OWA SITE INVENTORY FORM State Historic Preservation Office January 2016)	State Inventory Number:44-02274
Read the lowa Site Inventory Form Instructions form. The instructions are available on ou	tions carefully, to ensure accuracy and completeness before completing ir website.
Property Name	
A) Historic name: <u>Congregational Church</u>	
3) Other names: 2023 downtown survey #	DT-133
Location	
A) Street address: 300 E. Washington St	
B) City or town: Mount Pleasant	(Vicinity) County: Henry
C) Legal description:	
	Range No.: Section: Quarter: of Quarter:
<i>Jrban:</i> Subdivision: <u>Original</u> E	Block(s): <u>39</u> Lot(s): <u>Lot 1 - W 80' - also W 80' of Lot 2</u>
Classification	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Number of resources (within property):
☑ Building(s)☑ District	f eligible property, enter number of: If non-eligible property, Contributing Noncontributing enter number of:
☐ Site	1 Buildings Buildings
☐ Structure	Sites Sites
☐ Object	Structures Structures
	Objects Objects
	<u>1</u> Total Total
C) For properties listed in the National Reg National Register status: Listed De-list	
 Por properties within a historic district: Property contributes to a National Register or low Property contributes to a potential historic distriction Property does not contribute to the historic distriction 	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 S	Historical Architectural Data Base #
Function or Use Enter categories (codes ar	nd terms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions
A) Historic functions	B) Current functions
06A01: RELIGION / church	02E08: COMMERCE/TRADE / beauty shop
Description Enter categories (codes and ter	rms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions
A) Architectural classification	B) Materials
06E: EARLY 20th CEN REVIVALS / Late Go	thic Foundation (visible exterior): 04C: Limestone
Revival	Walls (visible exterior): 04C: Limestone
	Roof: 08A: Asphalt shingles
	Other:

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

Site Number: 44-02274 Address: 300 E. Washington S	St City: Mt Pleasant County: IA District Number: 44-02280
Statement of Significance	
A) Applicable National Register Criteria: Mark your opin Criterion A: Property is associated with significant events. Criterion B: Property is associated with the lives of significant p Criterion C: Property has distinctive architectural characteristics Criterion D: Property yields significant information in archaeology.	s.
B) Special criteria considerations: Mark any special cond ☐ A: Owned by a religious institution or used for religious p ☐ B: Removed from its original location. ☐ C: A birthplace or grave. ☐ D: A cemetery	
C) Areas of significance Enter categories from instructions 05: Commerce / 29: Social History	D) Period(s) of significance
02: Architecture	
E) Significant dates Construction date 1911	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	
	Date: March 28, 2024 PC
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION Submit the follow	ring items with the completed form
unique photo number. 3. Photo key showing each photo number on a monumber to indicate the location and directional views.	roperty/building name, address, date taken, view shown, and ap and/or floor plan, using arrows next top each photo iew of each photograph. g boundaries, public roads, and building/structure footprints. historic districts and farmsteads, and barns:
State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only E	
The SHPO has reviewed the Site Inventory and concurs with a ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ More research recomme ☐ This is a locally designated property or part of a lo	ended
Comments:	

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7. Narrative Description

The Congregational Church was designed in 1908 by architect Henry K. Holsman, built from 1909 to 1911, and dedicated in September 1911. This Bedford stone church is an excellent example of the Late Gothic Revival style, a style that Holsman utilized for several buildings during his early career as an architect. The "English Gothic" style was noted as unique among other churches in Mt Pleasant at the time of its construction. The rough-cut ashlar Bedford stone construction has smooth stone for the window arches/lintels, window sills, and water course above the basement windows. The church is located on the southeast corner of E. Washington St and S. Harrison St, with entry along a colonnade from the front/north along the west side of the main section to the base of the tower at the corner of the intersection of the main/front section and the south/rear section. The colonnade has Tudor arches, one on the north side and four on the west side. It also has wide crenellations across the top. A ramp extends up to the north end, with the main steps on the west side at the south end. The main section of the church has stone gables with square tops on the west, north, and east sides. Each gable section has a large Gothic arch wood stained glass window. Each window is tripartite with a circle in the peak. The corners of the main section resemble square towers with crenellated tops, with an entry into the west side of the northwest corner. The corners have vertical/tall stained glass windows. The main square tower rises above the cross gable roofs on the west side at the intersection between the main section and the rear/south section, with the main entry at the base on the north side within the colonnade. This bell tower has Gothic arch vent openings on each side and crenellations on the top. The rear/south section has a gable roof that runs east-west, with a west gable that resembles the gables on the main section. This gable section has a Gothic arch wood stained glass window that is tripartite but without the circle in the peak. Lower sections flank either side of the main gable section, with stained glass windows with triangular tops. Basement windows are found under each window on the west side of this rear/south section. The south elevation has a cross gable at the east end of the rear/south gable-roof section, which has been clad in vinyl siding. The stained glass window remains visible on the interior of this gable. The shed-roof lower rear section extends across the width of the south side, with the west half deeper than the east half. The west half had a set of two windows with triangular tops and a single window with a triangular top, with a rear entry on the east side of this section. The east half has five windows with triangular tops. Basement windows are found under each window on the south elevation.

The interior was not assessed as part of the survey project. The sanctuary currently remains intact, with all pews, historic materials, and features. The rear/south section was remodeled in 2022 for use as the beauty salon and spa. The kitchen remains in the west portion of the south section, remodeled as part of the work in 2022 as well.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Congregational Church 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 church was originally located on the east side of the square from 1848 to 1908. Church members included some leading businessmen in town, who leverage their prime real estate on the square for commercial construction that assisted with the financing of the construction of this church on a new site. The church was built in 1909-1911 to the east of St. Michael's Episcopal Church, continuing the trend of churches on the periphery of commercial development in downtown Mt Pleasant. The building is located at the

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east edge of the potential historic district, across from the 1975 building for the Henry County Savings Bank and still east of St. Michael's Episcopal Church. The church retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a historic building in a historic district.

Based on research and evaluation conducted to date, the Congregational Church appears to be potentially individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architecture. It is an excellent example of the Late Gothic Revival style, and it was one of the few identified church designs of prominent Chicago architect Henry K. Holsman. The church has had no additions and retains a high level of integrity of its original design. The sanctuary remains fully intact on the interior, with some modifications made to the support spaces. 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

Congregational Church was organized on June 27, 1841. They acquired Lot 1 in Block 10 on the east side of the square, located at the southwest corner of E. Monroe and S. Main streets. They built a brick church on the center of this lot in 1848 (*History of Henry County* 1879: 524). The gable-roof church with bell tower and steeple is depicted on the 1869 birds-eye view of Mt Pleasant. The remainder of the east side of the square is commercial buildings, with other churches located within a block of the square. This was the only church on the square, with commercial buildings on other sides of the square as well. Thus, the church was already in a unique position by 1869. The 1870 city directory lists the Congregational Church on the southeast corner of Main and Monroe with Rev. Bernard as pastor. The 1848 building continued to be used for the church in 1888, with Rev. O.W. Rogers serving the church since February 1883. The county history notes that it was prosperous for many years and then less so, but it had always been maintained as a church by dedicated members (*Portrait and Biographical Album of Henry County* 1888: 672). The 1893 city directory lists the Congregational Church at Main and Monroe with Rev. O.W. Rogers still as the pastor.

With commercial development solidified on all sides of the square by 1890, the Congregational Church in possession of prime real estate. In 1891, they reached an agreement with the new Henry County Savings Bank to lease a part of the north portion of their lot at the immediate corner to the bank, with the bank then constructing a new building on the parcel. The church began fundraising for a new building on a different site in 1907, which included leveraging commercial development on their current lot. The plan appears to have been instigated by the need in 1906 to renew the lease on the corner lot with the Henry County Savings Bank, with an agreement struck in April 1907 to sell the property to the bank for \$5,500. An article noted that most of the congregation favored accepting the price and selling the balance of their real estate including the present church building and then constructed a new building. Other members were in favor of retaining the real estate and leasing it on favorable terms so that the church received steady income ("Buys Corner Lot," Mt Pleasant Daily News, April 30, 1907, 3). On May 1, 1907, the Congregational Church officially sold the corner parcel (W 60' of the N 22' of lot 1 block 10) to the Henry County Savings Bank for \$5,500 (Transfer Book "C", page 15). After first declining, the temporary pastor, Rev. Staunton, accepted a call to become the permanent pastor of the Congregational Church in August 1907, immediately entering into a campaign for a new church ("Accepts Formal Call," Mt Pleasant Daily News, August 29, 1907, 4).

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In March 1908, plans were announced for the Congregational Church to construct a large two-story business building on the remainder of Lot 1, which would be built in a L-shape around the bank parcel at the corner. The building would have a double-storefront frontage on S. Main St. as well as a storefront frontage on E. Monroe. The first story would be used for commercial purposes, with offices on the second story. Construction was anticipated to be completed in the summer ("New Building is Assured," Mt Pleasant Journal, March 17, 1908, 1). The actual construction took longer, with the Mt Pleasant Journal noting in May 1909 that J.H. Wallbank & Sons was occupying the first story, and the "fine offices" on the second story would soon be occupied (Mt Pleasant Daily News, May 7, 1909, 2). Additional space at the northeast corner of Lot 1 to the east of the storefront of the Wallbank store on E. Monroe was then developed in conjunction with M.B. Huston, publisher of the Journal. A one-story building was constructed in fall 1908 adjacent to the alley, 28 by 48 feet, and occupied as a print shop. Rent on this building would be \$27.50 per month, with the Journal to provide fixtures and furnishings. Additional space remained potentially for another building between the Wallbank store and the Journal building ("Will Have New Home," Mt Pleasant Daily News, September 19, 1908, 4). The Congregational Church continued to own these buildings on the east side of the square until August 1915, collecting rental income for support of the church and the new building.

As construction was occurring on their former site, John J. Fitzgerald et al sold the First Congregational Church of Christ of Mt Pleasant the property at the southeast corner of E. Washington and S. Harrison (W 80' of Lots 1 and 2) for \$1214 on April 29, 1908, with a second transaction on May 21, 1908, for \$485 (Town Lot Transfer Book C).

In June 1908, architect Henry K. Holsman of Chicago was in town to consult with the building committee of the Congregational Church about the new building to be constructed in the near future. The specifications would be submitted in about a week, and then bids for the work would be received ("Architect was Here," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, June 13, 1908, 3). Bids were due by July 28 for the construction of a building for the First Congregational Church of Christ of Mt Pleasant in accordance with the drawings and specifications by H.K. Holsman, architect, the Monadnock Building, Chicago, with documents available from him or from the building committee per chairman Benjamin Staunton ("Construction of Church Building," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, July 11, 1908, 3).

Henry K. Holsman was a self-taught architect with Iowa roots based in Chicago. He was born in Dale, Iowa, in 1866, and he graduated from high school in 1884. He taught school for three years before entering Grinnell College (Iowa College, the Congregational college in Iowa) in 1887 and graduating in 1891. Holsman became interested in architecture during college, studying architectural designs and beginning to design buildings. He moved to Chicago in 1892, working as a building superintendent and then as an architect with Brainerd & Holsman from 1893 to 1897. His designs reflected a range of architectural styles and a flair for mechanical/technical innovations. Holsman was known for several designs of apartment buildings in Chicago. In his early career as an architect, he worked on several collegiate and church projects, including buildings at University of Nebraska, Grinnell College, Coe College, Appleton University, Ripon College, Illinois College, and Central University of Kentucky in Danville. He designed a series of buildings in the Collegiate Gothic style at Parsons College in Fairfield from 1900 to 1912. The Late Gothic Revival style was utilized for Barhydt Chapel, which was designed in 1909 shortly after the Congregational Church in Mt Pleasant. The chapel was larger, with the church in Mt Pleasant reflecting more of the picturesque qualities of the Late Gothic Revival style. Other church

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designs of Holsman have not been identified to date, though one biography attributes 10 churches to him over the course of his career. Holsman also founded and operated the Holsman Automobile Company from 1902 to 1910, designing automobiles that were manufactured and credited with the first usage of the "reverse" gear. With a housing shortage after World War I, Holsman focused his attention on apartment designs in Chicago, with many brick buildings having stone accents reflective of the Late Gothic Revival style. He was actively involved in many housing issues in Chicago throughout the remainder of his career. Henry K. Holsman continued to practice through the 1950s, dying in 1961 (Jane Scatzel and Dara Llewellyn, *Architecture of Henry K. Holsman: A Historic Campus District, Fairfield, Iowa,* National Register of Historic Places nomination, September 1983). The First Congregational Church in Grinnell is noted as a stone Gothic Revival church built in 1877, which may have influenced Holsman.

On August 10, 1908, the building committee of the Congregational Church let the contract for the construction of their new church to Day, Stephens & Day for \$12,887. The same contracting firm was building the business house on the site of the old church. The new church, to be built on the Fitzgerald lot on E. Washington, would be one of the "most artistic and convenient church edifices in this part of the state. It will be built of Bedford stone in broken ashlar style, and the style of architecture will be something entirely different from any church building around here." The building would include an auditorium, Sunday School room with nine class rooms, library, kitchen, choir room, and pastor's study. The entire costs of the building and furnishings was estimated at \$20,000. Plans for financing the construction were underway, with the church anticipated to be completed with little debt ("Contract Is Let," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, August 11, 1908, 4). Bids for the painting in the new church building were advertised to be submitted by December 15, 1908 per the specifications of Henry Holsman, architect of Chicago, available at the office of Charles Hohlen, contractor, at the building grounds. The building committee was noted to include Rev. Benjamin Staunton, William Hoaglin, and William B. Daniels ("Painting Proposal," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, December 11, 1908, 4).

A sketch of the architect's design of the church appeared in *Mt Pleasant Beautiful* in late 1909, with the note: "The church, now nearing completion, was built without deviation from original plans" (*Mt Pleasant Beautiful* 1909: 10).

Conflicts between Rev. Benjamin Staunton and members of the church led to his dismissal in January 1910, prior to completion of the church. In November 1910, Rev. George H. Putnam accepted a call to the church (*Mt Pleasant Journal*, November 29, 1910, 1). The 1911-12 county directory lists the Congregational Church at the southeast corner of E. Washington and Harrison streets, with Rev. C.H. Putnam as pastor.

Dedication of the new Congregational Church was held on September 10, 1911, with multiple services over the course of the day culminating in the dedication service in the evening with sermon by Rev. T.O. Douglas of Grinnell. Nearly the entire cost of the construction of the cost of \$27,000 had been raised prior to the service, with only \$300 left by the end of the evening. With the church paid off and nice income from the business houses that the church owned, the Congregational Church was noted to be in very comfortable conditions financially. The building was noted as one of the handsomest buildings for its size in the state, reflecting an old English Gothic in its architectural style with mixed Bedford stone. The interior was chaste, restful, and beautiful, with oak woodwork in keeping with the Old English style of architecture. The church had stained glass windows, abundant light and ventilation, large Sunday School room with separate rooms for classes, pastor's study for Rev. G.H. Putnam, and basement.

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Seating capacity was typically 450 but could be increased to 600 with use of chairs ("Dedication Sunday of Church Edifice," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, September 11, 1911, 4).

The pipe organ was installed after the dedication of the church. Rev. G.H. Putnam and E.J. Richards visited St. Louis in May 1912, where they went to make the selection and purchase of the new pipe organ at a cost around \$2,000. The new pipe organ was slated to be installed about the first of September. (*Mt Pleasant Journal*, May 31, 1912, page 3). The new pipe organ arrived in December 1912. Estey Organ Co. of Brattleboro, Vermont completed the installation. It was dedicated with a recital by W M Jenkins of St. Louis, a personal friend of Rev. Putnam ("Dedication of the New Pipe Organ," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, December 6, 1912, 3; *Mt Pleasant Journal*, December 10, 1912, page 3). An electric motor for the organ was purchased in 1927.

In October 1920, a furnace and electric lights were installed. The showing of stereopticon pictures in place of the Sunday sermon also started then. Members of the congregation as well as many from other churches attended to view this experiment. A printed description of the pictures was provided to follow the presentation ("Pictures In Churches," *Mt Pleasant Daily News*, October 25, 1920, 3). A steel ceiling was installed in 1924.

The 1920 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the stone church at the southeast corner of E. Washington St and S. Harrison St. The footprint shows the main sanctuary along E. Washington St with a gathering space across the rear/south of the building and extending further on the west side. An open porch extends along the west side of the sanctuary section to the south section. The bell tower in the corner between eh sections is noted as 45' in height. The church is noted with 16' to the eaves, heated by a furnace, and gas and electric lights. The Congregational Church has the same footprint and notes on the 1942 map.

On March 13, 1949, the Congregational and Universalist churches of Mount Pleasant merged and adopted the name of Federated Church. The Congregational and Universalist churches, two of the oldest in Mt. Pleasant, completed the plan to federate for united action. For the past three years, the two congregations have worshiped together. At the evening service, the first meeting for worship of the Federated church, seven new members were received. ("Movement Toward Federated Church Taking Shape," *Mt Pleasant News*, January 29, 1949, 1; "New Federated Church Formed By Local Churches," *Mt Pleasant News*, March 15, 1949, 1).

The Federated Church is listed at 300 E. Washington Street in the 1952, 1955, 1960, 1962 and 1964 Mount Pleasant city directories.

In January 1965, the name of the church was changed from The Federated Church of Mt Pleasant to The First Congregational-Universalist Church (Federated) of Mt Pleasant. It was felt that the name would make the church more readily identifiable to residents of the community, particularly newcomers with a previous affiliation with one church or the other ("Congregation Approves Change in Name of Church," *Mt Pleasant News*, January 20, 1965, 1).

In October 1965, the Congregational-Universalist Church hosted a two-day conference of the Iowa Association of Congregational Churches and the Iowa Pilgrim Fellowship. It was attended by about 160 people, 65 of whom were from the Iowa Pilgrim Fellowship. Mrs. George Mead, the National Moderator

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from West Hartford Connecticut was the closing speaker on Sunday. Her topic – "The Congregational Way". (*Mt Pleasant News*, October 19, 1965, page 6).

In June 1966, the First Congregational-Universalist Church (Federated) observed the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Congregational Church in Mt Pleasant on June 27, 1966. Kay Jay presented information on the history of the church. The church was organized in the home of William and Lavinia Edgar in June 1841. The first church was a brick building on the northeast corner of the square, dedicated on April 1, 1852. It was utilized until 1908 and then the current stone church was built. A bell was purchased for the church in 1856 to announce meetings. In 1878, the Universalists offered the fellowship of their church to the Congregationalists, as the latter's building was in need of repair. The invitation was accepted, with long standing good relations established between the congregations. In 1883, Rev. Osgood W. Rogers became permanent pastor of the church, ushering a period of prosperity for the congregation. A church library was begun, a Young People's Society for Christian Endeavor formed, and an organist hired. His nephew, C.S. Rogers, moved to Mt Pleasant to attend Iowa Wesleyan College and stayed with his uncle, remaining in town after graduation and later served for many years as editor of the newspaper. By 1901, the congregation had 300-350 members. In 1901, Rev. Osgood Rogers accepted a call to Oklahoma, and his son Rev. William Rogers was ordained and served as pastor for a period. Church records from 1900 to 1949 were not available. However, on March 13, 1949, the Federation of the Congregational and Universalist Church occurred. For three years prior to this date, they worshipped together and alternated between sanctuaries. The Federated Church was served by Rev. Henry R. Jay until his recent death ("125 Years of History Reviewed by Local Church," Mt Pleasant *News,* June 13, 1966, 1).

The Congregational-Universalist Church is listed in Mount Pleasant city directories from 1966 through 2001. The address is 300 E. Washington Street.

The 2011 city directory lists the Congregational Church at 300 E. Washington Street.

The membership of the church continued to dwindle and the decision to disband and close the church was made in 2021. On December 1, 2021, the Congregational Church of Mount Pleasant donated memorabilia, documents and historical records of the Congregational and Universalist Churches to Henry County Heritage Trust, Inc., the local museum and historical society.

On December 14, 2021, the Congregational Church sold the property to Mark and Gina Burns for \$85,000. They transferred it to Castle Church LLC on January 18, 2022. Initial renovations of the church were then completed by the Burns in 2022, with additional work continuing in 2023 and 2024. The sanctuary was preserved, with remodeling of the gathering space to the south for a salon.

The building is currently utilized by the Revival Salon and Sanctuary, which is run by Gina Burns. Weddings and other events are also hosted in the building, primarily within the former sanctuary.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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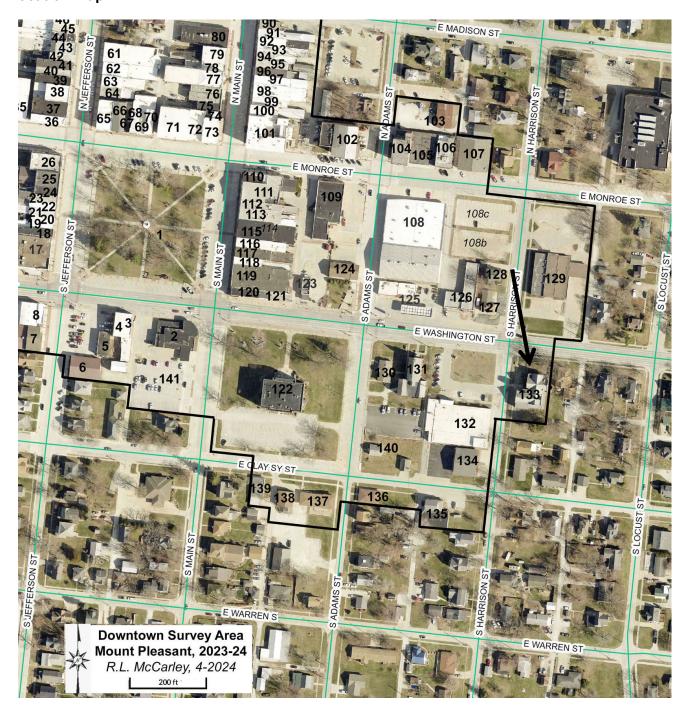
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Sanborn Map Company. *Mount Pleasant, Iowa*. Fire insurance maps for 1886, 1892, 1899, 1909, 1920, 1942. Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division, Sanborn Maps Collection.

Location map

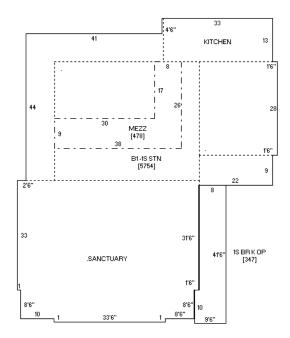


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Building footprint

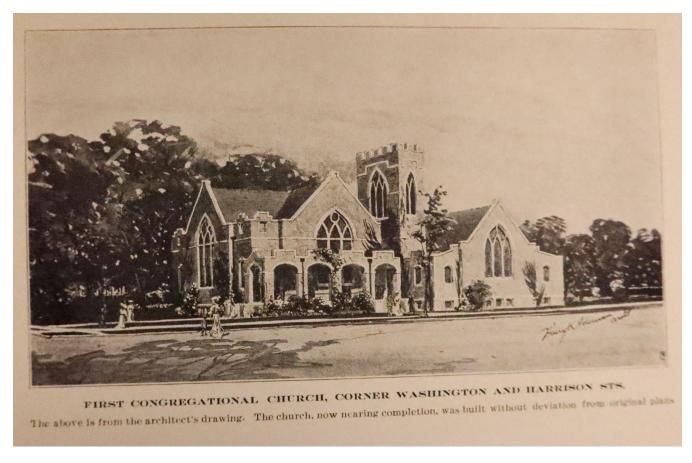


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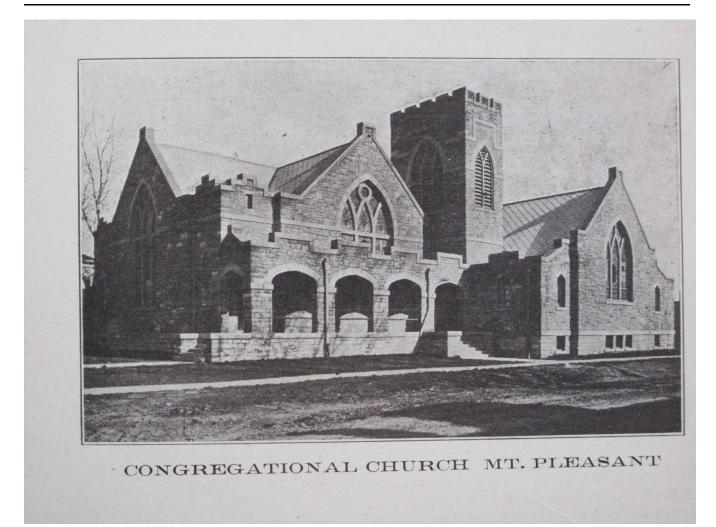
Historic images



Architect's sketch of Congregational Church (Mt Pleasant Beautiful 1909: 10)

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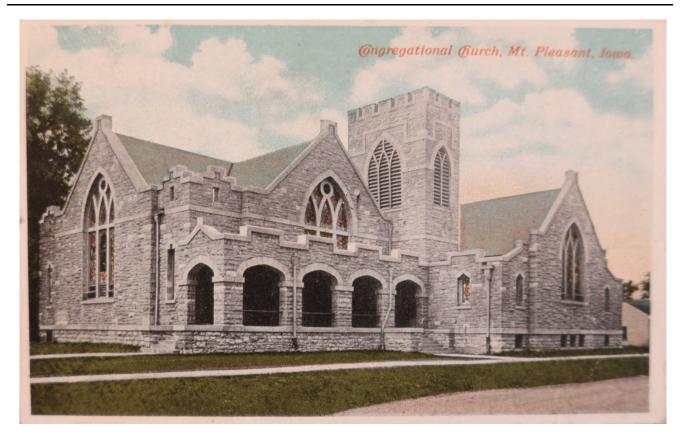
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Congregational Church in 1911-12 county directory (page 57)

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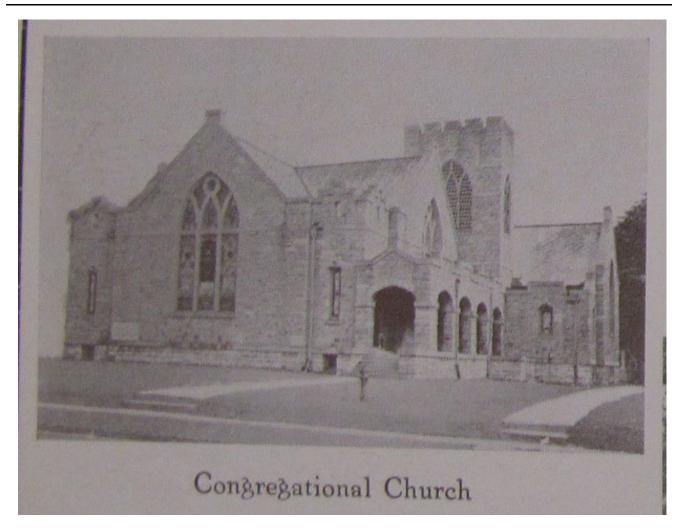
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Postcard of church in 1910s (HCHS binder, Mt Pleasant Public Library)

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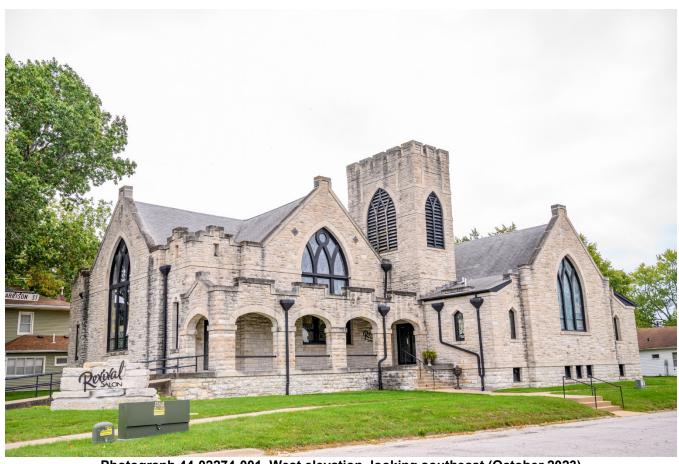
Congregational Church in 1938 city directory

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Digital photographs



Photograph 44-02274-001. West elevation, looking southeast (October 2023)

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300 E. Washington St	Mount Pleasant
Address	City



Photograph 44-02274-002. North elevation, looking southeast (October 2023)

Site Number: 44-02274
Related District Number: 44-02280

Congregational Church Name of Property	Henry County
300 E. Washington St	Mount Pleasant
Address	City



Photograph 44-02274-003. West elevation, looking east (October 2023)

Site Number: 44-02274
Related District Number: 44-02280

Congregational Church Name of Property	Henry County
300 E. Washington St Address	Mount Pleasant City



Photograph 44-02274-004. North elevation, looking south (October 2023)

Site Number: 44-02274
Related District Number: 44-02280

Congregational Church Name of Property	Henry County
300 E. Washington St Address	Mount Pleasant City



Photograph 44-02274-005. East elevation, looking southwest (October 2023)

Site Number: 44-02274
Related District Number: 44-02280

Congregational Church Name of Property	Henry County
300 E. Washington St	Mount Pleasant
Address	City



Photograph 44-02274-006. South elevation, looking north (October 2023)