washington, with the uptown office at 101 S. Jefferson St (*Mt Pleasant News*, June 3, 1991, 5). Dean Hicks remained as president of the bank under the new name.

On September 12, 1994, Firstar Bank Mt Pleasant's uptown office and staff relocated to the main bank at 301 E. Washington St. The move was noted to enhance service to Firstar customers by providing teller services, deposit account opening, loans, trust services, and safe deposit boxes all under one roof. The concentration of services in one location would provide expanded banking services and longer hours, as well as the convenience of drive-up and ATM facilities, per president Dean Hicks ("Firstar Bank consolidates operations," *Mt Pleasant News*, June 13, 1994, 10).

In November 1995, the Firstar Bank Mount Pleasant merged into Firstar Iowa. All of the 11 Firstar Banks in Iowa were merged into one banking charter, with all the mergers completed by December 1, 1995. The board of directors remained in place, and Dean Hicks remained president in early 1996. Changes were planned to the local bank to make it more efficient, including new technology, staff reductions, and shared personnel between member banks. Personnel changes were planned for the next 18 months ("Firstar Bank MP in midst of changes," *Mt Pleasant News,* March 8, 1996, 4). In 1999, Firstar Iowa merged into Firstar Bank, National Association (NA).

In 2001, Firstar Corporation of Milwaukee acquired U.S. Bancorp of Minneapolis, with the combined new company becoming U.S. Bancorp. U.S. Bancorp is the parent/holding company of U.S. Bank National Association. The bank in Mt Pleasant then became U.S. Bank National Association in 2001. City directories since 2001 list U.S. Bank at 301 E. Washington St.

On February 20, 2020, Henry County Savings Bank / US Bank National Association sold the parking lots across S. Harrison St to the west on Lot 5 (corner lot) and Lot 6 (lot to south) in Block 16 to The Rec Center, Ltd for \$75,000. The Rec Center is located immediately to the west of these lots at 200 E. Monroe St.

U.S. Bank continues to operate a bank at this location in 2024. The title to the property remains in the name of Henry County Savings Bank, under the corporate structure of U.S. Bancorp.

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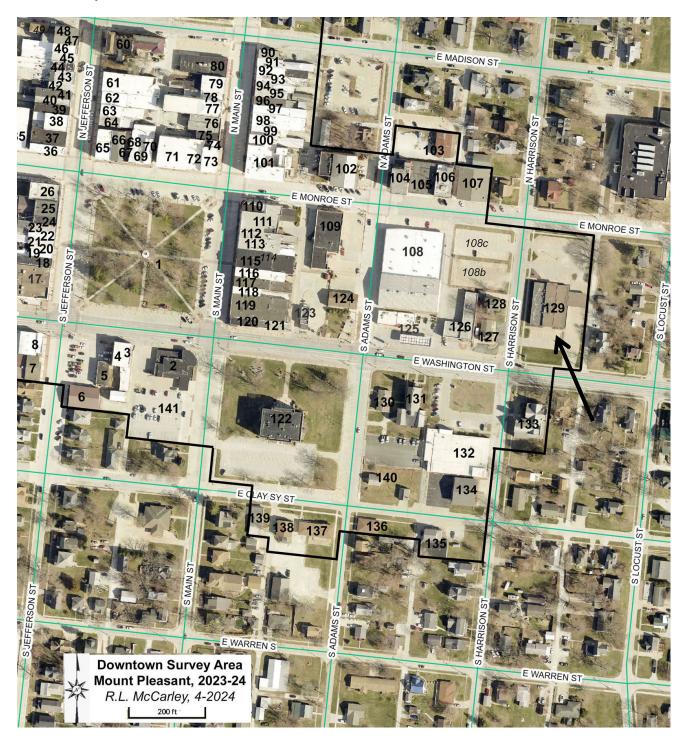
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## **Location map**

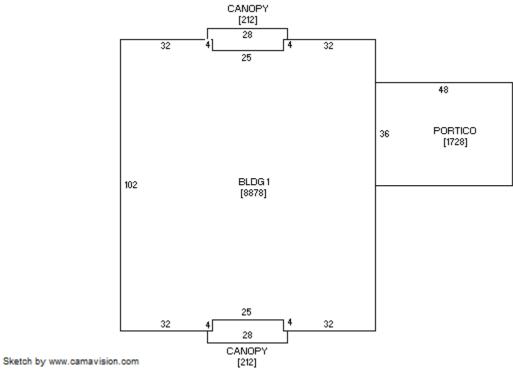


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## **Building footprint**



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

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## **Historic images**



Earlier drive-in bank built on site in January 1974 before building moved to 203 S. Jackson (HCHT files)

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Henry County Savings Bank around 1975 (HCHT Facebook album)

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Henry County Savings Bank around 1975 (HCHS album, Mt Pleasant Public Library)

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## **Digital photographs**



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Photograph 44-02270-002. West and south elevations, looking northeast (October 2023)

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Photograph 44-02270-003. East elevation, looking northwest (October 2023)

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Photograph 44-02270-004. North and west elevations, looking southeast (October 2023)

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Photograph 44-02270-005. North elevation on east side, looking south (October 2023)