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## **Memo**

**To: Ames City Council**

**From: Lisa Hovis, Ames Historic Preservation Commission**

**Date: July 24, 2020**

**Re: Downtown History Plaques**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Ames Historic Preservation Commission respectfully requests a \$2600 allocation for two new designed signs downtown, plus a small stipend for design. These signs will be placed on opposite ends of Main Street, one at the Douglas/Main intersection, and one in the Depot/Aunt Maude's area. Working in conjunction with the Ames History Museum as well as Ames Main Street, the signs will feature historical photos and information about the buildings seen from the signs. A photo of a current sign, located in the historic Depot, is attached. The new signs will have identical structures.

### **GOALS**

1. Promote history of downtown Ames
2. Educate about the evolution of downtown architecture

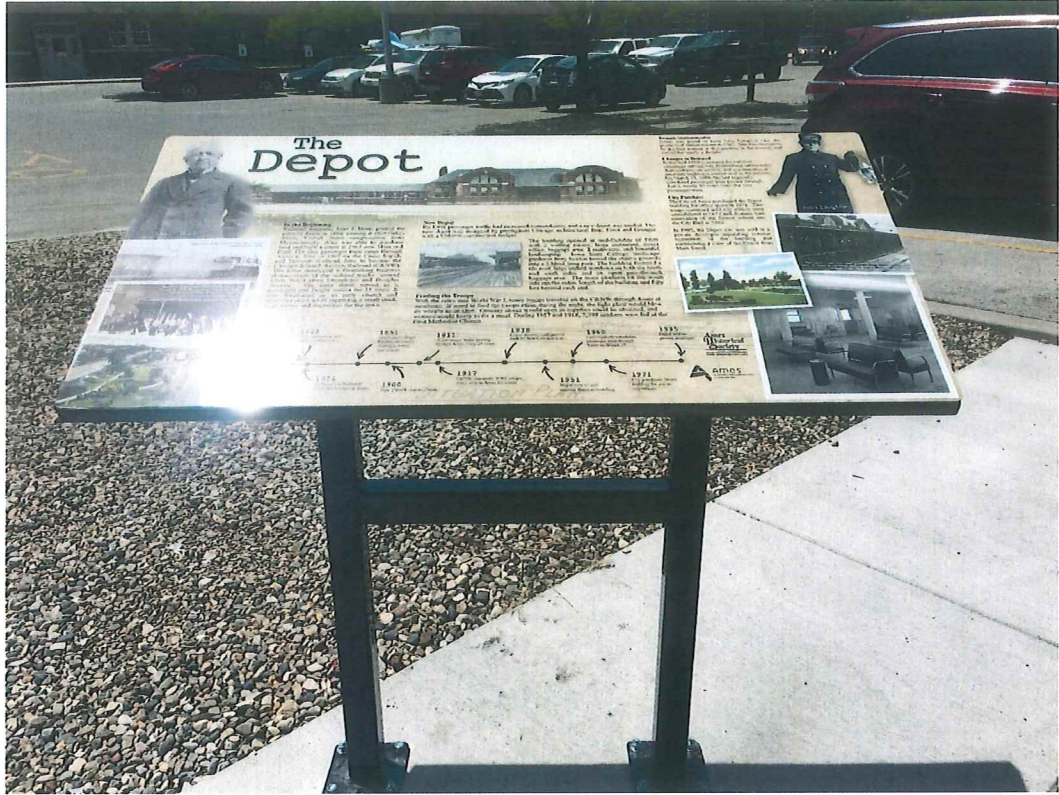
### **SPECIFICATIONS**

From original estimate received 02/20:

Steel sign assembly with (2) 2.5" x 2.5" x 3/16" posts with base plates, powder coated black.

Includes 2' x 4' alupanel sign with inkjet print and overlaminated. \$2284 for two as of 02/20.

Any remaining funds (about \$300) would be paid to student/s for design help.



# The Depot



**Early History**  
The depot was built in 1881 by the Ames Lumber Company. It was one of the first buildings in Ames, Iowa, and served as a central hub for the community. The building was constructed of wood and was known for its sturdy construction and large windows.

**Key Events**  
The depot played a significant role in the town's history. It was the site of several important events, including the opening of the Ames Lumber Company in 1881 and the construction of the Ames Lumber Company building in 1882. The depot was also the site of the Ames Lumber Company fire in 1883, which destroyed the building and the company's inventory.

**Restoration**  
The depot was restored in 1971 by the Ames Lumber Company. The restoration was a major project that involved the removal of the old building and the construction of a new one. The new building was designed to look like the original one and was built with the same materials and techniques. The restoration was completed in 1971 and the depot was reopened to the public.

