

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

State Inventory No. 09-00953 New Supplemental
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) _____
 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 Chambers, Myron and Josephine, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 514 5th Avenue SW

city or town Waverly vicinity, county Bremer County

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision W.W. Smith Addition Block(s) 3 Lot(s) 6

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
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

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

Title
Hist.&Arch Recon.Report for 2008 Flood-Affected Properties in Waverly

Historical Architectural Data Base Number

HADB 09-020

Waverly SW Quadrant Hist.&Arch Survey

HADB 09-031

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

01A01 Single Dwelling: residence

01C05 Garage

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

01A01 Single Dwelling: residence

01C05 Garage

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

09A05 Hipped Roof, 1-Story

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation 10A Concrete Block

walls (visible material) 10A Concrete Block

roof 08 Asphalt

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.
- 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 Bremer
City Waverly

Address 514 5th Avenue SW

Site Number 09-00953
District Number _____

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

Significant Dates

Construction date 1910 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation _____

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

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 Marlys Svendsen date 12/23/2010
organization Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division telephone 715/469-3300
street & number N3834 Deep Lake Rd. city or town Sarona state WI zip code 54870

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: _____

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Related District Number

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Chambers, Myron and Josephine, House	Bremer
Name of Property	County
514 5 th Avenue SW	Waverly
Address	City

7. Description

The Myron and Josephine Chambers House at 514 5th Avenue SW is estimated by the Bremer County Assessor to have been constructed in 1894. This date is consistent with the building's form and design but not the material used as cement or concrete block was not a local building material until the first decade of the 20th century when several local block manufacturers produced the block and formed construction companies promoting the material's used. The 1913 city directory lists the house as in place at that time.

The Chambers House is an example of a vernacular Pyramidal or Hipped Roof, 1-Story residential form that was built in Iowa from the 1890s through the 1920s. The house has a rock faced concrete block foundation and walls. This material is typical of concrete block produced by George E. Blain who had a block manufacturing company in northwest Waverly. The basic rusticated block that Blain produced evolved over time in terms of standard size and finish. The earliest block had a dimpled texture with beveled edges; later block employed rustic rock-faced finishes. Occasionally, Blain produced variations in the color of concrete parts to draw attention to their installation. Quoins were one such example. This material change was likely used for the quoining surrounding the entrance on this house no longer visible because of the painted finish. George Blain's company built houses in the northwest quadrant as well as other parts of town.

The Chamabers House has a moderate pitched pyramidal roof with wide eaves and a single attic dormer on the front slope with one single-light window. A cutaway or recessed porch spans the front with a concrete block foundation, concrete slab deck, and four block pedestals along the front edge. Four half-height concrete columns with horizontal markings rest on the pedestals and support the porch roof. The house appears to be deceptively small with the 1-story footprint measuring 28 feet wide by 34 feet deep for a total of 952 square feet. The building's original finish would have been unpainted concrete block but in 2010, a multi-color paint scheme has given the building more elaborate detailing than is actually there by the use of a darker paint color for the foundation block and a medium paint color for vertical columns of blocks at the corners and on the sides of the entrance suggesting visual quoins.

Fenestration includes 1/1 double-hung windows of various sizes set beneath cast stone lintels. The front door is offset to the right with a larger 1/1 window to the right and a narrower unit to the left. On the sides windows are widely spaced singles or pairs. The house has a single-bay detached frame garage built in 2005.

8. Significance

The Chambers House at 514 5th Avenue SW derives significances under Criterion C as an example of a vernacular Pyramidal or Hipped Roof, 1-Story residential form from the pre-World War I years. The building's early use of concrete block for the foundation, walls and porch elements including concrete columns as well as its high level of integrity add to the building's significance. The recently constructed garage is considered noncontributing.

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Chambers, Myron and Josephine, House	Bremer
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Historical Background for Waverly¹

Waverly was established in 1853 along the Cedar River in Waverly Township located in southeastern Bremer County. It was designated as the county seat for Bremer County the same year that the county was officially organized and was formally incorporated in 1859. Like most Iowa towns established before the Civil War, growth during the early 1860s was deferred until after the war came to a close. Waverly's first railroad, the Cedar Falls and Minnesota Railroad was extended to Waverly in 1864. Eventually track was also laid for other branch lines and an electric interurban. By 1917 track for branch lines was absorbed by the Chicago and Great Western Railroad and the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad. Track for the electric interurban – the Waterloo, Cedar Falls, and Northern – was laid in 1910 but usage was never as substantial as predicted.

Waverly grew in the manner typical of other Iowa county seats in the late 19th and early 20th century. Its commercial center extended along the east-west route of Bremer Avenue on both sides of the Bremer Avenue Bridge that crossed the L-shaped course of the Cedar River as it passed through the center of town. The county courthouse was located outside of the commercial area on a slight prominence at the east end of Bremer Avenue. Residential districts grew up in the four quadrants formed by the intersecting main street and river. The broad, generally flat profile of both the business district and early residential neighborhoods saw the regular occurrence of flooding resulting in the gradual replacement of most first generation frame building stock. German immigrants were among the largest ethnic group to populate Waverly during the 19th century establishing religious institutions with ethnic affiliations such as St. Paul's Lutheran Church in the northwest quadrant, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in southeast quadrant, and the German Methodist Church.

Bremer County and its county seat of Waverly prospered during the late 19th and early 20th century becoming a retail and professional services center for Bremer County and sections of adjacent Butler County. The county's standing as the "Dairy Spot of Iowa," gave rise to a number of dairy industries including a manufacturing plant operated by the Carnation Milk Products Company for the production of condensed milk in the 1920s. Population stood at 16,300 people in 1900 before the growth rate slowed before World War I. By 1930 population topped 17,000. Expansion of a Lutheran seminary in Waverly first located in the community in 1879 through the relocation of Wartburg College to the community in 1939 was a cultural and economic stimulus for the community. Waverly continued to add a 1,000 people per decade until 1950 when the post-War boom saw growth accelerate to more than 21,000 by 1960. During the past 50 years population has slowed somewhat topping out at 23,325 in 2000.

Historical Background for the Chambers House at 514 5th Avenue SW

The Chambers House at 514 5th Avenue SW is estimated to have been constructed in 1894 according to the Bremer County Assessor's records. This date is consistent with the architectural style and form but too early by 10 to 15 years for the rock faced concrete block used for construction. The W.W. Smith Addition was laid out in 1892 by William Ward Smith southwest of the Wm. Sturdevant Addition to the north and the I.R. Sturdevant Addition to the east, both laid out four decades earlier in the mid-1800s. Houses in the W.W. Smith Addition were constructed from ca. 1890 through the 1950s making the construction of this house in ca. 1910

¹ The historical background information is largely drawn from the *Waverly, Iowa: An Architectural Heritage*, (Waverly, Iowa: City of Waverly), 1977.

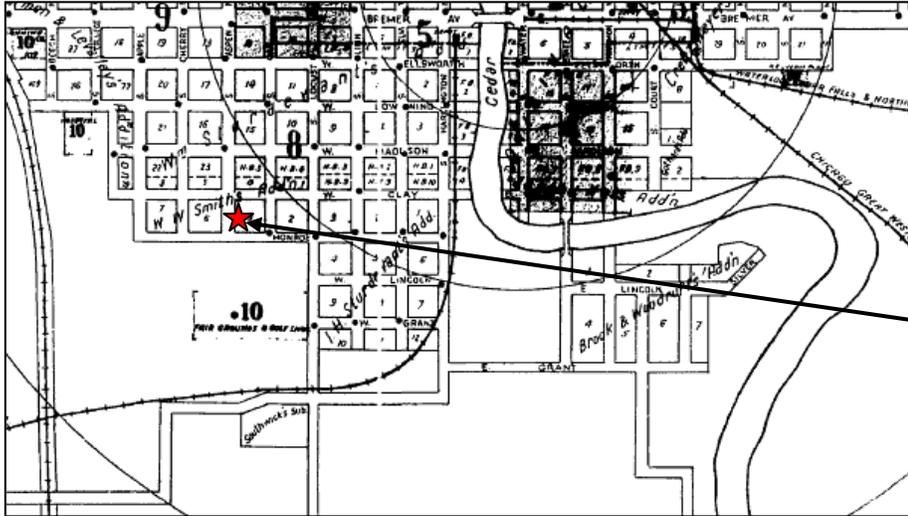
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among the earlier houses in the area. The first occupants of the house were Myron and Josephine Chambers. In 1913, city directory records show that Myron worked as a carpenter.



W.W. Smith Addition located south of William Sturdevant Addition and west of I.H. Sturdevant Addition, all west of the Cedar River, Sanborn Map, 1927. Red star marks house location in the W.W. Smith Addition.

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Chambers, Myron and Josephine, House	Bremer
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9. Sources

Atlas of Bremer County, Iowa. Waverly, Iowa: Waverly Publishing Company, 1917.

Atlases of Bremer County. microfilm copies of atlases for 1875, 1894 and 1927, Waverly Public Library.

Bremer County History Book Committee. *Bremer County History, 1985.* Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing, 1985.

City directories, 1899 and 1913.

Grawe, Joseph F. *History of Bremer County, Iowa, Volumes I and II.* Chicago: S.J. Clarke Company, 1914.

History of Butler and Bremer Counties, Iowa. Springfield, Illinois: Union Publishing, 1883.

Page, William C. *Reconnaissance Historical and Architectural Survey of Black Hawk and Bremer Counties, Iowa, Volume I.* Black Hawk and Bremer Counties Preservation Partnership and State Historical Society of Iowa, August 21, 1992.

Sanborn Company Maps. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1885, 1892, 1897, 1905, 1915, 1927, and 1927 updated to 1943.

Waverly building histories, miscellaneous bound volumes in reference collection, Waverly Public Library.

Waverly Heritage Days historical walking tour brochures for 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2009. Vertical file collection, Waverly Public Library.

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
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Additional Information:

Waverly Southwest Quadrant Historical and Architectural Survey Map (Bremer County GIS Department, **3/26/2014**).

**514 5th Ave SW
PIN 09-03-432-006**



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Additional Information:

Full Legal Description: W.W. Smith Addition, Lot 6, Block 3.

Site Map

Aerial map available at Bremer County Assessor's website at: <http://beacon.schneidercorp.com/Application.aspx?AppID=330&LayerID=3621&PageTypeID=4&PageID=2342&Q=364089971&KeyValue=0903432006>; accessed 12/23/2010. Historic resource is designated by the red star.



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Chambers, Myron and Josephine, House

Bremer

Name of Property

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514 5th Avenue SW

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Address

City

Photographs: 514 5th Avenue SW, looking northwest and north, **4/7/2014**, Andrew Bell, Svendsen Tyler, photographer.



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Chambers, Myron and Josephine, House

Bremer

Name of Property

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514 5th Avenue SW

Waverly

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Photographs: 514 5th Avenue SW, looking northeast and porch detail, looking north, **4/7/2014**, Andrew Bell, Svendsen Tyler, photographer.



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Chambers, Myron and Josephine, House

Bremer

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514 5th Avenue SW

Waverly

Address

City

Photographs: 514 5th Avenue SW, looking northeast and northwest, 12/07/2010, Marlys Svendsen, IHSEMD, photographer



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Chambers, Myron and Josephine, House

Bremer

Name of Property

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514 5th Avenue SW

Waverly

Address

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Photographs: 514 5th Avenue SW, looking north and pedestal/column detail looking northeast, 12/07/2010, Marlys Svendsen, IHSEMD, photographer



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Photograph: Bremer County Assessor website photograph and map available at: <http://beacon.schneidercorp.com/Application.aspx?AppID=330&LayerID=3621&PageTypeID=4&PageID=2342&Q=364089971&KeyValue=0903432006>; accessed 12/23/2010.

