

100-102-104 Fourth Avenue

100-102-104 Fourth Avenue

Located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Oak Street and Fourth Avenue

Block 22, lot 12

Sanborn map location 219 & 220 Fourth Avenue

In December of 1850, **O. V. Troop & Company** was advertising an all-new stock of wholesale and retail goods at their store on the Garrison Corner.

Next in April of 1851, **Mr. Daniel Parrish** was conducting a **Daguerreotype** business in a small temporary building on this corner. Sometime later, Parrish moved to California. While there he embarked by ship to Oregon. Unfortunately, the ship went down taking all passengers.

In March of 1856, the **J. W. Foote Hardware** was advertised as being "opposite the Sumner House" on **Garrison's Corner**. The Sumner House at that time, later referred to as the Western Hotel, was on the southeast corner of the intersection of Fourth Avenue and Oak Street and was owned by Colonel Edward Sumner. Later there was to be a Sumner House constructed at this location by E. Sumner's nephew, Charles A. Sumner.

In an article in the July 27, 1911 issue of the *Baraboo Republic*, Mrs. English recalled, "On July 5, 1859, an early morning fire broke out in Asa Wood's store, north of the square. L. C. Stanley owned the building. It made a clean sweep from the small brick structure, formerly the courthouse, to Oak Street, consuming seven buildings. The three buildings near the corner of Oak were owned by C. A. Sumner and were of little value. One was occupied by **Dr. Slye** and the other two sat empty.

By tearing down the corner building, the store known as the "Beehive", which was just north of the corner, was saved. Mrs. Garrison and her brother, Mr. Troup, conducted the Beehive store. In any event, there was left an empty lot and a cellar after the fire. The lot eventually grew over with grass and according to old timers.

This lot provided space for neighborhood boys to play ball and other games. It was reported that an oil soaked ball of cotton, thrown into a stairway ignited and started the fire."



C. A. Sumner House 100-104 Fourth Avenue circa 1878

Charles A. Sumner purchased the empty lot at this site in 1866 and announced in 1867 that he was contemplating building a hotel on the site. In September of 1878 Sumner's new edifice was complete and was being utilized as a hotel and a store building and was known as the **Sumner House**.

Sumner had been in business in Baraboo since 1855. An article in the *Baraboo Republic* dated November 11, 1872 speaks of **Bullard & Scofield, Carriage Painting**, being located on Sumner's Corners. They had moved from under the hill where they had been located over T. Oats' Wagon Manufactory. Sometime prior to April of 1874, this partnership came to an end and Bullard located upstairs at 113 Fourth Street. This site was also the temporary home of Lang, Camp & Co. who lost their Third Avenue Pharmacy building in the fire of December 1871.

In February of 1878, C. A. Sumner began his move from 108 Third Street, into his new elegant Block on the corner of Oak and

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Fourth. The store was very commodious; the front was brilliant with plate glass, each window being a single pane, eleven feet high by six feet wide. The shelves and counters were arranged in "City Style," on the sides and down the middle. Every convenience was supplied for general country trade, groceries, dry goods, crockery, etc., and the interior finish was as neat as the exterior. At that time, the hotel in the same building, and taking up the rest of the edifice, was not finished.

In September of 1878, the new hotel opened. The sandstone used on the exterior of the building came from the **Levi Crouch Quarry** located on the southwest part of Baraboo, no doubt on Quarry Street. A more precise location was on the SW 1/4 of Sect. 2, T. 11 N., R. 6 E. The stone was of medium hardness and could be cut and dresses with comparative ease. The color of the stone was nearly white with a tinge of yellow. This particular quarry extended to land adjacent and owned by **Smith Jennings**. Stone from these quarries was used for many buildings and foundations in Baraboo.

An examination of the building disclosed an interior worthy of the handsome exterior. On the first floor was the office, washroom, dining room, kitchen, etc. The windows of the office and the door of the ladies entrance were fitted with a single pane French plate glass, and between the office and dining room was a similar large plate. These afforded great light and set off the rooms with brilliant effect. The furniture and fittings were all in excellent taste. The dining room had a capacity of forty-eight guests, without crowding, and was ample for regular demands.

The second floor had fourteen rooms for guests and the parlor. The rooms were of various sizes, some furnished with two beds, others with one, a part of them adapted more especially for ladies use. The latter are supplied with the largest style of French bureaus with pier glasses, elegant easy chairs, etc. It was said that these rooms were equal to those found in first class hotels in Chicago. The halls and staircases were carpeted as well as the rooms.

The woodwork throughout the building was varnished such as the native grain of the pine and presented a light, neat appearance. The parlor was exquisitely furnished, equal to the finest private

apartment of the same name, and opened upon a fine view of the park and principal streets.

The table furniture was unusually good, consisting of silver ware, fine glass and ornamented china. Other essentials such as hanging lamps, chandeliers, racks, etc. were of the newest and most attractive designs. There also was a large sample room for the accommodation of commercial travelers.

The office was in charge of Mr. P. E. Longley while Mrs. Gray, for many years a cook of the Fox House of Portage, was in charge of the kitchen.

By November of 1878, the business of the Sumner House had increased so rapidly that Mr. Sumner fitted up rooms over **Gust's Meat Market** at 101 Fourth Street for sleeping apartments for guests.

In August of 1881, Sumner sold his large stock of chinaware, glassware, groceries, etc., and leased his store to **Peter Sprecher**, who had been a trusted and efficient clerk of the reliable firm of Huntington, Stanley & Co. Later **Fred Orvis** conducted the store.

In March of 1884 **Thompson M. Warren** purchased the hotel and renamed it the **Warren House**. The purchase also included two lots immediately to the west. Warren had plans for an addition to be added later that year. His plans were to add an addition on the north side of the building 30 X 65 feet. He would then add a mansard roof over the whole building, which would be equivalent to adding a third floor. These additions promised to cost another \$10,000 to \$12,000.

Thompson M. Warren was born May 10, 1812 in the village of Buckfield, Oxford county, Maine. He passed away on Friday, February 26, 1892. When ten years of age he moved with his parents to Massachusetts, where they resided for four years. Thence the family moved to Utica, New York. At the age of eighteen Thompson left the parental roof, determined to carve a fortune for him. He moved to New York City, where he entered into the business of a book and news dealer.

After five years there, he moved up the Hudson to Albany, and there engaged in the same line of trade. For about ten years he

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prosecuted business there, adding but moderately to his wealth. He then returned to Herkimer County where he engaged in farming. Soon after, with the tide of emigration, he made a trip westward, arriving in Chicago in 1841. After several more moves, he found himself in Mineral Point in 1844. There, in the company of two brothers, he engaged in merchandising and remained only a year or two. Then the brothers came across the Wisconsin River and settled at Sauk City, since which time he was a constant resident of Wisconsin. At Sauk City the brothers engaged in banking and dealt extensively in land.

In 1855 Mr. Warren was married to Catherine McKennan at Herkimer, NY who survived him in occupying the beautiful farm adjoining the city. About 1867, Mr. Warren discontinued business in Sauk City and came to reside in Baraboo. As a citizen of Baraboo, he acquired the hotel that bore his name and established the First National Bank of which he was president at the time of his death. About 1872, he acquired a large tract of land seven miles west of Chicago, later to be known as the Oak Park suburb. The rise in the value of this land made him a rich man.

Three sons mourned his passing; **Mark A.**, proprietor of the Warren House; **William A.**, cashier of the First National bank of Baraboo; **T. M.**, an extensive stock breeder and dealer of South Dakota, and two daughters, **Mrs. L. E. Hoyt**, of this city and **Miss Minnie Warren**.

1883

Binder Parade

The occasion was the arrival of a carload of Excelsior Self-Binders. These were consigned to **Peter Wilkinson** of **Wilkinson Livery Stable & Farm machinery**. Due to limited storage space, Wilkinson arranged for the farmers, who had placed orders earlier, to pick up their binders at the railroad yards. They then paraded them through downtown led by 8 members of the Gollmar Brothers band. The band players received \$1.00 each plus joined the farmers at a lunch provided by Peter Wilkinson. Wilkinson's Livery Stable was supposedly located just east of the Presbyterian Church in the alley between Second & Third Street. Peter's son, Arthur Wilkinson,



The Warren House

circa 1899

operated a livery stable for many years located at about the future Alpine Restaurant's location on Fourth Street. Peter was associated with this operation at one time. The following picture was taken in 1883 from the **Sumner Corner** looking southeast.

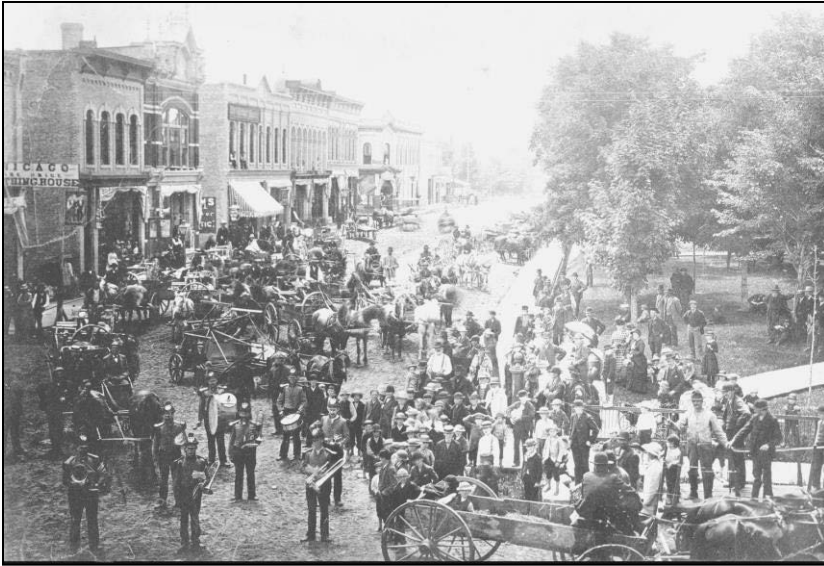
In August of 1932, Mr. A. T. Johnson brought the aforementioned picture into the newspaper office and was able to point out members of the band, Ben, Ed, Fred, and Jake Gollmar, Franz Farwell and Henry Moeller, all gaily attired in uniforms.

In the park nearby was the Gollmar boy's father, watching the parade with interest. Oscar Fillhour was riding in the rear of a wagon in the parade.

July of 1886 found **Herman Wordeman** conducting a saloon in the basement of the Warren House.

In June of 1895 the **Western Union Telegraph Office** moved from its office in the Warren House into the corner office over where the post office used to be. In the summer of 1895 a partition

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Binder Parade Gollmar Brothers' Band circa 1883

was placed in the Warren House office and a portion of that space was utilized as a bar room, which was known as the **Seymour Sample Room**. **F. R. Seymour**, of Spooner rented the room and conducted the business. **Dan W. Chamberlain** had discontinued his place in the basement, whose address was referred to as **609 Oak Street**, and planned on opening at 111 Fourth Street.

About July 1, 1896, **E. L. Ross** of Chicago assumed proprietorship of the Warren House. On July 15 of the same year, Ross announced that he had taken in a partner, **George Welsh** (or possibly Welch) of Boscobel. Prior to Ross assuming control of the hotel, **F. J. Butler** was the proprietor. Butler had purchased the hotel from M. A. Warren and E. C. Watson in 1894. In December of 1897, Welsh and Ross dissolved their partnership. Ross would continue the landlordship.

Will A. Warren, former cashier of the First National Bank, succeeded E. L. Ross as proprietor of the Warren House in August of 1902. Terms were agreed upon whereby Mr. Warren purchased the furnishings and assumed charge. Mr. Ross planned on enjoying a rest

for a time and would look after the interests of his farm. Charles Butler was engaged as clerk. He had been a clerk during a prior time and was said that he "knew all the boys on the road."

In April of 1903, it was announced that H. G. Merritt, W. A. Warren and August Fisher would establish a bank in North Freedom. The articles of incorporation were filed with a capital stock of \$25,000. The bank would be known as the Bank of North Freedom. A new building would be constructed and it was expected that the bank would be open by the first of May.

Warren, of Baraboo, sold half interest in his hotel there to Mr. **Ira A. Beane** of Weyauwega. Beane would take control of the hotel while Warren turned his attention to the new bank. Two weeks later Beane was gone and Warren was back in full charge. It was said that Beane went to Shawno where he would conduct a hotel.

J. B. Jones became the new proprietor of the Warren House in June of 1903. He came from Columbus where he conducted the Hotel Whitney. His wife and son were expected to move to Baraboo shortly thereafter. However, in July 1903 **Will E. Ross** of Escanaba, Michigan purchased all of the furnishings of the hotel with plans to open August 1. Then in January of 1906, Ross transferred the conductorship of the hotel to **Fred H. Bertram**.

In October of 1907, Mr. **Charles A. Gonder** of Chicago purchased the Warren House from Mr. F. H. Bertram and the hotel became **The New Warren**. Mr. Gonder was previously connected with hotels in San Antonio, Denver and Chicago. Gonder's former home was in Beloit.

Then in 1909 and 1910, the care of the Warren passed to the hands of **G. E. Ingram** of Pana, Illinois. It was said that the Gonder's, after a brief stop in Chicago, would go to California.

By July of 1911, **Robert Vincent** of Chicago took over the hotel with Ingram retaining hold of the bar room.

In October of 1913, Warren House changed hands again, **G. W. Ziebell** of Mason City, Iowa, became the new proprietor, having purchased the interests of **J. W. Turner**, who had operated the house for a little over a year.

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Then in September of 1915, **R. A. Cowan** and **M. A. Warren** sold the Warren Hotel to **Liston H. Hill** who had conducted the business for the prior year. In February of 1924, Hill and his son **Harold** visited the Chicago Auto Show. While there, they purchased what they called, a fleet of standard type taxis. They were expected to arrive about the first of March. The plan was to give taxi service 24 hours a day, both inside and outside the city boundaries.

In January of 1926, plans were being made for a four-story addition in the rear of the hotel facing Oak Street. The improvements included the new first floor section and a ball room on the fourth floor, an elevator and decorating of many of the hotel rooms. 24 or 30 rooms would be added, each with private bath and telephones. There would be a large storage room in the basement. Due to the fact that the planned addition would be north of the alley, a bridge would connect the old hotel with the new addition. The bridge would go over the first floor.

In July of 1927, The “**Red Bird**”, unique and colorful tearoom opened at the Warren Hotel. The new dining place was finished entirely in Mandarin red with a touch of black and gray red birds on the walls. In 1933, the restaurant was known as the “**Warren Café**.” In April of 1934, L. H. Hill died at the age of 51 after operating the Warren for twenty years. Hill was survived by his wife, one son, Harold J. Hill who had been associated with his father and his daughter-in-law, Mrs. H. J. Hill. Also, two grandchildren survived him, Howard and Sue Ann Hill. In 1933 a beer & wine license was granted to L. H. Hill at 605 Oak Street and in 1936 to Mrs. L. H. Hill.

This was no doubt for the Cocktail Lounge. In April of 1936, **Jim Lum** was the Chinese chef at the Warren. His cousin Tommy was his assistant. In the late 1940's there was a banquet room in the rear of the hotel thought to be behind the kitchen, which was called the **Silver Room**, and another room on the lower level called the “**Pine Room**.” In April of 1942, the Pine Room was turned into a saloon titled the “**Bomb Shelter**.” New kitchen facilities were added on the same floor.

The main dining room was titled the “**Rose Room**” in 1955. **WPDR** opened a studio here in 1957 and the station was operated by **Roland Berger**.

In June of 1958, **R. M. Buchholz**, of Kansas City, MO. purchased the Warren. Buchholz had been in the hotel business for 25 years.

In February of 1959, the Mayfair Realty Company of Omaha, Nebraska sold the Warren Hotel to **Robert** and his wife **Yvonne Gall** and **John Glavich** and his wife **Marie**, all of Columbus Wisconsin. However, the new owners were unable to open due to a lack of a permit from the State Board of Health.

By the end of March of 1959, Mr. & Mrs. D. J. Meyers, owner of the Devi-Bara Resort, stepped up and purchased the troubled hotel. After considerable remodeling, the hotel was opened four weeks later. Meyers' son Jack was the new manager.

In March of 1964 a fire did severe damage to the hotel and in April of 1966 it appeared as though there was buyer interested in the damaged structure.

In 1972 a new building was constructed here by Wilbur Deppe. From 1973 to 1993 **Spurgeons Department Store** was located on this site. Then in 1994 the structure was divided, first floor and downstairs and became a **Business Center** for small businesses to locate. Some of the businesses that were or are located there are as follows:

1994-2003	Business Essentials
1996-????	Adia Personnel Services
1996-2002	Cell-Plus
	Cell.Plus moved in September of 2002 to Highway 12.
1995-2002	Photography By Drake
1994-????	Hair & Nail Spa Plus
	Moved to 112 Fourth Avenue
1994-2002	J Comp Technologies, Inc
1994-????	Xpress Business Services
1996-????	Ryte Byte Imaging Inc.
	Moved to 4066 S Hwy. 12

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1994-????	Thompson Real Estate Appraisal
1995-2004	Walter D. Smith CPA
2002-2004	Smith & Moy
2003	Fan Faire Tours
2003	Down Town Baraboo
2007	Walter D. Smith, CPA

In September of 2003, **Ralph and Joan Pierce** moved their **Gem City Candy Company** from 524 Oak Street to Suite 111 at this address. Gem City sold hard candy, salt-water taffy, gourmet chocolate, mint and licorice.

Pam Beeber opened and closed **Pam's Balloons and More** in the year 2004 at this site.

In May of 2005 we find **Cindy Doeschler** presiding over the **Fan Faire Costume and Dance**, which had recently opened. Fan Faire Costume & dance, a costume shop and dance/gymnastics store, rented adult/teen costumes and sold costume accessory items along with home decorating supplies. In late 2009, it was announced that Fan Faire was having a going-out-of-business sale.

In 2005 **Ralph and Joan Pierce's Gem City** gallery was located here. **Jerry's Cash Register** moved to suite No. 8 at this location in April of 2008. **Jerry Kaun** and his fiancée **Cassandra** repaired and serviced calculators, time clocks, receipt printers, credit card machines, printers & fax machines.

In May of 2009, David Deppe appeared before the city BID board to present an idea for remodeling the 8000 square foot Business Center to house city administrative offices. Deppe stated that at the present time, he only had 3400 feet rented. He stated that the last four or five years hardly showed enough income to pay taxes and maintenance bills.

He suggested remodeling this building for city offices which would allow the Police Department and Fire Department to expand in the present municipal building. The city would pay the cost of remodeling the building through a 10-year lease, with the option of buying the building at the end of that period.

Bekah Kate, a downtown store owner, stated that DPI members held a straw poll on the issue and it was not popular. The BID members voted in approval of the project.

During the first part of July 2009, **Ralph and Joan Pierce** moved the **Gem City Candy Company** next door to the then empty building at 106 Fourth Avenue. **Specially Hers** expanded into this building in 2009. The main store was located at 115 Fourth Avenue.

Greg DeSanto, Executive Director announced that the **International Clown Hall of Fame and Research Center** would hold its grand opening on Friday, May 21, 2010. The Hall of Fame was established in 1987 in Delevan, Wisconsin. The museum moved to several places in Milwaukee, including the State Fair Park, before settling in Baraboo.

The Memory Bank opened in 2004 in the former Darrow Grocery Store building on the east side of Baraboo. When the then owner's husband became ill the owner decided to sell. **Pam Getschman** was a regular customer at the time and she and a business partner decided to buy the business. In 2006 Getschman became the lone owner and moved to this location in 2010.

100-104 Fourth Avenue, Warren Hotel prior to Mansard Roof



100-104 Fourth Avenue Warren House on the left,
prior to mansard roof and third floor circa 1890

100-106 Fourth Avenue First National Bank & Warren Hotel



First National Bank & Warren Hotel circa 1899

106 Fourth Avenue

106 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between Oak Street and Broadway.

Block 22, lot 11

Sanborn map location 218 Fourth Street

Architectural Description

This three-bay, two-story brick structure retains both its upper and lower story cornices, as well as the original segmentally-arched 4/4 sashed windows and stone window hoods. Five brackets support the upper cornice, which separates sets of three modillions. A stone stringcourse stretches above second story windows between brick pilasters on either side of the building, while a second stringcourse ties together three stone, arched window hoods, with prominent keystones. Beneath the first-story cornice, which is terminated by heavy brackets at each end, is a row of dentils and a wide frieze. Although replaced with modern materials, the storefront retains its recessed entryway.

Henry Waddell and his family moved to this location in November of 1865 from Freedom Township. Out of the large frame building, which he leased from **Wm. C. Warner**, Mr. Waddell operated the **Union Meat Market** with **George Gibbons** as manager.

As early as 1867, **S. A. Kolliner** conducted **Kolliner's General Store** on this site. Kolliner passed away on April 6 of 1873. For sometime afterwards, his wife **Amelia** conducted the store that was destroyed by fire in November of 1882, as so many of the old wood structures were in those early days. Mrs. Kolliner's sons barely escaped with their lives. Kolliner was visiting in Milwaukee the night of the fire. The fire also damaged the Sumner house next door.

She then moved away and of later years made her home in Minneapolis, where her youngest son, Robert, was a most promising lawyer. She died there in November of 1896 at the age of 67 years. All of her children but one were with her; **Max**, a New York importer of diamonds; **Jacob**, a Stillwater merchant; **Robert**, the lawyer, and her married daughter from Omaha. The absent son at the deathbed was **Emil**, who for upwards of a double decade was an interpreter at the American legation in Berlin, Germany. Listed as the last building on



First National Bank & Warren House

circa 1899

Fourth Avenue next to Oak Street in 1867.

Charles Sumner then purchased the lot and constructed a building to house the **Sumner Store** on this site.

Later, **T. M. Warren** purchased the lot and building, which was known then as the "**Red Front**" building. He also purchased a building along with a barn immediately to its west. The structures were removed and in 1886 **The First National Bank of Baraboo** constructed a new building on this site. The contract for the interior counters and railing, executed in the "Manhattan Style" went to Brunswick, Bathe and Collender of Chicago.

T.M. Warren was president from 1886 into the 1890's. In January of 1889, F. T. Brewster disposed of his entire interest in the bank to Wm. A. Warren. Brewster then became one of the original stock subscribers of the Minneapolis Loan Trust Co.

Marcus A. Warren is listed as president in 1895 and 1898 in City and county directories. W.A. Warren was listed as cashier in the 1898 county directory. In March of 1901, the Bank leased the

106 Fourth Avenue

Hofstatter grocery building on the northeast corner of the intersection of Oak and Third Street for a term of 12 years. The bank supposedly moved to this new location in June of 1901 after some remodeling.

In 1895, **F.P. Hocking**, Mgr. Baraboo Territory opened a **McCormick Harvesting Machine Co.** office within the bank building.

It was reported in the October 5, 1893 issue of *The Baraboo Republic* "that **Ernest Sanderson** of the Globe Hotel Tonsorial Parlors in Milwaukee, was visiting with relatives in Baraboo." In 1899, we find the name of **Sanderson & Blaska, Barbers** on the front door. It may have been **Will Blaska** that Sanderson visited back in "93". In any event the duo was still conducting business in 1903. In October of 1903, it was reported that Sanderson sold the barbershop to **William Blaska**. However, after Sanderson had left here he evidently decided to go back into barbering and purchased the building at 606 Oak Street.

In February of 1900, **George Ruhland**, who had recently disinvested himself of the Ruhland block at 114 Fourth avenue to William Kunzelman, purchased the building occupied by the Sanderson Barber Shop from the First National bank. Sanderson would continue to occupy the building.

In May of 1901 **J. E. Von Wald** moved his **jewelry store** to this address. His former location at 522 Oak Street was undergoing repairs.

By October of 1904, the **C.W. Ibe, Tailor Shop** had moved here from 121 Fourth Street. In June of 1905, Ibe installed **steam cleaning and dry cleaning equipment**. In March of 1907, Ibe closed his establishment and accepted a position as a cutter for the James Clark tailoring establishment at Cherokee, Iowa. Following Ibe's departure, **Miss Ganz** moved **Bon Ton Millinery Store** from 121 Third Street to this address. In July of 1908, **Ellis, Long & Co. Millinery** moved from the Reinking block to this site, taking over Anna Ganz's business. Ganz returned to her hometown of Milwaukee. In 1912, this building was sold and the Millinery moved to 136 Third Street.

William H. Vogler opened a **saloon** here in July of 1912 and remained in the saloon business here until 1917 when the city went

dry. However, in 1914, the city council failed to renew Vogler's saloon license, but in July, Vogler complied with all of the requirements and his license was renewed. In 1920, Vogler, who at the time was conducting a wholesale house, probably at this address, died of a gunshot. The coroner's jury decided it was a self-inflicted wound. Vogler was 46 years old.

Then in May of 1921, **F. H. Marty**, brother of **M. S. Marty** of this city purchased the building from the Vogler estate and after a thorough remodeling installed the **Marty Shoe Store** business here. Mr. Marty hailed from Elkhorn where he was a proprietor of a shoe store and prior to that was part owner in the Excelsior Shoe Store in Madison. Marty some time prior had sold his business in Elkhorn and decided on this location to continue the sale of shoes.

On April 6th. of 1924 The **Kradwell Brothers** purchased the F.H. Marty Shoe Store building. Marty decided to move back to Elkhorn and continue his business there. In November of 1927 (date in question) the drug store was moved to this location. The Kradwells had operated the **Kradwell Brothers' Drug Store** adjacent to the First National Bank on Oak St. for about 5 years. The bank would now fill the vacant building.

In May of 1927 the **Rexall Drugstore** of **W.W. and F.A. Kradwell** was sold to **Peter O. Wang** of Milwaukee and became **Wang's Drug Store**. Mr. Wang was an experienced druggist, having been in the business for the past fifteen years. He was a graduate of Marquette University and for some time had been manager for the Owl Drug Company in Milwaukee where he spent the last eight years. His home was originally in Chippewa Falls. Wang would continue the Rexall line.

Mr. Wang was to be assisted by his wife, who took charge of the bookkeeping end of the business. Mrs. Wang was employed in a similar capacity in Milwaukee. Being retained were two assistants, **Frank Caverly** and **Harold Mash**.

Mr. & Mrs. Kradwell expected to spend the summer at Devils Lake where Mr. Kradwell would take a much-needed rest.

The official opening of a new soda fountain at Wang's drug store was held on Tuesday, June 9, 1931. As you entered the store, the

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fountain and five new soda booths were located on the right side and presented an attractive appearance. The fountain was constructed with tile in varied colors while the backboard and the booths were of oak. The booths were equipped with mirrors and coat hangers, while above each one was a small light fixture, set off by wainscoting as the new background.

"PROBE DEATH OF KRADWELL"

(*Baraboo Weekly News*, 7/21/1932)

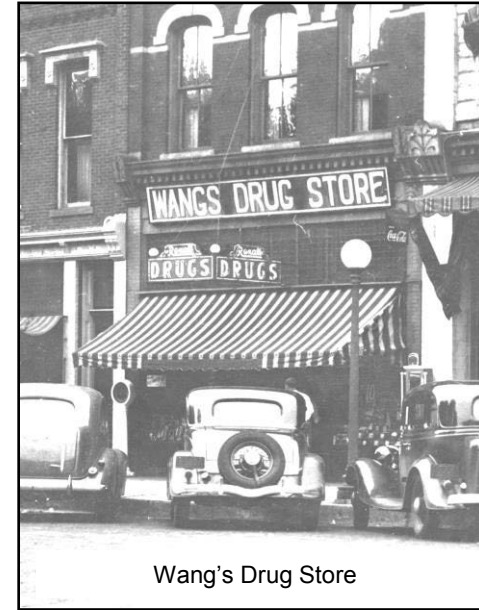
Madison -UP--Investigation of the death of Frank Kradwell, 50, Boscobel, druggist, formerly of Baraboo, found unconscious in a hotel room here, was announced today by coroner, William E. Campbell.

Kradwell died at a local hospital after being in a coma for nearly 46 hours. He was believed to have been a heat victim. Later reports to the coroner that Kradwell had mentioned suicide to the clerk prompted the investigation.

Three brothers at Racine, another at Wauwatosa, and a sister in Boscobel survived the unmarried Kradwell.

Effective October 1, 1959, Wang sold his drug store business to partners, **John Troyer** and his son **Jack**. John, who had spent the prior two and one-half years as a pharmacist at Thompson Drugs, purchased the stock and fixtures. Jack, who attended high school in Baraboo and graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy in 1955, had worked at Rennebohn Drugs in Madison and the Bach Drug Store in Beloit.

Jack Troyer formed a partnership with **David Fuhs** in May of 1961 and the duo purchased the building. Fuhs graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy in 1955. He worked in Baraboo at Thompson's Drugs and later a pharmacy in Oconomowoc prior to his partnership with Troyer.



Wang's Drug Store



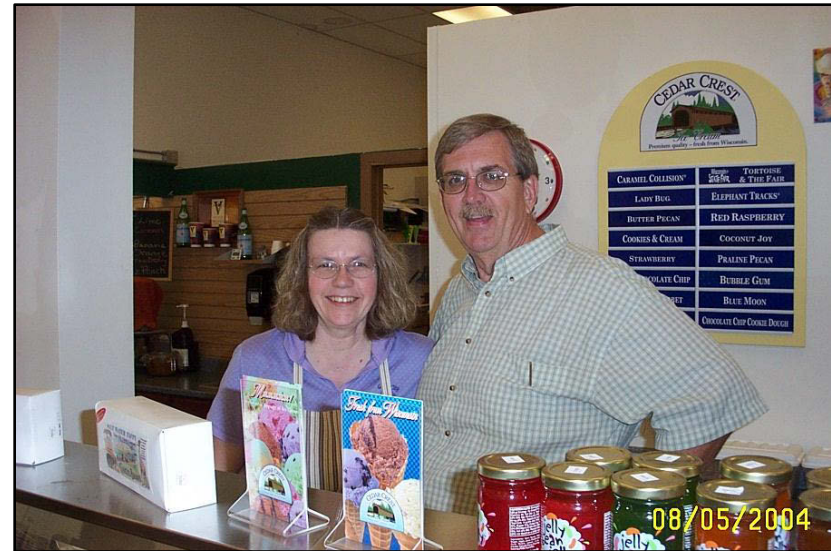
David M. Fuhs, left, speaking with client Dave Anderson, retired on March 30, 2011 after spending 56 years in his career as a pharmacist. Fuhs landed his first job as a pharmacist when he was 19 years of age.

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Then on Saturday, Feb. 28, 1997, after 35 years, Troyer Rexall Drug store closed their doors. All accounts of **Dave Fuhs** and **Jack Troyer** were transferred to the Corner Drug Store owned by Paul & Janet Fritsch. Troyer & Fuhs then became employees of the Corner Drug Store.

The **Java Café** opened doors at this location in April 1999 after remodeling. In March of 2008, **Taffy Harrison**, owner of the Java Café, reached an agreement with **Kurt** and **Chris Kujawa** that would allow the Kujawa's to conduct the **Middle Earth Pizza** at this location every afternoon after the newly named **Cafe 106** closes at 4:00. The pizza restaurant planned on being open until 10:00 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. The Kujawas conducted the LaRue Tavern for 12-years. Middle Earth Pizza and Cafe 106 closed in June of 2009. **Taffy (Harrison) Durkee** decided it was time to put the 16-hour days behind her, although, she is planning on a two month stint in Park City, Utah where she will handle catering for companies showing films at the Sundance Film Festival. In the meantime Taffy plans on continuing her catering business, **Vintage Port Catering**, which she has been conducting out of the kitchen at this address since 2001. It was reported that Ralph and Joan Pierce, who conducted a candy store next door may move here.

During the first part of July 2009, **Ralph and Joan Pierce** moved the **Gem City Candy Company** from next door to this then empty building. A benefit of this location was its commercial kitchen. When Harrison isn't using it for her catering business, Ralph and Joan Pierce use it for making their original chocolates and fudge.



Joan and Ralph Pierce c2004

indicated that such a structure would cost about \$8,000 and would be of a design and so constructed as to be an ornament to the city.

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1931 | In 1931 the Moose lodge moved to these rooms. |
| 1935 | VFW Club Room |

106-1/2 Fourth Avenue

1912-1921 "Elks Club Rooms B.P.O.E. No. 688"

Their meeting room was on the upper level during this period. In September of 1921 they moved to Third Street, over the Woolworth Store building. It is possible that they were here as early as December of 1909 as it was during that month that it was decided to take steps toward the erection of a club house. It was also decided to issue shares of \$25 each to the members. It was said that preliminary plans

110 Fourth Avenue

110 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between Oak Street and
Broadway
Block 22, lot 11
Sanborn map location 218 Fourth Street

Architectural Description

This three-bay, two-story structure retains its pressed metal cornice on both the upper and lower stories, also of pressed metals. Heavy brackets on the upper cornice separate three pressed metal panels containing a garland design, while a band of sunburst motif stretches between extended brackets on the lower cornice. Rectangular windows are tall and narrow, and are separated from the cornice above the corbelling. Window hoods are rectangular, with Egg and Dart motif and two rosettes on each. All ornamentation corresponds exactly to 112 Fourth Avenue adjacent to the west.

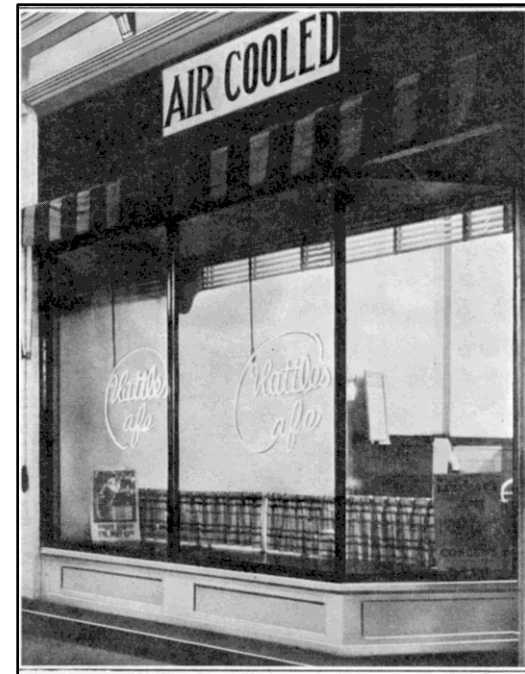
In 1884, **T. M. Warren** purchased this lot along with the lot and building at 106 Fourth Avenue and the Sumner House at 100-104 Fourth Avenue. There was a barn on this site that was sold and removed in April of the same year.

In July of 1886, **J. H. Powers**, the editor and proprietor of the **Baraboo Republic**, purchased this lot from Warren. He began breaking ground immediately for the erection of a fine structure to house the **Baraboo Republic Office**. The building was to be 22 X 70 in size and two stories high in addition to a basement pressroom 22 X 35.

The contract was let to **George Capener** and **George Holah Sr.** George Ruhland was planning on erecting a building of the same size, adjacent and to the west and T. M. Warren, a building adjacent and to the east.

Occupancy was taken in mid-October with a new cylinder press being place in operation The press was located in the basement, the counting room was on the first floor in the front of the building and in the rear was the composing room.

The newspaper office had previously been located in the Gattiker Block, 506-510 Oak Street. Prior to constructing the new



Hattle's Cafe

building John Powers lived at the Gattiker location and was listed as a journalist in the 1890 Sauk County directory.

In June of 1890, the *Sauk County Democrat* reported that Nicholas Smith had severed his ties with the *Janesville Gazette* and would soon purchase the *Baraboo Republic*. The August 6, 1890 issue found **Nicholas Smith** at the helm; however, due to illness, Smith was forced to relinquish the paper back to Powers in September of the same year. In 1895, the paper moved to 146 Fourth Avenue, a new building being constructed there on the corner of Broadway and Fourth.

In June of 1896, **Edwin Holden** moved his **Tonsorial Parlor** to this address from 110 Fourth Street. In June of 1897 it was reported that Holden had purchased a young wolf from an Indian boy and added it to his "zoo" inside his shop.

In 1901 **George B. Dash** leased the **Ruhland Building** where he established **Dash's Bowling Alleys**. On Tuesday evening, October

110 Fourth Avenue

1st., 1901 Dash opened his new bowling alley. The three alleys were kept going from 8:00 in the evening to midnight. Those who were in a position to know say this was the finest alley in the state outside of Milwaukee. The building was extended back to the alley and was well arranged for such a place. In May of 1903, Dash moved one of his alleys to Kilbourn where it was intended to be conducted as a branch. In November of 1903, Dash was granted a permit to establish a shooting gallery here and the gallery opened on Saturday, November 14 with prizes given.

In July of 1905, **Henry K. Dillenbeck** purchased Dash's cigar store and poolroom business, discontinuing his business on Oak Street. Dash would move to Kilbourn to watch over his bowling alleys there. In November of 1905, Dash removed his bowling alley and shipped it to Rio.

By 1910, **Dillenbeck & Smith** was the name on the window of this establishment; however, in late November of 1910, Dillenbeck sold his interest in the firm to **John O'Keefe**. The new partnership would continue to operate the cigar store as before but would add a new boomerang bowling alley, lunch counter and new billiard and pool tables. In February of 1911, O'Keefe sold his interest in the cigar store to **Frank Hildebrandt**. Hildebrandt gave up his profession of a barber, which he had followed for many years.

By 1913 **M. E. Smith & W. J. Meyers Billiard Hall & Cigar Store** was here. It is obvious that Smith gave up his partnership as in July of 1914; Smith had joined forces with Mike Havalin in Benton Harbor, Michigan in the operation of a billiard hall, which they titled the Regent.

From 1915 to 1920 **Elmer E. Scoville** joined forces with **Walter E. Meyer** in **Meyer & Scoville, Billiards**.

In January of 1920 **Roland B.** and **Charles Curtis** purchased the interests of Scoville and Meyer and the business became the **Curtis Brothers' Pool Hall & Lunch Room**. Charles had recently moved to Baraboo from Janesville where he was employed. Roland had lived in Baraboo for several years and had charge of the billiard department of the purchased business after his return from overseas. Both brothers had seen service overseas during the world war; Roland with the 92nd.

Division and his brother Charles with the first army headquarters company.

In April of 1920, Charles purchased the interest of his brother Curtis in the billiard hall and lunchroom. Then in July of 1920, Charles sold his interests in the pool hall & restaurant to **Frank O. Karll**. Mr. Karll took possession immediately and the business became the **Park Restaurant**. Karll's original home was Reedsburg but he came to Baraboo from Anderson, Indiana where he was discharged from the service. He was a lieutenant in the 180 field artillery of Kentucky for two years and served four months overseas. It is interesting to note that at that time the courthouse square was known as the park.

After several months of only opening in the day light hours, the Park Restaurant, in March of 1921, was again open all night under the management of **Arthur Potter**. In April Potter left for Milwaukee to enter the insurance business. Arthur's younger brother, **Boyd Potter**, then took over the duties at the restaurant.

By June of 1922, **Mr. Okern** had joined forces with Karll in conducting the restaurant. They removed the pool tables, removed the partition and moved the kitchen to the rear. This allowed many more tables. The pool tables were moved to the second floor that would be opened in the wintertime when the tourist season was off. By July of 1922, Karll was no longer connected with this restaurant but was conducting the Elite Theater in Milwaukee.

In August of 1926, Mr. & Mrs. **W. H. Rose** of Antioch, Illinois purchased the restaurant building and the business. The Roses planned on a large remodeling project before reopening the restaurant.

From 1926 to 1929 **Mary Rose DeLap** owned the restaurant and in August of 1929 **Harry Feinberg** purchased the building and business from DeLap. In October of 1930, Feinberg converted the restaurant into a pool hall, feeling there was little restaurant business due to the lack of tourists in the winter months. In 1930, **Harry Feinberg** purchased two indoor golf courses, which he planned to install in Baraboo, so local fans could have a chance to pursue the sport in the winter. It was thought that one might be located at this site while one would be installed in the building just north of the Broadway bridge. It was said that the courses were of the latest type using lots of

110 Fourth Avenue

rubber. During the 1930 winter, Feinberg closed the café but opened again in May.

It is not clear who owned this building but **William Kunzelman** owned it in 1932.

In January of 1932, **William A. Hattle**, proprietor of the Peoples Restaurant for 17 years, assumed the operation of the Park Restaurant. Mr. Hattle stated, "he expected to have his new "**Hattle's Café**" opened up in the near future. "The Park restaurant was at that time owned by Harry Feinberg. In May of 1945, extensive fire damage was done to this building as well as smoke damage to Kunzelman's Ice Cream Parlor and Ploenski's Laundry.

Hattle partitioned off a commodious banquet room and titled it the **Colonial Room**. In November of 1945 **James E. Phillips** of Milwaukee purchased the business and building. Hattle died in December of 1964 at the age of 72.

The James Phillips' Restaurant operated until 1952 when in April of that year **John Danube** purchased the building and **The Radio Shop** opened in May. The **Mueller Studio & Camera Shop** shared the building with Danube. From 1976 to 1977 **Wenzel's Sales Agency** was conducted at this site by **James E. and Patricia A. Wenzel**. **Hoof's Sales Agency** was also listed here in 1976. Then in 1978, **Earl Beaver** ran the **Montgomery Ward Catalogue & Appliance Store** out of this address. By 1982, the **Lifeline Christian Book Store & Gift Shop** was here. This lasted until 1985 when **Randy Beckwith** opened the **Beck Sports Store**. By 1990 the **Children's Hour** located here, having moved from 139 Third Street. By 1993 we find **Fred Villari's Self Defense Studio** here and by 1993 it's called the **Elite Self Defense Center**.

112-114 Fourth Avenue

112-114 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between Oak Street and
Broadway
Block 22, lot 11
Sanborn map location 218 Fourth Street

Architectural Description

This three-bay, two-story structure retains its pressed metal cornice on both the upper and lower stories, as well as rectangular window hoods, also of pressed metal. Heavy brackets on the upper cornice separate three pressed metal panels containing a garland design, while a band of sunburst motif stretches between extended brackets on the lower cornice. Rectangular windows are tall and narrow, and are separated from the cornice above by corbelling. Window hoods are also rectangular, with Egg and Dart detail and two rosettes on each. All ornamentation corresponds exactly to 110 Fourth Avenue adjacent to the east.

H. D. Baldwin & Son operated the **Baraboo Marble Works** on the north side of the square, moving here in April of 1865. They produced monuments, gravestones, tabletops, etc. out of American or Italian marble. In March of 1867, Baldwin purchased a brick office building on the north side of the square from **D. Updegraff, Esq.** for his business, which was probably the same building he had been operating out of. Evidently, between this time and August of 1875, the elder Baldwin had retired and his son had taken over and even formed a partnership with **John S. Hall**.

In August of 1875, Baldwin purchased the interest of his partner Hall, in the Baraboo Marble Works. However, in February of 1877, Hall purchased the business back from Baldwin. In August of 1877, the business was moved to 614 Oak Street.

The May 4, 1881 issue of the *Baraboo Republic* announced that **Mrs. A. J. Crawford** and **Mrs. A. J. Moore** purchased the millinery stock and business of **Mrs. M. F. Longley**, and opened a millinery and dressmaking establishment on Fourth Street, third door west of the Sumner House, probably at or near this location. Mrs. Crawford, formerly **Mrs. McKinstry** had conducted a successful business of this kind in the Mills Block on Third Street five or six

years prior. By August of 1881, Crawford was operating alone at 131 Third Street.

George Ruhland, proprietor of the Baraboo Brewery, built the present structure in 1886 and **Fred Tobler** opened a saloon here as soon as the building was finished. His move was made from the Mill's Block. By the end of November 1887, Tobler had opened an **Oyster Parlor** in the front room on the second floor, side entrance. In April of 1889, Tobler was talking of retiring from the saloon business at the end of the license year and turning the reins over to **Jacob Buhmeyer**. For the present the firm would be known as **Tobler & Buhmeyer**.

By 1890 the **Chamberlain Saloon** was being conducted here by **D. Chamberlain**.

From September 1, 1894 to 1896 **Gustav Wagenbreth** and **William Kunzelman** were partners in the **Wagenbreth and Kunzelman Restaurant** venture; Kunzelmann had worked as a clerk for Marriott's Shoe Store for the prior 15 years.

Then in July of 1896, Wagenbreth sold his interest in the saloon and restaurant business to Kunzelman, who would conduct the business thereafter as the **William Kunzelman Sample Room**. Wagenbreth moved to a farm a short distance from Baraboo.

In 1900 George Ruhland sold this property to Kunzelmann and at the same time, purchased the building on the northeast corner of the intersection of Oak and Fourth Street, the later location of Ernest Sanderson's barbershop. This may have been the building on Oak behind 101 Fourth Street. Kunzelman retained the saloon license until at least 1909.

The **Gustave Wagenbreth Saloon** did operate here in 1913 but William Kunzelman owned the saloon license here in 1916. In 1931, this business was known as **Kunzelman Confectionery** and/or **Kunzelman's Ice Cream Parlor**. William Kunzelman died October 19, 1939. He was 76 years old and had been proprietor of businesses at this site since the 1890's. The operation and ownership of the parlor was then transferred to **Mrs. William Kunzelman** and her son, **W. Arthur Kunzelman**.

In April of 1960, W. Arthur Kunzelman died of a heart attack while at an outing at Devil's Lake. After graduating from high school

112-114 Fourth Avenue

in 1924, "Art," as his friends knew him, spent several years as a field representative for Remington-Rand in this area. After the death of his father he became associated with his mother in the ice cream parlor. Following Kunzelman's death, **Bill Radtke Jr.** re-opened the business under the same name and conducted business at this site until 1962 and maybe as late as 1964.

In 1964, **William Ware** was the owner of this ice cream parlor, calling it the **Kue Club**. In February of 1967, a fire gutted the ground floor. Damage was estimated at \$5,000.

By 1968 **Elaine J. Connor** and **Nancy P. Mandt** were partners in the **Coachlite Gift Shop**, operating at this site until 1979. In 1980, **Jerry McCammond** was conducting **Jerry's Hallmark Shop** at this location. **Jerry & Cherie McCammond** moved to this area from Rockford after having vacationed here. By 1989 the building was sitting empty as McCammonds had moved their business to 516 Oak Street.

Between 1990 and 1995 **Judy LaGashe** was conducting the **Merle Norman Studio** here; in 1996 **Amy Piotrowski** was conducting business as **Gifts Inc.** In 1993 the **Total Design Salon** was located in the rear of the store. This operation, owned by **Diane Shaw** moved to 112 Fourth Avenue in November of 2002. **Baraboo Lock & Safe**, owned by **Chuck Hegel**, took up residency in the front of the building in 1998, moving from 120 Fourth Avenue.

In 2004 **Eric and Amity Meyer** purchased this building, which was to the immediate east of 116 Fourth Street where the duo operated Monks Bar. They removed the partition wall in the rear of this building where Total Design had been located which provided additional room that would become part of Monks Restaurant.

Amity Meyer would utilize the upstairs portion of this building for the "**Just For Kids Dance Studio.**"

Klemm's Pike's Peak Realty firm located here in the spring of 2007 and closed the end of the summer of 2010. They also offered secretarial services and conducted vegetable produce sales in the summer.

Pemberton Law Offices were located here in the spring of 2010. They also had an office in Wisconsin Dells.

116 Fourth Avenue

116 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between Oak Street and Broadway.

Lot 22, lot 10

Sanborn map location 217 Fourth Street

Architectural Description

The upper third of the façade is a typical example of art deco design on a commercial building in Baraboo. Like the structures at 120 Walnut and 103 Ash Street, the building has a stepped parapet with stone coping at the roofline. Three recessed rectangular panels beneath three tiers of corbelling and a row of headers provides a sense of geometricity. An unusual feature to the design is the curved balcony at the second story, ornamented by a wooden balustrade and four square engaged columns, which maintain the vertical lines, established in the frieze.

William Schultz's Business House had stood at this address since 1872. Schultz, by patient and careful industry some years ago, had accumulated a little property of which he was swindled in a most peculiar and heartless way. He started over, at a most advanced age, and could be seen from early in the morning until late in the evening at work at his shoe bench. By dint of unremitting toil he had accumulated some \$4,000 to \$5,000, which represented his heavy toil over the last years. Not long prior to this time, a relative had fallen in bad straits and Schultz went to the rescue with his funds to save the mortgage.

It was clear in the 1880's, that Fourth Avenue was about to enjoy some new buildings, in particular, Dickie's Harness Shop and Ashley's Laundry with the plans of Powers and Ruhland's new construction also at hand. It was with this in mind that local citizenry wished that William Schultz, who had an eyesore of a building located between the Ashley and Ruhland buildings, would tear down his frame building house and replace it with a new building in keeping with the other modern architecture along Fourth avenue.

Schultz decided to ignore their wishes and on Saturday night, August 21, 1886, a group of frustrated citizens, in the middle of the night and using long timbers borrowed from the Gollmar Lumber Yard

across the block, swung the structure from its foundation, badly damaging the building. Their hopes were to dump the building into the new excavation for Ashley's new building's basement.

During the mob's actions, the building settled forward and a corner caught on the sidewalk, preventing it from being moved further. However, Schultz was not persuaded to construct a corresponding brick structure on the site for the **Boot & Shoe Store** and the building was placed back on its foundation and stood at this site until about 1920. To add injury to insult, **Julius Gust**, a carpenter who was working on Schultz's shoe shop building fell from a scaffold into Mr. Ashley's excavation next door and fractured his collar-bone.

In 1890 the **Briscoe & Whistance, Shoe Shop** was located here, conducted by **Samuel Briscoe** and **Thomas Whistance**. They operated here together until at least 1898. By January of 1911, this building was in its last days of existence. Whistance moved his implements and belongings to the old Singer Sewing Machine office at 608 Oak Street, where he would carry on his business in the future. This building would be razed and replaced with a new modern structure.

From July of 1911 to 1919 **Howard L. Dibble, Shoe Maker** worked out of this location. In February of 1912, Dibble took in his employee, **A. LeBaron**, as a partner. In the following month of March the duo installed new equipment which was run by electricity rather than treadle power. In 1919 the shoe shop moved to the basement of the Warren Hotel and in September of the same year, **Fred Schultz** decided to construct a new building here.

Wisconsin Power, Light & Heat Company moved into this new building in January of 1920. Then in March of 1927 the Wisconsin Power & Light Co. purchased the building from **Mayor Adolph Andro**. It was intended that at a future date, this building would be remodeled to take care of the growing Wisconsin Power and Light Co. At that time Baraboo, which was called Division "B", included the gas and electric properties of Baraboo, the electric distribution lines of North Freedom, Ableman and Delton, the transmission lines and substation equipment from Baraboo to Reedsburg, and the transmission lines from Kilbourn to Reedsburg,

116 Fourth Avenue



WP & L Window Display



WP & L Window Display ca1930

and Kilbourn to Delton. The company had also recently purchased the Sauk County Utilities farm line and there was a marked increase in the totals of other farm lines included in the Baraboo district. The bookkeeping and billing for approximately 4000 customers was taken care of in the Baraboo office. In 1959, Wisconsin Power & Light moved into their new home located at 401 Oak Street.

Orfeo J. and Linda M. Befera were partners in **Delmo's Pizza Palace** from 1962 until 1973 when **Robert J. and Patricia R. Wedikind** assumed the ownership and management. The Wedikinds conducted the pizza business until 1980. In 1980 and until 1991, **Gene and Marcie Parchem** owned and operated the **Feedmill Sandwich and Pizza P** WP & L Window Display Picture 4.23.2011 **and Wendee Follendorf's Memories Lounge** in 1992. In 1997, **Eric Meyer** was conducting a business entitled **Monk's Bar** at this address. In 2004 **Eric Meyer** and his wife **Amity** purchased the building to their immediate east at 112 Fourth Street and removed the partition wall in

the rear of that building where Total Design had been located. The additional room would become part of Monks Restaurant.

116-1/2 Fourth Avenue Up Stairs

1964	Your Pony Magazine William A. Simpson, Publisher/Owner
1964-1971	Retail Credit Co.-Insurance Investigation Joseph C. Czys, Investigator
1965	Richardson Paint Company

120 Fourth Avenue



Dickie-Ashley double business block

120 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between Oak Street and Broadway.

Block 22, lot 9

Sanborn map location 216 Fourth Street

Architectural Description

The Dickie/Ashley double business block combines two three-bay structures, with a two-bay center section where two interior stairwells ascend. The second floor consists of a repetitive arcade with tall round-arched windows each capped by a projecting, corbelled arch brick hood. Enlarged pilasters between the windows rise in a series of increasingly heavy corbels to projecting roof pediments. The central rectangular pediment features a blind arcade small-rounded arches. It is flanked by two smaller pediments with gabled tops, which carry the names "Dickie" and "Ashley". A metal cornice/coping extends across the roof parapet and is terminated by a finial at each end.

On August 1, 1848, Prescott Brigham, a county commissioner purchased a quarter of section 35 with his own money, there being no

funds in the county treasury, and subsequently deeded it to the county. The transfer was from The United States of America to Sauk County of Wisconsin. The county commissioners platted it in a village and called it Adams, in consideration of Mr. Brigham's regard for the renowned Massachusetts family by that name. This name did not include the settlement south of the river nor the area below the hill known as "Browntown." The county eventually sold all of this quarter section except for the land later referred to as the "park" which is the site of our present courthouse. Charles O. Baxter made the survey. The village on the south side of the river never shared the name of Adams.

Two men, Harvey Canfield and C. C. Remington, were appointed commissioner and clerk to conduct the sale of lots and soon about \$4,000 was realized. With this money a wooden **Courthouse and Jail combination** was subsequently constructed on the north side of Fourth avenue facing the now courthouse park area. This was at approximately 120 Fourth Avenue. The courthouse was two stories high and was completed in 1848 by **Col. Edward Sumner**, the contractor. The state legislature decided in 1848 that the next term of the District Court for Sauk County was required to "be held at the new court house in the town of Adams," but the clerk of the court was authorized to hold his office at Prairie du Sac until the commencement of the next term of said court. In 1852 & 1853 the following inhabitants would be found at this address; **J. H. Pratt**, Attorney at Law, **W. H. Clark**, Attorney at Law, **L. F. Cook** Attorney at Law and **M. C. Waite**, Attorney at Law. In 1857 a new courthouse was constructed in the center of the public square across the street from this location.

In January of 1855, **D. M. Clark** opened a **Boot & Shoe Store** one door east of Stanley's Drug Store. This may have been approximately the site.

The first exhibit made by the **Sauk County Agricultural Society** was at Baraboo on October 1 and 2 in 1856. The society organized on February 22, 1855 but there is no record that a fair was held that year. There are some remembrances that the first exhibit was held in the courthouse. A letter dated 1906, written to

120 Fourth Avenue

the Baraboo News from L.W. Morley of Ableman, states that he attended the fair at that location in 1856. Many other residents of Baraboo confirmed this location at that time. After that, exhibits were made at Taylor's Hall, located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Broadway and Third Avenue. For a time after that the fair was held in the park where the courthouse now stands between Broadway and Oak Street.

In November of 1856 the *Baraboo Republic Newspaper* moved from the second floor of this building to 133 Third Avenue.

Later, after **Peter Van Wendall** purchased the building, it was moved a short distance to the east and its appearance changed by the addition of a new facade. It was then turned into a **saloon** and used in that manner until a fire destroyed the building on July 4, 1857 (1859?). At one time **D. K. Noyes' Printing Office** was located in the upper floor.

In July of 1886 a decision was made by **Sheriff Jedediah B. Ashley** to purchase this property, known as the **Wing Lot**, on the north site of the Court House Square for \$800 and to build a laundry here. Evidently, **Levi Crouch** owned this property in 1886 as it was also reported in the newspaper of that day that Marshall Doty served papers on Crouch ordering him to remove the Wing Building.

Charles Wing came to Baraboo in 1855 and rented a house at about 120 Fourth Avenue (the address could have been 120 Third Street.) He conducted business as **Charles Wing, Tailor** in the front portion of the house. There was a great deal of rain that summer and the street in front of the house was a mud hole with hogs wallowing in it. Women had to gather their skirts close to keep from rubbing on the dirty hogs. A plank or two would serve as a sidewalk. Each store had its own style of sidewalk outside the store. The eastern half of the block at that time was covered with young oaks.

In any event it is believed that **Charles Wing** had conducted a **laundry** here early on. James Dickie joined Ashley in building the Dickie-Ashley block at 120-124 Fourth Avenue. Ashley was a native of New York, coming to Wisconsin in 1866. For sometime he was located in North Freedom as a wood dealer. For about 6 years he operated a wood yard in Madison. In 1885 he was elected Sheriff.

On January 31, 1887, the new **Gem Laundry** opened. The machinery was driven by a 10 horsepower engine, with a fifteen-horse

power boiler, conveniently located in the basement, together with a large brick water tank 12 by 20 feet and eight feet deep.

In February of 1893, Mr. Ashley decided to make an important improvement to the building located at this address. He planned on building an addition 62 ft. long, covering the entire lot. The new structure would be of brick, and would contain the washroom, dry-room, starch-room and marking-room while the present building would be wholly given to an office and an ironing-room.

C. A. Stanton, of Janesville, became the proprietor of this establishment in 1897 and continued until at least 1903. **James R. Curry & Martin J. Pierce** operated the laundry from 1905 to 1916. From 1916 to 1936, it was called the **Pierce Laundry**.

In July of 1907, Ashley traded this property to **F. Tschumpert** for his dwelling on Sixth Avenue.

In May of 1936, **Emil H. Ploenske**, Beaver Dam, purchased the laundry, changing the name to the **Baraboo Laundry & Dry Cleaners**. Ploenske had ten years of experience in the laundry and dry-cleaning business and installed a new bandbox unit for dry-cleaning in the local laundry so that he could offer both types of cleaning.

His wife eventually joined Ploenske here and they occupied the apartment over the laundry, formerly occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Pierce. The Pierce family moved to an apartment in the residence of Mrs. Harriet Avery-Briscoe on Second Avenue. From 1977 to 1982 **Thomas E.** and **Judith Van Haecke** partnered in this business. About 1982 **Joe Halasz** purchased this business.

In 1983 **J & J Orthopedics and Custom Shoes** was conducted here while from 1984 to 1991 the **Baraboo Lock & Alarm Co.** operated here. **Chuck Hegel** purchased this lock business in 1991, changing the name to **Baraboo Lock & Safe**. Hegel moved the lock business to 112 Fourth Avenue in 1998. Sharing space with the lock company was **Public Safety Technologies** conducted by **Don McCleery**. **Don & Laurie McCleery** were Partners in 1985 to 1988 with Laurie McCleery being listed as the owner in 1990 and 1991. Now we have a

120 Fourth Avenue

conflict as we also find, during the same years, 1984 to 1991, **Lagaveen's The Flower Co.** located here. They probably shared the building.

From 1992 to 1995 **Don Smith** operated **Smith's Commercial Group** here and then in 1992 **Carol's Flowers N More** is being conducted by **Carol Smith** here. This lasts until 1995 when **Todd Wickus** establishes **Just Imagine Not Just Toys**.

124 Fourth Avenue

124 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between Oak Street and Broadway.

Block 22, lot 9

Sanborn map location 215 Fourth Street

It was reported in August of 1849 that a committee was appointed to see that a fireproof building was constructed at this site which shared lot 9 with the adjacent courthouse directly to the east. The new building would provide offices for the county clerk, the clerk of courts, the register of deeds and the county treasurer. In 1857 a new courthouse was constructed in the center of the public square across the street from this location. At that time the aforementioned offices were transferred to that new edifice. It is not clear what the future would bring to this building but was no doubt sold to the high bidder who removed it from this site to be used, possibly as a farm building.

Architectural Description

The Dickie/Ashley double business block combines two three-bay structures, with a two-bay center section where two interior stairwells ascend. The second floor consists of a repetitive arcade with tall round-arched windows each capped by a projecting, corbelled arch brick hood. Enlarged pilasters between the windows rise in a series of increasingly heavy corbels to projecting roof pediments. The central rectangular pediment features a blind arcade small-rounded arches. It is flanked by two smaller pediments with gabled tops, which carry the names "Dickie" and "Ashley". A metal cornice/coping extends across the roof parapet and is terminated by a finial at each end.

In July of 1863, **James W. Elliot** purchased a building from Charles Pfannstiehl. The building was located at approximately 518 Oak. The building was then moved to this site to be used as a **Harness Shop** by the partners of **J. W. Elliott** and **J. A. Newman**.

Later, **James Dickie** worked for Elliot and in June of 1876 purchased Elliot's business and began operating **Dickie's Saddle & Harnesses Shop** in the old stand. Dickie conducted business out of this building until 1886, when he constructed the present building.



Dickie-Ashley double business block

Dickie was born in Scotland. He moved to Milwaukee with his parents in the first half of the 19th. Century. In the pioneer days of Sauk County he moved to Baraboo. He learned his trade under J.W. Elliot. In 1886 he and Jedidiah Ashley constructed the Dickie-Ashley block at 120-124 Fourth Avenue.

Dickie stated in July of 1887, "I have after eleven years of close attention to my business, hard work and strict economy been able to build a handsome building, the arrangement of which is superior to any establishment of the kind in the State, equipped with a complete stock of everything in the line of Horse Goods.

I have maintained my predecessor's, J. W. Elliot's, reputation for good work by buying only the best of stock and giving my own personal supervision to all work manufactured at my place of business." Dickie conducted business here, in the Dickie Block, until at least 1898 and maybe as late as 1920.

In 1920, **Dillenbeck's Cigar Store** is being conducted at this location.

124 Fourth Avenue

In May of 1922, **Aaron Friedman**, former proprietor of the Nash Garage, and **Harry Feinberg** leased this building with plans of opening an auto accessory shop here which would be known as the **Baraboo Auto Supply**.

October of 1924, found this building undergoing a general remodeling in preparation for the occupancy of a new Grocery Store. The Gould, Wells & Blackburn Wholesale Co. of Madison had a chain of Universal Stores throughout Wisconsin. Albert C. Blackburn was a former resident of Baraboo. Records indicate that on October 25, 1924, the **Universal Grocery Store** opened here. The Universal Grocery Company operated sixteen retail stores in Madison. They advertised; 10 pounds of pure honey \$1.50; butter \$0.38/pound; 49 pounds Gold Medal flour \$2.40. The Universal was here until at least 1926.

In June of 1928, this building was lowered to street level along with some other general improvements. There was some thought of having a meat market share this site with the grocery store.

By 1934 the **Kroger Grocery and Baking Company** ventured forth here. In 1936 Kroger moved to 123 Third Street and **Dillenbeck's Pool Room** moved back here after Woolworth leased his location on Oak Street.

Dillenbeck was here until at least 1938; then in early January of 1941, **Frank Soelle**, formerly a farmer in Merrimac, purchased his operation and called it **Frank Soell's Cigar Store**. Then in late January of the same year, Soelle sold the establishment to **John H. Whisson**.

Soon thereafter, the **Square Tavern**, formerly located at 101 Fourth Street was moved to this location including the then 60 year old back bar which was originally located at the Luther Saloon at 126 Third Street. In 1955 we find the tavern being conducted by partners, **Pete Lauer** and **Jack Whisson**. It seems **Steinbrink** was involved with Lauer in 1942. It is known however, that a liquor license was approved in June of 1947 to Lauer & Whisson. By 1964, **S. R. Friebe** owned this business. By 1968 **Bob and Gwen's Square Tavern** was being directed by **Robert H. Steinhorst**. **Neil Caflisch** assumed the operation of this saloon about 1970. **Caflisch Building and Remodeling** also had an office here from 1982 to 1989.

128 & 128-1/2 Fourth Avenue

128 & 128-1/2 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between
Oak Street and Broadway.

Block 22, lot 8
Sanborn map location 214 Fourth Street

Lemuel C. Stanley, brother of William D. Stanley, in partnership with **S. P. Angle** had a **Drug and Variety Store**, which was also called the **City Drug Store** and was located near the old courthouse at approximately this address in 1850. Mr. **R. M. Forsythe** also shared this site, or in fact, may have been in business with Angle & Stanley. The partnership between Stanley and Angle came to an end in December of 1851. By December of 1852, **W. D. Stanley** was conducting a **General Store** here. 1850 also found **John N. Wilson** conducting a **Barber Shop** in the basement at this location.

L. C. Stanley moved to Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin in the spring of 1856 where it was said that he found great success as a businessman. Stanley was born in Canandaigua, N.Y. in 1828 and came to Wisconsin in 1846 and settled near Madison. He was married in 1855 to Miss Cornelia A. Porter of Baraboo. Mrs. Stanley died on April 12, 1906. They had five children of which the following three were dead as of 1909, Albert, Edna and Mrs. Rena (Stanley) Smith. William H., of Chippewa Falls and Frederick of Portland survived L. C. Stanley who died in 1909.

In February of 1852 **Dr. A. A. Noyes** opened an office here and moved to Delton in April of 1853.

Stanley constructed a new building on this site in the spring of 1861 after fire destroyed the previous building in 1859. In May of the same year, **J. T. W. Murray** opened a shoe store in Stanley's new building. In March of 1862 **Joseph Whitman** opened a **Tailor Shop** in conjunction with Murray.

D. C. Hayes moved his office here in October of 1900. He had been located at 107-1/2 Third Avenue.

In 1895 **Daniel Ruggles Jr.**, who was listed as a farmer in the 1890 Sauk county directory, had an insurance agency here as well as the offices of **Ruggles & Simon, Realtors**. In 1898, **R. E. Noyes, Attorney at Law** was conducting business here. About 1900 **Edwin**



The Trimpey's

Den proposed building a new building at this site. It is not certain that this happened or not, but probably not. Den wanted to open a bowling alley. **W. P. Simon Real Estate** was located here in 1903. In June of 1907, **J. A. Christie**, who handled the **Empire Cream Separator**, established a **sales and employment office** at this location.

Lars Haugen purchased this building from **J. B. Ashley** in July of 1911. His plans were to move his tailor shop to this site from 614 Oak Street.

In July of 1922 Baraboo had a new asset. The new building on Fourth Avenue had just been completed and at the opening was visited by many patrons and friends desiring to see the beautiful place and

128 & 128-1/2 Fourth Avenue



Alice Kent Trimpey

extend felicitations. The new **Trimpey Studio** was unmatched for uniqueness and beauty.

Mrs. Trimpey, the former Alice Kent, was an artist in her own right. In February 1896 she had recently finished an order, which was said to be superior to any of her prior works. It was a copy in pastel of Tojetti's famous picture entitled "Love's Dream", the original of which was exhibited in the Art Building at the World's fair.

On the prior September, **Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Burt Trimpey** realized they must secure more commodious quarters, make a change in location or leave the city. The class of work they did and the art line they carried demanded a ground floor studio. In the fall of 1921, Mr. Trimpey purchased the Lars Haugen property on Fourth Avenue, facing the park, and one of the choicest locations in the city. Haugen planned on moving the existing building to the Warren Park area.

While on visit to Taliesen, the home of Frank Lloyd Wright at Spring Green, Trimpey met Wright's chief architect, **Mr. Smith**, lately returned from Japan, where he completed one of Mr. Wright's

creations, the Imperial Hotel, said to be the finest in the world. The architect grew intensely interested in the ideas Mr. and Mrs. Trimpey had for a new studio and immediately began working on plans with the result of a unique, handsome and convenient building soon to be standing on Fourth Avenue. Special care was exercised to have the doors and windows unlike any other building and the latticed ceiling was their pride.

The Woodwork

The woodwork throughout the building was birch and fir, finished in greenish gray. The sidewalls were a shade lighter, with the ceiling a pale mauve.

The Italian blue of the front sash and the row of balcony petunias that filled the flowerbox across the front of the building, added much to its attractiveness. From the street the effect was that of a roof garden.

Garden In The Rear

A series of French doors lead from the street, through the building, to a little rear garden which almost sprung up over night, developed, as it was, from an ash pile to a green plot surrounded by a neat fence. Here was a winding path with stepping-stones, a tiny stream bubbling over rocks in a tiny pond, with a background of white birches and ferns. Here Mr. Trimpey made the most wonderful pictures of children he had ever produced.

The room set apart for the taking of pictures was commodious, artistic and splendidly lighted. A fireplace occupied a space on one side; spacious seats and roomy bookcases fill the inglenooks. The developing, retouching, printing and stock rooms were advantageously situated and provided with every convenience known to the photographer's art.

On entering the studio from the street one was greeted with pictures of excellence produced by Mr. Trimpey. The work was not only life-like but the specimens were framed most artistically. Here also was found unusual pottery, antiques, and the other wares suitable for the tourist trade or those who desired choice gifts.

128 & 128-1/2 Fourth Avenue



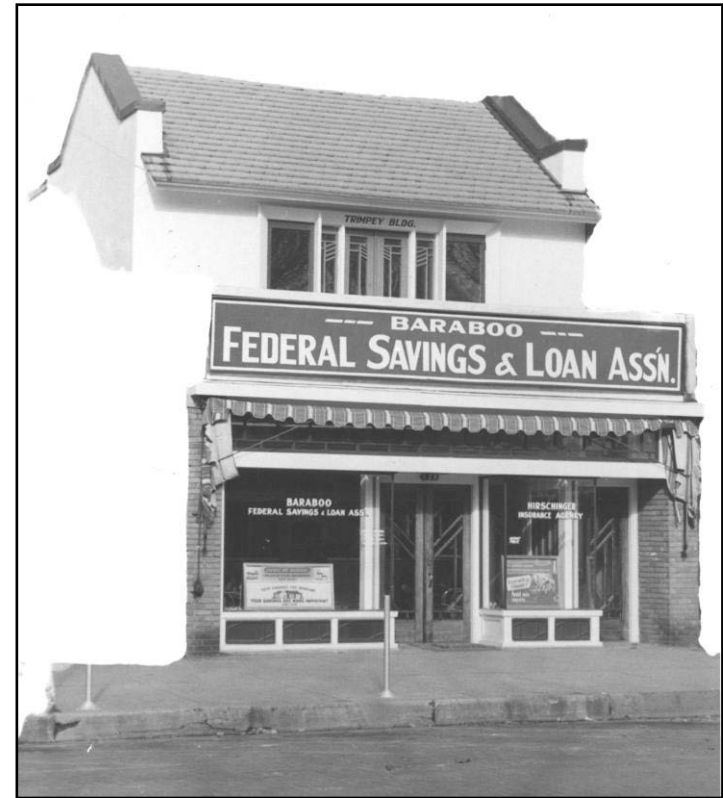
Trimpey with trunks

On the second floor was an antique room, a delight to the eye of the connoisseur. Here surplus stock was be displayed and at Yuletide special lines shown.

The studio attracted attention and as time went by attracted more and more customers. All strangers who visited the place were delighted beyond measure and Baraboo people extended hearty congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Trimpey for providing such an attractive studio. The photographer made pictures of rare worth and from his new studio would come most excellent specimens of his art.

In January of 1923, a number of improvements were made to accommodate the ever-growing stock of antiques that the shop carried. The basement was remodeled to permit its use as a place to store and display antique furniture and an inside stairway was built to the basement which made it more convenient to gain access. A partition was removed from the back room, providing additional space.

In July of 1924 the **Mah Jongg Chinese restaurant** opened on the second floor of the Trimpey Building. The dream of many Baraboo people, for an exclusive place to eat, was about to be realized. Guests could be entertained and served by Mrs. Ralph Brown, formerly Sue Whitlock, a graduate of the Boston cooking school of Washington, D.C. It was said that Mrs. Brown was adept at preparing all Chinese



Baraboo Federal Savings & Loan Ass'n. circa 1950

dishes, having received her training at Ling Ing Long's Chinese Palace of Detroit. The restaurant was not accepted as expected and in September of 1924 the Mah Jongg closed. Melzl & McGann removed the furniture to their store under a chattel mortgage.

E. B. Trimpey died in July 18 of 1948 and his wife, Alice Kent-Trimpey died in February of 1949.

In August of 1948, **Baraboo Federal Savings & Loan** remodeled this building after purchasing it from **Alice Kent Trimpey**. The loan company moved into this building on November 11, 1948. Shortly after, the upstairs housed 3 offices for the Company Attorney, **R.H. Gollmar**, **Hirschinger Insurance Agency**, and the **Retail**

128 & 128-1/2 Fourth Avenue

Credit Company. In 1962 the office building was extensively remodeled inside to make better use of the office space and the outside colonial facade and brick sidewalk changed the looks of the building completely. The façade was a contemporary interpretation of colonial revival and made loose references to Georgian and Federal detailing. A full façade entry porch with four slender, square columns and a brick sidewalk mimicked colonial prototypes. An elliptical fanlight and sidelights with tracery allude to the federal period, as do the 6/6 windows with louvered shutters on the second floor.

In June of 1972, **John W. Meisel**, individually and as an agent for the incorporators of the **Circus City Bank**, purchased the building at this site.

At the same time, Baraboo Savings & Loan moved to their new home office building at 1159 8th street. Between 1976 and 2002 a satellite office of Baraboo Federal, later **Amcore Bank**, operated out of this location.

In 2005 the home of the Baraboo Theater Guild was located at this address, assigning this location the name of the **Al Ringling Theater Stage**.

128-1/2 Fourth Avenue (Upstairs)

1938	"Baraboo Sales Agency"
1948-1968	"Hirschinger Insurance Agency"
1951-1955	"Robert H. Gollmar, Attorney"
1951-1952	"Retail Credit Co."
1952-1955	"Sauk County Abstract & Title Co." Rollo W. Simonds, Mgr.
1957-1971	"James W. Karch Attorney"
1970	"Hirschinger Realty"
1973-1979	"Peter Weickgenant, Acct."
1979	"Thunderbird Realty"
1982-1983	"H & S Realty" Carol F. Hoppe and Partners
1975-1983	"Screnock & Seefeldt Ltd., Law Offices"

128 & 128-1/2 Forth Avenue



Trimpey Window Displays



132 Fourth Avenue

132 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between Oak Street and Broadway.

Block 22, lot 8

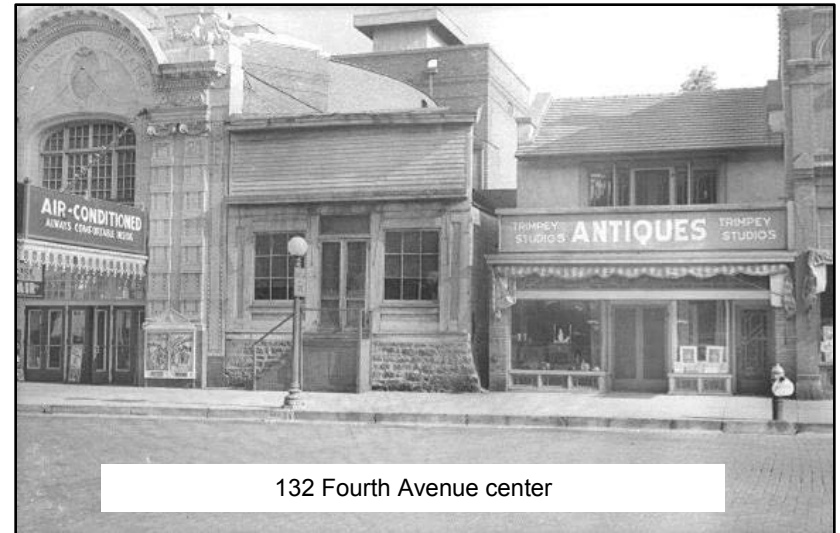
Sanborn map location 213 Fourth Street

Prior to 1937 there was a small wood frame building on this site and was generally referred to as 130 or 132 Fourth Avenue. The building was 14 feet wide and sat alone unattached to a building on either side.

Historians tell of the building being the first courthouse which was constructed in April of 1848 and that it was "a frame building which much resembled a big dry goods box, put up quite economically because the citizens were afraid that at some time the county seat may be moved". Many older citizens believed that this building was the old courthouse formerly located at the northwest corner of the courthouse park and moved to its present location when the brick building was put up a few years later.

Newspapers of September 1852 places **A. J. Rutherford's Tailor Shop** one door east of **B. Warner's**, which may have been at this address. Older residents recalled that a **Barber Shop** was at one time situated in the building and it served various purposes up to 1871 when it became the **Abstract and Insurance Office** of **George Mertens**, pioneer Baraboo banker. While the front portion was of flimsy frame construction, a substantial brick addition on the rear, its window protected with long rusted strips of iron, indicates that at some time the place must have housed valuable records of some kind. Merten had been in the Abstract business since 1852...maybe here.

In 1880 the late **Phillip Cheek** became associated in business with Mr. Mertens and they operated the office in partnership until 1882 when Mr. Mertens moved his office from this little building to the Bank of Baraboo of which he assumed the office of president. **Arthur P. Cheek** became associated with his father in the abstract business in 1886, then in 1887, **Colonel D.E. Welch** purchased the business; in 1890 Welch sold to **Edwin Selleck** and in 1891, the firm of **Selleck and Cheek** was formed, continuing in the same building until 1919, when it was purchased by **W.R. Schults** who maintained an office



132 Fourth Avenue center

there until 1937. In the 1920's Schults sold safes for the **Hall's Safe Company**.

In May of 1907, **Dr. Theodore Koch** joined the residents at this site. His old location, which was on the second floor, was getting difficult for him to reach due to the long flight of stairs.

In November of 1915, **W. H. Aton** purchased this property from **Mrs. Philip Cheek**. Aton expected to erect a new building here in the coming spring.

While the building with its quaint "stoop" was one of Baraboo's most interesting landmarks, its removal did certainly make a fine improvement in this section of the business district, adjoining "America's Prettiest Playhouse".

In August of 1937, **Henry Ringling** purchased this one-story building. This frame building, with its flight of stairs leading up to the entrance was probably the oldest structure on the square.

This building was the last on this street to stand on the abrupt hillside that had in all cases been excavated to bring all the other structures to street level. It should be remembered that when the old Wisconsin House was razed to make way for the Al. Ringling Theatre

132 Fourth Avenue

building, a great deal of excavating was necessary to bring it to street level.

The summer of 1938 found the empty lot here improved by an ornamental wall surrounding the stone foundation. Plans for an open-air ice cream parlor had been abandoned.

It was during this period that Henry Ringling purchased the building on Broadway, which was razed to make room for the new Juliar Theater. Ringling then constructed a building on this empty lot for **Ryan Hickethier & Co./Sears Roebuck Home Appliance** that was displaced by the new theater. From 1939 to 1940 Sears operated at this site while the **Red Cross Headquarters** was here from 1943 to 1945.

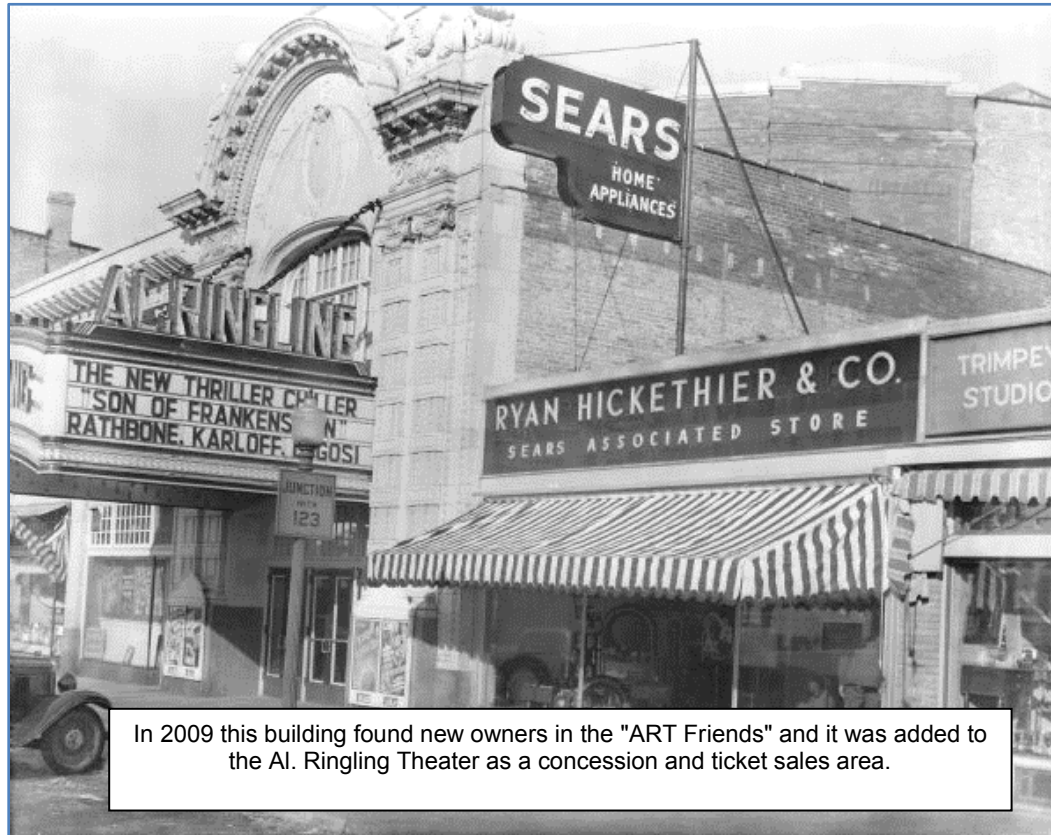
On January 19, 1946, **Ralph F. Pointon** opened **Pointon's Appliances** at this site. Pointon had been operating out of 221 Fourth Avenue. By 1951, Pointon's business was referred to as **Pointon's Gift Store**, later on as **The Gift House**. In August of 1957, **Mrs. R. J. Kasiska** purchased Pointon's Gift Shop. Kasiska would continue to operate the business under the Pointon name.

Bernice Schwartz worked at the **Gift House** for a total of 25 years, being listed as the owner of the **Gift House and Christmas World** in the 1964 through the 1973 city directories. Bernice was born

to Otto and Sarah Schenkat in North Freedom on February 17, 1909, married Arthur Schwartz on February 22, 1930, and died on November 18, 2008 at St. Clare Meadows Care Center in Baraboo.

Earl A. and Ruth V. Netzbund were listed as owners in the 1980 and 1983 city directories. **Shirley Harms and Maxine Voeks**, were partners in the 1985 and 1990 city directories while Shirley Harms was listed as the sole owner in the 1993 and 1994 city directories. The Gift House closed in December of 1998.

The **South Central Education Association** opened an office here in June of



1999.

In January of 2004, **Amy Torseth Teelin** opened **Bravo Center LLC**, advertised as "A place where people learn an appreciation for the arts through experience."

132 Fourth Avenue

When Bernice Schwarz, former owner of the Gift House at this site, died she left \$105,755 of her estate to the **Al. Ringling Theater Friends** who at the time owned the building which the Gift House operated in for many years.

With those funds, the space, now known as "**Stage II**" was transformed into a new concession area and ticket stand. The Schwarz gift allowed the ART Friends to completely refurbish the space with new air conditioning, carpet, paint, lighting, concession counters and furnishings.

About the same time **ART Friends** had begun renovation of the lobby with support from Alma Waite Foundation and other donors.

Also, two anonymous gifts totaling \$139,000 were received in the years 2009-2010. So, besides the lobby project and concessions project, the ART Friends have renovated the ladies room in the upstairs and the lounge entry was.

In October of 2011, it was announced that **Linda Kippley** had opened the **Window Sill Boutique** in the concession lobby. The boutique is a smaller version of the store she operates in Prairie du Sac. Linda planned on opening the boutique during special events at the theater.



Linda Kippley adjust her merchandise at the Window Sill Boutique

132 Fourth Avenue Pointon Appliance



L-R, Robert Wheeler, Allan Geyman, Owner Ralph Pointon & Elmer Engbring (Shellane representative) c1946

132 Fourth Avenue Pointon Appliance



132 Fourth Avenue, Illustration #2

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between
Oak Street and Broadway.

Block 22, lot 8

Sanborn map location 211 & 212 Fourth Street

Michael Kornel, who assumed the duties of the maitre d'hotel for eight years, established the **Wisconsin House**, also known as the **Park View House**, in 1850. This structure was the first brick structure in Baraboo and was known as the **Little Brick Tavern** and the **Little Dutch Tavern**. It is important to note that the term "tavern" in those days was used to denote a hotel.

A later owner in October of 1855, **Mr. Stimage**, busied himself making preparations to build on an addition to his hotel to accommodate his ever-growing clientele. A frame addition was eventually added to the west also wrapping around behind the tavern.

Anne Donaghey wrote an article for the May 1, 1924 issue of the *Baraboo Weekly News* whereby she states "The first Catholic mass was held in the Wisconsin House in May of 1850. Father Maximilian Gartner had been given the parishes of Sauk, Lynden and Delona. He had to pass through Baraboo. When he heard of Catholics here, he told them he would read mass the following Sunday at the Wisconsin House."

"The Baraboo Whiskey War"

H. E. Cole wrote in his book, *Stagecoach and Tavern days in the Baraboo Region* the following article.

"The Baraboo Whiskey War," probably the only war that Baraboo ever experienced, began in the saloon operated by Michael Kornel in the Wisconsin House. During the spring of 1854 a great temperance wave engulfed the village, the leading spirit in the movement being Rev. W. Cochran, pastor of the Congregational church, Rev. W.H. Thompson, the Methodist minister, and other well-known citizens. Conditions in the village had been growing gradually worse and worse as far as the drinking of alcoholic beverages were concerned and with the revival instituted by the ministers it was



The Wisconsin House, Little Dutch Tavern lower right quarter

decided by some of the women of the town to attack King Alcohol in its dens of iniquity. Needless to say the "war" created intense excitement.

At the time there lived in Baraboo a hard drinker who was a good citizen when not "in his cups." He was a habitual patron of the Brick Tavern bar, his appetite resulting in the neglect of his family, and at a desperate moment an attempt to take the life of his wife. The proprietor of the bar was beseeched to refrain from selling rum to this individual when the drinking led to such deeds of violence, but the appeal was not heeded. At last death intervened and the earth closed over the inebriate, leaving a widow and fatherless children.

The following Sabbath, Rev. Thompson became eloquent over the sale of liquor in the village, then numbering about one thousand persons. He said he wished "to God the thunderbolts of heaven would shiver the Brick Tavern and its contents, animate and inanimate." Attorney Pratt a few days later said that he would be happy to see "all

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

the liquor in the village poured into the streets." The indignation did not abate but gathered momentum as the days advanced. An impromptu meeting was held and a few bold ladies of the village decided to attack with berserker fury. A writer describing the scene says:

'Hark! There's a sound of devastation--a sudden unloosing of liquid devils. The bar room of the Brick Tavern is in the process of female invasion. Fumes of liquor infect the air. "Rye," "Bourbon," and "Fine Old Tom" meet a common fate and are rapidly absorbed by the parched earth in front of the hotel. The wholesome dispenser of these evil spirits is wrapped in slumber, for it is early morn and none but sober citizens are abroad. The righteous work of destruction proceeds so quietly that his repose is not disturbed. In dispersing of the empty bottle, a corrugated "Schnapps" is deposited in an adjacent dry goods box in which a reveler of the previous night has taken lodging. The breaking of the fallen bottles does not molest him, but there is a familiar smell about it that brings him to his feet with all the alacrity of a toper invited to drink; and he looks upon the strange scene and weeps.'

*After the visitation to the "Brick Tavern" the band of women marched to a place near by where they found the proprietor had scented trouble and locked the door. The ladies made a proposition to purchase his wares but while he hesitated on setting a price entrance was affected at the rear by some of them and there was a quite turning of faucets, which soon flooded the floor. By the time they reached "**French Pete's**" the news of the revolution had spread throughout the village and a crowd gathered upon the scene to learn the facts. As one of the ladies attempted to gain the entrance to the **Van Wendell Saloon** she found the way blocked by a patron. He was caught by the waistband and rudely jerked aside, the suddenness of the attack causing some of the fastenings to give away. Deputy Sheriff Chapman advanced and began to read the riot act, calling upon the crowd to disperse. Addressing one of the ministers, he said, "Mr. Cochran, you disperse!" The man of the cloth informed him he did not know how.*

Among the fair raiders were the following, Mrs. Barton Anderson, Mts. Flanders, Mrs. Maxwell, Miss Ida Feegles, and Mrs.

Newsom, Mrs. Rockwood, Miss Newsom, Mrs. Cain, Mrs. Eber Crandall, Mrs. Lowell, Mrs. Cowels, Mrs. Parish and Miss Martha Battles.

Some days later a number of the ladies were given a ride to lower Sauk by Sheriff Munson that an impartial trial might be held.

Sixteen women against one lone sheriff

Upon arriving at Sauk the sheriff requested that the women get out of the wagon and enter the jail. But the ladies had enjoyed their jolting ride and preferred the wagon to the cell, so they refused to budge. The sheriff then threatened to have them removed forcibly but they called his bluff. Finally the sheriff unhitched the team and put them up for the day. One of the ladies, taking advantage of the sheriff's absence got out of the wagon and procured lunch for all. They enjoyed the situation much more than the sheriff did. At last the officer gave it up and took the triumphant women back to Baraboo.

On Monday the prisoners were brought before the Hon. E. G. Wheeler. When Judge Wheeler called the case in circuit court the damage was fixed at \$150 that immediately was paid, (or not paid, depending on who's history one reads) thus ending the Baraboo whiskey war."

John G. Schlag was born in Eulau, near Naumburg, in the Kingdom of Prussia, March 1, 1819. On April 30, 1843 he married Wilhekena Steidman and on the 19th. of the following October they arrived in Sauk City. They remained there until April of 1844 when they moved to Otter Creek in Sauk County where three children were born. In January, 1847, they moved to Sumpter Township where six more children were born.

In March of 1869 after the children were old enough to manage the farm, Mr. and Mrs. Schlag and son-in-law **Herman Albrecht** purchased the Wisconsin House of **N. J. Powell** for \$3,000. Immediately, Messrs. Albrecht and Schlag enlarged the hotel by adding some 20 feet to the west side, running back the full depth of the main building, nearly doubling the capacity of the house.

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

Mr. Schlag was a fine musician and would often play his favorite pieces on the piano that stood in the spacious dining room of the hotel. Many circus people would stay at the hotel during the winter months. There was also a **livery stable** connected to the hotel, which was managed by **Ferdinand Welk**.

The blacksmith firm of **Thuerer & Bender located on Fourth Street** furnished the heavy iron work for the roof support. When the wood structure was first constructed the second floor was a large hall with an arched ceiling. In later years the great room was partitioned into sleeping compartments.

Surviving Mr. Schlag, who died in 1895, were his wife, sons Paul, Herman, Robert and Alexander Schlag, Mrs. Susan Mathews, Mrs. Lena Albrecht and Mrs. Lizzie Ockershauser.

Herman Albrecht was born in the city of Caelleda, province of Saxony, Kingdom of Prussia, Germany, December 13, 1835. He came to America with his father's family in July of 1849 and settled in Thiensville, Wisconsin. Three years later they moved to Milwaukee. They then moved to Sumpter Township, Sauk County, locating on a farm there. He followed the vocation of a farmer until the war of the rebellion. He enlisted in Co. D, 9th. Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry on October 14, 1861, was wounded, and was discharged on December 6, 1864. In 1865 he was united in marriage to **Miss Lena Schlag**.

Later they moved to Baraboo and along with John Schlag, purchased the Wisconsin House where they resided until Mr. Albrecht's death on February 10, 1891. The family farm, of 200 acres, eventually became part of the Badger Ordinance Works. Lena Albrecht then replaced Herman as an owner until at least 1895 when John Schlag died. By 1898, **Paul Schlag** is listed as the sole proprietor.

In February of 1901, the ownership of the then **Planters Hotel** was transferred from **Mrs. Lena Albrecht** and others to **Chauncy Brown**. The **Shanahans** who had conducted the hotel would find other quarters. Brown had recently sold his farm at the head of Mirror Lake to Mr. Lockhart, an elephant trainer. Lockhart sold his elephants to the Ringling Brothers and planned on opening a summer resort hotel at his newly acquired farm.



The Wisconsin House is razed

In 1898 **C.W. Gerks', Livery Stable** was in residency at the rear of the Wisconsin House, while in early 1899 **Louis McIntyre** conducted a livery there. McIntyre's reign at this address was short as in December of 1899 he moved to a location on Ash Street. About the same time the **Baraboo & Kilbourn Stage Line** operated by **Al Bell** and the **Baraboo & Sauk City Stage Line** conducted by the **Tarnutzer Brothers** were located at this site also.

Wilson Eddy purchased the Wisconsin House in December of 1907. **G. H. Campbell** of Kilbourn who was one of the leading members of the Central Wisconsin Land bank deeded the property to Mr. Eddy. Eddy had conducted a general store in Jonesville in Adams County.

In September of 1907, **J. W. Sweet** was in charge of the Wisconsin House. After general remodeling and painting, it was expected that the hotel would be open about the fifteenth of September. Sweet had conducted the Scofield Cottages at Kilbourn the prior few years.

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Seated in this Mitchell-6 were advertising assistants, Jack Chadwick and J. F. "Julie" Reul. They were advertising the movie, *BIRTH OF A NATION*, running March 8 through March 11, 1916. Tickets sold for \$0.50, \$0.75, \$1.00 and \$1.50. People standing left - right "Blink" Thornton, Glenn Orton, unknown, C. L. Roser Theatre management, Fred Warrell Theatre management, Chas Moser, Chas Reul, John Agee and unknown. A new Theatre canopy replaced the old one in 1937.

By 1908, the **A. J. Beaulieu** family was conducting the hotel. Mr. Beaulieu returned to Baraboo from Nelson, Illinois one day in December of 1910. Beaulieu had been employed at Nelson since June and appeared to hold a responsible position as yard foreman with the railway company there. He and his family and their household goods accompanied him back to Illinois. This left the Wisconsin House vacant.

In 1912, and after some delay due to a missing deed, Al. Ringling purchased the Wisconsin House and property from the heirs of **George H. Campbell** of Kilbourn. The buildings were then sold to the Isenberg Brothers who razed them to make way for the forthcoming **Al. Ringling Theatre**. Isenbergs then sold most of the material to Frank Herfort. In March of 1912, excavation began.

In June of 1913, the ever-alert **F. A. Philbrick** rented this empty lot from Ringling and obtained a permit to show moving pictures in a tent on the site. Philbrick, who died in March of 1914 was born at Barnett, Vermont on April 21, 1853, married in Beaver Dam and prior to coming to Baraboo in 1885 resided in Chicago. He was instrumental in organizing the Humane Society and was the city sealer of weights and measures. Besides his wife he left three sons, Orriel, Fred and Roy.

On a crisp March morning of 1915, three years after the announcement that Al Ringling would construct an opera house, a man walked onto this lot carrying several tool and packages of materials. His first chore was to erect a tent in which to protect tools and men in bad weather. This was the first move in the construction of the Theatre.

The progress of the Theatre was quite good so one day in October, Mr. Ringling presented each of the men with a box of cigars.

The **Al Ringling Theatre** opened in November of 1915. One can find the complete details of the opening night in the Nov. 25 issue of the Baraboo Weekly News of that year. Thus came an end to one of the oldest landmarks of Baraboo.

There is no need to go into the history of the Al. Ringling Theatre in this article as so much has been written elsewhere about this popular Baraboo landmark. Referred to so many times as the "Al" by those who think that term chic, I shall not use that term as I have great respect for Mr. Ringling and what he did for Baraboo. Also, I have been taken to task for spelling theatre with a "re". My answer to this is "If it was good enough for Mr. Ringling, it is certainly good enough for me."

I would however like to repeat what Marla Miller wrote in* 1989 when she did a brief intensive study of the commercial district of Baraboo. Ms Miller wrote:

Architectural Description

'The theatre is a one-third scale model of the opera hall of the palace of Versailles in Paris, France. It has a two-story Italian terra cotta façade with neo-classical detailing. The base of the exterior is polished marble, while white marble was used elsewhere in the façade.

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

The entryway to the right is accented by a triumphal arch motif. Applied to the piers are paired pilasters with Ionic capitals. A heavy entablature defines the arch, and above each of the spring points is an urn supporting a sphere. Three 16 X 16 stores with offices above originally occupied the front of the building to the west. Equally elaborate is the entrance lobby and auditorium. The former boasts paired travertine columns supporting a replica in high relief of Luca della Robbia's Singing Gallery figures. The interior of the theatre was designed by **G. A. Brand & Co.** of Chicago. Inside the auditorium, boxes are separated by massive pillars covered with Dutch metal gold leaf in floral. Above the boxes are garlands tinted in majolica covering. Ceilings are in ivory, and interior woodwork is in gold leaf with an ivory finish, done by **C. L. Klecker**, a Baraboo painter.

Lighting was designed by **Victor S. Pearlman**, of Chicago and installed by **Leslie C. Milner** of Chicago. The center chandelier in the auditorium had 48 lights, trimmed in silk and verre de soie glass engraved panels. Each of the seventeen boxes had an antique provost finished light with a silk tassel on the stem. Candelabra bracket lights trimmed with silk shades illuminate the foyer. In the lobby was installed a light in antique gold, with a calcite cut glass bowl, inverted top and three large lamps in the bottom. Around the lamp is a laurel band of cast bronze."

The Chicago firm of C. W. designed the theatre and **George L. Rapp**, specialists in theatre design from 1906 to c. 1930.

Al. Ringling died on January 1, 1916 and according to the terms of his will, Mrs. Ringling was to have the use of the brown stone house and the furniture in the same until she married or as long as she lived, after which the property was to go to Mr. Ringling's sister, Mrs. Harry North. Also, she was to have the income from the Theatre as long as she lived, after which the property was to pass to Mr. Ringling's four brothers.

By January of 1917, Mrs. Ringling had issued a quitclaim deed transferring her interest in the brown stone mansion and the Al. Ringling Theatre to the four Ringling brothers, Alfred T., Charles, John and Henry. Mrs. Ringling then moved to their house on Fourth Avenue.

In the summer of 1917, the Theatre was offered to the city of Baraboo with certain stipulations. In March or April of 1918, the Ringling Brothers withdrew their offer. The primary reason for this was due to the delay of the city council to act on the matter. The delay on the part of the council was due to objections by many citizens who felt that the maintenance would be too great a sum and may not be covered by the proceeds and also many did not understand the terms of the will. It appeared to be a matter of communications. Also, some on the council did not like the idea that

Ringling Brothers would control the Board of Directors as long as one of the brothers remained alive.

In defense of the citizens it should be remembered that the country was going through a depression due to the war and money and goods were very difficult to come by. The offer by the Ringling Brothers is shown in its entirety at the end of this article.

In September of 1929 a surprise announcement was made. Talking pictures were coming to the theatre. This was a surprise to most everyone, for the wiring and the installation of talking picture equipment had been quietly going on for a couple of weeks prior to the announcement.

Richard Barthelmess' Vitaphone part-talking and singing production was scheduled to introduce talking pictures about the second week of September.

The theatre in connection with the first two talking pictures program used an out-of-the-ordinary plan. They were being used as a trial--with the audience asked to vote as to whether or not they would like talking pictures to continue. Each patron was given a "ballot" on which to vote for or against--thus making the public the "judge" and "jury".

In January of 1952, the Al. Ringling and Juliar Theatres were sold to **Jacob Eskin** of Milwaukee. The company, which Eskin was the head of, also owned and operated Theatres in Richland Center, Black River Falls, Elroy and Boscobel.

The purchase was made of **Henry Ringling** who, a few years prior purchased the shares from the estate of the late John Ringling.

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

In January of 1958, **Erv. Clumb**, the new owner of the Ringling and Juliar Theatre arrived in Baraboo. Clumb planned on opening both Theatres on Easter.

However, the Theatres were returned to Eskin through receivership. In July of 1960, **Leon C. Mudd**, of Milwaukee, a long time friend of Eskin, purchased the Al. Ringling Theatre from the **Eskin Theatre Corporation**. The Milwaukee man would operate the theatres under the name of the Baraboo Amusement Corporation with **Edmund Burrington** continuing as manager.

136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

There were three store-fronts, each 16 feet in width directly west and adjacent to the lobby of the Ringling building. They were leased to various tenants and businesses over the years. It is not clear who was at what address at any certain time.

Ben Marks, a long time artist who had been restoring buildings for 20 years and along with his wife opened an art shop, **Bonsetti's Ragg and Bone Shop**, here about December of 2008

In December of 2009 it was announced that the Sauk County Art Association and the Al. Ringling Theatre had teamed up to turn the two then-empty store-fronts into a gallery to show off the Association's member's work. The theatre would receive 20-percent of the sale price of art sold at the gallery while the association would take a 15-percent commission.

The 106-member association marked its 47th anniversary in January of 2010.

136-138 Fourth Avenue

The **Betsy Ross Ice Cream Parlor**, conducted by **Mr. & Mrs. E. M. Koltes**, was opened November 17, 1915, with the opening night of the Al. Ringling theatre

Two months later, in January of 1916, the parlor was moved to 138/140 Fourth Avenue. The **Charles Stone Abstract** business then occupied this location until 1920, later the room was converted to an office for the theatre. In January of 1921, the large marble fish bowl in

the lobby was removed to make way for an office entrance to be installed.

1962-1969 "Don Hood Agency"

"Baraboo Mutual Fire Insurance Co."

Don Hood was president until 1970.

1970-1975 "Hood Insurance Agency-Don Rick Insurance"

"Baraboo Mutual Fire Insurance Co."

Rick Lewison was president and Don Hood was Sec-Treas until 1975.

Rick Lewison then moved to 313 Oak Street in 1975.

136 Fourth Avenue

1980 Baraboo Insurance Agency

Leon Braun

1981-1986 Baraboo-Portage Insurance

Agency Leon Braun, Pres.

1993-1995 Photographic Art Services

Bonnie Nitecki, Owner

1995-1996 The Elephant's Tear

138 Fourth Avenue

On November 17, 1915, the **Betsy Ross Ice Cream Parlor** was opened at 136 Fourth Avenue. This coincided with the opening of the Al. Ringling Theatre. Two months later, in January of 1916, the parlor was moved to 138-140 Fourth Avenue.

It was announced in 1931 that the Parlor was to be closed as soon as the stock could be disposed of. This was according to **E.M. Koltes**, proprietor. Mrs. Koltes states that 15 years ago the only other ice cream parlor to continue throughout the seasons was E.E. Smith at the present site of Seagraves Cafe.

The space was then leased to **C. W. Schroeder** of this city and **Miss Geraldine Mosher** of Horicon. The **Vogue Beauty Studio** opened at this location about the middle of April 1931. In May of the

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

same year, the telephone number 247W was issued to the Vogue at 138 Fourth Ave.

In September of 1934, **Ray Brown** established the **Baraboo Dime Delivery** service here.

From 1936 to 1946 we find **Elsie F. Kartack's CS Office** located here.

1990-1992 PS. Jazz

1992 Jazz Off Broadway

1998 Treasure House Books
Richard & Nancy Peidelstein, Proprietors
Opened May 15, 1998

1993-2002 Jazz Off Broadway
Penny Imray & Sandy Watson, Owners
Moved the end of July 2003

2000 H & S Financial Services
Teri Sonsalla opened her business at this location in August of 2000.
She moved to Third Street in November of 2002.

140 Fourth Avenue

In October of 1933, **B. H. Karll** opened a display room in the Al. Ringling Theatre building. He would display the new 1934 Majestic Radios and Maytag washing machines of the **Gem City Oil Company**.

1978-1979 Empire Realty Co.

1977-1978 Braun-Rowley-McNamer
Insurance Agency

1975-1980 Baraboo Insurance Agency

W. Dennis Capener, John Warner Partners
Leon Braun, Fay Rowley, Ted McNamer Partners

1998 Jazz Off Broadway, Dancing
School.

1995-1996 The Elephant's Tear
1998 Treasure House Books (Relocated to the Venerable Bean)
Richard Peidelstein, Proprietor

"Karmel Korn Shop"

In November of 1933, **Miss Clara Foerster** of this city purchased the **Karmel-Korn Shop** located in the Al. Ringling Theatre building, the purchase being made from **Mrs. Daniel Edwards**. George Wickus, who had been in charge of the shop, would continue as manager. Miss Foerster was the highway commissioner's clerk in the office here.

1938 "Badger Gift Shop"
Operated by Mrs. **Cora Kunzelman**.

140-1/2 Fourth Avenue

1933 Al. Ringling Store/Office

1936-1939 Dr. Daniel M. Kelly
(Physician)

1940-1950 Dr. A.C. Edwards

1960-1970 Henry E. Ringling Office
Mrs. Henry E. Ringling Office (Estate Management)
Mrs. Jean Ringling, Personal Mgr.

1970-1977 Henry E. Ringling Office

1980-1990 Henry E. Ringling Office

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

1977-1992 Henry E. Ringling Office

Conditions Gift Of Al. Ringling Theatre To City Baraboo Weekly News, 1/31/1918

This indenture made and entered into this ____ day of _____ by and between Alfred T. Ringling, Charles Ringling, John Ringling and Henry Ringling, together with the wife of each of said persons respectively, hereinafter named, parties of the first part, and the city of Baraboo, a municipal corporation of the state of Wisconsin, party of the second part.

WITNESSETH: That conditional upon the faithful performance of the covenants and conditions hereinafter set forth, said parties of the first part, in consideration of the observances of the covenants hereinafter named, have granted, given, deeded and conveyed and by these presents do give, grant, deed and convey onto the party of the second part the following tract and parcel, of land situated in the city of Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin, to wit.

Lot Eight (8) and West one-third (W 1-3) of lot Nine (9) Block Twenty-two (22) Baraboo, formerly Adams, together with improvements, Theatre building, theatre equipment and furnishings therein to have and to hold forever.

The said terms and conditions upon which this grant is made conditional are:

1. The theatre shall always bear the name AL. RINGLING THEATRE. Should the building be destroyed from any cause, and then the theatre building erected in its stead from available proceeds shall likewise bear and have upon it suitably inscribed, the name AL. RINGLING THEATRE.

2. All the net income received or in any wise derived from said theatre or theatre building shall be kept as a separate fund irrevocably pledged to the maintenance, upkeep and operation of said theatre. No part of said income and none of the receipts of income derived under this grant shall pass to or become a part of the general fund of the Second party, but shall be separately and exclusively devoted to the uses and purposes aforesaid.

3. That so long as the said Alfred T. Ringling, Charles Ringling, John Ringling and Henry Ringling or any of them shall live, the management and control of said premises, theatre and theatre building shall, for and on account of the second party, be vested in a board of five male directors. Said board of directors shall be chosen and compose as follows:

(a) One of the four Ringling brothers named as First party, or at the option of the First party or some other person to be chosen by the First party, shall be a member of said board. Any appointee of said First party under this provision shall serve for a period terminable at the pleasure of the First party.

(b) Two other members of said board, persons residing in the city of Baraboo, shall be named by the First party subject to confirmation by the Common Council or other governing body of said city.

(c) The remaining two members of said board, persons residing in the city of Baraboo, shall be chosen by appointment by the Common Council or other governing body of said city.

All the members of said board shall serve without pay and for an annual term coincident with the calendar year, excepting that the term of the members first chosen hereunder shall expire December 31, 1918.

Removal from said city by any member appointed under subdivisions (b)-(c) hereof shall create a vacancy in office. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

Proceedings or acts of said board shall be valid only when passed and adopted by a majority of all five members composing said board. It is understood that the vesting of title and interest under this

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue

grant is conditional upon the acceptance and adoption by the common council of the city of Baraboo of the terms and conditions in this instrument contained; and that the control, management and maintenance of said theatre by statute vested in the common council shall be exercised and carried on so as to give effect to and be in harmony with the said terms, regulations and conditions of this grant.

4. Said AL. RINGLING THEATRE shall always be used exclusively as a place of amusement. The space in said building now devoted to offices and business rentals may be continued under such use so long as the same does not conflict with or impair the use and enjoyment of said building or said premises for amusement purposes.

5. At no time shall intoxicating liquors be sold within said theatre or upon said premises.

6. To the end, that no private advantage or control may be acquired and that the operation and management of said theatre shall be vested in the City for the benefit of the people, no lease of said theatre shall be valid for a longer aggregate period than two weeks by weekly rentals, in any one year, or for more than thirty days by separate daily rentals, in any one year,

The said board of directors shall before January first of each year adopt for the ensuing calendar year a definite schedule of rental charges for said theatre, which shall prevail without change throughout said year.

Each member of said board shall be entitled to receive for his personal use only a free seat in said theatre.

Except to the foregoing and employees on duty engaged in actual service in said theatre, at no time shall there be given or extended to any person complimentary rights or privileges or the free use of boxes or seats in said theatre.

8. Adequate fire insurance shall be carried on building and contents. In case of loss or damage by fire or lightning the proceeds recovered shall be expended toward replacing the building in type and construction the same as the original as nearly as may be; and resort may likewise be had for the purpose of replacement to the

theatre fund as may necessary; and when so rebuilt the same shall be named and operated as hereinbefore provided.

9. The term First party wherever used herein shall be understood to mean and refer to Alfred T. Ringling, Charles Ringling, John Ringling, Henry Ringling, Henry Ringling, individually, and the survivors or survivor of them.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF parties of the First part and the wife of each of said persons have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

The places for the signatures and sworn statement before a notary public follow:

134-136-138-140 Fourth Avenue, Theater under construction



Supervising construction of the new Al. Ringling Theater

142-144 Fourth Avenue

142-144 Fourth Avenue

Located on the north side of Fourth Avenue between
Oak Street and Broadway.
Block 22, lot 7
Sanborn map location 210 Fourth Street

Architectural Description

The Wellington has two three-sided oriel windows, which, read as two-story turrets topped with a tent roof covered with fish-scale shingles. Shingles also ornament the semi-hexagonal area between the third and second story windows. Simple sash windows with brick lintels and stone lug sills flank the turrets. A narrow window on the second story between the turrets remains extant, while the corresponding window above has been bricked up. A false mansard roof broken by the tent roofs of the oriels is present on the front elevation.

In March of 1899, **Ed. F. Lueth** and his brothers purchased two lots here from **Jas. A. Stone** and **W. W. Warren**. Work on a new building was anticipated.

In August of the same year, Lueth was expecting to commence the erection of his new building in two or three weeks. He had been delayed in getting material and when he did start the work it was pushed rapidly to avoid the cold weather.

On October 24, 1899, the building came near burning. Fire caught in the joists of the roof from a tinner's outfit, and in a few minutes would have been beyond control. The joists were blackened and charred. The hotel, named the **Wellington**, was supposedly finished in the fall of 1900.

By September of 1908, **Lueth Bros.**, proprietors of the Wellington Hotel, had nearly completed some extensive improvements about the building, which would be appreciated by the public. Besides building a three-story addition for the purpose of making a complete kitchen and baggage department with an elevator for hoisting heavy baggage, the east part of the building, which had been used as a bakery and restaurant combined, was entirely remodeled, converting it into a large exclusive dining room. It was 20 x 66 feet, and was of sufficient size to accommodate a large number. A new paneled ceiling, of the



The Wellington Hotel

latest design, was installed. **C. A. Dearborn** and the **Lueth Brothers** did the work. Between the panels on the ceiling canvas was laid and painted a cream color. The sidewalls were covered with burlap and stained. The upper part, down to the plate rail, was of gold, and the lower part in the panels was of a dark brown shade. At the farther end of the room was planned a large sideboard to be built by **B. J. Kramer**. The room was expected to be ready for occupancy in a few days.

The lobby was also going to undergo a transformation. It would be enlarged and the room that had been used as the hotel dining room would become a part of the lobby and sample room. This would be accomplished by moving the partition back. The Wellington, at the time, was considered one of the good hotels of the state.

The addition they had constructed placed into use some 75,000 bricks, which were obtained from McFarland & Pugh, who had just finished razing the rest of the high school that had been put asunder by a recent fire there.

In May of 1924, the **Wellington Cafe** of the Wellington Hotel, which was located in the eastern half of the building with a street entrance, was taken over by **Bode H. Karll** and **George Knight** and

142-144 Fourth Avenue

was to be turned into a strictly up-to-date restaurant under entirely separate management from the hotel. New equipment was installed in the kitchen and the name of the new dining room was changed to the **Grill**. Karll was a former proprietor of the Park Restaurant and had been in business there for five years. In December of the same year Knight purchased the interest of Karll.

In September of 1927 the fixtures, linen and other equipment of the **Grill Restaurant** located in the Wellington building and formerly operated by George Knight, was sold at auction to satisfy mortgages. There were few bidders, the highest bid being that of \$900.00 by **Earl Schilling** of Baraboo. Schilling stated that he expected to open the restaurant in about 10 days, making some improvements in the meantime.

142 Fourth Avenue

In September of 1938, the **Sears** store moved from 415 Broadway to this building in anticipation of a new building being constructed a few doors east at 132 Fourth Avenue.

By 1941 the **Baraboo Shopper's Guide** was located here, then from 1943 to 1945 the **Baraboo News Agency**. From 1946 to 1947 **Weed's Camera Shop & Studio** took up residency at this site while in 1948 the **Mueller Studio & Camera Shop** was being conducted here.

In 1946 **Elwin Fels' Sport Shop** opened to be followed by a **Marshall-Wells Store**, also operated by Fels. In January of 1956, Fels was preparing to move to 125 Third Avenue, the former home of Clavadatscher's. **Lillian Eldridge** ran **Lillian's Dancing School** in the basement of this building at that time.

From 1952 to 1955, **Forrest Zantow** conducted the **Quality Floor Covering Co.** here while from 1954 through 1955 **Harland Packard** operated **Skel-Gas Sales & Service** at this location.

Then in June of 1956 **Pointon's Gas & Appliance**, also known at various times as **Redigas of Baraboo**, located here. Large appliances would be sold out of this location. This would give Pointon a store on each side of the theater.

From 1959 to 1964 **Baraboo Bottled Gas Service** was being managed here by **Lyle J. Roets**. In October of 1965, the gas company moved to their new plant and office at 607 South Boulevard.

In February of 1967, Roets, age 48, was found dead near his automobile on Anacher Road in Columbia County. Cause of death was ruled self-inflicted by a gunshot wound.

Later in 1978, **Wedding World** was using part of this building, as was **Mahakali Imports**, run by **William James Mitchell II**. In 1982, **Video Visions Arcade** was being conducted here along with **B & B New and Used Furniture**, owned by **William and Barbara T. Schwahn**.

From 1984 until 2000 **Midwest Vision Centers** had an optical store here, which was, renamed **Vista Optical** in 2001. By July of 2003, **Vista Optical** had closed shop and **Roger Hanko** was preparing to open **Amber Moon**, a floral shop. The shop opened the last weekend in August. Hanko, a Cazanovia native spent twenty years in Las Vegas before returning home. By August 1, of 2004, Hanko was preparing a move to 128 Oak Street to the site formerly occupied by the Garden Party Restaurant & Gift Shop.

144 Fourth Avenue

The Wellington Hotel was constructed and operated by **F. C. Lueth** or the Lueth family about 1899. His brother **Edward F. Lueth** joined in the operation in 1905. Edward Lueth was listed as president and manager in the 1917 & 1919 city directory. Subsequent owners included the name **Sloniker**.

In September of 1920, E.F. Lueth and family exchanged the Wellington hotel for a 222-acre farm near Richland Center. The new owner of the hotel was **Ed. J. Beranek** who formerly resided at Hillsboro.

Mr. Beranek moved to Baraboo with Mrs. Beranek and two sons. Possession was transferred on September 15, 1920. Mrs. Beranek had considerable hotel management experience. The value of the farm was about \$30,500 and the hotel about \$30,000.

142-144 Fourth Avenue



Edward F. Lueth

The value of the farm was about \$30,500 and the hotel about \$30,000. J. T. Bates & Son of Baraboo made the sale. E. J. Beranek was listed as the proprietor in the 1920 telephone directory.

In September of 1921, **L. E. Bohlman** purchased the Wellington hotel from Beranek who had been proprietor for 1 year and nine days. A farm figured into the deal and the Beranek's and children moved to the Mauston farm. Bohlman brought his family to the hotel to reside.

In April of 1923, **Frank Heimer** of Madison took possession of the Wellington hotel that he recently purchased from Bohlman, who had managed the hotel for the past year or more.

In 1925, **F.C. Terbilcox** installed a regular **Yellow Cab** service for the city of Baraboo. His first unit appeared on the streets one afternoon and caused quite a commotion. Yellow cabs were, of course, being used in all the larger cities and the regulation taxi was so equipped as to give the best service possible. Mr. Terbilcox would use his Yellow Cab service in connection with the other cars he already

had in use here. Mr. Terbilcox would operate out of the Wellington hotel.

A deal was closed in January of 1926, whereby the Wellington Hotel was transferred into the hands of the **Prudent Investment Company** of Milwaukee. Frank Heimer, former proprietor, took over a residence in Milwaukee as a result of the transaction. **Frank Perse**, Milwaukee, who had about nine years experience in hotel management, was to conduct the hotel here for the Prudent concern. The deal as closed was subject to the lease of The Grill. George Knight would continue to conduct the dining room in the hotel for the present. The deal involved about \$45,000 plus the residence.

In March of 1936, Judge A.C. Hoppman confirmed the sale of the Wellington Hotel property of this city, in the action of **Ida C. Schwartz** vs. Frank Perse, et al. The court also granted a motion confirming receiver's report.

From 1936 to 1942 **Mrs. Ida Waffenschmidt** owned the Wellington Hotel.

In July of 1936 this building was owned by **Wolf, Waffenschmidt and Schwartz**. Shelves were being added to the inside as **Harry Wolf** was planning on opening a **fruit and vegetable store** here.

It was then that **The Gem City Hotel Co.** purchased the property, which was located at 4th. & Broadway including the Wellington Hotel and the former **Isenberg Music Store** building. The price was about \$30,000. This purchase included a full 66' X 132" lot.

The officers of the Gem City Hotel company were: **J. L. Siberz**, Pres./Mgr., **Chris Dyrud**, V.P., **Mark Montony**, S/T.

In March of 1942 Siberz bought out his partners becoming the sole owner of this property.

Then in June of that same year, **George Martiny** purchased the Wellington Hotel property from Siberz.

On July 16, 1942, **Harvey C. Hartwig** of Milwaukee purchased the Hotel. **O.J. Wooden** of Oshkosh became manager. One of his first goals was to replace all the mattresses with innersprings.

142-144 Fourth Avenue

Effective September 4, of 1942, the **Greyhound Bus Stop** was to be located at the Wellington Hotel rather than at the Corner Drug Store.

Robert C. Schult & L. Everett Lehman were listed as co-owners of the **Vet Cab Company** in the 1947 and 1950 city directories and operated out of the **Windsor hotel**. The hotel was renamed the Windsor in 1947.

In June of 1953, **Robert W. & Anna Reuping** purchased the Windsor hotel from Hartwig of Milwaukee. The Reuping's formerly owned the Land O' Lakes Hotel in Oconomowoc. The Reuping's were here as late as 1968.

In the 1972 telephone directory as well as the 1973 city directory the hotel's name was changed back to the Wellington. However, for a brief period in the 1970's it was named the **Musicale**.

From 1984 to 1989 the law offices of **Screnock & Seefeld Ltd.** were being conducted here by **Joseph J. Screnock** and **Rodney D. Seefeld** while in 1990 the name of the firm was **Screnock & Screnock, Ltd.** operated by **Joseph J. and Evelyn J. Screnock**

In 2005 **Countrywide Home Loans** was occupying Suite two. **Roger Merry, Attorney** and **Screnock & Screnock Ltd.** share Suite one.

By September of 2006, and possibly earlier, Suite two was vacant. **Andrew Martinez** and **Cole Ruby**, recent University of Wisconsin law students, opened a law office here in the spring of 2008. The duo was keeping busy with public defender appointments, but hoped to expand their practice by taking on civil cases. Another attorney, **Kristin Hayes**, was expecting to join the two shortly.

Re/Max Grand real estate sales held a ribbon cutting at their new location on March 2, 2011. Owners include **Nanci Cafilisch, Beth Roethel, Samantha Ramsy** and **Associatre Ronda Telvik**



Pointon Gas & Appliance.



146 & 146-1/2 Fourth Avenue

146 Fourth Avenue

Located on the northeast corner of the intersection of
Fourth Avenue and Broadway.

Block 22, lot

Sanborn map location 210 Fourth Street



Republic Office circa 1899

Architectural Description

This two-story corner building is simply detailed and accented only with brick corbelling at the roofline, segmentally arched window hoods, and belt course. The roof is ornamented with four brick finials, three of which retain their metal cap. A second entrance on the west elevation has been bricked over. Glass blocks have been inserted in the lower half of the central window on the first story.

In March of 1893, **W. H. Jacobs** announced that he had purchased from **William Stanley** the vacant lot on the northeast corner of Fourth Avenue and Broadway, paying therefore the sum of \$1,950. Jacobs intended to build a brick block two stories high and well equipped for office purposes. (Date of purchase was unknown)

Power and Hood, who published the *Baraboo Republic* newspaper, moved their offices to this location in 1895 from 110-1/2 Fourth Avenue. **George H. Hood** and **Sidney J. Hood**, the editor,



Main Restaurant c1940's

conducted the *Daily Baraboo Republic*, which was established in 1892 and which was a morning paper. The *Weekly Baraboo Republic*, which was established in 1855 and which came out on Wednesdays, was conducted by **Nicholas Smith** between 1892 and April of 1893 when **Briscoe and Powers** took over.

146 & 146-1/2 Fourth Avenue

Later **George H. Hood** and **J.H. Powers** were the editor and publisher. The owners of this publishing company were listed as **S. J. Hood** and **G. H. Hood** in the 1903 through 1917 city directories. **H. K. Page** purchased half interest of this paper in 1910.

In 1928 Page purchased the interest of the **Cole Estate**, becoming the sole owner of the paper. The newspaper was located at this address until about at least 1929. Ansul H. Kellogg had operated this business back during the civil war.

In October of 1930, **Sherm Luce**, proprietor of the **Checker Cab Company** opened an office at this site.

In June of 1932, construction of a small bungalow-type building was started in the rear of the Hood printing shop. The new business would be conducted by **R. H. Petrosik** and would serve refreshments including curb service. The building was painted a tangerine color with black trim.

Beginning in 1938, **Ernest A. Isenberg** conducted the **Isenberg Music Store** at this site. Then, on January 2, 1942, he moved his business to the Koppke Building at 415 Ash Street.

In 1942, the **Gem City Hotel Co.** purchased **Mrs. Ida Waffenschmidt's** property at this address, including the Wellington Hotel and the former Isenberg Music Store building. The price was about \$30,000. This purchase included a full 66' X 132" lot. The officers of the Gem City Hotel Company were: **J.L. Siberz, Pres./Mgr., Chris Dyrud, V.P.** and **Mark Montony, S/T.**

In March of 1942 **J. L. Siberz** bought out his partners becoming the sole owner of this property. In 1944, **Wooden** bought the building from **Rodney E. Caflisch** who had obtained it in 1942 from the Wellington Hotel owners. **Anna Huebbe** was listed as the proprietor of the **Main Restaurant** here from 1945 thru 1950 while **Donald L. and Anna (Huebbe) Helmbrecht** were listed as partners thereafter. Anna L. Helmbrecht, age 88, passed away on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at St. Clare Meadows Care Center. She was survived by her son, Charles (Karen) Huebbe of Oak Creek, Wisconsin. Also two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survived Anna.

In January of 1953, an arrest warrant was issued for O. Wooden, reportedly in Miami, when a number of gambling devices



Beth Smith and art director Nellie Schmitz of Next Level

were found in the basement of this building. It should be emphasized that the machines were covered with dust and cobwebs and certainly probably had not been in use for many years. All of the confiscated devices were moved to the county jail. There were 80-penny machines, which would yield a ball of gum and a chance for a package of cigarettes, 450 punchboards with punches up to a value of 25 cents and two number jars.

In 1959, Mr. and Mrs. Don Helmbrecht purchased this building from Wooden. In November of 1964, Ann Helmbrecht leased the West Baraboo restaurant, formerly Baker's, from the owner, Orriel Philbrick.

In 1989, the **Quiriconi's** purchased the building from Helmbrecht. This restaurant then became **Susie's Restaurant**, owned and operated by **Sue and Ray Quiriconi**. Then on April 11, 1995, **Thane Newman, Jim Dickey and Jim's wife, Christine** established the **Little Village Café** on this site. The three restaurateurs had lived and worked in several exotic locations, but they gradually got together

146 & 146-1/2 Fourth Avenue



Next Level Communications team members, L-R, Nellie Schmitz, Carrie Spankowski and Rick Markley

10 years prior in Madison, where the Dickeys operated a small restaurant and Newman was their accountant. The two men had previously worked together as cooks. Mrs. Dickey, who grew up in Chilton, Wis., had studied in Madison to be a court reporter.

Their love for the Baraboo area, where they camped and hiked, led to a meeting with Suzie Quiricone, who was interested in the Madison restaurant scene. Quiricone and her husband, Roy, offered to sell them their restaurant and they accepted.

146-1/2 Fourth Avenue

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1898 | "The Wisconsin Horticulturist" |
| 1910 | Lucius Prader, jeweler and John Sullivan, tinner lived at 146 Fourth Street |
| 1915 | Elmer E. Scoville, Cigars |
| 1927 | Printing Shop |
| 1928 | H.K. Page, for the past 19 years half owner of this paper, today purchased the interest of the Cole estate in the Baraboo News Publishing Company and now becomes sole owner of the Business |

Neldesign

The May 2003 issue of the Chamber Review announced that Nellie Schmitz was conducting a "*Full service marketing & design-branding, brochures, newsletter, website design, trade shows and signage.*" The company's name is **Neldesign**.

In September of 2003, the name of the operation was changed to **Next Level Communications**. This business was launched in April and moved to this location in July. In May of 2008 Goldline Research selected Next Level Communications as one of the most reliable Web designers in the central United States. The firm serves industries such as tourism and recreation, restaurant and hospitality, health care and manufacturing.

202 Fourth Avenue

202 Fourth Avenue

Located on the northwest corner of the intersection of
Broadway and Fourth Avenue
Block 21, lot 12
Sanborn map location 209 Fourth Street

Regular meetings of the Methodist Church congregation began on April 5 1842 when a group of six people gathered in one of their homes to discuss this matter.

The class was formed at the suggestion of **Rev. T. M. Fullerton**, a Methodist circuit rider. Fullerton held his first service with a group of eleven people on October 16, 1841. His circuit brought him to Baraboo every four weeks.

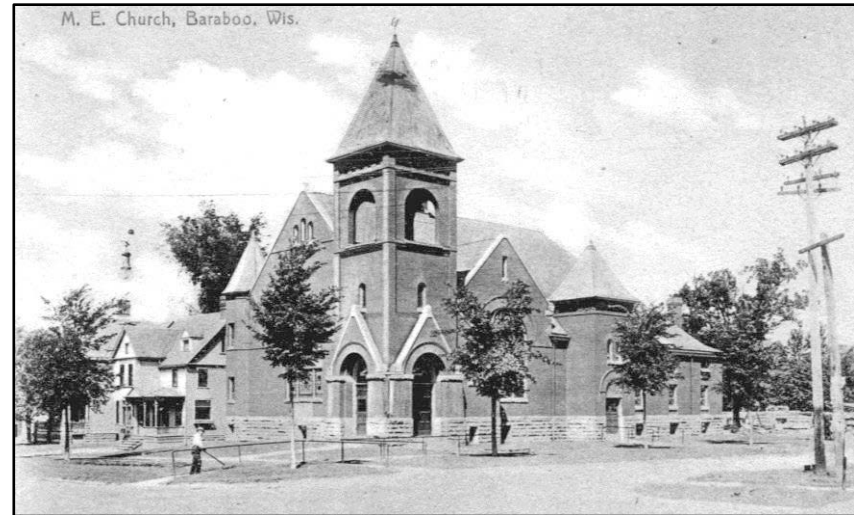
Services were held in a log cabin, later in members' homes and eventually in the courthouse. In the 1850's the first church was built at 620 Broadway, the southeast corner of the intersection of Broadway and Fifth Avenue, at a cost of \$200 for a rough board building 34 X 36 with seats of two-inch planks and four-inch backs. Some memories indicated that this was known as the "shanty church." In 1866, 25 feet were added to the south along with a bell tower.

On May 11, 1898, (some records indicate May 6, 1898) a contract was let to Bowen & Lake of Sparta for the construction of a new Methodist Church at this site at a cost of \$17,000. The land was purchased from **Levi Crouch**. Early on, the Crouch home was located on this corner, surrounded by beautiful Maple trees. The parsonage on Fourth Avenue was erected the following year at a cost of \$2400. Records indicate the final cost for the land, church and parsonage to be \$23,605.00

The corner stone, a fine large slab of Bedford limestone, was placed on Tuesday, June 20, 1898 and the building was accepted in December of the same year.

It was reported in the 1908 issue of the Baraboo Weekly News that **Charles Hirschinger** presented at new bell to the German M. E. Church. The bell weighed over 800 pounds and was 40 inches in diameter,

In 1912 the South Side Methodist Church, which had formed in 1885 and erected a small church building, which was later replaced



in 1890, merged with the north side congregation. This formed the First Methodist Church. On September 8, 1934, the German Methodist Church joined the First Methodist Church, thus forming the First United Methodist Church. In 1972 the new parsonage was constructed at 405 Fourteenth Avenue.

Pastors	
Thomas M. Fullerton	1842
M. Badger	1842
P. S. Richardson	1845
Eldrich Holmes	1846
Joseph Williams	1848
Asa Woods	1849
Nelson Butler	1850
C. P. Newcomb	1852
Rev. Haseltine	1855
Rev. Kellogg	1861
Rev. Irish	1864
Rev. Bachman	1866
Rev. Yocum	1867
Rev. Whitney	1869

202 Fourth Avenue

Rev. Lawson	1871
Rev. Evans	1872
Rev. Benson	1885
Rev. Bushnell	1894
Rev. Martin	1895
Frederick E. Ross,	1903
S.A. Ross,	1910
Harold W. Singer,	1950
C. James Weis,	1968-1975
David Worm,	1975-1977
Ruwal H. Freeze,	1977-1986
Clyde S. Cross,	1986-1994
Myron Talcott,	1994-2000
Forrest Shelton Clark,	2000-2006
Donna Miller	2006-

(Space reserved for future reference)