

## Waverly Historic Register Nomination Form

1. Nomination submitted by:

Name: Kris Brunkhorst, in consultation with Crosspoint Church leadership

2. Current name of nominated property: Crosspoint Church

3. Historic name(s) of nominated property: Waverly High School/Waverly-Shell Rock Junior High School

4. Address of nominated property: 215 3rd Street NW

5. Legal description of nominated: Block 38, Harmon & LeValley addition to Waverly property.

6. Owner(s) of nominated property: Crosspoint Church

Crosspoint Church  
215 3rd Street, NW  
Waverly, IA 50677  
319-483-5116

7. Eligibility: To be eligible for the Waverly Historic Register, a site or district must be at least 50 years old, retain its architectural integrity, and meet at least one of the criteria listed below.

Check all that apply.

1) The site is associated with an event or events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history--Waverly's, Bremer County's, Iowa's or the nation's.

2) The site is associated with the lives of persons significant in Waverly's past.

3) The site embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or that represents a significant and distinguishable entity the components of which may lack individual distinction.

4) The site has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in this area's prehistory or history.

5) The site is a natural feature significant in Waverly's past.

8. In the space below or on an attached sheet, explain why you believe this property should be placed on the Waverly Historic Register. Your response should refer to specific criteria as noted under Item 7. Include as much of the property's history as possible. You should also include at least one current photograph of the property. The Commission would also be interested in copies of past photos of the property. Nominations become public documents in the files of the Waverly Historic Preservation Commission and copies of them may be deposited in the Waverly Public Library.

*Crosspoint Church purchased the former Waverly-Shell Rock Junior High School building at the end of October 2017. The new owners began immediate interior renovation of the main office spaces that look out over the front entrance, which were previously occupied by the Principal and Superintendent. One of the first major exterior projects was replacing the roof and installing air conditioning equipment. All of the window openings remain intact, but the windows themselves were replaced. It is noteworthy that the main east entrance and the west and north entrances are untouched and are the same as when the building was purchased. New windows were placed on the east and south side from the front entrance around to the south side, except for the southwest bank of windows on the south side.*

*The landscaping around the building has been respectful of the overall historic significance of the building. While it was not possible to retain the existing trees and evergreens based on the need for parking and a drive-through entrance area, plantings have strategically been replaced. Also, wood areas around the windows and the stone base of the building were painted black in order to not detract visually from the brick exterior. In fact, it might be said that the updated paint job looks fresher, adding to the dignity of the building. The door on the south side was redone, as well as adding more landscaping on the south side. Funding for replacing windows on the second and third stories is not currently available, so grants are being researched for this, due to the historic nature of the building.*

[NOTE: The award is not based on the inside of the building and renovations of interiors is not considered in this award. However, it may be of interest to the public to know what changes were made on the inside, to transform it from a school building to a church.

*All existing light fixtures were updated to LED lighting and other electrical changes were completed. The work then began on the second floor to create children's classrooms, plus, a gathering room for Sunday morning coffee time and other uses. While the configuration of the original rooms has been changed on the second floor, all the original heating steam units are intact. Furthermore, the small kitchen on the second floor remains as the church kitchen with its original sinks. Naturally, cupboards and appliances have been replaced and an island peninsula was added.*

*In the original auditorium, seats were removed, carpet was added, and of course, there were fresh coats of paint. However, all the original filigree next to the staging and in front of the balcony remains, as well as the beautiful antique lights in the balcony. To the best of anyone's knowledge, the balcony seating is original, at least as of the last remodel when it was a junior high building. It is common knowledge that the stage flooring was updated and extended at the time of a fire in the 1980's. Therefore, the only treatment done to the beautiful wood flooring was to strip it and modify the stain color. The original stage curtains also remain. The gold braid was removed as the condition was not pristine. Bathrooms were added on this floor to be of more functional use than what had been in place, including two family bathrooms. All utilize as much original plumbing connections as possible.*

*It is also worth noting that the original stairwells on the three floors remain, although the railings were simply painted black. The first to second floor stairwells were carpeted, as are the hallways. Carpeting on the second to third floor stairwell was added as well.*

*The third floor remains mostly unfinished. The exceptions are an addition to the balcony area to accommodate sound and video systems for services. The restrooms are original, just cleaned. So far only one area has been restored for a business to utilize, and the hallway walls have been painted. In the near future, other uses are anticipated for some of the rooms on the third floor. Another very significant factor to the interior remodel is that all the painting and reconstruction of rooms was done by volunteers within the church.*

*The initial estimated date to be into the building for the first service was thought to be Easter of 2018. In actuality, the first service was held February 18. As the first two floors became occupied, it was time to tackle the gymnasium to be used by youth and college groups. The configuration of the grid-work in the ceiling was simply painted black. The small balconies were extended and then the cement bleachers were covered with walls. However, there remains a visible level of one set of cement benches next to the gym floor. The floor was also painted, basketball hoops installed, and a portion of the floor became a worship area for the groups. It includes a stage as well as audio and video equipment. The rest of the floor is utilized for activities. New stairs were constructed as a safety necessity and to bring this area up to code. Each balcony has a purpose: one is the food court with a café atmosphere and the other is outfitted with televisions and cozy seating for gaming and small groups.*

*Since the completion of that project, in the last months of 2019 and the beginning of 2020, a complete remodel of the offices was accomplished.]*

**Application accepted for an award by the Waverly Historic Preservation Commission, July 27, 2020**

Exterior photos taken by Zach Brunkhorst, June 14, 2020.

Historic photos provided by Historic Preservation Commissioner Mary Meyer.









## 215 3rd St NW

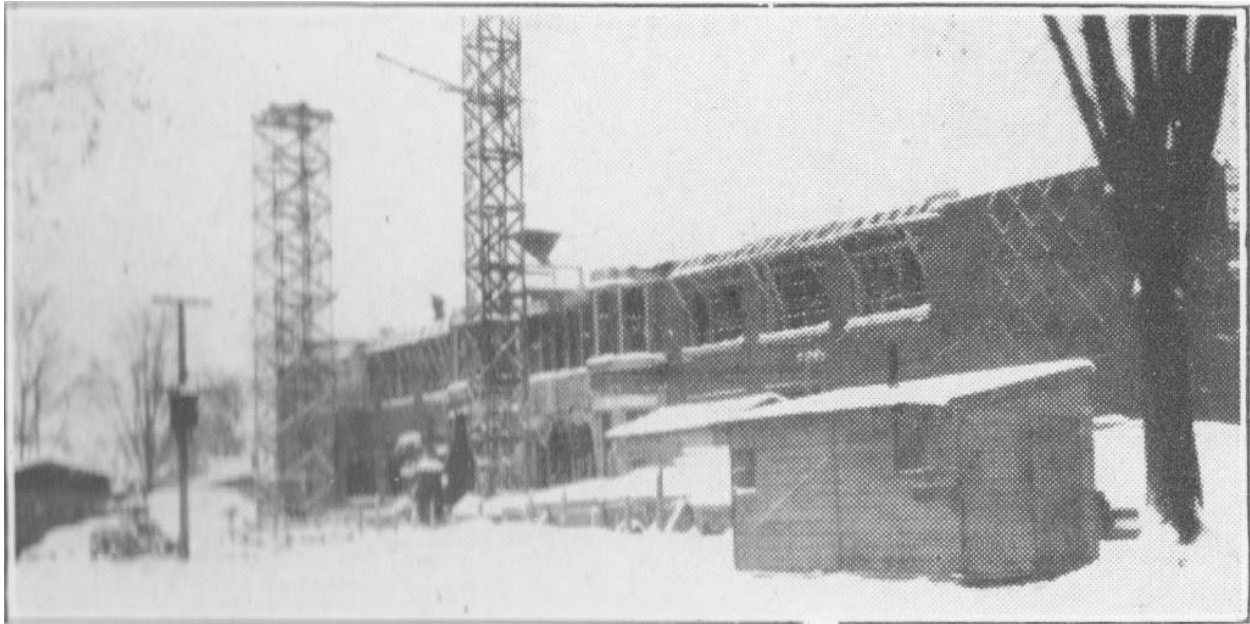
### Old Waverly High School/Waverly-Shell Rock Junior High

#### Historic Overview:

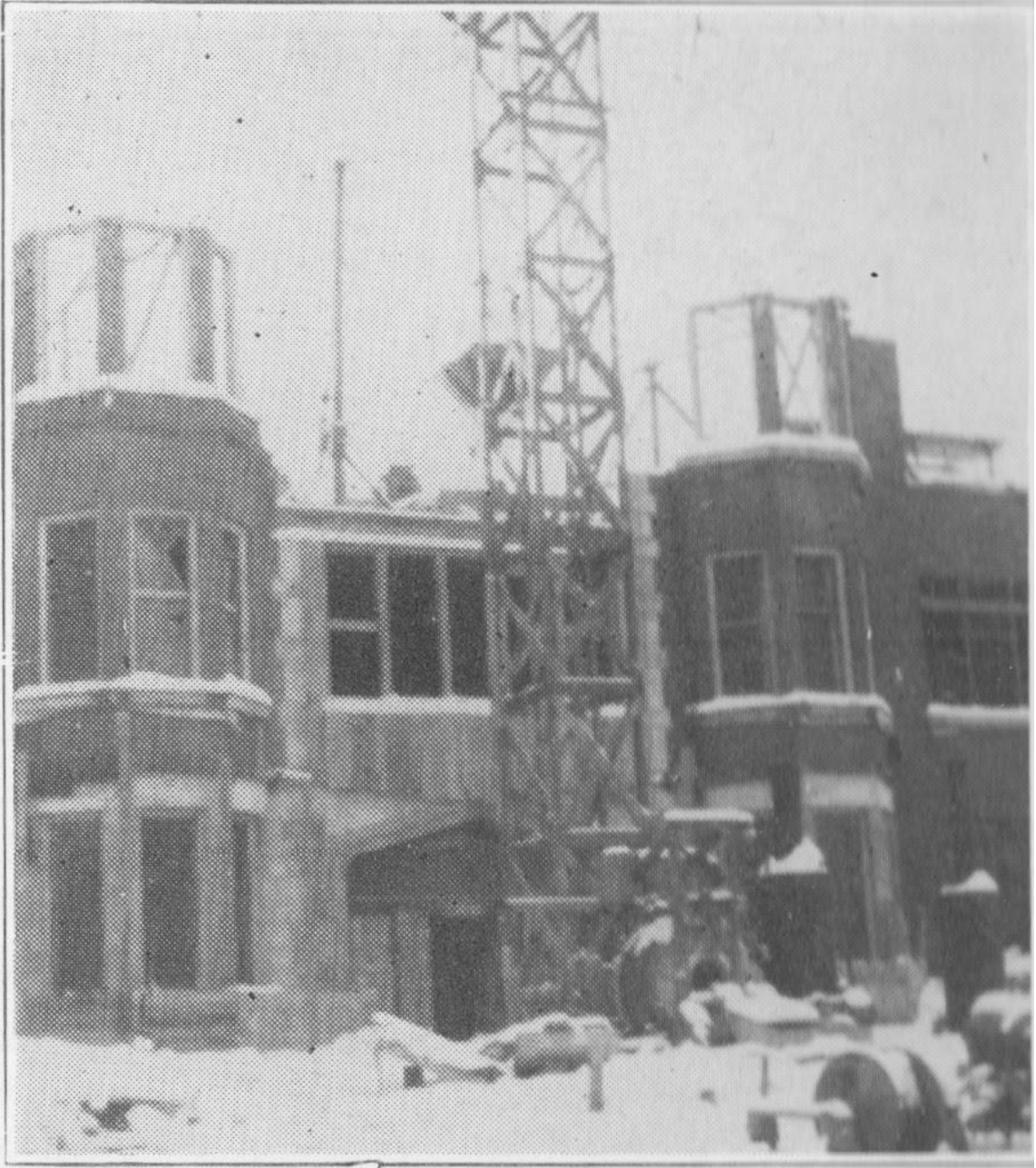
Waverly's second high school was built in 1925-26 using the design of Waterloo architect Howard Bowman Burr, a Waverly native. Local newspapers described a building that would include "a regulation size gymnasium with a seating capacity of 700, a large auditorium and fine stage, manual training rooms properly equipped, an agricultural department, two large assembly rooms separated by a properly arranged library, domestic science department, class lecture room and laboratory, nurse's room and 20 class rooms." The auditorium had 1,032 seats, the ventilation in every part of the building was "perfect," and the total cost was \$225,000.

The style is a subgenre of Gothic Revival architecture known as Collegiate Gothic and can be found on college campuses around the country. This example was constructed in a "strawberry shade" of "Tuxedo brick" with light pink mortar. Dressed and carved limestone was used throughout the building, including in the elaborate door surround, the name block above it, and the clock at the cornice level. The entrance is flanked by angular bay windows that extend three stories.

The north and south ends of the front façade contain masonry work of darker and lighter brick in a diamond pattern below nine-point star medallions of cut stone. When completed in 1926, the structure was considered one of the finest schools built in Iowa in the mid-1920s.



*Construction photos taken in the winter of 1925-26.*







*Photo showing the original windows.*



*The 1926 football team photographed in front of the entrance to the new high school building.*