

Take a walk back in time down the historic streets of Waupaca. In this brochure are two tours to help you explore the city's past. The first, features a Waupaca historic residential area and the downtown retail business district. The second tour takes you through the city's early industrial, commercial area. Whether you go by foot, bike or car, you are sure to be fascinated by this sampling of Waupaca's rich history.

This brochure is presented by the Waupaca Tree Advisory Board. The board has been the driving force behind the development of Waupaca's River Ridge Trail. Assistance was also provided by the Waupaca Historical Society. Historical information was procured from many sources, the most important being the Historic Preservation Commission's book, City of Waupaca Intensive Survey Report Architectural and Historical Survey, 1999.

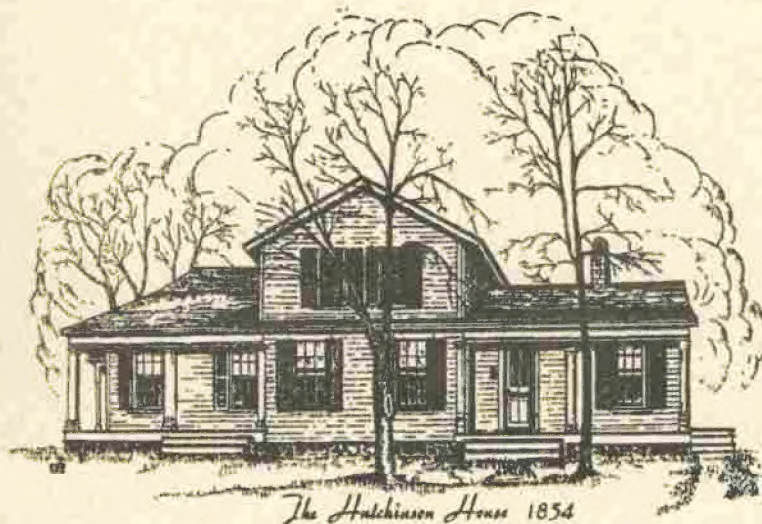
If you would like to learn more about Waupaca's history, visit the Waupaca Historical Society's Hutchinson House and Holly History and Genealogy Center. Also, visit the Waupaca Public Library. Several area businesses sell books containing Waupaca historical information. There are many other fascinating historical structures located in the city of Waupaca beyond the scope of these tours.

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May 2002



\$2.00

HISTORIC WALKING TOURS Of Waupaca, Wis.



**Two tours to guide you on a walk through
Waupaca's historic past.
Presented by the Waupaca Tree Advisory
Board.**

RESIDENTIAL/DOWNTOWN BUSINESS TOUR

1. South Park

In 1884, the city purchased this land, known as Wright's Grove, for a park, but was not until 1907 that the Women Club started making improvements in the park, doing such things as clearing brush, planting trees and shrubs. In 1908, the city appropriated money for park improvements. Over the next several years more planting was done, the waterworks were installed and a drive built. The Womans Club raised money in 1909 to add the fountain. In 1921, more land was added along Shadow Lake. In 1933, during the Great Depression, unemployed residents did work such as building walks, cleaning brush and leveling land. Sand was added to the beach and the bath house (recently replaced) was renovated at this time.

2. Hutchinson House – South Park

Chester Hutchinson built this house in 1854 in the Greek Revival architectural style popular at the time. The Waupaca Historical Society currently maintains it as a Victorian museum. One of the first clapboard houses built in Waupaca, in 1957 it was moved from its original location at the southwest corner of Fulton and Franklin Streets. The story and a half feature helped to keep the upper rooms warm while avoiding the additional taxes applied to full two story houses. When built, it was considered a "fancy" house and was the site of the double wedding of the Parish sisters to Mr. Lord and Mr. Browne by Bishop Kemper in 1856. (HR)

3. Pump House – Junction Street

At the bottom of Junction Street, near the shore of Mirror Lake, you can see a remnant of Waupaca's early waterworks. Today we take a constant supply of clean water for granted, but things were very different 100 years ago. Conrad Gmeiner constructed this unusual round brick building in 1905 to pump water from Mirror Lake. At the time, it helped solve the city's water supply problems, but as lake levels fluctuated, water quality and quantity were still a problem. To cure these problems, the first city well was dug in 1922. (HR)

(HR) Listed on the Local, State and/or National Historic Register.

4. Lord House – 803 South Main Street

Irving P. Lord bought this land in 1886 and had the house, known as “the house on lower Main Street,” constructed shortly thereafter. Son of George Lord who was an early Waupaca resident and owner of the Star Mill on Water St., Irving Lord was a member of Waupaca’s first high school graduating class. As a lawyer, he became involved in many controversial issues. He was one of the owners of the Waupaca Electric Light & Railway Co. that built a trolley system that ran between Waupaca and the Chain o’ Lakes from 1899 to 1925.

5. P. A. Chesley House – 115 Lake Street

This 1870 brick Italianate home was remodeled with classical details in 1903. It was one of the first large houses built on Lake Street. P.A. Chesley came to Waupaca in 1855. He opened the first hardware store in this county and for a short time was the police chief.

6. Irving Hansen House – 202 Lake Street

When Hansen wanted to build his home at this location in 1928, his future neighbor and good friend, Miles Loberg, who lived in the house on the east side of this building, removed a wing from his home to convert into Hansen’s house.

7. Mirror Lake Hospital – 301 Lake Street

This building was constructed in 1886 as a residence for C. A. Spencer. In 1936 it became one of Waupaca’s first-public hospitals when Dr. Salan and Dr. C. W. Andrews purchased the home. Dr. Salan continued to run the hospital after Dr. Andrews’ retirement in 1943. It was returned to residential use when the Riverside Community Memorial Hospital was built in 1955.

8. Shearer/Cristy House – 315 Lake Street

A Queen Anne style building that is commonly referred to as “The Cristy House,” this house was built in 1892 for lumberman and one time mayor, Caleb Shearer. Shearer lived in the house for approximately five years before moving and leaving the building standing empty. Joseph Cristy purchased a dry goods store in 1904, living in a number of rental locations until his father-in-law purchased the Shearer House for the Cristy family in 1907. It remained in the Cristy family until 1978. A stone horse hitch by the front walkway bears the misspelled name, C. Sherer. (HR)

9. Chris Mortensen House – 416 South State Street

This Spanish Colonial Revival house was built, circa 1921, of brick from the Brazil Clay Company in Indiana called triple-tex with lattice effect facing. The brick is fairly rare as it was only available for a short time. Originally the porch was not enclosed and there was a brick gate to the house. The ceilings and interior walls are built of solid cement walls approximately 18 inches thick. The kitchen and bathroom were constructed with sunroofs. The roof tilts toward the center of the building where a drain allows the water to flow into a cistern located in the basement.

10. Baptist Church – 412 South Division Street

Rev. Peck organized a Baptist “society for religious instruction” in 1854. Services were held in the schoolhouse. In 1863, the congregation moved into its first church building located on this site. In 1914 the church burned and the current structure was built. The house just north of the church was built in 1918 as a parsonage. When a larger facility was built on Roman Road in 1970, the building was sold and remodeled into apartments.

11. Bammel’s Funeral Home - 325 S. Division St.

In 1929, Paul F Bammel, a furniture salesman, moved to Waupaca where he purchased the George H. James Furniture Store at 121 N. Main St. from the James estate. His sons, Paul F and Harold F. opened a funeral home at 209 N. Main St. in 1933. After outgrowing that location, in 1935 they bought this building, the former St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church Rectory. They had their living quarters upstairs. Bammel’s Furniture Store became Stu’s in 1977 and is now Book World. The funeral home is now a private residence.

12. Presbyterian Church – 321 South Division Street

Waupaca’s first Presbyterian congregation erected this building in 1865 to serve as their church. They continued to meet at this location until 1867 when it was sold and became the Congregational Church. In 1890, St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church purchased the building, using it until 1932, when they constructed their large building at the corner of Badger and Division Streets. This building was then sold and became the Seventh Day Adventist Church and parochial school. The church was recently remodeled into apartments.

13. L. H. Pelton House – 329 Jefferson Street

Dr. Pelton came to Waupaca in 1881, establishing his office over the Old National Bank. In 1900, he purchased this house from A. M. Penney to use for his residence. He served terms as the president of the Old National Bank and of the Wisconsin State Medical Society. After Dr. Pelton lost his eyesight, he retired and lived at this home until his death in 1912.

14. Trinity Lutheran Church – 206 Badger Street

The Scotch Presbyterian Church was built on this site in 1867. The building was purchased by the Our Savior's Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran congregation when they separated from the Holy Ghost Church in 1885. A new brick church was built on this lot, but facing Division Street, in 1903. Following reunification with the Holy Ghost Church in 1945 and because of a growing membership, the current Lannon Stone structure was constructed facing Badger Street in 1949. Several subsequent expansions have replaced neighboring houses.

15. A. M. Hansen Machine Shop – 225 Jefferson Street

(W. J. Doran Co.)

Mr. Hansen contracted Conrad Gminer to build his machine shop building in 1907. This building has always served as a hardware store and the facade has remained unchanged throughout the years. It was equipped with a complete line of machinery for making or repairing all kinds of machines from sawing outfits to automobiles. Much of the equipment in the lower level of the building is still in use by Doran.

In 1908, A. M. Hansen constructed the building next door for his Maxwell automobile dealership. It has been used as an auto dealership ever since.

16. Mead Bank – 215 Jefferson Street

The Mead Bank was originally built in 1862 facing Union St. at the sw. corner of Jefferson and Union and is the first bank mentioned in early Waupaca history. The bank was dismantled during a major fire in the early 1870's to prevent the spread of the fire. It was rebuilt around saved doors and windows. The back section of the building was added many years after the original structure was built. In the back of the original building Mead was brutally murdered on October 7, 1882 in what is technically an unsolved murder despite eleven years of investigation and a number of trials and confessions. The bank was moved to this location in 1899 from its original site. (HR)

17. Edward L. Browne Law Office – 202 East Union Street

(Mark W. Morrow, Attorney at Law)

This building was constructed in 1854 in the Greek Revival style and is believed to be one of the oldest existing buildings in Waupaca. It is recognized by the Wisconsin Bar Association as the oldest existing law building in the state of Wisconsin. A number of original desks, furniture and fixtures are still in use.

E. L. Browne was elected as a representative to the state senate for two terms in the 1860's. He was described by the prosecution's remarks during the Mead trial in 1893 as the only man sober in Waupaca the night Banker Mead was murdered. (HR)

18. Jens Hansen Carriage Shop – 117 East Fulton Street

(Terrence W. Martin, Architect)

This building was erected in 1868 to be used by Henry Prior who was an early Waupaca blacksmith. Hansen came to America in 1869 and purchased the building. His personal motto "Live and Let Live" was hung on a sign above the west double door. The door resembling the hay mow of a barn gave access to a balcony that was used to display his painted carriages. The roof housed a platform with a bell and had two chimneys. He employed six to twelve men in the manufacture of wagons, carriages, plows, blacksmithing and carriage painting. He operated this business until 1906 when horseless carriages began to cut into this area's carriage trade. (HR)

19. Old Reliable Furniture House – 100 North Main Street

(The Lighthouse Book & Office Supply)

Originally built in 1889 for the I.O.O.F. (International Order of Odd Fellows), This building is best known as the second location of Asa Holly's furniture and funeral business. The furniture portion of the enterprise was on the first floor. The second floor was devoted to his funeral business. The building boasted the first and then only elevator in the city. It operated by a system of pull ropes.

Waupaca's first radio station, WPAH, was set up in the mezzanine of the building in 1923. For many years, a grocery store named The Fruit Store, was located in this building.

20. Danes' Home – 301 North Main Street

This structure was built in 1894 to replace the old courthouse building called Gothic Hall that had been moved to the site when a new

court house was built. The Danes' Home was a major social center from 1871 until 1945. Although it was built by Danes in the area, it was open to the community for dances, meetings, lectures, political speeches, sporting events, and theater. The basement had a coffee house, restaurant and confectionary room. From 1904 until around 1920 it was often referred to as the Danes' Home Opera House. Many high school graduation classes were held here. Later, the stage was removed from the auditorium so basketball games could be played. The auditorium was also used as a drill room for the Waupaca Howitzer Company of the National Guard for a brief time. Later, Billie Sheet Metal was operated out of the basement for many years. (HR)

21. Yellowstone Garage – 112 Granite Street (Hansen Auto Exchange)

The Yellowstone Garage got its name from the Yellowstone Trail, which was the nation's first transcontinental highway through the northern states. It entered Waupaca on Churchill Street, came up Main Street, and went out of town on Fulton Street. The Yellowstone Trail was a forerunner to today's Highway 10.

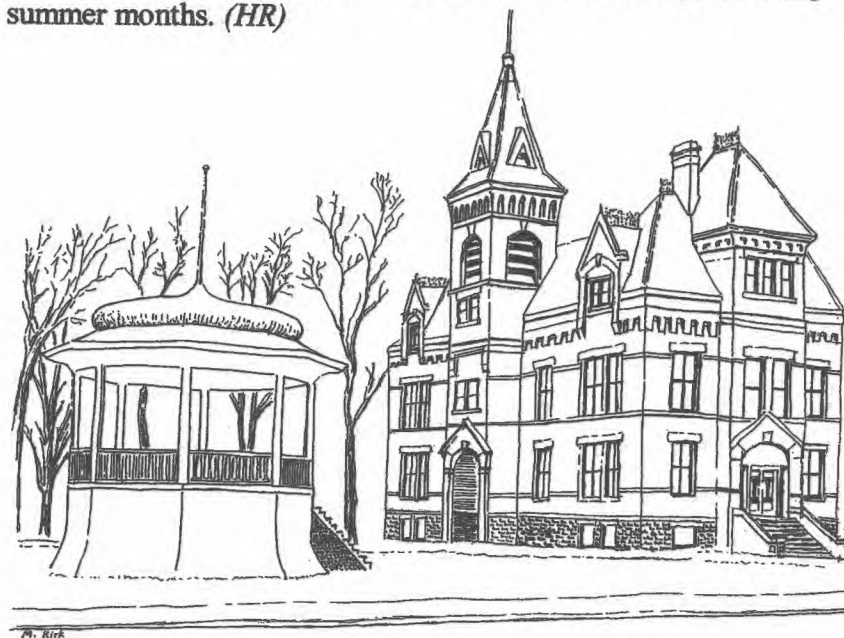
This building was constructed in about 1909. C.E. Johnson rented it as a garage in 1913. In 1915, he purchased the building and made extensive improvements. In February 1917, Dayton Baldwin leased the garage, then called the Yellowstone Garage from Johnson who remained on as a mechanic, and an office was added for use in selling Oldsmobile and Oakland autos. In Nov. 1947, L.J. Fuhrman added on the west half of the building. Later, Red Colligan sold used cars here. After Colligan moved to the corner of Badger and Main Street, Badger Building Center used the building for lumber storage in the 1970s.

22. Jensen Boat Shop – 219 Granite Street (Quality Auto Body)

A small, but fascinating wooden structure on the south end of the Quality Auto Body property, is the old boat building shop of James Jensen. After moving to Waupaca in 1889, Jensen built hundreds of skiffs, row boats, canoes, steam and gas powered launches. He also built two gravel cars for the Waupaca Electric Light & Railway Company. Because the building is a fine example of a nineteenth century shop building and in such good condition, it could be eligible for the Historic Register.

23. The Bandstand – 111 South Main Street

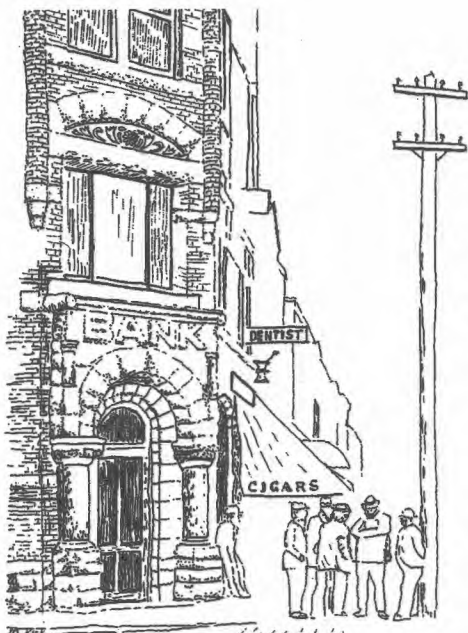
Waupaca's trademark was built in 1898 to accommodate Carroll's Band and Wright's City Band. It has also served as a gathering place for civic events. In 1980, Presidential Candidate Ronald Reagan gave a nationally broadcasted speech from this site. During remodeling, the structure has been lowered from its original height. The Waupaca City Band continues to present band concerts Friday nights during the summer months. (HR)



Band Stand and 1882 Courthouse

24. Waupaca County National Bank – 122 South Main Street (Petersen Realty)

Waupaca County's first national bank was organized in 1890 and grew so fast that it necessitated that this building be constructed in 1893 to accommodate its patrons. Besides its counting rooms, the building included a ballroom known as Castle Hall, and rental space that over the years has housed such enterprises as doctor's offices, a drug store, a saloon, a men's clothing store and a jewelry store. After the First National Bank erected their new building on the corner of Jefferson and Union St. in 1973 (on the site of the old Ford garage) this building was bought by Petersen Realty.



National Bank, circa 1900

25. Roberts Block – 208

South Main Street

(Evans Title Companies Inc.)

This building was constructed in 1884. In February 1900 Waupaca's first public library opened above what was then the post office. They were not charged rent for this area. The Waupaca Electric Light and Railway Company provided free heat and electricity for the library until 1904. The library remained at this location until moving into the Carnegie Library in 1914.

26. Post Office – 306 South Main Street

Waupaca, originally known as "The Falls" received its present name when E. C.

Sessions applied for a post office in 1851. The post office operated in a number of locations before this building was constructed as part of a WPA project in 1939. Despite modifications to the building when an addition was constructed in 1989, the original mural on the north end of the building has been kept intact.

27. Carnegie Library – 321 South Main Street

(Holly History & Genealogy Center)

Through efforts pioneered by the Ladies' Monday Night Club, Waupaca's application for a \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie Foundation was accepted and this free standing library was opened in 1914. The building has fine Tudor Revival details including half-timbered gable ends, a steeply pitched roof with dormers, and multi-pane casement windows. Although Carnegie Libraries of the time did not include fireplaces or inside stairways, Mayor Lea successfully appealed to the Foundation to allow these features in consideration of

the ladies' initial and future support. The building housed the high school library and a Danish language library, allowed rural citizens to use the facilities, became the center for a traveling library, and by 1917 had initiated a rudimentary interlibrary loan system. In 1993 when the library moved to their new quarters on the old court house square site, this building became Carnegie's restaurant. In 2001, it was purchased by the Waupaca Historical Society. (HR)

28. Reed Hospital – 401 South Main Street

When Dr. Reed came to Waupaca in 1873, this structure was constructed to serve as his house and hospital. His office was in the north half of the building. Through his practice, Dr. Reed became alarmed at how alcohol affected many people. He called alcoholism a disease that could only be prevented by abstinence. The WCTU (Wisconsin Christian Temperance Union) met at his house and kept their literature here.

29. A. M. Penney House – 404 South Main Street

This example of a Second Empire Architectural style home was built in 1873/74 for Henry Mumbrue. He was involved in many philanthropies in the 1870s and was the postmaster of Waupaca from 1893-1898.

Penney, "the potato king of America" was the second owner. Along with Penney's business as a produce commissioner he served the community as an alderman and postmaster. He built The Palace, one of Waupaca's first movie theaters. The Bates Mansion in the Alfred Hitchcock movie "Psycho" was said to have been inspired by this house. (HR)

30. St. Mark's Episcopal Church – 415 South Main Street

The first Episcopal service was held by Bishop Kemper in the home of M. H. Sessions in 1856. The first Saint Mark's Episcopal church, called "the little brown church," was built on Jefferson Street in 1863. It burned down in 1904 when the roof was ignited by sparks from the next door opera house fire. This building was consecrated in February, 1905. It is built in the Gothic Revival style including pointed arches and heavy buttresses. The style was very popular for use in churches. Construction of the walls using rusticated cement blocks is very

uncommon in churches. The first rector of this church, Rev. George Hirst, was instrumental in getting the business places in the community to close on Good Friday, so their staff could participate in the special services. The original bell tower has been replaced. A new addition was built on the east end of the church in 2001, and the old rectory torn down to make room for a parking lot.

31. The Wood Hospital – 503 South Main Street

Dr. Fred C. Wood was the fifth owner of this house. In 1924, he converted it into a small hospital where he practiced until 1940. The front entrance hall of the house was his office and reception area. The exam room, operating room, and most of the patient rooms were upstairs with the front parlor being used when additional space was needed. Meals were prepared in a kitchen located in the basement. Additions to the house on the north side were used as a combination library/den.

32. Holly House – 518 South Main

This house was built for Asa Holly, one of Waupaca's early carpenters. Holly engaged in the furniture and casket making trade. Three generations of Holly's lived in this house, moving their business in 1938 from downtown Waupaca to the old Chesley house next door to their residence. The business stayed in the Holly family until the retirement of Tom Holly in 1982. The converted house was demolished in 1997 and replaced with the current building. In 2000, a crematorium was added. It is believed to be the oldest continuously locally owned company in the city. It was through the Holly Funeral Home that the origins of Waupaca's ambulance service were formed.

33. A. G. Nelson House – 523 South Main Street

Andrew Nelson came to Waupaca in 1871. He soon became involved in the lumber and real estate business. A. G. Nelson served the community as an alderman for five years, a county supervisor for three years and four terms as mayor. In 1885 he was a member of the state senate.

A. G. built this Queen Anne style house in 1901. The small home set back on the northeast side of the house was originally the carriage house with the drive circling from Lake Street to Main Street.

34. P. J. Christofferson House – 604 South Main

(Green Fountain Inn)

This house was built in 1901. P. J. Christofferson was one of four brothers from this area to become doctors. Known for his treatment of pneumonia patients, P. J.'s office was located above the First National Bank. His brother, A. M., came to Waupaca in 1920, opening an office above The Fruit Store on Main and Fulton Streets. In 1922, they built the Christofferson Hospital (now called Garden Park House) behind P.J.'s house. Shortly afterward the two brothers had a big fight and never spoke to each another again.

35. E. E. Browne House – 614 South Main Street

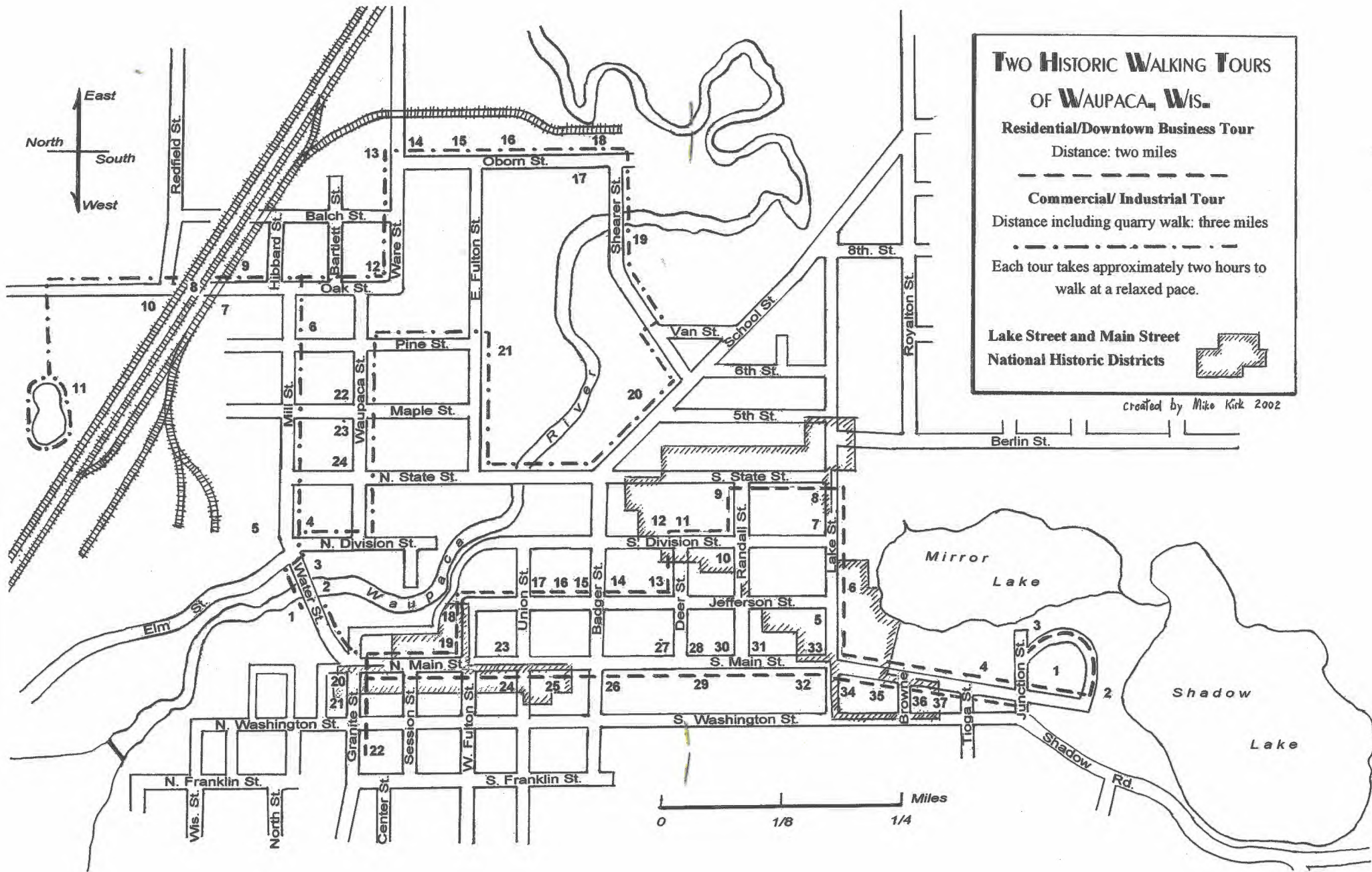
The house was built in 1894. Edward Browne was admitted to the bar in 1891 and served as Waupaca's District Attorney from 1898-1904. He served as a regent for the University of Wisconsin for two years, resigning to serve in the state senate (1906-1912) where he was instrumental in promoting the issue of road conditions in Wisconsin. He served as a representative in Congress from 1912 through 1918 where he drafted and promoted the ratification of the National Aid Road Law. He also served on the state conservation commission, was the president of the seventh judicial bar association, the curator for the Waupaca Historical Society and held one term as vice-president of the old Waupaca County National Bank. (HR)

36. E. L. Browne/Truesdell House – 702 South Main Street

This was the home of E. L. Browne, father of E. E., when he was in Waupaca. E.L.'s daughter, Jennie, married Clarence H. Truesdell in 1892 and when they moved to Waupaca in 1894 they lived at this residence. C. H. opened a drug store in the Waupaca County National Bank where he had the first soda fountain in Waupaca. When his lease ran out in 1914, and the bank wanted to expand, he moved to the Masonic Block. He operated his pharmacy business until poor health forced him to retire and sell the business to Frank Stratton.

37. Whipple House – 706 South Main Street

This was the home of Frank Whipple, who came to Waupaca in 1886. He purchased a half interest in a drug store with Joe Woodnorth. This partnership lasted until 1897 when Whipple sold his interest to the Hocking brothers. Whipple later went into the livery business with Herman Felker. Their livery stood on Main St. next to the hotel located where the Bank One building is today.



WAUPACA: THE CROSSROAD OF WISCONSIN

In 1912 promoters in Aberdeen South Dakota encouraged creating a Yellowstone Trail as America's first transcontinental highway through the northern tier of states - running from Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts to Puget Sound, Washington. Most records say the route was named the Yellowstone Trail because it was the national highway that people traveled to reach Yellowstone National Park. Some records reflect that the course followed by these early travelers was so-named because the route was marked with yellow paint on stones, trees, fence posts or other visible markers (called "hoodoos"), serving as the first road signs for the adventurous traveler. In the Waupaca area, the route was marked with yellow bands on telephone poles, light poles, and trees. The Yellowstone Trail traversed 18 Wisconsin counties, covering a total of 406 miles. The mud roads were graveled and later paved with concrete. It was later designated highway 18 and then as Highway 10.

Work in central Wisconsin began in 1915. During initial meetings in Marshfield, cities such as Grand Rapids, Shawano and Wausau tried to divert the route through their areas citing the bad condition of roads in the Waupaca/Weyauwega area. Through the persuasive powers of Erle Whipple, of Waupaca, it was determined to leave the route as initially proposed. Whipple was active in setting up "Trail Days." Many businesses were closed to allow staff to form work parties to improve the roads on these days.

In July 1915, a relay from Chicago to Minneapolis tested Wisconsin's segment of the trail. Whipple was a general relay manager of the seventh segment of a relay in September 1916, when the War Department and Yellowstone Trail Association agreed to send an official War Department message from coast to coast in a record five days. Drivers and cars that could average 30 miles an hour were required to meet this challenge. Trailman Whipple not only arranged for high-powered cars capable of traveling these speeds, but arranged for drivers not to be arrested by police while driving through their areas at such reckless speeds.

The north/south Yellow Cross Route was laid from Three Lakes to Ripon in July/August 1915. The proposed highway was marked with yellow bands painted on telephone poles. This was a time when many cross roads were not provided with guide boards as was later required by law and the Yellow Cross Route was marked, it did much to promote county travel. This forerunner to Highway 49 crossed the Yellowstone Trail in Waupaca, making Waupaca a true, centrally located crossroad of Wisconsin.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL TOUR

1. Waupaca Falls

In 1849, five Vermonters left Plymouth, Wis. and headed into the newly opened Indian territory in central Wisconsin. Hearing about a water fall on the Waupaca River, they headed upstream. Upon arriving at the falls, they camped for the night at a spot near where the Danes Home is located today. Impressed with the potential for using power from the falls, three of them, E.C. Sessions and William and Joseph Hibbard, decided to stake claims. Wm. Pratt decided to return to the East and Martin Burnham went on to the gold fields in California.

For many years dams harnessed the river at Waupaca Falls to power many industries. Among them were Star Mills, City Mills, A.G. Nelson Lumber Company, and the Waupaca water works. The river was again unleashed in 1978 when the 1914 concrete dam at the falls was blasted away.

2. Water Street Bridge

In 1891, a granite and limestone arch bridge was built replacing a wooden structure crossing the Waupaca River. Mads Rasmussen, a Waupaca contractor, was hired to construct the 123 foot structure after submitting the low bid of \$2,500. The six arches of the bridge provided over a century of reliable service to the people of Waupaca. In 1994 it was replaced with a concrete bridge built on a new alignment slightly upstream from the old bridge.

3. Timme and Zahl Tannery – 214 Water Street (Waupaca Glass)

Constructed in 1863 by Timmee and Zahl as a tannery where leather was manufactured from hides, by 1881 the business had gradually shifted away from tanning to a dealership in hides. In 1894, after a few changes in ownership, the business was extended to the shipping of wool, hides, fur, clover and Timothy seeds. Seeds continued to be sold after it became Johnson Seed Company. Later, the business became Waupaca Farm and Garden. Today in the remodeled and expanded building, Waupaca Glass sells and repairs windows and other glass products. This is one of the oldest continuously operated business buildings in Waupaca.

It is interesting to note that when the Johnson family sold the

business in 1976, the old tanning vats were still in the building, although they have since been removed.

4. Danish Methodist Church – 304 Mill St.

(Complete Door Service)

The wooden building that today houses a portion of Complete Door Service, was once the Danish Methodist Church. The original church was built in 1853 facing Division Street during the tenure of Waupaca's first resident Methodist minister, Rev. R. S. Hayward. The building was displaced with the existing structure in 1874, after which the old building served as a blacksmith shop for many years. In 1915, the congregation disbanded and joined the larger First Methodist Church. The bell from this early church is now in the bell tower of the First United Methodist Church on Demarest Street.

5. Waupaca Foundry, plant one, Division Street

The Waupaca Foundry traces its roots back to the Pioneer Foundry, established by John Roshe in 1871. Located in a building on Division St. where Hidden Park is today, he fabricated many different items including the patented Waupaca Chilled Plow. Today, the foundry, owned by the Budd Company, has three plants located in Waupaca and is the city's largest employer. Plant One, located here, on the former site of the old Fullerton Lumber Company, has gradually expanded to replace many old businesses. Among them were several potato warehouses, Grey Czeskleba Oil Company, the Waupaca-Green Bay Railway depot, A.G. Nelson Lumber Company, the Northwestern Feed Mill, and others.

6. Mill Street

Notice that some of the wide sidewalks still remain along Mill Street. This street was once the main thoroughfare leading from the railroad depot, as well as the third ward industrial and business area, to the city's downtown.

7. Whale Paper – Oak Street

(Moore-O-Matic)

In 1946, Gerald Whale constructed the 60 x 120 ft. steel quonset and cement block sections of this building. He moved his Whale Safety Paper Company from Menasha and for several years made special bank

check, stock certificate and other document paper.

In 1954, A. E. Moore invented a screw drive garage door opener. In 1955, he opened a factory in an old potato warehouse on Holbeck St. to manufacture the openers. In 1963, they merged with the Barnhart Machine Company and expanded into this building. A large addition was built on the rear of the building in the mid 1970s. The assembly line at Holbeck St. was transferred to the new addition, as well as the screw machines that had been housed in the former Barnhart Machine Shop building on Oborn St. The company was bought out by Linear Corporation about 1979. Moore-o-matic, which by then was owned by Nortek, was sold to Chamberlain. In 1999, Chamberlain closed the plant in favor of its manufacturing operations in Mexico.



Mill Street circa 1910

8. Wisconsin Central Railroad

(Wisconsin Central Division, Canadian National)

On the cold Thursday evening of Sept. 28, 1871, the first Wisconsin Central train, consisting of one passenger car and a locomotive,

entered town. As the train approached with its whistle blowing, excitement ran high. The entire town was in attendance to witness this long awaited day. Waupaca would no longer be known as a sleepy little town along the Waupaca River. The first official Wis. Central time table dated October 2, 1871 showed the train departing Menasha at 7:00 a.m. and arriving in Waupaca at 10:45 a.m., traveling the 34 1/2 miles in 3 3/4 hours.

Starting in 1909, the Soo Line operated the railroad. In 1988, it again became the Wisconsin Central. In 2001, it was bought out by the Canadian National.

For a time, Waupaca boasted two other railroads. The Waupaca Electric Light & Railway Co. (1899-1925) ran from the Soo Line depot to King and the Grand View Hotel on the Chain o' Lakes. The Waupaca - Green Bay Railroad (1907-1947) ran from Waupaca to Scandinavia where it interchanged with the Green Bay & Western.

9. Soo Line Freight Station – Oak Street

(Wisconsin Central Division, Canadian National)

This brick building was constructed to replace an earlier wooden structure that burned in Nov. of 1948 after an unexplained explosion in the basement of the next door Central Bowling alley and tavern caused the bowling alley, tavern and restaurant building to burn down and ignited the freight house (which had been the original 1871 depot). The platform was used for loading and unloading rail cars by businesses that did not have their own track. The building was used for storage of less than carload shipments.

10. Soo Line passenger station – Oak Street

(Wisconsin Central Division, Canadian National)

After a fire destroyed the 1881 wooden railroad station in 1907, this Chippewa Falls limestone depot was opened by the Wisconsin Central Railroad in early 1908. This sturdy structure, with its Spanish tile roof and three fireplaces, gave a grand first impression to tourists visiting to Waupaca by rail. From a special express train that stopped here in October of 1912, former president Teddy Roosevelt spoke to the people of the Waupaca area. The depot served rail passenger traffic until January 16, 1965 when the last Soo Line passenger train stopped at Waupaca. It continued to be used by the Soo Line agent and section crew until the new Wisconsin Central took over in 1988.

11. Wisconsin Granite Company – Oak Street (Shambeau Park)

If you follow the driveway from Oak St. into Shambeau Park you will come upon a beautiful pond hidden in the woods. In the early 1900's, granite was quarried from this site, known locally as the "stone quarry." Much of the granite quarried here was made into paving stones and crushed gravel that was shipped by rail for use in city streets. In 1999, this land was donated to the city of Waupaca by the Shambeau family for use as a park. Several interpretive signs along the 1/3 mile scenic path around the quarry explain the history and geology of the area.



Cutting paving stones.

12. Baxter House School – 701 Ware Street

The older part of the garage at this corner was once the Baxter School. Early pioneers greatly desired that Waupaca become an educational center. The school opened in 1851 with 21 students in one room of the house. Miss. Theodora Thompson was paid \$1.25 per week to teach. Each parent paid a portion according to the number of children sent. If the parents were short of cash, they paid in produce. Furniture in the school consisted of benches made of planks laid across wood blocks about 15 inches high. There was a table and chair for the teacher's use. Studies were ABCs, reading, arithmetic, grammar, music and orthography. There were also exercises in history and literature. This school was known as the "black school" house. Another school located on State Street was called the "white school."

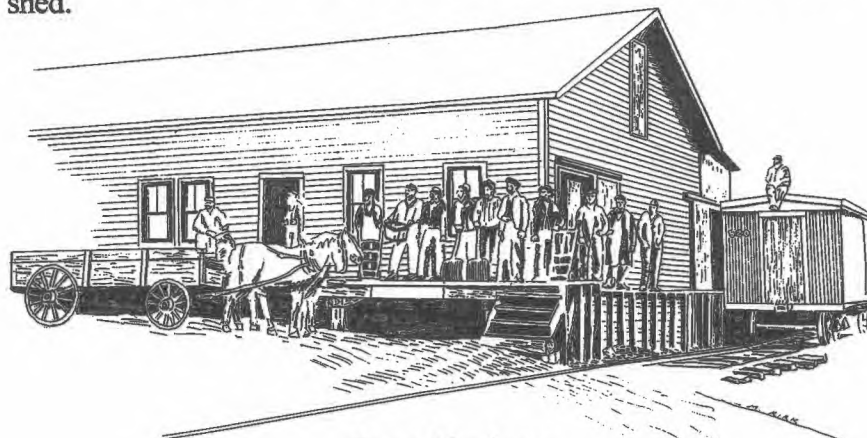
13. Potato Warehouses – 905 Ware Street (Jay-Mar Inc.)

These buildings were constructed as two separate potato warehouse businesses. M. Fagerholt built the east one in 1894 and the other was constructed by the Peterson Brothers in 1899. In the 1930s, W. E. Feathers purchased both warehouses, which by then were known as the Starks Warehouse and the Leonard Crosset & Riley Warehouse. Feathers added a seed, feed, coal and ice business to make up for the

diminishing potato trade. Feathers sold the Ware Street Market business to Jay-Mar Inc. of Plover in 1984. They operate it as a farm and pet supply store. These buildings are historically significant because they are two of the few remaining examples of the many potato warehouses that once were common in Waupaca when it was known as "The Potato Capital of the World."

14. Peterson Produce Company – 124 N. Oborn Street (Telstar Communications)

Christian, William & E.A. Peterson formed the firm, Peterson Produce Company. In 1913, they purchased this property and operated a potato warehouse. The Soo line tracks ran behind the building and the Waupaca Green Bay Railway ran a track down Oborn St. in the front to serve businesses located along the street. Later, the Fuller Goodman Lumber Co. and then, the Badger Building Center were located here. Chain o' Lakes Litho operates out of a former lumber shed.



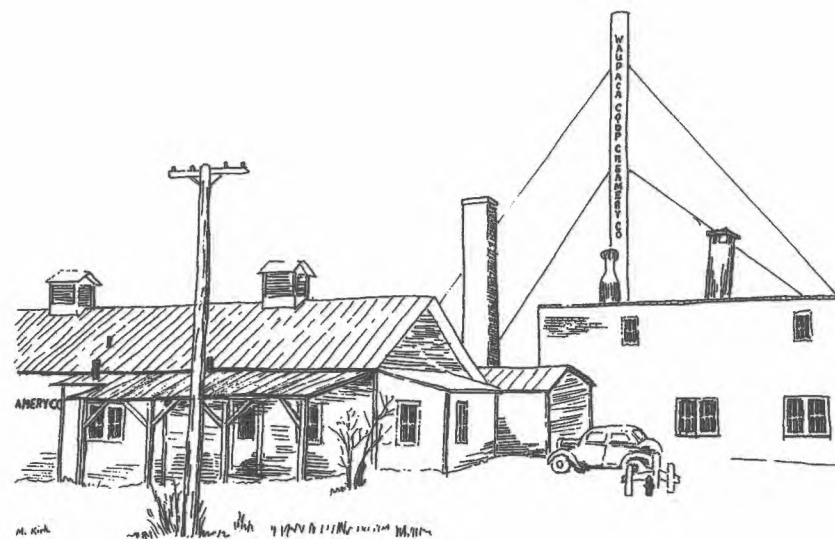
Potato Warehouse

15. Wisconsin Seed Company – 114 Oborn Street (Filter Materials Warehouse)

On this site once was a potato warehouse operated by Walter Baldwin and his son, Dayton. In 1928, the Wisconsin Seed Company bought the property for use as a feed mill. A concrete block building was erected following a fire that destroyed the building in 1944. Later, the building was used as a warehouse for Anderson Distributing and the foundry. Currently, it is owned and used as a warehouse by Filter Materials.

16. Northwestern Produce Company – 109 Oborn Street (Tomorrow River Valley Cooperative)

The Northwestern Produce Company was incorporated in May of 1905 and constructed this building. Northwestern Produce had the largest potato warehouse in Waupaca. It later became Northwestern Co-op and is now Tomorrow Valley Cooperative Services.



Waupaca Cooperative Creamery, circa 1940

17. Waupaca Creamery – 138 Oborn Street

(Chain o' Lakes Novelty Company)

A wooden building was erected here as a creamery in 1890 with the existing brick structure added later.

In 1911, after two economic failures, the business was revived as the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company. By then farmers were changing from potatoes to dairying and the creamery was more successful. By the 1930's, the creamery was producing 700,000 pounds of butter per year. Powdered skim milk and powdered buttermilk were also produced. The Badger Consolidated Creamery of Shawano purchased the plant in 1941 and closed it soon after. The building then housed Barnhart Machine Shop which was bought out by A. E. Moore

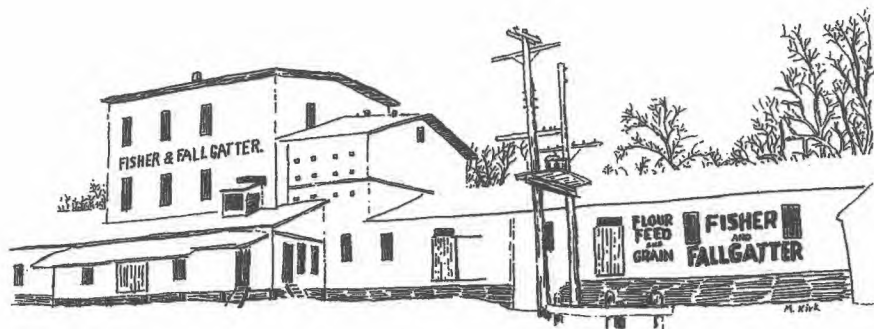
Company. When A. E. Moore was sold to Linear Corporation, the elevator and dumbwaiter division became independent and was called Waupaca Elevator. Elevators and dumbwaiters continued to be manufactured here until the business bought by an Appleton company that moved the operation to the Fox Valley. The building was bought by Chain o' Lakes Novelty, Inc. in 1999.

The brick portion of the creamery still stands, but is partially hidden behind additions.

18. Fisher and Fallgatter Mill – 213 Oborn Street

The three story section of this mill was built in 1884 by S. T. Oborn and R. N. Roberts. They fitted the grist mill, named Crescent Mills, with the latest roller technology and operated it until 1901. After going through several owners, it was purchased by Fred Fisher and Ward Fallgatter. With expansions and modernization, the mill became known for its rye flour. Ward Fallgatter's son, Don operated the mill until 1969. It was the last water powered flour mill in Wisconsin.

Water ran through a channel behind the dam and passed under Oborn Street. The water was discharged back into the Waupaca River which wound its way around behind the building. Water was drawn from the same dam by the planing mill on Shearer Street. During low water, both mills sometimes could not be operated at the same time. Today, the Fisher and Fallgatter mill, still containing its original machinery, is on the National Historic Register. (HR)



Fisher and Fallgatter, as it appeared about 1940

19. Eagle Planing Mill – 728 Shearer Street (Fullerton Lumber Company)

In 1859 C.H. Allen erected a saw mill at this site to manufacture windows and doors. Water power from a dam across the street powered the mill. By 1887, it was owned by Caleb B. Shearer and T.L. Jeffers and produced products such as lath, shingles, lumber and doors. The firm was sold and renamed the Central Lumber Company in 1902. In 1907, the wooden mill burned and the existing brick building was constructed. The Fuller Goodman Lumber Company bought the mill in 1920 and operated here until they moved to Oborn Street in 1937. Earl Fabricius, Erwin Frihart, and Chris Mortensen purchased the mill and operated it as the Home Lumber Company. After two ownership changes, it was purchased by the Fullerton Lumber Company in 1955. They moved here from their mill on Division Street which they sold to the foundry. Fullerton Lumber operated until 1973.

Today it is used as a construction company warehouse. This is one of the few remaining examples of the many historic lumber industries in Waupaca. The brick planing mill is potentially eligible for the Historic Register.

20. Waupaca Elementary School – 515 School Street

The first school constructed on this site was the Union High School. Completed in 1867, it included both elementary and high school. The main part of Waupaca's school system was located here in a complex of buildings constructed over the years. Known as Central School, it included elementary, junior and senior high school buildings. After the high school on Shoemaker Road was built in 1973, many of the buildings were torn down. The oldest remaining building is the elementary school which was built in 1938 with help from the W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration). A single story addition was built in 1954. With most of its Classic Revival style features intact, the 1938 school is potentially eligible for the Historic Register.

21. Waupaca County Highway Dept. Shops – 515 E. Fulton St.

The county garage is a large brick building constructed in 1936 with the help of the W.P.A. It was built in the Art Deco style popular in the 1930's. In spite of the addition on the west side, the building retains much of its historic integrity with most of the large windows and doors intact.

22. Holy Ghost Church – 204 Maple Street
(Church of Christ)

In 1904, the congregation of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church built this church and changed their name to the Holy Ghost Evangelical Lutheran Church. The structure is built of Waupaca brick with a fieldstone foundation. Its pointed arch windows are of Gothic Revival style. In 1943, the congregation merged with our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church to become Trinity Lutheran Church. This building was then sold to the Assembly of God Congregation.

The original bell tower has been removed.

Currently, the Church of Christ worships in the building.

23. Christian Larson House – 413 Waupaca Street

Christian Larson came to Waupaca from Laaland, Denmark in 1869 with his wife, Carrie and two children. They had five more children in Wisconsin. He had apprenticed as a tailor in Denmark and went into business for himself in Waupaca in 1870. His tailor business and city property deals prospered and he built this house in 1894. It is of the Queen Anne style with an irregular floor plan and asymmetrical style. There is a bay window surrounded by small panes of clear glass. The second story windows are decorated with sunburst panels. The gable has a pierced X pattern with decorative panels attached. There is a balconette above the porch with spindles and bracketry. (HR)

24. Walter Levissee House – 401 Waupaca Street

This house was built in the early 1870s on property owned by Walter Levissee. He owned the west half of the block. Westen, a Baptist minister who was probably his brother, owned the east half.

The house was built in the Italiante style which was popular from the 1830s to the 1880s. Notice the round arches on the second floor and the segmented arches of the first floor. The arches have alternating natural and cream city-style brick. The windows are double-hung six over six panels. Courses of cream brick were also used in the walls. A one story wood frame addition was added to the north side in 1947. (HR)

