

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

Site Number __ 82-02521 _____
Related District Number _____

Page __ 1 __

Name of Property __ Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Freight House _____ County __ Scott _____

Address _____ 102 S. Ripley Street _____ City _____ Davenport _____

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Freight House, located at 102 S. Ripley Street, is situated on Block 17 of the Original Town of Davenport.

The structure is setback approximately twenty-five yards from the east-west rail line on its south. A parking lot separates the building from the rail line; Ripley Street borders the structure on the east, with West River Drive bounding it on the north.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Freight House is comprised of two sections: a two-story, rectangular brick building on the east and a single-story brick structure extending west.

The two-story structure reads as a simple block, its form broken only by the slight peak and restrained stepping of its parapet wall. Simple windows are punched uniformly across the second floor; the first floor fenestration is much less predictable. All windows feature a double-hung style with a 3/1 light configuration. Today they are green in color. The building, now housing a restaurant and bar, is accessed through a door on the northeast corner. A fire escape has been constructed on the south elevation.

The one-story portion of the structure originally functioned as a loading area; the original bays and dock area are distinguishable on the north elevation. The south elevation has been refitted to accommodate the modern function, yet the separation of bays has been retained.

Condition

The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Freight House, which has been rehabilitated to accommodate a change in function, appears to be excellently maintained, with no significant joint loss or deterioration of its masonry (brick or concrete.)

In addition, the structures retain a very high level of historic integrity, despite the changes made to accommodate the new use.

PROPERTY HISTORY

The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Freight House was constructed in 1917, at the early end of a period of development in this area of the Davenport riverfront. The building was soon joined by the Dillon Memorial (1918), the Municipal Natatorium (1922) and the Lend-a-Hand Building (1923), and the Union Station & Burlington Freight House (1924).

The building currently accommodates a restaurant and bar.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Freight House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. Then, as is true today, the structure is considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C as an example of the architecture of transportation related structures.

The structure is also considered eligible under Criteria A in association with the history of transportation in the city of Davenport.

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View of the east section of the structure, looking northwest across South Ripley Street. The one-story portion of the freight house building is seen here on the left.

(SOURCE: AKAY Consulting – November 2004)

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View of the loading docks on the West River Drive side.

(SOURCE: AKAY Consulting – November 2004)

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RIVER DRIVE



The arrow indicates the location of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St.Paul & Pacific Freight House.

(SOURCE: City of Davenport – Planning Department – 1/2005)

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BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Special Collections

Davenport Public Library; Richardson-Sloane Special Collections
Davenport City Directory Collection 1890-1940
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Collection
Quad Cities Photograph Collection

AKAY Consulting Postcard Collection. Boone, Iowa.

Local Publications

Svendsen, Marlys. "Davenport, Where the River Runs West: A Survey of Davenport History & Architecture". ND.

Internet Resources

www.scottcountyiowa.com/assessor. Scott County Assessor.