

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name City Hall  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 220 W. Monroe  not for publication  
city, town Mount Pleasant  vicinity  
state Iowa code IA county Henry code 087 zip code 52641

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Architectural & Historical Resources of Mount Pleasant, Iowa  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

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GOVERNMENT/City Hall

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GOVERNMENT/City Hall

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

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20th Century Revival

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Colonial Revival

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---

foundation 

---

Bedford Stone

---

walls 

---

Bedford Stone

---

roof 

---

Asphalt Shingles

---

other 

---

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This one and one-half story stone building was constructed in 1936 one block west of the northwest corner of the Square (220 W. Monroe). It was built as a combination city hall and fire station. Consequently, we find a building with a symmetrical main block, with an L-shaped fire department/police wing on the east and south sides. The main block of the building measures 31'x40', the east side of the "L" is 24', and the south side is 20' wide.

Rectangular in shape with a gable roof, the main block presents a very formal appearance, with a symmetrical facade on the eave side. The projecting entrance is flanked by pilasters, and capped by an entablature with round arch and rosette windows above. Modillions are found just below the roof along the cornice, and the major windows and doors are jack arched. These classical elements are counterbalanced by a gable roof with stepped ends, and a projecting gable above the front door which create a strong Dutch Colonial feeling. The building is constructed of random ashlar stone that was salvaged from the Seeley Memorial Y.M.C.A./High School when it burned in 1932. Rusticated stone is used for the high foundation, and the arches above windows. The L-shaped wing is built at ground level, and is a single story in front, but two stories, plus a tall fire hose drying tower, across the back.

The wing to the east (fire department) has undergone the most changes. Originally the fire door was set back approximately 8' from the front plane of the building. This was extended forward to provide additional space when the fire department moved, but the jack arched opening was also moved forward, then blocked-in. Windows along the east wall were also blocked-in with stone. The opposite end of the "L" was also closed in at that time. The other major exterior alteration is the replacement of the tile roof with asphalt shingles, sometime after 1952. In spite of these alterations, the basic design of the building remains.

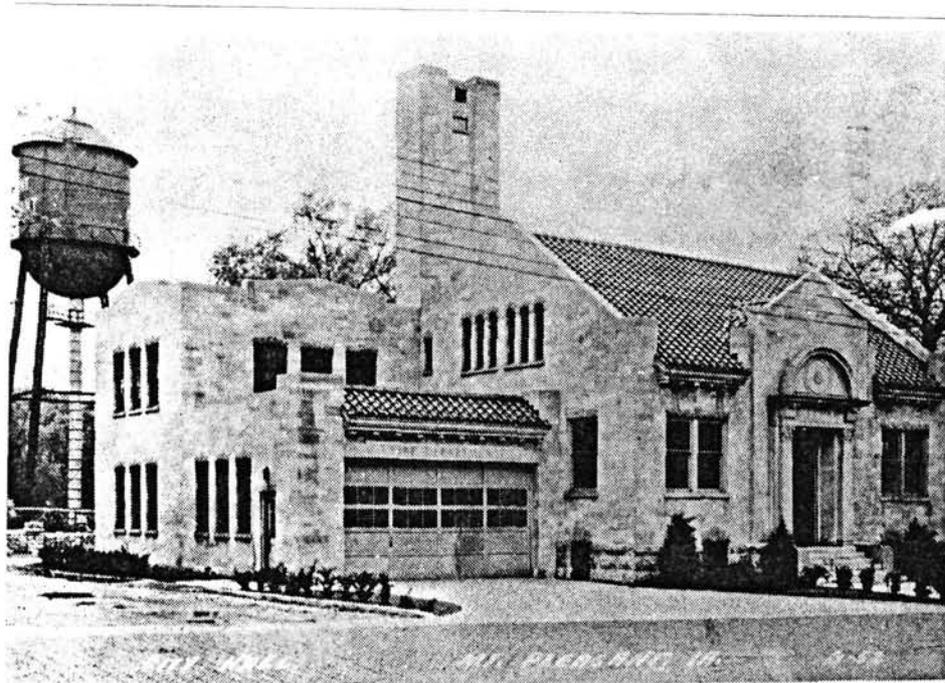
On the interior, the main block is one-half story above street level. All floors are terrazzo and woodwork is oak. A central hall on the main floor has offices opening off to each side. The basement level continues this plan. Stairs at the south end of the hall lead both to the basement, and to the upper level. The top floor is only a half story and contains two rooms. The L-shaped wing is accessible from the main block through a doorway at the south end by the stairs. Overall, few changes have been made on the interior.  See continuation sheet

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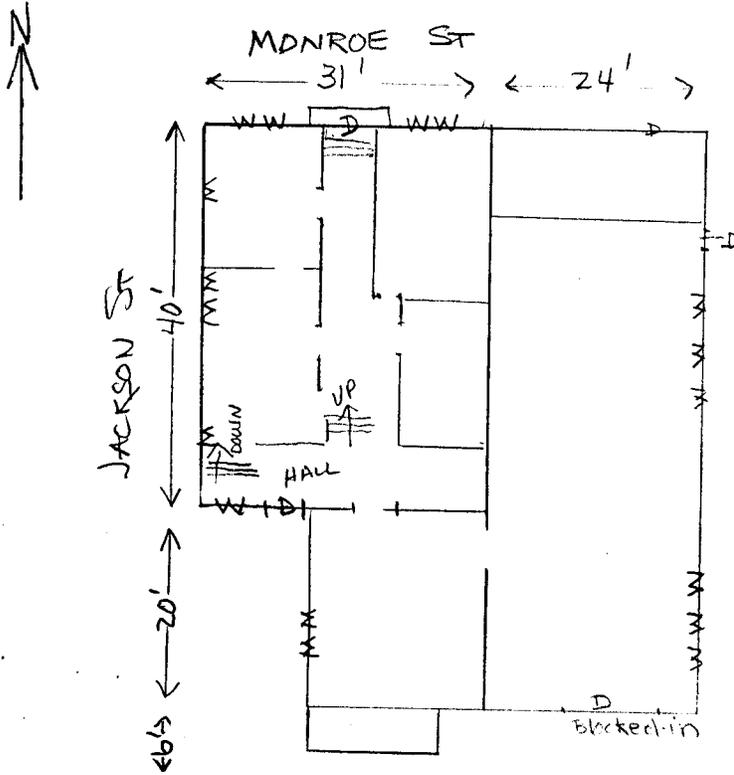
1952 photograph of City Hall.

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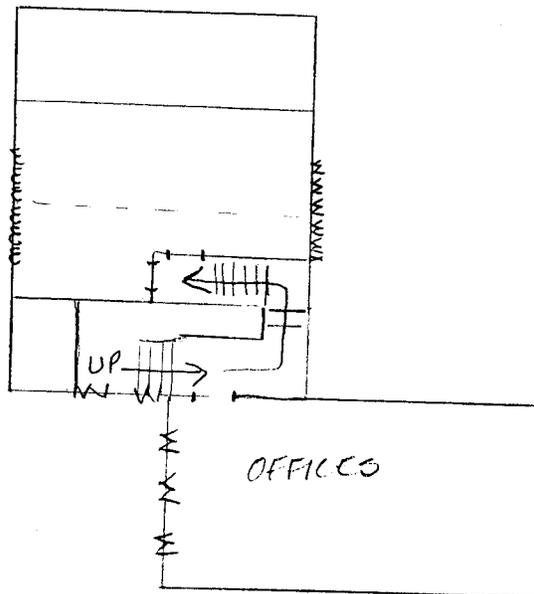
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MAIN LEVEL  
(L SHAPED AREA AT  
GRADE; MAIN BLOCK  
UP 1/2 story)

BASEMENT UNDER  
MAIN BLOCK ONLY



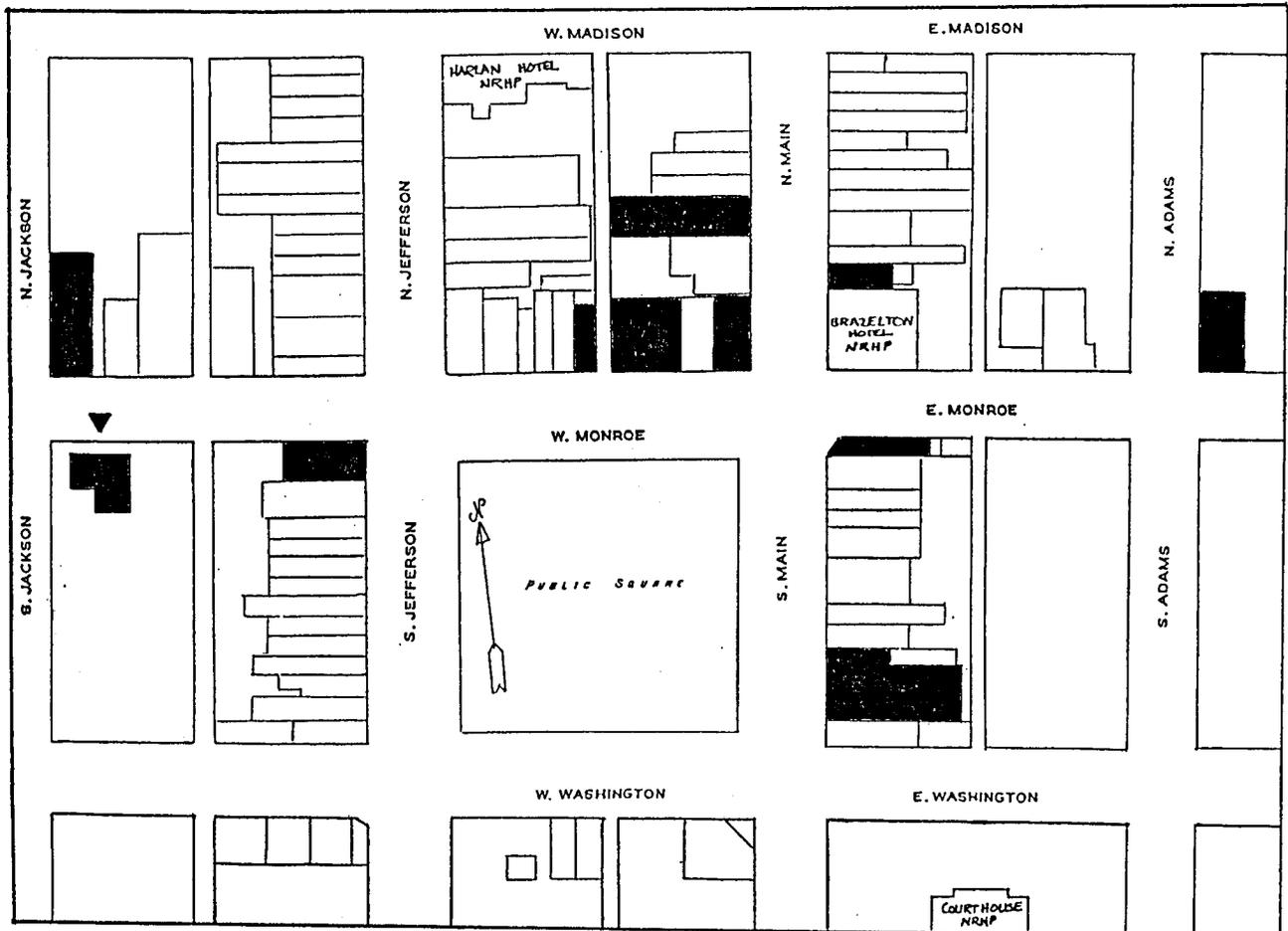
UPPER LEVEL OF MAIN BLOCK  
IS A HALF-STORY & IS  
HALF A FLOOR ABOVE  
'OFFICES.'

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## MOUNT PLEASANT PUBLIC SQUARE

Shaded buildings are those being nominated.

▶ indicates specific building being nominated.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1936

Significant Dates

1936

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.

Significant Person

N.A.

Architect/Builder

K.A. Bergdahl, Bldr.

Wm. Weibley, Archt.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

This building is significant under Criterion C as an example of revival style public architecture (city hall) designed and executed during the 1930s.

This relatively small stone city hall was constructed in 1936 as a W.P.A. project. It is an eclectic blending of colonial revival styles (Dutch, Georgian, a touch of Mission). This is somewhat unusual, as classical revival was most often used for public buildings. There is not a monumental quality to this building. It appears almost cottage-like when compared to the Henry County Courthouse (1913) or U.S. Post Office (1936). The fire department/police wing does nothing to dispel this feeling. Despite the lack of monumentality, this a a nicely executed design for a municipal building in a county seat town.

The architect of the building was Wm. Weibley of Burlington. He had been involved with a remodeling of the Brazelton House Hotel coffee shop in the 1920s. It has not been determined if public architecture was a specialty of his. K.A. Bergdahl was a well-known local builder who was responsible for many of the early 20th century buildings in Mount Pleasant. During the Depression, Bergdahl worked on several of the W.P.A. projects in the community. The largest of these was the construction of the new city hall in 1936. Even with the stone being salvaged from the burned Seeley Memorial Y.M.C.A./High School, the building was still said to cost \$50,000.

See continuation sheet



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