

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

State Inventory No. **50-00733**

New Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 50-01703

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 Scharf Building

other names/site number Stouder Drug Co., J.J. Newberry Variety Store, Strand Theater

2. Location

street & number 110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.

city or town Newton

vicinity, county Jasper

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____

Township No. _____

Range No. _____

Section _____

Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision Original Plat

Block(s) 9

Lot(s) E

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

Downtown Newton, Iowa

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

50-010

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02B03 COMMERCE/TRADE/law office

02E COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

—

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

02E08 COMMERCE/TRADE/beauty shop

01A01 DOMESTIC/residence

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

05B VICTORIAN/Italianate

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation 03 BRICK

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
- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended

- A Property is associated with significant events.
- B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
- C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
- D Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Jasper
City Newton

Address 110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.

Site Number 50-00733
District Number 50-01703

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)

05 COMMERCE

Significant Dates

Construction date 1892 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation _____

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect Unknown
Builder Unknown

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

name/title Tom Hoover-Commissioner
organization Newton Historical Preservation Commission
street & number 1205 E. 15th Street S.
city or town Newton, IA 50208 state _____ date 06/30/2012
telephone 641-791-0398 zip code 50208

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: _____

Page 1

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

5. Classification, cont'd

The Scharf Building is considered a building and counted as a contributing resource to a potential historical district with undefined boundaries.

7. Description

Site Description

The Scharf Building is located on the north side of the square in the Newton Downtown Historic District. It is easily recognizable by an iron staircase located on the west side of the building and by a cemented walkway leading to and from several parking lots north of the building. A public sidewalk in front of the structure provides access to the building. The Scharf Building is part of a continuous series of adjoining buildings extending eastward along N. 2nd Avenue to the corner of 1st Street North. Before the current street numbering system was adopted for the city of Newton in 1911, N. 2nd Ave. W. was known as West McDonald Street.

Property Description

The Scharf Building is a two-story building reflective of the Late Victorian Italianate applied to a commercial building. The south (front) and west facades were constructed of red brick and later covered with stucco. The current owners have removed the stucco covering on the front restoring the building's original appearance, but the stucco on the west facade remains. The main entrance (south facade) has two doorways separated by protruding display windows and an awning covering the entire width of the building. An architectural survey conducted in the late 1970s noted the addition of new store front windows. However, the front of the building today still looks much the same as it appeared in early 20th century photos. Removing the stucco on the south facade (main entrance) revealed decorative masonry extending upward, at intervals, from the sidewalk to just below the top of three pairs of windows on the second story. The three pairs of windows on the second story are similar in design to those seen in photos dating back to the early 1900s in that the radiating arch above each window is still visible. A decorative facade, midway between the paired windows and the roof line is visible and appears in earlier photos as well. A comparison of the building's exterior today with how it looked in pre-WWII photos reveals an ornament, resembling a vase, on each of the four corners of the roof line. Also visible in these photos is an ornate stonework in the center of the roofline above the main entrance engraved with the word Scharf and the date of 1892. Neither of these decorative features remain atop the Scharf Building today.

The west side of the building is dominated by the presence of an iron staircase that serves as a fire escape for the second floor owner's residence. In earlier times, the staircase provided access to the businesses/apartments that occupied the space upstairs. On this side of the building, there are five windows and a doorway upstairs. Also, what appears to be a second doorway has been boarded up and is no longer in use. On the first floor, below the iron staircase, are found windows which were recently added following renovations done to the interior of the buildings. These windows provide illumination for each of the private suites used by Aleya's hairdressers. In the back of the building

Page 2

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

7. Description, cont'd.

(north side) is located a rear entrance meant to provide easier access to a photography studio located there. This portion of the building has the appearance of an addition and general parcel information from the Jasper County Assessor notes an 1875 addition. However, a walkthrough of the basement didn't show evidence that such was the case.

Integrity Considerations

The Scharf Building retains a very good level of historic integrity as it relates to design, materials and workmanship. While many of the downtown commercial buildings were modernized in the 1950s and 1960s, the Scharf Building retains its Victorian era character. The building as retains a very good level of historic integrity as it relates to location, setting, and association, resulting in a high level of integrity of feeling.

8. Statement of Significance

The building is considered a contributing resource to the Newton Downtown Historic District. The building is eligible under Criterion A in association with the history of Newton commerce, significant in its ability to contribute to our understanding of the evolution of the business district and the impact of the business district on the overall economic success of the community of Newton.

Historical Background

Newton was platted as the Jasper County seat in 1847. The commercial district grew up around the courthouse square with the earliest buildings, which commonly housed both commerce and dwellings, constructed of wood. The development of the downtown from its platting in 1846 to c.1890 is tied to its status as the county seat and the 1867 arrival of the Mississippi-Missouri Railroad. The character of the commercial downtown is recorded in images of the contiguous brick commercial Italianate buildings surrounding the courthouse square.

Beginning in the 1890s, it was industry, specifically the washing machine industry, that drove Newton's economy and the commercial success of its downtown. Due to the success and longevity of the Maytag Company, its history presents the greatest impact on Newton's downtown commercial district. From 1890-1920, a period in Maytag history marked by the company's incorporation and the development of the first electrically powered washing machine, a number of significant buildings were constructed in the Newton Downtown District, including the Scharf Building which now stands as one of the rare commercial buildings retaining its Italianate facade. The addition of these buildings (and others) introduced a 20th century architectural sensibility to the district; moving the visual character away from the Late Victorian era Italianate style that had previously dominated the streetscapes.

During the decade of 1920 to 1930, Newton's population nearly doubled. The period is marked by the Maytag Company's ascension to the nation's leading manufacturer of washing machines. The

Page 3

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

economic prosperity brought by the company's success is reflected in the Newton Downtown Historic District with the construction of some of its most important buildings including the First Newton National Bank (1920) and the Maytag Hotel (1926). Both buildings lend a sense of importance to the downtown district.

The visual character and composition of the downtown district remained generally constant through the Depression era and war years – a period when industry and commerce (including the Maytag Company) were focused on surviving and on supporting the war effort. The boom that came in the wake of Maytag's 1946 introduction of the automatic washing machine was apparent in the Newton Downtown Historic District by the mid-1950s. Between about 1954 and 1963 the downtown buildings underwent dramatic alteration, a nearly wholesale removal of the Italianate façades and replacement with those reflecting a mid-20th century Modern aesthetic. Buildings altered during that period line the streetscapes of the district. In addition to the Victorian era buildings that were re-faced during this time, a number of new buildings were constructed, their stylistic character reflective of the era.

Although the washing machine industry in Newton is now a thing of the past, its mark on the Newton Downtown Historic District is undeniable.

Property History

Photographic evidence exists showing a date of 1892 above the front entrance. The building has had numerous occupants over the years. Listed below are some of those occupants.

1899-1900 Fugard and Brown, Attorneys
1903-1920 Stouder Drug Co.
1930s Strand Theater
1939-1956 J.J. Newberry Variety Store
1961 Sears and Roebuck
1965-1985 Neppl TV and Appliance
1985-1992 Archer Appliance TV & Video
1997-2006 Shear Success
2006- Aleya Salon

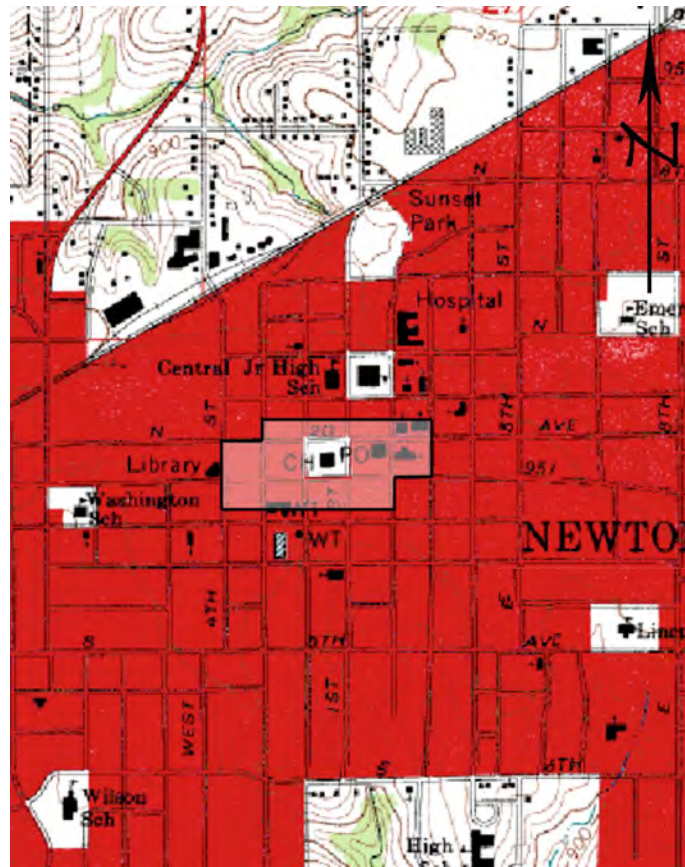
Over the years, the second story housed attorney offices, the Justice of the Peace, and private apartments. The rear of the building housed a custom tailor's shop for many years starting in the early 20th century and after WWII a photography studio. For the past several years, a photography studio has once again occupied the rear of the building.

Page 4

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

11. Additional Documentation – Maps

USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – NEWTON QUAD (1965)



(MAP SOURCE: www.trails.com)

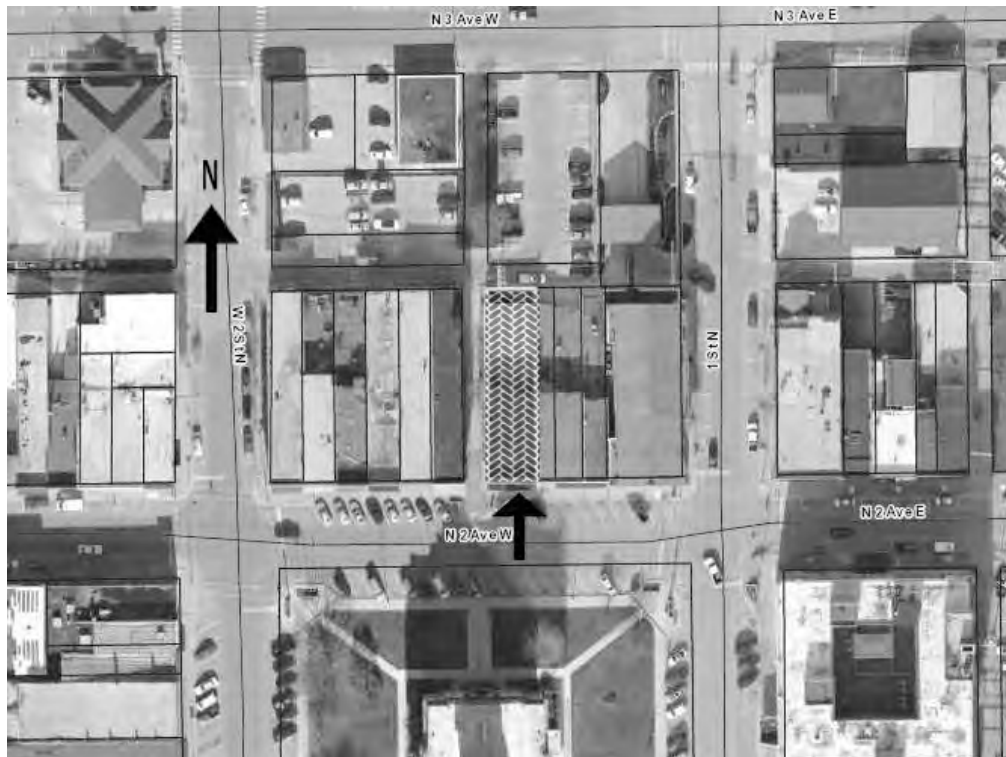
The location of the Newton Downtown Historic District, within which the resource is site, is indicated.

Page 5

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

11. Additional Documentation – Maps

ASSESSORS PARCEL MAP - 2011



(MAP SOURCE: <http://www.beacon.schneidercorp.com>. Accessed September 2011)

The location of the resource is indicated.

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

Site Number **50-00733**
Related District Number 50-01703

Page 6

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

PHOTOGRAPHS



View of the resource, looking northwest across N. 2nd Avenue W.

(Images by Tom Hoover – Spring 2010)

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

Site Number **50-00733**
Related District Number 50-01703

Page 7

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

PHOTOGRAPHS



View of the west (alley side) elevation, looking northeast.

Page 8

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

PHOTOGRAPHS



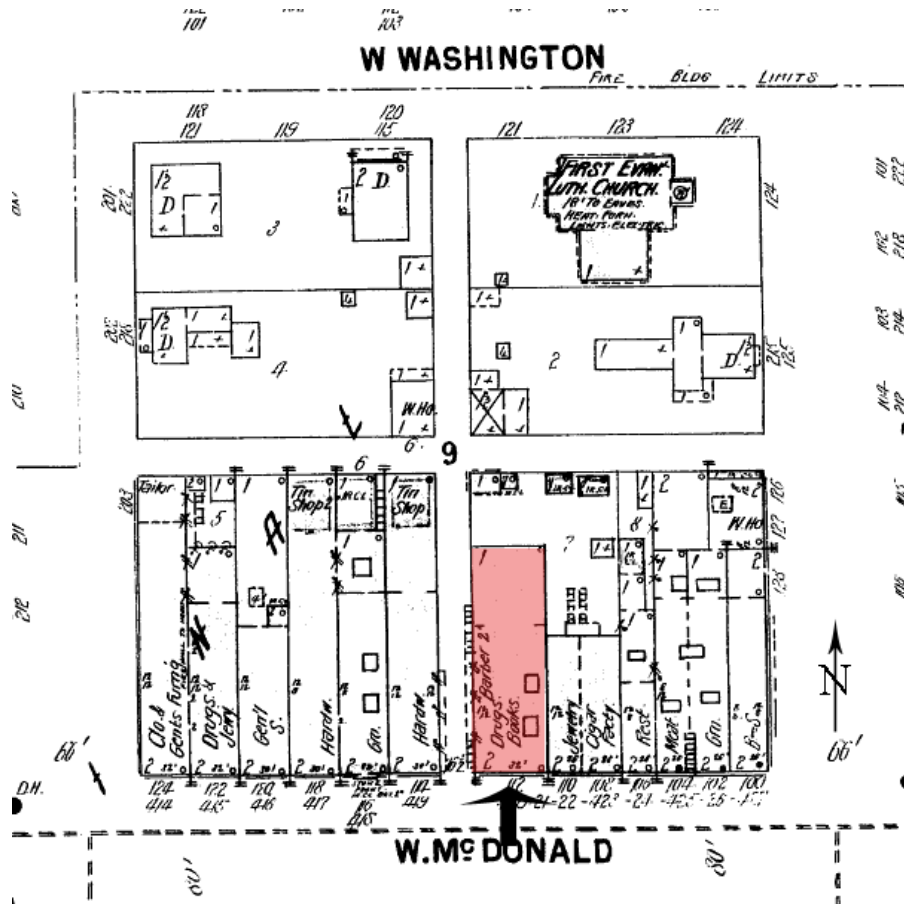
View of the upper façade. The loss of the historic cornice is unfortunate.

Page 9

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1900



(SOURCE: <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>. Accessed 12/26/2011)

By the time of the 1900 fire insurance map the Scharf Building was in place.

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

Site Number **50-00733**
Related District Number 50-01703

Page 10

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

HISTORIC IMAGE – c.1918



(SOURCE: Jasper County Historical Society)

This view looking northeasterly from the courthouse documents the Scharf Building prior to the loss of its ornate cornice and building name plaque.

Page 11

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

HISTORIC IMAGE – c.1930



(SOURCE: Jasper County Historical Society)

The documentation of this parade around the courthouse square provides a view of the Scharf Building, which, at that time, housed the Strand Theater.

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

Site Number **50-00733**
Related District Number 50-01703

Page 12

Scharf Building	Jasper
Name of Property	County
110-112 N. 2nd Ave. W.	Newton
Address	City

9. Reference Resources

Assessor's Record. <http://www.beacon.schneidercorp.com>.

Jasper County Genealogical Society.

Newton Public Library.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. <http://www.cbpl.lib.ia.us>.

State Historic Preservation Office of Iowa.

Resource database. Berry Bennett, Resource Coordinator.