

Early Oak Street by Photographer E. Burt Trimpey



Early Oak Street view by famed Baraboo photographer, E. Burt Trimpey
View looking north, Courthouse Park on left.

313-315 Oak Street

313-315 Oak Street

Block 39, lot 11 & 12
Sanborn location 504

T. R. Flygt, M. D., a specialist in internal medicine opened his medical practice in October of 1982 at 311 Oak Street. Flygt, a Wisconsin native, and his wife Charlene had a son Adrian. at that time.

Walter D. Smith, CPA, was advertising being located at 307 (?) Oak Street.

Rick Lewison and his brother-in-law, Don Olson, started Don-Rick insurance in 1970. They established the base of their business by purchasing small “one-man” insurance agencies. Rick purchased a small agency from Don Hood and Don Olson purchased an agency in Portage from Andy Anderson. In 1988, Rick purchased his brother-in-law’s interest in the company and then in 2002, Rick sold the company to his sons, **Dan & Eric.**

In August of 2003, **Patricia Spragg** and **Morgan Klemm** opened an office at this site conducting tax preparation, monthly financing reports, Etc.

In 2005 we find **Don-Rick Insurance, Machtan Realty** and **Craftsman Construction** here. By the end of 2006, Craftsman Construction had moved their office to Eighth Street.



Dan, Rick and Eric Lewison

320 Oak Street

320 Oak Street

This address refers in general to the west half of the block bordered by Oak, Second, Ash and First Streets.

First School In Baraboo

About 1845, the first schoolhouse was erected in Baraboo. It was constructed of logs and was located in the northwestern part of the village on which is now Seventh Avenue, west of Birch Street. Although there was no shortage of timber at that time, it is said that the school was very economically constructed. An old settler whose height was not remarkably great had to stoop upon entering, and it was said "you could throw a cat through the cracks without touching a hair." The committee appointed at a meeting of the citizens for the purpose of building that schoolhouse was composed of Wallace Rowan, W. H. Canfield and Lewis Bronson. The first teacher in the log schoolhouse was E. M. Hart. Among others were R. P. Clement, D. K. Noyes and William H. Joy.

This building not only served the purpose of teaching the "young ideas how to shoot straight," but was also used for a court room, town hall and general meeting house until about 1849. By then the size and character of the town had assumed proportions that demanded a larger building. Several protracted discussions followed, one important feature of which was the contest between the north and south sides for the location of the structure. Finally they agreed upon building the schoolhouse on the North side of First Street, probably closer to Oak than to Ash Street. There, the Oak Street Bridge would make it accessible for children from the south side of Baraboo. It was a two story, thirty-five feet square, frame building. There were three large rooms, looking over the Baraboo River, and for over ten years satisfied the needs of the community along educational lines.

Present Grounds Purchased

In 1858, a committee of five was appointed at a special school meeting to "select and report on a school site." Two weeks later they reported on purchasing what was then the Baptist church building. This report was rejected. The school board then authorized the purchase of the Fox and Walbridge properties comprising six blocks on the corner



High School circa 1860-1906

of Ash and Third. These were secured at a total cost of \$4,100. Another meeting of the board and citizens however resulted in the sale of these properties to Dr. Mills. At the same meeting it was decided to purchase more property adjoining the old schoolhouse for the new building. That property then belonged to Harper Savage, who had built his residence thereon after his previous home, on the corner of Fourth & Oak streets, had burned. His residence was moved to the corner of Ash and Fourth diagonally across from the city hall, where later in 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey would live.

The erection of a new brick school building began on April 9, 1860. The cornerstone was laid April 24 and the first brick April 30. October 10 saw the completion of the new building, located on the southeast corner of Oak and Second Streets, facing Second. It had four large rooms, two below and two above. The old framed schoolhouse

320 Oak Street



Burned-out shell of high school circa 1906

was moved to the future site of the city hall, northwest corner of Ash and Fourth, and used for a blacksmith shop.

In March of 1872, Messrs. Savage & Halsted purchased of Mr. Hasenbein his homestead of one and one-half lots in the school-house block, consisting of a house, cooper shop, stable Etc. for \$1300. It is not clear where this was located.

About 1901, an annex, as it was called, was built in the center of the schoolhouse block facing Second Street. This was needed to alleviate the crowded conditions in the present school. It was razed around 1928.

In 1906, the final chapter of the old Baraboo High school building, located on Oak and Second Street, was written in fire. Fortunate it is that the lives of no children were sacrificed---not one of them was injured.

At about 11:30 AM on February 9, 1906, smoke and flames broke from the large flue on the interior, pupils and teachers of the

various rooms noticing the impending danger at the same time. All quickly arose and made for the various exits, but with no rush or unseemingly haste. Some did not stop for their wraps or books, but through it all a calmness was displayed that enabled all to escape in perfect safety.

An alarm was quickly turned in at central and the fire boys responded and fought with determination. The extent of the fire through the interior walls and under the roof made it impossible, however, to stay its progress more than temporarily and gradually it ate its way from one part of the building to another until the whole interior was a seething furnace. The spectacle when the flames wrapped the tall cupola was said to be magnificent and was witnessed by a large proportion of the city's population. From the evidence at hand, a defect in the flue was the cause of the fire.

From the upper floors very little was saved. A few microscopes and books were taken from Mr. Stout's room, but a valuable collection of minerals and other specimens, and books, were burned. From the lower floor it was possible to rescue nearly all the records, books and other equipment.

The building was erected in 1869. **George Holah**, who, at the time of the fire was very ill, had charge of the brickwork. While a good building of that day, it had long ceased to be a modern building and had been severely condemned by educators and others capable of judging. The heating and ventilation were very bad and the school population had so outgrown the dimensions of the schoolrooms that the pupils were crowded in like sardines in a box. A new building was badly needed and would have been put up several years prior to the fire, had not the water question come to the front with the consequent bonding of the city for the purchase of the plant. The barracks back of the old building were built as a temporary relief.

The old building was so completely destroyed that a new one would be necessary. To build it, it was possible for the city to issue about \$66,000 in bonds, which with the \$16,000 insurance realized would make available about \$82,000. The assessed valuation of Baraboo then was, in round figures, \$3,680,000, and the state law allowed a bonding to the extent of 5 percent, or \$184,000. The present

320 Oak Street



New high school completed in 1907

bonded indebtedness of the city was \$129,000, of which \$7,000 was to be paid in 1906.

Baraboo's old public buildings had gone in pretty regular succession in the past few years, and now a beautiful new high school building would be added to the other up-to-date architecture and equipment.

After about four hours of burning, there was little left of the place where so many lessons had been learned, except the brick walls that resisted the flames and protected the other buildings.

1907

"New Junior High School"

A new schoolhouse was completed in 1907 in time for the school opening on September 9. The building was 164 X 128 feet and built of Menomonee pressed brick trimmed with Colfax stone, and a cornice of galvanized iron. **Laird & Shepard** put in the cement walks and the lawn was seeded.



Junior High shop building Second Street

The inside finishing was of red birch throughout with the exception of the assembly hall. The floors were of hard maple while the walls were of rock plaster. The stairway landings and the second floor hall had a cork carpet. All windows were fitted with venetian blinds.

There were three main entrances into the building, north, south and east. Three stairways lead to the main floor, and two, north and south, to the third floor. There were two drinking fountains in each hall and hot and cold water throughout. Two standpipes connected with the city water are stationed at the north and south halls. Fire alarm stations were located in different parts of the building.

The entire building was wired for electric lights in all the rooms, and for telephones connecting the office of the principal with the various departments. A complete system of call bells was installed and operated by an electric clock in the office. There were also eight electric secondary clocks at the heads of the different

320 Oak Street

entrances. A complete system of push button bells connected the various parts of the building with the assembly room and office.

Heating and Ventilation

Direct and indirect steam was the kind of heat installed in the building. The heating-ventilating apparatus was controlled by the Johnson system and provided with a humidostat, a contrivance for the purpose of regulating and equalizing the moisture throughout the building.

The Basement

The basement contained two 40-horse power boilers, a heating tank, and a coal room with a capacity of 500 tons, janitor's room, and the iron department of the manual training room.

The First Floor

The first floor contained three rooms for domestic science, a kitchen, pantry, and sewing room, two manual training rooms, the bench and turning rooms, and two large cloakrooms. The gymnasium is also on this floor, with the boys and girls' toilet rooms and shower baths with lockers. The floors of the toilet rooms are inlaid with hexagonal porcelain blocks, while the shower baths are partitioned with Tennessee marble slabs. The engine and fan room is on the same floor.

The Second Floor

On the second floor were six recitation rooms and the large assembly room, capable of seating 400 or more. The assembly room had four entrances and two library alcoves. Also on the same floor were three offices, the boy's and girl's cloakrooms, teacher's room, and reception room.

The Third Floor

On the third floor were the physical, chemical, and botanical laboratories with lecture, teacher's, and recitation rooms. There were besides those on this floor the museum, two rooms for the commercial department and three recitation rooms.



New high school under construction circa 1907

Cost

The contract price of the building outside of the heating, plumbing and other extras was \$62, 539. **George L. Smith & Co.** of Kaukauna had this contract. **Fred Brewer** of Richland Center put in the heating and ventilating, contracted for \$9, 312. **Otto Schadde & Co.** of Baraboo won the plumbing contract for \$5,219. There were a great many extras that increased the total cost somewhat.

The work of erecting the building was well done without any delay. It was said that the work proceeded in a business like manner. The old building, which was an annex to the old school was built about 1902 will also be used for school purposes.

The members of the school board under whose direction the building was built were as follows:

John M. True

J. Van Orden

Atty. E. A. Evans

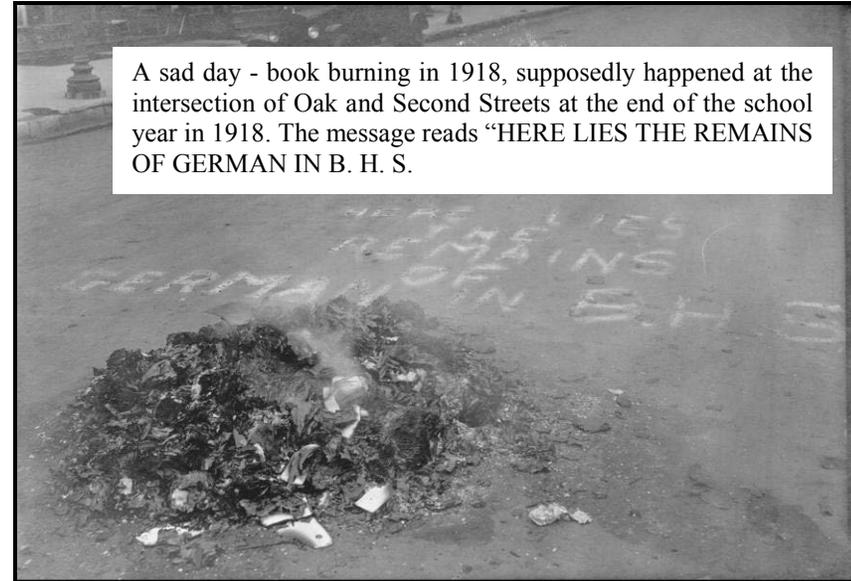
C. H. Evenson

320 Oak Street

In July of 1951 a contract was awarded to the Anthony Gregnano Company of Madison to construct the new first ward school, the bid being \$143,740. The plumbing and heating for the new grade school as well as the new Junior High shop, which was located behind the Junior High School on First Street, went to Schadde Plumbing & Heating, their bid being \$55,871. Bernardis Electric received the contract on the electrical work for the new grade school as well as the Junior High shop in the amount of \$20,289.

The old shop rooms were converted to lunchrooms then so students would no longer have to eat in the hallways.

In 2005, the shop building was razed and a parking lot took its place.

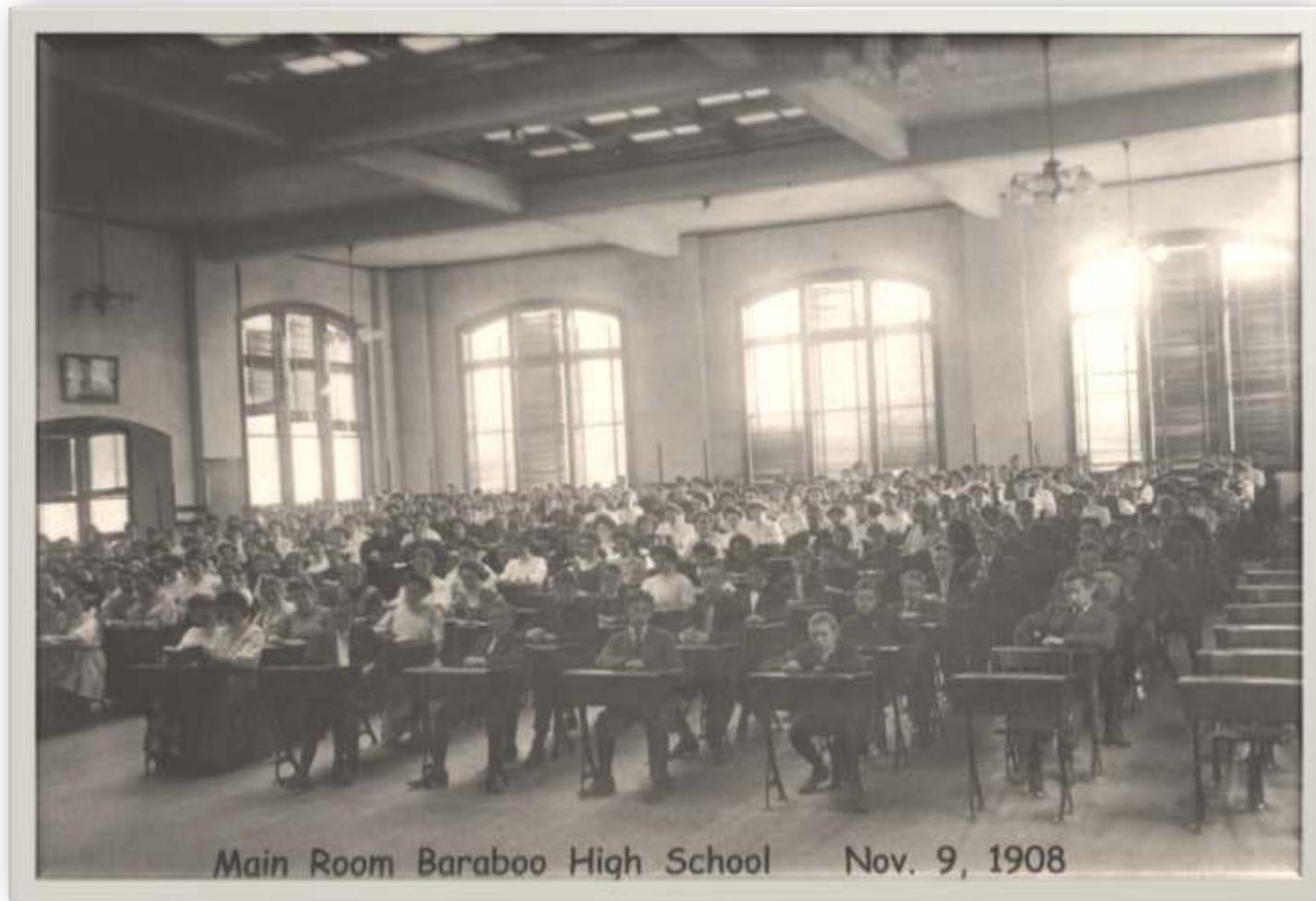


320 Oak Street Baraboo High School c1860-1906



High School circa 1860-1906 Southeast corner of Second and Oak Street

320 Oak Street New High School Main Room



320 Oak Street View of School Yard to the east of Oak Street



Photo taken from 400 block of Oak Street facing south circa 1854
Picket fenced school yard on left

321 Oak Street

321 Oak Street

Located south of and adjacent to the corner lot on Oak and Second Street fronting on Oak Street, located on the west side of the street.

Block 39, lot 1

Sanborn map location 506 Oak Street

Elder Warren Cochrane introduced Congregationalism to the Baraboo valley on December 18, 1847. The nine-member First Congregational Church first met in the log schoolhouse, which stood in the northwest corner of the village. Later they moved to the courthouse. In 1852, a small redbrick **Congregational Church** edifice was constructed at this site at a cost of \$1200. After the civil war, a larger frame structure was built at 220-224 Third Avenue.

In August of 1861, a **Catholic Church** committee purchased this church building and property from a **Congregational Church** committee. The structure was located a little set back from the southwest corner of Oak and Second Avenue. They paid \$500.00 for a little old red brick structure with green blinds and steep tumbledown steps leading up from Oak Street. It was deeded to **Bishop Henni** on March 17, 1862. In May of 1873, the Catholic Society decided to build a new church on this site. However, by July of 1875, the little church was for sale, as the Bishop was busy raising money for a new edifice of worship at another location.

In June of 1872, it was announced that the Catholic Society had purchased the old "Angle place" on the brow of the hill on the east side of East Street from Ex-Father Schreiner. It was expected that soon a new church would be constructed there overlooking the south side.

The Catholic Society, in February of 1873, purchased several fine lots south of Mr. Longley's residence on East Street, including the house, which was to be used as a parsonage, and the society would soon put up a church adjoining.

But, wait! By May of 1873, the society had decided to build on the corner of Oak and Second at the site of their old building. They were offering the Longley land, almost two acres, for sale.

In May of 1875, a new church was underway on East Street.

In September of 1877, the Catholic community had a new edifice to serve their worship needs. It stood on high ground on the east

side of East Street, facing First Street. It was 85 feet long by 35 feet wide. It had a deep basement, suitable for school purposes. The auditorium had walls 20 feet high and the roof was arched. The building was wood, veneered with Milwaukee brick. The price tag was about \$4,500.

In 1880, **Samuel F. Amy's Carpenter Shop** was located in the old church building. Amy died in October of 1907.

323 Oak Street

323 Oak Street

Block 39, lot 1

Sanborn map location 507 Oak Street

Located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Second Avenue and Oak Street fronting on Oak Street.

In March of 1869, **Mrs. Towsley** and **Mrs. Waite**, heretofore in the **Millinery Business** with Mrs. Hawes, opposite the post office at 330 Oak, moved to **Mrs. Seville's** late stand at this location.

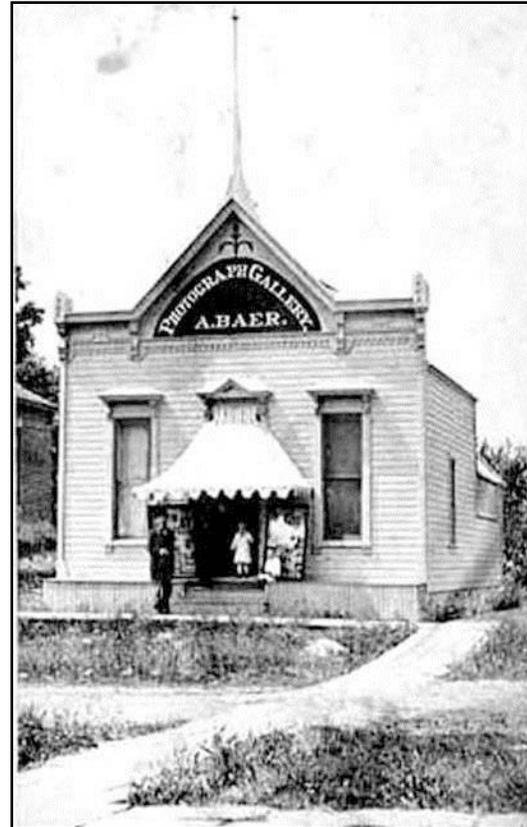
In June of 1880, the **Gattiker Brothers** constructed a new 22 X 35, 14 ft. post- building just north, of the old Catholic Church. On October 18, 1880, Alfred Baer, photographer, opened a new elegant gallery in this building. The north border of the lot, which the Gattikers constructed this building on, was located 60 feet south of Second Street. Fred N. Lang, the druggist owned the lot on the corner. Mrs. Baer and Mrs. Alfred Gattiker were sisters.

It was put to use by **Alfred Baer**, the photographer, in October of the same year. The building had been expressly constructed for the photography business and had therefore all the advantages and conveniences of a first class gallery.

It was outfitted with the newest and best instruments and accessories. Old pictures could now be copied and enlarged to any size and artistically finished in crayon. The building was just north of the old Catholic Church. Baer was located here until October of 1892 when he sold the photography business to **Arthur T. Johnson**. Johnson, who learned the photography business from Sim Mould, and who had been employed by the gallery of Isaac's in Madison, had a studio here until 1904.

In 1902, **Assistant Secretary Taylor** settled the **Post Office Building** site controversy by selecting the property located at this intersection for the new post office.

In June of 1904, Johnson asked the city council to reimburse him \$27. 19, which he had paid for property tax on this corner, which was condemned for government use. Johnson moved his studio to 407-1/2 Oak Street in 1904. This corner was an empty lot in 1904. **M. H. Mould** who was also a photographer owned some land adjacent to Johnson's. Mould received \$5,000 and Johnson \$3,000 for the land.

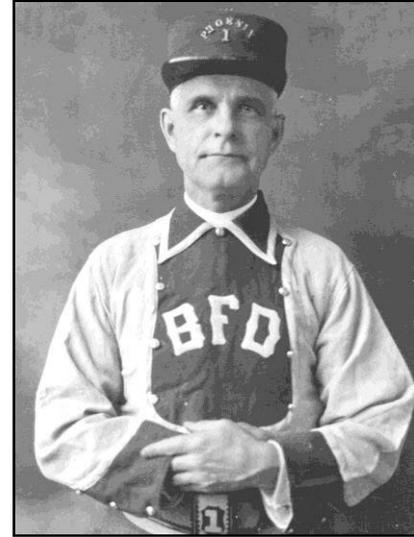


Alfred Baer Photography

323 Oak Street



Arthur T. Johnson Photography circa 1892-1904



Arthur Johnson Fireman

330 Oak Street

330 Oak Street

Located on the southeast corner of the intersection of
Oak and Second Street

As early as April of 1860 and as late as May of 1861, **Harper T. Savage** conducted "**Music Rooms**" at Second and Oak Streets. The family lived in the south end of this building while the Store was located in the north end. Savage sold pianos, melodeons, sewing machines and related products.

May of 1865 finds **Mrs. Beale's** new **Millinery Store** on this corner while in August of 1866 we find **Mrs. C. Harrison** conducting a **millinery business** here.

In April of 1868, **Stark & Towsley Millinery** was conducting business at **Mrs. Shaw's** old stand while **Mrs. S. B. Hawes** operated a **Millinery Store** in April of 1869 in the former stand of **Mrs. Shaw**.

In March of 1869, **Mrs. Towsley** and **Mrs. Waite**, heretofore with Mrs. Hawes, in the **Millinery Business** here removed opposite the same building, to **Mrs. Seville's** late stand at 327 Oak.

1868

For Sale..Real estate on the southeast corner of Second and Oak Streets. Main building 22 by 54 feet, two stories containing 13 rooms, besides a one-story part 22 by 12 feet, used as a kitchen. Also a woodhouse same size. Good repair and very suitable for a tavern or rooming house. H. T. Savage

1869

Savage Property

At a School Board meeting in July of 1869, H. T. Savage communicated a proposition to remove his building and deed his two business lots on the northwest corner of the school-house block to the District for the sum of \$800, one-half payable on demand, the balance May 1st. 1870, with interest. No action by the board taken at this meeting.

1870

The Savage Corner

At a school meeting in May of 1870, it was decided by an almost unanimous vote to purchase the Savage Corner lot on terms previously indicated. Mr. Savage was given until the first of September to remove his buildings, but he expected to have them removed by the first of July. The building was moved to 518 Ash Street, the southeast corner of the intersection of Ash and Fourth Streets. The large frame structure was one of the first to be moved in Baraboo and considerable difficulty was experienced in doing so. The house remained in the street for weeks, the family occupying it all the time.

The house was later occupied by Mrs. Ira L. (Savage) Humphrey.

400 & 400-1/2 Oak Street

400 & 400-1/2 Oak Street

Located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Second and Oak Streets
fronting on Oak Street
Block 35, lot 7
Sanborn map location approximately 701 Oak Street

Architectural Description

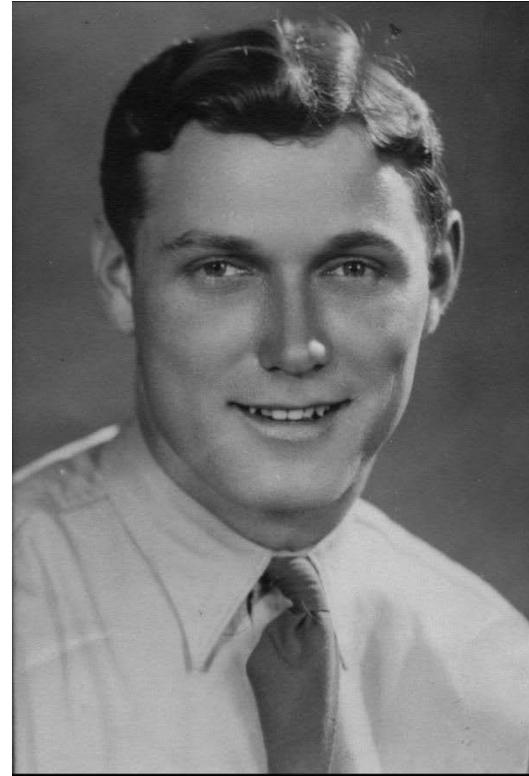
This three-bay structure once had an oriel window centered on the second floor. Brick window hoods, segmentally arched, and corbelling at the roof line provide simple ornamentation. The storefront has been substantially modified, the iron posts removed and center entrance moved to the side. The building, however, is similar in detail to the building to the north and is of interest as a contributing element within an intact blockface.

Many years prior to the Masonic Temple building being built on the northwest corner of Second Avenue and Oak Street **Sam Hartley** had an old building there occupied by the Post Office among other small businesses. Hartley was appointed Post Master in April 10, 1861, 6 days after Fort Sumpter fell, and was officially confirmed in July.

T. J. Wood, the late Post Master, removed to his farm in Excelsior some month's prior, leaving his Deputy, Mr. Ryder, to manage the office.

In May of the same year, Hartley purchased the corner lot at this address from **William Andrews**. Hartley immediately set forth constructing a new edifice fronting 21 feet on Oak by 40 feet deep. The building would have two stories, the lower floor housing the **Post Office**. The building was expected to be finished in the latter part of June. The boxes were all new, 472 in number, neatly figured and elegantly finished. The drawers under them were 76, also new and all were arranged upon three sides in the form of a half a hexagon, with a window on each side. They were the work of **Mr. Maynard Patridge**, upon whom they reflected the highest credit.

It was said that the prices of the boxes and drawers was even more satisfactory, being just one-half of what the citizens had to pay



Darwin Braithwaite

since Mrs. Perkins left office. The boxes rented for fifty cents per annum and the drawers for a dollar.

Mr. Hartley was once proprietor of the Cliff House and concerning his life, his daughter, **Mrs. M. H. Copeland**, Santa Anna, California, States: "Samuel Hartley was born in Salem, Washington county, Indiana, March 26, 1818. While yet a lad his parents moved to Paris, Illinois, and about 1840 he went to Stephenson County, Illinois. In 1843 he married **Clarissa Wichell** and in 1851 they came to Baraboo, and in 1861 Hartley became postmaster, serving six years. In 1879 he moved to Oberlin, Kansas, where he died Nov. 7, 1884."

400 & 400-1/2 Oak Street

In the early years of the post office operation, people did not get free delivery as today and they did not appear at the Post Office to check on mail. So, the postmaster would ask the newspaper to print the names of people who had mail waiting for them. The following is an example of the posting that Sam Hartley, Post Master, had the paper print in November 16, 1864.

Letters Remaining Unclaimed

IN THE POST OFFICE, AT BARABOO, State of Wisconsin, 16th. day of November, 1864.

Brown, Miss Mary A.
Miller, Miss Dinah 4
Bayle, James L.
Spencer, E. P. 2
Burdick, Mrs. E. C.
Seville, James
Dame, Henry
Silsbe, E. P.
Fisk, Royal
Sheller, Catherina
Gilbert, L. T.
Walker, Benjamin
Hackett, Timothy
Wilks, C. B.
Holton, Robert
Wood, William
Hurlburt, John
Wilford, John
Hill, Messrs. Wm. & I.

Persons calling for the above letters will please say –advertised.

Signed: **SAM'L HARTLEY, P.M.**

D. K. Noyes finally purchased this property and the post office was abandoned. In mid-January of 1873, in the snow and ice, Noyes

transferred his post office headquarters to his new quarters at 150 Third Street.

In April of 1879, **Henry Schoenfeld** moved his Gunsmith business to this site. **H. C. Noyes**, at a earlier date conducted a **Second Hand Furniture Store** here. Unfortunately, this edifice was burned to the ground during the fire of October 12, 1884. The fire started two doors north in the **Pratt Building**. The furniture loss was about \$50. A widow lady who had moved in a few days prior to the fire occupied the second story. She was absent at the time of the fire but her goods were saved. The building was insured for \$400.

In May of 1893, **C. W. Fisk** was exhibiting a line of farm machinery on this empty corner lot, binders and mowers being a specialty. Fisk was also an agent for D. M. Osburne harvester and Advance threshing machine.

In April of 1894, it was reported that **George Ruhland** was planning on building a two-story brick business block opposite the Masonic Temple and in fact the excavation had been started. However...read the following; In March of 1896, **R. G. Buglass** of Portage purchased the empty lot at this site. This lot was opposite the site of the old Sam Hartley post office, which at earlier times was located on the northwest corner of Second and Oak. The purchase was from D. K. Noyes. Buglass planned on putting up a handsome two-story building here for a bakery. The **Robert G. Buglass & Company Bakery** existed in 1898 and maybe longer. **Charles H. Buglass**, a brother, was a business partner. C. H. Buglass eventually went back to his primary profession, that of a stonecutter, dying in October of 1952.

By 1901, the **Merchants and Farmers' Auction Exchange** was being conducted at this location by **J. D. Carr and H. P. Jones**. Also, it is believed that the firm of **Ableman & Tohal Furniture Repair & Sales** was located here in November of 1901. In July 4 of 1902, the dissolution of the partnership of Ableman and Tohal was announced. Later in September, Ableman moved his operation one door north, probably to 402 Oak Street.

In June of 1901, **W. R. Schultz** sold his grocery business to George Graves, address unknown. Schultz was in business about 2-1/2 years. Schultz had taken a position with a company in Chicago. Graves

400 & 400-1/2 Oak Street

would operate the store in Lyons as well as the one just purchased. Schultz accepted a position as manager in this district for the Chicago Wholesale Grocery Supply Company. Schultz's district comprises Western Wisconsin, Eastern Minnesota and as far north as he cares to extend himself. Schultz opened an office across the street from the post office, which could have been at this address.

By 1903 the **Baraboo Lighting Company** moved from its location across from the Warren House and was conducting business at this site.

It is interesting to note that in the August 18 1887 issue of the *Sauk County Democrat* it was reported that "the gas light ordinance passed by the common council last week confers upon J. D. Patton and C. D. Jones of Ohio, constituting the Baraboo Gas and Electric Light Company, the right of putting in an electric light and gas works and gives them the exclusive privilege for five years of furnishing the city and its inhabitants with gas for illuminating purposes. The city agreed to pay for the use of at least 50 public lamps during these 5 years. The flames are to be of 16 standard candle power and the charge for them to the city will be \$2.00 each month if used all night and \$1.50 if used only until midnight – the lamps not to be lighted on moonlit nights."

In September of 1907, Buglass sold this building to **J. B. Donovan** at auction for \$4,600.00. From 1911 through 1915 this business was known as the **Baraboo Gas and Electric Co.** with **W. H. Potter** as manager, while from 1917 through 1919 **Wisconsin Power Light & Heat Co.** was the name with **George R. Blakesley** listed as manager in the 1918 city directory.

In May of 1915, the **Capener brothers** purchased this building from R. G. Buglass. The Gas & Electric Co. would continue their occupation of the building. In May of 1916, the Wisconsin Light & Power Company, owners of the Kilbourn and Prairie du Sac plants, advanced the idea of buying out the Baraboo Co.

In July of 1916, the Wisconsin Power, Light, Heat & Gas Company purchased the Baraboo Company. In January of 1920, the company moved into a building at 116 Fourth Avenue, a building designed especially to their requirements.

In February of 1920, the **Capener Brothers** moved their sporting goods store to this site from 413 Oak. **Freeman Capener** was listed as owner in the 1938 city directory while **Paul W. Capener** was listed as manager in the 1950 city directory. In September of 1953 Capener sold the store to **Darwin F. Braithwaite** of Madison. The new store would be called **The Baraboo Sporting Goods**. Braithwaite had been a salesman for a sporting goods firm prior to this purchase. In October of 1960 Braithwaite moved Baraboo Sporting Goods to 111 Second Street.

In October of 1962, **Vodak Radio and Television** of North Freedom leased this building with an option to buy and will conduct business here. The firm will maintain their store in North Freedom also.

Between 1964 and 1991 the **Wisconsin Finance Corp.** was located at this address with **E.C. Brown** being listed as manager in 1964, while **Harold Machtan** assumed those duties in 1968 through 1977. **Tom Fleming** was the manager from 1978 through 1988. Also, Machtan conducted the **Family Insurance Corp.** here between 1970 and 1972.

In 1992, **Paul Worschek** managed **AVCO Financial Services** here with **Hazel Cejka** assuming those duties at a later date. AVCO existed until at least 1997. About 1999, AVCO was taken over by **The Associates Consumer loan Center**" August of 2000 showed this building empty and some sort of redecorating/remodeling going on.

In December of 2000 it appeared as though the **Aldo Leopold Foundation** was moving into this location from 408/410 Oak Street. I am not sure that this ever happened. By January of 2003, the foundation was located at the former Reul House on the corner of First and Ash Streets. **National Tax Service** moved in next.

400-1/2 Oak Street

There were several businesses located over 400 Oak, some of them were:
1903 **George Paddock, Drayman**,
1903-1930 Paddock **Brothers, Draymen**
1903-1905 **American Express, E.C. Fuller** being listed as agent in the city directory; the office moved to the Northwestern depot in March of 1930.
1941-1942 the **Standard Oil agent**.

401-403-405 Oak Street

401-403-405 Oak Street

Located on the northwest corner of the intersection of
Oak & Second Avenue, fronting on Oak Street.
Block 34, lot 11 & 12
Sanborn Location No. 601

Prior to the **Masonic Temple** buying this corner lot for \$2,000 and their building being constructed in 1891, there was an old building here owned by **Samuel Hartley** and occupied by the **Post Office**. Hartley was appointed **Postmaster** on April 10, 1861; 6 days after Fort Sumpter fell.

T. J. Wood, the late **Post Master**, removed to his farm in Excelsior some month's prior, leaving his Deputy, **Mr. Ryder**, to manage the office.

The lot that the Post Office building was constructed on was raised considerably above the adjoining buildings to the north. It was a shaded lot and the building in fact was almost hidden by a large pine tree that almost covered it completely and many nights during the civil war, people would stand under that tree waiting for the latest war news soon to arrive by the Kilbourn Stage mail.

Shortly after becoming Post Master, Hartley constructed a new structure across the street to be used as a Post Office. The post office was then directly on the northeast corner of Oak and Second and would then have had an address of approximately 400 Oak in our time.

In June of 1866, **Charles Junge's Barber Shop** was located opposite the Post Office at this address, having moved from 516 Oak and replaced **Ryders' Grocery Store** here. Ryder had been here as early as April of 1861. In March of 1867, **Wm. Butler** had a new **clothing establishment** opposite the post office. It may have been at this address but more than likely was one door north.

In November of 1873, **E. B. Calkins** moved his **family grocery** store into the old post office building. He was still here in April of 1874 prior to **B. D. Dawes & C. A. Dano Clothing** store opening here. In September of 1875, the firm dissolved their partnership. **Dano** would continue the business here until 1876 when he transferred his business to the Star Building on Third Street.



Masonic Building circa 1900

In March of 1874, a **Bookstore** moved into this site and after a bold advertising campaign held a huge closeout sale on many books.

In July of 1874, Mr. Benjamin Dawes died. Dawes had been severely affected by rheumatism the past several years and finally sold his farm and went into the clothing business hoping that by keeping indoors his health would improve. However, his health worsened and for the past several weeks he was confined to his home, totally disabled.

By April of 1872, the **Gray & Stephenson Hardware** was operating out of **A. J. Cooper's** old stand at this site. It is believed that **Cooper's Hardware** was here as early as April of 1868. It was reported in April of 1868 that Cooper had sold out to **Mr. C. E. Masters**, however it is not sure that this actually happened.

In May of 1873, **Henry L. Gray** and **Mr. Lewis** purchased the stock of goods from the creditors of **A. J. Cooper & Co.** and started a

401-403-405 Oak Street

hardware business at this site. Directly to the south and across Second Avenue was **Mrs. Abbott's** millinery store, which was then, called **The Friendly Little Shop.**

In August of 1875, the hardware store was taken possession of by Sheriff Hudson in the process of executing a judgment of \$2,000 against the firm, and in favor of Mrs. Gray.

Gray re-opened the hardware business in **Mrs. Gowan's** brick building at 419 Oak Street in September of 1875 but closed permanently in May of 1877.

On August 10, 1891, the Trustees of the Masonic Temple, then located in the Stanley building on Third Avenue, were authorized to borrow \$10,000 and to proceed with a new 65 X 114 two-story building to be located at this address. In June of 1891, the work of razing the old building from this corner was commenced. The corner stone was laid August 27, 1891 and the \$15,000 Temple was dedicated on April 27, 1892.

On February 1, 1892, a grand opening party was held at the new Masonic Temple. It was said that if the community needed reassurance that the Masonic fraternity was first of all civic organizations, they had it in a royal whole hearted manner in which the brotherhood provided for the pleasure and comfort of their guests on this occasion. For the benefit of those who wished, cards and tables were at hand. At large expense an accomplished orchestra had been secured from Janesville, and a rich banquet was spread at the Warren House. About 300 people in all were entertained. Altogether the party excelled anything of the kind heretofore attempted in the city. The receipts amounted to the magnificent sum of \$336, netting about \$180 for furnishing the hall, far exceeding the expectations of the most sanguine. The entrance to the Temple, which was located on the second floor, was located at 110 Second Avenue.

The firm of **Link & Dame** opened their **jewelry store** on the first floor of the Masonic Temple building in the early part of November 1892. In addition to their jewelry inventory, they had the sole agency for Sauk County of four standard pianos.

May of 1893 brought a surprise to the community with the closing of the jewelry firm. The extent of the liabilities was not

PORTER & GERKS.
REMOVED
— TO THE —
MASONIC TEMPLE BLOCK
AND ARE SHOWING AN
Immense Stock
Of Elegant Furniture.
COME AND SEE US.

Porter & Gerks circa 1893

immediately known but it was estimated that the figure was between \$4,000 and \$5,000. The sheriff took possession of the goods and inventory.

In October of 1893, Marsh & Jackson moved their offices to the rear of 412-1/2 Oak Street and **Mrs. Dame** rented the rooms in the front. The stock of the late Link & Dame Jewelry Store was moved there and closed out at prices, which were said to be less than wholesale.

In May of 1894, **L. E. Hoyt** moved his **flour and feed store** from the Masonic Temple building to 135 Third Street.

401-403-405 Oak Street

In 1888, a jewelry business in Chicago was offered for sale. It was an old stand, having had jewelry sold there for 25 years; the store was small, likewise the stock...however the patronage was good. About that time **Albert H. and William P. Ulrich** were looking for a location. A short time later the old sign was taken down and repainted to read "**Ulrich Brothers**". It was then that the Ulrich boys started down the road that would lead them to Baraboo.



In 1890, two years later, the business of Lion & Kylling, Jewelers, was rumored to be for sale. This was the largest and oldest establishment of its kind in Evanston. The Ulrichs made advances and after about two months of negotiating the deal was made, turning the business over to the Ulrichs. With the world fair coming to Chicago, both Brothers wanted to remain in Evanston in order to enjoy and study such a grand exhibit without neglecting business. Then Baraboo became the focal point. After a few visits and being favorably impressed, the corner store in the Masonic temple, then occupied by

Frank Avery, was leased starting May 1 for a term of years and soon opened with an excellent stock of jeweler's merchandise. Frank Avery moved his stock of shoes to 135 Third Street where he planned on conducting a close-out sale.

Above picture is of an antique Hamilton/Ullrich Bros. Evanston, Ill Baraboo, Wisc., vintage 1894, 18 size, open face, full nickel plate model, 936, 17 jewel, lever set, adjusted movement with gold jewel settings. This has a low serial number of 8506, indicating that it was made in the second year of Hamilton's History, and is nicely damaskeened (damascened). Major manufacturers such as Hamilton often made "personalized" watches for jewelers and distributors and this Ullrich Bros of Evanston, Illinois and Baraboo, Wisc. was a rare example of that practice. The double sunk Roman numeral dial had Arabic 5 minute marginal numbers in red and the Ullrich Bros. Signature. In 1894, the postal department wished to move the post office to this building. However, it was found that the Ulrichs had signed a four-year lease.

On February 1, 1893, **Porter & Gerks**, enterprising furniture dealers leased the large room in the Masonic Temple for their ever-increasing inventory of goods. They were formerly based at 115 Third Street. Then in October of 1894, the furniture house announced that they would close out their business within the next 60 days and dissolve their partnership. Mr. Porter planned on going into business in Wonebec while Mr. Gerks was contemplating going on the road for a wholesale furniture company. In August an employee of the company, **Paul Schultz**, associated himself with the firm. The name of the firm was then changed to **Porter, Gerks & Company**. In October of 1893, Porter attended the Chicago Embalming School, returning to Baraboo with a diploma for arterial embalming.

In December of 1894, Porter & Gerks had a complete closing out sale. Charles Wild purchased the undertaking goods while Erswell & Co. acquired the furniture and moldings.

In April of 1895, it was reported by a Trustee of the Masonic Temple that all matters had been adjusted and the post office would be

401-403-405 Oak Street



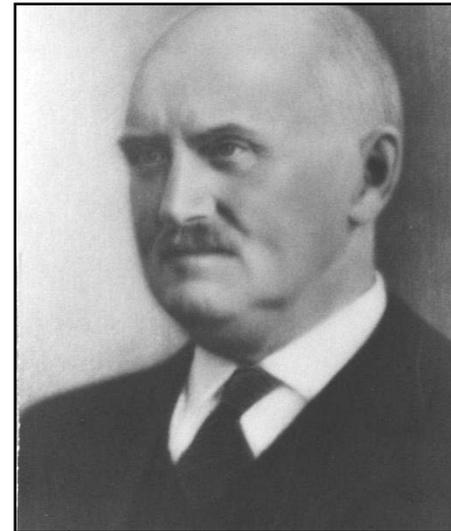
Louis Schultz delivering furniture for Melzl & McGann

moved from its present quarters to the Masonic Temple as soon as a room could be put in order. W. P. Ulrich also stated that he would vacate the corner room and move into the one now occupied by the **Home Café** in the same building. It was further stated that **Hugh Kelley**, conductor of the Home Café, had made arrangements for the space in the southwest corner of the room to be occupied by the post office. Kelley planned on putting in a line of stationery, papers and like goods. Kelly was listed as a cigar manufacturer as well as an engineer with the C&NW railway in the Sauk county directory of 1890.

Hugh Kelley was a Baraboo printer who learned his trade under the tutelage of the strange genius of Shanghi Chandler. Twenty-two years earlier, in 1872, Kelley left the case and subsequently filled a responsible position at the Northwestern roundhouse. Kelley started making plans to open a restaurant here after Porter & Gerks left in November of 1894. Kelley opened in early 1895. **Mr. Preston**, of

Chicago, had charge of the culinary department and **Miss Carrie Wells**, who was with the Northwestern Hotel for three years cared for the guests in the dining room.

It was planned that Hugh Kelley and J. T. Huntington of Delton would start another restaurant somewhere in the city. It was also stated at that time that Hugh Kelley had made arrangements for the space in the southwest corner of the Post Office, where he would put in a line of stationery, papers and like goods. In May of 1903, Kelley found it necessary to seek outdoor work and sold his **News**



John McGann Sr.

Stand, located in the post office, to **J. S. Allendale**. Kelley then took charge of a farm west of Lyons.

In the early part of 1896, **William Allen**, who had operated a clothing store on Third Street in partnership with **A. O. Armbruster**, relocated to the south portion of the Ulrich Brothers' store until his new building was completed at 419 Oak Street.

In February of 1900, the government agreed to lease the lower corner room of the Masonic Temple for another five years. The old

401-403-405 Oak Street

lease would expire June 1, 1900. The article in the Baraboo News stated "This action means that the post office will be located at this address for another five years, and that Mr. Babcock's big governmental air palace will have to stand idle for several years. Someone blundered." Obviously the new post office building on the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Oak Street was constructed by this time or was being constructed.

In 1903 we find the **Albert Hook, Musical Industries** store located in the Masonic Building. However, Hook opened at 147 Third Avenue on August 22, 1903.

C. M. Butler then opened **Butler's Café** in the space recently vacated.

In December of 1903, **H. A. Hein** came to Baraboo planning on conducting a bakery at 409 Oak Street, a going business being left by the departure of Mr. H. Moores. However, in a deal made in early January of 1904, Hein came into possession of the space previously containing Butler's Café. Hein had plans to open a complete bakery, restaurant, fruit store and candy kitchen. To that end he was prepared to install a large, new oven in order to meet what he expected to be a huge demand for his products. It is believed that Hein was here into 1905.

Also in January of 1904, J. S. Allendale closed out his post office newsstand, giving his paper routes to **J. B. Shumway**. **Allendale's** plans were to open a grocery store at 413 Oak Street, recently vacated by the Ott Henery & Market.

Also in 1903, Hugh Kelly advertised his post office newsstand, his newspaper route and all fixtures for sale for \$200 or would trade same for a good team or farm machinery.

1905 Finds **Hein's Bakery & Restaurant** sharing this site. In August of 1905, Hein sold his bakery and restaurant to **Mr. & Mrs., Frederick W. Beidatsch** of Milwaukee who took immediate possession. The new bakery would operate under the name of **The Ideal Bakery**.

In the first part of November of 1905, Beidatsch moved the Bakery to 409 Oak. The room there that he vacated had been leased to Erswell, Melzl and McGann Furniture.

The end of 1905 saw **Dr. A. E. Capener** moving into the vacated newsstand space, preparing to do any and all dental work, which one may require.

On March 22, 1906 the **Erswell, Melzl & McGann Furniture and Undertaking** business moved to the southern part of this building from 147 Third Street. Earlier, the firm had signed a five-year lease with an option for another five. Their plans were to occupy both rooms on the lower floor with plans to cut an arched opening through the dividing wall.

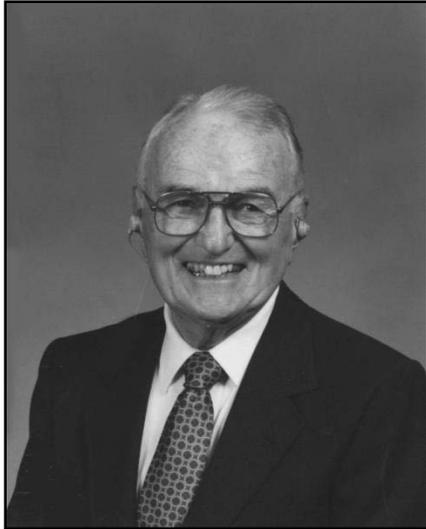
In June of 1906, the company added a music department, with intentions of adding a number of pianos and organs to their stock. Mr. Melzl would be in charge of this department.

Sometime between 1908 and 1913, **John McGann** and **Charles Melzl** (whom it is believed was married to John McGann's sister, **Louise**) had purchased from **E.S. Erswell**, his interest in the furniture and undertaking establishment. The business then became known as **Melzl & McGann Furniture Company**. In 1917 the undertaking firm received a fine new auto hearse. The beautifully designed Cunningham hearse was equipped with a six-cylinder Studebaker engine and chassis specially geared and constructed for funeral service. The hearse was 18 feet in length, heavily upholstered and rich throughout in all its furnishings. It was ordered through the Baraboo Motor Company the prior April and was driven to Baraboo from Madison in July of that year.

In June of 1918, Melzl & McGann purchased the furniture stock and undertaking establishment of **Thos. G. Johnson** at **North Freedom**. **E.A. Kauhman**, proprietor of the drug store adjoining, will have direct management of both stores as partitions are being removed, thus converting the two stores into one large double store. The undertaking would be given the personal attention of C.A. Melzl, thus assuring the people of North freedom and vicinity the most prompt and careful service.

On February 28, 1934, John's son **Jack McGann**, graduated from the Worsham's School of Embalming in Chicago and returned to Baraboo where he became associated with his father and brother, **Louis McGann**, in the McGann furniture and Undertaking business.

401-403-405 Oak Street



John "Jack" H. McGann

Melzl died in 1929 and John McGann became the sole owner of the **McGann Furniture and Undertaking** business. Mr. McGann was, according to Baraboo residents of that time, an honest, efficient, dependable businessman, and took pleasure, pride and happiness in the building up of one of the most successful business establishments in Baraboo.

By 1936, McGann Furniture and Undertaking was owned by **Mrs. Maude McGann**, Louis C. McGann, and John "Jack" H. McGann.

In May of 1937, the **Hoover Company** rented an area of the store and **N. S. Severson**, formerly of Madison, took charge of that department.

In 1941, The McGann Funeral Home was opened on East Street. The funeral home was sold to Les Hanson in 1951. **Ed Kurtz** joined McGann furniture in the same year.

In February of 1948, John McGann and Rudyard Goodland were making plans to open a furniture store in Portage. Goodland, who

had been employed by McGann Furniture since the prior September, would be in charge of the Portage store.

On February 2, 1957, the building housing McGann Furniture was destroyed by fire. 16-year-old Gloria Bethke discovered the fire as she entered Mel's Dairy Bar to the north about 11:20 PM that Saturday night. The old **Curtiss Garage** at 112 Fifth Ave. was rented immediately and within 3 days **McGann Furniture** was back in business. McGann Furniture was there for 9 months, moving to the Third Avenue location in October of 1957.

In October of 1958 the contract was let for the construction of the new \$150,000 Masonic Temple building. The general contract was awarded to Schultz and Weiss, plumbing and heating went to H. W. Roser Plumbing & Heating and electrical work went to the Hill & Peterson Electric Company. Completion of the Platt & Schultz designed building, was scheduled for completion on May 1, 1959. The W. W. Deppe Company would do the clean-up work.

The new Masonic Temple, which was dedicated on December 12, 1959, was up and running with **Wisconsin Power and Light** occupying the first floor fronting on Oak. The **Whirlpool Appliance Franchised Tech-Care Service** was also located at this site between 1982 and 1989.

401-403-405 Oak Street

**Baraboo Weekly News
July 7, 1932 Article,**

Melzl-McGann

Buy New Hearse

A new hearse has been added to the equipment of the Melzl-McGann undertaking firm. This hearse is the latest type in equipment and appointments and mounted on an 8 cylinder, 1932 Buick chassis. One of its improvements is a door that opens on both sides, making it possible to load on either side as well as the rear with the greatest convenience.

This new equipment, together with the attractive chapel and slumber room recently installed, enable them to offer a complete mortuary service with the modern features which are so fully appreciated by people in a time of sorrow.

The firm is announcing the installation of a day and night ambulance service also at this time, the ambulance being equipped with electric heater, fan and first aid kit.



Day after Masonic Building fire

401 Oak Street Masonic Building



Masonic Building 401-405 Oak Street circa 1900

401 Oak Street McGann Furniture Fire



John and David Cushman pose for camera



McGann Fire 401-405 Oak Street circa 1957



402-404 Oak Street

402-404 Oak Street

Located between Second & Third Street on the east side of Oak.
Block 35, lot 7
Sanborn map location between 701 & 702 Oak Street

Architectural Description

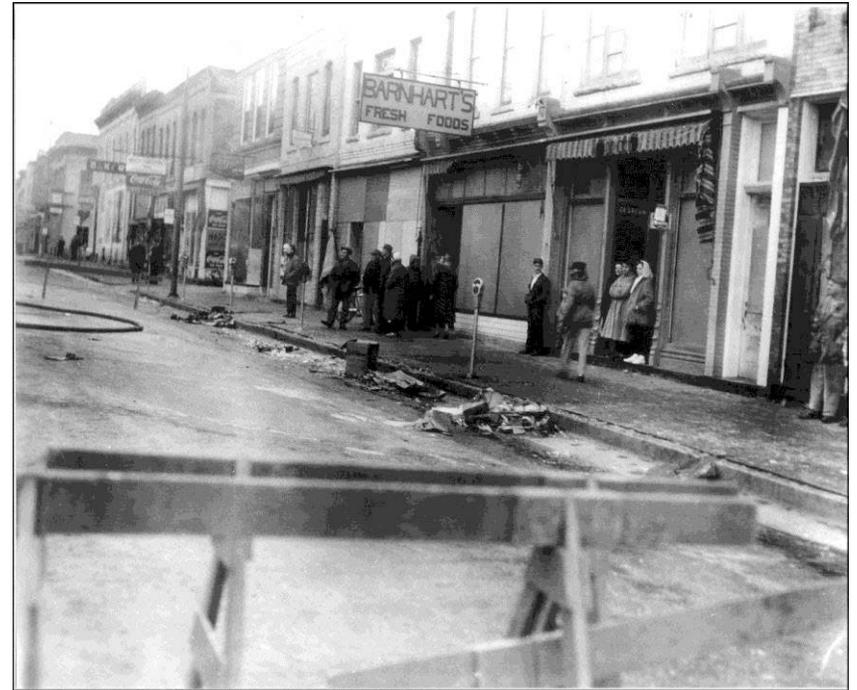
Segmentally arched windows on the three-bay northern half have been covered and modern windows inserted. Oriel windows on the southern half have been removed and replaced with modern windows as well. Window hoods on the northern half are of brick, and segmented, while those to the south form a series of shallow arches which stretch between pilasters beneath an arc of stretchers which forms an arch between the two tripartite windows. Patterned brickwork stretches across the roofline. Storefronts have been removed and replaced with modern materials. The building is considered a contributing element within the district as an element of an intact blockface.

Calkin & Burdick was located one or two doors north of the post office as early as August of 1866. It may have been at about this site, most likely was on this side of Oak Street and surely was in this block of Oak Street.

There are some records, which indicate that **N. H. Wood & Co.** was in business at this site prior to September of 1869. On or about September 22, 1869, **Loomis, Gallett & Breese** succeeded Wood and advertised dry goods and groceries at Portage prices.

It is believed that **E. A. Calkin** moved his **General Store** here, in what may have been the **Nelson Building**, in December of 1870. The Nelson building was reportedly just south of **Wood's Hardware Store**. However in November of 1873 he moved across the street into the old post office building. The 1885 Sanborn fire insurance map shows an empty lot here.

In March of 1860, **P. E. Longley** sold his building and stand to **J. M. Haines**. This may have been the building. Records indicate that



Oak Street day after Masonic Building fire

Haines & Co. was located south of Dinsmore's Fruit Store in June of 1868.

It has been extremely difficult to determine the tenants that conducted businesses at this address. It is evident that this building was divided into two storefronts as early as 1895/1900. There have been three addresses (402, 404 and 406) connected with this site with much liberty taken with same. However, it would seem as though 402 was upstairs, although sometime it may have been the very south part of the building, generally 404 was the southern half of the building and 406 the northern half.

However.....the first Sanborn Insurance map, 1898, that lists these addresses, show 402 as the south half of the building and 404 as the north half. We shall base our history on Sanborn's locations.

402-404 Oak Street

As in most downtown buildings, doctors, dentists, insurance and attorney offices were plentiful over the years on the second floors. These people were prolific movers. Keeping track of all of these upstairs tenants is very difficult, so the following is pretty spotty.

402 Oak Street

(South Half)

In 1895, **Eiber & Buckley Groceries, Cigar Mfg. & Dealers** moved into their new grocery store at this location.

In November of 1895 it was reported that the partnership had dissolved and Buckley would continue the business with the assistance of his sister **Julia**.

In January of 1896, **J. E. Buckley** sold the store to **Charles Dudley Tosch** of Chicago. Mr. Tosch had been conducting a dray line in the "Windy City" and planned on taking charge of the grocery store towards the end of January. By 1897, the business was conducted under the name **Tosch And Fisher, Grocers**. It was also during the year of 1897 that **Will Halstead** sold his dray business to Tosch.

Then in March of 1898 a deal was consummated in which Tosch sold his interest in the concern to **George Emery**. The firm then became known as **Fisher & Emery Grocers**. In 1899, George Emery purchased Fisher's interest in the store. Then in January of 1900 **W.H. Clark** purchased the grocery business from Emery and the operation became **W.H. Clark Groceries**. Later in 1900, **Henry Meyer** purchased the stock of Clark, then turned around and sold it to **Charles Wild** who would liquidate it.

In September of 1902, **A. R. Ableman** moved his **Furniture Repair** operation from 400 Oak one-door north, probably to 402 Oak Street.

The 1904 Sanborn Insurance map shows an **Express Office** located at this site. This may have been a Railway Express office. In any event there was an express office here until March 1, 1930, when it moved to the Northwestern Railroad Station. **Mrs. Barbara Keller** of Baraboo owned the building at 402 Oak Street for many years.

The 1917 city directory places the **Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co.** at this site, being conducted by **W. F. Mackey**.

In 1931, **Frank Horn** and **Ray D. Cowles** formed a new firm here to be known as the **City Heating and Plumbing**. They opened their shop at 402 Oak Street the 1st. of April and the building, which Mrs. Cowles had occupied for a long time (?), was remodeled for their convenience.

In July of 1931, the **Railway Salvage Store** opened here and was conducted by **N. H. Gerber**.

In 1932, **Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Busher** of Mazomanie rented this location from Mrs. Barbara Keller and opened the **Quality Bakery** here on June 15. The Gary Oil Burner Company formerly occupied it.

Mr. & Mrs. Busher, who conducted the Quality Bakery at Mazomanie for the past three years, and prior to that, Mrs. Busher was head baker for the Globe Baking Company at Madison and had also been in business in Milwaukee for eight years. **Quality Bakery** operated here until at least 1938, possibly sharing the building with **Swanson's Food Store**.

404 Oak Street

(North Half)

From 1895 through 1898 the **Adolph Lenz, Restaurant & Saloon** operated here; by 1903 a **Sample Room** was being conducted here by **Mrs. A. Lenz**. Adolph Lenze died of Bright's disease in 1901 at the age of 41. He left his wife and six children. Burial was made at Sauk City. The Lenze family's residence was also at this address.

Lenz was still here in 1905 and possibly longer. In 1908, **John H. Harris** was conducting a **saloon** at this address. In 1910, Harris lost his saloon license, convicted of selling whiskey to minors. At the time it was thought that no saloon would reopen there due to the close proximity of the high school.

In November 1910, in a court case, a license to open this saloon was refused due to the fact that it was too close to a school house.

From 1910 to 1917, we find the **F. J. Kalaher Saloon** at this site. The **Royal Café** was located on the second floor as early as November of 1911 and conducted by **Fred H. Seymour** was purchased by Frank Kalaher in March of 1912.

402-404 Oak Street

In 1917, it is thought that **Phil Abel** conducted the **People's Restaurant** here, leaving early in 1920 to conduct the red brick City Rooming House.

Mrs. Ethel Wilder See purchased the restaurant from Abel and then in August sold the business to **William Hattle** who had recently returned from overseas. Hattle operated the People's Restaurant until January of 1932 when he purchased the Park Restaurant on Fourth Avenue. An assumption is made that it was still at this location. Wherever he was, he installed a new soda fountain in April of that year.

Mrs. Ida Kalahar held the insurance on this building from 1932 to 1937 according to ledger records.

402-404 Oak Street

(Complete Store)

At some point, the grocery business must have taken over the whole store located at 404 because from 1933 to 1950 we find the **Swanson Food Display Store** here. This business was also known over the years as **Swanson's Fresh Foods** as well as **Swanson's Groceries** and was operated by **E. A. Swanson**.

Then in 1950 **Rollo Stopper** conducted **Stopper's Meat Market** here. This seems to have lasted for just one year and was conducted in conjunction with the Swanson grocery store.

From January of 1955 to 1960 **Barnhart's Fresh Foods** was conducted here by **John Barnhart**. **L.A. Barnhart** was President of the Barnhart Corporation. Evidently, Barnharts had a fire and may not have had enough insurance to cover repair so the building was sold to Vodaks.

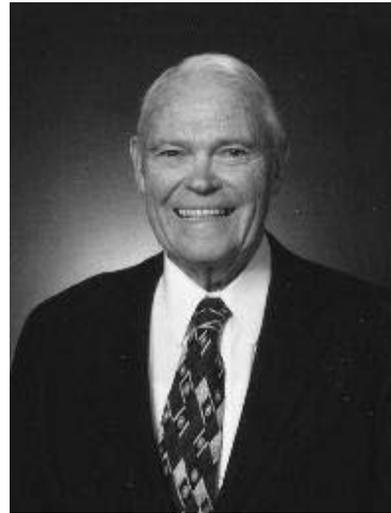
In March of 1963, **Vodak Radio & TV**, which was located next door at 400 Oak, purchased this building from **E. A., Swanson**. The TV store moved here from 400 Oak in May.

Joe Vodak retired in 1989. In 1999, **Harley Vodak's** son **Kevin** was in the process of purchasing the store.

406 Oak Street

(Second Floor)

Attorney Alonzo R. Smith conducted his law office here from 1898 through 1912. He died in Milwaukee in 1937 at the age of 69. Smith had practiced law in Baraboo for 17 years. **Dr. A. I. Farnsworth** practiced his trade here from 1903 through 1905. Also in 1903, there existed here a **Long Distant Phone Co.** managed by **George Paddock**, Mgr. It is assumed that people could go here to make long distant calls. The **Paddock Brothers** also operated a **Dray & Transfer Line** from this office.



Joseph Vodak

Attorney J. Wilfred Frenz was secretary of the **Baraboo Commercial Association** that had an office here in 1915. Frenz also had his law office here from 1913 to at least 1920. **George W. Brunschweiler** sold insurance here also in 1915. In 1917 **W. F. Mackey Insurance office** is also located here.

In 1964, **Dwight VanAuken** published and sold a **Dealer's Sales and Data Book** here. The book was a lumberman's retail price book.

Joseph D. Vodak was born March 19, 1931 in North Freedom and was a 1948 graduate of the Baraboo high school. "Joe" was a veteran and served aboard the USS Healy. He died Thursday, November 20, 2008 at his home in Baraboo with his family by his side.

Harley James Vodak died May 26, 2009 at his home following a brief but courageous battle with pancreatic cancer with his wife of 53 years, Nancy by his side. Harley died just 6 months after his brother, Joe died. Harley was born October 10, 1933 in North freedom, the son of Joseph and Julia (Wopat) Vodak.

407 Oak Street

407 Oak Street

Located between Second & Third Street on the west side of Oak.

Block 34, lot 11 & 12

Sanborn map location 602 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This building has been radically altered, the entire second story being covered with a metal surface broken only by three small windows. The lower story, too, has been extensively altered so as to render the building a non-contributing element within the historic district. The metal covering was added about 1972.

In December of 1863, the **Baraboo Book and Variety** store, owned by **Mrs. Wheeler**, moved two doors south of her old stand. It is believed that the move would place her about here. In September of "64", Wheeler took in an associate, **Mrs. S. P. Warner**. They conducted business under the name of **Mrs. L. L. Wheeler & Company**. By November, the name of the firm was **Warner & English**. Mrs. Wheeler was no longer connected with the business. In December of the same year an ad for **Warner's Baraboo Book Store** was in the Baraboo Republic. Mrs. Warner had evidently purchased English's shares?

Also in November of 1864, **Mrs. Janet P Hurlburt** advertised a dress making shop in the east room of this building.

In September of 1865, Moore, Burrington & Bro. decided that the building located at 502 Oak Street was too small so they moved their other building located at Water and Ash Streets, which was only a little over a year old, to the Oak Street corner.

The "too small" building was moved to one of Mr. Andrew's lots, between the plow and Blacksmith Shop and would be occupied by **Wm. Burdick** and **E. B. Calkin**, and would be fitted up for a **grocery and family supply store**. This address may have been the site it was moved to. By July of 1866, **Calkin & Burdick** had their **grocery store** business well under way, possibly here.

On November 11 1886, the **Weirich Brothers' Meat Market** opened here after moving from "under the hill." **George Weirich**, the brothers' father, manufactured bricks in Baraboo, and it was his bricks

used in the construction of the brothers' new brick building at this location. **Dan Worth** supposedly did the masonry work. In March of 1900, the Brothers, **Louis and Emil**, improved their market by installing a gasoline engine to power their equipment. At that time they were also planning a new and larger chopper for making sausage. In April of 1921 **Louis Weirich** purchased the interests of his brother, Emil, in this building and owned this building through 1942. (For more information on the Weirich family see p. 729 of "*A Standard History Of Sauk County Wisconsin*," volume II by H. E. Cole.)

In March of 1921 the Weirich Brothers sold their meat market business to **Louis Feinberg** and **Sigmund Blumenfeld** who operated the Baraboo Fruit Store & Bakery on Oak Street in the block across the way. Evidently the new owners moved the business to their building on the east side of Oak.

It was in August of 1921 that the Savidusky Dye House of Portage opened a branch in the former Weirich meat market building. It was called the **Baraboo Cleaning & Dyeing Co.** It was said that the Savidusky's Dye house in Portage was known all over Sauk and Columbia counties as an excellently equipped plant capable of turning out work in fine style. In late July, **Leonard B. Briggs** hired on here as manager.

Obviously this building block was divided as in 1923 the **Baraboo Quick Service Cleaners & Dyers** opened for business, occupying the south half of the building which housed the **Von Wald Jewelry** store in the north half. The new owners were **Mr. Gulke** and **Mr. O. W. Monroe**, both of Lancaster.

In February of 1924, Gulke & Monroe dissolved their partnership, Mr. Monroe assumed the interests of Mr. Gulke. Gulke moved to his former home in Lancaster. The business operated under the same name as before, **O. W. Monroe and Company** being the owners.

It was then that **Von Wald** took over the whole building for his business.

It was also in 1924 that **J.E. Von Wald Jewelry** celebrated its 25th. Anniversary. Their first location in 1899, was in a window of Briggs Fur Store where displayed was \$300 of jewelry. He then

407 Oak Street

operated at the sites of the Olympia Candy kitchen, the Park Restaurant, the Kradwell Drug Store and Jeffries Electrical Shop. Von Wald continued business at this address until 1938 when he evidently moved to 528 Oak Street. **Dr. J. D. Fuller** immediately filled Von Wald's vacancy at that time.

From 1940 to 1953, **J. T. Farrell** conducted the **Shamrock Ice Cream Shop** at this site. In February of 1949, **Mrs. Edna C. Struthers** sold the property at 407 Oak Street to **John Platt**. Then in December of the same year Platt sold the property to **A. W. Waterstreet**

Melvin A. Porter who operated as **Mel's Dairy Bar and Quick Lunch** followed Farrell. Porter closed in 1962.

In April of 1963, **George and Helen Duffy** of Montello leased Mel's Dairy Bar and Quick Lunch.

In November of 1963, Dr. Hansel leased the restaurant part of the Porter building and remodeled it into a large and complete doctor's office.

Dr. Robert G. Hansel practiced medicine at this site from 1964 to 1983. Dr. Thomas Rex Flygt, Internal Medicine in 1984, followed Hansel immediately and then in 1985 the business was called **Flygt & Sessler, Internal Medicine**. In 1987, **Pierre A. Vinet** moved his **Chiropractic Office** here from 1230 South Blvd. In 1989, **Johnson Chiropractic** had replaced Vinet.

In 1990 **Jeffrey A. Smith**, Owner and president of **WRPQ AM 740 Stereo-Baraboo Broadcasting Inc.** moved to this location from highway 12.

Later a television station, Channel 43, owned by Smith started broadcasting on September 28, 1998. In 2000 TV channel 43 became affiliated with **PAX-NET**, a subsidiary of NBC to provide current television favorites.

In the autumn of 2009 the Baraboo Broadcasting Co. expanded and added 99.7 FM. By October 1, WRPQ FM was on the air at 99.7 albeit at minimal power. Two weeks later, the station was allowed to broadcast at full power.

407-1/2 Oak St.

(Over 407 Oak Street)

J.D. Heath, Photographer opened **Heath's Art Studio** in December of 1902 and closed it in early 1904. In April of 1904, word was received from Galesburg, Ill. that Mr. Heath had died on April 10th. of consumption. He was 28 years old and was survived by his wife.

Johnson's Photography Studio, conducted by **Arthur T. Johnson** was located here from 1904 to 1910.

In April of 1910, **Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Burt Trimpey** opened the "**Trimpey Studio**" at this location. Trimpey was born in Somerset County in Pennsylvania in 1876. He moved to Baraboo in early 1920 and married Miss Alice Kent on March 10, 1910, a month prior to opening his studio at this location. In 1915 Mrs. Trimpey invented the "Pricilla Sewing Rack" which was manufactured in Racine and marketed throughout the country. It was reported in October of 1919, that Trimpey had purchased the F. W. Mould Studio, as a new large building underway would close the light from his skylight. Maybe here.

F. A. Pope moved the **Pope Camera Shop** here in July of 1932.

408 & 408-1/2 Oak Street

408 Oak Street

Located between Second & Third Street on the east side of Oak.

Block 35, lot 7

Sanborn map location between 701 & 702 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This two-story cream brick building is plainly detailed and accented only with stone lintels and lug sills and brick corbelling at the roofline. The lower story has been substantially altered, the typical glass storefront having been replaced by a brick wall broken only by three small windows. However, the building is a contributive element to the downtown commercial district as an element of an intact blockface and a result of its historic association with a major local paper.

The brick front and aluminum trim on top were added in 1957 when the buildings on Oak were making repairs following the fire that destroyed the Masonic Temple at 401 Oak Street. At this time the entrance was changed, the large windows replaced by smaller ones that open.

In 1847, when Baraboo was platted, a tract of land was purchased from the government and when the lots were sold **John C. Grapel** bought the lot at 408 Oak Street from the county, the consideration being \$56.00. That was November 5, 1847. He sold it to **A.G. Tuttle** for \$50.00, a loss of \$6.00. Among later owners were **William Andrews, Sophia Van Wendall, William Butler** and **Simon P. Kezerta**.

In April of 1868, **William M. Butler's** new store, north of the post office, was nearing completion and was opened in September. The April 1870 issue of the *Baraboo Republic* placed William Butler at the next door north of the post office. The store opened in April of 1870.

In June of 1878, **Butler** purchased the empty lot next north of Robert's Store, which may have been north of this location but in the same block.

In January of 1880 **Butler**, who had been at this location since at least 1878, had a close out sale of his inventory of clothing, including hats and caps, stating that he wished to retain his cloth and

trimmings and carry on his trade as a **Merchant Tailor**. Butler then placed a "for rent" ad in the paper for this building.

O. A. Miner, Merchant Tailor was located here as early as August of 1881. On October 12, 1884, a fire destroyed a structure, which was located at approximately this address. The fire started next door, at what may have been the **P. Pratt** building, immediately north. The building on this site was known as the **Butler Building** and was owned by **Dr. Kezerta. W. E. Conway's Music Store** and dwelling occupied the first floor. Conway's loss was small, most of his stock being saved. **Mrs. Barrett** occupied the upper story, whose effects were nearly all saved. The building was insured for \$1600.

In March of 1899, **W. J. Power** decided to construct a two story brick building on the vacant lot just south of his present building. The building would be 22 by 71 feet. The second story would be planned so that it would be suitable for newspaper office and plans were for The *Daily and Weekly News* to occupy the site. In October of 1899, the **Baraboo News Office** moved onto the second floor.

In April of 1901, it was announced that **John B. Leuett & Brother** of Sheboygan was making plans to open a **dry goods store** in Powers' new storeroom. They planned on opening about the first of May. However, in May they had a change in plans and decided against coming to Baraboo.

By 1901 **J. Briggs & Co., Flour & Feed** store was located here. In November of 1902, **Oscar Van Valkenburg** purchased half interest in the business and it is thought that the firm then moved to 412 Oak Street.

On November 3, 1904 a new type of business had taken over as **Albert Hook** opened the **Albert Hook Music Store** here

It appears as though Hook left here sometime prior to April of 1905, because in that month, **Fred W. Simon** moved his **Books & Stationery store here**. A. S. Hawley moved his office to the rear of the store. At this writing it is not clear how long Simon's business lasted, but by 1910 **Henry Koppke** and his brother, **Fred Koppke** had opened **Koppke Bros, Grocers & Dry Goods** store here. This partnership lasted until at 1915 when Henry purchased the interests of his brother. Fred and his family decided to move to Madison where

408 & 408-1/2 Oak Street

their daughter would have a chance for a better education. **Henry** conducted the store alone until April of 1924 when he moved to 415 Ash Street. Following the reign of the **Henry Koppke Grocery** business was the **Baraboo News Publishing Co.** operation.

In 1923, **Harry E. Cole** and **Harlan K. Page** purchased this building from **Mrs. W. J. Power**. Cole and Page were the proprietors of the Baraboo News that had been published on the second floor for over 20 years prior to the purchase. In 1924, after Koppke Grocery moved, the paper moved to the lower floor. Then in 1927 the Baraboo News and the Baraboo Republic joined forces and the paper was published at this address as the Baraboo News-Republic.

On December 12 1935, the first radio news broadcast was made from the second floor of this building. Thomas Geoghegan reminisced about it in an article in the Baraboo Weekly News dated January 2, 1938. The article is as follows.

Has Radio Anniversary (By Thomas Geoghegan)

Few people know it, but this month the News-Republic broadcast is celebrating its own private anniversary on the air. Three years ago this month the first 15-minute casting was made from the studio erected on the second floor of the News-Republic building. Gradually, this daily feature has grown to an important part in the lives of its many listeners. In this connection it is conservative to place the number of daily listeners at upwards of fifteen thousand. This is due call for notice as that number must represent a remarkable increase within those three years.

When the broadcast was incorporated on December 12, 1935, it marked a new step in the News-Republic's service to its readers. Radio was fast stepping into news work and the editors were quick to see the possibilities of the new medium. Since that time the program has been incorporating timely advertisements with timelier news angles, and even to people well outside the circulation range.

On the first set-up, the program was of fifteen minute's duration. About nine months ago, the plan had proven itself so successful, that it was lengthened to a twenty-five minute casting.

The work accomplished by this department is surprising and the power of radio as a direct salesman has proven itself in this broadcast. It is interesting to note that answers to advertisements given over this popular news feature have been received from towns and cities that would seldom hear or read about them, were it not for the coverage afforded by radio station WIBU.

Properly so, the flashes have aided remarkably in the work of the local city and county police forces. Each month a description of one or more stolen cars is given as well as that of criminals. Several cars have been returned due to the efficiency of the radio not to mention the aid given in the apprehension of lawbreakers.

The flashes have become so important a part of the whole newspaper that they are taken almost for granted. On the anniversary of this department of the News-Republic, let us wish the program the best of luck, even though the "red letter" day almost slipped by our notice. Congratulations from the listeners.

By 1938 **H.K. Page** and sons were conducting the Baraboo New Republic. By 1950 H.K. Page was listed as the Business manager with **Harlan Page** was the advertising manager and **M.C. Page** was the managing editor. By 1955 Harlan and M.C. Page were listed as partners in the **Baraboo News Publishing Co.** In 1964 M.C. Page was listed as editor, while still being a partner with Harlan. From 1970 through 1978, **Curt Page Jr.** was listed as General Manager. In 1977, the paper moved to 217 First Street.

By 1958, and until at least 1962 the **WPDR Studio** was broadcasting from this site. The last broadcast from the *Baraboo News Republic* happened in 1979 due to the retirement of Curt Page senior. Next came **The Granary**, a health and nutrition store, which operated here from 1979 to 1995. **Mary Berendes** was the owner of this business until 1983, when **Judy Harms** purchased the business. In 1996, the Grainary moved to 127 Third Street. In 1996, **Beckman Promotions**, 410 Oak Street, expanded their operation and encompassed 408 Oak this address. This lasted until 1998 when Beckman moved her operation to Third Street. By 1999 a "For Rent" sign was in the building. Then, in November of 2001, **Steve Hendry**

408 & 408-1/2 Oak Street

was conducting **Sacred Sources** at this site. Hopefully we will learn more about Mr. Hendry in the near future. By the summer of 2008, Sacred Sources was gone and **Christine Beam Photography** had moved into this location. By November of 2011 this building was sitting empty.

408-1/2 Oak St.

(Second Floor)

"**The Baraboo Weekly News**" and "**The Evening News**" were published at this address. **Dorsett & Cole** were the proprietors in 1903. **Harry E. Cole** and **Harlan K. Page** were listed as owners in the 1915 & 1917 city directories. The **Baraboo News Publishing Co.** was established 1884.

409-411 Oak Street

409 & 411 Oak Street

Located between Second & Third Street on the west side of Oak.
Block 34, lot 12
Sanborn map location 603 Oak Street

Architectural Description

Very similar in appearance to 116 Fourth Avenue, this art deco building has a stepped parapet above rectangular recessed panels of brick. Original fenestration has been covered with wood paneling; four small windows of modern material remain. The lower story has been substantially altered, with brick replacing much of the original window space.

It appears that at one time this structure had a wooden balcony, also similar to 116 Fourth Avenue.

This building was one of the oldest buildings in Baraboo having been built by **Frank Avery** for a **shoe store** in 1856. Later, **Steven Hofstatter**, father of J. R. Hofstatter, added a second floor to this building.

On April 17, 1865, **Mrs. C. Harrison** announced that she had opened a **millinery** at this address, one door south of Mr. Nelson's Meat Market. In March of 1867 **Avery & Green** sold this building to **Frank Miller**, the consideration being \$850. In August of 1868, Miller sold his saloon and restaurant to a **Mr. Hofstatter (Hofstetter)** from Sumpter. An article in an 1870 newspaper reported Hofstatter adding a second floor and remodeling the façade with a new larger window Etc

In July of 1869, Charley H. Davis took 6 horses with carriages to match from the **stable** of **J. R. Davis & Son** and moved to New Hampton, Iowa. The Davis stable may have been at the rear of this building, as Davis had a store across the street at 416 Oak as early as 1853. In 1872 **Joseph Davis** erected a **livery stable** on Oak & Fifth Streets

It is likely that the **Hofstatter Saloon & Restaurant** was still here in the fall of 1886. The newspaper of that time indicated, "Weirich's new store building (407 Oak), *next to Hofstetter's Restaurant*, was nearing completion."

The Baraboo City Directory lists the **Sherm Luce Livery** as being at 409 Oak Street in June of 1895.

In May of 1895 the **Railroad Express Co.** was reported as being located at 409 Oak with **Marsh & Jackson Realty** on the second floor. Could they have been on this site? **Henry H. Huber** had his residence conducted a **shooting gallery** here in 1896

It is believed that **Chris Dyrud** conducted a fruit & candy store here prior to 1897. In May of that year **H. T. Hook** joined him as a partner. However, in November of the same year the partnership was dissolved with Dyrud staying on at the old stand.

In November of 1897 or 1898 we find **Thomas Rodwell** and **John Collins**, conducting business as **Rodwell & Collins, Fruit Store**, having purchased the business from Dyrud. The new owners were here into 1898. Chris. Dyrud then obtained a position at Evenson's Corner Drug Store.

Sam Goldfarb purchased this business from the then lone owner, Thomas Rodwell in May of 1898 and Collins returned to farming. The business was reported as being near the post office.

In March of 1899, E. G. Marriott and Carl Isenberg concluded a deal whereby they came into possession of the property near the post office occupied by the American Express Company. They purchased it of J. R. Hofstatter for \$2,500. It is the new owners' intention to tear down the old frame structure later in the spring and construct a modern two-story brick structure. The lot was 98 feet long and 24 feet, 8 inches wide. It was speculated that Marriott might, at a later date, use it for a shoe store. The erection of a new building here also meant the probable building of a new building adjacent and to the north, which is between the property just purchased and the alley and is occupied by Sam Goldfarb and owned by Mrs. Martha Mould. That building would also have to be razed. The question is..was a new building constructed as planned?

During the month of May of 1903, **Mr. H. Moores** of Chicago, who had been a baker for the Leuth Brothers would open a **bakery** in the building formerly occupied by the American Express

409-411 Oak Street

Origin of the Name, Shadow Town.

Down on the way to deep Devil's Lake,
Where three roads meet,
And birds sing sweet,
And oaks grow tall,
And deep shades fall;---
There Thompson's had
To make friends glad,
Their concerts free
Beneath the tree;
From that place came
Shadow Town's name,
Heard far and near,
Now many a year,
Down on the way to deep Devil's Lake.

The Shadow Town Co.

Jewelers and Opticians

Edison and Victor Dealers

409 OAK STREET

BARABOO, WIS.

Company at 409 Oak Street. The building then underwent repairs. In December, Moores closed his bakery and along with his family, was planning on traveling to the old home in England to visit his relatives. The bakery was taken over by **Herman A. Hein**, who came from Waupun.

Moores was back in Wisconsin in March of 1904, moving his family to Kilbourn, where he would again enter the bakery business.

At the last moment, Hein made a deal with C. M. Butler who was conducting Butler's Café in the Masonic Temple building and moved his bakery into that room vacated by Butler.

That left this site open, so **Geo. W. Ott**, promptly stepped up and moved his **Henery** from 413 Oak Street to this location. His residence would occupy the second floor. Shortly after his move, it was

said that everyone that passed the market stopped to admire the wonderful paintings on the window. There was a veritable poultry yard from the brush of Myron MacPhearson, as of late, an employee doing sign work for the Ringling Brothers.

In February of 1904, Ott decided to rent the John Southard place in the village of Lyons and conduct his wholesale and shipping business from there. Plans were to close his market at this location.

During the first part of November of 1905, **F. W. Beidatsch** moved the **Ideal Bakery** to **Mayor Marriott's** building located at 409 Oak Street from the Masonic building. The room there that he vacated had been leased to Erswell, Melzl and McGann Furniture.

In April of 1906, and following a fire a few days prior, Beidatsch decided to discontinue the **Ideal Bakery** business and become an agent for the Great American Tea Company. It is not clear what happened between Beidatsch and the Tea Company, but by the end of April of 1906 he was sharing his expertise with the Arndt Bakery on Walnut Street.

Charles Thompson and **Miss Zoe Thompson** moved the **Shadow Town Music Store** from Fifth and Barker to this address in April of 1906. Shadow Town Music Store dealt in the repair of watches and jewelry as well as selling stationery, Edison phonographs, moving picture machines, films and records etc.

In October of 1909, Thompson turned over his **picture, stationery** and other lines to **I. Stinson** who was located in the same building. Thompson would then dedicate his time to his watch, optical and phonograph lines. In April of 1910, Stinson moved his business to Boscobel.

C. Thompson closed the Shadow Town music store in October of 1910 and moved to Twin Falls where his sister Zoe Thompson resided.

During the early part of November of 1910, **G. C. Hannes**, who had recently moved here from Wonewoc to work in the shoe factory, rented the vacant building at this site. His intentions were to open a restaurant in the near future.

However, in July of 1911 it was reported that **Martha Wood** had sold out the contents of her **confectionery store**, which she had

409-411 Oak Street

operated for only one month, to George Burdick. Burdick was planning on opening a store at the corner of Eighth Avenue and West Street in the old Goodrich Store building.

Following Martha Wood in 1911 was **Ernest T. Ross** who would set up an office here in conjunction with his new greenhouse which he was having constructed on the southeast corner of Eighth and East Streets. Ross, who purchased the lot from Mrs. William Pierce of Ableman, was employed the prior seven years in the William Peck greenhouse. Ross immediately had his office wired for electricity and had a telephone installed. In August of 1917 Ross moved his office to 419 Oak Street, the former site of the Alexander Saloon.

In July of 1922, **A. R. Rhode and R. A. Ridges** rented the new Allen building at 409 Oak Street in the interest of the **Norwalk Tire Company**. This new business would deal in tires, tubes, etc.

Is it possible that W. L. Allen constructed this building in 1921 or had Allen simply purchased the building?

Wait a minute, it was reported in July also that **John T. Bettinger**, of Tomah, had leased the Allen building for a **Ladies Wear Shop**. He would not disturb the office residents in the upper offices. Bettinger's store opened on September 28, 1922. The fixtures and furnishings of Wm. Allen's new building were all of the latest design. The interior is finished in French gray and along each side of the room were enclosed fitting rooms and space for the garments. Customers are shown into the French rooms, where garments were brought for their approval, each room having two large built-in mirrors.

In 1934, the Baraboo Production Credit Association was issued a sign permit for this address.

From 1935 through 1938 **Rodney E. Cafilich** was the proprietor of the **Log Cabin Tavern** located here.

In July of 1936 it was reported that a liquor license was issued to **L. R. Capener** at 417 Oak Street, probably at this address.

In September of 1936, the paper reported that the Log Cabin, located at 417 Oak Street was burglarized. Roy Capener was the proprietor. Probably at this location.

In 1942 **J. F. Reul** conducted the **Royal Bar** at this site. In September of 1943, Reul purchased the building from L. R. Capener. It's interesting to note, that in the same month, Reul purchased the liquor stock of Johnny's Bar of Portage and the Del-Bar in Lake Delton. In those days, the Dells area practically closed down at the end of August. In February of 1949 Reul replaced the storefront with a new modern style. The Royal Bar closed when Reul died in 1965 at the age of 69.

In July of 1966 **Roy and Lee Rammelt**, of Jefferson, Wisconsin, purchased this business, changing the name to **Rammelt's Bar** and by 1970 the **Crystal Bar** was here, owned by **LaVonne L. Gerth**. The Crystal Bar was here until at least 1977. By 1979, we find **J. P.'s Tavern**, by 1982, **Julie's Bar** and in 1986 the name had changed to **Poor Richard's**. **Josephine Felt** and **Richard Brescha** were listed in the 1993 and 1995 city directories. Josephine Felt died in August of 2005.

411 Oak St. (Up Stairs)

1922	"The Joyce & Siberz Insurance Agency"
1938-1940	The Webster Insurance Agency C.W. Webster Owner
1936-1938	Harland Hill, Attorney
1939-1940	Baraboo Production Credit Association
1943-1948	Public Welfare Dept.
1943-1948	Service Officer
1951-1958	Public Welfare Dept. Clayton Harrop Director
1934	R.L. Capener issued sign permit
1938	L.R. Capener applied for sign permit

410 Oak Street

410 Oak Street

Located between Second & Third Street on the east side of Oak.

Block 35, lot 7

Sanborn map location 702 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This two-story, three-bay structure originally had a wooden cornice and an oriel window, both of which have since been removed. Currently two segmentally-arched window openings flank a double window in the center. Brick veneer covers the façade, which retains its plate glass windows and recessed entryway.

In Mid-February of 1867, **Mr. Gottlieb F. Risley** bought the building between Longley's and the new brewery. *It may have been this site.* He purchased the building from a **Mr. Wallace**. It was to be fitted up as a cigar and tobacco store, which opened in March. Risley was previously a clerk of Mr. H. Grotta's. The store was open for business by the end of the month. This location was also described as three doors north of the post office

Risley was born in Wurtemberg, Germany and came to Baraboo as a young man. After closing his store here he went to Philadelphia for about six years, then returning to Baraboo. He was a soldier during the civil war, serving in the Third New York Cavalry as a bugler. Mr. Risley died in 1890 at about the age of fifty. His wife and seven children survived him.

In June of 1868, "**Captain**" **A. G. Dinsmore** opened an "**Oyster & Cigar Restaurant.**" at the old Risley site. The news reported in March of 1969 that the **Lockwood Boys along with Mansfield** had moved their **Meat Market** into the **Thomas building** at this address.

In May of 1871, **Mr. A. A. Roberts** was busy opening his new store just north of Butlers', which was probably at this address. He had a choice stock of dry goods, fancy goods, family groceries, hats, etc. Also, in 1872, **Mrs. E. P. Scott** and **Mrs. K. M. Hoskins, Dressmakers** shared the store with Roberts.

Records indicate that on the early morning of October 12, 1884 a fire originated at the **P. Pratt Building**, which probably was at this

address. **A. A. Roberts** who had recently moved to Dakota had occupied the building for many years prior. **Mrs. Johnson** was conducting a **Laundry** in the building at the time of the fire. Johnson had moved to this location the day prior to the fire and it was said that she left an unattended fire in the stove, causing the conflagration.

The fire destroyed Pratt's building as well as the one immediately south and adjacent. Some records indicated that the Pratt building was across the street at 411 Oak.

In December of 1902, Mr. Oyen, an employee of Powers was lighting a gasoline stove when for some unknown reason an explosion resulted. In an attempt to throw the stove outside, Oyen badly burned his hands and face. The interior of the shop was damaged to the point that plaster was falling off the ceiling. A number of suits underway were ruined. Before the fire department could arrive E. S. Erswell arrived with two cans of chemical powder a put out the fire. Power's loss was placed at \$500, which was thought to have been covered by insurance. Powers then moved to a vacant room in the Masonic building.

George Capener then erected a new building in 1885 to house **Power's Tailor Shop**. Power, who had operated in Baraboo since 1854, was located somewhere on Oak in 1877 through at least 1880 and began operation in this new building on October 14, 1885. William Joseph Power, son of the founder, continued here until 1922 when he died at the age of 56.

A week after Power died, the business was sold to **H. J. Doerr** and **Jerry Taborsky**, the business thereafter being known as **Doerr & Taborsky**. Doerr had been employed by Power for the prior twenty years. Taborsky had conducted a tailor shop for thirteen years in Tomah.

The **Doerr and Taborsky Tailor Shop** was conducted here until January of 1926, when **Jerry Taborsky** purchased Doerr's interest.

Taborsky would continue the business along the same lines as before. Doerr would remain with Taborsky. This shop was first established about the time of the Civil War, although as early as 1854 **Mr. Power, Sr.** first began to measure the dimensions of Baraboo

410 Oak Street

citizens. It was at the close of the war that he established his own business at the site of the present shop. His son, William J. Power, began to learn the tailor trade there with his Father in 1883 and in 1889 the son took over the business which he operated up to the time of his death in August of 1922. For 60 consecutive years the tailor shop has been in its present location, making it one of the oldest businesses in the city and with few exceptions one of the oldest in the same location.

From 1903 to 1920 **George Steckenbauer** conducted a **Tonsorial Parlor** here, sharing space with the tailors. However there were records that indicate that George Steckenbauer was located at 421 Oak Street in 1906? Then in March of 1920, **James J. Ryan** purchased the interests of George Steckenbauer in his barbershop and took possession. Mr. Steckenbauer had been in business in Baraboo since about 1890 but felt that he must sell due to health concerns. Mr. Ryan was employed in the Steckenbauer shop for some time prior to working in the Sanderson shop for the last several years. Steckenbauer remained with Ryan until 1923 when he opened a shop in Prairie du Sac.

In August of 1921, Ryan purchased the building then occupied by his barbershop. The purchase was made through J. Van Orden and was owned by the **Withington estate**. Ryan planned on continuing renting of the offices on the second floor and to conduct his business on the first floor.

In 1923, Ryan remodeled the second floor, the quarters formerly occupied by the offices of **Dr. H.J. Irwin**. The rooms were re-arranged and made suitable for residence and were to be occupied by the Ryan family.

Ryan sold his barbershop building in April of 1930 to **Ernest C. Potratz** who had been plying his trade here. Potratz was a popular barber in the Sanderson shop for several years. **Harland Lambert** who had been working for Ryan moved to Hillsboro to work with his father.

At some point **Mrs. William Power** must have regained ownership of this building because in 1934 a building permit was issued to Mrs. W. J. Power to remodel the building. A partition would be added so that the **Potratz Barber Shop** could occupy the north half of the building. The south half of the building would continue to house

Taborsky Cleaners. At that point there were established two addresses, **South 410** and **North 410**.

410 Oak Street South

Taborsky Cleaners remained in business here until at least 1938.

In 1939, **Harlan Lambert** returned to this address and reopened the **Vogue Beauty Studio** at this address.

In 1940, J. William Power removed the bay window on the second floor.

By 1947 **Esther Murphy-Reis** established **Esther's Ladies Foundations** here and conducted the business until July of 1965 when she sold her lingerie shop to **Helen Deppe**.

Minikin Boutique & Sampler was located here in 1968 while from 1971 until at least 1973, **Lorraine & Verne Kingston** conducted the **Colonial Yarn Shop** here while **Maxine Burton** was listed as the owner in the 1976 & 1978 directory. This business lasted until 1980 when **Marie Brooks** entered the picture with **Decorating World**. 1981 and 1982 found **Ryan's Sewing Center** here, followed by **Moser's Photography** from 1982 to 1983.

In 1983, **Dick Pilsner**, a certified dental technician opened the **D & S Dental Laboratory**. This operation lasted until 1985. By 1990, **Typing & Mimeographing by Steve** was found here. This business lasted for a year and then in 1993 **Patricia Beckman** moved **Beckman Promotions** here from her home where she had conducted the business since 1991. In 1997, Beckman expanded her business into the adjoining store at 408 Oak Street. This lasted until 1998 when Beckman moved her operation to Third Street. By 1999 a "For Rent" sign was in the building.

Next came **WBDL AM of Baraboo & WNFM FM of Reedsburg**. Broadcasting began on Jan. 20, 1997. The Sauk Broadcasting Corp., a Division of Goetz Broadcasting Co. of Marshfield Wisconsin that also has owned WRDB of Reedsburg since 1971, owns WBDL. (Goetz Broadcasting went into the radio business in 1958 and was scheduled to be sold to Marathon Media Midwest LP of Chicago in the fall of 1998.)

410 Oak Street



June and Rebecca Jackson c2009

It was announced in September of 2007 that WBDL-FM would come under the umbrella of the **Magnum Radio Group** as soon as the FCC approves the deal. Magnum, who lived in Portage at the time, founded the Magnum Radio Group in 1991 and was approached by **NRG (New Radio Group) President** and CEO, **Mary Quass**, who had purchased the station from **Marathon Media of Chicago** in 2003. Marathon Media had purchased the station from Goetz Broadcasting in 1999.

In June of 2005, **Gatekeeper Properties Inc.** was located at this site.

On November 10, 2007, **Ronda Telvick** opened **02 Tan & Company** at this address. Here one could find an oxygen bar plus

massage therapy and spray-on and rub-on tanning products. The oxygen bar's aroma stations supply a scented air-stream that is 90% oxygen through tubes customers place in their nostrils.

By April of 2007 this building housed the office of the **Farmers' Insurance Group** conducted by **June Jackson** and **Baraboo Perfect Homes & Rental Realtors** that is operated by sister **Rebecca Jackson**. **Carla Cross** also conducts her business, **Lacelynn Properties** out of this office. Lacelynn Properties deals in rental and investment properties.

In November of 2011 this south half of 410 Oak is empty.

410 Oak Street North

In 1948, Ernest's son **Russell** joined the business.. Ernest Carl Potratz, who had retired from cutting hair at the age of 56 following a heart attack, died in February of 1958 at the age of 59. Ernest was born to Mr. & Mrs. Albert Potratz in North Freedom on February 24, 1899.

Freda Potratz was listed as owner in 1968 and later. The **Potratz Barber Shop** operated here until 1989 when **Sam Schuebel** started **Sam's Barbershop**.

There is a chance that in 1950 **David B. Lauvre-Wood Products** was located here.

412 & 412-1/2 Oak Street

412 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street, south of and adjacent to the alley
between Second and Third Streets
Block 35, lot 7
Sanborn map location 703 Oak Street

Architectural Description

The facade of this three-bay, two-story building is detailed in a rusticated manner, using bricks to represent coursed stone. Windows are rectangular, without hoods. A metal cornice, which wraps around to the alley elevation caps the building. Patterned brickwork beneath a stringcourse separate the first and second floors. Modern materials have replaced the original on the storefront, but the entry to the second floor stairs remains undisturbed. Rusticated pilasters flank the doorway beneath a simple stone cornice, frieze and architrave. The transom above the door is extant.

It is believed that **Daniel Schermerhorn, Justice of the Peace** was located here in 1854. Records indicate that he was one door south of Moorehead's Tin Shop.

As early as June of 1856, **Perkins & Walbridge** had a **Grocery Store** one door south of the Ohio Store, no doubt at this location.

In June of 1863, **Mr. William Andrews**, also known as "Split-Penny" was making preparations to erect a 60 by 24 building on Oak Street between Second and Third Streets. The new building would be two stories high and would house a **Blacksmith Shop**. Andrews' business is mostly confined to the manufacture of plows. This *may* have been at this site.

L. Parish and his brother **Cale**, old time residents of Baraboo, were in the village in November of 1866 with a view of making arrangements to start a brewery. They soon purchased the building at this site and expected within the coming weeks to commence their operation. L. Parish brought his family with him, while Cale, who had been making his home in California expected his family here in the coming spring. It was also expected that Mrs. Bow and her son Ed as well as Mason Parish would return soon to make their home in



Curry & Burt Clothing 412 Oak Street circa 1905

Baraboo. By January of 1867, the **Parish Brothers** had opened a **Flour & Feed store** in the front of this building.

In April of 1868, **Parish** was preparing to add a second floor to his **Feed Store and Ale Brewery** building. Whether this happened or not at that time is unknown.

Messrs. Parish & Bow sold their feed store in January of 1870. The property and good will, reserving the fixtures connected with their **Ale Brewery**, was transferred to **Mr. George Wolfe** for \$2,000. Wolfe was to take possession in February. The property consisted of the well known unfinished stone building and two lots on Oak Street. Parish & Bow planned, that with their families, they would soon leave for California.

In October of 1870, Wolfe rented his stone building to **M. J. Nippert & E. Duschaudes** who opened in it as **Nippert & Co., Meat Market, Flour, Feed and Produce Store**. By May of 1871, M. J. Nippert may have solely conducted the Store. This operation was short lived and by July of the same year, **J. O. Buzzell** had assumed management of the business, having purchased Nippert's interests.

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Curry & Burt Clothing circa 1905

By October of 1874, **W. A. Sallade** (formerly with the Western Hotel) had moved into Mrs. Hawes' dwelling on the corner of Sixth and Broadway and was engaged with the clothing house of **D. R. Stout & Company** as a salesman. Stout had leased the storeroom opposite Davis' Livery Stable and probably was located on approximately this site. By the middle of December of 1874, Stout & Co. took their departure for Sparta. **M. J. Drown & Co.** promptly moved a stock of goods into the building and re-opened their popular auction sales.

In April of 1875, **Alfred Rich** opened a new feed store at this address. It was described as being across the street from Davis' Livery Stable. In March of 1876, **Henry Noyes** purchased the seed and feed store from **Rich** and with plans to continue the business at the old stand.

On February 16 of 1880, **A. P. Johnson & Co.** partners, **A. P. Johnson** and **B. S. Doty** announced the dissolution of their

partnership. Doty sold his interest in the business to **William E. Briscoe**, the firm then being known as **Johnson & Briscoe**.

In October of 1880, Messrs. Amos P. Johnson and William Briscoe removed their stock of flour, feed, grain, etc. from this stone building to the old Headquarters Building on Third Street where they felt they would have more room and be more conveniently situated.

In November of 1880, **Alfred Rich**, who had been in business here as early as 1875, announced that he was opening a new feed store here, handling bran, ground feed, corn, potatoes, turnips, squashes and vegetables usually kept in such a stock.

In March of 1881 **M. Hirschinger** advertised his new **Feed Store** at this address. In May of 1881, **B. S. Doty** again established himself in the feed business in the old stone building on Oak Street. Hirschinger sold this building to **R. P. Freeman** of Sumpter in June of 1882. It was said that Freeman intended to add a brick front, lower the floor and add a tin roof to the building.

Then in September of 1884, Doty sold the store to Messrs. **J. N. Nye** and **Frank Jenkins**. In January of 1885 the firm of Jenkins & Nye was dissolved. Jenkins would continue in the one story stone building.

A month later **Frank D. Teel** purchased an interest in the company so the business name changed from **Nye & Jenkins Flour and Feed** to **Jenkins Flour & Feed** to **Jenkins and Teel Flour and Feed** within about one month. This partnership lasted a short time and ended with Frank Teel entering business with Ward Munroe on the south side.

In August of 1887, Ward Munroe and Frank Teel united their business enterprises. Munroe would tend to business in the warehouse on the south side while Teel would operate the flour and feed store. It was reported in November of 1888 that **Munroe and Teel**, flour and feed merchants moved across the street to 421 or 423 Oak Street.

However, by the end of December, the duo decided to close the business there and give their attention to their storage and grain business on the south side. R. P. Freeman Flour & Feed then entered the picture, but by March of 1889, **Munroe and Teel** were again dealing in **Flour and Feed Business** at their old stand at 412 Oak

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Street, having purchased back the stock in trade from Freeman and moving the business across the street.

In March of 1891, Munroe was expected to sell his interests to Teel. Munroe was talking about relocating on the Pacific coast.

In October of 1891, Munroe & Teel announced that they had dissolved their partnership, which actually took effect November 1, 1891. Mr. Teel purchased Munroe's interest in the refrigerator storehouse and retained the lime business. Mr. Monroe acquired Teel's interest in the flour and feed store. A new firm, to be known as Teel Brothers, would conduct flour and feed business at the stand earlier occupied by A. P. Johnson, on Fourth Street.

In March of 1895, **Harry H. & Elbert Ashcraft** were making arrangements to move their south side **Tonsorial Parlor** to this vacant building. Then in April of 1896, the Ashcraft brothers sold their business to **M. Bauman** who had practiced his tonsorial powers in Chicago and Boston. The Ashcrafts were said to be pursuing other interests in Baraboo.

By 1897, **Charles Hoover's Tonsorial Parlor** was being conducted here. Hoover left in January of 1898 for Orfordville, Wisconsin

In July of 1898, **Peter McGuan** rented half of the Munroe building with plans on conducting a collection agency and a real estate business. In September of the same year, **Will and Henry Marriott** purchased this building with plans to raze it and erect a new two story building in its place.

In February of 1900, **J. R. Lawsha** announced the opening of his **Cash Feed Store** at this address. However, by the middle of September, Lawsha had sold this business to **Ward Munroe**. Monroe had been in and out of the flour and feed business so many times, he didn't think one more time would hurt. However, in January of 1901 he sold the business back to **J. R. Lawsha**. Then in January of 1902, Lawsha resold the business to **Jerome Briggs and Oscar Van Valkenburg**. The sign in front then read **Briggs, Van Valkenburg & Co.**

However, Lawsha had a car of stock on order that Briggs & Van Valkenburg did not want. The car contained flour, bran, middling,

wheat and screening for chickens. Lawsha was closing out this stock at Mrs. Tousley's store building located at 119 Third Street. It is thought that Briggs was only at this site for a few months, later moving to 148 Third Street.

As was very common in those years a change came by 1903 whereby the name of the business had been changed back to **J. Briggs & Co., Flour & Feed**. In October of 1904, Briggs moved his feed business to 139 Third Avenue, where he had purchased the feed business of Fred Kachel. Kachel returned to his old occupation as a brakeman on the railroad.

In 1902, **D. C. Tanner's Feed Grinding** was here also, advertising a complete feed grinding service. In January of 1903, **Arthur Montayne** and **Charles Anderson**, who were running D. C. Tanner's new feed mill, came near losing their lives by asphyxiation from gasoline odors. Mr. Tanner noticed gasoline odors and opened a door providing better ventilation. The other men did not notice that anything was wrong and were very busy when **E. A. Borkenhagen** dropped by. Shortly after, the two men dropped, unconscious. Mr. Borkenhagen carried them outside and called for help. Both were taken to Dr. Cramer's office and cared for. It was supposed that the exhaust pipe which carried the burned gas and smoke to the reservoir below the floor was insufficient to carry off the burned gasses and they returned to the floor above.

However the business was closed in February of 1903 by the sheriff. Two replevins and an attachment, aggregating \$56, was the curtain upon the final scene. Tanner had come here from Briggsville, invested several hundred dollars, and had poor luck. There were other unpaid claims, and his finances were in such shape that Sheriff Corbin had to take him to the county farm.

By June of 1903, **C. H. Farnum** was advertising his new **roller feed mill** at this address. In October of 1904, Messrs. Martin & Marquardt, who had been running boats at the lake during the summer, purchased Farnum's feed mill and moved the operation across the street into the building owned by the Mould estate at 413 Oak.

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In September of 1904, **Ed. Luckow**, who was planning a new building here, applied to the city council for permission to add a cellar stairway along side the alley, which was granted.

On October 4, workman began the razing of this building, which had recently been purchased by Ed. L. Luckow. The object was to get a new building up and ready for printing of the *Democrat Newspaper* before the middle of winter. Luckow moved into his new quarters, on the second floor, in January of 1905.

Curry & Burt Clothing Store opened here in February of 1905. In March of 1908, L. N. Burt retired leaving Curry as sole owner of the store. From 1908 to 1914 **Walter G. Curry's Clothing Store** was located here. Next came the **McGuan-Fogle Clothing Store**, which opened in March of 1914 and operated until November 1933 or 1934. **James McGuan** was listed as president in the 1917 City Directory.

A storm in August of 1924 caused an opening of an old fifty-foot well in the basement of this building. The well which had evidently been dug some years prior had been boarded over about five feet from the surface of the ground and then dirt thrown over the boards. The boards had rotted with the passage of years and the washing matter that had got into the basement during the storm of Sunday, August 23 finished the job, causing the yawning chasm to open, in what was apparently a solid dirt floor.

On visiting the basement, George Isenberg, a local contractor, recalled that when the building was put up some years prior, horses were driven over the spot in dragging the ground for the basement. It happened that no great weight had been put on the floor since, although a large packing box that stood on the spot went down with the floor.

Something new in the line of renting was used in May of 1935 by the proprietors of the **Bohn-Isenberg Hardware Company** of Baraboo. The firm rented the display window of this empty store building. Here they displayed the latest in Coleman stoves, One Minute washers, Eclipse lawn mowers and Leonard electric refrigerators, as well as smaller merchandise.

In 1935 the **Spot Tavern** is located at this site. **Ervin M. Block** was listed as proprietor in the 1938 City Directory, **Arthur**

“Spot” Welk in the 1940 telephone directory and **Mabel Welk** in the 1964 and 1968 city directory.

From 1970 to 1978 **Stanley & Phyllis A. Capaul** conducted **Stan's Tavern** here while in 1979, the **Sun Star Bar** was located here. 1980 found **Jim R. Ford** operating **Ford's Livery Lounge Tavern**. Ford ran this bar until his sudden death in 1989. The building sat empty until December 15, 1994 when **Marty Beckwith** established the **Prime Time Sports Bar and Grill**. Beckwith conducted business here until February 21, 2002 when **Rob Hudson** opened **Huddy's on the Square** at this address. Hudson was a former Madison television personality, although a Minnesota native.

On January 26, 2003, **Dennis “Dinger” Woznaik** established **Dinger's Bar & Grill** here, the former home of Huddy's on the Square. Woznaik, a 31-year-old native of Sauk Prairie, was employed as a bartender for the former operator, Rob Hudson. Woznaik spent about a month after taking over, repainting and decorating the interior prior to opening. Woznaik got his nickname during his previous career as a carpenter. He once used an out-of-balance hammer that made a “ding” sound upon every strike. By 2004 this building again was sitting empty.

On July 29, 2004, **Zach Ziegler** opened **Zach's Bar & Grill** at this site. Zach was formerly employed by Columbia Par Car in Reedsburg where he also maintained his residence. The new owner-operator enjoyed a finance degree from the University of Wisconsin Whitewater. Ziegler moved to 126 Fourth Street in November of 2006.

Tom Thering and **Donna Kraemer** announced that the grand opening of **Thering's Hideaway** would be held on Saturday, March 10, 2007. The duo had purchased the bar several months prior and had busied themselves replacing the floor, ceiling and carpeting. Thering operated a construction company in Madison and Kramer, an ex-bartender, was employed as a dental assistant.

Kevin Felt opened **The Jug bar** at this address on September 21, 2010. The Jug has a Prohibition theme bar.

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412-1/2 Oak St. (second floor)

In 1892, **Marsh & Jackson** opened a **real estate and insurance** business here. In October of the same year, Marsh & Jackson moved their offices to the rear of the building and **Mrs. Dame** rented the rooms in the front. The stock of the late Link & Dame Jewelry Store would be moved here and closed out at prices, which were said to be less than wholesale.

However, in March of 1895, the F. M. Dame Jewelry Store was moved to 424 Oak Street.

It was reported in April of 1894, that **Mr. D. W. Pennell** arrived in the city from Norman, Oklahoma and commenced work at once in Dame's Jewelry store. Pennell had been in the jewelry business in Oklahoma for the past three years.

By 1895 **Mrs. E. E. Dame** was conducting a **Jewelry Store** here and in February of 1897, the store was moved to Reedsburg.

By 1898, **Charles Hoover's Tonsorial Parlor** was sharing space with **Coughlin & Shields, Dress Makers**.

1905-1915 "**Sauk County Democrat, Newspaper**"

Ed. L. Luckow is listed as proprietor in the 1905 city directory. This newspaper was established in 1879. The Democrat's address is listed at 420 Oak in the 1903 City Directory and at 416 Oak in the 1910 City Directory. The Baraboo Intensive Study notes that the Sauk County Democrat moved to 150 Third Street in 1915.

1920 "**Dr. H.C. Ladewig Office**"

1922 "**The Baraboo Business College**"

In 1922 the Baraboo Business College proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Gilbert, renewed their lease on the rooms they were then occupying over the McQuan-Fogle clothing store and would conduct

another season. Among the new students of the college were the Misses **Cecelia and Gladys Leece** of North Freedom.

1927-1938 "**Herman J. Doerr Tailor & Cleaning**"

In July of 1927, Herman J. Doerr, formerly with Taborsky, opened his own business above the McGuan & Fogle clothing store.

Downstairs. Alley Entrance

1920's "**Dipple Shoe Repair**"

1922 In February of 1922, the **Harry Apostle Shoe Shining Parlor and Hat Cleaning establishment** was operating in the basement level. Apostle hoped to move to Fourth Street by March first. The new location would be the former home of the Baraboo Systems Bakery, which had plans to move. Apostle did move the end of April. While here, Apostle shared this site with the **J. J. Clark Cobbler Shop**. Clark left business in July of 1924 to move to Beloit and there planned on conducting the same type of business.

1925-1930 "**Cushman Shoe Repair**"

Julius Eugene Cushman had a shoe repair store in basement. Julius was born on Jan. 3, 1855.

1935 **H. L Dibble Shoe Repair** (Possibly Dipple)

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413 Oak Street

Located adjacent to and south of the alley between Second & Third Avenue
on the west side of Oak Street
Block 34, lot 12
Sanborn map location No. 604 Oak Street

Architectural Description

A curvilinear pediment caps the two-story brick structure, with stone trim accenting the convex-concave configurations. A bay



J. B. Donovan Company

window on the second floor has five Queen Anne windows, while four panels of glass blocks have been removed from above the plate glass windows and replaced with modern materials. The entrance to the

second floor lies beneath a pointed arched entryway, the transom of which has also been removed.

In September of 1865 **Messrs. Orvis & Lang** purchased the lot at 421 Oak Street and the connecting lot on Third Avenue on which their business was located. **M. Mould's Daguerrian Gallery** was located at 421 Oak Street site at the time, so in June of 1866, he moved his building and gallery to an empty lot at 413 Oak and just south of the meat market so that Orvis & Lang could construct a building on their newly acquired land.

The building moved was a single story wood frame building, which was constructed very early during the formation of the Baraboo retail area on the hill. **M. Mould**, the pioneer **Photographer**, occupied the building as early as 1865. By July of 1866, Mould was adding an addition to the rear of his gallery at his new location and by September of 1866, announced the opening of his remodeled studio. The place of business had been closed several weeks while sky and sidelights were added in order to give a higher degree of shade or light to his photographs.

From 1866 to 1867 the **Copeland and Stewart Book Store** operated at this site. Then in 1867 **O. W. Fox** purchased the interests of Copeland & Stewart. Sometime during the year of 1868, Fox acquired **J. E. Owen**, as a partner and the **O. W. Fox Book Store** became the **Fox & Owen Book Store**.

“**Messrs. Fox & Owen** purchased the book and music store of **F. A. Copeland & Co**. The stock was transferred to Fox & Owens' store. The lease of the building occupied by Copeland & Co. was expected to be transferred to Mr. Bird, of Sun Prairie who is thinking of opening a confectionary store.” (Baraboo Republic 5/6/1868) In 1869, Owen purchased his partner's interests in the business and it became known as the **J. E. Owen Book Store**. It is not clear where this operation was located.

It is thought that in 1870, **Mrs. S. B. Hawes** opened a **Millinery Store** here followed by **Elliot Calkins Grocery Store**. In June of 1871, Mr. Mould completed the addition of a second story for

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his studio and a complete new front at a cost of \$1,000. Mould advertised his studio as the most commodious west of the large cities. At this time Calkin removed his merchandise and **J. E. Owen** moved his book store here. Owen governed the business alone until 1872 when **Mr. Matthew Mould Sr.** (Father of M. H. Mould) became a partner. It was then known as the **Owen & Mould Book Store**.

In 1873, the business became known as the **M. H. Mould Book Store** when M. H. Mould purchased the interests of his father and of J. E. Owen in the store. On August 5, 1874, Mould and Owen made public the dissolution of their partnership. On the first of January, 1875, **Matthew H. Mould**, proprietor of the **Prize Photograph Gallery** on Oak Street, admitted his son, **Sim I. Mould** as a partner in the establishment. Sometime later Mould would move the business to 504 Oak Street and then again in 1881 Mould would move to 512 Oak St., taking in Mr. A.G. Buckley as a partner. **Henry Mould** was operating a **Book Store** here in April of 1876.

*Matthew Mould Sr. died at his home on October 15, 1890. Mould was born in Northampton Shire, England on June 2, 1824. It was there that their oldest child, Mrs. Andrews, was born. About 1849 he and his wife immigrated to Herkimer County New York where three more children were born, Mrs. Henry Marriott, Henry, a boy who passed away at a young age and Sim. In the fall of 1857 the family moved to Baraboo where the youngest, Fred, was born. Mould was a carriage maker and worked at that trade until 1860, being in partnership here with **Mr. Islip**. At that time he changed trades, going into photography. Except for a brief stint as a cook in the army his time was spent here as a photographer until he sold out to his son Sim in the 1870's. He then moved to LaCrosse where he and his son, Fred, entered business. However, after three years he returned to Baraboo.*

In April of 1873, **J. W. Hawes** had a **Boot & Shoe Store** four doors south of the bank. It may have been at this address.

In 1884 a fire, which started in the building immediately to the south, destroyed this building. **William Power's Tailor Shop** owned



J. B. Donovan Pharmacy

this building at that time. Powers saved all of his stock. His building was insured for \$300.

Obviously a new building was constructed here because in 1885, Mould was still located upstairs and the lower floor contained a **Second-Hand store**. In February of 1888, Mould closed this store in favor of the one he purchased from the Richardson Brothers located in the Warren Block.

In 1889, **Herbert P. Jones** opened a store here known as Jones, **Clothier & Merchant Tailor**. His address was shown as **314 Oak** in the 1890 Sauk County Directory. In May of 1892, friends of Mr. Jones regretted to hear that circumstances compelled him to make an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. His liabilities were placed at about \$10,000 and assets were estimated at something like \$15,000. In June of 1892, his stock of clothing and furnishing goods

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was sold to Webb & Schweke of Reedsburg for \$5,300. According to the Sanborn Insurance maps, a **Saloon** followed in late 1892.

The location is not clear, but in June of 1890 the city issued a saloon license to **Adolph Lenz** who it was said would open a **saloon** in M. Mould's photographic building on Oak Street. Lenz would move his family to the second floor. Could he have shared this site with Jones? In the November 12 1891 issue of the *Democrat*, it speaks of **Adolph Lenz's Grocery** across the way?

The **John Blass Bakery** and residence was here sometime between 1892 and 1895.

In March of 1899, E. G. Marriott and Carl Isenberg concluded a deal whereby they came into possession of the property near the post office occupied by the American Express Company. They purchased it of J. R. Hofstatter for \$2,500. It is the new owners' intention to tear down the old frame structure later in the spring and construct a modern two-story brick structure. The lot was 98 feet long and 24 feet, 8 inches wide. It was speculated that Marriott might, at a later date, use it for a shoe store. The erection of a new building there also meant the probable building of a new building at this site, which is between the property just purchased and the alley and was occupied by Sam Goldfarb and owned by Mrs. Martha Mould. This old frame building would have to go.

In December of 1902, **George C. Claus** applied for a permit to open a **shooting gallery** and **cigar store** at this address. It was later reported that Claus moved to the northern part of the state in the same year.

In May of 1903, it was reported that **Dave Robinson** had rented the Mould building, formerly occupied by Sam Goldfarb, and would use it for an **ice cream factory** during the summer. It was said that Robinson's ice cream was becoming quite famous for many miles around and his present quarters at 424 Oak Street were getting too small. On July 4, 1903, it was reported that Robinson sold over 230 gallons of ice cream and turned away many more orders.

In November of 1903, **George W. Ott** was buying veal and poultry at the **Baraboo Henery** office located at this address. He had previously been located on the south side. Ott also conducted a fish and oyster market here. In December he added a full line of sausages made by his brother of Ableman and was making plans to handle a fine line of smoked and salted fish. However, by January Ott had moved his market to 409 Oak Street, a building recently vacated by Moore's Bakery.

In January of 1904, **J. S. Allendale**, who had recently vacated the Masonic Temple building, moved here and opened a **grocery store**. By April, Allendale realized his business at this location was not working as well as he wanted. So, he purchased the Dunsmore cottage on Loch Mirror Park with intentions of opening a grocery store there.

In October of 1904, **Martin & Marquardt** had purchased the Farnum **Feed Mill** at 412 Oak and moved it to this address. By the end of December Marquardt had sold his interest to Charles Walrath, the firm now becoming **Martin & Walrath**. However, by May of 1905, Henry **Roick**, formerly of Prairie du Sac, purchased the mill from the partners.

Later in 1904, the building was setting empty when the Sanborn Insurance people were in town, however in November of 1905, **W. F. Hagen** moved his **gunsmith shop** here from 121 Third Street. It is believed that he was here as late as 1909 and was very strong in the sales of bicycles.

In September of 1909, Hagen sold his gun shop to **Freeman Capener** and **H. L. Brewster**. The new name of the business would be **Capener & Brewster, Guns & Locksmith**. Hagen had employed Capener for the prior seven years.

Capener and Brewster secured the Harley-Davidson franchise in August of 1911. The motorcycles were introduced in 1902.

In November of 1911 **Freeman Capener** purchased **Mr. Brewster's** share in the store and it became the **Capener Gun & Locksmith Store**. Mr. Brewster took a position with the Baraboo Gas & Electric Co.

In 1899, an accident to Freeman Capener at Wales, Wis., was caused by him standing on some gravel by the side of the railroad

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tracks as a train passed by. The gravel gave way and he slipped under the wheels. One leg was cut off just below the knee and the other badly injured.

From 1914 to 1920 **Capener Brothers Sporting Goods** was handling Bicycles, Sporting Goods and Harley-Davidson Motorcycles. Freeman G. Capener had been taken as a partner, by **Paul W. Capener**.

In 1919, the Mould estate sold this frame building to **Harvey G. Welch**, the plumber. At the time of this sale it was said that this was one of the oldest frame buildings on the business streets of Baraboo.

In February of 1920, Capener Brothers moved their store to 400 Oak Street.

After Capeners moved, Welch decided to remodel the building completely, the removal of the rear part of the building being included in the repair.

It is believed that **R. W. Jeffries** had an **electrical shop** here in 1920 or 1921.

In October of 1921, the **Donovan-Deno Drug Company** was busy clearing their newly acquired lot of rocks and debris preparatory to erecting a new building, which if the weather would permit, would be completed prior to winter setting in. The company also purchased property from the Bank of Baraboo in the rear of their lot that would allow more room for the new structure. Men removed a small stone building that was erected on the former bank property in the late 1860's by Terrell Thomas and used for a long time to store fuel. (This may have been up Oak a couple of doors on the north side of the alley) In April of 1922, the chore of moving the stock from the Donovan store on Third Avenue to this new building started

Evidently, the frame building, which stood on this site, had been razed or was destroyed by fire, as there was only an empty lot here in 1921. In September of that year, **J. B. Donovan** and **Edward C. Deno**, druggists, purchased the lot at this address, south of and adjacent to the alley between Second and Third Avenue. The purchase was made from **Blumenfeld and Feinberg**, who had purchased the

property from the Mould estate some time prior. The two druggists expected to erect a building on the lot in conjunction with the one to be put up by W. M. Allen.

Deno, had been associated with Donovan, since 1917 had been employed here since 1912, having come from Beloit. Donovan, who had not been in the best of health, decided to remain in Baraboo upon his retirement.

Deno was then assisted by **Harold Thompson** of Baraboo and **H.C. Emery**, a registered Pharmacist from Sauk City, in the operation of the **E. C. Deno Pharmacy**.

There are insurance records that indicate that Deno insured this building from 1933 to 1935. In January of 1932, the **E.C. Deno Pharmacy** was purchased by **H. C. Emery**, assistant in the store for the prior seven years, and **Harold R. Mash**, who had been with the Wangs drug store for the past seven and one-half years. Mr. Emery came to Baraboo seven years earlier to become a clerk in the pharmacy when Deno purchased the business from Donovan. He had 18 years of experience in this work, having been employed for seven years in Prairie du Sac and two years in Sauk City. Mr. Emery passed the state examination in 1923.

Mr. Mash arrived in Baraboo in 1919 to attend the Baraboo high school after which he became employed by Wangs drug store. Mr. Mash passed the state examination in 1931.

In June of 1934, three young men robbed the drug store, escaping with cash and merchandise with an estimated value of \$100. Harold Mash and his wife were seated at the rear of the store in one of the booths and **Francis Martindale** was the only other person in the store when the youths entered the store and one of them ordered all to "sit down and take it easy" while the other two went through the till. In the meantime, **Richard Gust** entered the store and was told to sit down and keep quiet. After the men exited the store they got into a Model A Ford, driven by a fourth man. It appeared as though the men exited the city in an easterly manner and **Sherriff Robert H. Roche** from Columbia County was notified. He and two deputies hid near the Wisconsin River bridge just outside of Portage. The officers gave

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chase as the faded-blue 1929 Ford sped by them, eventually forcing it to the curb. As Roche and one of his deputies approached the car, two men got out and fired upon the lawmen. Deputy Witt was disarmed and Roche fell to the ground with a serious wound to his stomach. The second deputy immediately sounded the alarm and the four bandits were captured as they entered Madison. The men were later identified as **Tony Grignano, Johnny Urso, Mike Cimino** and **Cecil Loniello**.

During the second week in July of 1934, Sheriff Robert H. Roche of Columbia County was in Baraboo to attend the hearing of Mike Cimino, one of the suspects in the drugstore robbery.

Sheriff Roche was driving his newly armored automobile and it attracted a good deal of attention as it stood parked near the courthouse. The Ford V-8 sedan was equipped with a bullet-proof windshield, bulletproof windshield wings, a steel mesh radiator guard and armor plate from the windshield to the floor board level. The equipment cost about \$400.00. A three inch port hole in the right side of the windshield would allow a companion of the driver to fire a revolver, rifle or sub-machine gun at fleeing desperados without exposing himself to return fire.

The case was bound over for trial, the bond of \$10,000 was not posted and the defendant remained in the Sauk County jail. The attorney for the defendant, Darrell McIntyre of Madison did not show up and when his office was contacted the word was that he would not appear and was preparing to leave for Chicago.

The trial of Mike Cimino was again postponed in September. Illness of the complaining witness, Harold Mash, who underwent an emergency appendicitis operation made it necessary to reschedule the trial to November 13. On November 3 the trial of Cimino was again postponed on the motion of the defense council. The new trial date was tentatively set for March of 1935, during the next term of the circuit court.

In December of 1934, John Urso, 17, was released from the Sauk County jail on a \$2,500 bond. He was however, held in custody

by Sheriff Fred M. Wheeler on a warrant which alleged that he assaulted and robbed a man at Beaver Dam.

Later the trial of Grignano and Loniello was scheduled to begin on January 28, 1935 in Green Lake. Judge C. F. Van Pelt had granted a change of venue from Columbia County to Green Lake County.

Leonard Keeler, Northwestern University, inventor of a lie detector device, testified at the trial. The defendants had submitted to the tests by the lie detector prior to the trial. Keeler explained to the jury how the detector showed the variation, or lack of it, in blood pressure, pulse and respiration while being questioned and he believed the device to be 75 percent accurate. This was the first time that Keeler had presented the results of the detector to a jury.

February of 1935 found Grignano and Loniello moving to Waupun state prison where they would spend the next one to six years and one to eight years respectively after being convicted of assaulting Sheriff Robert Roche of Columbia County.

The **Emery & Mash Pharmacy** reigned until June of 1937 when Mash purchased Emery's interest. Thereafter the business would be known as the **Mash Pharmacy**.

From the year 1940 to 1960 the business was known as the **Thompson's Walgreen Agency** and was operated and owned by **Harold Thompson** of this city.

In 1955, a timely discovery by an officer on night patrol duty prevented a serious fire. The officer discovered flames in a barn that stood at the rear of the drug store. The structure was part of the Gattiker estate and was being used by the Sears-Roebuck store for storage. Evidently the blaze started from hot clinkers that had been thrown out and ignited rubbish in the vicinity of the barn, a wood structure covered with tin.

In April of 1961, Thompson moved his Walgreen Agency to 127 Third Street, formerly the J. C. Penny Store.

The years 1962 to 1964 found **Dr. Rex Waldo, Optometrist**, occupying this site.

413 & 413-1/2 Oak Street



Owners Jay and Mel Rahn, assistant Steph DeLorenzo and piercer Brian Kerr.

In August of 1966, **John Prosser**, former operator of the Pit Stop, opened **Thunderbird Recreation** here. Only the finest Brunswick Tables were to be installed.

Waldo was listed at 143 Third Street in the 1968 city directory. Then came a series of business names as a television sales office moved into this site; 1968-1973, **Baraboo Cable TV**, 1973-1981 **Vacationland Cablevision Inc.**, 1982-1999 **Heritage Cablevision-A TCI Company**, 1999 **Bresnan Communications** and in July of 1999 **Charter Communications** reached an agreement to purchase Bresnan. The purchase took place in February of 2000. The years from 1971 to 1987 also saw the **Paramount Photo Shop** sharing space here. In 2002 the building was vacant as Charter moved to E10704 Highway 33.

Scott Didrickson, a Baraboo native, purchased this building in May of 2003 and by August of 2003, **Dave Kahelski** was busy conducting **Atom Bikes** at this site. Each year, Kahelski, who is a native of Baraboo but spent some time in California during the year, assembles six to eight bikes from scratch, using heavy-duty parts in the designs. The newfound popularity of extreme biking and

skateboarding has created a niche Kahelski hopes Atom Bikes will fill. By the first part of 2004 this building was again empty.

However, by March of 2004 **Lorna Pitt** had moved her **Once More** consignment boutique here from 137 Third Street and

Didrickson was conducting the **Wisconsin Beer Bread Company** in the rear of the building, while at the same time remodeling the spacious upper floor into offices. Didrickson had continued his father-in-law's mix business after he passed away. One of his many customers was the Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Co.

By March of 2006, the building was vacant. In May of 2006, **The Labyrinth Games** sign was on the window. By 2008 the building was sitting vacant.

In April of 2009 it was announced that the firm of "**Open Road Tattoo Parlor and Piercing**" was opening at this location. The business would be conducted by **Jay Rahn**, tattoo artist, **Brian Kerr**, piercing and office managers, **Mel Rahn** and **Steph DeLorenzo**.

413 & 413-1/2 Oak Street

413-1/2 Oak Street (Up Stairs)

- 1923 **“Joyce & Siberz Insurance Agency”**
Early in 1923, M.E. Joyce and J.L. Siberz, proprietors of the Joyce & Siberz Insurance Agency, dissolved their partnership. Mr. Joyce would continue business himself in the present quarters of the new Donovan building. Mr. Siberz expected to open an office in the near future over Taylor's Book Store.
- 1923 **“Joyce & Gale Insurance Agency”**
After that partnership was dissolved, M.E. Gale, formerly of Baraboo, purchased half interest in the agency.
- 1923 **“The Joyce Insurance Agency”**
Then it was announced in the April 19, 1923 issue of the Baraboo Daily News, that Joyce, of the Joyce & Gale Insurance agency purchased back the interests of the junior partner, M.E. Gale.
- 1929-1930 **“Dr. F. P. Naffz, Optometrist”**
- 1930 **“Dr. C. M. Hall, Optometrist”**
In May of 1929, Dr. C. M. Hall, Baraboo Optometrist, purchased the practice of Dr. F. P. Naffz located in the Deno Pharmacy building. Mr., Naffz had been practicing here for the past year and would be returning to Madison.
- 1932-1942 **“Louis Weirich warehouse, rear of building”**
- 1936 **“Dr. John P. Harkins”**
- 1936-1957 **“Dr. Guy J. Shiels, Dentist”**. Dr. Shiels closed his office in March of 1958 at the age of 79. The Doctor had conducted business for 55 years, all in Baraboo.

- 1938-1942 **“U.S. Dept. Agriculture”**
Farm Security Administration Rural Rehab. Division T.E. Randall, County R.R. Supervisor.
- 1936-1948 **“Dr. A.J. Irwin, Physician”**
- 1950-1951 **“Sauk County Abstract & Title Co.”**
Shown at 128-1/2 Fourth St in the 1952 telephone directory.
- 1948-1953 **“Malone & Inman Electrical Utility Construction”**
Charles F. Malone and Leslie H. Inman, Partners
- 1950 **“Seymour Insurance Agency”**
- 1946-1947 **“John H. Rouse, Attorney”**
- 1951 **“Employers Mutual Fire Insurance & Liability Ins. Co.”**
- 1952-1962 **“Dr. A.C. Edwards, Physician & Surgeon”**
- 1954-1955 **“Inman Construction “**
Leslie H. Inman, Pres., listed at 608-1/2 Seventh Avenue in the 1957 telephone directory.
- 1955-1960 **“Clifford M. LaMar, Attorney”**
- 1964 **“Peter Weickenant Accounting”**
Listed at 114 4th. in the 1968 city directory.
- 1992-1993 **“Parkway Collections Inc.”**
Donald A. Nelson, President. Moved from 402 Broadway

416 & 416-1/2 Oak Street

416 & 416-1/2 Oak Street

East side of Oak Street, north of and adjacent to the alley
between Second and Third Streets.

Block 35, lot 6

Sanborn map location 704 Oak Street

Architectural Description

The present three-bay, two-story brick has segmentally-arched window hoods and “keystones” made of brick. corbelling at the roofline provides additional ornamentation. The building retains its original storefront opening although modern materials have been used in storefront modifications. It is similar in detail to the building to its north and is of interest as a contributing element within an intact blockface, as well as example of a simple vernacular double business block.

In January of 1853, the *Sauk County Standard* newspaper had an announcement that **Joseph Davis** had purchased the **Yankee Store** from **Bella Warner**. Could this be the location and could J. R. Davis be the same Joseph Davis? Probably!

In May of 1854, **J. R. Davis** was conducting business in a single story, wood-frame building at this address. Davis came from Ohio and probably was a little home sick, naming his store, the “**Ohio Store**”.

Mr. Wood and Mr. J. R. Shourds operated **Sky Light Daguerreotypes** on the second floor of this building as early as October of 1854. In April of 1856, Shourds would move his operation to Birch & Fifth.

The year 1861 found **W. B. Boutwell** conducting **Sky Light Daguerreotypes**, a photography business over the Ohio Store.

In November of 1861, the *Baraboo Republic* reported that **Hoxie** had just removed his stock from the “Ohio Store” to the vicinity of the bridge. It is believed that sometime earlier, Davis had moved to the Maxwell Corner and Hoxie had rented this site.

By April of 1865, **J. W. Blake and E. B. Calkin** conducted a grocery store on this site. By September **D. D. Doane** had replaced **Blake** and the establishment was known as **Calkin & Doane**.



J. R. Davis “Ohio Store” 415 Oak Street circa 1854
The two be-whiskered men with bowler hats in the buggy are William Gowan and Arthur C. Withinaton

In June of 1878, **Wm. Andrews** removed this frame store building, which “stood on the lot next south of that occupied by Train’s new building,” to a lot near the jail. **J. G. Train** purchased this lot and erected a new building here in 1878. In November of 1884, the attention of the public was called to the business announcement of Messrs. **Jones & Green**, located then at 310 Oak Street, later to be known as 416 Oak. They carried a line of all kinds of goods. In December of the same year a notice was placed in the *Baraboo Republic* stating: “*Having purchased the interest of Lewis Green in the goods, notes, accounts, etc., as a part of the general stock as held under the firm of Jones & Green, I will continue the business at the old stand and will be pleased to see old and new customers at any time. Dec. 13, 1884 F. D. Jones.*”

However, by the end of December **F. D. Jones’** business doors were closed by the sheriff upon a judgment note given to E. Pfannstiehl as security on purchase of stock of goods.

In March of 1886, **W. H. Ahrens** laid in a stock of “Fancy and Staple Groceries” which he hoped to pass on cheap cash prices to the

416 & 416-1/2 Oak Street



Empty lot where buildings with address' 420 and 424 Oak Street would later stand. Davis store on right and Corner Drug Store on left.

general public. In August of 1886, **James Coughlin** was busy remodeling the store under the *Democrat's* office formerly occupied by **Abbott's Millinery**. He was planning on opening within a week.

Then, in October of 1887, **George Bower Dry Goods and Notions**, also known as the **Star Bargain Store**, moved to this site. He would share the site with W. H. Ahrens. Ahrens, Bower and the *Democrat's* Office may have been at 418 Oak. In July of 1889, Ahrens had given up his store and moved to Portage.

Note: Ahrens and Bower may have been at 420 as there is a time gap there....

However...it was reported in October of 1889, that Jas. Coughlin, who had been running a store under the *Democrat Newspaper*, was retiring. A little confusing, maybe the *Democrat* was at 420 Oak? In Jan. 1890, the **City Express and Telegraph Office** probably would replace Jas. Coughlin under the *Democrat's* Office. Tenancy was taken about the first of March.

This is all confusing

Goldfarb originally came to Baraboo in 1889, opening a store at approximately 145 Third Street. A very short time later, in 1890, he moved to 512 Oak Street. In 1893, he sold that store to W. R. Schultz of Honey Creek and moved to Milwaukee. Sometime later he returned to Baraboo (could have been the same year) and opened a store in the Reinking Block (May have been at 139 Third Street). He sold this store in April of 1896 and moved to Janesville, Wisconsin.

In the January 8, 1895 issue of the *Baraboo News*, local realtor E. N. Marsh, reported that he had sold this property, owned by **James McNally** and **James Conkling** and next to Mrs. Dames' jewelry store, to Sam Goldfarb of Janesville. The 1895 city directory lists Samuel Goldfarb at this address as a candy manufacturer with a residence address at 419 Second Avenue.

In July of 1896, **M. Burstein** was reported as being a successor to Goldfarb. However, by April of 1897, the **Degan Brothers** were busy fitting up this building with new machinery for a **steam laundry** and Goldfarb and Burstein were operating a broom factory in Chicago, employing about a dozen men.

In October of 1901, **H. Rau** opened a new **furniture store** on Oak Street opposite the Express Office. This may have been at this site.

In 1902 Sam Goldfarb returned from Janesville, purchased the building at this site and opened **Goldfarb's Grocery and Fruit Store** in November of that year. Before moving in, Goldfarb put on a new front and installed a large refrigerator.

In February of 1906, Goldfarb took in **David Citron** as a partner and the firm's name was changed to **Goldfarb & Citron**. Citron had come to this country from Russia in 1902 and since that time had been in business with his brother in Oshkosh. Citron was married to Francis Goldfarb, daughter of Samuel Goldfarb.

However, by May of 1907, the partnership with Citron had been dissolved. Goldfarb would continue here until May of 1912 when he sold his grocery & fruit store to **Aaron M. Rodems** of Platteville. The business now was called **A. M. Rodems & Co., Grocer**.

416 & 416-1/2 Oak Street

Goldfarb had been in business in Baraboo for 22 years. His address was shown as 310 Oak in the 1890 Sauk County directory. Mr. Goldfarb died in January of 1934. He was born in Europe in 1864 and came to America in 1887. Goldfarb's daughter, **Sarah**, was married to Sigmund Blumenfeld.

In April of 1915, **Sigmund Blumenfeld** of Plymouth Wisconsin purchased an interest in Rodem's Grocery & Fruit store, thus **Rodem and Blumenfeld Groceries**. It was about this time that a portion of the wall between 416 and 420 Oak was removed to make a double store. This partnership was short lived as Rodems took his son **Leo** into the business in 1917 and purchased Blumenfeld's interest. The business then operated under the name of **A. M. Rodem's & Son Grocery**.

In January of 1918, Sigmund was back with partner **Leo Feinberg** and purchased the interests of Rodems and his son. A short time later **Blumenfeld and Feinberg Grocery** purchased the grocery stock of Underkofler & Barker, removing the stock to the store at this address.

In September of 1919, Messrs. Blumenfeld & Feinberg, proprietors of the **Baraboo Fruit Store**, decided to install a bakery in connection with their grocery store. The bakery would be installed in the store north at 420 Oak Street. All but the rear 40 feet of that room, then used for groceries, would be devoted to the new bakery, the 40 feet at the rear would be used for storing flour and other bulky articles. Groceries and fruit would be sold in the building at this location, which was then being used as a fruit store. A partition would separate the grocery department from the bakery department. In January of 1929 Leo Feinberg sold his interest in the Baraboo Fruit Store to his partner, Sigmund Blumenfeld, who then became the sole owner of the business. Mr. Blumenfeld and Mr. Feinberg had operated the store in partnership for the prior 12 years.

H.L. Kruse of Elmhurst, Illinois purchased the Baraboo Fruit store from Sigmund Blumenfeld in January of 1946. Then **Fred L. Liegel**, formerly of Plain, purchased the business from Kruse in April of 1950. The grand opening brought out a large crowd. The new



1946 picture is of the Baraboo Fruit Store. Left to right: Elizabeth Rутtenberg, Rosaline Altfeldt, Dorothy Paschen and her husband, Dr. Morris Paschen. Dorothy graduated from the Baraboo High School in 1917 or 1918.

proprietor rearranged products in the new **Liegel's Red Bell Market** to include many self-service cases.

Liegel and **Elizabeth H. Schult** were listed as partners in the 1955 city directory. The market operated until at least 1957.

By 1960, **Floyd A. Thompson** and **Anne P. Thompson** were partners in **Thompson's Jewelry** store at this location. Peter Weiss, local contractor had replaced the façade with a new and modern look. The store would be divided with a **U. S. Army Recruiter Councilor** moving into half of the building.

416 & 416-1/2 Oak Street

In 1981 **George Albrecht** purchased this business when Floyd Thompson decided to retire. In the 1995 city directory, **Leila Tourdot** was listed as president. In 1995 **Robert and Sharon Madland** (Sharon was the niece of Floyd and Anne Thompson) purchased the business from George Albrecht. Albrecht remained at the business on a part time basis. Floyd Thompson, was born on Feb. 14, 1918 in Price, Wisconsin and at the age of 87, passed away on Monday, December 19, 2005.

416-1/2 Oak Street (Second Floor)

July 9, 1886 found new owners in charge of the newspaper formerly owned by Col. Ford. **J.G. Ford, editor** and **C.W. Ford, publisher** had founded the paper 1879 in and published the paper since that time. E. Aug. Runge & Herman Grotophorst replaced them. The office was found in the second story of the **Train Block** at 416 Oak where it had probably been since 1879.

Runge, at the time he took over the paper, was living in Milwaukee where he was engaged as the Secretary of the German-American Teacher's Seminary. Runge was confident he could wrap up his duties in Milwaukee by the middle of August and would then take over the editorship of the paper.

The **Baraboo News** moved from over the Marriott Brothers' store to over Ahrens Store in April of 1887.

1879-1886 "**Sauk County Democrat**" J.G. Ford, Editor Sauk County Democrat

1893 In June of 1893, the firm of **Hitchcock & Hitchcock** was located here. (Dyer W. & Lyman C.)

1890-1903 "**The Sauk County Democrat, Weekly**" Established 1879, Issued Thursdays E. August Runge, Pub. & Prop. 1890 Ed L. Luckow Prop

1895-1898 "**The Grande Program, Publication**"

1898 "**Ed. L. Luckow, Publisher**"

1899 **Mrs. H. H. Huntington** moved her **dressmaking shop** here in March of 1899.

1907 **John Hengen** who had recently returned from Oklahoma City, purchased, from **E. A. Hall, Dad's Hall Restaurant** over Goldfarb's Store in August of 1907. In March of 1908, Hengen sold the restaurant to **H. E. Robinson** who changed the name to the **Gem Restaurant**. Mr. & Mrs. Hengen left for Oklahoma where they were to conduct a hotel. Later, in an effort to gain an edge on his competition, Robinson decided to keep his restaurant open 24 hours a day, therefore changing the name of the establishment to the **All Night Restaurant**. Then in May of 1908, Robinson rented J. R. Witwen's part of the Fair building at 125-129 Third Avenue, with plans to move his restaurant to the ground floor there.

419 & 419-1/2 Oak Street

419 & 419-1/2 Oak Street

Adjacent to and north of the alley between Second & Third Avenue on the west side of Oak Street
Block 34, lot 1
Sanborn map location 605 Oak Street

In November of 1847 a parcel of land on the northeast corner of Third Avenue and Oak Street, described as Lot 1, Block 34, was deeded to **John C. Grapel** by Sauk County, the consideration being \$56.00. This parcel measured 66 Feet of frontage on Third Avenue and 132 Feet of frontage on Oak Street, extending south to the alley.

This property located at 419 Oak Street fronted 22 feet on Oak Street by 44 feet deep and ran north of and adjacent to the alley on Oak Street between Second and Third Avenues. An old frame structure, built about 1851 that once stood at the foot of the hill, later occupied this site. It once was used as a post office and later a schoolhouse.

D. M. Clark's Boot & Shoe Store was conducting business across the street from the Ohio Store in August of 1856. He located in the building formerly occupied by a **Barber Shop**, which may have been at approximately this site.

In September of 1863, **Mrs. L. L. Wheeler** opened a **Variety Store** at this site. The store handled, among many other items, books, school and religious supplies, sewing supplies and women's clothing. Wheeler reportedly was located two doors south of the Peck & Orvis drug store.

In 1864 **J. D. Nelson's Meat Market** was being conducted at this site. Nelson closed his store for a short time but reopened as **J. D. Nelson & Sons** in September of 1870. During October of 1871, Nelson was busy on the enlargement of his store building on Oak Street to a depth of 44 feet, adding to the height of the main floor, and putting in a new front to correspond with that of Mould's new building adjacent. Nelson was in business as early as 1861 and probably earlier. It is not sure if he was at this address. In August of 1868 **Geo. Nelson** converted his meat market on Oak Street to a **grocery and provision store**. Did George follow John D.? By November of 1868, **G. G. Gollmar** was a partner with Nelson. **E. O. Holden** purchased the



W. M. Allen Store circa 1899

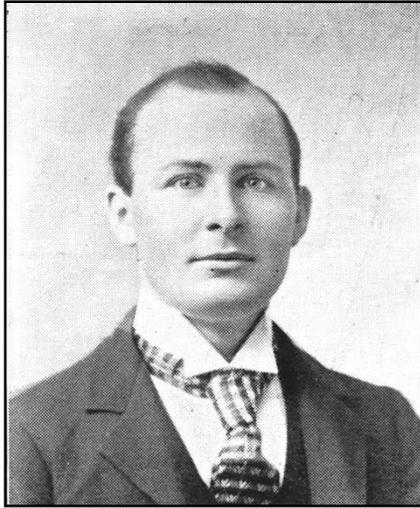
business and good will of the Gollmar & Nelson grocery business in April of 1869.

In December of 1871, **Nelson & Calkin** were advertising their new **General Store** located two doors south of the bank.

In May of 1892, **J. J. Buhmeyer** had a **Saloon** here, which he sold to **George Ruhland**. Buhmeyer was undecided at the time as to where he would locate, but was thinking of moving to Rockford, Ill. and engaging in the cigar business.

In June of 1895, **W. R. Schultz** leased this building and was busy making plans to open a branch fruit store in the building just south of Mrs. Robinson's milliner store on Oak Street. This would place him near the post office. It was intended to sell fruit on a wholesale and retail basis. **Paul Schultz** had charge of the new **W. R. Schultz Fruit Store**. By September of 1895, Schultz had vacated this site. It was thought at the time that this building might be razed and a new one constructed by the owner Jacob Buhmeyer.

419 & 419-1/2 Oak Street



William M. Allen

In March of 1896, **Jacob Buhmeyer's** old frame building was razed preparatory to his construction of a substantial two-story brick building. The lower floor of the new structure was to be leased to **William Allen** who planned on opening a clothing store there. The upper floor was to be devoted to offices.

The **W. M. Allen Clothing** store, which in 1895 was located at 108 Third Street and conducted by W. M. Allen and Albert O. Armbruster, evidently moved into this location after the new building was completed. In 1899, Allen's address was listed as 417 [later known as 419 Oak] Oak.

In late April of 1904, **Mike H. Power** was busy placing fixtures in this building in preparation for the opening of a **saloon** here. Sometime in 1905, Ambrose Karnes joined Power and the **Karnes & Power Saloon** was established. However, in December of the same year the partnership was dissolved with Power purchasing Karnes' interests. Power planned on conducting the business alone. In September of 1909, Power opened a restaurant on the second floor.

Luther and Alexander replaced the Mike H. Power Saloon in 1913. By 1915, **Edward Alexander** was conducting the saloon alone

and did so until at least 1917. In June of 1917, Sheriff Welk held a sheriff's sale of the fixtures of this saloon to pay off a mortgage held by Herman Kasiska. It was reported that Alexander was working with the circus at that time.

In August of 1917, **Ernest T. Ross** moved his floral office from 409 Oak to this empty building.

On May 2 of 1921 Ross purchased the building, then occupied by his **Florist Office**. The purchase was made from **Mr. Jacob Buhmeyer** of Rockford. Ross planned to continue his office in the building and rent the upstairs apartments, the same as before. Sometime prior to 1931, the outside of the building was given a fresh coat of green paint.

Ernest Ross died on January 27, 1952 and **Mrs. E. T. Ross** then sold her business to **Frank Terbilcox Jr.** who took possession December 1, 1952. The sale included the large greenhouse and nursery property at Eighth and East. In November of 1955, the Ross Flower Shop office moved to the Eighth Street site.

Ernest Ross was born October 21, 1885 in Coral Township, McHenry County, Illinois. He began learning the florist business when he was 14 years of age in Belvedere. At the age of 21 he came to Baraboo and went to work for the Peck Greenhouse.

Baraboo National Bank integrated this building, probably with its expansion of 1978. The building was purchased from the heirs of E. T. Ross. They were wife, **Hazel H. Ross** and daughters **Betty (Ross) Schmalz** and **Irene (Ross) Sharafinski**.

419-1/2 Oak Street

1866-1869	Independent Newspaper Office
1893-1895	"Wisconsin Telephone Co. " (Public Telephone Station)

In July of 1893, the Wisconsin Telephone Company moved their office from the American Express Company building to the Blass Bakery building on Oak Street.

In 1895 **R. W. Baldwin** was manufacturing fur gloves, mittens and hunter suits here. This was his 15th season in Baraboo.

1895	Sam Wing Lee Chinese Laundry
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419 & 419-1/2 Oak Street

1895 Later, a branch of the Reedsburg Steam Laundry in quarters formerly occupied by Sam Wing Lee Chinese Laundry. Frank Winkler managed the branch.

1895, Later...branch of the Elroy Ruby Steam Laundry, Frank Winkler, manager.

1898 "Dr. G. L. G. Cramer, Physician"

1902-1903 E. J. Rooney and Walter Odell Real Estate.

1903 E. J. Rooney Real Estate

In July of 1903, Rooney moved his office to 526 Oak Street

1903> Walter Odell Real Estate

1909 Mike Power Restaurant

1920 "Dr. Fitz R. Winslow"

1930 In September of 1930, Ann Cummings moved the Annex Shoppe Millinery from the Reinking building to this site.

1957-1960 "Rex E. Waldo Optometrist"

1936-1938 "Dr. Alba C. Edwards, Physician & Surgeon"

1938-1960 "Jane's Beauty Shop"

Jane M. Harris, owner

1940-1960 "John G. Terbilcox, Attorney"

420 & 420-1/2 Oak Street

420 & 420-1/2 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street between Second and Third Streets.
Block 35, lot 6
Sanborn map location 705 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This three-bay, two-story brick building has segmentally-arched window hoods and “keystones” made of brick; Corbelling at the roofline provides additional ornamentation. The building retains its original storefront opening although modern materials have been used in storefront modifications. It is similar in detail to the building to its south and is of interest as a contributing element within an intact block face, as well as an example of a simple vernacular double business block.

In 1878, **J. G. Train** erected a new building on this site that originally housed **Brewer’s Billiard Hall** that was operated by **John H. Brewer**. The hall was planned to be conducted on temperance principles, no intoxicating beverages would be kept on the premises. In 1880, the Third Street fire destroyed this brick building along with Brewer’s belongings. In 1915 or earlier, a portion of the wall between 416 and 420 Oak was removed to make a double store. Train had owned this lot as early as 1871.

J. G. Train died at his home on or about July 14 1908. Train was born in Merrimack County, New Hampshire on March 2, 1830. He came to Baraboo in 1849 and moved his family here in 1853, the same year he passed his bar exam. He became a member of the legislature in 1856. Train married Miss Emily R. Sheppard of Merrimack N. H. and to this union was born three children. They were Frank M. Train and Mrs. Harrison Newell, nee Alice Train who both reside at Sioux Falls, S. D. and Arthur T. Train of Oregon.

In 1885 the Sanborn-Perris map indicates a **Saloon** at this site while by 1891 the **Conway Music House** was being conducted here. This business prevailed until 1892 when **Mr. A. L. Hook** succeeded Conway and established the **Hook Music Store**. By late December 1892 Hook had moved to 150 Third Street.



Bakers Dozen and Kropp's Market circa 1996

An advertisement in the May 3, 1894 issue of the *Baraboo Republic* by **Frank H. Dwinell Co.** gave his store’s location as being 420 Oak Street, after moving the store here from North Freedom in March of that year. In January of 1895, Dwinell’s moved his store to 510 Oak Street.

By 1895 Peter **McGuan** and **James B. Doherty** conducted the **McGuan & Doherty, Grocers, Cigar Mfg. & Dealer** business.

In April of 1898, **Artie H. Hull** and **George Reuland** formed a partnership and purchased the business from **L. C. Hitchcock** into whose hands the business had passed a few days earlier.

In August of 1898, Hull acquired Reuland’s interest in this business and the name thereafter would be **A. H. Hull & Company**. In March of 1900, the Stanley Company purchased the complete stock of Hull’s grocery and moved the stock to the Stanley Store.

420 & 420-1/2 Oak Street



Mike Kropp, Jeff Summers and Butch Kropp circa 1997

William Moore opened **Moore Groceries** in May of 1901. This operation lasted until at least 1904. The story was told that during the cold month of February 1904, Indians would gather in the rear of the store to warm their cold bones. Moore thought it would be a fine joke to sprinkle a little cayenne pepper on the stove and see what the reaction was by the Indians and how soon they would vacate the building. Well, they were used to smoky wigwams so it did not seem to bother them, in fact they said they liked the odor. But, it certainly chased all the white customers out of the store.

J. P. Roser established a **Dray Line** in October of 1902 and received his orders at the Moore grocery store.

The above two businesses may have been located at 416 Oak street??

As early as September 21, 1904, **Webster & Schubring** were advertising their **grocery store** at this site. However, in November of 1904, this partnership ended and a new partnership, **Webster & Porter Groceries** was formed and was located here until at least 1905. Schubring took a position with the Chicago Picture Frame Works. The same time as the partnership change, the building underwent some improvements, primarily a steel ceiling and new shelves. In December of 1905, there was a sell-off of some of the grocery stock, and again another remodeling of the store for the purpose of putting in a larger stock of dry goods and notions. However, by August of 1905, the doors were locked and the partners were going through bankruptcy proceedings. The bankruptcy was due to claims pressed by the National Biscuit Company and H. B. Glover. F. C. Peck of the Southside Department Store purchased the merchandise and sold it off at this address.

In May of 1905, **H. L. Halsted** purchased the “old” William Moore property on Oak Street for \$1,200. This may have been the property.

In November of 1905, the firm of **Kindschi & Grosinski Dry Goods & Groceries** was planning a move from 118 Ash Street, below the hill, to this site. Prior to their moving, there was a certain amount of remodeling done to this building. New shelves were added, the basement was improved to the point that it could be used as a storeroom and a furnace was installed. A new concrete walk was added in front of the store and the basement was extended under the walk. By January 17 of 1906 the firm was operating here.

In November of 1905, the **Bank of Baraboo** building was again undergoing some needed improvements due to a large increase in business. It was necessary for the bank to move their offices during construction and it was reported that the move was to this site. Maybe it was 424 Oak Street? In any event they were in their temporary quarters for about four weeks opening here on November 15.

In early October of 1906, Grosinski was planning on making a move, having purchased of Carl Grosinski, his father, the family farm near North Freedom. In fact the partnership was dissolved by the end

420 & 420-1/2 Oak Street

of October 1906. The next week Kindschi was in Chicago buying stock to re-open the store here. He opened the first week in November.

In 1907 **Clarence F. Kindschi Dry Goods** followed. In November of 1909, Kindschi sold his stock of goods to **Sam Goldfarb** who conducted a store adjacent and to the south at 416 Oak Street. The plan was to cut an archway between the buildings making one large store. Simon Schwartz would conduct the grocery department.

The 1917 city directory lists **E. J. Battles Real Estate** office at this address. In September of 1919, Messrs. Blumenfeld & Feinberg, proprietors of the **Baraboo Fruit Store**, decided to install a bakery in connection with their grocery store. All but the rear 40 feet of the room then used for groceries would be devoted to the new bakery, the 40 feet at the rear would be used for storing flour and other bulky articles. Groceries and fruit would be sold in the south room, the one that was used as a fruit store. The partition would separate the bakery from the grocery store located at 416 Oak.

The **Barker Bakery System** was chosen. There had been no Bakery in the uptown business district since H.G. Schade conducted one on Oak Street.

In March of 1921 the Weirich Brothers sold their meat market business (not the building) to Louis Feinberg and Sigmund Blumenfeld. Weirich's was located in the block across the way. The new owners installed the **B & F Meat Market** at this address. The bakery was moved north one door to 424 Oak Street and a doorway was cut between the two stores for the convenience of customers.

In May of 1922, **Oscar Norene** purchased one-half interest in this market. Then in June of 1922, **Norene**, who had been managing the B. & F. Meat Market for the proprietors of the Baraboo Fruit Store and Bakery Shop, purchased the market himself and from then on it was known as the **Norene Market**. Prior to managing the B & F Meat Market, Mr. Norene was one of the proprietors of the South Side Market. In early 1928, Norene leased his butcher shop to **John A. Dick** of Madison. Norene stated that he intended to take a much-needed rest. In October of 1928, Norene returned from a vacation and resumed the operation of his meat market.



August Kropp Sr. at LaValle store

In August of 1936 and after working for Oscar Norene for almost a year, **Ed Gust** purchased the market. Prior to working at Norene's, Mr. Gust spent 12 years at Kerndt's on 4th. Street. Gust died of a heart attack in Feb. of 1940. The **B & L Market** then succeeded the **Gust Meat Market**. The B & L Market was here as late as 1941 and possibly later. It is thought that **Dennis Lovell** purchased the business in 1941.

In July of 1946, Dennis Lovell sold the **Star Market** to **Charles Lynch** of Chicago. Lynch's brother, Norman, would be an associate in the business.

The Lynchs conducted the **Star Meat Market** until September 1 of 1952 when **Leon** and **August "Junior" Kropp** of LaValle purchased and took possession of the market. The Kropps had been in business in Reedsburg for the prior three years and their father and grandfather had run a La Valle butcher shop dating back to the turn of the century. By 1960 the business was known as **Kropp's Market**.

420 & 420-1/2 Oak Street

In January of 1963, Leon Kropp, age 44, died at his home in La Valle. Leon conducted the Faga Market in Reedsburg for three years prior to opening the market here with his brother August Jr.

The family tradition continued as Leon's son **Butch** joined the business after his high school graduation in 1969, and Junior's son **Mike** did the same in 1974. Although Leon died in 1962, his wife **Marcella** continued to be a partner in the Kropp's Locker business until it closed.

Junior Kropp was listed as owner in the 1964 through 1982 city directories, **Jean Kropp** 1986 through 1994 and Mike Kropp in the 1995 city directory.

The Meat market closed on Saturday, April 6, 1996 and the bakery located at 424 Oak, "**Baker's Dozen**", expanded into this location.

On October 1, 2007, **Deb and Mike Althen** purchased the Bakery Backerei, renaming the operation the **Elite Bakery**. Kay Salecker stayed on the staff as a baker while his wife, Marsha, decided to continue her education in the field of wind engineering. The Althens would continue to operate their west Baraboo businesses, Elite Catering and Moonlight Specialties, although a buyer is being sought for the later.

Elite Bakery occupied 424 Oak Street also. By November of 2011, this building is sitting empty.

420-1/2 Oak Street

Up Stairs

Also Known as 418-1/2 Oak

In August of 1881, **Mr. R. F. McKey** opened a tailoring department in J. G. train's building, over Brewer's Billiard Hall. The tailoring department is under the superintendence of Mr. Charles H. Penniman. (Baraboo Republic, 8/10/1881)

In August of 1909 **F. A. Philbrick & Son** moved their office to this address. They occupied the office vacated by **A. J. Gemmill** who moved to 424-1/2 Oak Street. By November Philbrick was planning on displaying cars on this floor also. The cars would be skidded up a ramp and through a large window on the east side of the building. They would also maintain the garage on Fourth Street as they were expecting 15 new Model "T" autos to arrive by March of 1910. F. A. Philbrick opened his Ford Agency in 1906, supposedly located in a barn at the northwest corner of Broadway and Fifth Avenue.

421 & 421-1/2 Oak Street

421 & 421-1/2 Oak Street

Located north of the alley between Second & Third Avenue
on the west side of Oak
Block 34, lot 1
Sanborn map location 606 Oak Street

In November of 1847 a parcel of land on the northeast corner of Third Avenue and Oak Street, described as Lot 1, Block 34, was deeded to **John C. Grapel** by Sauk County, the consideration being \$56.00. This parcel measured 66 Feet of frontage on Third Avenue and 132 Feet of frontage on Oak Street, extending south to the alley.

This parcel is located at 421 Oak Street fronted for 22 feet on Oak Street and ran 44 feet deep originally.

In March of 1861, **D. K. Noyes** moved the building, formerly occupied by him as an office, near his residence to this location. Plans were to completely redecorate and fit the interior up for his law office. In November of 1864, **Noyes** opened a **Land, Pension, Insurance and General Agent and Notary Public Office** at this site. Location advertised as being opposite the Ohio Store and next door south of Mould's Daguerreian rooms.

It is believed that **W. H. Grady** opened a general store at this address (described as south of Glugston's) about 1886. Shortly after, in April of 1887, Grady purchased J. R. Davis' stock of goods and moved his own into Davis' building located at 148 Third Street.

In early April of 1867, Noyes was fitting the frame building at this site for a bookstore. However, by the end of the month, Noyes had sold to **Messrs. Cooper & Gowan** the then described, valuable fraction of a lot on Oak, 22 by 33 feet, next south of Orvis & Langs'. Orvis and Lang then gave a free deed of 9 by 22 feet in the rear of Noyes' lot under the condition that Cooper & Gowan erect a stone fireproof building, which was accepted. The wood existing frame building was then removed.

In September of 1872, the hardware store of **Gray & Lewis** was being conducted here while the **Henry L. Gray Hardware Store** opened here in September of 1875 in what was described as **Mrs. Louisa M. Gowan's** brick building. By April of 1876, Gray was offering all shelf hardware at closeout prices. The store closed



permanently in May of 1877. **John Stallman** then purchased Gray's tinner's tools and opened a **Tin Shop** here.

In 1879 **Stallman & Hudson Hardware Store** was located at this site. Then in March of 1880, **R. A. Wheeler**, ex-sheriff, purchased the interest of **Mr. Z. Hudson** in the business.

In October of 1880, **Messrs Stallman & Wheeler** sold their hardware business to **Messrs. Isaac Green and William Marriott**, who took possession immediately. For many years Green was in the boot and shoe business with Frank Avery, but the prior few years had been out of the business world. William Marriott, a nephew of Green, grew up in the area and was an experienced tinner, having learned his trade at the Gattiker Brothers Hardware. However, for the last year, Collin Brothers at Lodi employed him. His department in the new hardware was that of manufacturing and repairing.

Henry Marriott was born at Mears Ashby, England on June 29, 1855, and his boyhood days, until he was about 15 years of age were

421 & 421-1/2 Oak Street

spent in the country of his birth. In the fall of 1871 he came to Baraboo with his parents, and those younger in the family. After arriving here he attended the public schools during school hours, but spent those before and after in the doing of odd jobs that could be found. His nature was such that he could not be idle, and from his humble but ambitious beginning he gradually drew himself up. After two years spent in schools of the city he went to work for the C. & N. W. railway as a painter and followed along the line of the road as it was built west of Baraboo. When the shops and roundhouse were located here, Mr. Marriott returned to the city and for a number of years was employed in the general store room as one of the clerks. Sometime after 1880, **Henry Marriott** became associated with his brother William in the then newly named **Marriott Brothers' Hardware** business, Henry buying the interest of his uncle, the late Isaac Green. A few years after starting in business, the brothers moved to 130 Third Street.

E. E. Haines opened a **paint shop** here in March of 1889. In September of 1891, the new **Bon Ton Restaurant** was opened across the street from the *Sauk County Democrat's* office. A modern stand where popcorn was roasted to order was a prominent feature in front of the restaurant. The new restaurant was conducted by **W. O. Hackett**. In March of 1892, **George W. Gray** purchased this restaurant. He advertised being located the first door south of Link's Jewelry Store and could provide his customers with meals, lunches, oysters, home-made candy, sweet cider, popcorn, peanuts and board by the day or week.

Floyd B. Hook opened a Men's Furnishing Store here in December of 1902. In April of 1904, and by order of the court, H. L. Halsted sold the Hook stock to the highest bidder. Julius Hoppe was the highest bidder, reaching the sum of \$1,730. The stock was estimated to have a value of \$2,600. Hoppe planned on opening the store and closing out all merchandise as soon as possible.

Louise M. Gowan left this property to **Mary Sterling Withington** in 1921. On March 13, 1922 Withington sold this property to **James Ryan** for the consideration of \$5600. The March 15, 1923 paper states this was at 421 Oak.

The paper reported that the Ryan Barber shop was being redecorated and the partition in the rear of the building was removed.

In 1938 we find **Ryan's Meat Market** here, presumably operated by **James J. Ryan**. In 1940, the **City Food Mart** was being conducted on this site while in 1943 we find **Fredman's Men's Store**. James Ryan died on November 19, 1962 and his wife **Amanda**, sold this property to The **Baraboo National Bank** on January 2, 1968. The building was then integrated into the bank by means of demolition and new construction.

421-1/2 Oak St. (Second Floor)

1895-1898 In April of 1881, Mrs. E. P. Scott & Co., Milliners and Dressmakers opened a large and elegant line of millinery and ladies' fancy goods in the Camp Building two doors south of the bank on Oak Street. They may have shared this site with the hardware, probably on the second floor.

1895-1898 Mrs. C. T. Robinson, Milliner
In July of 1897, Mrs. Robinson arranged for a change in her business, which was certain to prove satisfactory to her friends and customers. Beginning September 1, she would open a line of dress goods along with her millinery. She also planned on opening a dressmaking parlor under the direction of Mrs. F. G. Walker. Plans were to employ 5 ladies in this department, one of which would be Miss Ella Morey. In September of 1901, Robinson moved to 136 Third Street, the store that Reinking had recently vacated.

1898	T. B. Buckley, Insurance
1898	Dr. J. G. Seidel, Physician
1898	E. N. Marsh, Real Estate
1903-1905	Harris J. Irwin, Physician
1905	Ambrose J. Gemmill, Attorney at Law
1910	F.A. Philbrick, Realtor
1915-1917	Edgar J. Battles Insurance & Real Estate
1917	Beavers Reserve Fund Fraternity

421 & 421-1/2 Oak Street

- 1944-1962 John R. Leatherman, Insurance. (Leatherman was also listed at 115 Fourth Ave. in the 1943 telephone directory.)
- 1934 It was reported that **James Ryan** moved his **barbershop** to 421 Oak Street in 1934; probably to the second floor. He had been at 410 Oak Street.
- 1919 Dr. F. R. Winslow moved here from 526 Oak in August of 1919.
- 1964-1973 In 1964 the Gavin Bothers purchased the Leatherman Real Estate Agency. Harold J., James F. & John M. Gavin, Partners
- 1955-1957 James J. Ryan Barber Shop

423 & 423-1/2 Oak Street

423 & 423-1/2 Oak Street

Located north of the alley between Second & Third Avenue on the west side of Oak
Block 34, lot 1
Sanborn map location 607 Oak Street

In November of 1847 a parcel of land on the northeast corner of Third Avenue and Oak Street, described as Lot 1, Block 34, was deeded to **John C. Grapel** by Sauk County, the consideration being \$56.00. This parcel measured 66 Feet of frontage on Third Avenue and 132 Feet of frontage on Oak Street, extending south to the alley.

In October of 1850, **Henry L. Feegles** was conducting his **Tailor Shop** south of Kirks store and opposite Moorhead's Tin Shop, which would have been approximately at this location. This tailor shop was still in operation as late as September of 1854.

In April of 1855, **J. Kelly** opened **Kelly's Hair Dressing Saloon** at the site that Henry Feegles recently vacated.

In September of 1865 **Messrs. Rufus A. Orvis & T. D. Lang** purchased this lot and the connecting lot on Third Avenue, this area was known as "Rogers' Corner", on which their business was located.

M. Mould's Daguerreian Gallery was located at this site prior to 1866. In June of 1866, he moved his gallery to an empty lot at 413 Oak and just south of the meat market so that Orvis & Lang could construct a new building here.

An August 1863 issue of the Baraboo Republic ran an ad stating that **Mr. Wood** would continue to run the picture gallery of **Mould & Boutwell** for a short time.

The property located at 421 Oak was part of this parcel and fronted 22 feet on Oak Street by 44 feet deep. **Orvis & Lang** sold pharmaceuticals and groceries here as early as September of 1866. Orvis sold out to Camp in 1870.

Rufus A. Orvis was born in 1827 and married Caroline A. Casler in 1854. The couple came to Baraboo in April of 1857 where Rufus engaged in the hardware business with his uncle, Ransom Jones. After Orvis sold out his business interest here, he moved to South Bend, Indiana. It was reported that Orvis drowned there the same year. Later in 1876, Mrs. Orvis married Henry D. Evans of Baraboo.



Fred Gollmar in doorway, Ben Gollmar to his left

Camp's Drug Store, which was located at this site, was destroyed in the Dec 3, 1871 fire.

Within three hours the following public places of business were destroyed, Lang, Camp & Company's drug store, Avery & Green's boot and shoe store, Draper brothers Meat market, Bower, Obert & Co., Mrs. Sharps Millinery Store, William Sharnke's Jewelry Store and Lange, Camp & Co's. Dry Goods Store.

*On April 9, 1872, Caroline A. Orvis, widow of Rufus Orvis sold this parcel of land that was directly west and adjacent to the Baraboo National Bank property to **Arthur Camp** and **Jas. A. Struthers**. This parcel fronted 22 feet on Third Avenue, wrapped around behind the bank and fronted 22 feet on Oak Street, no doubt 423 Oak.*

By 1872 a new two-story brick building had been constructed. This building wrapped around behind the Baraboo National Bank building and fronted on 421 Oak Street and

423 & 423-1/2 Oak Street



L to R: Fred Gollmar, M. H. Mould (Tom Mould's Grandfather)
Jim Coughlin & Dr. Sneathen

*housed the **Camp's Drug Store**. The business on Third was being conducted as Lang, Camp & Co. Groceries and Dry Goods.*

In 1872, the new edifice at 423 Oak Street once again housed the **Camp's Drug Store**. This store, which was devoted almost wholly to drugs, toilet articles, perfumery, etc., was under the immediate supervision of Mr. Camp, assisted by **Mr. Henry Turney**. In 1873 the first cloth awning in Baraboo was erected on the front of this store. It was stated in the May 3, 1876 issue of the Baraboo Republic that Camp had also installed a new soda fountain.

The part of the store fronting on Third Avenue was filled with dry goods, cloths, groceries, and crockery and in fact, everything you would normally find in such an establishment. This department was presided over by **Lang, Camp & Co. Mr. Struthers**, who is the express agent, also had his office in this part of the building.

Then in December of 1876, **A. K. Camp** sold this drug store to **R. Robinson** of Green bay, who immediately entered into possession.

R. Robinson Pharmacy, by June of 1879 was operating out of 103 Third Avenue. **Lang**, who's partner James Struthers had died in 1876, had moved to the old stand of Robinson's at 423 Oak, in affect, they had exchanged stores.

By 1879 **John L. Link** conducted a **Jewelry Store** at this site, remaining until at least 1890. In 1890 **Captain Frost**, who came to Baraboo in 1879, was a partner with Link located two doors south of the bank.

In the March 17, 1880 issue of the Baraboo Republic, A. K. Camp of Milwaukee was offering for sale "The brick stores, occupied by **R. Robinson** and **R. F. McKey** at the bank corner; can be purchased for \$9,000" **McKey Clothing** was located at 423 Oak Street and Robinson at 103 Third Avenue.

Fred and **Ben Gollmar** established **Gollmar Brothers Furniture and Undertaking** at this address in 1884. In late 1885, Fred Gollmar went to work for Carlos Bacon. Then in April of 1887, he and his cousin **Henry Moeller Jr.** left for Dakota to try their fortune.

W. H. Glugston then assumed their business, however in June of 1887, the Gollmars were back and had purchased back the store and were again in the furniture business. It was Glugston's intention to move to Lodi and open a furniture store. In 1887 it was decided that the duo needed more room so they moved to 115 Third Street.

F. T. Brewster purchased this building in February of 1888. By the end of March, Brewster was adding on to the rear of the building to connect it with the building located at 103 Third Avenue, which Brewster also had recently purchased.

It was reported in November of 1888 that **Munroe and Teel**, flour and feed merchants located at 412 Oak moved into this building. However, by the end of December, the duo decided to close their business here and give their attention to their storage and grain business on the south side.

R. P. Freeman Flour & Feed then entered the picture, but by March of 1889, **Munroe and Teel** were again dealing in **Flour and Feed Business** at their old stand at 412 Oak Street, having purchased back the stock in trade from Freeman .

423 & 423-1/2 Oak Street

There is a strong possibility that Ramseyer Jewelry was located here in the autumn of 1889. In October of 1891, Munroe & Teel announced that they had dissolved their partnership, which actually took effect November 1, 1891. Mr. Teel purchased Munroe's interest in the refrigerator storehouse and retained the lime business. Mr. Monroe acquired Teel's interest in the flour and feed store. A new firm, to be known as **Teel Brothers**, will conduct flour and feed business at the stand lately occupied by A. P. Johnson, on Fourth Street. The 1895-1896 city directory lists the **American Express Company** at this address with **E. C. Fuller** being the agent. By 1898 the **Globe Barber Shop** is here, probably sharing the building with **Gottfried Ramsayer the Jeweler**. In December of 1902, Ramsayer ran an ad stating that he was closing out his stock and was planning on moving to the Thompson House where he would do only repair work. By February of 1903, **F. A. Philbrick** had moved his **Real Estate** office into the space vacated by Ramsayer. Prior to this date, Philbrick had been located on the second floor. Between 1901 and 1917 **J. E. Von Wald** sold **Jewelry and Musical Instruments** at this address.

In May of 1909, the office occupied by F. A. Philbrick was added to the Bank of Baraboo. The stairway, leading to the office of Grotophorst, Evans & Thomas on the second floor, at the north end of the building would be removed and rebuilt at the south end. The added space would then be used to house a new vault for safe deposit boxes. It was reported that Philbrick had been located in this building for 12 years. Philbrick would move to the second floor, which he had occupied prior to moving to this floor.

The **Baraboo National Bank** underwent an expansion and integrated this building as well as the structure at 103 Third Avenue in 1923.

The rear of the Third Avenue building would become a part of the old Von Wald building at 423 Oak Street and **Jeffries' Electrical Shop** would occupy the now larger Oak Street building. The angle formed by these two buildings was once all one store and in later years was divided only by a thin partition. A brick wall would now be erected, replacing the thin partition and dividing the buildings. **C. Coolidge** would also conduct his **jewelry store** out of part of this site.



Orriel Philbrick with one of the first model "T" Fords occupies an important place in the group (obviously at the lead) followed by Fred Terbilcox, Toby Clavadatscher, J. E. Von Wald and Dr. H. J. Irwin. The father of Orriel Philbrick had the first Ford agency in Baraboo and is one of the spectators on the sidewalk.

The picture of the old cars was taken in 1907 in front of the Von Wald Jewelry Store, now part of the Baraboo National Bank.

The **Bretsch Shop** was moved temporarily to the Kasiska Harness Shop, as Miss Bretsch had not yet decided as to new permanent quarters. The changes, which were being made, will do much to alleviate the crowded conditions that have existed at the Bank of Baraboo during late years and would also much improve the appearance of this corner, which was probably one of the most advantageously located and busiest in the city. Work was finished on the bank in August of 1924. The building was completely covered with

423 & 423-1/2 Oak Street

Bedford stone, making the corner one of the finest appearing in the city.

Between 1934 and 1948 the **Hirschinger Insurance Agency** was located here along with **Baraboo Federal Savings & Loan**. The first step in the organization of the Baraboo Federal Savings and Loan was completed on September 29, 1934 when thirty-five persons subscribed to 250 shares depositing \$2,670.00 thereby completing the original subscription.

The applicants for the Charter were **R. H. Gollmar, George Andrews** and **R. L. Hirschinger**; the Charter was granted on October 16, 1934.

The first meeting of the association was held at the Court House on October 31, 1934 with the following members present: **F. B. Williams, L. C. Welch, George Martiny, Dr. A. R. Dippel, Otto Schadde, William M. Ott, Dr. F. E. Wood, W. E. Barringer, Philip Hirschinger, J. V. Johnson, R. H. Gollmar, J. L. Fleming, R. J. Carey, R. L. Hirschinger, George Andrews** and **Fred Armbruster** including Mr. Wanta, the state organizer.

The members elected the original Board of Directors consisting of **Dr. A. R. Dippel, R. J. Osborne, George M. McArthur, R. H. Gollmar, J. L. Fleming, William M. Ott, Fred Armbruster, H. C. Amundson** and **R. L. Hirschinger**.

During the first ten-year period, and probably longer, all the original officers in charge of the association were **A. R. Dippel**, president, **William M. Ott**, vice-president, **R. L. Hirschinger**, secretary-treasurer, **Viola M. Schilling**, assistant secretary and **R. H. Gollmar**, general council.

The first appraisers were **William H. Ott, George Isenberg** and **R. L. Hirschinger**. George Isenberg passed away and Ott resigned due to pressing business. **Louis Isenberg** and **C. R. Hornung** replaced

them. Director **Henry E. Ringling** was granted a leave of absence for the duration of WWII when he served in the armed forces.

During December 1934, the association's first month of operation, loans totaling \$1,600.00 were made then the next loans totaling \$6,000 were made during the third month.

The **Western Union Telegraph Company** was here between 1936 and 1967. In July of 1967 Western Union moved to the Kieffer TV building.

Also sharing this space between 1951 and 1967 was **Marvin Schroeder** who conducted the **Baraboo News Agency** here. In July of 1967, the news agency was sold to the **Madison News Agency**. The agency's office may have been in the basement as receipt of goods happened by means of a chute in the sidewalk.

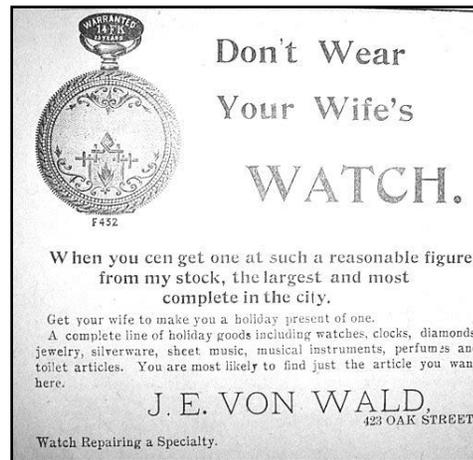
The vacant space, which was to be refinished in walnut paneling, was then turned into a Director's Room, opening off the main lobby.

423-1/2 Oak Street

In July of 1892, **Mrs. Samuel S. Grubb** concluded to make comfortable quarters, especially for the railroad boys, over Mr. Links jewelry store on Oak Street. There were five rooms and it was proposed that one of the rooms would be used for a large sitting room. The roomer also had for their own use a large bathroom on the same floor, with hot and cold water, water closet, etc.

In January of 1896, **F. A. Philbrick** and **Thomas Buckley** opened a **Real Estate, Insurance and Collection Agency** over the Baraboo Bank in the office formerly occupied by **Dr. Slye**. In December of 1896, the partnership was dissolved. Philbrick would continue the business while Buckley would carry on his work in life insurance as previously. Buckley continued his office here.

Philbrick moved to the first floor in 1903. He moved back to the second floor in 1909 when the bank took over the first floor. He remained here until 1911 when he moved to 427 Oak.



J. E. Von Wald Jewelry circa 1901

423-425-427-429 Oak Street

More 423/425/427/429 Oak Street

(Second Floor)

Many merchants, attorneys, Insurance agencies Etc. occupied offices in and over the Baraboo National Bank building. Addresses being determined in a willy-nilly way. Sometimes the above addresses would be on the first floor and some time on the second floor. Following is a mere sampling.

423 Oak St.

1934-1936

New Attorney To Locate In Baraboo (BWN 7/3/34)

The firm of Grotophorst, Quale and Langer has announced that Warren M. Dana of Racine will be associated with them in the practice of law. Mr. Dana was graduated from the University of Wisconsin with honors at the recent commencement. He will take up his work at the local offices on Monday, July 2.

Norman Quale, Attorney (TD36)

1938-1952

Dr. Vander Kamp & Dr. Pearson Office

Dr. Carlyle Pearson of Madison arrived in Baraboo today to take up the practice of medicine, as an associate of Dr. Harry Vander Kamp. Dr. Pearson is a graduate of the University of Madison with the class of 1929. He served his internship in the Kansas City General Hospital. (BWN, 11/3/1938)

1938-1949

Morris F. Fox & Co. (Investments) (CD38, TD40)

1936

Harold Langer, Attorney (TD36)

1938-1939

Langer, Dessmer & Dana (Langer & Dana)

Harold M. Langer*, (Dessmer ???) Warren L. Dana* (CD38*)

1940

Harold M. Langer, Warren M. Dana, Attorney (TD40)

1939

George A. Gessner law Office

1939

Langer, Gessner & Dana announced the dissolution of their law firm. Langer & Dana will continue their joint practice in the Baraboo National Bank building. George Gessner will return to Milwaukee, where he was engaged prior to coming to Baraboo in 1938.

425 Oak

1890-1891

Link & Frost Jewelers

Captain Frost in 1862. Then in 1879 Link came to Baraboo. In 1890, Captain Frost and John L. Link had a jewelry store which was located on Oak St., two doors south of the Bank of Baraboo. It is not clear where 2-doors south was. Could have been 427 or 429. In February of 1891, it was reported that Link had opened a repair shop in the rooms over his store.

1898 G. Ramsayer, Jeweler (SCD98)

1890-1895

John F. Sneathen, Dentist, Address shown as **Corner Oak & Third** in (SCD90)

1895

Alfred L. Burnham, Insurance (CD95)

423-425-427-429 Oak Street

1890-1895 Lawton C. Slye, Homeopathic Physician/Surgeon, Address given as **Corner Oak & Third** in SCD90, (CD95)

1898 Herman Grotophorst, Lawyer (SCD98)

1898-1903 Dr. W.A. Hazleton, Physician (SCD98)

1903 L.F. Hazleton, Physician (CD03)

1903 Mrs. E.A. Hall, Dressmaker (CD03)

1903-1905 E.A.Hall, Painter (CD03, CD05)

1905 A.J. Gemmill, Real Estate & Insurance (CD05)

1911-1915 Grotophorst, Evans & Thomas Law Office, Second Floor
Herman Grotophorst*, Evan A.Evans*, Herbert H. Thomas*
(TD11, TD12, TD13, CD15*)

1917 Grotophorst, Thomas, Riesser, & Quale Law Office
Herman Grotophorst*, Herbert H. Thomas*, Robert M. Riesser*, Norman Quale* (CD17*)

1920 Grotophorst & Quale Law Office (TD20)

1920 Dr. Sayles Office (TD20)

1920 H.H. Thomas Law Office (TD20)

1923 The law firm of Grotophorst & Quale announced that they have taken into their firm H.M. Langer and after May, 1 the firm will be known as Grotophorst, Quale and Langer. Mr. Langer has been employed at this office for some time and formerly was associated with the law firm of Olwell, Durant & Brady in Milwaukee for a period of three years (BDN, 5/1/23)

1940-1942 Harold M. Langer & Warren M. Dana, Attorneys

1945 Tuschschmidt And Hobbs, Architects (TD45)

1943-1948 Morris F. Fox & Co. (Investments) (TD43, TD45, TD48)

1943-1948 Drs. C.R. Pearson & H. Vander Kamp(TD43, TD45, TD48)

1943-1946 Harold M. Langer, Attorney (TD43, TD45)

1947-1962 Milwaukee Company Investments (TD47, TD48)

1947-1960 Langer & Cross, Attorneys at Law
Clyde C. Cross*, Kenneth H. Hanson??, Harold M. Langer*, Attorneys (TD47, TD48, CD50*)

1951-1952 Dr. H. Vander Kamp (TD51, TD52) (Listed at 614 Ash TD53)

1951-1955 Dr. Carlyle R. Pearson (TD51, CD55)(Listed at 314 Ash in TD57)

1951-1960 Milwaukee Co., Investments
William Martin* Local Rep. (TD51, CD55*, TD57, TD60)

1951-1959 Morris F. Fox & Co. (Investments) (No listing TD60)
William Martin* Local Rep. (TD51, CD55*, TD57, TD59)

1951-1960 Langer & Cross Law Office
Harold M. Langer*, Clyde C. Cross* Partners James W. Karch (TD51, CD55*, TD57, TD60)

1959-1960 Dithmar Abstract Co. (TD59, TD60) Listed at 103-3rd. Ave. TD58

423-425-427-429 Oak Street

1959-1962 Hill, Dithmar & Greenhaulgh
Harland H. Hill, John U. Dithmar and Robert L Greenhaulgh (TD59, TD60)

1958-1960 John A. Hoppe, CPA (TD58, TD59, TD60)

1962 Milwaukee Co., Investments (TD62)

1964 Sauk County Family Court Commissioner

1962-1964 John A. Hoppe Co. (Listed at 106 Walnut in CD68)
John A. Hoppe* & Albert R. Dipple* CPA's (TD62, CD64*)

1962-1964 Dithmar Abstract Co. (Listed at 425-1/2 Oak in CD68)
John U. Dithmar* Owner (TD62, CD64*)

1962-1964 Langer, Cross & Langer
Harold M. Langer*, Clyde C. Cross*, John M. Langer* Attorneys (CD64*)

1968-1971 Cross, Langer & Krainik Attorneys (#212)
Clyde C. Cross*, John M. Langer*, Ralph B. Krainik* (CD68*)

1962 Hill, Dithmar & Greenhaulgh, Attorneys (TD62)
Harland H. Hill*, John U. Dithmar*, Robert L. Greenhaulgh* (TD62*)

1964-1971 Dithmar & Greenhaulgh Attorneys (Listed at 425-1/2 Oak in CD68)
John U. Dithmar*, Robert L. Greenhaulgh*, Partners (CD64*)

1968-1975 WBOO Baraboo Broadcasting
Burt Murphy* Pres. (CD68*)

1968 Dithmar Abstract Co.
John U. Dithmar* Partner (CD68*)

1968 Dithmar & Greenhaulgh Attorneys
Robert L. Greenhaulgh* John U, Dithmar* Partners (CD68*)

1971-1973 Baraboo United Fund
John M. Langer* Pres.(CD71, CD73*)

1971-1978 WBOO Radio Broadcasting Service, (Ribbon cutting in August of 1967)
Burt Murphy* Pres. (CD71*, CD73*, CD78*)

1971 Cross, Langer & Krainik
Clyde C. Cross, Ralph P. Krainik & John M. Langer (CD71)

1972-1973 Cross, Karch & Langer (#212)
Clyde C. Cross*, James W. Karch*, John M. Langer* Frederick J. Wagner*(CD73*)

1974-1975 Cross, Karch, Langer & Wagner law offices

1976-1977 Cross & Wagner
Clyde C. Cross*, Frederick J. Wagner (CD76*)

1978-1979 Cross, Wagner & Mercer law offices
Clyde C. Cross, Jerome P. Mercer, Karen A. Mercer, Frederick J. Wagner, (CD78*, TD79*)

423-425-427-429 Oak Street

- 1980 Cross, Mercer and Maffei
1970-1971 Dithmar & Greenhaulgh
John U. Dithmar*, Robert L. Greenhaulgh*, Partners (CD71*)
1972-1977 Greehaulgh, Jenks and Dithmar
John U. Dithmar*, Robert L. Greenhaulgh*, Richard S. Jenks*, Walter T. Jenks*
(CD73*, CD76*)
1978-1980 Greehaulgh, Jenks and Dithmar
(Robert L. Greenhaulgh, Richard S. Jenks, John U. Dithmar, Walter T. Jenks) (CD78*)
1980-1987 Cross, Mercer and Maffei
Clyde C. Cross, Jerome P. Mercer, Wayne L. Maffei, Karen A. Mercer
(CD83*, CD80*, CD86*, CD87*)
1980-1981 Greehaulgh, Jenks and Dithmar
(Robert L. Greenhaulgh, Richard S. Jenks, John U. Dithmar, Walter T. Jenks)
1982-1985 Greehaulgh, Jenks and Dithmar
Robert L. Greenhaulgh*, Richard S. Jenks* & John U. Dithmar* (CD82*, CD83*)
1985 Greenhaulgh, Jenks, Dithmar and Greenhaulgh (CD85*)

427 Oak

- 1911-1913 F.A. Philbrick Office (TD11, TD12, TD13)
1920 Dr. F.E. Wood Dental Office (TD20)
1920 Dr. F.E. Wood Dental Office (TD20)

429 Oak

- 1867 "W. Sharnke Jewelry Store"
Sharnke opened his store here in 1867, in a room just vacated by the Bank of Baraboo (BDN, 1/9/1927)
1872-1882 W. W. Scharnke, Watch maker (BR 1877, 1879)
1877 Dr. Sneathen assumed Dr. Pierrepont's business in September of 1877
Sneathen had practiced dentistry in Reedsburg for the past 18 months.(BR, 9/26/1877)
1879-1881 J.F. Sneathen, Dentist
Bank Block (SCD81)
1879-1881 J.F. Sneathen, Dentist
Bank Block (SCD81)

424 & 424-1/2 Oak Street

424 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street, north of the alley between
Second and Third Streets.

Block 35, lot 6
Sanborn map location 706 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This three-bay, two-story brick building originally had a wooden cornice. In April of 1900, an announcement appeared that Robinson and Kasten were “making alterations that greatly add to the appearance” of the store; this may be when the structure acquired its current metal cornice. Segmentally arched window hoods of brick remain, although the windows have been replaced with smaller modern sash windows. Despite alterations to the storefront, the pressed metal cornice and brickwork is of some interest. The building is considered contributive to the district as an element of an intact block face.

In May of 1853, **W. D. Browning** and **W. H. Rogers** announced that they had purchased the tin & hardware stock of **Isaac Moorehead**. They invited the public to stop in at their store, located just east of N. C. Kirk’s old stand. They may have been located at approximately this location. Morehead decided to move west and stated that he would close out his goods in exchange for grain or livestock. At the close of his sale he had 31 hogs and much grain.

In 1870, the firm of **Haines and Train**, also known as **J. M. Haines & Co.**, dissolved their partnership and **F. Longley** assumed Haines’ position and the partnership became **Train & Longley**. In 1871, the partners improved their frame building at this site. In March of 1871, **J. W. Hawes’** and **Mrs. S. B. Hawes** moved their **Boot & Shoe Store** and **Dress Making Shop** from 101 Fourth Street to the second floor at this site. In January 1 of 1872, the firm of partnership of Train & Longley came to an end. In February of 1872 **George Bower** and **Charles W. Burrington** purchased the stock that the failed partnership of Train & Longley had up for sale and will continue business here.

In May of 1873, **J. G. Train** purchased Longley’s interest in this frame building. In June of the same year, Train opened a dry goods



Baker's Dozen and Kropp's Market circa 1996

and grocery store here. Later, the fire of 1880 destroyed this building, which was insured for \$1,000.

A. B. Willett completed construction of the present building in July of 1886. He then opened a confectionery here. On Tuesday March 28, 1888, he moved out of the building on Oak, which he had recently sold to **Florian Raschein**. The **Misses Raschein**, **Barbara and Sena**, moved their **Dress Shop** into their father’s newly acquired building the next day. On April 19, 1898, Florian Raschein died. He was born in the Canton of Graubunden, Switzerland on May 3, 1824 and married Ellieseps Moely in 1851. In 1855 they came to Baraboo and settled on a farm in Honey Creek where they lived until 1894 when they moved to Baraboo. The deceased left his wife, eight daughters and two sons. His funeral was held at his residence on Lynn Street and his remains were interred at the Reformed Church in the town of Prairie du Sac. The following December the Raschein partners closed their store.

424 & 424-1/2 Oak Street



Empty lot where buildings with address' 420 and 424 Oak Street would later stand. Davis store on right and Corner Drug Store on left.

In March of 1895, the **F. S. Dame Jewelry Store** moved its stock here from 412-1/2 Oak Street. The store was divided with Dame occupying one side and the milliners the other.

W. S. Halsted & Co. Carmen & Transfer Line received their orders here in 1895.

In June of 1899, **W. B. Struthers** moved his **fruit store** here from 532 Oak Street. Due to health problems Struthers was forced to sell his business, stock and fixtures to **Sam Goldfarb**. This happened in January of 1900. Did Goldfarb set up business here? One thing we know, the store was lowered to the level of the sidewalk about the same time. Struthers obtained a position with the Chicago and Northwestern Railway in Chicago. In April, Mrs. Struthers moved to Chicago where the couple would make their home.

In March of 1900 **Dave W. Robinson** and his partner **Mr. Kasten** opened their **Palace Fruit and Confectionery Store** here. By 1905 **Dave Robinson Groceries** was here and in 1906, Ed Buehler was advertising the **Palace Restaurant**. In 1908 Buehler sold the Palace restaurant to **J. G. Patterson** of Cambridge, Wisconsin. Patterson was here until April of 1913.

In April of 1913 **William Hattle**, a young man from Baraboo, and **Frank Hillebrandt** took over the operation of the dining establishment at this site and renamed it the **Echo restaurant**. In December of the same year Hattle purchased Hillebrandt's interest. Some records indicate that **Ellsworth Hattle** had a **Tobacco Store** here in 1915. In August of 1915, Hattle sold to **Thomas J. Moran**.

Albert Blanck's Echo Restaurant followed Moran in 1919. In March of 1921, **Harry Feinberg** purchased the interests of Albert Blanck in the restaurant. Feinberg had not decided what he would install in the place but was quite sure it would not be a restaurant. Mr. Feinberg was a brother of Max and Louis Feinberg of this city and sometime prior had returned from overseas where he lost one of his limbs in the war. Feinberg then sold the building to his brother, Louis and Sigmund Blumenfeld.

In March of 1921 the Weirich Brothers sold their meat market business (not the building) to Louis Feinberg and Sigmund Blumenfeld who operated the Baraboo Fruit Store & Bakery on Oak Street in the block across the way. The new owners moved the meat market to 420 Oak, where prior to that time they had operated a bakery. The **Barker Bakery System** was moved north one door to this address and a door was cut between the two stores for the convenience of customers. Then, in April of 1925, **Blumenfeld and Feinberg** purchased the building now occupied by the bakery. The building was purchased from Miss Sena Raschein.

In the spring of 1926, Blumenfeld & Feinberg, proprietors of the Barker System Bakery made extensive improvements in the equipment of their bakery business. The entire second floor of the building in which the business has been located was given over to what is known as the mixing room and only the ovens and store remained down stairs. The former equipment was tripled and the new machinery was of the latest type and attractively finished in white enamel. Chutes and elevators transported the dough to the first floor. The bakery was opened at this location seven years ago.

424 & 424-1/2 Oak Street

Extensive damage was done to the Barker Bakery in December of 1927. It was believed to have started in a motor of an electric cake mixer. The mixer was located on the first floor at the foot of a wooden staircase. The blaze followed the stairway to the second floor, burning through a large section of the floor. Most of the damage was done to the second floor that had just recently been redecorated and thoroughly up-to-date equipment had just been installed on that floor. All windowpanes were broken or cracked due to the intense heat. It is thought that in 1929, Feinberg sold his interest in the building to Blumenfeld.

In December of 1928, partners, **Oscar Knutson & James Foss** opened the **Quality Home Bakery** here. Knutson came from Madison and Foss formerly was with the Barker Bakery at this address.

Some records indicate the **Sanitary Bakery** being operated here 1935? In 1933, C.H. "**Buster**" **Wilcox** purchased the Baraboo Fruit Store bakery from Blumenfeld. In January of 1934, **Buster's Bake Shop** was sold to **Jacob Israel**. Israel has been employed as baker in the shop for the past 14 years. Israel was assisted in managing **Jake's Bakery** by his bride of a few weeks, the former **Miss Rebekah Marcus** of Columbus. Wilcox would then devote his full time to the work of circulation manager for the Baraboo News-Republic. By 1941 **Alfred G. Bayer** was conducting **Bayer's Bakery** at this site. Bayer was here until June of 1964 when **Dale L. Bartley** purchased the business, changing the name to **Bartley's Home Bakery**. Bartley would move here from Antioch, Il.; however, Bartley was no stranger to the area. He had worked at the area prior to entering the service.

Then in 1978 **Clarence "Sonny" Neitzel** was conducting **Sonny's Home Bakery**. Sonny's bakery closed in 1981 after the IRS seized the assets of a prior operator.

A month after Sonny closed, **Bill and Debbie Dailey** reopened the **Home Bakery** after leasing the business from Bartley.

In April of 1982, an explosion at the Home Bakery injured two people. The blast occurred when the two attempted to light a stove. **Bill Bailey** was taken to the University Hospital burn center and his younger brother, **John Siple** was not injured severely. The explosion scattered flour throughout the building as well as on the victims, blew



Kay, Deb and Mike October 2007

out two walls in the back of the building and broke all the windows in the front of the store. A third person, **Thomas Roundy** was also in the bakery at the time of the 12:51 AM blast but was not injured.

Geiger's Home Bakery was located here in this time period also. It is not clear how long Geiger was in business but by 1989 the building was vacant. By 1990 **Bakers Dozen Bakery** had been established here.

In 1996, **Baker's Dozen Bakery** expanded into 420 Oak St., formerly Kropp's Market. **Nancy Danner and Jean Alt** were listed as owners of this bakery in the 1993 through 1995 city directories with **Caryn Corthals** replacing Alt in the 1997 directory.

Kay (rhymes with "pie") and **Marsha Salecker** purchased the bakery from Nancy Danner on March 27, 1999. Kay Salecker learned the business in Germany. He then came to Middleton for 18 months of further training at Clasen's Bakery. While living in Madison he met and married Marsha Waldsmith, eventually opening **Salecker's Baker's Dozen Bakery** here.

424 & 424-1/2 Oak Street

When Salecker was 16 he commenced an apprenticeship at a German Bakery. After his apprenticeship he moved to Paris where he entered competition. After returning to Germany, he answered an ad of a Wisconsin bakery looking for help. He got the job and soon found himself in Madison learning English. One day he found himself in Baraboo looking at a bakery, which was for sale. He and his wife Marsha share the chores at their very successful establishment.

In January of 2006, Salecker changed the name to **Baraboo Backerei LLC**.

On October 1, 2007, **Deb and Mike Althen** purchased the Bakery Backerei, renaming the operation the **Elite Bakery**. Kay Salecker stayed on the staff as a baker while his wife, Marsha, decided to continue her education in the field of wind engineering. The Althens would continue to operate their west Baraboo businesses, Elite Catering and Moonlight Specialties, although a buyer is being sought for the later.

Elite Bakery also occupied the building adjacent, 420 Oak Street. By November of 2011, this building is sitting empty.

425 to 429 Oak Street

425-429 Oak Street

Located north of the alley between Second & Third Avenue
on the west side of Oak Street
Block 34, lot 1
Sanborn map location 607 Oak Street

In November of 1847 a parcel of land on the northeast corner of Third Avenue and Oak Street, described as Lot 1, Block 34, was deeded to **John C. Grapel** by Sauk County, the consideration being \$56.00. This parcel measured 66 Feet of frontage on Third Avenue and 132 Feet of frontage on Oak Street, extending south to the alley. The building sitting at this location was part of Grapel's purchase.

Terrell Thomas who opened the Sauk County Bank in 1857 at 135 Third Avenue purchased an old frame building at this site sometime prior to 1867, possibly as early as 1859. Thomas saw his bank building, located at 135 Third Avenue, destroyed in an 1867 fire. He immediately made an agreement with the Avery & Green Shoe Store to share their building which was located at 113 Third Avenue. After a short period of time there he moved the bank to this location. By the end of 1867 a new bank building was finished adjacent and north of this building cornering on the southeast corner of the intersection of Oak Street and Third Avenue. Thomas then vacated this building.

In January of 1867, W. Sharnke opened a Jewelry Store here following the vacating of the building by the bank. This structure was destroyed by the fire of December 3, 1871. This building was a victim of that conflagration, being torn down and moved away to lessen the damage to the new bank building.

In 1872, Thomas erected a two-story addition at the spot his old frame building stood. The addition was constructed, using the same specifications as the bank building. Sharnke, the jeweler, reoccupied the building until at least 1892. Since that time many occupants have occupied both floors of this site with the address being given as 425, 427 or 429 Oak Street. Of course, as of this writing, the Baraboo National Bank occupies all of this plus later additions.

Dr. J. F. Sneathen, who had practiced dentistry in Reedsburg for the prior 18 months, assumed **Dr. Pierrepont's** business in September of 1877. Sneathen would occupy an office here until at least 1895.

In 1890, **Captain Frost**, who arrived in Baraboo in 1862, and **John L. Link** who came here in 1879 had a jewelry store which was located on Oak Street, two doors south of the Bank of Baraboo. It is not clear where 2-doors south was. Could have been at this location. In February of 1891, it was reported that Link had opened a repair shop in the rooms over his store.

Herman Grotophorst had his shingle out here in 1898 and by 1905 he was joined on the second floor by **Herbet H. Thomas** and **Evan A. Evans** forming the law firm of **Grotophorst, Evans and Thomas**. In 1917 **M. Riesser** and **Norman Quale** had joined the team. By 1920 the law firm was reduced to Grotophorst & Quale, with H. H. Thomas having an office in the same building. In 1923 the law firm announced that they had taken into their firm **H. M. Langer** and after May, 1 the firm would be known as **Grotophorst, Quale and Langer**. Mr. Langer has been employed at this office for some time and formerly was associated with the law firm of Olwell, Durant & Brady in Milwaukee for a period of three years.

In 1940 **Harold M. Langer & Warren M. Dana** were conducting a law office here while between 1943 and 1946 it appears as though **Langer** is conducting an office solo. Between 1947 and 1951 Langer is joined by **Clyde C. Cross** with **James W. Karch** signing on from 1951 to 1960.

1895	Alfred L. Burnham, Insurance (CD95)
1890-1895	Lawton C. Slye, Homeopathic Physician/Surgeon, Address given as Corner Oak & Third in SCD90, (CD95)
1898-1903	Dr. W.A. Hazleton, Physician (SCD98)
1903	L.F. Hazleton, Physician (CD03)
1903	Mrs. E.A. Hall, Dressmaker (CD03)

425 to 429 Oak Street

1903-1905	E.A.Hall, Painter (CD03, CD05) (TD11, TD12, TD13, CD15*) (CD17*)	1962-1964	John U. Dithmar* Owner (TD62, CD64*) Langer, Cross & Langer Harold M. Langer*, Clyde C. Cross*, John M. Langer* Attorneys (CD64*)
1920	Dr. Sayles Office (TD20)	1968-1971	Cross, Langer & Krainik Attorneys (#212) Clyde C. Cross*, John M. Langer*, Ralph B. Krainik* (CD68*)
1923	(BDN, 5/1/23)	1962	Hill, Dithmar & Greenhaulgh, Attorneys (TD62) Harland H. Hill*, John U. Dithmar*, Robert L. Greenhaulgh* (TD62*)
1945	Tuchschiidt And Hobbs, Architects (TD45)	1964-1971	Dithmar & Greenhaulgh Attorneys (Listed at 425-1/2 Oak in CD68) John U. Dithmar*, Robert L. Greenhaulgh*, Partners (CD64*)
1943-1948	Morris F. Fox & Co. (Investments) (TD43, TD45, TD48)	1968-1975	WBOO Baraboo Broadcasting Burt Murphy* Pres. (CD68*)
1943-1948	Drs. C.R. Pearson & H. Vander Kamp(TD43, TD45, TD48)	1968	Dithmar Abstract Co. John U. Dithmar* Partner (CD68*)
1947-1962	Milwaukee Company Investments (TD47, TD48)	1968	Dithmar & Greenhaulgh Attorneys Robert L. Greenaulgh* John U, Dithmar* Partners (CD68*)
1951-1952	Dr. H. Vander Kamp (TD51, TD52) (Listed at 614 Ash TD53)	1971-1973	Baraboo United Fund John M. Langer* Pres.(CD71, CD73*)
1951-1955	Dr. Carlyle R. Pearson (TD51, CD55)(Listed at 314 Ash in TD57)	1971-1978	WBOO Radio Broadcasting Service, (Ribbon cutting in August of 1967) Burt Murphy* Pres. (CD71*, CD73*, CD78*)
1951-1960	Milwaukee Co., Investments William Martin* Local Rep. (TD51, CD55*, TD57, TD60)	1971	Cross, Langer & Krainik Clyde C. Cross, Ralph P. Krainik & John M. Langer (CD71)
1951-1959	Morris F. Fox & Co. (Investments) (No listing TD60) William Martin* Local Rep. (TD51, CD55*, TD57, TD59)	1972-1973	Cross, Karch & Langer (#212) Clyde C. Cross*, James W. Karch*, John M. Langer* Frederick J. Wagner*(CD73*)
1951-1960	Langer & Cross Law Office Harold M. Langer*, Clyde C. Cross* Partners James W. Karch (TD51, CD55*, TD57, TD60)	1974-1975	Cross, Karch, Langer & Wagner law offices
1959-1960	Dithmar Abstract Co. (TD59, TD60) Listed at 103-3rd. Ave. TD58	1976-1977	Cross & Wagner Clyde C. Cross*, Frederick J. Wagner (CD76*)
1959-1962	Hill, Dithmar & Greenhaulgh Harland H. Hill, John U. Dithmar and Robert L Greenhaulgh (TD59, TD60)		
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425 to 429 Oak Street

1978-1979 Cross, Wagner & Mercer law offices
Clyde C. Cross, Jerome P. Mercer, Karen A.
Mercer, Frederick J. Wagner, (CD78*, TD79*)
1980 Cross, Mercer and Maffei
1970-1971 Dithmar & Greenhaulgh
John U. Dithmar*, Robert L. Greenhaulgh*,
Partners (CD71*)
1972-1977 Greehaulgh, Jenks and Dithmar
John U. Dithmar*, Robert L. Greenhaulgh*,
Richard S. Jenks*, Walter T. Jenks*
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Clyde C. Cross, Jerome P. Mercer, Wayne L.
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U. Dithmar, Walter T. Jenks)
1982-1985 Greehaulgh, Jenks and Dithmar
Robert L. Greenhaulgh*, Richard S. Jenks* &
John U. Dithmar* (CD82*, CD83*)
1985 Greenhaulgh, Jenks, Dithmar and Greenhaulgh
(CD85*)

429 Oak Street

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Located north of the alley between Second & Third Avenue
on the west side of Oak
Block 34, lot 1
Sanborn map location 607 Oak Street

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Terrell Thomas who opened the Sauk County Bank in 1857 at 135 Third Avenue purchased an old frame building at this site sometime prior to 1867, possibly as early as 1859. Thomas saw his bank building, located at 135 Third Avenue, destroyed in an 1867 fire. He immediately made an agreement with the Avery & Green Shoe Store to share their building that was located at 113 Third Avenue. After a short period of time there he moved the bank to this location. By the end of 1867 a new bank building was finished adjacent and north of this building cornering on the southeast corner of the intersection of Oak Street and Third Avenue. Thomas then vacated this building.

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In 1872, Thomas erected a two-story addition at the spot his old frame building stood. The addition was constructed, using the same specifications as the bank building. Sharnke, the jeweler, reoccupied the building until at least 1892. Since that time many occupants have occupied both floors of this site with the address being given as 425, 427 or 429 Oak Street. Of course, as of this writing, the Baraboo National Bank occupies all of these plus later additions.

It is important to note that many of the following tenants were located at 423 and upstairs at 423-1/2 Oak Street and also at various floors in the bank with addresses identified at their whim...maybe 425, maybe 427, and maybe 429. To separate these firms is a larger job than the writer wishes to attempt at this time. Let it suffice to say the following tenants were located on Oak Street in the bank building, sometimes on the second floor and sometimes on the first floor, often moving several times.

Dr. J. F. Sneathen, who had practiced dentistry in Reedsburg for the prior 18 months, assumed **Dr. Pierrepont's** business in September of 1877. Sneathen would occupy an office here until at least 1895.

In 1890, **Captain Frost**, who arrived in Baraboo in 1862, and **John L. Link** who came here in 1879 had a jewelry store which was located on Oak Street, two doors south of the Bank of Baraboo. It is not clear where 2-doors south was. Could have been at this location. In February of 1891, it was reported that Link had opened a repair shop in the rooms over his store.

In 1903, **Mrs. E.A. Hall** has a **Dressmaking Shop** in this building while her husband, **E. A. Hall**, a **house painter**, keeps an office here until at least 1917.

Herman Grotophorst had his shingle out here in 1898 and by 1905 he was joined on the second floor by **Herbert H. Thomas** and **Evan A. Evans** forming the law firm of **Grotophorst, Evans and Thomas**. In 1917 **M. Riesser** and **Norman Quale** had joined the team. By 1920 the law firm was reduced to Grotophorst & Quale, with H. H. Thomas having an office in the same building. In 1923 the law firm announced that they had taken into their firm **H. M. Langer** and after May 1 the firm would be known as **Grotophorst, Quale and Langer**. Mr. Langer has been employed at this office for some time and formerly was associated with the law firm of Olwell, Durant & Brady in Milwaukee for a period of three years.

In 1940 **Harold M. Langer & Warren M. Dana** were conducting a law office here while between 1943 and 1946 it appears as though **Langer** is conducting an office solo. Between 1947 and

429 Oak Street

1951 Langer is joined by **Clyde C. Cross** with **James W. Karch** signing on from 1951 to 1960.

1962-1964

Harold M. Langer, Clyde C. Cross and **John M. Langer** conduct a law office here between 1962 and 1964. In 1968 and until at least 1971 the members of the firm are Cross, Langer and **Ralph B. Krainik**. In 1972 **James Karch** joins Cross & Langer while in 1973 and as late as 1975 **Frederick J. Wagner** is part of the firm.

Cross and Wagner operate as a duo in 1976 and 1977 while **Jerome P.** and **Karen A. Mercer** join them in 1978. By 1980 the Cross, Mercer and Maffei Law office is here with **Wayne L. Maffei** climbing aboard. The partners work together until at least 1980.

Between 1959 and 1962 **Harland H. Hill, John U. Dithmar** and **Robert L. Greenhalgh** are conducting a law office here while **Dithmar** conducts his own **Abstract Company** at 103 Third Avenue. Dithmar moves his abstract office to this location (given as 425-1/2 Oak) in 1962 remaining here until at least 1968. By 1970 the firm consists of Dithmar & Greenhaulgh while in 1972 **Richard S. Jenks** and **Walter T. Jenks** join the firm. This firm remains at this address until at least 1985.

Many other professional people conducted their business here including **Alfred L. Burnham Insurance** in 1895 and **Dr. Lawton C. Slye, Homeopathic Physician/Surgeon** between 1890 and 1895. 1898-1903 found **Dr. W.A. Hazleton, Physician** here while in 1903, **Dr. L.F. Hazleton, Physician** had an office here. **Dr. Sayles'** office was here in 1920 with **Dr. C.R. Pearson** here from 1943 to 1955. **Dr. H. Vander Kamp** conducted business here between 1943 and 1952. Vander Kamp moved to 614 Ash Street in 1953 and Pearson moved to 314 Ash Street in 1957.

John A. Hoppe, CPA has an office here in 1958 and with **Albert R. Dippel** here as late as 1964 and listed at 106 Walnut Street in 1968.

Investment broker, **William Martin**, represents **Morris F. Fox & Co.** and the **Milwaukee Investment Co.** from 1943 to 1962 and maybe longer.

A ribbon cutting was held in August of 1967 for the opening of **WBOO Baraboo Broadcasting**, conducted by **Burt Murphy** and the radio station was located here until at least 1978.

In 1945 **Tuchschmidt and Hobbs, Architects** had an office here.

500-502 Oak Street

500-502 Oak Street

Located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Oak and Third Streets
fronting on Oak Street
Block 26, lot 7 & 8
Sanborn map location 707 Oak Street



Col. James Maxwell

Architectural Description

This neoclassical building has a temple-front, a building type which does not have the zone divisions seen in the surrounding commercial structures. The primary characteristics of this type derive from the arrangement of a few major features, such as columns, large openings and enframing wall surfaces. Secondary characteristics include the materials employed and minor decorative details.

Ornamental (not structural) allusions to temples of Greek and Roman antiquity include the engaged Corinthian columns and pilasters, which mix both round and square forms, and the row of heavy dentils over a simple frieze. The main entrance is flanked by two close columns, with large modern windows filling in surfaces between columns. Fenestration and pilasters on the subordinate southern elevation create a rhythm in which double windows are followed by paired pilasters, while single windows are flanked by single pilasters. Two low-relief panels mark the upper corners of the façade.

Col. James Maxwell's Corner Store edifice reportedly was constructed in 1845 "under-the-hill" and later was purchased by William Hoxie. The structure was supposedly moved to this location by Col. Maxwell in 1847 and was the first store "on-the-hill."

The December 19, 1850 issue of the *Sauk County Standard*, "A pioneer remembers", notes that in 1847, Maxwell built the store on this site, being the first building on the plot. Col. Sumner began building his Tavern House and the Court House at the same time. First court was held in May of 1848, the Court House being accepted by the commissioners on December 18, 1848.

Col. Maxwell, one of the early settlers of the Baraboo Valley, died Thursday, the 16th. Day of November 1869. Maxwell was born of Puritan stock, in Guilford, Vermont, on the first day of May 1789 prior to the close of the Revolutionary War. He in fact was the son and grandson of Revolutionary soldiers. He was raised a farmer in that town and at the age of twenty-six, he moved to Barnardstown, Franklin County, Massachusetts, a few miles south of his native town. There he engaged in business as a merchant. After a few years he again moved, this time to Cayuga County in New York. This was about 1824, and while there he was engaged as a sub-contractor in work upon the Erie Canal. Next he spent a couple of years in Tioga County, Pennsylvania and five years as a merchant in Oldham County, New York. Next we find him at Fountain County, Indiana, seventy-five miles above Terre Haute where he remained for five years in milling and mercantile pursuits. In 1834 he took up residency in Chicago, and was offered three lots near the courthouse in exchange for a horse he had brought with him. He refused this offer.

500-502 Oak Street

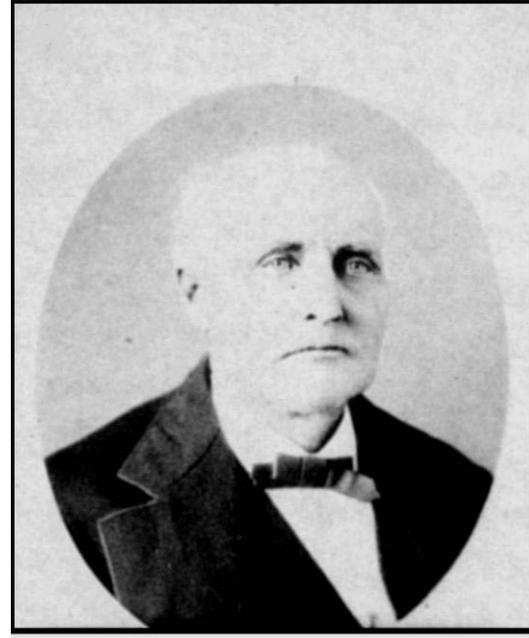
In the summer of 1836 several men of Chicago took an interest in a claim to lands and a village site at the outlet of Big Foot Lake, in the county of Walworth. It was at that time a wilderness. Among the proprietors were Dr. Philip H. and Col. James Maxwell. R. W. Warner was also one of the owners and was employed to do the layout of the village, erect a sawmill, make a dam and dig a race. The village was named Geneva.

Col. Maxwell then removed to Big Foot Prairie, some ten miles southwest of Geneva, in the year 1837, and with his son, James A. settled upon a farm. In 1838 he was elected the first member of the Territorial Council for the counties of Rock and Walworth without distention of party.

Col. Maxwell was some twelve years a Surgeon in the United States Army, part of the time at Fort Dearborn near Chicago. About 1842, he established himself as a practicing physician in the then frontier village where he remained until 1857. He retired to a country home, which he had built in a beautiful spot he had reserved for that purpose on Big Foot Lake, in the suburbs of the village of Geneva. He died there in 1859.

In the spring of the 1840 he crossed the Baraboo Bluffs and, at the village of Manchester, began the improvement of the waterpower, which has since retained his name. Soon he returned to Walworth County. In 1846, he returned to Baraboo accompanied by his son, James A. and by Mr. E. Estabrook, and made preparations to move here permanently. This he did, in company with his son who brought his family in the spring following. In the same year, 1846, Col. Maxwell erected the first building upon the public square (the only other building in Baraboo proper being at that time the old log school house) the once well-known old "Corner Store," and also the sawmill on his waterpower. In 1851 and 1853 he was a prominent candidate in the Whig Conventions of the state, and at one of these conventions was nominated for Secretary of State.

In 1856 he moved to the western part of the Territory of Nebraska, and opened a large farm on the Platte River. He remained there for six years, contending against Indian troubles and prairie fires,



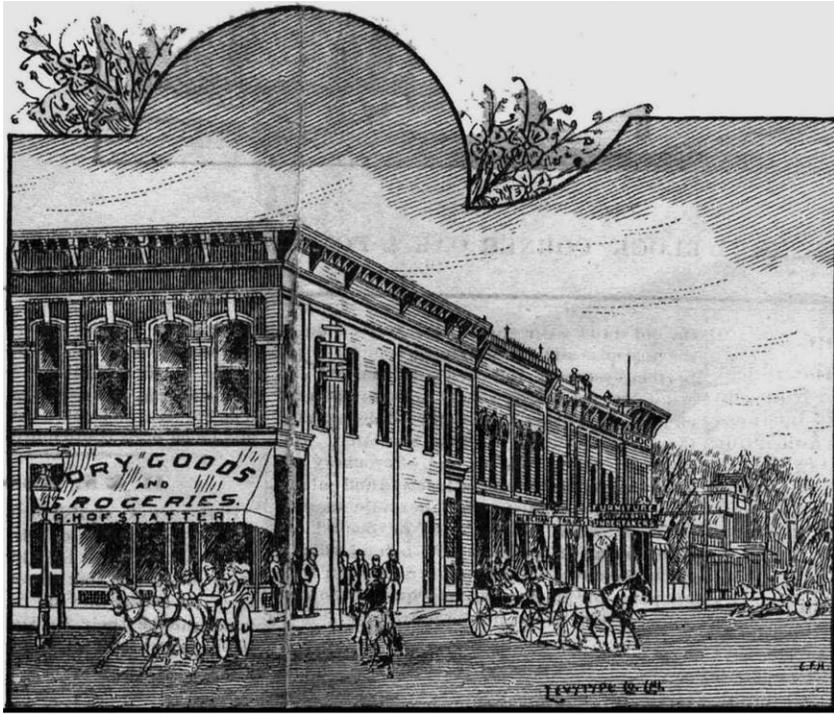
Major James A. Maxwell

without benefiting himself pecuniary, and at that time returned to the homestead of his son in Baraboo.

In August of 1850, **Col. J. & J. A. Maxwell & Co.** was operating a **Country Store** at this corner. In May of 1853 **R. M. Brown & Son** opened **Brown's Emporium** in the Maxwell building. They were a wholesale and retail establishment and remodeled and enlarged the building. In October of 1855 the Emporium moved to the bank building at 135 Third Avenue. It was said that the portly figure of Col. Maxwell was always clad in immaculate broadcloth, silk hat and shining footgear, which would be an ornament to any city. **Daniel Schermerhorn, Justice of the Peace**, had his office in the rear of this building in July of 1853. The office fronted on Third Street.

James Beatty opened a store here in October of 1855. He stocked it with toys and was looking forward to adding a bakery. In July of 1856, **J. B. Houghton & J. R. Hazzard** opened a new **General**

500-502 Oak Street



Hofstatter Groceries

Store on this corner. They promptly advertised for a baker and after finding one began advertising the **Baraboo Bakery** at this site.

Prior to April of 1860, **C. Armstrong, D. K. Noyes & H. W. Getchell** conducted a general store here. Their partnership was dissolved on April 10 with **Noyes & Getchell** remaining as partners and continuing the operation. However, in September **J. R. Davis** purchased all the stock and opened his own store here.

It was reported in November of 1861 that J. R. Davis had sold his entire stock to **W. H. Thomson** and **A. P. Catlin** and that the latter had entered into a co-partnership under the firm name of **Thomson & Catlin**. They have also rented the store occupied by Mr. Davis. In the November 27 issue of the *Baraboo Republic*, it was reported that Thomson & Catlin were opening a Grocery and Dry Goods store at the

Maxwell Corner site. Obviously, Davis had been in business here earlier. By January of 1862, the partnership of Thomson and Catlin was dissolved, possibly as a result of Catlin enlisting in the army. Thomson continued the business. Then, about a week after the dissolution, Rev. Thomson sold the complete stock to **James Bonnell** of **Milwaukee**. Bonnell would move the stock to his Milwaukee business place.

Evidently **G. H. & C. A. Sumner** next located here as in April of 1863 it was announced that the **John Dean Co.**, which included brothers **Wm. Dean** and **Jas. H. Dean** located their office with the Summer's in the same building. The Dean Company closed on January 1, 1865. Dean's woolen mill was at the Manchester site at this time.

In 1856 **Washington Burrington** came to Baraboo and bought out **Hoxie's Grocery Business**, which he then operated with his brother **Robert A.** Hoxie had been in business as early as 1855 with **P. A. Bassett**, location unclear. At a later date **Mr. Moore** became a partner with them at the Maxwell Corner and they with him at a location on Ash Street under-the-hill.

In June of 1864, the Burrington's erected a building adjoining their present store. The new store was one and a half stories high, 20 feet frontage and 54 feet deep. This would be a dry goods store and was probably done at their Ash Street location.

In September of 1865, **Moore, Burrington & Bro.** decided that their initial building located directly on the Maxwell Corner at this site was too small so they moved the Ash Street building, that was only a little over a year old, to this site. The "too small" building was moved to one of Mr. Andrew's lots, between the plow and Blacksmith Shop and would be occupied by Wm. Burdick and E. B. Calkin, and would be fitted up for a grocery and family supply store. By July of 1866, Burrington was engaged in building an addition on the rear of his store, adding 20 feet for a total of 70 feet along Third Street.

Burrington and his brother conducted a double store here for 25 years. His son and son-in-law occupied the same ground in 1900, one a grocery store and one a dry goods store.

500-502 Oak Street

This frame building was eventually moved to the west side of the 400 Block of Oak Street and a new frame structure was erected on this site.

Washington Burrington was born on Jan. 18, 1829 in the town of Truxton, Cortland County, New York. For several years after that he resided in Cold Rain, Mass. When he was sixteen years of age he set out for Wisconsin, the Eldorado of the West. He found Kenosha a convenient place to earnestly begin the accumulations of wealth and for three years expended his youthful ambition on rocks and roots of a pioneer farm. By this time he was ready to become his own husbandman and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land near Sun Prairie in Dane county. On a trip of investigation to Baraboo, Mr. Burrington saw bright prospects in the future and was an early purchaser of some of the choice building lots offered for sale. Mr. and Mrs. Burrington celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on the last day of August 1901. They were married in Dane county in 1851. At the time, there were three surviving children; **Mrs. Spencer J. Kimball**, St. Paul; **Mrs. John R. Hofstatter** and **Frank Burrington** of Baraboo.

In August of 1866, Messrs. Moore and the Burrington brothers dissolved their partnership. **R. & W. Burrington** would continue at the old stand while **Moore** would take the old store under the hill.

By April of 1873, **George Bower Groceries** was conducting business on this corner in place of **R. & W. Burrington**; then, in March of 1875 **Messrs. Bower & Faller** purchased the Burrington Brothers' lot and storeroom on the southeast corner of the square for \$4,000. They then continued to conduct a **grocery and Dry goods** store here.

In April of 1875, Bower & Faller added several office rooms to the limited number in town for rent, by cutting an entrance through the south side of their store building and putting in a stairway to the apartments above. These rooms had been unoccupied with the only entrance being through the store. By March of 1876, Faller had purchased the interests of his partner. A month later, William Faller was busy removing his goods to North Freedom where he intended to

join forces with George Bloom. They intend to occupy the Abbott Building near the depot.

In August of 1876, **Spencer Kimball** had already been operating a **Family Grocery Store** at this address for a short time. This was the young man's first business venture. He was later married to Burrington's daughter.

The Burrington Block escaped the fire of November 6, 1878, but the fears of the town were, as all new buildings were rising from the ashes in the rest of the block, that this lone frame structure might remain to mar the appearance of the block. However, the owners of that building did a handsome thing by moving it and constructing a new brick edifice. The contractors were **George Holah, J. Pinneo and A. J. Carrow**.

Louis Platt operated a harness shop in the rear of this building or the next building north and practically all of his stock of goods was stolen during the conflagration. He learned the harness trade from August Ringling, the father of the Ringling brothers, and for many years made all the fancy and ornamental harness for the circus horses. He then moved below the hill.

After the fire, C. E. Ryan and the Burringtons had a difference regarding their boundaries. It had been years since their respective sites had been surveyed and new improved methods had come into use. Ryan and R. Burrington agreed to exchange lots and R. & C. Burrington agreed to remove the old frame building on the corner and replace it with a new brick edifice. J. J. Gattiker and J. H. Halsted assisted to effect this settlement and themselves paid twenty-five dollars towards bringing it about. All parties then proceeded to build, and the handsome block then extended from the corner to the alley.

The new Burrington Block consisted of two buildings. Burrington's two son-in laws, Messrs. Kimball & Hofstatter, and their Dry Goods and Groceries store directly on the corner and fronting on Oak Street would occupy the building. **Jasper Dibble's Boot & Shoe Shop** and the **Justice's** office would occupy a room at the back of the

500-502 Oak Street

store, opening on Third Street. By November of 1879, **Dibble** had resumed his **Boot and Shoe** business fronting on Third Street in the rear of Huntington's new block.

E. G. Marriott was born in Wollaston, Northampton shire, England in 1850. He moved to Baraboo in 1869 and went to work for Avery & Green where he remained until 1870. He then went to work for Gibson & Dibble in 1872, purchasing that firm in 1875. In 1876 he moved the **E. G. Marriott Shoe Company** to 116 Third Street.

M. H. Mould Books and Confectionery would occupy the northerly store of the Burrington Block. **Mrs. Slade's, Millinery and Dress Making** would use the entire second floor. It is interesting to note that this entire building was heated by a furnace, a rarity in that era.

The old frame building, which was saved from the conflagration, was set on wheels, moved onto Third Street and there the occupants conducted their various enterprises until the new building was completed. The mover of the old frame building was **W. H. Catlin** who had moved to Baraboo from Portage in March of 1878.

Catlin ran the following article in the May 21, issue of the Baraboo Republic Weekly as well as the Reedsburg paper:

“Go to Baraboo for a good job of House moving. A store 75 feet long, filled with dry goods and groceries, over 20 tons weight, two stories high, one shoemaker's shop in the rear end, one Justice's office, one printing office and two lawyer's offices, all on wheels at once and business going on at the same time. Isn't that a dose?”

W. H. Catlin

In November of 1879, the old store building which had stood for several months on Third Street was sawed in half, and one half went to a lot owned by **J. G. Train** and the other half to lots owned by **Mrs. Elliott**.

The partnership of Kimball & Hofstatter did not endure and shortly thereafter the name on the door was **Burrington & Hofstatter**. In January of 1884, Burrington sold his interest again, this time to



First National Bank

Clayton M. Welch, the firm then becoming **Hofstatter & Welch**. On March 25, 1887, **Welch** sold his interest in the firm to **Hofstatter**. **Welch** died in April from an accidental gunshot wound to the head. **John R. Hofstatter Dry Goods and Groceries** remained on the corner of Third and Oak Streets until 1901.

Hofstatter was born in the town of Sumpter in Sauk County on October 31, 1858 and completed his schooling in the Baraboo public schools. When he completed his education he became employed by T. Clavadatscher. He was married on September 1, 1880 to Miss Ella Burrington of Baraboo. They had three children, Carrie, Maude and Tillie.

In March of 1901, the **First National Bank** leased the building for a term of twelve years with further options and intended to assume occupancy about June 1. The building was to be remodeled for banking purposes. The bank had been located at 106 Fourth Avenue. Hofstatter had to decide where he was going to relocate his grocery business. He decided to move to 104 Third Street.

M. H. Mould was listed as president of the First National Bank in the 1903 & 1905 city directories.

500-502 Oak Street

In July of 1906, it was reported that T. W. English, M. H. Mould and others had bought of **H. G. Merritt** controlling interest in the bank. It was said that Merritt was moving to Minneapolis where he would take a position with the Minneapolis National Bank as cashier.

Thomas W. English was listed as president in the 1915 and 1917 directories. In October of 1919, the Bank purchased the former Burrington building from the Burrington heirs. At the same time it acquired the building to its north (Evenson's drug store) and the building directly to its east (Jacobs' barber shop.) In June of 1926, the bank announced remodeling plans. According to the plans, by designer Bruce Jackson of Waukesha, hardly more than a shell of the existing building would be contained in the new and enlarged structure, which would include the location next door, then occupied by the Hamermeister Jewelry store. The past few years the business of the bank had grown to such an extent that the then present quarters were found to be too small and plans had been started several months prior for enlarging the building.

Construction was scheduled to begin on the new bank on July 1. The structure would be 40 by 70 feet, two stories high, covering the property of both the bank and the adjoining store.

The exterior of the building was to be constructed with a granite base, 2-1/2 feet high and above that Indiana Bedford stone.

The entrance to the second story offices would be on Third Street and would be accentuated by a marquise or canopy over the sidewalk. The main entrance to the bank would be in the center of the Oak Street frontage through a heavy bronze doorway and also through a marble lined vestibule. The lobby was planned to be very spacious and a large marble check desk would provide ample space for the customers.

At the right upon entering would be found the officer's quarters with room for two offices and at the front of the building would be a large private room and a woman's room with toilet facilities. To the left and at the rear of the lobby would be an ornamental archway dividing the main lobby and the safe deposit department. The vault would be of the latest burglarproof construction with 27 inches of reinforced concrete forming the floor, walls and ceiling.

The door, which would weigh in at approximately ten tons was to be of the latest construction and the entire vault would be of a type that had never been burglarized. The director's room was to be located on the rear mezzanine floor above the vault, access to which would be from the safe deposit department.

Remodel Second Floor

The entire second floor was to be remodeled into modern offices. The first floor would be of reinforced concrete and all window framing would be of steel, thereby eliminating the greatest fire hazard. The directors had unanimously decided that their interest would best be served by giving the entire charge of the operation to a bank building expert and they selected the firm of **A. Moorman and Company** of St. Paul, Minnesota, as the concern best able to fill every particular requirement. This concern had built bank buildings in seventeen states.

By August of 1926 Baraboo could boast of having the smallest First National Bank in the world. The small building, 21 X 42 feet, which stood on Oak Street was then the official home of the First National Bank. The bank folks lived comfortably in this building that would serve as the bank home until the new modern building was completed. When the new building was completed and ready for occupancy this building was to be sold for remodeling into a lake cottage or bungalow. This small building was connected with the vault by a vestibule and watchmen are continually on the job.

In December of 1926, **Ben Westphal** purchased the temporary First National Bank building, which had been housing the bank during the construction of the new structure. Mr. Westphal expected to move the wooden building to a lot in the east part of town as soon as the bank vacated it. His intentions were to make an ideal residence of the one story structure with a little remodeling. The new bank was expected to be completed about March 1, 1927.

One of the largest financial deals ever complete up to that date in the city of Baraboo was announced in October of 1929, the consolidation of the **First National Bank** and the **Farmers & Merchants Bank**. The resulting bank would be called "**The First National Bank and Trust Company**" with total resources of more

500-502 Oak Street

than 2-1/2 Million dollars. The officers were hoping to complete the consolidation by January 1, 1930. Until then each bank would carry on as before. The proposed new officers were as follows:

M. H. Mould, Chairman of the Board

Dr. D. M. Kelly, Vice Chairman

T. M. Mould, president

C. M. DuBoise, vice president & trust officer

E. M. Doll, vice president

O. L. Gust, cashier

H. G. Gasser, assistant cashier

M. K. Mould, assistant cashier

The directors of both banks would continue to serve as directors of the new institution. The First National Bank was established in 1886 and the Farmers and Merchants bank in 1917. The formal opening of the First National Bank and Trust Company was held in January of 1930. One feature of the formal opening, that was to continue for 15 days, was that of the mantel clocks that were to be given away with each new \$5.00 savings account opened.

These were hard times for banks and in April of 1934, the new First National Bank of Baraboo opened. Receiver C.W. Plowman Conducted a Sale Of the First National Bank property in June of 1936.

At the receiver's sale the highest bid was that of the First National Bank. Representatives of the new bank made an offer of \$29,000 cash, together with vault space, office space, equipment, heat, water and janitor service for the life of the receivership. The bid was subject to confirmation by the Federal court of the Western District of Wisconsin. The other bidder for the property was E.J. Slevin of Davenport, Iowa, who owned other properties near Baraboo and was interested in acquiring the building as an investment.

In 1933 **George Isenberg** was Chairman of the Board, while **E. E. Berkley** was president. **John L. Sullivan** was listed as president in the 1938 city directory. In the 1950 through the 1982 city directory **Levi H. Eckhardt** was listed as president. **John H. Eckhardt**, son of Levi, was listed as president in the 1983 and 1985 city directory. Then **Kenneth W. Keniston** was listed in the 1987 and 1988 directory with

Peter Bilsten taking over that position in 1993, according to the directory of that date.

In December of 1954, Bernardis Electric installed a new outdoor clock, which came as a Christmas gift from the bank, on the corner. The clock was a McClintock chime clock and chimed 4 times on the quarter hour, 8 times on the half hour and 16 times on the hour followed by the number of chimes to tell the hour.

In October of 2001, The First National Bank & Trust Co. was among 117 institutions sold when **Wells Fargo & Co.** bought most of Minnesota magnate Carl Pohlad's banking empire. The First National of Baraboo was part of Pohlad's Marquette financial companies. The companies sold to Wells Fargo on Friday, October 5, boasting \$5.6 billion in assets, 2,300 employees and 300 customers.

502 Oak

Upstairs

1887

Dr, G. T. Higgins, Dentist

1887

"Emery and Shults, Real Estate Dealers"

1887

E. W. Young, Attorney and Counselor at Law

1890

"J. P. Wilson Attorney"

1876

1876-1890

"Monroe Bentley, Lawyer"

1890

"F. E. Shults, real estate, insurance & implement dealer"

1890-1917

"Dr. John E. English, Physician & Surgeon"

1895

"Lulu L. Heffron, Dress Maker"

1898-1903

"John E. English & Charles P. Riley, Physicians"

Dr. John Eugene English died on January 24, 1920. He was born in Franklin County, Virginia on June 18, 1851. He was the son of Thomas T. and Ann M. English. When a little more than a year old he came to Baraboo with his parents and his older brother, Thomas. He studied medicine at the Rush Medical College in Chicago, graduating in the spring of 1884 and began practicing medicine in Baraboo. On September 21, 1885, he was united in marriage to Jennie R. Wright of Prairie du Sac.

1895-1920

"F. R. Bentley, Attorney"

1895-1898

"Bentley & Bentley Law Office"

Frank R. Bentley & Monroe Bentley

Frank Bentley District Attorney 1898

500-502 Oak Street

1895-1898 **“Bentley & Case, Insurance, Real Estate”**

Frank R. Bentley & William W. Case

1905-1912 **Dr. Roger Cahoon, Physician & Surgeon, 2nd. Floor**

1901-1905 **“Bentley & Kelly, Attorneys at Law”**

In 1901, John M. Kelly of Portage went into partnership with F. R. Bentley, Baraboo, to form the firm of Bentley & Kelly. They planned to stay in the Burrington Block where Mr. Bentley had his office.

1910-1915 **“Bentley, Kelly & Hill, Attorneys-At-Law”**

F. R. Bentley*, John M. Kelly*, Jas. Hill (1910) and James H. Hill (1912-1917)

1919 **“Bentley, Bowler & LaMar Law Offices”**

A new law firm to be known as Bentley, Bowler & LaMar has just been organized in this city and will take the place of and succeed the old firm of Bentley, Kelly and Hill, recently dissolved.

1920 **“C. H. Stone Abstract Office”** 1938-1940 William M. Hayes, Attorney

1927 **“Dr. J. F. Moon”**

Dr. Moon, previously with the Jackson Clinic for three years, opened a general practitioner business in the First National Bank building.

1927 **“Dr. F.S. Tuffley”**

Dr. F.S. Tuffley, who has had a medical practice in Boscobel for some years located in Baraboo in September of 1927, opening offices in the First National Bank building. The Tuffley family resided at 316 Fifth Avenue

1929 **“Attorney Robert F. Holmes”**

Attorney Robert F. Holmes has opened law offices in the First national bank building, in the suite of Hill and Miller, formerly occupied by H. L. Halsted as justice of the peace. Attorney Holmes was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin law school. He was also a graduate of the Baraboo high school. For the past six months he practiced in the office of W. G. Evenson. For a year he successfully operated the Wisconsin Collection and sales Bureau in Baraboo. Mr. Holmes was captain of the 1924 U. W. wrestling team and was the western conference lightweight champion.

1938 **“Walter T. Jenks, Attorney”**

1938 **“Mould Insurance Co.”**

Thomas H. Mould

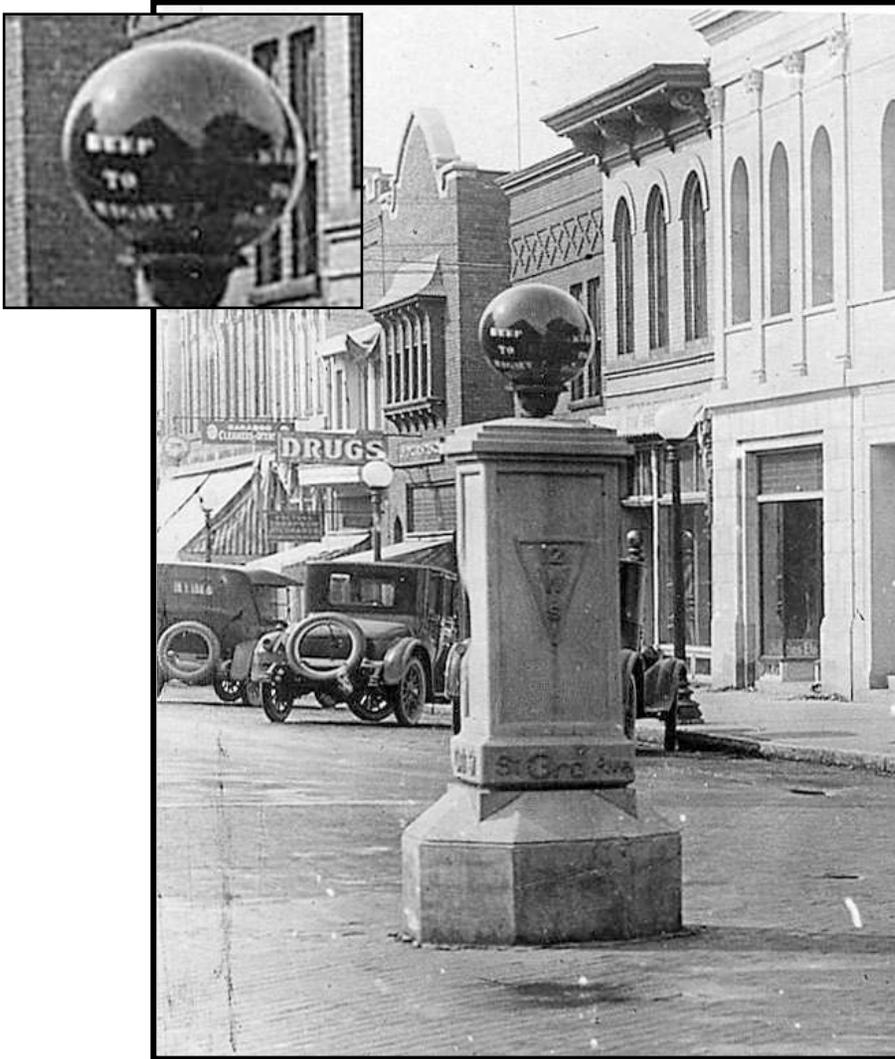
1950 **“William M. Hayes, Attorney”**

Listed at 109 3rd. St. in TD45

1997-2000 **“Greenhalgh & Hoffman Law Firm “**

Moved from 315 Broadway on 9/29/97, William F. Greenhalgh and John C. Hoffman. Partners. Mark L. Krueger joined firm in 1998 and the law firm moved to 123 Second Street in November of 2000.

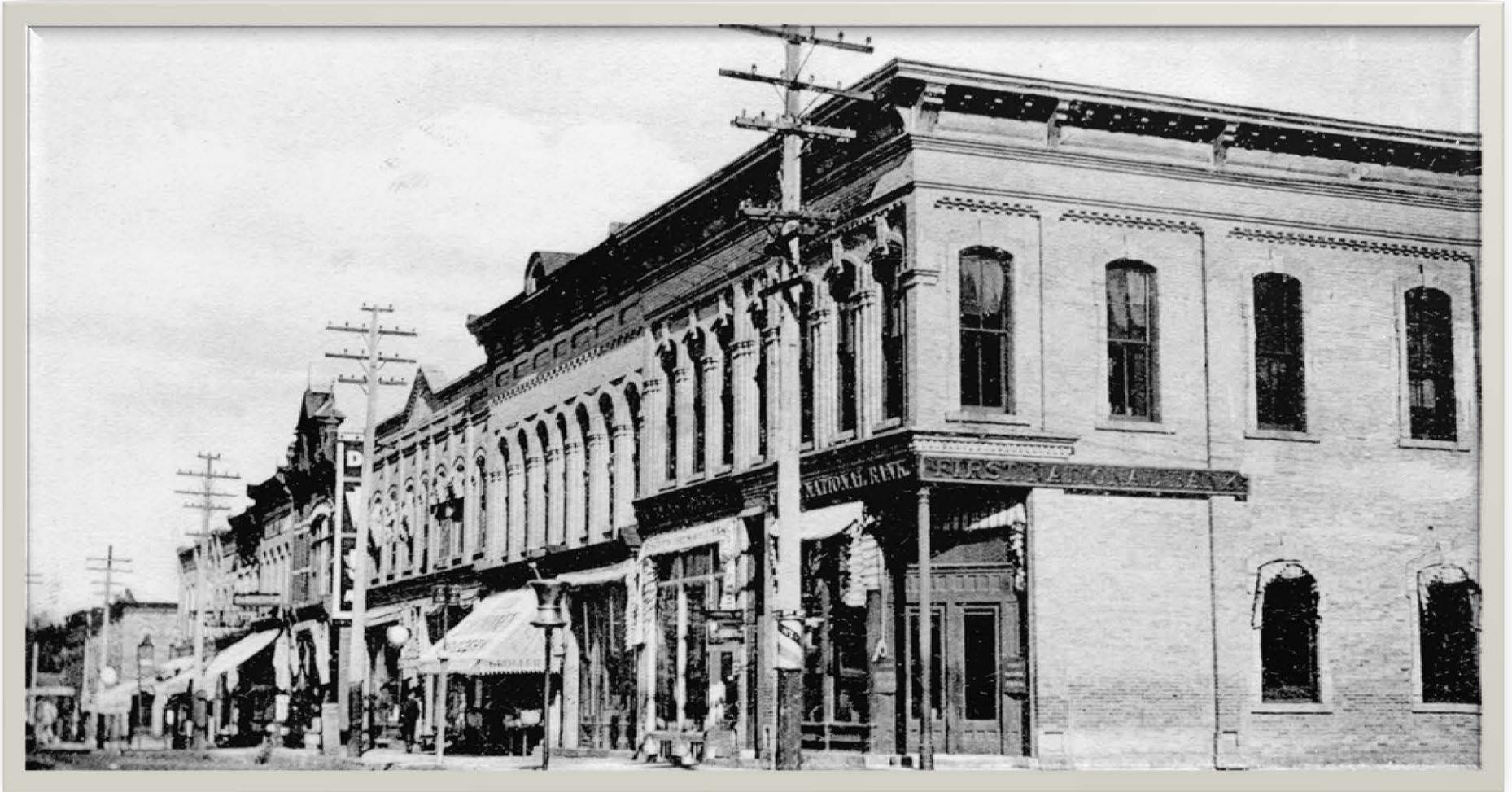
500 Oak Street Looking South



Early roundabouts like the one pictured at the left were common in Baraboo in the 1920's, being located on the six major intersections in the business district "on the hill". Close examination of the globe reveals "Keep to Right" message.

A short time later an "electric policeman" was placed in one or two major intersections as shown in the upper right.

500 Oak Street First National Bank circa 1919



First National Bank circa 1919

504 Oak Street

504 Oak Street

Located between Third and Fourth Street on the east side of Oak Street.

Block 26, lot 7 & 8

Sanborn map location 708 Oak Street

In April of 1855 a **Mr. Charles Armstrong & Company** opened a **Clothing Store** one door north of the Emporium, which probably was at this location.

In December of 1874, Mr. R. Burrington, of the late firm of Burrington Brothers erected a storeroom and warehouse at Kendallville, about forty miles west of Baraboo. Completion of the buildings was expected to be about November First. His nephew, Charles, who was a partner of the **R. & C. Burrington** store, would then conduct the new store. This left R. Burrington in charge of the store located at this site.

In March of 1875, **Robert Burrington**, senior partner in the late firm of Burrington Brothers purchased the business and stock of **Mr. G. H. Hall** who had been here since May of 1873, and again resumed the business of selling goods. Burrington and his nephew, **Charles Burrington**, then announced the opening of the new **R. & C. Burrington Dry Goods and Grocery** store.

On November 6, 1878, while the structures at the north end of the block were burning, the citizens tore down the **R. Burrington** and **C. E. Ryan** stores and this checked the flames in that direction. Nearly all of the personal property and goods in these buildings were saved. The park was used as dumping grounds for the rescued goods from the burning buildings and resembled a fair of sorts. C. E. Ryan had a building loss of \$500 while R. Burrington claimed his building and stock loss at an uninsured \$2,500. R. Burrington immediately opened shop in the **Hoxie Building**.

The Burrington Block, adjacent to the south and on the northeast corner of Oak and Third Streets, escaped the fire but the fears of the town were that as all new buildings were replacing the ashes in the rest of the block this lone frame structure might remain to mar the appearance of the block. However, the owners of that building did a



Evenson Drug Store 504 Oak Street

handsome thing by moving it and constructing a new brick edifice. The contractors were George Holah, J. Pinneo and A. J. Carrow.

The new Burrington Block also consisted of two buildings. The building directly on the corner and fronting on Oak would be occupied by Burrington's two son-in laws, **Messrs. Kimball & Hofstatter**, and their **Dry Goods and Grocery Store**. **Jasper Dibble's Boot & Shoe Shop** and the Justice's office would occupy a room at the back of the store, opening on Third Street.

Mr. Henry M. Mould took a clerkship in the **Owen & Mould Book Store** in 1872 and in 1873 purchased the stock and business. In November of 1879 Mould moved his newly acquired business to the new Burrington Block at 504 Oak Street. In 1885 Mr. Mould took on the job as postmaster of Baraboo, but retained his interest in the store. In fact, the post office may have been in the rear of the bookstore at that time.

504 Oak Street

On January 7, 1886 Mould took in **A.G. Buckley** as a partner, establishing the **Mould & Buckley, Book Store and Cigars** and in 1892 moved to the southerly portion of the J. J. Gattiker building at 512 Oak.

Mrs. Slade's, Millinery and Dress Making would then make use of the entire second floor. It is interesting to note that this entire building was heated by a furnace, a rarity in that era.

By 1895, **Benoni "Ben" W. Brewer Billiard Hall and Cigars** was located at this address. In February of 1899, **Frank Burrington**, probably the son of Washington Burrington of the Burrington Brothers, expected to convert the Brewer cigar store building into a dry goods store. Burrington was a manager of one of the floors in the big Boston Store in Chicago. Brewer was asked to vacate by the first of May but as of the First of February, had not decided where to move.

Obviously, Burrington opened a store here but eventually had a close out sale that started November 5, 1903. Burrington had returned from the state of Washington recently where he had contracted the western fever. He planned on moving to Yakima Valley and joining a number of Baraboo people living there who seemed to be enjoying health and prosperity. He planned on remodeling the building at this site before he left. The floor was to be lowered to grade and a new steel ceiling put in place. He also planned on installing a new plate glass front.

It is thought that **Frank Herfort** opened a **grocery store** here after Burrington moved in November of 1903 and was here as late as 1905.

However, in February of 1904, **Charles H. Evenson** rented this building from Burrington. Evenson planned on moving here as soon as some remodeling was complete. The floor was to be lowered, a new steel ceiling installed and a new front was to replace the old one.

Following Burrington's close out sale, **Evenson's Drug Store** moved here the last of March. He had been located at 100 Third Street. Evenson was to remain here until at 1919. **Kradawell Brothers' Pharmacy** followed Evenson and remained here until 1924 or 1925. On April 6th. of 1924 F. A. and W. W. Kradawell purchased the building at 106 Fourth Avenue that had been occupied by the F.H.

Marty Shoe Store. Mr. Marty had a shoe store at Elkhorn and expected to move his shoe stock to that store

On May 1, 1925 **Hamermister & Boyd Jewelry Store** opened in the building formerly occupied by the Kradawell Drug store. The firm moved from above the Olympia Candy Kitchen. Both Hamermister and Boyd were on the firing line in France during the war where each lost a leg, and had many friends who were pleased to see the young men progress. In 1926, **Harold Boyd** sold his interest in the Jewelry Store to his partner **Ewald Hamermister**. After selling his interest, Boyd moved back above the Olympia Candy Kitchen and opened his own watch & jewelry repair store. Hamermister continued at the present address.

By 1927 this building was incorporated into the new **First National Bank** building. **Arthur P. Cheek** had his **Abstract & Insurance** business at this address in 1933.

506-508 Oak Street

506-508 Oak Street

Located between Third and Fourth Street on the east side of
and fronting on Oak Street.

Block 26, lot 7

Sanborn map location 709 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This two-story seven-bay structure had fully arched windows and window hoods. The bases of these brick arches merge into heavy piers, producing an arcade effect. Prominent stone keystones provide additional ornamentation. A row of corbelling and series of recessions are present at the roofline. Later the storefront was substantially modified, the original openings altered and a new façade constructed entirely of modern materials, which seriously compromised the architectural integrity of the building. Nevertheless, it was a contributive to the district as an element of an intact blockface. Later the First national Bank was to change the façade completely with their new addition.

Prior to the 1878 fire, which destroyed all the buildings on this block, there were very small frame buildings and they were scattered so that it is hard at this time to place them accurately.

Charles E. Ryan, who was born in Grafton, New Hampshire, opened a **Jewelry Store** in Baraboo in April of 1855. The Baraboo veteran jeweler had his store at approximately this location. Actually, his first site was about one door south of this site but the Burrington Brothers needed more room so Ryan moved a little north to accommodate them.

When Ryan moved by ox team, from New Hampshire to Wisconsin, he located at Portage where he remained one year and was then induced by Col. D. K. Noyes and others to come to Baraboo. He liked it better here because "there were more Yankees." His first store was a one-story dwelling and the salesroom was in front. **Seneca Lamberton**, a tailor, owned the building and some years later, just after generous improvements were made to the building, fire swept away this side of the block

Seneca J. Lamberton was born in Geneva, Ashtabula County,



C. E. Ryan Jewelry 506 Oak Street circa 1879-1892

Ohio on October 14, 1823, where he resided until he was about 18 years of age. He eventually became engaged in the business of a tailor in various places until the year 1844 when he came to Wisconsin. Lamberton was married in Kenosha on August 31, 1844 to Miss Eliza Huntington, by whom he had five children, all boys. In 1848 he lay claim to land in Excelsior township and opened a clothing store in Baraboo. He continued his business in Baraboo until 1854 when he moved to his farm. Lamberton died at his home on July 2 of his 59th year. His death was caused from a cancer on the side of his face. His body was interred in the Webster Prairie Cemetery.

Although Ryan suffered a number of losses by theft, there was only one of a wholesale nature. One November evening while away from the store for a short time thieves gained entrance at the rear of the store and made away with goods valued at several hundred dollars. The officers almost caught them on the Marshall farm in the town of Delton but they managed to escape and the property was never recovered.

506-508 Oak Street



C. E. Ryan Jewelry 506 Oak Street circa 1879-1892

Not Easily Vanquished

When Mr. Ryan came to the village of Baraboo there was but one jeweler here. Soon after opening the store the gentleman called on Mr. Ryan and as good as told the young man that “he would soon be run out of business,” as he expressed it. Mr. Ryan thanked him for his interest in the matter and after some months he called again. This time he told Mr. Ryan that his son would soon be at home from Chicago and that it would then be only a question of a few days until the young man from New Hampshire would seek a new location. Again Mr. Ryan thanked him but in a short time the visitor and his son moved to Iowa and Mr. Ryan then enjoyed the patronage and friendship of a wide circle for over half a century. It had been fully demonstrated that he was not easily vanquished. In January of 1912, C. E. Ryan reached his 84th. birthday. As of that date it is believed that he had the distinction of being the oldest jeweler in business in the state of Wisconsin.

On a Wednesday evening in November of 1876, about 6 o'clock, while most of the businessmen were going to or returning from tea, the news was passed that the jewelry store of Ryan had been entered by burglars and robbed of its most valuable contents. Soon a large crowd assembled at the place named and the following facts were learned:

At a quarter past five Mr. Ryan and his clerk, as had been their custom, closed the store and went to tea. At precisely 6 o'clock they returned, and discovered that during their absence thieves had entered by prying up a back window with a cold-chisel, and had emptied one of the large showcases of its valuable stock, consisting of four or five solid gold watches, nine new silver watches, 35 or 40 watches that had been left for repairs, jewelry, etc., and the safe (which had been left unlocked) of a drawer of new jewelry and about \$85 in currency, the whole valued at about \$1,500. The boldness of the transaction astounded local citizens, but it did not take them long to decide upon the course to pursue. Officers and others formed themselves into pursuing parties and went out in all directions. Constable L. O. Holmes and Charles Woodruff took the road leading north past the cemetery. They stopped at the house of Mr. Haines, a mile out, and there learned that three men with a lantern had been seen in the cemetery only a short time previous. They felt they were on the right track, so pushed on and crossed west to the Delton road. They followed this until within a half mile of Delton, when they suddenly came upon three men who were resting by the wayside.

The latter arose and started off, refusing to obey the command to surrender. Feeling sure that they were dealing with the robbers, they brought their revolvers into play and received a shot in return. This removed all doubt from the minds of Woodruff and Holmes, and they immediately opened a lively fusillade, facing the shots of the enemy with considerable bravery. As Woodruff fired the last shot from his revolver, one of the men was heard to make an exclamation as if hit and dropped his overcoat. The three then escaped in the darkness. After securing the coat, in the pockets of which was a silver watch and about \$25 worth of stolen jewelry, and near it on the ground a can of powder and bit-stock for forcing open safes, the pursuers drove into Delton,

506-508 Oak Street



thence to Kilbourn, where they telegraphed back to Baraboo of their encounter. Reinforcements were immediately sent out, but the robbers made good their escape by changing their course to the east, as was afterward learned. Thursday morning a dark lantern, 40 or 50 feet of fuse, 2 yards of black cambric, and a ball of candle wicking were found near where the skirmish had occurred the night previous. When these things were brought in, and the possibility of the capture of the robbers demonstrated, additional numbers of our citizens armed themselves with shotguns and revolvers and joined in the pursuit.

The ground hunted over was north and west of town. Late on Thursday, however, a gentleman in from Fairfield, northeast of town, brought information that at about 1 o'clock that morning three men were seen passing the house of Wallace Porter, and at 4 a.m. they were seen still further east, near the Portage bridge. This was the last seen or heard of them until Friday, when a conductor on the Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad reported that three suspicious looking men had got aboard his train, one at the first station east of Portage and the other two at the next station, bound for Watertown. These were believed to be the men wanted. Whether they were or not, it was supposed that the men escaped the county.

During the November 6, 1878 fire, which destroyed most of the buildings on Oak Street across from the park, this building was razed to prevent the spread of the fire. After the fire, Ryan moved two doors west of the post office, or approximately 146 Third Street. There he brightened up the west side of Bow's "Mad Hatter" store with his merchandise.

Ryan and the Burringtons had a difference regarding their boundaries. It had been a few years since their respective sites had been surveyed and new improved methods had come into use. Ryan and R. Burrington agreed to exchange lots and R. & C. Burrington agreed to remove the old frame building on the corner and replace it with a new brick edifice. J. J. Gattiker and J. H. Halsted assisted to effect this settlement and themselves paid twenty-five dollars towards bringing it about. All parties then proceeded to build, and the handsome block then extended from the corner to the alley.

Ryan and Halsted then erected a new double structure in 1879. **Ryan** then would occupy the south half of the building (506 Oak) while **Savage & Halsted** would occupy the north half (510 Oak). Builders were **M. Hire** (stone), **George Holah** (brick) and **George Capener** (wood.) Ryan's structure was especially adapted to his needs in every way, including a heavy burglarproof vault in which to keep his valuable stock at night. It is believed that **Savage and Halstead** shared this lot or lots with Ryan and had a store at approximately 508 Oak as early as 1869 and probably earlier.

In November of 1879, Ryan announced to the world that the new windowpanes for the front of his new store had arrived and he was moving in on December 3, 1879 and would sell his old safe, which had survived the fire, as he had no further need of it.

Mary Elizabeth Ryan, Charles Ryan's daughter, was a china decorator at the store and had been tutored for three weeks under the tuition of Franz A. Biscoff in Chicago as early as 1895. It was said that Biscoff was unequalled in the United States in this art. Miss Ryan went on to paint many beautiful flowered designs on all types of dishes and china. Many are found in homes of Baraboo residents.

In April of 1901 or 1903, Ryan hired **August Chas. Reisz** of Milwaukee, an experienced optician, ophthalmologist and watch

506-508 Oak Street

repairman. On July 6, 1908, Mary Ryan and Reisz were married. The young couple lived with Mary's parents in the big house.

There was also in this time period a **Mrs. Addie T. Ryan** listed at this location, maybe C. E. Ryan's wife or widow. Also in 1917, the business was known as the **Reisz Jewelry Store**.

The photo taken between 1903 and 1917 shows a crowd gathered admiring the magic of the pouring teakettle that never runs out of water .

Ryan built the beautiful home at the corner of Birch Street and Sixth Avenue for his family of five, which included three daughters. It is said that the white clapboard house was built inside and out of Butternut. The floorboards are an inch and one-half thick and 14 inches wide. The structure may have been constructed in the 1850's. Ryan made mention of the fact that he built the home there as there was good hunting in the area.

Charles Ryan died in 1915. He was said to be the oldest jeweler in Wisconsin. Reisz continued in the business until 1946 when he retired. Reisz had an interesting life. He was a Spanish-American War veteran. In the early 1900's he came to Baraboo. It was here that he married Mary Ryan. In those early days of this century, he became quite a traveler, especially overseas. He visited Paris 11 times. That's where he became a jeweler. He was an amateur inventor and had several items patented. Especially interesting was his World Time Comparison clock and a 50-year calendar. The clock lists important capitols of the world, and by turning a pointer one can find the time of day in any of those places. Mary Ryan Reisz was noted for her fine china painting of which she also gave lessons. Mary died on July 3, 1942 at the home that she was born in and had lived all her life. Burial was made on the anniversary of her marriage and she was laid to rest in her wedding gown.

It was lonely after Mary's death and in 1957; A. C. put the house up for sale. August Charles Reisz died in 1958. One daughter, Suzanne Gourc, age 55 of Paris, France survived Reisz.

In May of 1946, the business became known as the **Thompson Jewelry Store** when A.C. Reisz sold his Jewelry Store to **Floyd A. & Anne Thompson**. Reisz would retain ownership of the building and

maintain an office here. Thompson spent the prior seven years employed by a jewelry store in Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin. Before that he was employed at the Von Wald jewelry store in Baraboo.

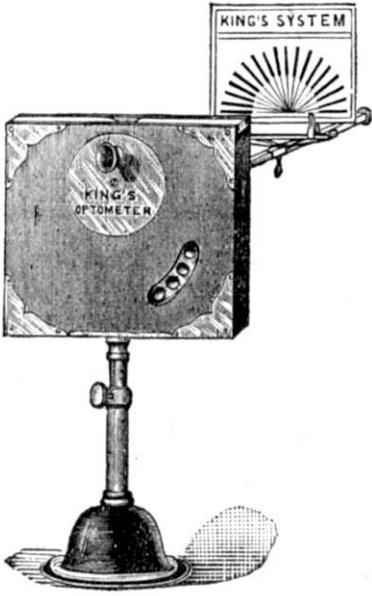
In 1947 Floyd hired **George Albrecht**, 13 years old at the time. Thompson Jewelry moved to 416 Oak Street in 1960.

In 1960 **Kiddie Kastle Children's Clothing** came into existence with **Mauritz C. Nelson** as owner. Nelson purchased the building in late 1959. The store opened in March of 1960.

About 1968, the two halves of the building were joined to give more space to the Kiddie Kastle store. **Gerald E. Kieffer** became owner about 1971, with **David & Gina Ardelt** becoming co-owners about 1989. This building would eventually be replaced by an expansion of **The First National Bank & Trust Co.**

506-508 Oak Street

C.E. RYAN,
306, Oak St.,
The Leading
Watch and Jewery
Dealer has in store one of
KING'S COMBINATION
Optometers,
So arranged that the exact forms of
lens required for each eye can be as-
certained without guess work or con-
fusing the sight by experimenting with
different glasses as is usually the cus-
tom. No charge for examiaation.
A FULL LINE OF
GLASSES
C. E. YAN.



C. E. Ryan Advertisement

circa 1889

508 Oak Street

(Up Stairs)

Early on, **Mrs. Al Ringling** had a **dress making shop** here and it was said that it was here that Al Ringling came courting? They may have been married by this date.

In 1881 **C.C. Calkins, Attorney** was conducting business over Ryan's Jewelry Store

In June 1877, in a small room, 10 X 12, over the jewelry store of C. E. Ryan, was formed the first **Y. M. C. A.** In May 1882, reorganization took place under the name of the Baraboo Ry. Y. M. C. A.

The **wardrobe department** of the **Ringling Brothers Circus** was moved to this address in 1895 from 510-1/2 Oak.

1894	Dr. Arthur. E. Capener DDS
1903	Baraboo Water Co. Office
1905	Dr. George D. Beech
1910-1915	Pat P. Kelly, Dentist
1910-1915	D.M. Kelly, Physician, Listed at 3rd, St. in the 1903 City Directory
1915	Edward McGrath, Physician & Surgeon
1920	C.M. La Mar Law Office
1920	Selleck & Cheek Law Office
1936-1948	A.P. Cheek Office

506-508 Oak Street Mary Elizabeth (Ryan) Reisz artistry



506-508 Oak Street Illustration #1

506-508 Oak Street Mary Elizabeth (Ryan) Reisz Artistry



Hand painted china by Mary Elizabeth Ryan, daughter of Charles E. Ryan who owned a jewelry store at 506 Oak Street. Plates are signed on the "M. Ryan". Later Mary Ryan married Charles Reisz. The plates were then initialed MER. circa early half of the 1900's.