

Commercial and Industrial Buildings,

80 Main Street  
Dubuque  
Dubuque County  
Iowa

HABS No. IA-160-BC

HABS  
IOWA  
31-DUBU,  
13-BC-

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**PHOTOGRAPHS  
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

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Historic American Buildings Survey  
Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver Colorado 80225

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## 80 Main Street

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**Site Location:** 80 Main Street  
Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa  
DOT designation: Resource Site No. 5.21  
Cadastral grid : SE1/4 NE1/4 S25 T89N R2E  
USGS quadrangle: Dubuque South Iowa 7.5'  
UTM coordinates: 15.691980.4707180  
Lot dimensions : 27' x 113' : .07 acre  
Lot description: South 27' of West 1/2 of  
Lot 3, Block 1 of Dubuque  
Harbor Company Addition and  
South 27' of City Lot 532A.

**Present Owner:** Mehrl  
**Present Usage:** vacant  
**Present Condition :** fair

**Overall Dimensions:** 107' x 27', 1 story  
**Orientation :** west  
**Architectural Description :** Plan type : 1-story rectangular, open-space warehouse.  
Foundation: (below grade).  
Structure : wood frame with brick masonry bearing walls.  
Ext. walls: common red brick laid in common bond.  
Roof : flat composition roof with brick parapet walls.  
Chimneys : none  
Openings : original full-width storefront removed and in-filled with brick and new openings: multi-pane steel industrial sash in front showcase window and rear windows; simply framed single-leaf front entrance door; wood / glass sectional garage front door.  
**Details :** steel I-beam lintel continuous across front, supported by cast iron columns; modestly corbeled and paneled brick courses on front parapet.

**Construction Date :** 1908

**Architecture Style:** 20th Century Functional

**Physical History :** Built in 1908 at a reported cost of \$4,500, this small single-story brick block first housed the Dubuque shipping office and warehouse of the National Biscuit Company. With Louis Detterman as local agent, the company evidently occupied the structure for only a short time before closing its Dubuque office, however. Sometime around 1921 the building was occupied by the Earle and Schroeder Motor Company, which later became simply the Schroeder Motor Company. Schroeder operated here until the late 1960s. The structure appears to have undergone only relatively minor exterior alterations.

**Significance:** Unobtrusively scaled and detailed, this small structure typifies the commercial buildings built along lower Main Street in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

**References:** Dubuque City Directories: 1857 - 1970.  
Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1879, 1884, 1891, 1909, 1972.  
Iowa State Gazetteer and Business Directory: 1882-1923.  
Dubuque County Assessment Record: 3-17-10-3.  
Iowa Department of Transportation, "Draft Environmental  
Impact Statement - Cultural Resources Assessment."  
*Dubuque Telegraph-Herald*: 27 December 1908.

**Compiler:** Clayton B. Fraser, Fraserdesign, Loveland Colorado  
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