

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 Masters Building  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 221 W. Monroe  not for publication  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	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Architectural & Historical Resources of Mount Pleasant, IA  
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

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/Specialty

COMMERCE/Business

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Early 20th Century American

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Cast concrete panels

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This two story brick, 37'x75', commercial building was constructed in 1937 one block west of the northwest corner of the Square at 221 W. Monroe. It is located directly across the street from the City Hall (1936).

This building utilizes the light tan colored brick that was popular during the 1920s and '30s. It is a simple rectangle, with flat roof. The primary facade is located on the narrow end. A recessed door is centered with a large display window on each side. The second floor facade features two sets of paired double hung windows. The top sash has Craftsman vertical lights. The side and rear elevations have single windows of this type on both the first and second floors. An entrance leading to the second floor is located in the center of the west elevation (the Colonial-type canopy is not original). Decoration on the building is subdued, limited to simple brick patterned panels, cast concrete panels and coping. Cast concrete letters spelling out the name of the building are set in a large brick panel on the facade, with a date panel just below it. The simplicity of this design is common to the period. This happens to be a relatively unaltered example of a commercial building from the 1930s.

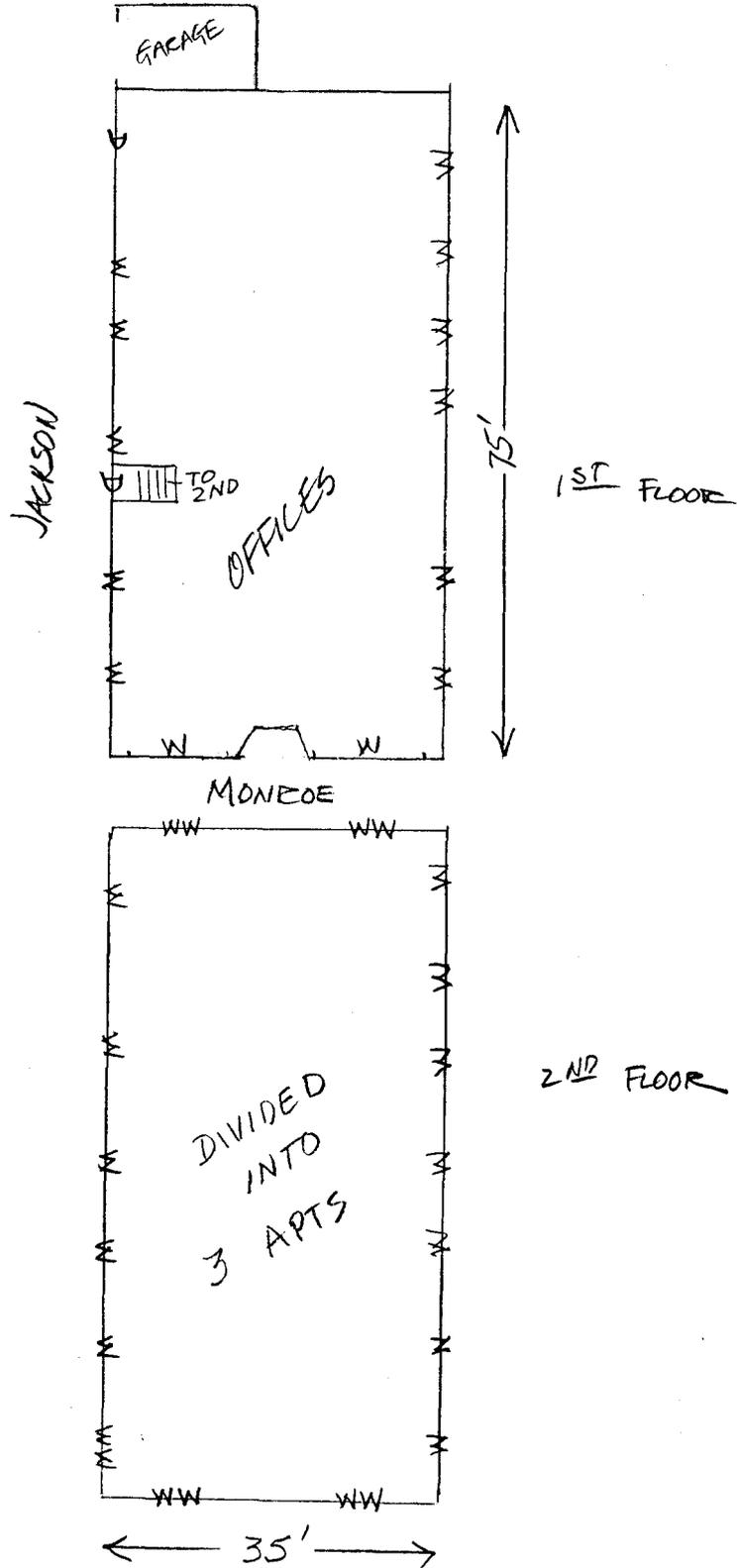
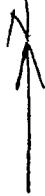
The building was constructed to house a plumbing and heating business on the first floor, and three apartments on the second. The interior appears to have been unchanged over the years. The garage attached to the rear of the building is mentioned in newspaper articles at the time of construction and is believed to be original.

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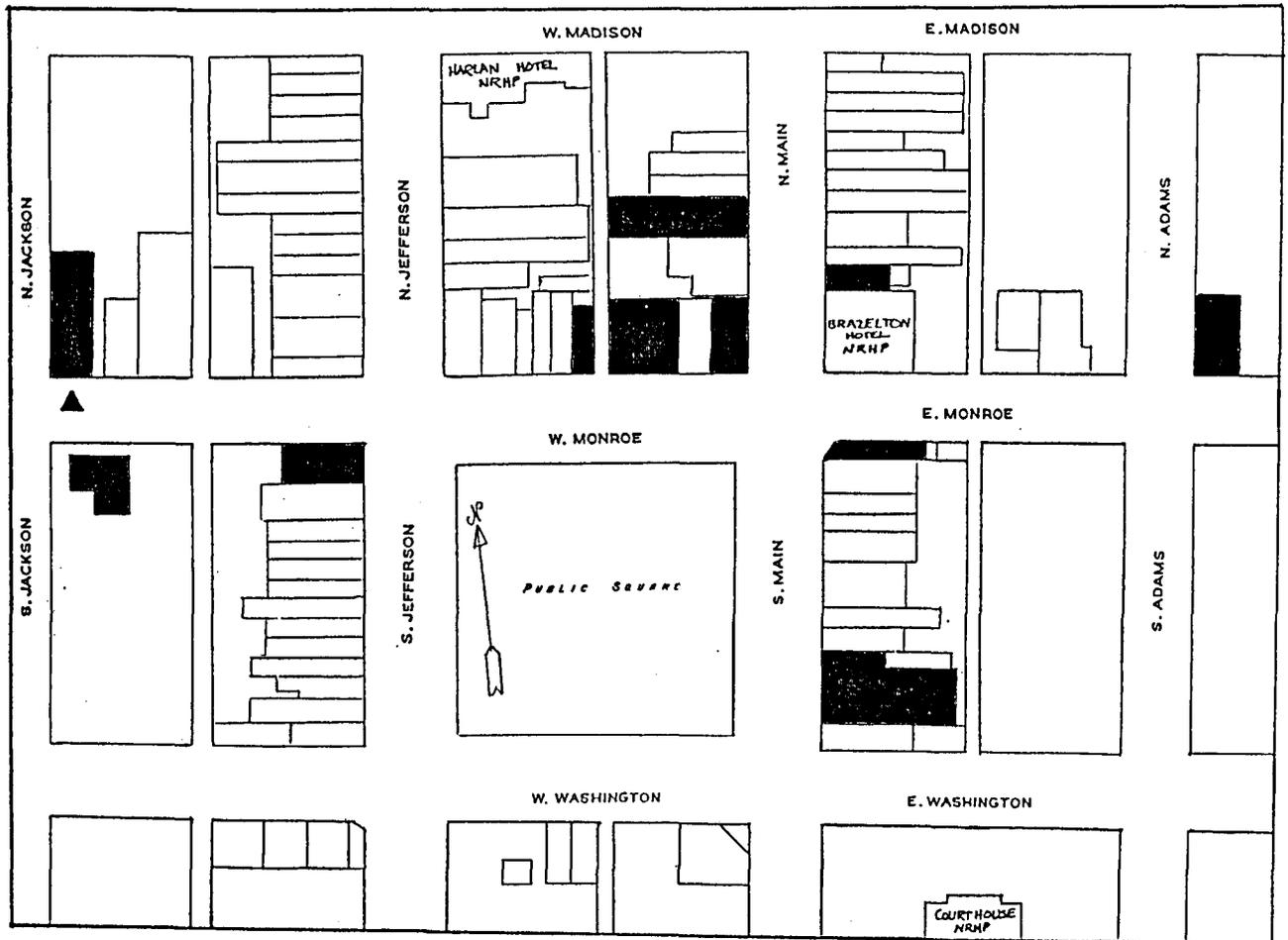


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## MOUNT PLEASANT PUBLIC SQUARE

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)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

1937

1937

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.

Significant Person

N.A.

Architect/Builder

K.A. Bergdahl, contractor

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 a good example of a Type V building, a simplified commercial design adapted from the Art Deco and Art Moderne buildings of the period.

Constructed in 1937, this building illustrates the use of light colored brick (in this case light tan, almost blonde), and a simplified design. Several buildings were constructed in Mount Pleasant during the 1920s and '30s using a variety of different brick colors, and relying on brick patterning and cast concrete panels for the facade decorative elements. The Pitcher Building, immediately south of the the Masonic Temple Theater on Main, is another example, but the street level has been totally altered. The Masters Building demonstrates the interest in basic design that was seen in the Craftsman and Bungalow movements of residential design, and the simplified approach taken with Art Deco and Art Moderne in commercial buildings. It does not rely on the elaborate cast elements of the Italianate, or the classical details found on the First National Bank and Henry County Courthouse. The material, and the different ways it can be used to create patterns, becomes the important design feature. Three buildings in the 200 block of W. Monroe appear to have been built during the 1930s and share this same approach. The Masters Building is the best example.

This area developed commercially with the construction of the new City Hall. This was a fairly late expansion of the Mount Pleasant business district, but was within a block of the Square.

See continuation sheet



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