

Historic Preservation Commission

November 4, 2021

Presentation

Historic Asset Inventory Update

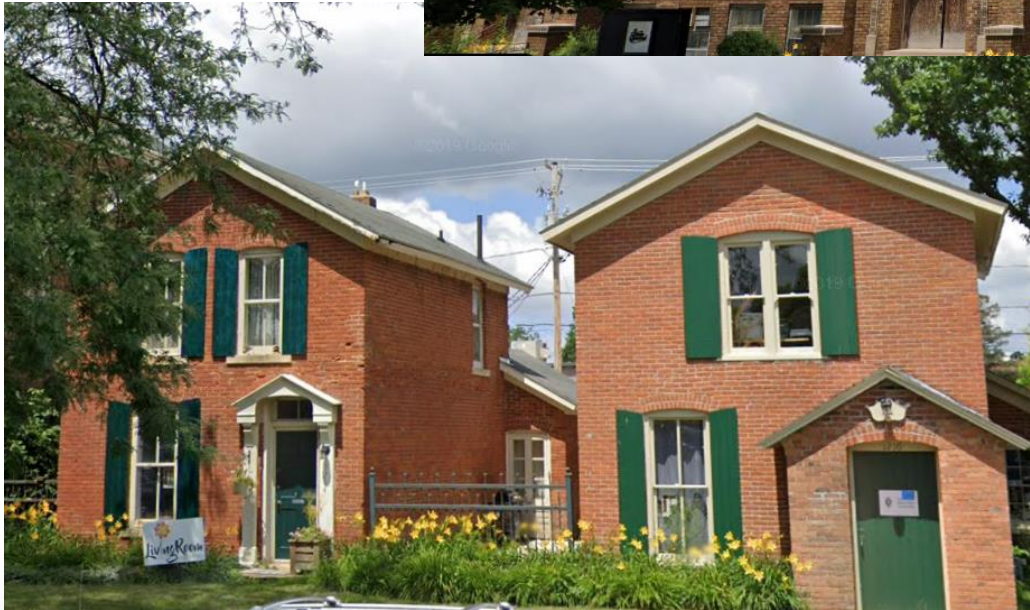


Focus Properties

Property Name	Address
Ollinger Properties	1246, 1216, 1214, 1200, and 1120 2nd Ave SE
Czech School	917 and 925 2nd St SE
Muskwaki Block/Dragon Chinese Restaurant	325 2nd Ave SE
Office of Dr. Byron McKeeby	1508 1st Ave NE
Lesinger Block	1317 3rd St SE
Abrams/Bollinger House	309 8th St SE
CSPS Hall	1103 3rd St SE
Mother Mosque (Al-Nadi Al-Islami Moslem Temple)	1335 9th St NW
Besler House	1541 1st Ave SE



2nd Avenue Properties



Besler House



Office of Dr. McKeeby



Abrams/Bollinger House



Czech School – 917-925 2nd Street SE



Czech School – 917-925 2nd Street SE

- Romanesque Revival style
- Built in 1901 with funds raised by the Sbor Damska Matice Skolska, an organization of Czech women interested in the introduction of the Czech language and history to local children
- The library was one of the largest Czech libraries in the US
- In 1951, additions were added for its new use as a sausage factory



Lesinger Block– 1313-1317 3rd Street SE



Lesinger Block– 1313-1317 3rd Street SE



Lesinger Block– 1313-1317 3rd Street SE

- Its construction came in the wake of the construction of the first wagon bridge across the Cedar River at 14th Avenue SE in 1875.
- More than a dozen small-scale frame commercial buildings were erected along 14th Avenue SE by the mid-1880s but only the masonry Lesinger Block survives today from this era.
- Consists of three adjoining commercial buildings with its cornice being its most distinctive feature



Muskwaki Block– 325 2nd Avenue SE



Muskw(v)aki Block– 325 2nd Avenue SE

- Built in 1897, contributing structure to Downtown National District
- Architect was W.A Fulkerson
- Named after the local tribe
- Originally had three storefronts, but has been converted to two



CSPS Hall– 1101-1107 3rd Street SE



CSPS Hall– 1101-1107 3rd Street SE

- The largest building to be constructed in the Bohemian Commercial Historic District at the time in the 1890s (built in 1891)
- Example of Romanesque Revival style designed by J.C Fulkerson, a Cedar Rapids architect
- Stands for Cesko-Slovanska Podporujici Spolku Hall – a fraternal benevolent society



Mother Mosque– 1335 9th St NW



Mother Mosque– 1335 9th St NW

- Listed in 1996 on National Register
- It is the oldest surviving place of worship for Muslims in the US, completed in 1934 by a group of immigrants from Greater Syria (Lebanon and Syria)
- Reflects growth of Muslims in the area. By the mid-1920's, Cedar Rapids had more than 50 shops and grocery stores owned by Arabs



Action Item

FY 2023 Work Plan



Goal 1: Participate in preservation, salvage and documentation of historic structures

Task	Lead	Completion Timeline
Establish Historic Asset Inventory 2022 Focus Properties	Historic Asset Inventory Sub-Committee / Staff	1st Quarter 2022
Implement proactive preservation strategies on at least four 2022 Focus Properties	Historic Asset Inventory Sub-Committee	4th Quarter 2022
Complete Bever Woods National District Nomination	Staff	1st Quarter 2022
Facilitate the designation of at least two properties as Local Historic Landmarks	Full Commission	4th Quarter 2022
Designate the Paramount Theatre as a Local Historic Landmark (in addition to the two other local landmark designation).	Staff	2nd Quarter 2022
Create a new priority list of areas to intensive survey.	Full Commission	1st Quarter 2022



Goal 1: Participate in preservation, salvage and documentation of historic structures

Task	Lead	Completion Timeline
Amend historic design guidelines to include new materials that incorporate prospective districts (ie Bever Woods)	Full Commission/Staff	4th Quarter 2022
Work with affordable housing organizations to use historic resources in their projects	Full Commission/Staff	Ongoing
Implement the City's Historic Rehabilitation Program and research and explore other financial resources for preservation related activities	Full Commission/Staff	Ongoing
Work with economic development partners to include historic resources in redevelopment policies and economic development plans.	Staff	Ongoing
Incorporate historic preservation into Neighborhood Action Plans and Corridor Action Plans, planning Study Areas, and other City planning projects	Staff	Ongoing



Goal 2: Increase communication

Task	Lead	Completion Timeline
Continue to improve the HPC website for ease of use and to provide more information	Staff	Ongoing
Implement an annual program review	Staff	Ongoing
Maintain and enhance compliance regulations for Certified Local Government status	Full Commission/Staff	Ongoing



Goal 3: Improve Public Relations

Task	Lead	Completion Timeline
Link interested property owners to training and technical assistance programs on the use of tax credits	Full Commission/Staff	2nd/3rd Quarter 2022
Identify outreach events with community organizations that may be interested in historic preservation.	Full Commission	Ongoing



Goal 4: Provide information and educational opportunities for the public

Task	Lead	Completion Timeline
Update the content of the GIS database of historic properties	Staff	2nd Quarter 2022
Develop a formal heritage tourism program	Full Commission/Staff	4 th Quarter 2022
Complete River History Sign Project	Staff	1st Quarter 2022
Provide presentation to the Cedar Rapids Area Association of Realtors on historic preservation topics	Staff	Ongoing
Secure funding for the fabrication of plaques for the City's Local Historic Landmarks	Staff	2nd Quarter 2022
Develop and distribute educational materials for property owners and the general public to enhance public awareness and understanding of the city's cultural and social history	Full Commission/Staff	Ongoing



Goal 4: Provide information and educational opportunities for the public

Task	Lead	Completion Timeline
Maintain a training program for City staff.	Staff	Ongoing
Expand training opportunities to other City Departments that often work with the Historic Preservation Commission (Development Services, Parks, etc.)	Staff	Ongoing

Goal 5: Provide educational opportunities to HPC members

Task	Lead	Completion Timeline
Provide training to the Historic Preservation Commission	Full Commission/Staff	Ongoing

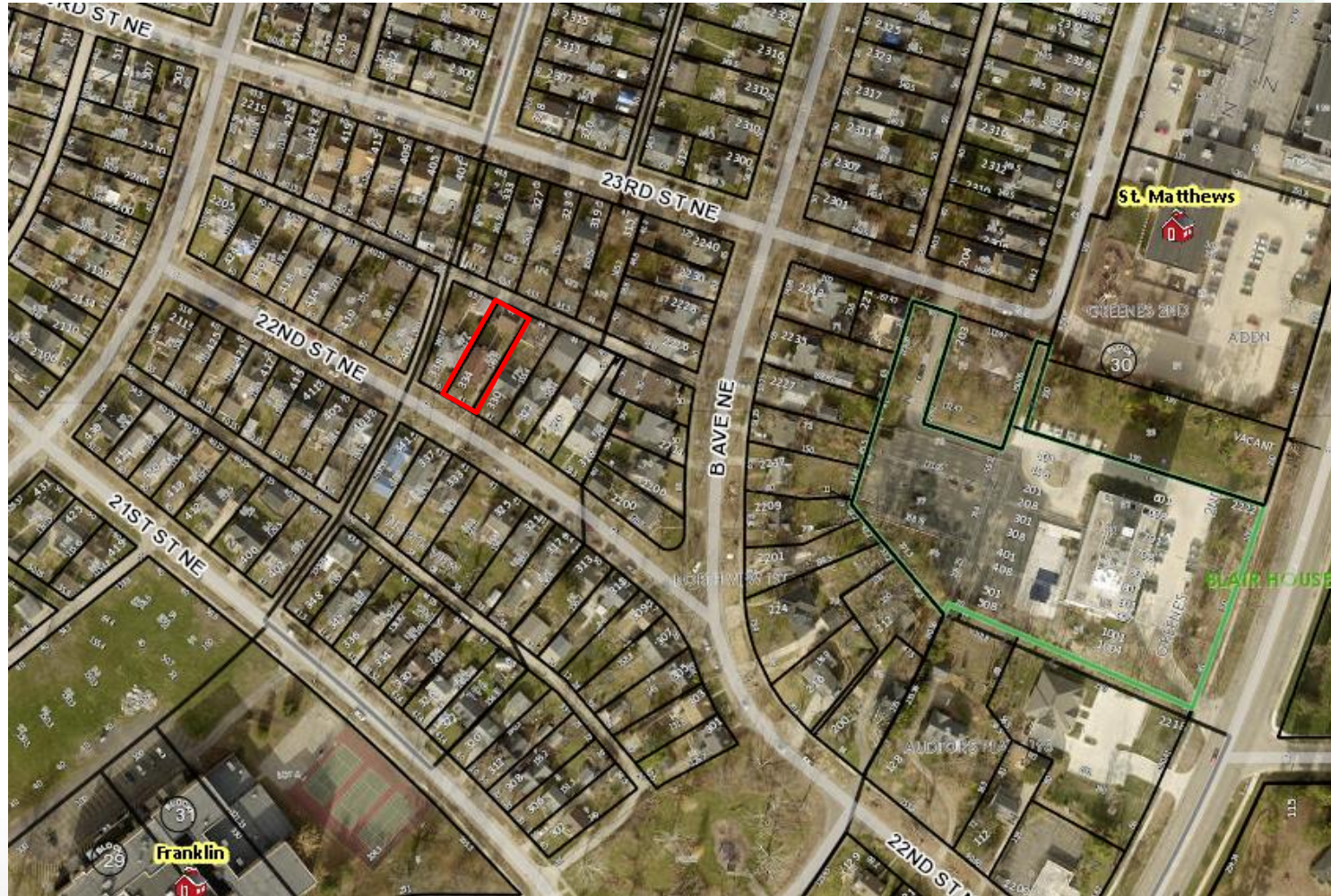


Demolition

334 22nd Street NE – garage



334 22nd Street NE



334 22nd Street NE



Project Description

- The garage was built in 1925
- It is considered in 'below normal condition' according to the assessor
- The property has not been surveyed



Staff Recommendation

- Staff recommends immediate release because there is no evidence of historic significance and the property is a poor candidate for local landmarking.



Demolition

4437 C Avenue NE – house





4437 C Avenue NE



Project Description

- The house was built in 1956
- The condition is 'normal' according to the assessor.
- The property has not been surveyed.



Staff Recommendation

- Staff recommends the immediate release of the demolition permit because there is no evidence of historic significance and the property is a poor candidate for local landmarking.



Demolition

4451 C Avenue NE - house





4451 C Avenue NE



Project Description

- The house was built in 1956
- The condition is 'normal' according to the assessor.
- The property has not been surveyed.



Staff Recommendation

- Staff recommends the immediate release of the demolition permit because there is no evidence of historic significance and the property is a poor candidate for local landmarking



Demolitions on Hold – Expiring November 22nd

1900 1st Avenue NE- Commercial Building



1900 1st Avenue NE



Demolitions on Hold – Expiring November 22nd

124 19th Street NE - Commercial Building



124 19th Street NE



Historic Preservation Commission

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