

305-307 WEST SECOND STREET
DAVENPORT
SCOTT COUNTY
IOWA

HABS No. IA-132

HABS
IOWA
82-DAVPO,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS
DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL and ENGINEERING RECORD
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

305-307 WEST SECOND STREET

HABS No. IA-132

HABS
IOWA,
82-DAVPO,
1-

305-307 W. 2nd Street
Original Town, Block 7, Lot 5
Owner: Mildred Kneip
913 Fulton St., Chicago, IL 60607

Description:

This three-story, double commercial block is built of brick with cast iron detailing. The flat window arches are capped by simple cast iron lintels. Alterations to the building include a rebuilt first floor facade and a modified cornice. The original store fronts, which probably also contained cast iron components, have been replaced by plateglass, and other modern materials. A corbelled brick cornice on the east portion of the building has been removed and the west portion's present cornice is probably a late 19th century addition covering an earlier corbelled cornice.

Significance:

This double commercial block was constructed during the 1850's in the Greek revival style. A handful of similar style structures are present in the central business district. This building has had more changes than the other surviving examples of Greek revival design in the downtown.

Sketchy property records on this structure make it difficult to determine the building's earliest occupants/owners. Post 1900 records indicate the building was used by a series of businesses - Lembrecht and Co., jewelry store (c.1900-1910); Sanitary Butter Store (1920); S. & K. Grocery Market (1930); Plank Jewelry (1920); and Miller-Jones Shoe Co. (1930). Like numerous other Davenport buildings, this commercial block was taken over by a liquidation corporation during the 1930's.

Sources:

1. "Central Turners, One Hundredth Anniversary," 1852-1952, Davenport, Iowa: Central Turners, 1952.
2. Davenport City Directories, 1856 to 1930.
3. History of Scott County, Iowa, Chicago: Interstate Publishing Co., 1882.
4. Huebinger Brothers, Album of Davenport and Vicinity, 1887.
5. Insurance Maps of Davenport, Iowa, New York, Sanborn Map Co., 1886, 1892, 1910, 1920, and 1930.
6. "New Buildings," Davenport Democrat, November 13, 1968, p.1
7. Oszucik, Phillipe, "A History of the Architecture and Urbanization of Nineteenth Century Davenport, Iowa." Dissertation, Univ. of Iowa, 1979.
8. Wilke, Franc B., Davenport Past and Present, Davenport: Publishing House of Luse, Lane & Co., 1858.

Prepared by: Marlys Svendsen Community Development Department, City of Davenport
Historian

Todd Mozingo
Architectural Historian