

Site Inventory Form
State Historical Society of Iowa
(November 2005)

State Inventory No. **61-03173**

☒ New ☐ Supplemental

☒ Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) **61-00001**

Relationship: ☒ Contributing ☐ Noncontributing

☐ Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries

National Register Status:(any that apply) ☐ Listed ☐ De-listed ☐ NHL ☐ DOE

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number _____

☐ Non-Extant (enter year) _____

1. Name of Property

historic name Lowe Building

other names/site number Iowa State Extension Office (current)

2. Location

street & number 117 John Wayne Drive North

city or town Winterset

☐ vicinity, county Madison

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____

Township No. _____

Range No. _____

Section _____

Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision Original Town

Block(s) 17

Lot(s) 4

3. State/Federal Agency Certification [Skip this Section]

4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]

5. Classification

Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)

☐ district

☐ site

☐ structure

☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

If Non-Eligible Property

Enter number of:

_____ buildings

_____ sites

_____ structures

_____ objects

_____ Total

If Eligible Property, enter number of:

Contributing Noncontributing

1

buildings

sites

structures

objects

1

Total

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).

Title

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

Intensive Survey & Evaluation of Commercial District, Winterset, IA

61-007

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02E09 COMMERCE/TRADE/SPEC STORE/FURNITURE

05E EDUCATION RELATED/EXTENSION OFFICE

02E07 COMMERCE/TRADE/SPEC /PHOTOGRAPHER

02A07 COMMERCE/TRADE/BUS/IMPLEMENT DEALER

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

05B LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

foundation _____

walls (visible material) 03 BRICK

roof _____

other _____

Narrative Description (☒ SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" representing your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ More Research Recommended

A Property is associated with significant events.

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ More Research Recommended

B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ More Research Recommended

C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ More Research Recommended

D Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Madison
City Winterset

Address 117 John Wayne Drive North

Site Number 61-03173
District Number 61-00001

Criteria Considerations

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B Removed from its original location.
- ☐ C A birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D A cemetery.
- ☐ E A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F A commemorative property.
- ☐ G Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

02 ARCHITECTURE

05 COMMERCE

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Significant Dates

Construction date

1889 ☐ check if circa or estimated date

Other dates, including renovation

1892 ADDITION

Architect/Builder

Architect

UNKNOWN

Builder

MARDIS, T. F.

Narrative Statement of Significance (☒ SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography ☒ See continuation sheet for citations of the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form

10. Geographic Data

UTM References (OPTIONAL)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	_____	_____	2	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

☐ See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

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organization Tallgrass Historians, L.C.

street & number 2460 S. Riverside Drive

city or town Iowa City

state IA

date May 2014

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zip code 52246

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (Submit the following items with the completed form)

FOR ALL PROPERTIES

- Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
- Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
- Photographs:** representative black and white photos. If the photos are taken as part of a survey for which the Society is to be curator of the negatives or color slides, a photo/catalog sheet needs to be included with the negatives/slides and the following needs to be provided below on this particular inventory site:

Roll/slide sheet #	_____	Frame/slot #	_____	Date Taken	_____
Roll/slide sheet #	_____	Frame/slot #	_____	Date Taken	_____
Roll/slide sheet #	_____	Frame/slot #	_____	Date Taken	_____

☐ See continuation sheet or attached *photo & slide catalog sheet* for list of photo roll or slide entries.

☒ Photos/illustrations without negatives are also in this site inventory file.

FOR CERTAIN KINDS OF PROPERTIES, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS WELL

- Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or noncontributing status)
- Barn:**
 - A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
 - A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
 - A sketch floor plan of the interior space arrangements along with the barn's exterior dimensions in feet.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line

Concur 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: _____

Evaluated by (name/title): _____

Date: _____

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number **61-03173**
Related District Number 61-00001

Page 1

Lowe Building	Madison
Name of Property	County
117 John Wayne Drive North	Winterset
Address	City

7. Description

The two story brick commercial building is located east across from what is now John Wayne Drive (historically 1st Street) from the Courthouse in Winterset. The soft brick building with a flat roof among the simplest two story buildings around the Courthouse square, although it does reflect influence from the Italianate style of architecture in the corbelled brick cornice details and tall, narrow windows on the 2nd floor. It was built in 1889 and has undecorated brick pilasters and a parapet with little corbeling: a few rows of header bricks laid at an angle and brick soldiers laid at an angle. There are three windows with brick hoods with protruding rowlock arches and a few protruding bricks on either side. The 1/1 windows have segmental-arched frames, but the glass is not arched. There are limestone sills. There is an undecorated metal beam across the top of the storefront. The building has its original deeply recessed entry on the left which has a wood ceiling and quarter-round trim that appears to be original. The rest of the storefront has been remodeled recently. The transom which has small blocks of colored glass has been covered and the kick plate has new stone facing. There are plate glass windows. The back of the building, like the adjacent bakery, has been resurfaced with glazed brick and the building has a new fire door.

8. Statement of Significance

The building retains sufficient integrity to be considered contributing to the proposed Winterset Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District for architectural significance (Criterion C). It is a fairly well preserved example of a commercial building constructed in the late 19th century and reflects the architectural evolution of the courthouse square commercial district. The history of this business also gives insight into the frequency of changes in businesses around the courthouse square. In 1889, L. Lowe (who had been in business since at least 1874) contracted with T.F. Mardis to construct the building for his furniture and undertaking business. The building needed to be constructed as rapidly as possible so that Lowe could move out of the Danforth building (106 S. JWD) so that it could be renovated to house the new Madison County Bank. (Lowe was one of the shareholders in the bank.) The two story store with a full glass front and a corner entrance would be completed within sixty days (*Madisonian* 07/07/1874; 08/16/1889). Lowe's furniture store occupied both the first and second floors (*Madisonian* 09/11/1889). Two years later, when he was experiencing ill health, Lowe sold his business to E.P. Fox of Garner, Iowa. He advertised a going-out-of-business sale on sewing machines (*Madisonian* 06/05; 06/12/1891). In 1892, the *Madisonian* reported that Fox was "refitting and repainting his hearse, making it one of the finest vehicles of its kind in the county. Anyone having once taken a ride in it will henceforth abandon all other modes of travel" (*Madisonian* 01/22/1892). Later that year, after a fire that burned Fox's merchandise, Lowe returned to Winterset, bought out Fox, built an extension onto the back of the building, and went back into the furniture business (*Madisonian* 08/26; 09/02; 10/28/1892). In 1896, Lowe rented the building to Ainsworth & Bonbright implement dealership. He renovated the building for them by having the front of the building changed so that wagons could be driven into the building (*Madisonian* 01/31; 02/07; 02/18/ 1896). The following year, when Ainsworth & Bonbright sold their business, Lowe moved his furniture store back into the building (*Madisonian* 09/15/1897). The building continued to house a furniture store into the late 20th century.

The following is a listing of the known historical uses of this building:

1899-12-27	Furniture	(<i>Winterset Review</i>)
1889-08-16	Lowe Furniture & Undertaking	<i>Madisonian</i>
1905 -1927	Ramsey Furniture & Undertaking	laGenWeb – Ramsey Obit
1950	Henderson Furniture	(1950 – 2000 Town Square Layout)
1958	Henderson Furniture	(1958 – 2008 Town Square Layout)

1878 map of Business Portion of Winterset, Iowa shows the building as "GA Ward photograph gallery upstairs..."

The Sanborn fire insurance maps show the following in this block building:

- 1886 – vacant lot
- June 1893 - furniture
- May 1899 - furniture

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number **61-03173**
Related District Number 61-00001

Page 2

Lowe Building	Madison
Name of Property	County
117 John Wayne Drive North	Winterset
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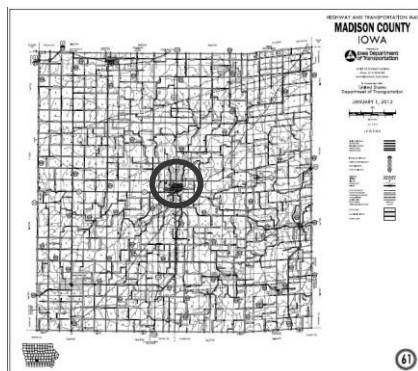
- October 1907 - furniture
- October 1916 - furniture
- September 1926 -- The map only labels the business as 'store'.
- May 1948 -- The map only labels the business as 'store'.

9. Major Bibliographic References

1950 – 2000 Town Square Layout. Winterset, Iowa: Madison County Historical Society, 2000.
1958 – 2008 Town Square Layout. Winterset, Iowa: Madison County Historical Society, 2008.
Courthouse Records. Winterset, Iowa: Madison County Recorder's Office.
Madison County Historical Society Photograph Collection.
Winterset Madisonian 1874, 1889, 1891, 1892, 1896, 1897.
Winterset Review, Centennial Edition. Panorama of Winterset Public Square. Winterset, Iowa, 1899.

10. Additional Documentation

General Location in Madison County (left) and aerial map (right) showing subject building as diagonally-shaded rectangle. North is to top of page.



Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number **61-03173**
Related District Number 61-00001

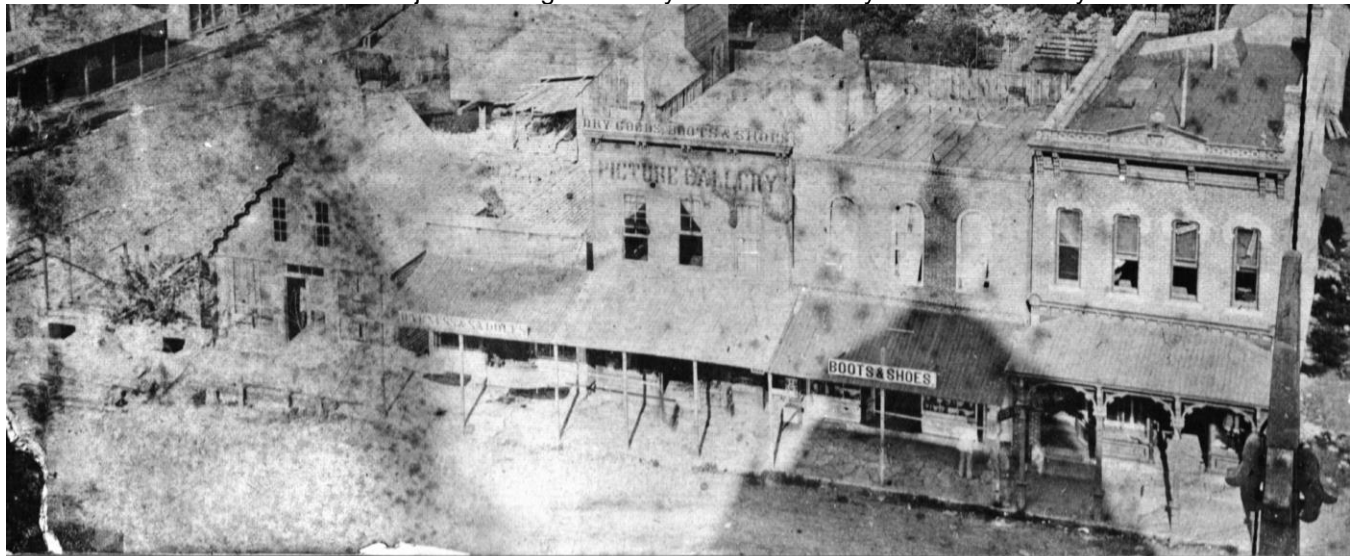
Page 3

Low Building	Madison
Name of Property	County
117 John Wayne Drive North	Winterset
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Photograph taken by Tallgrass Historians L.C., August 2013, looking East.



1873 photo of North half, east side of square. Third building from right – “Picture Gallery” is a frame building that stands at the future site of subject building. Courtesy Madison County Historical Society Photo Collection.



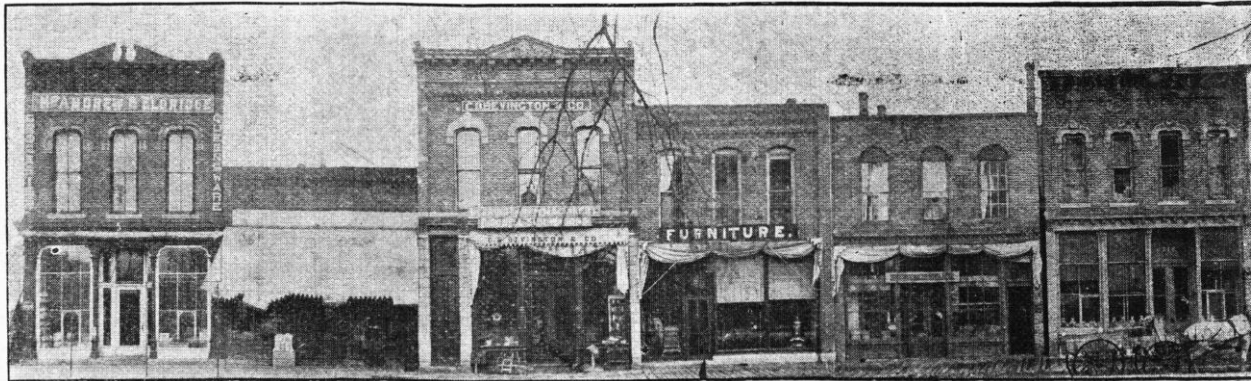
Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number **61-03173**
Related District Number 61-00001

Page 4

Low Building	Madison
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117 John Wayne Drive North	Winterset
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1899 photo of North half, east side of square. Third building from the right – “Furniture” is the brick building that is Lowe’s Furniture. Courtesy Madison County Historical Society Photo Collection.



c. early 1900s photo of North half, east side of square. Sign on 117 N. John Wayne Drive says “J. A. Ramsey Furniture & Undertaking.” Courtesy Madison County Historical Society Photograph Collection.



3245 East Side Square, Winterset, Iowa.

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number **61-03173**
Related District Number 61-00001

Page 5

<u>Lowe Building</u>	<u>Madison</u>
<u>Name of Property</u>	<u>County</u>
<u>117 John Wayne Drive North</u>	<u>Winterset</u>
<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>

c. 1900 photo of North half, east side of square. Lowe's is 4th building from the left. Note new store front.
Courtesy Allen Family Private Photograph Collection.

