

510 & 510-1/2 Oak Street

510 & 510-1/2 Oak Street

Located between Third and Fourth Street on the east side of and fronting on Oak Street.

Block 26, lot 7 & 8

Sanborn map location 710 Oak Street



Oak Street circa 1903

Architectural Description

This two-story seven-bay structure had fully arched windows and window hoods. The bases of these brick arches merge into heavy piers, producing an arcade effect. Prominent stone keystones provide additional ornamentation. A row of corbelling and series of recessions are present at the roofline. Later the storefront was substantially modified, the original openings altered and a new façade constructed entirely of modern materials, which seriously compromised the architectural integrity of the building. Nevertheless, it was contributive to the district as an element of an intact blockface. Later the First National Bank was to change the façade completely with their new addition.

Note: Hall's store prior to the 1878 fire was north of Savage and Halsted's (but connecting)

In 1857, **Ransom Jones** had a tin shop at this address. **Jones** died at the county infirmary on Thursday, October 17, 1895 at the age of eighty-six. He was once a leading and influential citizen of Baraboo. He conducted a **Tin Shop and Hardware Store** on Oak as early as 1857 where D. S. Holcombe had a livery and feed barn in 1895. This was probably in the 600 Block. Afterwards he was in partnership with another gentleman and the firm was near where C. E. Ryan had his jewelry store in 1895. He eventually met with financial failure and lost his property.

In 1857, **H. A. Peck & R. A. Orvis** kept a **Drug Store** at approximately this address, probably moving from 133 Third Avenue. In 1861 Peck increased the depth of the building to 70 feet. It is believed that Peck was still here in 1864. In May of 1864, **George H. Hall & H. T. Savage** opened a clothing store formerly occupied by Peck & Orvis.

In September of 1864, **Mrs. J. Kennedy** announced to the ladies of Baraboo and the vicinity that she had opened a **Ladies Furnishing Store** just north of Ryan's Jewelry Store.

In May of 1866, **Doane & Barstow** were busy remodeling the building north of Ryan's Jewelry Store. When completed they planned on stocking the store with dry goods and groceries. The **Millinery Shop**, which formerly occupied this site moved over Mr. Longley's Store.

In February of 1867, **Savage** of the firm of **Hall & Savage** retired and was succeeded by **Mr. Alfred L. Burnham**. The new firm offered merchandise "cheap for cash and ready to pay". The firm held the accounts of Hall & Savage and would "be happy to see them balanced at an early day." In March of 1871 Hall & Burnham terminated their partnership and **Mr. Hall** continued the operation.

Alfred Burnham was born in the state of Vermont about 1826 and received part of his education at Bennington where Dr. Slye, of this city, pursued a course. Burnham came to Baraboo as a schoolteacher and taught school in the old school house. Burnham died on May 6, 1896 at his home at 1121 Birch Street, the primary cause being Bright's disease. Besides his wife, he left two sons, Charles of

510 & 510-1/2 Oak Street

Janesville and Arthur of Edgerton. Also, two daughters survived him, Ada and Kittie E. of Baraboo. In April of 1873 some changes were being made here after **Mrs. Hawes Millinery** moved in. As late as June of 1873, **Hall's Dry Goods** and a **Saloon** shared this site with Mrs. Hawes. The ceiling was raised and a new floor was put in place. Hall moved to 504 Oak Street and **Charley Burrington** moved here.

In June of 1874 **Mr. Fred Crouch** assumed the **sewing machine and musical instrument** business of **C. H. Waltz** over the rooms of Mrs. Hawes.

Seneca Lamberton's heirs owned the frame structure approximately at this location prior to the 1878 fire, which destroyed the building. **Savage & Halsted** owned it at the time of the fire. They at that time conducted a large general merchandise store at this site. They had \$1,000 insurance on the structure. They moved their remaining stock to the Star building at 151 Third Street where they had already opened an organ department earlier in the year. After the fire, a new building was constructed by **Halsted** who would then occupy the north half of the building (510) as **Savage & Halsted General Merchandise** and **C. E. Ryan**, who would occupy the south section of the structure (506 Oak). In December of 1879, **Savage & Halsted** was back in this building doing business as usual.

In March of 1880, **G. H. Bacon** purchased the north portion of the business block from Halsted & Savage where he operated a **Grocery and Dry Goods Store**. Savage & Halsted planned on putting in a stock of musical instruments in the "Star" building at 151 Third Street. In February of 1881, **W. Williams & Son** opened a shoe store in the Halsted Block, maybe sharing space with the grocery store. Later the May 4, 1881 issue of the *Baraboo Republic* stated that **Isaac Green** purchased the stock in trade of Messrs. Williams & Son and would continue the business.

A. D. Goodnough's Grocery Store was located here in 1882 after **Sprecher & Goodnough Dry Goods** partnership ended. Goodnough moved to 148 Third Street after **Charles Junge** purchased the building in March of 1888 from J. H. Halsted.

At that time Junge was the oldest tonsorial artist in the city, Phil Bock and Frank Kartack came next. Immediately following his



Neh's Grocery

purchase, Junge traveled to Chicago to purchase fixtures for this new shop, which he expected to open in early July.

Then in December of 1894, Junge sold his building to **E. A. Dwinnell** of North Freedom for \$4,800. Junge then sold his equipment and fixtures to **William Riebe** and **George Steckenbauer**. Riebe had been in the employ of **Junge and Steckenbauer**, and also had worked in the Jacobs & Baumgardner shop. Riebe & Steckenbauer immediately set up their new tonsorial parlor in the Baraboo Savings Bank block located at 606 Oak Street. Junge decided to work with Riebe and Steckenbauer until spring. Junge then turned his attention to his real estate and insurance business, leaving barbering behind.

After the purchase, E. A. Dwinnell immediately set forth to remodel the interior and fit up that portion of the building with shelves and other furnishings to prepare it for his son Frank to conduct as a grocery store. Frank Bullard did the paper hanging and painting.

In March of 1894, Frank H. Dwinnell, son of E. A. Dwinnell, and Robert Grosinski, who had been operating a grocery store in North

510 & 510-1/2 Oak Street

Freedom, moved to Baraboo and opened a store at 420 Oak Street. Then in January of 1895, **Frank H. Dwinnell, Eugene A. Dwinnell** and **Robert R. Grozinski** started conducting **the F. H. Dwinnell & Co., Groceries & Fruit Store** at this site. Frank Dwinnell and later **Mrs. Mary Dwinnell** owned this building until at least 1942 according to insurance records.

On May 7, 1901, E. A. Dwinnell died at his home at 510-1/2 Oak Street in Baraboo. Dwinnell was born on November 30, 1842 at Spring Prairie in Walworth County. In 1851 his parents moved to Reedsburg, at which place he enlisted in January 1861 in Co. A, 19th. Wisconsin Volunteers. He was discharged Feb. 13, 1865. In 1869 he married Mary Beery to whom 3 children were born of which Frank Dwinnell is the only one living. E. A. Dwinnell lived on a farm outside of North Freedom until 1891 and then kept a store in town until 1894 when he moved to Baraboo.

In 1898, **Wesley Nehs** who assumed operation of this store when Frank Dwinnell became postmaster established **W. Nehs and Company Groceries**. In March of 1900, **Clavadatscher & Co.** sold its interest in this store to Nehs. At the same time, Nehs sold his interest in the Fair to Clavadatscher & Co. (T. Clavadatscher and J.P. Witwen.) The Fair was on Third Avenue. By 1903, Nehs' son, **Fred A. Nehs**, had joined the firm. Both of the Nehs were auctioneers also.

W. Nehs was born October 13, 1847 at Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. He and Miss Amanda Underkofler were married in 1868. He was a miller who conducted mills at Menomonee Falls, Lone Rock and Sextonville. Nehs died in May of 1912.

In 1908, **George Howe** disassociated himself with the shoe business on Walnut Street and purchased part interest in the **Baraboo City Fuel Company** of which **Phillip Michaud** had been the sole owner. The fuel company had their office in the Nehs grocery store building at the time.

In May of 1922, F.A. Nehs sold his store to **Samuel L. Neitzel** who had been in the employment of Mr. Nehs for the past 15 years. It appears as though Mr. Neitzel had some sort of partnership with **Anna J. Nehs** until about 1941. The new arrangement would be called **Nehs Grocery Company**. Neitzel died at the age of 82 in 1957.

William Booth, a nephew of Msgr. E. C. O'Reilly, from Blue Island, Illinois purchased this store taking immediate possession in December of 1941 and renamed the store **The Royal Blue Grocery Store**.

Neitzel took a position with the Gust Fuel Company of this city. William Booth and **Walter L. Cummings** were partners between 1947 and 1954. W. Booth died in April of 1964.

In January of 1954 it became **Garder's Market** after Mr. & Mrs. Robert Garder of LaCrosse purchased the business. . In August of 1955, Mr. & Mrs. Lester Stieve purchased the store and **Stieve's Market was born**. In 1958 the business was known as **Wallen's Market** and by 1959 William Booth and **Ellis C. Edwards** were partners in **Edward's Market**. This lasted until 1969 when **Kiddie Kastle** expanded into this part of the building.

This building would eventually be replaced by an expansion of **The First National Bank & Trust Co.**

510-1/2 Oak (Up Stairs)

In the time frame of 1888 to 1894, the **Ringling Brothers** were customers of Charles Junge, the barber who owned this building. They arranged with Junge to lease the room above the barbershop for their **costume-making department**. It was here that **Mrs. Al Ringling** presided among the velvets and spangles, and here evolved those first circus costumes in which the performers of Ringling's first shows performed so bravely. It was said that for many years afterwards, the cracks in the floor gave up sparkling sequins of which the costumes were so gaily decorated. The only stairway to the second floor was through the barbershop. Junge recalls how bolt after bolt of colorful cloth went up those stairs.

In 1894, Junge sold the building to E. A. Dwinnell of North Freedom. It is thought that it was then that the Ringlings moved their costume department next door to the second floor of 508 Oak Street.

In April of 1889, **W. H. Goodrich** opened a **photo Gallery** over Junge's barbershop. The services of W. W. Burnside, a first class operator and re-toucher, from Bloomington, Ill. were secured. In August of the same year, Goodrich gave up on the business and returned to Madison.

E. A. Dwinnell and family moved their residence over 510 Oak in March of 1895.

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| 1905 | Baraboo City Fuel Company Phil. Michaud, Prop. |
| 1910 | "Michaud & Howe, Coal & Wood Dealer" |

510 & 510-1/2 Oak Street

- 1915 **“Baraboo City Fuel Co. Up-Town Office”**
Phillip Michaud and G.W. Howe, proprietors
- 1936-1939 **“Bentley & Frenz, Attorneys”**
Frank R. Bentley died on Feb. 9, 1939 at his home in
Madison. He was born in Baraboo and was 70 years old.
- 1939-1953 **“Jerry W. Frenz, Lawyer”**
- 1936-1950 **“Dr. M.F. Huth, Physician & Surgeon”**
- 1943-1945 **“C. W. Schroeder Insurance Agency”**
- 1946-1948 **“Dr. Kenneth D. Hannan”**
Dr. Kenneth D. Hannan of Prairie du Sac joined Dr.
McGonigle in 1946, may not have been at this location.
- 1954-1958 **“Retail Credit Co., Credit & Personnel Investigation”**
Listed at 128-1/2 Fourth Ave. in the 1953 telephone
directory. Joseph F. Cyz was listed as the Chief Inspector in the 1955 city
directory and was at this location from 1954 to 1958.
- 1954-1962 **“Mike Sweeney, Sauk County Service Officer”**

512-514 Oak Street

512-514 Oak Street

Located between Third and Fourth Street on the east side
of and fronting on Oak Street.

Block 26, lot 7 & 8

Sanborn map location 711 Oak Street

Architectural Description

A triangular pediment marks the center of the two-story, seven-bay structure. Brickwork created from the Griswold Brickyard provided the sole ornamentation. Window hoods are segmentally arched; smaller modern windows replaced originals in the northern half. Bricks have been used to create “dentils” at the roof and first story, as well as “engaged columns” between the windows. A plate in the pediment reads “Gattiker 1879.” Captain Thompson did the woodwork. The southern storefront retains an unusually high degree of integrity. Plate glass windows, iron columns, sidelights and transom are unaltered beneath a cloth awning. In addition, the interior wooden ceiling remains, as does a large iron wall-safe, now visible on the north wall. Wooden shelving is used throughout. The northern storefront retains its recessed entryway, although modern materials have been used in storefront modifications.

It is thought that **Cooper** had a **Farm Implement Store** at approximately this address in June of 1866.

In 1871, **B. C. Skinner, Merchant Tailor** opened a shop at the second door north of the R. & W. Burrington Store. Again, this may have been approximately at this site.

In July of 1866, **J. J. Gattiker** purchased the complete Grotta Block. At that time, **Ira Humphrey** was conducting a **Tinware Store** on Third Avenue. Humphrey then joined Gattiker in the hardware business and Humphrey’s inventory was transferred to this address.

This partnership lasted until October of 1868 when dissolution of the partnership took place. **Alfred** and **J. J. Gattiker** continued the operation at this location until 1872 when they moved to 115 Third Avenue. **A. Kunzelman (Kuntzelman)** of Portage leased this building in September of 1873 with intentions of remodeling it to house a **saloon & restaurant**.



Buckley Book Store circa 1903-1907

During the November 6, 1878 fire and while this building was burning, the buildings owned by C. E. Ryan and R. & C. Burrington, to the south, were torn down by the crowd. This was done so timely and effectively as to stay the progress of the fire and save the last building in this block, that of W. Burrington the grocer. The barbershop claimed a \$50 loss on fixtures while Luther figured his financial loss at \$300. A. Ringling suffered a \$200 loss.

New Business Block by J. J. Gattiker

In 1879, after the 1878 Oak Street fire, **J. J. Gattiker** constructed a very commodious building, which housed two very handsome stores. The southerly one would be addressed 512 Oak

512-514 Oak Street

Street and upon completion would be occupied by **Holy & Pfannstiehl**, consisting of **Major Holy** from St. Louis, and **Emil Pfannstiehl** of Baraboo who would conduct a dry goods and grocery business. Pfannstiehl was married to one of Gattiker's daughters. In July of 1880, Holy sold his interest in the store to Pfannstiehl, who would continue to conduct the business.

In 1872 Mr. Henry M. Mould took a clerkship in the **Owen & Mould Book Store**, unsure of the location, and in 1873 purchased the stock and business. Mould later moved the store to 504 Oak Street. In 1885 Mr. Mould took on the job as postmaster of Baraboo, but retained his interest in the store. In fact, the post office may have been in the rear of the bookstore at that time.

On January 7, 1886 Mould took in A.G. Buckley as a partner, establishing the **Mould & Buckley, Book Store and Cigars** and in 1892 moved to 512 Oak. It was said that after some new decorating one would not recognize it as the same recently occupied by the **Goldfarb Fruit Store**. **Goldfarb** had moved to this location in 1890. **Goldfarb** sold out in 1892 and moved to Milwaukee.

In 1901 Mr. Mould became associated with the First National Bank, he sold his interest in the store to Mr. Buckley in 1902. The business of **A. G. Buckley Book Store** remained until 1906 when A.G. Buckley and **Harry H. Taylor** became partners. Buckley had employed Taylor for the prior ten years. **Buckley & Taylor, Books & Stationery** then became the new name of the business.

A. G. Buckley, age 53, passed away at 7:30 Wednesday evening, July 16, 1914. Buckley was born in Baraboo on September 1, 1861. In August of 1914, Harry H. Taylor purchased the interests of Buckley in the bookstore and it became **Taylor's Book Store**. Taylor has been in the bookstore business for eighteen years. In January of 1947, Taylor took his son, **Thomas Harry Taylor**, into the business. The firm was then known as **Taylor & Son**.

Harry H. Taylor died in April of 1954 at the age of 78. The son of John and Elma Taylor, was born in Cresline, Ohio, March 16, 1876. He moved to Baraboo in 1886. On July 29, 1908, he was married to Florence Wantz, who preceded him in death in 1926. Surviving Mr.

Taylor included one son, Thomas of Baraboo, Mrs. William T. Peterson of Winner S.D. and Olive, at home.

After Taylor's death, **Thomas and Olive Taylor** assumed ownership of the store. In 1975, Thomas Taylor passed away and his sister Olive then assumed ownership and operation of the store until it closed in 1983. There are records of **Alex B. Buckley** dying in 1975. This may have been the son of A. G. Buckley; he may have been connected with the bookstore?

Between 1984 and 1989 **Karen Evenson** conducted the **Oak Street Emporium Gift Shop**. Then in 1990 **Jerry McCammond** established **Simply Amish** and **Jerry's Tax Service** at this location. McCammond vacated this site in 2011.

On June of 2011 **Home by Sand County Contracting** held a ribbon cutting at this location. Started in 2002, the firm is a design, build and remodel firm that specializes in additions, kitchens and bathrooms.

514 Oak Street

(Upstairs)

- 1903-1920 “**E. August Runge, Attorney at Law**”
- 1895-1917 “**Frank Avery, Real Estate & Insurance**”
- 1936 “**Webster Agency**”
- 1936 “**Alfred C. Koch, Justice of the Peace**”

1922-1940 “**Lorraine Beauty Shop**”

Mrs. W. H. Hamilton announced in May of 1923 that her shop would hereafter be known as the **Lorraine Beauty Shop**.

“**Lorraine Beauty Shop**”

The association of Mrs. Roy Sansum with Mrs. W.H. Hamilton in partnership of the Lorraine Beauty Shop was announced in 1934. Mrs. Sansum had been an operator in this shop for the past 12 years. It is not clear of the address during this period

512-514 Oak Street

In March of 1940, **Margaret Nessler** purchased this shop from Mrs. Sansum. At the same time, Mrs. Nessler moved the shop over Taylor's Book Store. WHERE WAS IT BEFORE???

1950-1954 "John A. Hoppe, CPA"

1955-1957 "John A. Hoppe, Kenneth E. McNevin, Ralph R. Root, CPA's"

1959-1960 "Retail Credit Co."

515 Oak Street

515 Oak Street Sauk County Courthouse

A clipping, from an early issue of the *Baraboo Weekly News*, on the first courthouse in Sauk County gives a short history of the organization of the county by the territorial legislature. “It was petitioned in 1844 by the people of *Prairie du Sac* but the residents of the *Baraboo* valley reinchstrated on the ground that there were not enough voters in the county from which to draw a jury list and fill the county offices and they did not desire the county to be burdened with the expense of a county organization” the clipping states. However the bill went through the legislature and was approved May 10, 1844. The commissioners appointed to locate the county sea, decided upon one of the Sauk villages, the one that would make the largest donation. Both offered donations and *Prairie du Sac* was selected, a building being erected on the public square. The first county judge was the father of R. G. Cowles of the town of Greenfield.

Later the legislature was petitioned to re-establish the county seat, and on April 7, 1846, by a popular vote it was decided to change the location to *Baraboo*. The County Board appointed 12 commissioners to designate a point upon the rapids for the county seat. The commission made a deal with the school district for the Southeast quarter of section 35, town 12 north, range 6 east, which quarter the school district had previously claimed

Courthouse

On August 1, 1848, (some records indicate it was June of 1847) **Prescott Brigham**, a **County Commissioner** purchased the southeast 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 but may have included that 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*,” the



Sauk County Court House circa 1910

site of the 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 were subsequently put up. Harvey Canfield was the first County Agent empowered to convey property and was succeeded by Mr. Remington.

The courthouse was two stories high and completed in 1848 by **Col. Edward Sumner**, the contractor. The building was located at approximately 120 Fourth Avenue on the north side of the street and was of wood, two stories high, with a sham wooden jail, surrounded by a wooden fence of 12 or 16 foot plank, set on end close together, with spikes driven in at the top. The courthouse was built upon the north side of the Fourth Avenue, north of and facing the public square.

515 Oak Street



Old courthouse circa 1898

1859

Skipping ahead to the night of July 4, 1859, the old courthouse (then the property of Peter Van Wendall) was destroyed by fire. At one time D. K. Noyes had a printing office in the upper story. Later, after Mr. 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 the time of the fire.

1850

Baraboo did not long enjoy her county seat laurels in peace and quiet. About 1850 Reedsburg became an aspirant for county honors. The Reedsburg citizens claimed that their town was nearer the center of the county as it was then divided. The contest waxed warm

for some time and finally reached a climax in 1851 when the citizens of Reedsburg took the position that no raft or logs should pass over their dam in route to Baraboo. The U. S. Deputy Marshall was called on to settle the quarrel and the dam at the "burg" was partially cut away and the logs went down the river to Baraboo.

Later, the question again rose as to the location of the county seat. It was brought up to the legislature, and Baraboo came off victorious. **Charles Armstrong**, who lived at 135 Walnut, was a member of the legislature at the time.

1855

In 1855, the County Board, in discussing the subject of erecting a new and better courthouse, threatened the town with the removal of the county seat if they did not contribute liberally towards the erection of a new building. Sixty persons came forward and subscribed \$3,000 provided the county would erect a brick court house 40 by 60 feet and put it in the center of the square. This agreement was entered into, and the contract for the erection of the building was subsequently let to **P. A. Bassett**. Frederick Barringer, father of W. E. Barringer was in charge of the construction. **Mr. Case** opened a **brickyard** about a half-mile above the Ash/Walnut Street Bridge and had a contract to produce 160,000 bricks for the new courthouse. The structure was completed and formerly accepted by the board on the 1st. of January 1857. This was the pride of Baraboo.

The second story was not only used as a courtroom but a schoolroom, church and lecture room.

1857

In 1857 a hexagonal stone jail was build near the corner of Second and Broadway overlooking the river and the picturesque hills. Col. Sumner was the builder while J. E. Donovan was the first sheriff to occupy the new jail.

The citizens of Baraboo then turned their attention toward the improvement of the public square. A number of native Oaks were left and among them were planted other shade and ornamental trees, mostly Elm.

515 Oak Street

The Baraboo Republic Newspaper wrote: *“Where frog ponds giving off noisome vapors once were, fine residential districts now are. No trace is left of the green scum mud hole once an eyesore in the southeast corner of the courtyard as well as long deep gullies gouged out by the rains of unnumbered centuries.”*

The widest and deepest of these angled from Cheeks Hill, (upper Birch Street) through the woodlands of western Baraboo, to the river just back of the jail lot at the corner of Second and Broadway. So wide and deep was it at Second Avenue and Birch Street, that a bridge reaching from the Weh’s home on Second Avenue to the point beyond Birch spanned it for years.

In 1867, the inside of the courthouse was remodeled; two fireproof vaults were put in, new floors laid, partitions altered, and a sheriff’s office added. Deciduous trees were planted upon the grounds around the building, lawns laid down and walks laid out. Much credit went to Col. R. M. Strong, the County Treasurer for those improvements.

In April of 1884 a new wing for the courthouse was well underway. The addition measured 25 X 60 with two offices below and three rooms in the second story. The builder was Louis Pohlman and George Hola. The cost for the project was \$6,125.

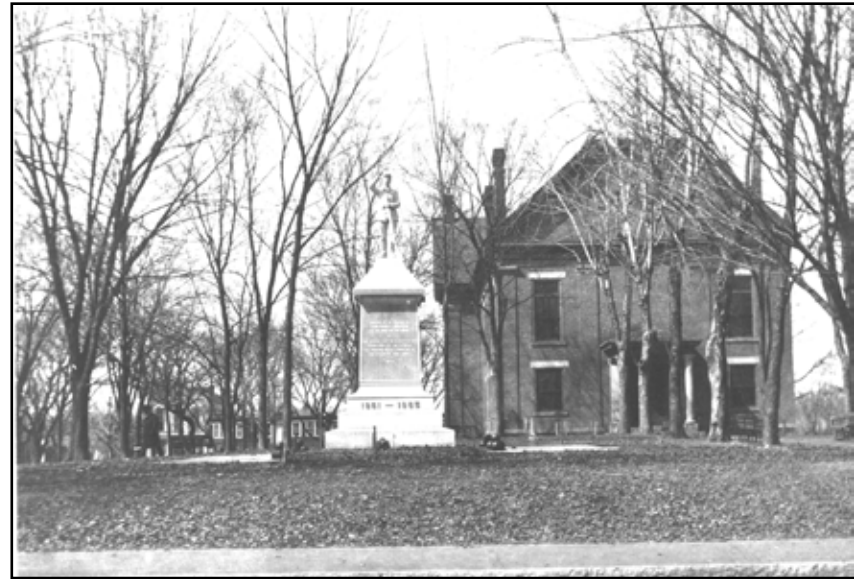
In June of 1893, Michael Cummings was awarded a contract to construct concrete sidewalks around the courthouse square.

1900

New Courthouse Considered

In November of 1900 and at a County Board of Supervisors’ session, a special committee appointed to look into the matter of a new courthouse, reported in favor of immediate steps being taken to provide for \$50,000 with which to build a new courthouse on the site if the old one. The reason given was that the business of the county had outgrown the capacity of the old building. It was also decided that the fence around the courthouse park must go. The fence was to be sold and the money put in a fund to improve county buildings.

Architects Claude & Stark of Madison, Perry & Clas of Milwaukee and Lenhouts & Guthrie of Milwaukee submitted plans.



Old courthouse viewed from Oak Street

1904

Courthouse Burns

The mournful wail of the fire whistle at 11:30 PM on Tuesday night, December 27, 1904, caused a shiver of dread to seize hold of those who arose from comfortable beds to look for the scene of destruction. A bright light in the business section soon caused a crowd to gather and it was not long until the people of Baraboo knew that the old court house was doomed--that the warning that the people of Baraboo had given the people of Sauk County for many years, had been made good.

Just where the fire started is not known, but presumably from a defective chimney near the northwest corner.

A coating of ice on all the business houses where the embers fell prevented any danger of a spread of the flames. The main work of the fire department was to prevent, as far as possible, the fire getting

515 Oak Street

dangerously hot next to the vault where the priceless county records were stored. By 2:00 a. m. the fury of the fire had spent itself and it only remained for the fire department to keep the smoldering timbers in the basement in subjection.

John Harris, a barkeeper in Lenz's saloon, discovered the fire on his way home. He saw the flames bursting out of the windows of the committee room above Judge Kelsey's office, and gave the alarm.

The county clerk and treasurer were unlucky as many of their papers were burned and could not be replaced. The typewriters and adding machines were saved, as were some of the clerk's books, which were carried out. The law library in the county judge's room was hardly injured, most of the glass cases not being broken. In that room the fire had to work downward and backward, so was considerably checked.

There was a total of \$8,000 insurance, distributed among four firms in this city. Those who are represented with \$2,000 each were Dithmar & Carow, D. Ruggles, J. L. Bonham and Selleck & Cheek. Those amounts were distributed over four items as follows: Building, law library, furniture and fuel.

The day following the fire, Mayor Marriott and the aldermen provided accommodations for the county officials in the city hall. Landlord Ross of the Warren House, and Attorney Ruggles kindly offered the use of their private vaults for the storing of records.

The main portion of the brick structure was built in 1856 and was accepted January 1, 1857. P. A. Basset as contractor erected it and the west wing was added some years after. When it was built it was considered a very pretentious structure, but for many years it has been known that there was not sufficient security for the valuable records stored there and the question of a new one was agitated.

New Courthouse

The county board disregarded the warnings of the people of Baraboo until the last session, Friday, November 18, 1904, when the proposition of a new courthouse to cost \$100,000 was carried by a majority of 18 to 16 according to the *Baraboo News*.

Some say it was a majority of one, F. A. Cooper of Merrimack, casting the deciding vote.

In March of 1905, Arthur Judevine and workmen cleaning up the site for the new courthouse unearthed the cornerstone and box of the old courthouse remains laid there some seventy years ago. Little was left of the box, having rusted to bits. An old book of statutes and papers was molded to bits. There were three old coins, a large one-cent piece of 1848, a ten-cent piece of 1831 and a three-cent piece, date unrecognizable. A foreign medal of some sort bearing the date of 1879 also was in the rusted out box.

In August of 1905, a purchase order was issued to the Ott Metal Construction Co. of Jamestown, New York for furniture for the courthouse.

In August of 1906, Sauk County completed the new courthouse, set in the center of the downtown park. Its exterior was entirely of stone and its construction of fireproof material.

In appearance it was very simple in its outline and style, what was known as Classic or that which derived its origin from the work of that period in Greece and Italy. The pilasters in front were of the Ionic order and a cornice in harmony with those pilasters surrounded the walls.

The stone used was a lime stone from southern Indiana, of a gray warm color, and was considered the best building stone in the country outside of marbles and granites.

The roof, the structure of which was of iron beams and terra cotta was covered with a green glazed terra cotta tile having the ridges and edges covered with copper, making an agreeable color contrast to the color of the stonework.

The cupola surmounting the roof was of the same construction entirely covered with copper. This was incomplete, as the contemplated clock had not as yet been provided.

The subject of the clock was foremost in some minds but not in others. In January of 1905, when approached on the subject of a clock, which was estimated at the time to cost about \$1,000, Dr. Gorst stated that he was ready to subscribe to a clock but believed it would be better to make some provision to deliver pasteurized milk in the city

515 Oak Street

to help save babies' lives and to build a sewage disposal plant in order to remove this menace to health.

The clock was added in 1915. The building's architect was contacted to make the design modifications to the cupola. The clock, manufactured and installed by Seth Thomas Clock Company, strikes one of two bells on both the full and half hour. The larger bell weighed 2,000 pounds and the smaller bell 600 pounds. Both could also be rung by hand.

The general effect was that of a dignified, restful structure in harmony with the uses for which it was intended and one that in itself would be persistent for good in its influence upon the community. Approaching the main entrance by steps to the terrace the eye reads the simple word LAW upon the frieze of the main cornice. The *Baraboo Weekly News* stated; "one day when we see things a little different and selfishness is not the first impulse it will be changed to "EQUITY". Upon entering, a staircase hall was found, executed in a dull finish, dark reddish brown Tennessee marble with a floor in Illinois limestone; this followed through the corridors of the first and second stories and the toilet rooms.

The main corridors of each story run to the right and left of the entrance hall, the long way of the building and from them open to the various offices. On the first floor to the right were the county judge and county clerk, opposite the entrance the county treasurer and to the left the register of deeds and clerk of court. The vaults for storage of documents are fire proof.

The second story had the main courtroom 31 X 52 feet and 21 feet high with a coved ceiling and high wainscot. The finish of the woodwork was in white enamel, wainscot, window and door trim.

The furniture was dark stained birch and the walls were colored in a tone of yellow brown. Adjoining the courtroom is the judge's room connecting with the library as well as toilet accommodations and a private stair is provided to the first story.

The supervisors had a large and commodious room, 29 X 42 feet with two committee rooms with a toilet in conjunction.

The district attorney's room adjoined the jury room; each with a toilet completed the accommodations of the second floor. Outside of

the courtroom, all rooms had a dark oak finish. The lower story had offices for the sheriff, superintendent of schools, poor commissioner, assessor, janitor, vault accommodations and heating apparatus. Coal vaults were at the rear below the ground and could be filled from wagons overhead. The floors were of concrete on fireproof arches between beams finished with a smooth layer of cement and on this was laid cork carpeting, giving a soft warm floor of pleasing color. The basement floor was finished in what was known as monolith, a composition, waterproof and durable and easy to walk on.

The heating and ventilation were of the most approved methods, warm fresh air being driven to all portions by an engine and fan and the temperature of the whole being regulated by automatically controlled valves of the Johnson Service Company.

The Builders

The architect of the building was A. C. Clas of the firm of Ferry & Clas of Milwaukee. The main contractor was T. J. McCarthy of Madison who was awarded \$83,384 to construct the building. Some of the sub-contractors were as follows: Carving by Frank Stevens of Milwaukee, decorations by C. L. Jorgenson of Milwaukee, cut stone work by Peter Schmidt & Company of Milwaukee, heating and ventilating by Fred Brewer of Richland Center, fire proofing by Johnson Fire Proof Company of Chicago, electric wiring by Anderson & Company of Milwaukee, light fixtures by Brown & Company of Chicago, tile roofing and capper work by Hoffman & Company of Milwaukee. Plumbing was by Otto Schadde & Company of Baraboo; Charles Bender of Baraboo placed the cement work around the building.

Corner Stone

The prior courthouse had but one corner stone but unlike most public buildings the new courthouse had two corner stones. There was sentiment when the work began that there should be a west entrance to the building and the Honorable Charles Hirschinger fathered the idea. There was a petition but to no avail. Those who remonstrated and found expression of their feelings by placing a copper box in the wall

515 Oak Street



Monument unveiled May 29, 1897

of the northwest corner of the building just above the basement wall. The box was placed in the wall Thursday, May 25, 1905 and contained the petition of 286 people for the west entrance, a copy of the resolutions for a new building as passed by the county board, copies of the Baraboo papers containing the proceedings of the county board at the time the building was voted, the will of the Fire Chief, August Ockerhauser and other articles.

On June 7, 1905, with Hon. John M. True as chairman of the county board of supervisors, a sheet copper box measuring 12 X 8 X 6 inches was placed in the corner stone at the southwest corner. The stone may be easily located as it bears the figures "1905".

The box contained a copy of the *Baraboo Democrat*, *Baraboo News* (daily & weekly), *Baraboo Republic* (daily & weekly),

Reedsburg Times, *Reedsburg Free Press*, *LaValle Leader*, *North Freedom Journal*, *Prairie du Sac News*, *Sauk City Press*, *Spring Green News*, *Lone Rock Review*, *Milwaukee Free Press*, *Milwaukee Sentinel*, *Madison Journal*, *Baraboo High School Sophomore Journal of 1904*, report of proceedings of the county board for 1904-05, report of the superintendent of schools, roster of officers of the City of Baraboo, roster of the Baraboo board of education and public library board, pictures of the old court house before the fire and after, and a written statement of the sale of bonds and a letting of the contract for the new building.

Chronology of the Sauk County Courthouse *The Baraboo News*, 8/22/1906

November 18, 1904

County board passes a resolution for a building costing \$100,000

December 20, 1904

Old brick building burns.

March 1, 1905

Bonds sold to the Bank of Baraboo at a premium of \$2,200.

March 29, 1905

Contract let to T. C. McCarthy of Madison for \$83,384. Ferry & Clas of Milwaukee had prepared the plans.

April 3, 1905

Building site located by city engineer French.

April 8, 1905

Excavating begun by Frank Farwell

April 27, 1905

Concrete work on basement began.

515 Oak Street

May 1, 1905

First stone laid.

Honorable Charles Hirschinger places individual corner stone at northwest corner of building.

May 25, 1905

County places corner stone at southwest corner.

August 9 to August 15, 1906

County officers move into new building, county clerk Junge being the first.

August 18, 1906,

Dedication exercises held. Building formally accepted from the contractor.

Soldier Monument

(Newspaper dated January 11, 1882)

Mr. Terrell Thomas, President of the Sauk County Monument Association, who was recently on a visit to Peoria, Illinois, had his attention attracted by some very fine monumental work, and on inquiry found that it was designed and executed by Triebel & Son of that city. He sought them out and stated what the committee of the association wished to do. The same had been communicated to several other artists, draughtsman and marble dealers throughout the country; that is, to procure a sketch of a monument that would be appropriate to bring before the association for their criticism, rejection or acceptance.

On January 10 of 1882, a member of the firm above mentioned, Mr. Henry Triebel, arrived and put up at the Sumner House, where he was called upon by a number of our citizens, who were shown a finely and artistically executed drawing of a soldier's monument. It was thought advisable, in order to get a more full and free expression of the members of the Post, and more particularly the general public, to call a meeting at the armory, which was done, and last evening a meeting was held, presided over by the president of the association. There was a large number present. The president stated fully the object of the meeting, and what he had done, in a few well-

chosen words, and introduced Mr. Triebel to the meeting, who exhibited his sketch, giving the style of architecture, construction, cost of building, etc. Then followed remarks by Mr. J. J. Gattiker, Treasurer of the Monument Association, who thought a monument to be in harmony with the surroundings ought not to be so tall as this one represented to be (35 feet), but lower and larger on the ground. Mr. Thomas appeared to be well pleased with the sketch shown, and thought it quite imposing. Mr. W. Holy, W. A. Knowlton, marble-worker, A. J. Roberts, D. K. Noyes, Dr. McKennan, and Mr. H. Doherty, marble-dealer from Portage, thought it very fine, but the general expression appeared to be not to make a selection until other plans and different styles had been seen.

On motion of J. J. Gattiker, a committee of three, consisting of E. E. Woodman, Louis J. Claude and T. Thompson, were elected to examine such sketches as should be sent to the association, or that they may in any way procure, and select such a one as they may in their judgment deem appropriate for the purpose for which it will be dedicated, to present to the association for its acceptance or rejection.

The sketch of the monument exhibited by Mr. H. Triebel is of the *Roman Doric order, consisting of a combination of base, die, plinth and column, surmounted by a soldier in light marching order at parade rest. It is thirty-five feet high from base to summit, and its total weight about 100,000 pounds.* Mr. Triebel said it could be put up for \$7,000. This is \$2,000 more than the association at first estimated a monument would cost.

(The Baraboo News, 6/24/1896)

In early 1896 a monument committee was drawn from the Joe Hooker Post 9, which at that time had 63 members in good standing, and the Post's auxiliary organization, the Women's Relief Corp. On Monday, June 1, 1896, at a meeting of the committee from G.A.R. and W.R.C. at the Grand Army Hall, a decision was reached regarding the style of soldier's monument to be erected in the courthouse park. At the time of the announcement, no contract had been let.

The general form decided upon was a base of Barry granite surmounted by a bronze figure of a soldier at attention, and clad in a fatigue uniform.

515 Oak Street

The total height was to be 20 feet. The bottom base would be 9 X 9 ft., and 8 inches thick; the second base 7'4" X 7'4" and 1'3" thick; the third base 6'2" X 6'2" and 1'9" thick; the die 4'6" X 4'6" and 6 feet in height; and the statue 6 ft.

When assembled, the assembly would weigh in at about 40 tons. By May of 1897 the monument was completed. The date of the unveiling was May 29.

1910

The drinking fountain in the courthouse square was nearing completion in May of 1910. Alderman Welk introduced a resolution about three years prior that a fountain be installed here. At that time the county offered \$150 towards the construction of the fountain but this was deemed too conservative for the city council so the subject was placed on the "back burner" for a while. The issue was again introduced by Welk and this time the city decided that the citizens needed this convenience so proceeded. By the middle of June a consignment of speckled trout was making their home in the fountain. When winter approached they would be placed in one of the local trout streams.

1915

Courthouse Receives gift of Clock & Bells

In 1915 a clock and bell tower was erected and since then the Baraboo vicinity has had the four clock dials working along with the ringing of two large bells to denote the half-hour and the hour.

The McShane Bell Foundry in Baltimore manufactured the bells and the Seth Thomas Clock Company did the clock set up. Louise Gattiker donated the clock and bell system to the county in honor of her father, J. J. Gattiker, 1826-1895. The large bell weighs 2,000 pounds and is in the tone of "E". The small bell weighs 600 pounds and is in the tone of "B". The bells portion of the system cost \$1560.00 in 1915. The bells were made of 78 parts new Lake Superior copper and 22 parts East India Block tin.

1916

In September of 1916, the basin of the old fountain in front of the City Hall was removed and sent to the scrap yard. It should be noted that the top was removed a short time earlier and was taken to the courthouse park. The fountain was a gift to the city by F. T. Brewster but was deemed unusable after the base was damaged.

The above may be out of place, it refers to the City Hall?

1923

New Flag Pole

In March of 1923, the L. C. Welch Plumbing & Heating Co. was given a contract for erecting a 100 ft. steel flagpole in the courthouse park. The new pole was to be placed by the soldier monument and to be completed by May 15.

Retaining Wall 1932

In June of 1932 the first load of Devils' Lake Rock was dumped in front of the courthouse. The rock was to be used in the construction of a retaining wall, which would be constructed along the tree bank in front of the courthouse

Cannon 1932

Through the enterprise of the local posts of Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled War Veterans, Baraboo was to obtain the last mounted "World War I" cannon available in the United States.

The weapon arrived in Baraboo on August 5, 1932 from the Rock Island Arsenal on one of I. C. Turner's big trucks.

The length of the 5-inch gun was 25 feet and it weighed in at 12, 133 pounds or better than 6-tons. The height of the muzzle, as the cannon trail rests on the ground, is 5 feet, 9-inches. The Baraboo veterans were busy planning a painting "bee" at which time the war trophy would be put into first class condition.

515 Oak Street

1938

In November of 1938, the Sauk County Historical Society finished transferring artifacts and exhibits from the courthouse to the Van Orden house.

1955

Long Time Removed

The fountain, which had stood at the front entrance of the courthouse since 1910, was removed so that it could be replaced with a smaller three-bubbler fountain. The water main to the old fountain had deteriorated to the point that it would be very difficult and expensive to repair so the building committee decided to replace it.



Drinking Fountain removed in 1955

1961

Addition added to Court House

In August of 1960, the members of the Sauk County Board of Supervisors authorized the building and planning committee to obtain plans for an annex to the present courthouse, which would include an addition to the county jail.

By October of 1962, the project was 8 weeks behind schedule. In June of 1963, the county board finally accepted the new \$1,250,000 or \$1,072,033 courthouse addition and jail. The building was started in January of 1962 and dedicated on August 18, 1963.

Among the departments in the new addition was the Sauk County Sheriff's Department, which had merged with Sauk County Traffic Department. Sheriff Mike Spencer would head both departments. The jail took up the complete third floor.

A notable feature of the Annex is a set of ornamental sculptures (friezes), surrounding the building at ground level. The history of Sauk County, of which Baraboo is the county seat, is creatively and dramatically depicted in these scenes.

The sculpture band, frieze #8, is titled, **Baraboo Becomes a Circus Birthplace.**

516 & 516-1/2 Oak Street

516 Oak Street

South of and adjacent to the alley between Third and Fourth Street
on the east side of Oak Street
Block 26, lot 7 & 8
Sanborn map location 312 Oak Street

Architectural Description

A triangular pediment marks the center of the two-story, seven-bay structure. Brickwork created from bricks from the Griswold Brickyard provided the sole ornamentation. Window hoods are segmentally arched; smaller modern windows replaced originals in the northern half. Brick have been used to create “dentils” at the roof and first story, as well as “engaged columns” between the windows. A plate in the pediment reads “Gattiker 1879.” Captain Thompson did the woodwork. The southern storefront retains an unusually high degree of integrity. Plate glass windows, iron columns, sidelights and transom are unaltered beneath a cloth awning. In addition, the interior wooden ceiling remains, as does a large iron wall-safe, now visible on the north wall. Wooden shelving is used throughout. The northern storefront retains its recessed entryway, although modern materials have been used in storefront modifications.

It is said that Mr. & Mrs. A. G. Tuttle founded the first general store in Baraboo. There was however, an earlier store, which was founded by Count Haraszthy in the southeast portion of Baraboo, referred to at that time as Manchester. It is not known exactly where Tuttle’s store was located but it is known that this business was short lived. Mr. Tuttle and Elizabeth F. Clark were married in 1838 at Northfield Connecticut. After residing in New Haven of the same state for a short while, it was decided that Mr. Tuttle would explore the Midwest. Tuttle came to Wisconsin about 1846, stopping at Watertown, Madison and Portage for a short time before proceeding to Baraboo. Before coming to Wisconsin, Tuttle was employed for a few years as a buyer for a retail store there. While Tuttle was in Madison he found employment with Nathaniel Dean who was conducting a store there. Dean sent Tuttle to open a branch store in Portage in the spring of 1847. This was said to be the first store in Portage.

The next year, 1849, Tuttle met **David Munson** and formed a partnership in Baraboo by the name of **A. G. Tuttle & Co.** Munson had been engaged in buying cotton in Mobile, Alabama. Tuttle then journeyed to New York, where he purchased stock for the new business. He also gathered up his wife and his son A. Clark and along with their furnishing and his purchases left for Baraboo.

On their way back to Baraboo, they boarded the steamer, Saint Louis, for a trip to Adams, now Baraboo. They traveled via Detroit and Milwaukee. There was a recollection of passing through the straits of Mackinaw and seeing a group of Indians on shore beckoning for the vessel to stop. The captain informed the passengers that the Indians had moccasins and other trinkets they wished to trade. He mentioned, “The squaws of that area were noted for their nice work on buckskin and birch bark with beads and porcupine quills.” Some of the passengers were anxious to see the work but the captain said that once the Indians were on board they would cause trouble so refused to shore the vessel.

Their journey from Milwaukee was made under great difficulties. The roads in the forests were almost impassable. Many times they were forced to obtain help to get their heavily loaded wagons out of the mud so they could resume their travel. Mr. Tuttle also was the acting postmaster while in business here.

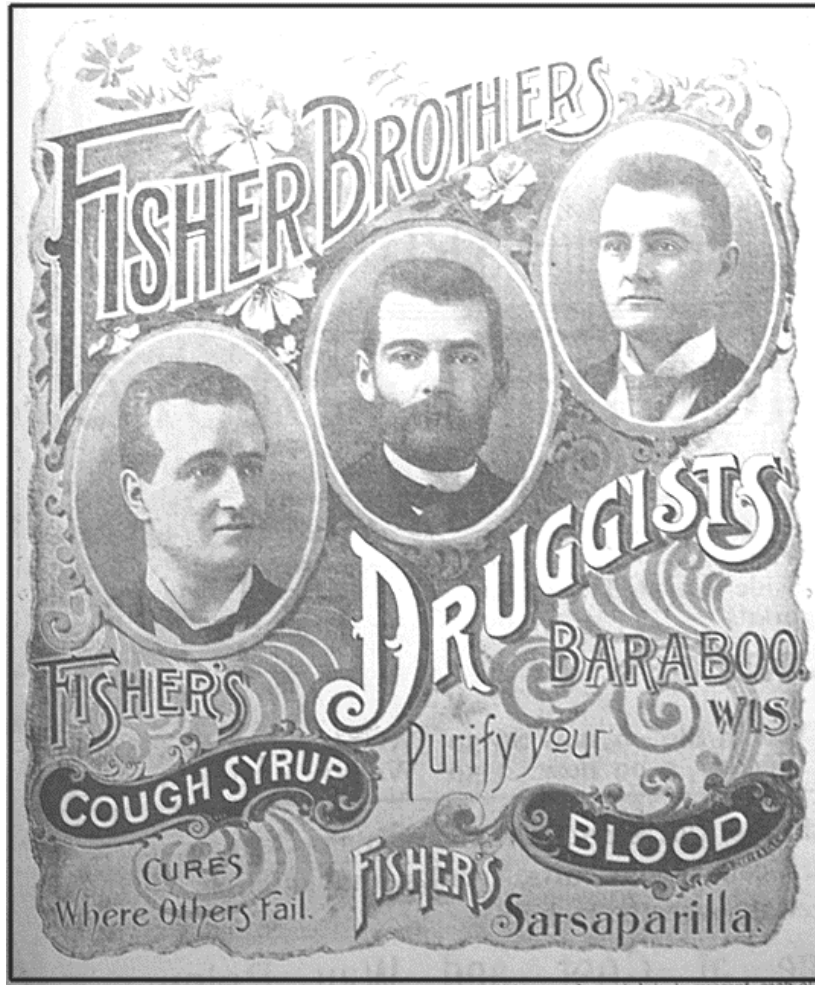
The first sales were made in the bar room of the Adams Hotel while they were waiting for the finishing of their building at 516 Oak Street.

Later there was a small building south of and adjacent to the alley between Third and Fourth owned by Mr. Grotta. Tuttle may have been located there.

Most of Tuttle’s goods were exchanged for lumber, which was shipped down the rivers to St. Louis. While thus engaged, Mr. Tuttle lost a large raft of lumber and so, decided to leave the mercantile business.

About this time, Judge J. M. Clark purchased a stock of apple trees from Elwanger & Barry of Rochester, N.Y. and planted an orchard on land on the edge of Baraboo owned by Tuttle.

516 & 516-1/2 Oak Street



Fisher Brothers circa 1896

Soon after, nursery was established under the firm name of Tuttle, Clark & Sons, which flourished and provided trees for orchards all over Wisconsin as well as other states.

In 1898, at the time of Tuttle's 60th. wedding anniversary, they had four sons, A. Clark, Merritt and Ned of Baraboo and Herbert of Mather, Wisconsin.

Mr. Tuttle's son, A. Clark Tuttle, afterwards conducted the business. Through Cassius M. Clay, Minister to St. Petersburg, Tuttle secured the first Russian apple trees ever brought to this country. For 24 out of 25 years he took first premium at the State Agricultural Society for the best exhibit of apples.

In 1855 there is found **Nathan's Bazaar**, which was a general store, located here. It was here as late as October of 1856 and was advertised as being at the site of the **Red Sign**. In 1857 this building was known as the **Grotta Building**, housing **Grotta's General Store**. In April of 1859, **Levi Schwartz Jewelry** was located in Grotta's old stand. Grotta's store was definitely here.

It is known that **Heinman Grotta** was operating the **Empire Store** somewhere as early as November of 1852.

In October of 1865, Grotta was advertising goods at the Old Stand and at pre-war prices. By January of 1866, he was advertising for sale, his store on Oak Street, building dimensions, 50 by 132 feet. Also, his residence at the corner of Third and Ash Streets was listed. The house had a well, cistern, icehouse and all modern conveniences on 1-1/2 lots, well stocked with fruit.

Obviously **H. M. Beardsley** conducted a business in this building as in March of 1867, it was announced that **G. A. Bloom and A. Wood** opened a **Grocery & Provisions Store** in the building directly south of A. C. Sumner, in the building formerly occupied by Beardsley.

As early as 1866, the **Gattiker Brothers** owned this structure that housed businesses at approximately 512, 514 and 516 Oak Street. This structure also housed the **Louis Wild Furniture Store** by December of 1872 following the November 1872 fire, which destroyed his building on Fourth Street. Later the **Saloon** of **F. J. Luther** was located here.

516 & 516-1/2 Oak Street

Charles Junge had a **Barber Shop** here as early as 1866 but moved to 401-405 Oak Street later the same year. Junge was born in Germany in 1846 and his family moved to Milwaukee the following year. In 1866 he came to Baraboo and established the first barbershop in this city. Junge died in September of 1933 at the age of 87. Junge obviously moved back to this address as he was here in 1872.

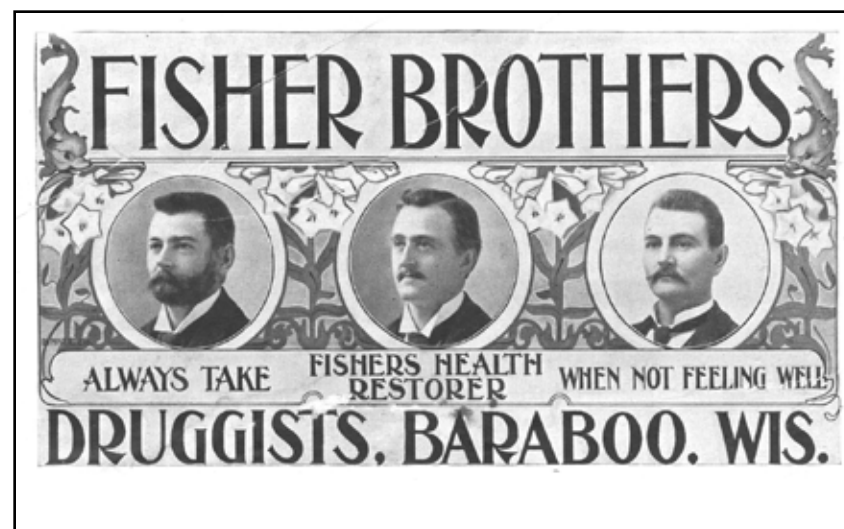
William Schroeder took over this shop in October of 1872 when Junge entered the Billiard Hall business. In May of 1875, Schroeder enlarged and improved his barbershop by fitting up a cozy little reading room adjoining. In September of 1875, **Junge** repurchased the barbershop from Schroeder and in 1878; **Frank Kartack** was sharing this site.

In October of 1876, **August Ringling** moved here from 113 Fourth Street and advertised "First-Class Harnesses, Uncle Sam's Harness Oil, Bridles, Whips, Combs, Brushes, Trunks, Valises, Robes, Blankets and a complete Saddlers Stock, all at the sign of the **Big Collar** on Oak." After the 1878 Oak Street fire wiped out Ringling, he moved his business over the Excelsior Drug Store on Third Street.

The November 6, 1878 fire destroyed this building along with all but one of the buildings on the east side of Oak opposite the courthouse. While this building was burning the buildings owned by C. E. Ryan and R. & C. Burrington, to the south, were torn down by the crowd, and this was done so timely and effectively as to stay the progress of the fire and save the last building in this block, that of W. Burrington, the grocer.

Junge & Kartack immediately transferred the fixtures they were able to salvage to Draper's Building, across the hall from the Republic's Office. They say that Junge was away when the fire occurred but Kartack took the responsibility of removing fixtures without going down to the marsh, where Junge was duck shooting, to consult him. Frank Kartack was a veteran having been burned out in the Chicago fire.

Luther rented Hofstatter's Building on Oak Street, later occupied by Fred Tobler. Tobler was fitting up his new place in the building next west of the Odd Fellows' Hall. Ringling reopened his business in the Mills' Block, over the barbershop.



New Business Block by J. J. Gattiker

In 1879, **J. J. Gattiker** built a new brick structure, 510 Oak and 516 Oak, to replace the one destroyed. This structure has continually been treated as two stores. In November of 1879, the **Baraboo Republic** moved their quarters into the second floor of the new Gattiker building.

On May 5, 1877, August F. Fisher went to work for G.H. Bacon who had his business on Third Avenue, in the old "Red Front" building. In 1878 A.F. Fisher along with Mr. Whitman purchased G.H. Bacon's business and established the firm of Whitman & Fisher. Eight months later, on January 10, 1880, Whitman retired. Fisher then moved the **A. F. Fisher Drug Store** to the new J. J. Gattiker Block at this location. The new building on Oak was 24 X 75 feet, two stories with a usable basement. The basement was used for the storage of liquors and heavy goods, and the first floor proper was used as a salesroom where was carried an extensive stock of goods. The floor above was devoted to glass and a surplus of package goods.

In February of 1885, **Herman A. & Ernest A. Fisher** became partners with their brother, **August** and the business became known as the **Fisher Brothers' Drug Store**. In 1889, the Fisher brothers

516 & 516-1/2 Oak Street

installed a new plate glass front, which greatly improved the appearance of their store. In the 1890's they had a medicine wagon on the road. August generally conducted that department.

In February of 1891, the brothers put in a superb new double story soda fountain containing all the late improvements. The upper part contained a large French plate glass mirror beautifully mounted. While the drinkers of sweetened wind were enjoying their cups they could see themselves as others see them. The beautiful fountain is said to have cost \$1,000. It would take 20,000 drinks of soda at 5 cents per cup to pay for it. **Frank Fisher** quit the draying business in March of 1892 and thereafter could be found behind the counter at the drug store.

The marriage of Herman Fisher and **Miss Katherine Ulrich** of Chicago took place on Wednesday, November 21, 1894. The ceremony was held at the bride's home and was performed by Dr. Wagner. Miss Ulrich was a sister to the Ulrich brothers who established themselves in the jewelry business in Baraboo a short time prior. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher planned on occupying the residence on Oak Street that had been recently vacated by Dr. Higgins and planned on returning to Baraboo on the Wednesday following December 19th of 1894. Herman Fisher died January 6, 1913, in a hospital in Chicago after undergoing an operation for a rupture.

Herman Fisher's daughter, **Marjorie Fisher Stekl**, wrote an article in 1986, which was published in a booklet entitled "Good Old Days".

"I also look back on the hot summer days my brother and I put labels on Fisher drugs which my father brewed and compounded in a laboratory over the store. My uncle Frank took these products by horse and buggy throughout the county in the fall. Remedies such as Fisher's Health Restorer, Fisher's Cough Syrup, Fisher's Electric Liniment, Fisher's Carbolic Salve and Fisher's Corn Cure were welcomed for winter use by area farmers. In April of 1894, **Edward Fisher**, a clerk at the Corner Drug Store, purchased the business of Dr. D. Flower of Montello, Wisconsin.



Fisher Brothers also manufactured several "preparations" in the basement of this building, including "Fisher's Health Restorer", "Fisher's Carbolic Salve" and "Fisher's Liniment." Following an entanglement with state agencies, the firm was forced to change the name of the "Health Restorer," which did not restore health, to "Fisher's Tonic Laxative." Picture is of Herman Fisher taken in

August, who was a former Mayor of Baraboo and well-known senior member of the Fisher Brothers' drug firm, passed away Sunday evening, May 16, 1920. He was about as usual until Friday evening when his condition became serious. His son, **Dr. Rollo F. Fisher** Wausau, was summoned, and accompanied by Mrs. Fisher hurried to Baraboo. The patient developed pleurisy and died on Sunday evening after being ill for about two days.

516 & 516-1/2 Oak Street

Obituary

August F. Fisher was born in Sauk City on May 10, 1857, was educated in the public schools of Sauk County, and when a young man came to Baraboo, taking a place in the G. H. Bacon drug store. In 1878 he purchased the stock of Mr. Bacon and began business on his own account. For more than 47 years, Mr. Fisher was a druggist and with few exceptions was the oldest of those engaged in business in Baraboo.

*Mr. & Mrs. Fisher was married May 5, 1881. Mrs. Fisher was the former **Genevieve Kunzelman**. Besides his wife, he leaves one son, Dr. Rollo F. Fisher, Wausau, and one daughter, **Miss Grace Fisher**, Baraboo. His Mother, **Mrs. Louise Fisher** also resides in Baraboo. His surviving brothers and sisters are Ernest A. Fisher, Baraboo; Richard F. Fisher, Baraboo; Henry A. Fisher, Seattle, Washington; Frank F. Fisher, Oregon City, Oregon; Mrs. A. H. Hewitt, Arlington, S. D.; Mrs. W. P. Ulrich, Evanston.*

The store was sold in June of 1920. **Herman "Andy" Anderson**, formerly of Baraboo and **Clarence "Kelly" B. Albert** of this city purchased the interests of Ernest A. Fisher and of the late August F. Fisher.

Mr. Albert had been employed by the Fisher drug store for several years and was married to Miss Grace Fisher in May of 1920. Albert was born in the Town of Greenfield on June 4, 1892 and died on November 25, 1956.

Mr. Anderson had been connected with the Eagle Drug Company in Rochester, Minn. for the prior five years. Mr. Anderson was also connected a few years prior with the drug store just purchased.

In September of 1923 the store underwent a decided change, the most apparent was a new front. Interior changes would also be made consisting of ceiling, floor and fixture improvements. In November of 1925 the company added a finishing touch to the store, an attractive and up-to-date soda fountain. The fountain was known as the Frigidaire and was manufactured by General Motors. It was the latest thing in soda fountain service, and four pretty little tables were provided for those who wished to sit.



Cleveland bicycle advertisement circa 1893

In September of 1937, Ernest Fisher, of the original Fisher Brothers, died in St. Louis at the age of 77. The Fisher brothers were children of Frederick and Louise Fisher. Ernest was born in Honey Creek, Wisconsin on November 21, 1859. Ernest had five brothers and two sisters.

In 1947, **Cecil C. Rittenhouse** purchased a one-third interest in this pharmacy. By 1964 and through 1971, Cecil Rittenhouse and **Arnold S. Peterson** were partners, conducting the pharmacy business at this location. Cecil Rittenhouse was listed in the 1973 and 1976 city directories as being the sole owner.

516 & 516-1/2 Oak Street

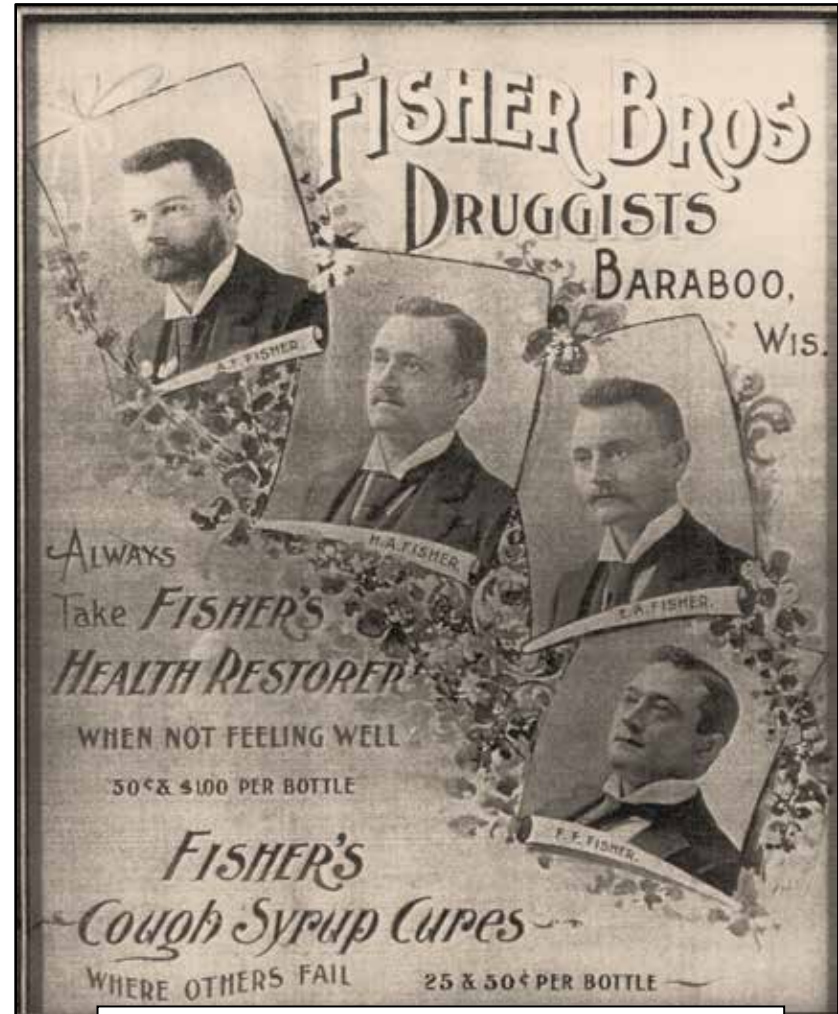
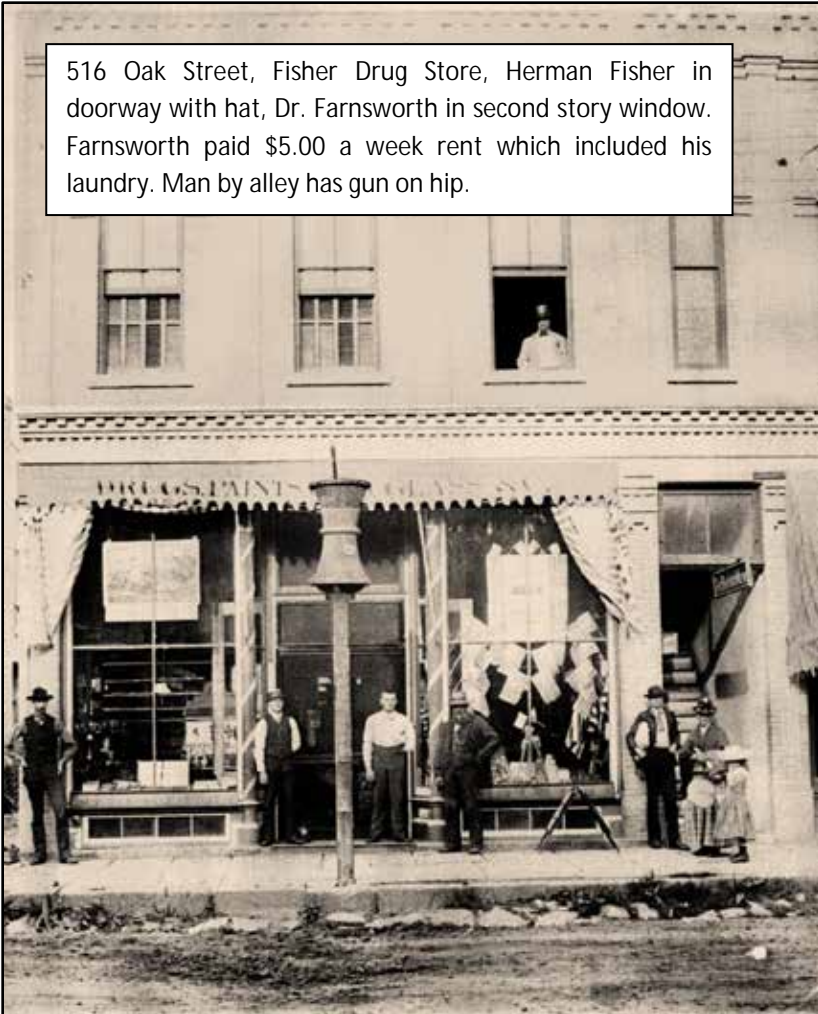


By 1977 the **Carousel Gift Shop** was being conducted by **Bruce & Louise Aderhold**. Then in 1990 **Jerry McCammond** established **Jerry's Hallmark Shop**, which later became **Jerry's Gifts and Collectables**.

| 516-1/2 Oak Street (Second Floor) | |
|--|--|
| 1878 | Upon completion of this building in 1878 the <i>Baraboo Republic</i> office moved in. The upper floor was constructed expressly to meet the publisher's wishes. |
| 1887-1903 | "Dr. Charles Gorst, Physician" |
| 1883 | "The Republic Newspaper office" |
| 1910-1939 | "Abraham L. Farnsworth, Physician" Dr. Farnsworth was listed at 412 Oak in the 1903 and 1905 city directories, this building may have been considered 412 at that time; he died Saturday, April 20, 1940. At one time Dr. Farnsworth could not afford his rent so the Fishers told him he could stay in their building as long as he needed to...and if possible catch up his rent when he was able. He treated all the Fisher's, free of charge, for as long as he was in business. |
| 1925 | "Dr. E.F. Tierney" In 1925, Dr. Tierney was located above Fisher Drugs, occupying space formerly occupied by Atty. E.C.F. Meier. |
| 1927 | "Gottschall Beauty Shop" |
| 1936-1950 | "Dr. Clausen F. Stekl, Dentist" |
| 1942-1948 | "Dr. Carl B. Pope" |
| 1952-1955 | "Dr. John P. Harkins" |
| 1952-1958 | "Dr. Roy E. Olson, Dentist" |
| 1958-1960 | "Robert H. Seymour Office" |
| 1971 | "Welfare Rights Organization" |

516 Oak Street Fisher Drug Store

516 Oak Street, Fisher Drug Store, Herman Fisher in doorway with hat, Dr. Farnsworth in second story window. Farnsworth paid \$5.00 a week rent which included his laundry. Man by alley has gun on hip.



Four Fisher Brothers..left to right;
August F., Herman A., Ernest A. and Frank F.

518 & 520 Oak Street

518 & 520 Oak Street

Adjacent and north of the alley between Third and Fourth Streets
on the east side of Oak Street.

Block 26, lot 5 & 6

Sanborn map location 713 Oak Street

Architectural Description

Alterations have seriously compromised the integrity of this building. An elaborate pediment with numerous finials and cresting, carrying the name Sim Mould, is not extant. The original entrance has been altered and replaced with modern materials. A large metal sign stretches across this and the adjacent building north. Second story fenestration is largely unchanged; Most of the triple-width window remains visible. Panels of brick fretwork provide ornamentation above window openings and on three brick piers, while a row of dentils lies just below the roofline.

In May of 1855, **Col. Sumner** began the construction of a new store, a little south of the Sumner House. This would have been at about this address. Sumner transferred his general store to this building in June of the same year. In April of 1860 the firm was known as **C. A. Sumner & Co.**, **Henry Cowles** being the junior partner. A short time later **J. B. Houghton** replaced Cowles in the operation. The partnership was dissolved in November of 1861 by mutual consent. Sumner, the senior partner, would continue the business. It was not known what path Houghton would follow. In July of 1868, **T. J. Whitely** became a partner with Sumner and the firm's name was changed to **T. J. Whitely & Company**.

Whitely was from Galena Ill where he was heavily engaged in staple groceries for a number of years. He arrived in Baraboo with a large stock of goods including the following stock for the hop season, 5 tons of sacking and related supplies proportionately.

In December of 1875, **Carlow, Tilgner & Co.** opened the new **City Meat Market** at this site. In 1878 **Sumner's Market** was destroyed during the November 6th fire, which consumed most of this block. In October of 1877, it was reported that Sumner had opened a grocery and pottery store next door to the post office.



Sim Mould and H. P. Jones

According to some the fire broke out in Sumner's Market and spread both ways, but at any rate, it was the burning of the Western Hotel which gave the greatest impetus to the fire, since it was the largest building in the block and the principal one destroyed. An alley separated the Sumner building and that which housed a barbershop operated by Charles Junge and Frank Kartack.

Next came the hardware store of J.J. and Alfred Gattiker, then a saloon, George Hall's dry goods store, and a general store operated by Halsted & Savage. The latter was a two-story building, almost as

518 & 520 Oak Street



J. Hoppe The Hub circa 1899

large as the hotel and carried a large stock of goods ranging from soda crackers to plows. Besides this building, C.E. Ryan conducted his jewelry store and R. & C. Burrington had a grocery store next door. On the corner stood Washington Burrington's general store, the only building in the block undamaged.

In 1884, a new building was finally constructed on this burned out lot, to house an **Opera Hall** with commercial space on the first floor. Toward this end, joists were placed 12" apart rather than the usual 16". Later, roller-skating replaced prior entertainment on the second floor.

After many years of waiting Baraboo could finally boast of a new opera house and the city was congratulating herself that

within her limits lived such an enterprising citizen as **T. M. Warren**, who had both the means and the energy to conceive and carry out such an important and valuable enterprise, for to this gentleman belonged the credit for erecting the handsome structure then nearing completion on Oak Street.

The seating space was 25x75, the stage, baggage room and dressing rooms, 25x25. Twenty pieces of finely executed scenery had been ordered from Chicago. It was to be seated with chairs and lighted by gas. This made the opera house amply commodious to meet present needs, and when the city would become more metropolitan in size and airs, and this structure too small, the founder had the money and pluck to tear down and build greater.

The building was a two story brick, 25x100, most elaborately finished within and without. The first floor was to be occupied by the **Kelly & Chamberlin Billiard Parlor**, which was finely arranged and equipped for this purpose. The second story was proudly pointed at as **Warren's Opera House**.

The grand opening was held on December 22, 1884 with what was termed "A first class attraction at a large expense. Mr. Joseph D. Clifton and Miss Mary May Treat, supported by a Cosmopolitan Company in the Elegant Society Drama, "Myrtle Ferns," introducing Mr. Clifton's Wonderful Dramatic Dog Trix-Trix."

In October of 1886, Chamberlain moved his Billiard Hall to 105/107 Fourth Street.

Herbert P. Jones, Clothier & Merchant Tailor then located here in October of 1886, moving from 108 Third Street. In May of 1892, friends of Mr. Jones regretted to hear that circumstances compelled him to make an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. His liabilities were placed at about \$10,000 and assets were estimated at something like \$15,000. In June of 1892, the stock of Jones' clothing and furnishing goods was sold to Webb & Schweke of Reedsburg for \$5,300. By September of 1892, Jones had "taken up his grip and walked." He was on the road, selling tailor's trimmings, cash registers and also soliciting orders for the Baraboo knitting works. It was reported in May of 1898, that Jones had purchased Kings Book Store at Janesville, moving there the same month and taking control of the

518 & 520 Oak Street

operation of the store.

On September 1, 1892, **A. C. Dixon** opened a **General Merchandise** store at this location that was operated by **Adam C.** and **John T. Dixon**. Dixon operated here until at least 1896.

September of 1887 found the **Telephone Office** being moved from Dr. Sneathen's office to this location.

Albert O. Armbruster was listed as a clerk at Julius Hoppe's clothing store in the 1890 Sauk county directory while a William T. Allen and a William M. Allen Jr. were listed as working for C & NW Railway. **Armbruster & Allen Clothing** who opened at this address in September of 1893 supposedly followed the Dixon's. However, Dixon was still advertising in the 1895 city directory. However, by April of 1895 he had moved to 115 Third Street.

It was reported in August of 1894 that **John Blass** had moved his **bakery** and restaurant to this building, which was south of the one at 522 Oak, formerly occupied by him.

Armbruster & Allen opened their Model Clothing Store at 108 Third Street in April of 1895.

The **Katzky Brothers** opened the **Hub Clothing Store** in this building in March of 1895. The three boys, **Fred, Barney and Otto** came here from Fargo, South Dakota.

In December of 1895 an execution was issued at the instance of Marcus J. Katzky, father of the Katzky boys, for the sum of \$4,870.35 and Sheriff Hulbert closed the store. The sheriff also had an attachment for \$500 to satisfy a claim of Emily J. Dryfoss, of New York City. There was also a claim from Ederheimer, Stein & Co. of Chicago for \$2,000 and one from Friend Brothers of Milwaukee in the amount of \$5,000. The matter of the disposition of the assets would probably be decided in the courts.

In January of 1896, **Julius Hoppe** purchased the Katzky Bros. stock, which was set aside when the Hub closed, for \$600. The stock consisted of gents furnishing goods. Mr. Hoppe also purchased some of the store fixtures.

Hoppe learned his profession in Germany where he was born. In 1872 he came to America and settled in Chicago where after working at his trade for several years, opened a store in 1878. Six years

later, in 1884, he came to Baraboo and opened The **J. Hoppe Clothing Company** store at 528 Oak, moving to 518 Oak in 1895 after buying the Katzky stock. Hoppe was married in 1877 to Miss Augusta Schroeder of Chicago. They had four children, Etta, Minnie, Julia and Emma.

Hoppe installed a splendid new front on his store building in April of 1915. It was said that the front was of the Zouri make, there being prism glass above for light. The entrance to the store was set back to give ample space for large windows for

the display of many items. In the passageway between the windows tile was placed with the name "HOPPE" imbedded. The cornice work above the plate glass was of statuary copper.

In 1926, the Hoppe Clothing Company incorporated under the laws of Wisconsin with the following as officers and directors, Julius Hoppe and his sons-in-law, **Peter Lind** and **Raymond A. McCoy**. In 1934, the Wisconsin Dells store of the Hoppe clothing company was discontinued. This store had been operated in the Dells city for the prior 13 years, in conjunction with the Baraboo store and **Earl Dieter** had managed it for the prior four years. Mr. Dieter returned to Baraboo to be employed at the Hoppe store of this city. The Dells store was closed out at a sale, according to McCoy who piloted the Hoppe Company.



Julius Hoppe

518 & 520 Oak Street



New Woolworth lunch counter, Mrs. Ella Astle & Mrs. Gertrude Drescher

Miss Mary Hoggins was issued a building permit in August of 1940 to completely remodel the front façade of this building.

In January of 1950, McCoy sold his interest in the Hoppe Store to **Mrs. Minnie Lind**, widow of Peter Lind. Mrs. Lind planned on operating the store with the help of Earl Dieter who had been employed by the Hoppe store for many years.

The Hoppe Clothing Store was burglarized in December of 1938, according to **Raymond J. Cody**, who at that time was the proprietor.

In August of 1951 Baraboo's oldest men's clothing store, planned to move from its then present location on Oak Street to the recently vacated Montgomery Ward catalog store on Third Avenue. The move would take place after the holidays when their lease expired.

The Oak Street building had been purchased by **Gilbert H.**

Hawkins, manager of the **Woolworth Company** for the expansion of their Oak Street store.

The Woolworth Company planned on remodeling this building, moving the stairway and removing the partition separating this building from the one at 522 Oak Street.

In June of 1952 the dates for the grand opening of Woolworth's new expanded store were announced. Plans called for a large lamp and shade department, large drapery and oilcloth department, a green plant department, while the candy cases were to be completely dustless, of stainless steel. One innovation was to be the cashier wrapping department, making the store partially self-service. The south window, facing the alley, was bricked up. About this time the walls between 518, 522 and 526 were removed and the second floor refitted to house up to 17 separate offices. Woolworth would then occupy the original three stores.

After the Woolworth Company closed its Baraboo operation in 1995, **Golf 2001/Power Play Sports**, which was a computerized golf game was opened by Scott & Mike Logemann. Rick Balthazer opened the **Pizza Pit** in July of 1996 in the same building. Pizza Pit moved to Eighth Street in 1997 when Golf 2001 closed.

On December 28 1997, **Paul and Janet Fritsch** moved the **Corner Drug Store** from the southeast corner of Third Street and Oak to this site.

520 Oak St.

(Second Floor)

1883

"Opera House"

This building is placarded as an Opera House.

1886 **Richardson Brothers'** of Sparta opened a Photographic Studio in the fall of 1886. In October of 1887, the Richardson Brothers sold his entire business to **Sim Mould**. Mould would continue to do business at both of his galleries with his headquarters here. In March of 1888, Mould, closed out his gallery south of the Baraboo National Bank, and could be found at his elegant new studio in the Warren Block. In 1892 the second floor acquired a skylight

518 & 520 Oak Street

1900-1902 **“Frederick W. Mould, Photography”**

Sim Mould sold his gallery on Oak Street to his brother, F. W. Mould of La Crosse. F. W. had also rented Sim’s residence on Second Avenue and took possession on October 1, 1900. Sim had lived in Baraboo since he was 16 months old, and succeeded his father in the business 22 years ago. His brother learned the photographer’s art with Sim and for the last 20 years had conducted a gallery in La Crosse.

Mr. & Mrs. Sim Mould had yet to decide upon their future. It was their intentions to go to some larger city where Mr. Mould would have a broader field in which to ply his trade.

Sim ended up purchasing a long time established business in Dubuque, Iowa, which had a population of 36,000. Mould was looking forward to taking possession the first of November.

1902-1919 **“Mould, Photographer”**

In the December 10, 1902 issue of the Baraboo News, Sim Mould advertised “again taking charge of the studio”. His brother Fred would take charge of the Dubuque Gallery.

1905 **E. Aug. Runge, Lawyer**

1919-1920 **“Trimpey Photography Studio”**

In October of 1919 Edwin B. Trimpey purchased the F.W. Mould Studio over Hoppe’s clothing store. Mr. Mould has served the public faithfully for forty years. Mr. Trimpey came to Baraboo 10 years prior and had been located at 407-1/2 Oak Street.

1915-1939 Arthur T. Johnson, Photographer, may have been here.

1917 Walter A. Hazelton, Physician

1932-1936 A.T. Johnson, photo stock insured

1928-1945 **Paul Magnus Oyan, Tailor**

Mr. Oyan died in August of 1945 after about 42 years of tailoring in Baraboo. Oyan was born in Norway on September 25, 1887. He came to the United States in 1901. He was taken ill about one month prior to his death and spent that time in St. Mary’s Hospital in Baraboo.

1936 Evenson & Shiels, Attorneys

1938-1940 W.G. Evenson, Attorney

1938 Sauk County Agriculture Conservation Association
Frank Morley, Pres.

1920(?) - 1938 Johnson Studio, Photographer, Arthur Johnson, Owner

1939-1957 Irving Zarling, Photographer

1957- Ronald Rich Photography

In July of 2004, **Terri Lenerz** and partners **Paul Fritsch** and **Jim Kieffer** moved their **Garden Party Café** to the “former Opera House” location. She had previously been located at 528 Oak Street. Lenerz was looking forward to expanding the restaurant out the back to gain outside roof seating.

522-524-522-1/2 Oak Street

522-524 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street north of the alley between Third & Fourth Streets
Block 26, lot 5 & 6
Sanborn map location 714 Oak Street



Olympia Candy Kitchen circa 1928

Architectural Description

This four-bay, two-story building retains a large projecting pressed metal cornice. The original 2/2 segmentally arched windows are still intact beneath stone hoods and lug sills. A row of corbelling stretches between brick piers. The storefront has been substantially altered to accommodate Woolworth's display windows and entryway. Behind the former bakery is a four stall 18 X 46 tin shed that housed the bakery delivery wagon. Some modern materials have replaced the original. Despite alterations, the building retains a fair amount of integrity, and is a good example of Italianate design in a Baraboo

commercial building. As such it is considered contributive to the downtown commercial district.

Prior to 1850, A **Ball-Alley** was being conducted at about this site and in September of 1850 this building was being completely remodeled for future use as a store or office.

As early as April of 1860 **G. W. Fuller** and his brother **E. Fuller** conducted a **Harness and Saddlery Hardware store** in a frame building on this site. The location was advertised as being one door south of Murray & Jones Hardware Store. James Elliot purchased the business in April of 1861.

Charles Pfannstiehl purchased this lot and building and in July of 1863 sold the building to Elliot who then moved the building to Fourth Avenue to continue its use as a Harness Shop. Pfannstiehl then constructed a building to house a **restaurant**. He then added the **Baraboo Bakery** in the rear of the building in 1868. In June of 1868, Captain **A. G. Dinsmore**, a former resident of Berlin, Germany, opened a **Confectionery Store** at this site, in the building formerly occupied by **F. A. Copeland** This building was the second to catch fire during the November 6, 1878 Oak street fire.

After the fire leveled this old frame structure, which housed the restaurant and bakery, Pfannstiehl salvaged his oven and constructed a temporary structure around it on the same site and renewed his baking. His retail store was then moved to **113 Fourth Street**, taking tenancy in the first floor of the newly constructed **Bender Building**. The estimated financial loss of the building was \$4,000 with no insurance coverage.

Pfannstiehl built the existing brick building in 1879 and took occupancy in November of that year. Local mason and carpenter **George Holah** and **A. J. Carow** helped erect the 24 X 70 structure. A 12 ft. square bake oven was located in the basement. The first floor contained an 18 X 18 shop in front of a large dining room in which meals were served. The kitchen was to the rear, connected to the shop by a hall to the south. The upper floor was designed as a dwelling.

In 1880 **D.D. Doane** operated a **Fancy Goods & Bakery** store at this address. The Doane family moved to Florida around 1884.

522-524-522-1/2 Oak Street

All the strains of life after the fire took its toll on the Pfannstiehl family. **Emma Pfannstiehl**, wife of Charles, left her home one Sunday afternoon in October of 1879 and failed to return. By dusk the family became concerned and after some inquiries determined that she had been observed walking towards the cemetery. Charles took a lantern and went to the cemetery, and there, on the lot adjoining the Pfannstiehl family lot, found the lifeless body of his wife.

The following morning an inquest was held by Justice Train, and from the evidence the jury decided that Mrs. Pfannstiehl came to her death by poison administered by her and that the poison was the oil of bitter almonds.

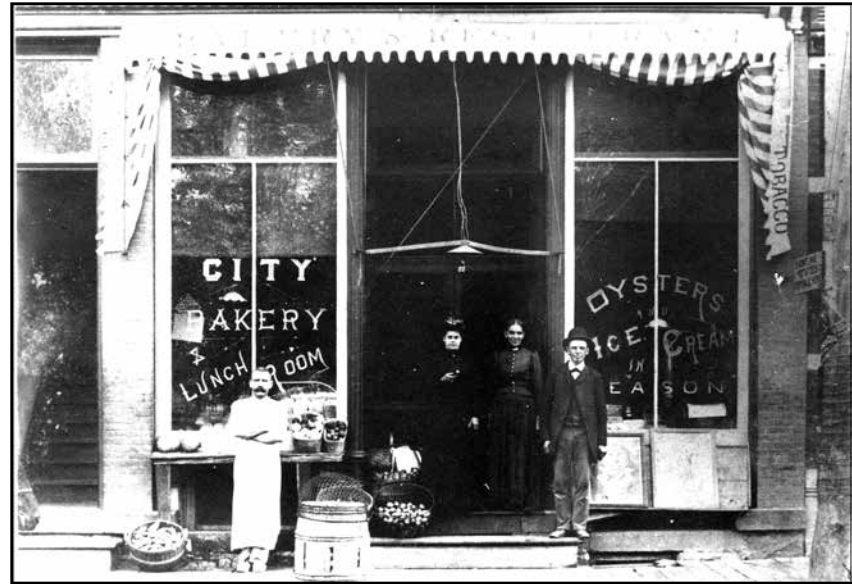
Mrs. Pfannstiehl was born in **Zella, Saxony**, and August 3, 1832; came to this country in 1852; and was married in 1853. Seven children were the fruits of this union of whom five, all boys were living at the time of her death.

It is thought that the **Tilgner Meat Market**, conducted by **Albert Tilgner** and his **cousin**, was here about 1882.

In April of 1886, **Mr. Henry Keyser** sometimes referred to as **Keysar**, of Philadelphia, a brother of the Keyser who had recently purchased the old Taylor Hall, bought this property, then occupied by the **Blass Bakery**. The empty lot next door (to the south?) went with it, the total consideration being \$5,700. Blass moved his operation under the hill to the to the building just recently vacated by I. L. Humphrey

The **Henry Keyser Bakery**, also known as the **Philadelphia Bread and Cake Bakery**, advertising an Ice Cream Saloon and Dining Hall, was operated on this site until January of 1888, when **H. O. Tibbetts** purchased the business. In July of 1888, **F. C. Lueth** purchased the **City Bakery** from Tibbetts. The business then became **Lueth's City Bakery**.

The store part of the building was about 18 feet square. In the rear of the building was a restaurant that served 35 or 40 people. Ice cream and oysters were served "in season." Oysters were shipped from Chicago by train in 3 or 5 gallon containers and retailed for 25-cents a quart. Select oysters went for 40-cents a can. Behind the restaurant was a small living room and in the very back of the building was the kitchen, which also served the family dining room. On the



City Bakery 522 Oak Street circa 1888

south side of the building was a long hall going from the store to the kitchen. Off that hall was a stairway leading to the families sleeping rooms. There were also rooms, which were let. Rent for the entire building was \$40.00 a month.

Behind the building was a large well as there was no city water or sewer at that time. At the rear of the lot was a large barn with four stalls and room for a delivery wagon.

Then In December of 1892, Mr. F. C. Lueth, the baker, disposed of his stock and good will to his son **Edward F. Lueth**. The business continued at this location. In August of 1894, **P. H. Keyser** sold the buildings at 522 & 526 Oak Street to **B. W. Brewer**. For the present the occupants would remain. The price paid for the property was \$7,500. Marsh & Jackson real estate agents made the sale and the property then became known as the "**Brewer Block**." In 1895, Lueth secured the services of baker, **F. M. Arndt**.

522-524-522-1/2 Oak Street



Edward F. Lueth

Lueth died at the age of 86 on July 12 of 1957. He was born in Columbus, Wisconsin on November 27, 1870 and came to Baraboo with his parents in 1881. His father operated a flourmill until 1888 when he purchased the bakery at this address.

In those days bread sold for five-cents a loaf or one could buy six tickets for 25-cents and get a loaf per ticket anytime one wished. Ringling Brothers would buy 500 loaves at a time at 3-cents a pound.

In 1899 partners, **Ben LeBaron** and **Frank Green** began conducting **Green's Domestic Bakery** here and Lueth entered the hotel business. In June of 1899 LeBaron sold his interest in the bakery to **Frank** and **Mrs. M. A. Green**. LeBaron had a bad case of rheumatism and was planning a trip to Hot Springs. In February of 1900, **W. C. Honeysett** purchased the bakery and restaurant operated by Mrs. Green. Honeysett was a baker for E. F. Lueth for a considerable time.

By 1900 we find the **George Graves' Restaurant** here. Graves advertised "For 25 cents you can get a hot meal at Geo. Graves' Restaurant that will make you think of a family reunion dinner. A lunch, if you want it, for less money." However, in February of 1901, Graves served his last meals here. He stated that the expenses were too great and he was moving to Lyons where he would open a grocery store in the Al. Britton building. He planned on having a telephone installed and would make deliveries to all parts of Baraboo. Shortly after opening a store in Lyons, Graves opened a branch on Third Street, location unknown. However, by December of 1901, Graves sold his operations and was not sure of his future endeavors. However, within a couple of weeks he had taken a position with Fisher Brothers' Drug Store running the medicine wagon supplying the countryside with medications. Graves' stock of groceries and fixtures were sold to P. H. Keyser who had a store at 147 Third Avenue.

It is believed that sometime in 1900, **J. E. Von Wald** moved his **jewelry store** to this address. In May of 1901 this building was undergoing repairs including lowering it to sidewalk level. Von Wald moved to the Ruhland building at 106 Fourth Avenue.

Another dry goods firm opened in Baraboo about September 5, 1901. The parties involved in the enterprise were **T. Frederick Risley**, **Charles Edward Risley** of Baraboo, and **G. W. Risley** of Chicago. The firm would be known as **Risley Brothers** and the business was conducted from Ben Brewer's building on Oak Street.

The young gentlemen were born in Philadelphia in the early 1870's and came to Baraboo in 1883. All were well known in Baraboo, and were backed by a good knowledge of the dry goods business. T. Frederick had until recently been the manager of the dry goods department of the Stanley Co. store, and Charles Edward had been in the employ of A. Reinking. G. W. was employed in Chicago and would not leave his duties there.

In June of 1910, the Risley brothers purchased the old Schoenfeldt property at 129 Third Street from Charles Wild. For the past several years they had been searching for larger quarters for their ever-growing business but none had availed themselves. In October of

522-524-522-1/2 Oak Street

the same year the Risley brothers had the grand opening of their new store.

H. H. Dillenbeck opened his new **cigar store** here the end of September.

Henry G. Schade opened a new bakery in the Brewer block about May of 1911. It had been a long time since there had been a bakery up-town. Two bakeries, one owned by Fred Arndt and the other by John C. Bunn had been located on Walnut Street, south of the river, for many years. In July of 1911, the bakery brought out a new delivery rig just completed by the Moeller Brothers' Shop. **Schade's Bakery** operated here until May of 1917. Due to the war there was a shortage of baking goods and what were available were expensive. Mr. Schade's daughter, who had helped in the bakery since Schade took control, stated that they had lost money during the past year.

By 1920 the **Marinello Shop** was being conducted at this site along with the **Olympia Candy Kitchen** in the rear.

Sometime after 1910, the **City Bakery** was back in business sharing this building. In March of 1924, **Emil F. Lueth** vacated the building at this location. He moved his bakery to 121 Third Street, one door west of Marriott Brothers' Hardware Store.

In 1925, one of the old landmarks about town was a barn that stood behind the Olympia Candy Kitchen. The father of Emil Pfannstiehl built this barn in 1864 at the time he was conducting business in the present Olympia building. It is believed that the **Olympia Candy Kitchen** was occupying the front of this structure in 1928.

Robert Dewel, Baraboo historian, indicates that **John Zootis** may have conducted the candy store here as late as 1935. Later Zootis was reported to have operated the popcorn wagon on the northwest corner of Oak Street and Third Avenue. John Zootis died in November of 1960. His cousin, Ernest Dovalis of Baraboo plus a sister, nieces and nephews in California, survived Zootis. More family lived in Canada and Greece.

Razing of the barn was expected to take place soon due to fire regulations. Sometime prior to 1936 the **Bluebird Confectionery**



Risley Brother's Dry Goods circa 1901-1910

opened here. In December of 1936, the **F.W. Woolworth Company** leased this location for its Baraboo store and work was to start soon remodeling two Oak street buildings that were to be combined into the new Woolworth store. They were the **Bluebird Confectionery** located at this site and the **Dillenbeck Cigar Store**, located next-door north at 526 Oak.

The work of remodeling was to start January 4, according to **G. H. Hawkins**, the local manager, and it was expected that the new location would be occupied early in April of 1937. Both buildings were to be extended about 40 feet in the rear, so that when complete the new store would have a floor space of some 110 by 40 feet. The building would be laid out in accordance with the company's plans for its most modern and up-to-date stores and the increased space would make it possible to carry a more complete line of merchandise.

522-524-522-1/2 Oak Street

The counter space was double that of the old location on Third Street, while the window display space, also, was doubled.

Ever since the Woolworth Company first located a store in Baraboo in 1921, it had occupied the same site, 119 Third Street. This building had recently been sold to the Schultz Company and the Woolworth Company had since been investigating various possible new locations here. Proprietors of the Bluebird Confectionery had not made plans to move to any other location.

In February of 1962, a lunch counter with seating for 20 was added along the south wall of this building.

In 1995, shortly after the Woolworth Company closed, **Golf 2001/Power Play Sports** which was a computerized golf game was opened by **Scott & Mike Logemann**. **Rick Balthazer** opened the **Pizza Pit** in July of 1996 in the same building with Golf 2001. It moved to Eighth Street in 1997 when Golf 2001 closed.

In 1997, **Paul and Janet Fritsch** moved the **Corner Drug Store** from the corner of Third Street and Oak on December 28th. of 1997



Dillenbeck Cigar Store & Bluebird Cafe

522-1/2 Oak Street

May also have been known as 524 and/or 526-1/2 Oak Street
(Second Floor)

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 1886 | Emma Loomis, Dressmaker. |
| c1895 | Alf. T. Ringling |
| 1911-1915 | E.E. Lusk, Physician & Surgeon |
| 1915 | Charles Coleman, Real Estate |
| 1915 | Gottschall Beauty Parlor |

Mrs. Gottschall opened her first beauty parlor in Baraboo about 1915 and retired in 1938. She and her husband moved here from Prairie du Sac in 1914.

Baraboo Weekly News
First Beauty Parlor Owner Is Retiring (1937)

Mrs. Eleanor Gottschall, proprietor of Baraboo's first beauty parlor, is retiring on August 15th. At the time Mrs. Gottschall first went into business a beauty parlor was something most Baraboo people knew nothing about---in fact many people asked her just what it was that she was going to do in her shop. During the years in which she was in business she has seen the evolution of one of the country's growing industries and a never ending parade of styles in hair dressing from rats and pompadours, through Marcel waves and down to the present-day permanent wave.

It was not until she was past fifty years of age--her family raised, and at a time in life when most women settle down to an uneventful old age that Mrs. Gottschall realized the dream that she had as a young girl, to own a shop where people could have their hair made prettier. She had as a friend, a Madison woman, that city's pioneer beautician too, by the way.

522-524-522-1/2 Oak Street

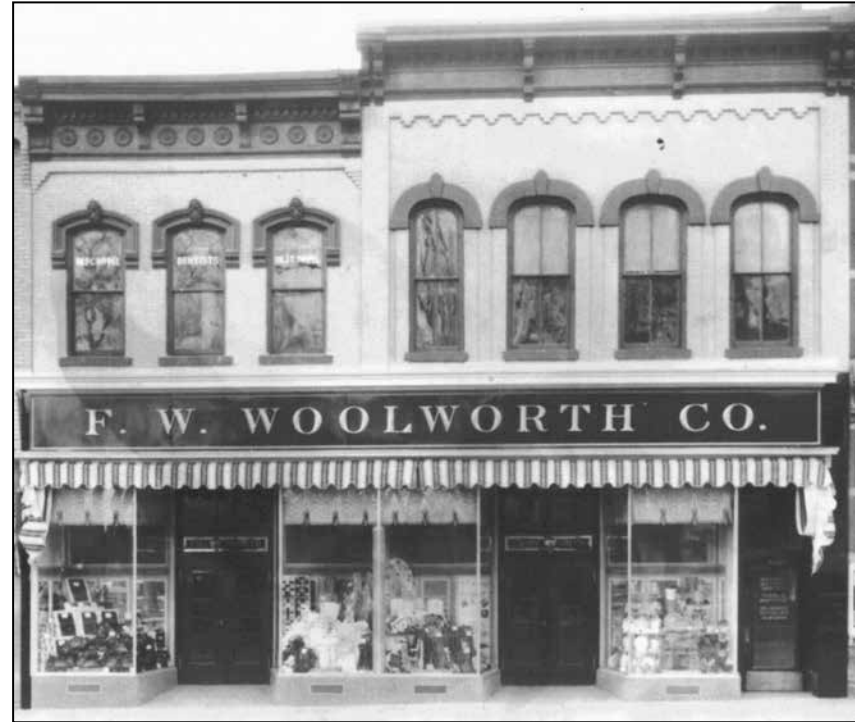
From this friend she learned the business and despite the discouragements offered by her family and friends she opened the city's first beauty parlor in one upstairs room on Oak Street's business district.

For the first two months, she chuckling recalls, she didn't make her overhead and when she had a sure-enough customer it was something to boast about at home, but before long people began to realize the advantages to a "shampoo parlor" and the business launched as an experiment was an assured success.

Mr. & Mrs. Gottschall celebrated their golden wedding--and it was several years ago--Mrs. Gottschall took a day off from the shop. Now they are beginning to plan for the sixtieth anniversary and when the "bride" gets her hair fixed for that occasion she will doubtless go to one of her "old girls" who started out right here in Mrs. Gottschall's own shop, Catherine Cleveland Zobel--for it is Mrs. Zobel who is purchasing the shop on August fifteenth.



First phase of F. W. Woolworth's expansion



Expansion of F. W. Woolworth store completed

A ribbon cutting was held on August 31, 2010 for **Nichols Philipp & Mediation Services, LLC**, a law firm located in Suite 11 at this location. Owner, Attorney **Angela Nichols Philipp** had been practicing law for 9 years. Angela graduated from the Baraboo High School in 1992 and later earned her under-graduate degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University. She graduated from the Marquette Law School in 2001.

522-524-522-1/2 Oak Street


F. W. Woolworth Co.


| | |
|---|---|
| <p>BACON and TOMATO50c <i>Toasted Three Decker Sandwich</i></p> <p>BAKED HAM and CHEESE60c <i>Toasted Three Decker Sandwich</i></p> <p>CHICKEN SALAD65c <i>Toasted Three Decker Sandwich</i></p> <p>HAM SALAD and EGG SALAD50c <i>Toasted Three Decker Sandwich</i></p> <p><small>Also available on two slices of bread on request.</small></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">PLAIN or TOASTED SANDWICHES</p> <p>HAM SALAD Sandwich.....30c</p> <p>EGG SALAD Sandwich.....30c</p> <p>AMERICAN CHEESE Sandwich.....30c</p> <p>PRESSED HAM Sandwich.....30c</p> |
|---|---|

FOR A REAL TREAT!
 TRY OUR SUPER DE-LUXE HAM SANDWICH—BAKED HAM SLICED VERY THIN AND STACKED
 HIGH ON PLAIN BREAD, TOAST OR HARD ROLL
40¢ YOU WILL LIKE IT! 40¢

Fountain Features

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">DE LUXE</p> <p>TULIP SUNDAE 25c 2 Dippers of Ice Cream covered with Crushed Fruit or Fresh Fruits in Season</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>CHOICE OF</small></p> <p><small>STRAWBERRY, PINEAPPLE, CHERRY, CHOCOLATE OR HOT FUDGE Topped with Whipped Topping Baked Nuts and Cherry King</small></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">SUPER JUMBO</p> <p>BANANA SPLIT 39c 1/2 Bananas covered with 3 Dippers of Ice Cream and Crushed Fruit or Fresh Fruits in Season</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>CHOICE OF</small></p> <p><small>STRAWBERRY, PINEAPPLE, CHERRY, CHOCOLATE OR HOT FUDGE Topped with Whipped Topping and Baked Nuts</small></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">EXTRA RICH</p> <p>ICE CREAM SODA 25c POPULAR FLAVORS</p> <p><small>Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream Crushed Fruit or Fresh Fruits in Season</small></p> |
|---|--|---|

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| <p>MALTED MILK25c <small>Popular FLAVORS Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream</small></p> <p>MILK SHAKE25c <small>Popular FLAVORS Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream</small></p> <p>BANANA SPLIT Regular25c <small>Popular FLAVORS Made with 3 Dippers of Ice Cream</small></p> <p>FRESH ORANGE JUICE..... Regular 20c Large 30c <small>Freshly Squeezed to Order</small></p> |  |
|---|--|

**HOT NESTLE'S WITH WHIPPED TOPPING.....15c
AND WAFERS**

Home Style Desserts

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>APPLE PIEPer Cut 15c <small>10¢ Additional with Ice Cream</small></p> <p>LAYER CAKEPer Cut 15c <small>10¢ Additional with Ice Cream</small></p> | |
|--|--|

WOOLWORTH COFFEE — ALWAYS GOOD

HAVE A COKE

GOES GOOD WITH FOOD

NO. 3424 REV. 9-50

F. W. Woolworth lunch counter menu c1957

522-524 Oak Street, Illustration #1

526 & 526-1/2 Oak Street

526 & 526-1/2 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street north of the alley
between Third and Fourth Street
Block 26, lot 5 & 6
Sanborn map location 715 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This building is a narrow, three-bay two-story structure. A projecting pressed metal cornice ornamented with nine rosettes under a row of dentils and brackets remain extant. Hoods over segmentally arched windows are pressed metal. The storefront has been substantially altered, and in fact removed to accommodate Woolworth's display windows. Despite alterations, the building remains contributive to the downtown commercial district as an element of an intact blockface. In addition, the integrity retained by the upper story, the intricacy of the metal cornice and the weight of the metal window hoods render this one of the best examples of commercial design extant in Baraboo.

In October of 1855, an old **Bakery Building** was moved to this site. By December of 1855, **B. Nathan was conducting Nathan's Bazaar here**. In April of 1860 **Murray & Jones** conducted the **Sauk County Hardware Store** at this site.

A fire was discovered on November 6, 1878, between seven and eight o'clock in the morning in the Sumner building, and in a few minutes broke through the roof and the conflagration was on its way. The fire originated under the roof and about the chimney. A carpenter had built a fire in a large stove on the first floor, being about to make some repairs upon the building.

It was the burning of the Western Hotel, on the corner of Oak and Fourth, which gave the greatest impetus to the fire, since this was the largest building in the block and the principal one destroyed. At that time in Baraboo, there existed no fire fighting apparatus, so the fire quickly became unmanageable. The loss to Sumner was estimated at \$500 with no insurance coverage.

An article in the Baraboo News dated March 1, 1876 noted "The chimney on the *Sumner Store* has been on fire three times this winter. Three times and out."

Phil Keyser built this structure in 1886 and sold it in 1894 to **B. W. Brewer**.



F. W. Woolworth Store

In September of 1886, **Sidel E. Jones**, former clerk at Hoppe's, was preparing to open his new **Gentlemen's Furnishings Store** here. However, by January 21, 1887, the entire stock of men's furnishings was transferred to **Mary F. Merrill** by virtue of a chattel mortgage. The stock would be closed as soon as possible.

L. J. Horstman had worked as a butcher since 1875, except for two years when he was in the furniture business with his brother in Norwalk. He was born in Reedsburg and came to Baraboo in 1864. In 1875 he went to work for the Draper Brothers where he learned his trade of meat cutting. He remained with the Draper Brothers until 1887 when he and **J. D. Bergert** established the **Bergert & Horstman Meat Market** at this address. By December 15, Bergert had left the partnership and Horstman continued the business.

Later the business was known as **Louis J. Horstman, Meat Market**. **Horstman** was here as late as 1895 and possibly later. In August of 1894, P. H. Keyser sold this building to **B. W. Brewer**. For the present the occupants would remain. The price paid for the property was \$7,500 that supposedly included the property adjacent at 522 Oak. Marsh & Jackson real estate agents made the sale. **Ben Brewer** may have moved his **Billiard and Cigar** business here in 1899 from 504 Oak Street. In June of 1903, **Henry K. Dillenbeck**, of **Dillenbeck, Cigars & Billiard Hall**, petitioned the city council for a transfer of B. W. Brewer's billiard license as he had purchased Brewer's billiard tables.

526 & 526-1/2 Oak Street



Corner Drug Store circa 1997

Dillenbeck would remain here until July of 1905, when he moved to 110 Fourth Avenue. After Dillenbeck vacated this building the, **Risley Brothers** who were located one door south, leased the building and cut an opening between the two stores and extend their **dry goods** store to this location. They probably were here until 1910 when they moved to their new store on Third Street. It is possible that **Dillenbeck's Cigar Store** located here in 1930 or shortly after.

December of 1936, the **F.W. Woolworth Company** leased a new location for its Baraboo store and work was to start soon remodeling two Oak street buildings that were to be combined into the new Woolworth store. They were the buildings which housed the **Dillenbeck Cigar Store** and the **Bluebird Confectionery** building located adjacent to the south,

both buildings being located on the east side of the courthouse square and both owned by the Brewer Estate.

The work of remodeling was to start January 4, according to **G. H. Hawkins**, the local manager, and it was expected that the new location would be occupied early in April of 1937. Both buildings were to be extended about 40 feet in the rear, so that when complete the new store would have a floor space of some 110 by 40 feet. The building would be laid out in accordance with the company's plans for its most modern and up-to-date stores, and the increased space would make it possible to carry a more complete line of merchandise.

The counter space was double that of the old location on Third Street, while the window display space was doubled.

Ever since the Woolworth Company located a store in Baraboo in 1921, it had occupied the same site, 119 Third Street. That building had recently been sold to the Schultz Company and the Woolworth Company had since been investigating various possible new locations here.

H. K. Dillenbeck, proprietor of the local cigar store, leased the former Kroger store building near the Al. Ringling Theater from the Dickie estate and planned to move the first of January. Proprietors of the Bluebird Confectionery had not made plans to move to any other location. Woolworth closed its doors in 1993.

In 1995 **Golf 2001/Power Play Sports** which was a computerized golf game was opened by **Scott & Mike Logemann**. **Rick Balthazer** opened the **Pizza Pit** in July of 1996 in the same building with Golf 2001. It moved to Eighth Street in 1997 when Golf 2001 closed.

On December 28th of 1997 **Paul and Janet Fritsch**, owners of the Corner Drug Store purchased this building.

Annie Randall launched the **Village Booksmith** store in May of 1998 when she found this store building available. Randall had conducted two bookstores on State Street in Madison prior to this move. In May of 2008, the Booksmith's regulars threw a surprise party to celebrate the store's tenth anniversary.

526 & 526-1/2 Oak Street



Annie Randall and another satisfied customer circa 2008

526-1/2 Oak Street (Second Floor)

- 1889 The **Ringling Brothers** opened an **office** here December of 1889.
- 1890 **Lusby & Butt, Dress Makers**, Over Horstman's
Lottie Lusby & Louise Butt
- 1898 **W.J. Bell, Lightning Rods**
- 1898 **Baraboo telephone Exchange**
W. J. Bell, Mgr.
- 1903 In July of 1903, **E. J. Rooney** moved his real estate and insurance office to this address.
- 1919** **Albert Dippel** opened a dental practice at this location in 1919. Two years later his brother, **Frederick Dippel** joined him and formed a partnership. In 1957 Frederick limited his hours and died about 1959. Albert continued his practice through the early 1970's.
- 1962 **Baraboo-Dells Veterinary Clinic**
Dr. Kenneth L. Crawford
- 1962 **Arlyne's Beauty Shop**
- 1979-1981 **WBOO Radio Station**
Burt N. Murphy, Pres.
- 1974 **Brayer-Drake Studio**
- 1982 **Washburn Accounting Service**
- 1995-1998 **DiVall Law Office**

528 Oak Street

528 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street north of the alley
between Third and Fourth Street
Block 26, lot 5 & 6
Sanborn map location 716 Oak Street

Architectural Description

Two two-bay storefronts flank a three bay storefront, although the northern two storefronts have been combined to house a single business. A nameplate carries the name “Wright” in the center of the building. The roofline is accented by corbelling in a miniature arcade motif beneath dentils, punctuated by brick piers and finials. A wooden cornice at the first story is undisturbed by modern signage. An oriel window with a mansard roof (not original to the building is extant on the north elevation at the northwest corner of the building; the cornice of the original Fourth Street storefront is also extant on the northeast corner, and extends about 12 feet. The interior of the store retains a great deal of integrity, including the 1920’s wooden shelving with egg and dart trim. Beyond the recessed entryway, is a small “foyer” containing two doors, although only one of these openings is in use.

This building was constructed by **Elizabeth Wright** in 1881 for \$5500, and originally included four stores, three of which fronted on Oak Street while a fourth fronted on Fourth Street.

Julius Hoppe learned his profession in Germany where he was born. In 1872 he came to America and settled in Chicago. After working at his trade for several years, he opened a store in Chicago in 1878. Six years later, in 1884, he came to Baraboo and opened at 528 Oak, moving to 518 Oak in 1895.

The **Ott Hardware** was located at this site in 1896 and the **Ott and Blachly Hardware** in 1897. In March of 1898, the Ott-Blachly partnership was dissolved with Ott moving to the old Locke Bakery building where he would open a carpenter shop. Blachly would continue the hardware business. In 1899, Blachly was forced to move as A. Reinking had purchased the building and the **Leiser Brothers** were moving their **shoe store** here.

In January of 1900, the Leiser brothers sold their shoe stock to **M. L. Patterson** and **Chas. Whitman** who assumed charge of the



Wright Block Fourth and Oak Street circa 1890

business immediately. As soon as the shoes were put up for liquidation, **E. G. Marriott** purchased the complete shoe stock totaling \$8,000, at that time a pretty large purchase. The store was then re-opened under the name of **Marriott & Co. Shoe Store**. The Leiser brothers were adjudicated bankrupt with claims against them amounting to \$6,000 with more expected. There were no assets.

Also, **William P. Ulrich** and **Albert H.** conducted **Ulrich Brothers, Jewelers and Opticians** here in 1903. By March of 1904, **Albert H. Ulrich** had succeeded Ulrich Brothers at this site.

In August of 1903, **Roy Philbrick**, son of F. A. Philbrick, who had been with the jewelers for almost two years, accepted a position with Hall, Sayles & Fifield in Janesville.

The Ulrich jewelry store had a closing out sale on May 31, 1904 and W. P. Ulrich returned to Evanston, Illinois where he joined his brother, A. H. Ulrich.

By 1904 **Lindahl & Gustafson Jewelers** was operating here, while by 1906 the business was known as **Gustafson & Prader, Jewelers**. L. D. Prader had been employed at the store for sometime

528 Oak Street

and knew the business thoroughly. In 1918 **Gustaf T. Gustafson** purchased **Lucius D. Prader's** interest in the jewelry store. Mr. Prader purchased Gustafson's interest in the Devils Lake concession that they have owned since 1910. **Gustafson Jewelry** was conducted here between 1918 and 1938.

Lucius D. Prader died in August of 1963 at the Wautoma Community Hospital at the age of 83. Prader had operated the Devil's Lake Concession until 1925 when he moved to Wautoma where he conducted the Waushara Resort until 1948 when he retired and made his home on Silver Lake.

In 1938, **R. L. Bringolf** of Madison purchased the Gustafson Jewelry Store. Mr. Bringolf has been connected with one of the larger jewelry stores in Madison for about seven years. G. T. Gustafson and his employee, **Charles Roick**, would remain at the store for the time being. Mr. Gustafson had conducted the store for the past 35 years. It is not clear how long **R. L. Bringolf Jewelry** operated here but in January of 1940 Gustafson sold the last of his stock. Gustafson was from Stockholm, Sweden where at the age of 14 he was orphaned and was apprenticed to a relative to learn the watch making trade. For eight years he worked for room, board and clothing, plus the payment of \$1.00 per year, which was put away to purchase a new suit of clothes for him when he graduated. When he came to America he settled in Ely, Minnesota where he remained for one year. He then moved to Chicago, where due to the coming of the railroad, he found his niche in the repairing of railroad watches. Eventually he found his way to Baraboo, another railroad hub. G. T. Gustafson died in December of 1943 at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mattice, where he had been boarding. But by 1950, and possibly as early as 1938, **John Edward** and **Jessie Von Wald** was conducting **Von Wald's Jewelry & Gift Shop**, partners who continued here until Mr. Von Wald suffered a stroke in 1958.

John Edward Von Wald was born at Honey Creek near Prairie du Sac on August 16, 1870 and died at his home on December 18, 1958. After attending school in Baraboo he attended the Conservatory of Music in Chicago studying the wind instruments as well as the violin.

In 1957 the Von Wald's sold their jewelry store to **Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Nesemann** who opened **Nesemann's Jewelry & Gift Shop** and conducted business here until at least 1961. Von Wald had recently completed his 67th. year in the jewelry business.

Later from May to November of 1964 the **Sauk County Republican Party Headquarters** was located here followed by **Loretta Vethe Organ & Piano Sales** that existed here until 1996. This business was also known as the **Hammond Organ Society, Forbes-Meagher Music Co.** and **Vethe Music store**. In 1996 **Terri Lenerz** established the **Garden Party Cafe Gifts and Gallery**. However, by July 1, 2004, she had moved her successful business to 520 Oak Street in what was termed the Opera House.

By August 1, of 2004, **Roger Hanko** was preparing to move to his store, **Amber Moon**, from 142 Fourth Avenue to this site.

528-534 Oak Street

528, 528-1/2, 532 and 534 Oak Street

Located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Oak and Fourth Street fronting on Oak.

Architectural Description

Two two-bay storefronts flank a three bay storefront, although the northern two storefronts have been combined to house a single business. A nameplate carries the name "Wright" in the center of the building. The roofline is accented by corbelling in a miniature arcade motif beneath dentils, punctuated by brick piers and finials. A wooden cornice at the first story is undisturbed by modern signage. An oriel window with a mansard roof (not original to the building is extant on the north elevation at the northwest corner of the building; the cornice of the original Fourth Street storefront is also extant on the northeast corner, and extends about 12 feet. The interior of the store retains a great deal of integrity, including the 1920's wooden shelving with egg and dart trim. Beyond the recessed entryway, is a small "foyer" containing two doors, although only one of these openings is in use.

In 1847, **Colonel Edward Sumner**, uncle of Charles Sumner, purchased the land on the southeast corner of the Oak and Fourth Street intersection and erected a one story, wood frame building. He christened it the "**Adams House**", the name of the village at the time. The hotel was twice enlarged, finally raised to three stories, becoming quite an imposing structure. In March of 1854 Sumner moved to remodel the building so it would have three stories. He also expanded thirty feet to the south end of the building, also three stories tall. It would then have sixty feet frontage on Oak Street and Seventy-seven feet frontage on Fourth Street This project was completed in May of the same year.

Colonel Sumner departed for California in 1849 to seek gold and before departing rented the place to a boniface named **Watson**.

In 1848, **Messrs. David Munson and Albert C. Tuttle** brought in a stock of goods, and the first sales were made in the bar room of the hotel while they were waiting for the finishing of their building at 516 Oak Street.



Wright Block Western Hotel circa 1854

Albert Tuttle came to Baraboo in the early 1840's. He farmed until 1860 and then went into the nursery business on Elizabeth Street.

Dr. B. F. Mills conducted his practice out of the Adams House as early as August of 1850. Mills would later construct the Excelsior Drug Store on the southeast corner of the Third and Oak Street intersection.

E. Holmes was in charge of the hotel in September of 1851. When Colonel Sumner returned in 1852, he found the village name had been changed to Baraboo and the hotel to the "**Western**". At this pioneer hostelry gathered all classes of people, judges to preside in court, lawyers to try the issues, travelers seeking land, and other issues constantly coming up as the settlers increased, and townfolk to inform themselves as to the latest gossip. Sumner changed the name back to the **Adams House**.

Otto Michael's Barber Shop was advertised as being located in one of the rooms in the **Adams House** in July of 1855. In 1854, the **Waite & Wheeler Cigar House** was operating at this location. In May of 1855 Colonel Sumner leased, what was then also called the **Sumner**

528-534 Oak Street



House, to Messrs. **Bradley & Dunn** of Rhode Island. Later it was reported that the firm of **Dunn & Davis** had purchased the hotel for \$5,000. In 1857 there was no jail in Baraboo and the village newspaper of the time tells how a prisoner was treated.

"He sleeps at the Western Hotel, the best in town, eats his breakfast there, and lounges around the village, gossiping with merchants and clerks until the gong sounds for dinner, which meal he eats with as good grace as if he, instead of the county, paid for it. Afternoons and evenings are spent in the same manner; with the single welcome interruption of tea; and at a tolerably reasonable hour our prisoner goes to bed not being we fear, either a sadder or a wiser man. He has no disposition to run away, considering himself as he does, the best-treated man in Sauk County. We understand that the sheriff proposed to him to work on his farm, but he was informed by his gentlemanly prisoner that the county had agreed to support him three months without work."

The foregoing was the manner in which a resident was punished for stealing a cow.

It is believed that on July of 1855, **A. C. Potter** opened the **Badger Saloon** in the basement of this building, at the former site of **C. Bowes**.

In October of 1861, **A. Meinhold** opened a **Shaving and Hair-Dressing Saloon** at the hotel.

Shortly after Dunn & Davis, **William Wallace** came into possession of the hotel and remained in control until 1870 when he sold the Western Hotel to a **Mr. Campbell**. Campbell then took in a **Mr. Brown** as a partner. In 1873, Wallace purchased Dorr's popular European hotel and restaurant, 77 and 79 Clark Street, Chicago and in company with his son-in-law, Frank McClellan, would make that his headquarters.

In April of 1871, **W. H. Hart** opened a **Saloon** in the Basement of the Western. After the 1872 Fourth Street fire, **Frank McGinnis** re-established his **Cigar Factory** in the basement of the Western Hotel.

By the end of December of 1873, Campbell and Brown, not finding the hotel business sufficiently lucrative, decided to quit the hotel business and had an auction, selling furniture, bedding, etc. on December. 30.

The most noted guest of the Western Hotel was **Mrs. Abraham Lincoln**. In the summer of 1872 the distinguished lady was a visitor of the Cliff House, Devils Lake and before leaving stopped at the Western Hotel. **Mrs. E.M. Hoag** of Baraboo happened to be a passenger in the conveyance that brought the widow of the martyred president from the summer resort to Baraboo and recalls the trip with interest.

In March of 1874, **Messrs. W. A. Sallade** and **W. B. Pearl**, late of the Charter House in Ableman, leased the Western Hotel and began to thoroughly renovate it. Opening was expected to be about April 5.

In October of 1874, **Pearl** purchased the interest of his partner. In May of 1875, Sallade moved to Ableman and took back charge of the Charter House, leasing it with plans to make many improvements.

528-534 Oak Street

William B. Pearl followed Mr. Campbell who for years had been the proprietor of the Cliff House at Devils Lake. In October of 1878, Pearl decided to give up the hotel and that he would accordingly close on the first of November. He planned on selling off the furniture a week later and had planned an auction. However, Vulcan reigned as a destructive fire consumed the Western Hotel occurring early morning on November 6, 1878, the day the auction was planned.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wright of Prairie du Sac owned the hotel at the time of the fire, her financial loss being \$3,000 and not covered by insurance. Pearl also claimed a loss of \$100 on hotel furniture remaining in the hotel. The conflagration, which many said started in the Western Hotel, went on to destroy all the buildings on the east side of Oak opposite the courthouse except for the Burrington Building on the south end of the block.

According to others, the fire actually broke out in **Sumner's Meat Market**, two doors south, and spread both ways, but at any rate, it was the burning of the hotel, which gave the greatest impetus, since this was the largest building in the block and the principal one destroyed.

The fire was discovered between seven and eight o'clock on the morning of November 6, 1878, Election Day. The day was extremely cold and the fire fighters were much handicapped by this fact. Baraboo had no organized fire department at that time but everybody turned out to help, the young and old, and there was never lacking a bucket brigade in time of need. On this occasion water was obtained from a cistern located at the southeast corner of the old brick courthouse, which stood on the square. Most of the buildings were two story frame affairs, all of wood and were ready fuel for a conflagration. This destructive fire had been anticipated for years.

At one time during the fire, the cupola of the courthouse was on fire from a flying brand, and there was seen a brave rush of men to the rescue. Ladders came from all quarters and simultaneously men reached the fire from both the inside and the outside of the cupola roof, and the building was saved.

The *Baraboo Republic* ran a tongue-in-cheek article in the following week's paper which read: "*What makes our insurance so*

low, and gives such a sense of security to property owners, is the circumstance that there are fire engines at Reedsburg and Madison that can be had by telegraphing."

The Republic also stated that: "*When the Western took fire, Buhlmeyer and the boys brought out the old anti-war-days truck for hooks and ladders. There were no hooks, no ladders, no pails, no axes on it, and so the Western had to go. It would have been more than fair to back the old thing in against the Western so that in death they might not have been divided."*



Mrs. August Reinking

The Wright Block

Elizabeth Ann Steel-Wright was born in Livingston, New Jersey on May 5, 1825. At the age of nine she moved with her family to Laurenceville, New York where she remained until the age of 17. In 1842 she returned to Livingston, where she met and married **John E. Wright**. The Wrights came to Wisconsin in 1851, and purchased the estate of Count Haraszthy at Prairie du Sac, as well as considerable property throughout Wisconsin. While living at Prairie du Sac, John Wright erected a large and successful lumber mill. After John Wright was killed in a hunting accident in 1862, Elizabeth became a

528-534 Oak Street

businesswoman, investing in various enterprises. She constructed the **Wright Block** at this location. In 1885 she sold the Prairie du Sac home, spending winters with her children in Washington D.C. and Ohio and summers in Baraboo.



August Reinking

By November of 1880, Mrs. Wright had plans for a new two story building on this now vacant lot. The plans were for 3 stores on the ground floor. The second floor would have through the middle, running north and south, a wide hall of 18 ft. in the clear, on either side of which would be commodious and well-lighted offices. To reach this hall there would be two stairways, one on Oak Street and the other on Fourth Street. At that time there was also under advisement a third

story, to contain a large hall, adapted to lectures, parties and theatricals, with a platform and commodious anterooms.

The present building, 66 X 90, was constructed by Wright in 1881 for \$5500, and included four stores, three of which fronted on Oak Street while a fourth fronted on Fourth Street. The bricks used on the face were cream colored, 2-1/2 X 8-3/8 inches and were made in Jefferson. The contracts were awarded to **Messrs. Thompson and Hire** in April of 1881.

Several businesses over the years occupied these business sites and history of them can be found at 528, 532 and 534 Oak Street.

Louis Jacobs severed his relationship with **Chas. Junge** in April of 1886 and moved his **tonsorial parlor** into this building, occupying the room that was recently vacated by **Mrs. Abbott**.

In 1899, the **August Reinking Dry Goods Store** was moved to this address after Reinking purchased the Wright Block, assuming occupation of the complete building with the grand opening being held on Monday, September 18, 1899. In 1901, Reinking became ill about the same time his son, **August R. "Autie" Reinking**, graduated from Dental School and was planning on opening an office on the second floor. The young Reinking was persuaded to assume the responsibility of his father in operating Reinking's General Store. **Olga Reinking** eventually joined in the operation of the store.

The rooms then occupied by the fruit store and the shoe store would be made into one along with Ibe's Tailor Shop in the rear, and with a planned addition would make a large room 90 feet deep by 42 feet wide. The basement was to be fitted up and used for receiving and marking rooms, and also possibly for a saleroom. Leiser Brothers, the shoe dealers, rented the room then occupied by Mr. Blachly. The Blachly Hardware Store and Struther's Fruit Store would then have to find new quarters.

In 1920, **Drs. Hardy and Hardy, Chiropractors** were conducting business from this building.

The Reinking store was almost gutted by a fire on Wednesday, Jan. 24 of 1923. The fire resulted in a \$25,000 loss to stock and considerable damage to the \$15,000 building. The blaze started in the basement of the building. Everything was destroyed in the basement

528-534 Oak Street

and eating up through the first floor on the south side of the building destroyed everything in its path. During this particular fire, several feet of water, which had been poured into the basement from above suddenly and mysteriously, disappeared. About a month later, a well was found in the north corner of the cellar and it was into this excavation that the water had sunk. By the end of September the store repair was almost finished. The most noticeable outside improvement was the show window that had been extended from the front of the store to almost equal distance on the north side. The new entrance was also a betterment.

In February of 1925 the building was endangered by fire again when a blaze broke out in the office of **Dr. H.A. Marcus** above the dry goods store. **Roy Turton** smelled smoke while working in a shoe store in the same building and went to investigate. He found a blaze in the woodbox; the only damage was to the wainscoting near the box.

Mr. August Reinking Sr. was active in the operation until 1926. After falling ill, he died on January 15, 1930 at the age of 78. Autie and Olga carried on the operation until 1962 when Olga died. Autie then assumed full managership, attending to business every day, until his death in March of 1968 at the age of 89.

The business continued under the guidance of **Miss Lillian Reinking**, youngest daughter of August Sr. and Autie's children, **August Vaughn Reinking** and **Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Conway**.

In 1983, A. Vaughn Reinking and Mrs. Conway sold the business to Mr. & Mrs. **Dennis O. Thurow**. **Mary Kathleen Thurow** was Mary Elizabeth Conway's daughter.

In early 1991, Thurows sold the business to **Steven Korban** who was to continue a ladies apparel store.

In 1992 there is found the **Fashion Showplace** here being conducted by **Bill and Bridgitte Rodewald** and in 1995 the **Venerable Bean Company Coffee House** was operating. **John Haggard & Craig Vydalek**, co-owners closed their doors the first part of March 1998. 532 Oak was then vacant except for upstairs where wood carver **Homer Daehn** had his business.

On May 3 of 1999 **Corner On Wisconsin** was opened at this site. **Gem City Candy Store** opened inside the "Corner of Wisconsin

Store' in April of 2002. The owners were **Ralph and Joan Pierce**. Gem City sold hard candy, salt-water taffy, gourmet chocolate, mint and licorice. In September of 2003, Gem City candy relocated to 100-104 Fourth Avenue.

In February of 2004, **Victoria Chapman**, a Baraboo native, purchased the Corner On Wisconsin business. After managing the business for the prior year she finally took the big step, and took great enjoyment conducting her new business. The new...**Ms. Vicky's Corner**, Tea & Coffee House and Yarn & Accessories. On October 2 of 2007, **Jennifer Blau** opened **Oak Street Antiques** here, sharing the downstairs corner with Vicky Chapman who was planning on downsizing her operation. Blau left her job at Demco to pursue her passion. The new store occupied 1500 square feet, separated from **Miss Vicky's Yarn Café** by a divider.

October of 2008 found Ms. Vicky's Yarn Café moved to the 800 block of Broadway and Jennifer Blau rearranging her crowded Oak Street Antiques' inventory to fill the vacated area.

528-1/2 Oak

Addresses also known as 524 & 526 Oak Street
Over The Wright Block

1887

Dr. J. E. English, M. D.

1902

Thuerer Brothers' Dental Office

In December of 1902 the Thuerer Brothers moved their dental offices from the "Fair" building on Third Avenue to the Reinking Block.

1895-1898

"Western Union"

In June of 1896 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.

528-534 Oak Street

1905-1908 **Ellis, Long & Company Millinery**

In July of 1908, Ellis, Long and Company moved to 106 Fourth Street taking over Mrs. Ganz's Bon-Ton Millinery.

<1919 **Dr. F. R. Winslow** vacated his office here sometime prior to August of 1919.

1919> In August of 1919, **Dr. Clausen F. Stekl** moved into a newly redecorated office, recently vacated by Dr. F. R. Winslow at this address. Stekel was recently home from France where he served with the Rainbow Division and won the Croix de Guerre and was promoted to Captain. He was in France for about 1-1/2 years, leaving a practice in Rice Lake to enlist.

1924-1930 **"The Annex Shop"**

Catering to the requirements of women, the Annex Shop opened April of 1924. Misses Anne & Mayme Cummings, proprietors. Miss Cummings closed her shop in the summer of 1930 and moved to 417-1/2 Oak Street in September of 1930.

Turton Footwear Shop located on second floor.

1925 **Dr. D.W. Weaver** of Madison has taken offices in the Reinking building and will succeed Dr. R.H. Clark of this city as optometrist and eyesight specialist. Dr. Weaver is a graduate of the Northern Illinois College of Ophthalmology.

1992-2009 **"Homer Daehn, Wood Carver"**

Homer Daehn, a wood carver, operated upstairs at this address between 1992 and 2008. Daehn started his career as a ship builder in Chicago where he helped build a replica of a 15th-century sailing ship. He did all the detailed carving like intricate leaf work and wood designs. At the owner's invitation, Daehn spent the next 2-1/2 years on a sailing journey around the East coast of the United States. His duties included maintaining the woodworking he had helped to create. Daehn, who grew up in the Oshkosh area, returned to Chicago after the voyage and eventually moved to Cedarburg, Wisconsin. In 1991 he started working

with the Circus World museum, building circus wagons. The type of work he did while shipbuilding was very similar to building carousel horses and circus wagons. His first wagon was the United States Bandwagon. In 2008, Mr. Daehn moved his studio to Lehman Road nestled in the rolling hills southeast of Baraboo.

1997 **"Elephants Tear Gallery"**, Patricia Kelly, Owner

2000 **"Timeless Treasures"**

Gift and antique shop, Owners Kim Geiser & Roberta "Boots" Barrix.

2003 In June of 2003 Timeless Treasures partnership dissolved and became **"Persimmons"**, owned wholly by Geiser and **"By Boots"**, owned wholly by Barrix. The four rooms they once shared were divided between them. In 2005, Barrix moved her store to 100 Third Street.

2000 **"Some Things Fishy"**, Novelty items from "Up North"

2000 **"Blue Sky Gallery"**

Art by local artisans **Heather Geyman, Cindy Miller, Julie Keller and Pat Noel**. In 2009 Blue Sky Gallery moved into the corner room recently vacated by Homer Daehn.

2002-2003 **Raven House**

In September of 2003, Raven House moved to 108 Third Street. 2000-2002 **"Richard Springer Studio"** Contemporary paintings and constructions, business not there in 2002.

2000-2002 **"An Siopa Eire"** (Irish for "The Ireland Shop") Moved to Third Street. 2006

528-534 Oak Street

2002 **“Corner Stitch Shop”** The Corner Stitch Shop opened in November in a 700 square foot store that formerly housed “An Siopa Eire which moved to Third Street in September. With the help of husband Eric and three daughters, Janie Newgent got the store up and running five weeks after signing the lease. The store offered knitting, needlepoint and cross-stitch supplies.

2002 **“Susan Anderson Fiber Arts”**

2004 Partners, **Linda Kirby, Danielle Vaillancourt** and **Anna Krause** opened **Quintessential Quilts** in Suit 10 at this address in February of 2004. Linda has conducted a similar store in Reedsburg since 1989, eventually branching into mail-order sales.

2005 The **Tasting Haus** is being conducted here in 2005, and possibly earlier, by the **Von Klaus Winery**.

2005 **Widows Peek**

2005 **Wellness From Within, Toshia Parker**, advertised hypnosis for change and birthings.

2006 **The Horses Mouth**, conducted by **Marjorie Cutting**, located here in 2006. The Horse’s Mouth was a custom clothier and retail purveyor of fine historical clothing, period uniforms, military regalia, insignia and patterns for many eras and dates of infamy. Ideal for weddings, films, museums and re-enactors alike. After serving southern California for 95 years the business relocated to Baraboo from downtown Escondido in San Diego’s north country.

2006 In September of 2006 it was announced that Baraboo artist, **Terri Colamatteo** had installed a Swedish loom in a studio located on the second floor of this corner store. Colamatteo planed on specializing in weaving rugs and tapestries. The name of the studio was **SoKarTe**, obviously named after her daughters Sonja and Kara plus herself.

2007 **The Leather Shop**, operated by **Larry & Lisa Grates** in suite 12. The couple advertised repairs of all types of shoes & boots, purses, zippers & sporting goods, also the sale of leather items and more.

2007 **An Affair To Remember**, a party supply store, owned by **Paul & Janet Fritsch** and managed by **Laurie Grill** opened in the Shoppes on Oak complex on November 17, 2007.

2009 **Nancy Thompson** opened **k. walter vintage collectables** in October of 2008. The store marketed linens, kitchenware, bedspreads, tablecloths and other items homemakers used during the baby boom. The Hudson native always thought that when she grew up she would own a store...at age 53, she has finally grown up.

2009 **Bloomacy's**, a clothing store, was opened by **Brian Holmes** in April of 2009. Bloomacy's features overstocked women's clothing from high-end department stores like Ralph Lauren, Anne Klein and Tommy Hilfiger. Holmes worked full time at Windsor Building Systems in Madison, so his daughter Melissa would mind the store during the week.

528-534 Oak Street

2009 (Suite 5) **Topham Photography**, conducted by **Dirk Topham**, filled the room left vacant when Blue Sky Gallery moved to the corner room vacated by Homer Daehn. Topham opened his studio in June of 2009. Two years prior, Topham retired from the insurance business and moved to Illinois to be with his new wife Karen, a high school teacher.

2009 In November of 2009 the Garden Party Cafe introduced **Green Room Gifts**, specializing in soup mixes, dips, jellies, salsa etc.

2010 In May of 2010 Baraboo **Attorney Angela Nichols Philipp** announced that she had recently launched her own law firm, **Nichols Philipp Legal & Mediation Services**. Philipp, a Baraboo native, had nine years of law practice prior to hanging out her own shingle.



An Affair To Remember, a party supply store, owned by **Paul & Janet Fritsch** and managed by **Laurie Grill** opened in the Shoppes on Oak complex on November 17, 2007

532 Oak Street

532 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street north of the alley
between Third and Fourth Street
Block 26, lot 5 & 6
Sanborn map location 717 Oak Street

Architectural Description

Two two-bay storefronts flank a three bay storefront, although the northern two storefronts have been combined to house a single business. A nameplate carries the name “Wright” in the center of the building. The roofline is accented by corbelling in a miniature arcade motif beneath dentils, punctuated by brick piers and finials. A wooden cornice at the first story is undisturbed by modern signage. An oriel window with a mansard roof (not original to the building is extant on the north elevation at the northwest corner of the building; the cornice of the original Fourth Street storefront is also extant on the northeast corner, and extends about 12 feet. The interior of the store retains a great deal of integrity, including the 1920’s wooden shelving with egg and dart trim. Beyond the recessed entryway, is a small “foyer” containing two doors, although only one of these openings is in use.

This building was constructed by **Elizabeth Wright** in 1881 for \$5500, and originally included four stores, three of which fronted on Oak Street while a fourth fronted on Fourth Street. This business site located at 532 Oak was located in the center of the three stores in the Wright Block.

In 1882, the firm of **Sprecher & Goodnough Dry Goods** had established themselves at this address. In May of the same year the partnership failed and Goodnough moved to the Halsted Block located at 510 Oak Street. Sprecher remained at the “old stand.”

In 1881, the Sauk County directory listed **Ransom Jackson** as a “Commercial Traveler.” In May of 1886, Jackson, formerly of the firm of Davis & Jackson, negotiated the purchase of the stock in trade of **J. P. Sprecher**, next door to the post office and established the **Ransom Jackson, Dry Goods & Grocery Store**. Sprecher was at this site as early as 1882. It had been 21 years since Jackson came to Baraboo and engaged as clerk with the firm of Orvis & Lang.



Wright Block Fourth and Oak Street circa 1890

R. Jackson a former soldier, enlisting as a private E. 21st. Connecticut. He was commissioned First Lieutenant and assigned to the quartermaster’s department. He saw much of his service in the Army of the Potomac. Monday morning, December 15, 1891, found the Ransom Jackson store closed to customers and in the hands of creditors. It appeared that Mr. Jackson was indebted to the First National Bank in the sum of \$2,500 and to the Royal Ayers estate in the sum of \$4,100 that he was unable to meet and for which his property was attached.

From 1895 to 1897 and possibly longer, **William R. Schultz** conducted the **Baraboo Fruit Store, Fruit, and Confectionery & Cigar Mfg & Dealership** here. On Saturday, March 23, 1895 W. R. Schultz had a grand opening of his **Palace of Sweets**. A full band discoursed sweet music while J. L. Tuthill, a confectioner from Chicago, gave an exhibition in the art of pulling candy. Mr. Tuthill was an expert in this art for the prior nine years and carried away the medal at the Chicago exposition.

532 Oak Street



W. Bruce Struthers

In 1899, the **August Reinking Dry Goods Store** moved to this address after Reinking purchased the Wright Block. Reinking then assumed occupation of the complete building.

Struthers' Fruit store was then forced to move. Struthers chose the empty Raschein building at 424 Oak.

Schultz believed that Baraboo had assumed the dimensions of a city and proposed to go into the wholesale business.

Mr. Tuthill was an expert in this art for the prior nine years and carried away the medal at the Chicago exposition. Schultz believed that Baraboo had assumed the dimensions of a city and proposed to go into the wholesale business. After the grand opening, he said he was prepared to furnish candy to dealers, by the pound, ton or carload.

Starting in March of 1897 **W. Bruce Struthers** conducted a **Fruit Store**, it is not clear if he started at this address but he was here in April of 1899. Struthers was born in Baraboo in 1876.

534 & 534-1/2 Oak Street

534 Oak Street

Located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Fourth and Oak Street,
fronting on Oak Street
Block 26, lot 5 & 6
Sanborn map location 718 Oak Street

Architectural Description

Two two-bay storefronts flank a three bay storefront, although the northern two storefronts have been combined to house a single business. A nameplate carries the name “Wright” in the center of the building. The roofline is accented by corbelling in a miniature arcade motif beneath dentils, punctuated by brick piers and finials. A wooden cornice at the first story is undisturbed by modern signage. An oriel window with a mansard roof (not original to the building is extant on the north elevation at the northwest corner of the building; the cornice of the original Fourth Street storefront is also extant on the northeast corner, and extends about 12 feet. The interior of the store retains a great deal of integrity, including the 1920’s wooden shelving with egg and dart trim. Beyond the recessed entryway, is a small “foyer” containing two doors, although only one of these openings is in use.

This building was constructed by **Elizabeth Wright** in 1881 for \$5500, and originally included four stores, three of which fronted on Oak Street while a fourth fronted on Fourth Street. This business site located at 534 Oak was located directly on the corner of Oak and Fourth Street, fronting on Oak.

In April of 1884, plans were underway to move the **Post Office** from 150 Third Street, to the northern most room in the Wright Block. The authorities in Washington had approved the move and it was to take place as soon as the room was fitted up with a new set of patent wire-bottom boxes. The corner room of the Sumner House, diagonally across the intersection, was being put in order to be occupied by **D. Chamberlain’s Billiard Hall**, located in the then proposed post office room.

In 1886, the postmaster was **David E. Welch**. But, early on, criticism was leveled against this location as there was no vault in the building. Talk at that time was for moving it to the area of the Second



Wright Block Fourth and Oak Street circa 1890

Ward schoolhouse on Oak. On September 11, a new vault was installed, thanks to contributions from many local businessmen..

About 1895 the post office was moved one door south to 532 oak and **Ransom Jackson** assumed that post as indicated in the 1898 city directory and the 1898 Sauk County directory.

In September of 1890, **A. C. White** the barber, who for some time handled a cup and razor at L. M. Jacob’s, rented a room under the post office and as soon as possible expected to open a shaving and hair-cutting establishment on his own account. By September 24, **White’s Tonsorial Parlor** was up and operating.

Marsh & Jackson, Realtors moved their office to the basement under the Post Office in April of 1894. In 1895, this partnership was dissolved. Marsh then moved to 423 Oak Street and obtained a new partner.

In October of 1896, **W. P. Pearl**, proprietor of the **Cliff House** at Devil’s lake and widely known as a hotel man, leased the former post office site in the Wright Block with the intention of establishing a hostelry. The room on the corner would be used for an office and the

534 & 534-1/2 Oak Street



Leisure Brothers' Shoe Store circa 1899

main dining room. The space occupied by **Ibe's Tailor Shop** in the rear was to be converted into a kitchen. The large hall up stairs was to be used as a parlor and there was space for about seventeen rooms.

Plans were to have the remodeling complete by November 1 of 1896, would probably be called "**The Pearl**" and would be known as a family hotel. For several years Mr. Pearl conducted the western Hotel, which stood on the same site.

Obviously the **Pearl Hotel** never happened, as it is believed that from September of 1897 until 1899, The **Cash Shoe Store** was at this site conducted by brothers, **G. E. Leiser** and **Robert Leiser**. The Leiser Brothers had operated a shoe store at 109 Walnut Street prior to moving here. After Reinking purchased the Wright Block, Leiser Brothers moved the store to 528 Oak Street.

In April of 1897 a new music store shared the building with the Leisers. It was conducted under the name of **The Baraboo Music Store**. The management planned to stock Fischer pianos, the old reliable since 1830, of which at the time there were over 100,000 in use. Also a Grand Krakauer was on order and expected to arrive soon.

Mr. Otto Sporleder, supposedly a thorough judge of pianos, was to be in charge of the salesroom, where orders for piano tuning could also be left.

In 1899, the August **Reinking Dry Goods Store** was moved to this address after Reinking purchased the Wright Block. Reinking then assumed occupation of the complete building.

Under 534

In 1895, **A. R. Ziemer** conducted the **Palisade Park Co.** at this site. Evidently "**The Palisades**" was a sub-division at Devil's Lake, advertising 500 lots, 11 parks, 600 feet above lake and 10 degrees cooler temp.

534-1/2 Oak Street (Over Post Office)

1887 T. J. Rowlands, Veterinary Surgeon

1894-1895 **Julia W. Crouch Studio & Art Gallery**. Open for instruction and sale of art paintings on Tuesday's, Friday's and Saturday's.

602-606 Oak Street

602 Oak Street

Located in the rear of the stone building on the northeast corner of the intersection of Oak and Fourth Street. Access is off Oak Street.

Block 23, lot 7

In December of 1894, Charles Junge, the barber, sold his building located at 510 Oak Street, to E. A. Dwinell of North Freedom for \$4,800. Junge then sold his equipment and fixtures to **William Riebe** and **George Steckenbauer**. Riebe had been in the employ of Junge and Steckenbauer, and also had worked in the Jacobs & Baumgardner shop. Riebe & Steckenbauer immediately set up their new tonsorial parlor in the side entrance of the Baraboo Savings Bank block, 602 Oak Street. Junge decided to work with Riebe and Steckenbauer until spring.

Riebe & Steckenbauer's, Tonsorial Parlor, was known as **The Globe Barber Shop**. On May 10 of 1895, they moved to 423 Oak Street.

Mr. Ernest Sanderson came to Baraboo in 1891 from England where his father had been a barber for fifty years and he had learned his trade. While Mr. & Mrs. Henry Marriott was visiting England, they met Mr. Sanderson and advised him of the advantages offered to young men in America. Mr. Sanderson decided then to try his fortune here. In August of 1891, he left Lincolnshire and first resided in Milwaukee. Later he came to Baraboo and was employed in the shop of Ed. Holden.

In 1899 he married **Miss Marian Doppler**, they had two sons and one daughter. In 1904 **Victor Sanderson**, a brother came and was still plying his trade here in 1912.

In November of 1903 **Ernest Sanderson** opened his new barbershop here. He had closed his Fourth Avenue business to move to Madison but decided Baraboo was a better place to live.

In November of 1905, Victor Sanderson decided he preferred to live here rather than in his home country of England and took out his naturalization papers.

November of 1914 found **W. M. Allen** opening a real estate business here.

606 Oak Street

Located south of the alley between Fourth and Fifth Street fronting on Oak.

Block 23, lot 7

Sanborn map location No. 719 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This two-bay, two-story building is framed with brick veneer. A large pressed metal cornice is terminated with two large projecting brackets. Segmentally arched window hoods are formed with brick over rectangular windows. The first story retains its recessed entryway and plate glass windows, although transoms have been covered, and air conditioning units installed. The barbershop retains its pressed metal ceiling.

In February of 1889, it was announced that F. T. Brewster would soon open a bank at 101 Fourth Street. The building was to be remodeled and improved in appearance. Brewster would then build **Leonard Meyer**, the then tenant, a new building for his **Meat Market** on Oak adjoining the bank building. This new meat market building was finished about the twenty-first of March 1889, at which time the remodeling of the bank building began. In July the market was known as the **Parmelee** after changing hands. **Henry Schultz** was the new proprietor and **W. H. Parmelee** was the new manager. By September of 1890, Schultz had sold the market and was giving thought to a trip back home, across the ocean. Henry Leeg of Mauston and his brother, Ben Leeg of Kilbourn City, then purchased the meat market.

The **Leeg Brothers' Meat Market** gave notice that they had instituted the "cash system." In March of 1891, the Leeg brothers sold their market to **Louis Kieffer** of Portage who took immediate possession.

In June of 1891, the **B. Krech Meat Market** was being conducted here after moving from 120 Ash Street.

It is believed that the **American Express Company** may have been located here prior to May of 1895. By the end of May of the same year, the partnership of **Butler & Shults** in the **realty business** was located here, in what they called the site formerly occupied by the **Baraboo News**.

602-606 Oak Street

In December of 1895, **D. C. Hayes, attorney and notary public** took a desk here and solicited accurate conveyances, all types of legal documents, record searching, invoicing, bookkeeping etc. In January of 1900 he moved over the Prentice Meat Market.

By 1904 the building was divided by a frame partition with an office in the south half (606 Oak) and a printing shop in the north half (608 Oak.)

In April of 1909 and possibly before, the **Singer Sewing Machine Store** was located at this address. They often gave demonstrations with stocking darners. **E. P. Dieter** resigned his position as manager in April of 1909 and **W. J. Kennedy** of Madison took his place.

In January of 1911, **Thomas Whistance** moved his **shoe repair shop** here from 116 Fourth Avenue.

Ernest Sanderson purchased this building in August of 1911 from **Mrs. Henry Ketchum** of this city. At the time of the purchase, the building was occupied by the **J. S. Briscoe Printing Shop** in the north half (608 Oak) and **Thomas Whistance's Shoe Shop** in the south half. Sanderson, who had been in partnership with his brother in the Ruggles' building, would move into the area occupied by Whistance. Whistance would move to 614 Oak.

This purchase by Sanderson was probably necessitated by the fact that Attorney J. W. Frenz had partnered with Attorney Ruggles at 101 Fourth Street, probably requiring the whole first floor including 602 Oak Street.

After the purchase, Sanderson added a new front, steam heating plants and other improvements to the tune of about \$1,000. In January of 1912 **Sanderson's Barber Shop**, and a family in the flat on the second floor, occupied the newly remodeled building.

In May of 1913, Benjamin Thom left the Globe Barber Shop and took the chair in Sanderson's shop recently vacated by Victor Sanderson.

In January of 1930, Ernest Sanderson announced his retirement from business in favor of his son, Clarence. In May of the same year, **Neil Cole** and his family moved to Baraboo from Madison. Cole, who was formerly with Ryan, then started work at Sanderson's.

Ernest Sanderson died on September 27, 1945 at the age of 78 years. Sanderson was born in Market Rasen, Lincolnshire, England on May 7, 1867. He came to America in 1891. Mrs. Sanderson died in 1913 and one son, Ralph, died in 1927. In 1917, Sanderson married Miss Louise Putz who preceded him in death by one year and nine months.

Clarence Sanderson was still in business in 1964. By 1968 we find **Spud's Barber Shop** here conducted by **Frederick A. Krueger**.

Mr. & Mrs. John McNabb and 2 sons, Greg & Jeff, moved here from Madison in 1973 and purchased the **Kut-Hut Barber Shop** at 151 Third Street. About 1981 they moved the Kut-Hut to this location. The 1995 city directory lists **John & Jeff McNabb** as co-owners.

604 Oak

(Second Floor)

1898 "Buck Bros., Electricians"

1903 Baraboo Water Co. Office

1903 Misses Luecht, Dressmaker

1915 Dr. C. E. Getchell moved to these quarters in September of 1915 and Miss Mabel Osborne moved here from Ashland to assist as his nurse.

1920 In 1920, the Warren Hotel rented the upper floor over Sanderson's Barber Shop, as rooms were short at the hotel.

1945 The Sauk county Red Cross chapter has located at 606 Oak Street and will share those quarters with the Baraboo Chamber of Commerce.

606 Oak Street Sanderson Barber Shop



L-R Clarence "Sandy" Sanderson, Ben Thom, Fred Larson and Neal Cole
circa 1931 606 Oak Street

606 Oak Street Sanderson Barber Shop



Ernest Sanderson and Benjamin Thom

606 Oak Street

circa 1912

608 Oak Street

608 Oak Street

Located south of the alley between Fourth and Fifth Street
fronting on the east side of Oak Street
Block 23, lot 7
Sanborn map location 719 Oak Street

Architectural Description

This two-bay, two-story building is framed with brick veneer. A large pressed metal cornice is terminated with two large projecting brackets. Segmentally arched window hoods are formed with brick over rectangular windows. The first story retains its recessed entryway and plate glass windows, although transoms have been covered, and air conditioning units installed. The barbershop retains its pressed metal ceiling.

In February of 1889, it was announced that F. T. Brewster would soon open a bank at 101 Fourth Street. The building was to be remodeled and improved in appearance. Brewster would then build **Leonard Meyer**, the then tenant, a new building for his **Meat Market** on Oak adjoining the bank building. This new meat market building was finished about the twenty-first of March 1889, at which time the remodeling of the bank building began. In August of 1889, L. Meyer sold his meat market on Oak Street to **Henry Schultz**.

By 1895 **Riebe & Steckenbauer, Tonsorial Parlor** was in business here conducted by William G. Riebe and George Steckenbauer.

In May of 1895, it was reported that **Sam Wing Lee** of Madison, was making preparations to conduct a **laundry** next to the American Express Co....that may have been here.

By 1904 the building was divided by a frame partition with an office in the south half (606 Oak) and a printing shop in the north half (608 Oak.)

From 1903 to 1920 the **Joseph S. Briscoe, Printing Shop** was located at this site. The business became **Tom's Printing Shop** in November of 1921 when J. S. Briscoe, oldest of the Baraboo printers, sold his plant in the Sanderson building to **T. A. Cummings**.

An issue of the *Baraboo Weekly News* reported that Briscoe sold to L. A. Winnie in September of 1920?

Mr. Briscoe, who was married a few weeks prior to the sale, went to Clayton, New Mexico, to spend the winter. Mrs. Briscoe had been residing there for a number of years and had interests in that state. J. S. Briscoe came to Iowa with his parents at the age of three. He spent nine or ten years in Chicago and the remainder of his time here, in the office of his uncle, Captain William Hill, editor of the *Republic*, where Briscoe learned to set type. Later his uncle became a banker in Kansas and died in that state at the age of 90.

Mr. Hill sold the paper to Joseph I. Weirich, the paper passing later to E.E. Woodman and still later to J.H. Powers. Mr. Briscoe became a partner with Mr. Powers in publishing the *Republic* and about 25 years ago disposed of his interest, the Hood brothers becoming part owners of the paper. Later Mr. Powers sold to the Hoods and moved to Salt Lake City where he now resides.

During that 25-year period, Mr. Briscoe operated a job-printing business doing the work alone most of the time. In March of 1926, Cummings sold his job printing business to **Louis A. Winnie**, a well-known local printer. Mr. Cummings expected to locate elsewhere. Mr. Winnie, the new owner, had been with several plants in the country. Mr. Winnie, who was born in Reedsburg on August 9 1871, died in October of 1952.

By March of 1938 we find the **Osborne Printing Co.** here, being conducted by **John P. Osborne** after purchasing the business from Winnie. Osborne was here at least until 1944.

Between 1946 and 1950 the **American Red Cross** was operating here as well as the **Baraboo Chamber of Commerce**. In 1951 and until 1976 **Willott M. Warren Realtor** had his office at this site. In 1976, **Carol Hoppe** and **Patricia Spragg**, mother and daughter, purchased the Willott Warren real estate office. The business, **H. and S. Realty**, specialized in lots, residential and commercial property. By 1979 the **Ad Works** was here followed by **Ryan's Sewing Center** in 1980. The **Farmer's Insurance Group** was

608 Oak Street

also located her in 1980 and remained until 1990 when **Elder Rides Plus** operated at this site.

Between 1992 and 1995 **Sandy's Floral** was conducted here by **Sandra & William Wenzel**, later moving to 108 Third Street. In 1996 **Repetitions, The Unique Boutique** was at this site, owned by **Mary J. Wolff**, dealing in pre-owned clothing. Wolff was followed by **Metal Optics Intelligent Lighting Systems**. **Mark Homan**, national sales mgr. of the midwestern region, with the main office in Austin, Texas, opened an office at this location on November 1, 1997.

Then on January 14, 1999 **Labor One**, a temporary help service, opened. By 2002 a "For Rent" sign was in the window.

Advertising "Handbags and other neat stuff", **Char TerBeest Kudla**, opened **Helen's Daughters, ETC** on September 25 of 2002. Kudla manufactures handbags, backpacks and waist packs from upholstery fabric. She attended up 15 to 20 art-crafts show annually and sold more than one hundred bags at each show. Kudla and her sister named the shop after their mother. She added to the community's culture fabric for years as a home economics teacher, a basket maker and co-founder of the Fall Art Tour. Now she added running a shop to her list of responsibilities that already includes managing a home studio and attending art shows.

In March of 2006, Kudla of Helen's Daughters, Etc. announced the opening of **The Purse Place**. The name change meant that the gift shop had converted to a studio/shop featuring Kudla's handbag designs. By April of 2007, the Purse Place was closed and the **Constance Davis Gallery** was being conducted here. Constance Davis, a Pardeeville area resident, opened her gallery in February. Her new gallery sells nylon jackets featuring unique designs plus pillows she decorates with her own built-in paintings.

By April of 2008 this building was empty and remodeling of the structure was underway. Later in June a hanging sign indicated that a new business called "**Everlasting Hardwood Floors**" was in the making. By January of 2010 this building is empty.



Helen's Daughters, ETC. Char terBeest Kudla

610 Oak Street

610 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street, south of and adjacent to the alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

Block 23, lot 7

Sanborn map location 720 Oak Street

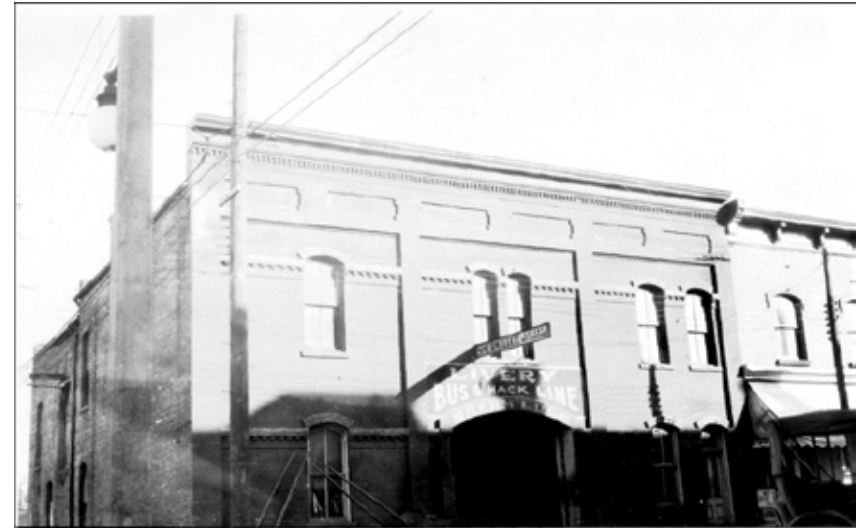
Architectural Description

The appearance of this structure has been substantially altered since its construction in 1878. Originally windows had round hoods connected by a belt course. The central section had a large arc beneath which the drays entered and exited. The façade has been completely altered on the first and second stories, including entrances and fenestration, in order to accommodate the three business houses that now occupy the site. The north, central and south storefronts contain one, four and three modern window openings, respectively, on the second story. Each has one plate glass display window and doorway on the ground floor.

In September of 1878, **Levi Crouch** began construction of a new livery of which this address is a section. The two-story, 54 X 66 building had a basement and stable room for 25 horses. The basement also contained a very large cistern, manure pits and some closed stalls. The main floor contained the stable, carriage room, office and sleeping room, wash room, grain bins, etc. The second floor afforded ample room for storage of hay and winter vehicles. The plan was that the front elevation was to be ornamented, in stonework known as “rock-face” similar to the Sumner house. The architect was **Fred Lang**.

However, the front may have been brick faced because there was a report in the local newspaper of that time as follows: “It is not certain where the bricks in the building were made. There have been a number of places in Baraboo where brick was manufactured including the Captain Moore, Weirich, Secker, Griswold, and Paddock yards. Brick for the building probably cost about five or six dollars per thousand.”

In November of 1878, the front portion of the second story of **Crouch’s Livery Stable** was being made into a public hall. The room was fifty-four feet by forty, and fifteen feet high, with the possibilities



Sherm Luce Livery

610-612 Oak Street

of a stage in addition. On the front would be a balcony where it is said “the band could *Jerk a Dirge* on occasion.”

Samuel Crouch’s sons, **Tom G.** and **Fred**, purchased the interest of Levi in January of 1879 and took immediate possession of their new stables, then termed as the **Crouch Brothers’ Livery**. They were proud of what they claimed to be the finest quarters to be found in any town of this size in Wisconsin.

Samuel Crouch died Saturday, Feb. 4, 1899 at his home, just north of the opera house. Asthma and heart trouble were the cause of his death. The deceased was born in 1826. He leaves a daughter, **Mrs. Amanda Holcomb**, and two sons, Fred and Tom, all of Baraboo. He came to Baraboo over twenty years ago and had been engaged here in the livery and feed business in which he was very successful.

George Hill stated in a newspaper interview that when he came to town in 1866, a livery barn was in operation in the building and Mr. Hill was employed there. In November of 1887, **Lon Ferres** opened a roller skating rink in **Crouch’s Hall**. The hall closed in February of 1888.

610 Oak Street



Gem City Dairy

Mr. Crouch sold to **Fred Schultz and Cassius Greenslet**. **George Hill** eventually purchased the Schultz interest and in 1893 sold to **Tunis N. Vanderveer**. Still, others had an interest in the business and building, including **S. Cobleigh**. In August of 1894, the name of the firm became the **T. N. Vanderveer and Company, Livery Stable** when **Greenslet and Vanderveer** mutually agreed to dissolve their livery and bus line business. Greenslet moved to 513 Broadway between 1895 and 1898.

In 1895, **D. S. Holcomb** or **Holcombe** had a **livery and feed barn** here. However, between 1903 and 1905, 610 Oak Street was listed as the **Warren House Livery**, operated by T. N. Vanderveer.

Tunis N. Vanderveer died on Sunday, December 9, 1906. His illness went back to March when he took an overdose of headache tablets. The deceased was born in Delton in July of 1860. Vanderveer farmed until 1893 when he came to Baraboo and entered the livery business. He was married in 1884 to Miss Lizzie Lewis, who with two sons, Marion and John, survived him.

In August of 1905, **Thomas Crouch** assumed the operation of the feed barn at this location. **Willis crouch** had been running this business for some time.

Some records indicate that **Sherman Luce** purchased this building during the 1890's and conducted the **Sherm Luce Livery**. **G. J. Paddock** also operated a **Livery Stable** here between 1900 and 1925. There are some records that indicate that this building, located at 610-612 Oak Street, was owned by Paddock during this time.

In August of 1912, **F. F. Crouch**, who owned the building at that time, had two offices and a waiting room constructed in the building.

In June of 1915 **Earl Graves** and **Marion Douglas** purchased the livery at 117-119 Fourth Street. At the same time, the new owners bought out the bus line of Serm Luce located at this site. Their headquarters would be at the old livery barn at the corner of oak and Fifth Streets and would be operated as the **Gem City Transfer Line**.

In March of 1916, Luce sold most of his livery stock at auction. The sale consisted of 19 horses, 23 harnesses, 6 hacks, 34 buggies and sleighs as well as many blankets etc.

Fred Crouch owned this building (610-612 Oak) until February of 1922 when **Henry Potterville** purchased it. Luce operated an automobile livery here until the spring of 1922.

Those acquainted with the livery business in the past years state the barn never made a great deal of money. The outlay for vehicles, horses, harness, feed, labor and other expenses devoured the profits.

Potterville sold the building to the **Gem City Dairy** in 1925 and the dairy took possession May 1, of that year.

Another deal was closed in May of 1925 whereby **H.C. Kinzler** became the sole owner of the Gem City Dairy Co. He purchased the interests of **M. T. Sherwood**. Sherwood had established Gem City Dairy a few years ago and later Kinzler merged his milk concern with Gem City Dairy. This location underwent vast remodeling and before June arrived, the business was housed at this site, formerly being on lower Ash Street. A new refrigerator was installed at a cost of over \$1,500.00.

610 Oak Street

John's Coffee Shop

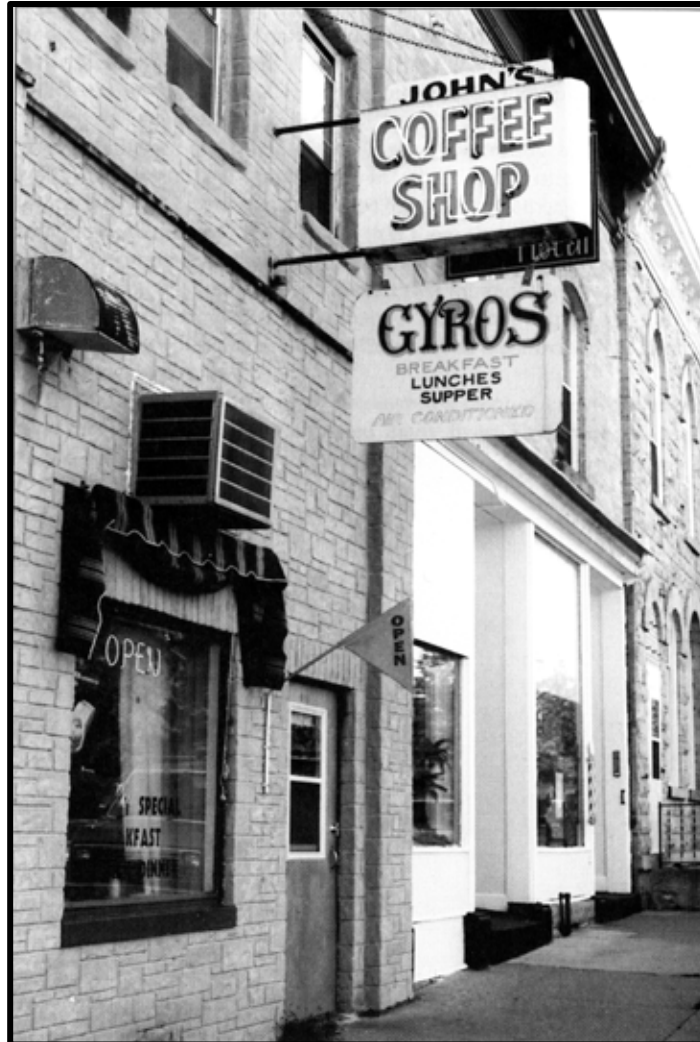


Photo..Courtesy Kenneth I. Lange

610 Oak Street

In August of 1929, Kinzler sold the Gem City Dairy to Madison businessmen, **Theodore A. and Matthew C, Mandt**. The Mandts operated the Mandt Dairy Company in Madison until about a year prior when they sold the business to a major Madison concern.

In December of 1929, the milk business of **Koepp & Thompson** was sold to the Gem City Dairy. The partners, who also operated a filling station at the jail corner, had been in the dairy business for about a year.

Then in January of 1930, **Glen Newell** sold his milk route to Gem City and became a new employee.

Effective the first of May, 1936, the Gem City Dairy took over the milk route of **George Holmes**, Baraboo's oldest and best known milk man. Mr. Holmes had been in business here 32 years, operating his dairy at the rear of his home on Third Avenue. For 30 years he has been at this same location and he wished to thank all of his customers for the patronage he has enjoyed these many years.

With the acquisition of Mr. Holmes' business the Gem City dairy could then offer an additional service to its patrons, supplying those who wish it with raw milk although the dairy continued to specialize in pasteurized milk and cream

In April of 1938, Kinzler sold the dairy building to the **Mandt** brothers.

Effective February 1st. of 1945, Gem City Dairy assumed ownership of the **Carl Feltz Guernsey Dairy** of this city. Feltz had been in business for the prior 14 years.

In 1951, the Mandt brothers announced that they would be moving to South Boulevard in a few months. They leased the building then owned by Dr. John Moon and formerly occupied by the Schuette Implement Company.

In April of 1952, **Clarence Weinke** purchased the Gem City Dairy building at 610 and 612 Oak. One-half of the building would be put to use as a restaurant while the other half would be put to use as a tavern. Between 1954 and 1987 the **Avalon Bar** was located in the northern half of this address. **William Hayes** was listed as president in the 1955 city directory.

From 1954 and into the 1960's **Ernest N. Dovalis** and **Nick Boosalis** were partners in **Ernie's Coffee Shop** located in the southern portion of this site. Ernest died at the age of 70 in April of 1972 following a six-month illness. Dovalis came to Chicago from Greece as a young man.

John Vilas who operated **John's Coffee Shop** as early as 1962 and remained at this site until 1992. Sometime after the Avalon Bar closed, the Coffee Shop enlarged its quarters into the Avalon's former section of the building.

Mike Beckman purchased the Avalon Bar adjacent to John's Coffee Shop at 612 Oak Street in 1975; Dorothy Weinke owned the building at that time. Weinke eventually sold the building to John Villas about 1980.

In 1992 owner, **Dean Liu** was conducting the **Square Sainloon Chinese American Restaurant** here and in 1996 the **New China Buffet** came on the scene.

Michael Richards purchased this business in 2006 and promptly undertook the job of remodeling. Richards repainted the inside, installed new carpeting and replaced the worn booths with tables and chairs. One June 5, 2006, his first day open, a fire promptly closed the restaurant. So a new date of June 19 was picked for the second opening. Richards, at the time, was negotiating for the purchase of the building. By September of 2006 this site is vacant. However, the restaurant did reopen and in January of 2007 it was reported that Richards had recently installed a new buffet capable of handling 40 items including sushi. The all-you-can-eat buffet sold for \$6.25 at lunchtime and \$8.00 for dinner.

It was reported in May of 2008 that Richards had changed the name of his restaurant to **Meko's Cantina**, hired a new chef, **Eric Farber** from Reedsburg, and changed the menu from Chinese to Mexican. An entire remodeling of the interior also took place. By the end of 2009 the building was empty and a for-sale sign was on it.

611 Oak Street

611 Oak Street

Located on the west side of Oak Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenue,
south of and adjacent to the alley, fronting on Oak Street.

Block 22, lot 1

Sanborn map location 610 Oak Street

In 1847, **Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Garrison** arrived in Baraboo. Early in 1850 Mr. Garrison left his business to travel to California. However, his health failing, he passed away near Salt Lake in July dying of Cholera. In October **Ozias V. Troup**, a brother of Mrs. Garrison's, came from New Brunswick to assist Mrs. Garrison in her many business pursuits. Upon arrival he immediately filed an application with the Sauk County Court, for his appointment as the administrator of Garrison's estate.

It was said that Mrs. Garrison was a brilliant, unscrupulous woman, with a strong personality, very successful in hoodwinking all classes, from the professor to the laboring man. She spent large sums of other people's money sinking deep shafts to prospect for copper, lead and gold, and very nearly succeeded in getting a stock company formed with heavy capital, to work the mines that she was in hopes of finding. She went on to establish Garrisonville, this is a story in itself and too long to take up here.

By November the **County Seat General Store** was being conducted here by **O. V. Troup & Company**. Among the merchandise on his shelves were Hyson, Schouchong and Congo teas, Rio and Habbanna coffee, Cigars, Molasses, Treacle Tobacco, candles, oil, raisins, blacking, Poland Starch, Windsor soap, fancy shaving soap, ginger, wine, vinegar, rice, Scotch oatmeal, nutmegs, pickles and sauce, indigo and packing salt. Also old Sherry and Port wine, full flavored and sparkling. Also fine old brown pale cognac Brandy, best Holland Gin, Islay Whiskey, Irish Whiskey, Ohio Whiskey and a good assortment of Crockery Ware.

In an article in the July 27, 1911 issue of the *Baraboo Republic*, Mrs. English recalls, "in 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. By tearing down the corner building, the store known as the "**Beehive**" was saved. **Mrs. Garrison** and her brother, **Mr. Troup**, occupied the "Beehive" which may have been adjacent and north of the corner building and located at this site.

In January of 1866, **Ransom E. Jones** advertised that he had just returned from California, where he failed to make a "pile" so he was taking up his mallet to make an honest living. He opened a tin-shop at the old "**Beehive**" on "**Garrison's Corner**", a few rods north of the public square. There he would sell the same quality tin ware that he sold a dozen years ago. Jones had conducted a **Tin Shop and Hardware Store** on Oak Street as early as 1853 approximately where **D. S. Holcombe** had a livery and feed barn in 1895. Before that he was located at 116 Fourth Street.

Ransom Jones died October 17, 1895 at the county home outside of Reedsburg. He was a prominent member of the Baptist Society and a leader in Sunday school work. His wife, who died several years earlier, was very active in sanitary work during the war. Jones was an active member in the Masonic fraternity and that organization assisted in the services.

In April of 1868, and as late as 1869, **Booth and Grandy Painters** were located at approximately this address. They did carriage, sign, ornamental and house painting, also, graining and imitation of wood.

In February of 1875, **Claus Hagenah** opened a new **Cabinet Ware** manufacturing operation at this site. Picture framing was his specialty. However, by December of 1875, **Mr. G. W. Marchant** purchased of **Mrs. Booth** the two-story frame building located near the Northeast corner of the square and converted it into a joiner shop. By 1876, **Marchant and Holman, Builders** were located here, Marchant having taken a partner. In January of 1877, they increased their facilities in carpentry by the addition of a circular slitting saw to be driven by a band-wheel.

However, in 1878 **George W. Marchant** appears to own this shop by himself as it was announced that he sold his shop to **Charles Sumner**, which gave the latter all the ground as far as the alley.

612 Oak Street South

612 Oak Street South

South portion of the structure on the east side of Oak Street, south of and adjacent to the alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

Block 23, lot 7 & 8

Sanborn map location 720 Oak Street

Architectural Description

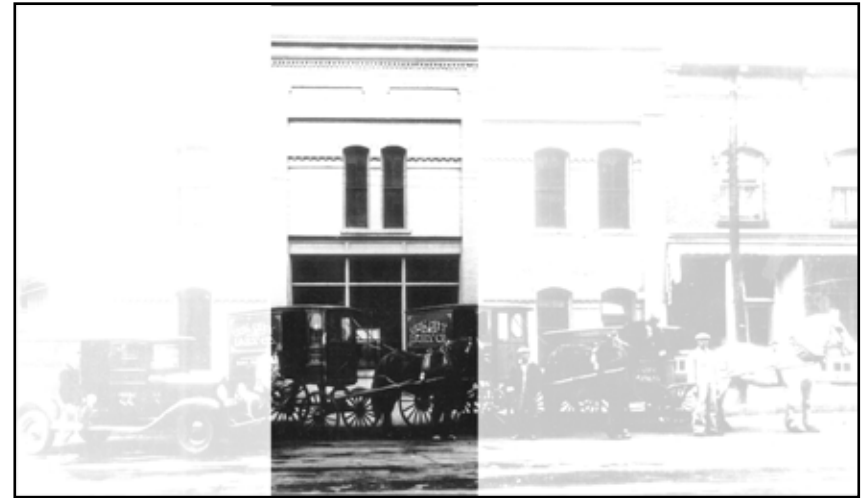
The appearance of this structure has been substantially altered since its construction in 1878. Originally windows had round hoods connected by a belt course. The central section had a large arch beneath which the drays entered and exited. The facade has been completely altered on the first and second stories, including entrances and fenestration, in order to accommodate the three business houses that now occupy the site. The north, central and south storefronts contain one, four and three modern window openings, respectively, on the second story. Each has one plate glass display window and doorway on the ground floor.

Early on, there sat a small wood frame building at this location, fronting 16 feet on Oak Street. This building was not attached to its northern neighboring building. In June of 1853, **Ransom Jones Sheet-Iron Store** was located first building north of the Adam's House and nearly opposite **Parish's Livery**. This may have been the approximate site.

In September of 1878, **Levi Crouch** began construction of a new livery of which this address is a section.

The two-story, 54 X 66 building had a basement and stable room for 25 horses. The basement also contained a very large cistern, manure pits and some closed stalls. The main floor contained the stable, carriage room, office and sleeping room, wash room, grain bins, etc. The second floor afforded ample room for storage of hay and winter vehicles. The plan was that the front elevation was to be ornamented, in stonework known as "rock-face" similar to the Sumner house. The architect was **Fred Lang**.

However, the front may have been brick faced because there was a report in the local newspaper of that time as follows: "It is not certain where the bricks in the building were made. There have been a number of places in Baraboo where brick was manufactured including



South portion of 612 Oak Street

the Captain Moore, Weirich, Secker, Griswold, and Paddock yards. Brick for the building probably cost about five or six dollars per thousand."

In November of 1878, the front portion of the second story of **Crouch's Livery Stable** was being made into a public hall. The room was fifty-four feet by forty, and fifteen feet high, with the possibilities of a stage in addition. On the front would be a balcony where it is said "the band could *Jerk a Dirge* on occasion."

When **Julia Wetmore**, later a Baraboo matron, was a little miss of 12 on her father's plantation not far from Fairfax Courthouse, Virginia, her parents being away for a day, a dignified but weary stranger rode up, lighted from his tired horse, and asked in a courtly manner if he might rest a bit. Welcomed in a friendly manner he threw himself upon a couch and had a restful nap. Rising finally, he pressed upon his youthful hostess a silver fifty-cent piece and rode away, but not before gently introducing himself as Robert E. Lee.

At that time Lee was superintendent of the West Point military academy, 46 years old, and soon after was appointed Lieutenant

612 Oak Street South

Colonel. Seven years he later was in command of the confederate armies.

That little girl in due time became the wife of Levi Crouch, long time a leading attorney in Baraboo where he died in 1891.

In January of 1879, **Samuel Crouch's** sons, **Tom G.** and **Fred** purchased the interest of Levi and moved into their new stables on Oak Street, then termed as the **Crouch Brothers' Livery**. They were proud of what they termed the finest quarters to be found in any town of this size in Wisconsin.

The following article was published in the local newspaper in December of 1883:

"In 1883, any of the citizens in passing Crouch's livery stable have noticed the large trench in the public alley used for taking horses into the cellar of the stable, the same trench being a dangerous obstruction to travel and one liable to occasion a serious accident resulting in heavy damages against the city. In addition to the trench, all of the manure from the extensive stable is placed in the alley, the stench from the same polluting the atmosphere of the entire community, the principal hotel of the city being immediately opposite. About three weeks back the city council passed a resolution ordering the owner's of the livery stable to close the trench, the Marshall notifying them to that effect. Instead of obeying the mandate of the city authorities a force of laborers was employed to excavate a larger and more dangerous trench in the said public alley, which was completed and walled up before the next city council meeting. This defiance of their resolution and order has been met with a suit against the proprietor of the stable to find out if he owns the public alley and has a right to convert it to his own use, regardless of the injury to adjoining property top say nothing of the fearful stench arising from the mammoth deposit of manure. The city authorities have made a move in the right direction and every law abiding citizen will maintain them in their endeavor to abate nuisances tending to occasion accidents or ill health. Let the good work move on until our beautiful city is placed in A-1 sanitary condition."

Samuel Crouch died Saturday, Feb. 4, 1899 at his home, just north of the opera house. Asthma and heart trouble were the cause of

his death. The deceased was born in 1826. He leaves a daughter, **Mrs. Amanda Holcomb**, and two sons, Fred and Tom, all of Baraboo. He came to Baraboo over twenty years ago and had been engaged here in the livery and feed business in which he was very successful.

George Hill stated in a newspaper interview that when he came to town in 1866, a livery barn was in operation in the building and **Mr. Hill** was employed there. Mr. Crouch sold to **Fred Schultz and Cassius Greenslet**. **George Hill** eventually purchased the Schultz interest and in 1893 sold to **Tunis N. Vanderveer**. Still, others had an interest in the business and building, including **S. Cobleigh**. In August of 1894, the name of the firm became the **T. N. Vanderveer and Company, Livery Stable** when Greenslet and Vanderveer mutually agreed to dissolve their livery and bus line business. **Mr. Butler** and **Mr. Shults** became partners of Vanderveer in August of 1895. By the end of 1896, T. N. Vanderveer was operating without partners.

Greenslet moved to 513 Broadway between 1896 and 1898. However, between 1903 and 1905, 610 Oak Street was listed as the **Warren House Livery**, operated by T. N. Vanderveer.

Some records indicate that **Sherman Luce** purchased this building in 1900 and conducted the **Sherm Luce Livery**. **G. J. Paddock & Sons** also operated a **Livery Stable** here between 1900 and 1907 when the business was sold to **John Fry** who took possession in April of that year..

There are some records that indicate that this building was owned by Paddock during this time. Luce also operated here until about 1922 when **Henry Potterville** purchased the building. Those acquainted with the livery business in the past years state the barn never made a great deal of money. The outlay for vehicles, horses, harness, feed, labor and other expenses devoured the profits.

Potterville sold the building to the **Gem City Dairy** in 1925. The dairy took possession May 1, of that year.

A deal was closed in May of 1925 whereby **H.C. Kinzler** became the sole owner of the **Gem City Dairy Co**. He purchased the interests of **M. T. Sherwood**. Gem city dairy was established a few years ago by Mr. Sherwood and later Mr. Kinzler merged his milk concern with Gem City Dairy. The location underwent vast

612 Oak Street South

remodeling and before June arrived the business was housed in the new location. A new refrigerator was installed at a cost of over \$1,500.00.

Effective the first of May, 1936, the Gem City Dairy took over the milk route of **George Holmes**, Baraboo's oldest and best known milk man. Mr. Holmes had been in business here 32 years, operating his dairy at the rear of his home on Third Avenue. For 30 years he has been at this same location and he wished to thank all of his customers for the patronage he has enjoyed these many years.

With the acquisition of Mr. Holmes' business the Gem City dairy could then offer an additional service to its patrons, supplying those who wish it with raw milk although the dairy continued to specialize in pasteurized milk and cream

In April of 1938, the Gem city dairy building on Oak street was sold by Henry C, Kinzler to **Matthew C. Mandt** and **Theodore A. Mandt** of Madison, who had for some years operated the dairy business there.

In 1951, the Mandt brothers announced that they would be moving to South Boulevard in a few months. They leased the building owned by Dr. John moon and formerly occupied by the Schuette Implement Company.

In April of 1952, **Clarence Weinke** purchased the Gem City Dairy building at 610 and 612 Oak. One-half of the building would be used as a restaurant while the other half would be put to use as a tavern.

Between 1954 and 1987 the **Avalon Bar** was located at this site. **William Hayes** was listed as president in the 1955 city directory.

Mike Beckman purchased the Avalon Bar in 1975 from the **Hewitt brothers, Walter (Baldy)** and **Pete. Dorothy Weinke** owned the building at that time. Weinke eventually sold the building to **John Villas** who owned the Coffee Shop next door south at 610 Oak Street. Beckman sold the Avalon Bar to **Paul Cady** in 1985.

612-1/2 Oak St.

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1946-1947 | Lillian K. Eldridge School of Dancing |
| 1954 | Dr. Donald K. Baxter |
| 1954 | WRDB-WWCF Studio |
| 1955 | WRDB Studio |
| 1957 | Halsted & Halsted General Contractors |
| 1975-1985 | Joe Burke Insurance Agency |

612 Oak Street North

612 Oak Street North

Northern portion of the structure on the east side of Oak Street, south of and adjacent to the alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

Block 23, lot 7 & 8

Sanborn map location 720 Oak Street

Architectural Description

The appearance of this structure has been substantially altered since its construction in 1878. Originally windows had round hoods connected by a belt course. The central section had a large arc beneath which the drays entered and exited. The façade has been completely altered on the first and second stories, including entrances and fenestration, in order to accommodate the three business houses that now occupy the site. The north, central and south storefronts contain one, four and three modern window openings, respectively, on the second story. Each has one plate glass display window and doorway on the ground floor.

This site has alternately been identified as 612 and 614 Oak Street throughout the years. One of the problems in researching the “on the hill” business district is the assignment of site numbers. The city fathers provided that every 22 lineal feet of a street would be assigned a number. This rule is occasionally waived.

In September of 1878, **Levi Crouch** began construction of a new livery of which this address is a section.

The two-story, 54 X 66 building had a basement and stable room for 25 horses. The basement also contained a very large cistern, manure pits and some closed stalls. The main floor contained the stable, carriage room, office and sleeping room, wash room, grain bins, etc. The second floor afforded ample room for storage of hay and winter vehicles. The plan was that the front elevation was to be ornamented, in stonework known as “rock-face” similar to the Sumner house. The architect was Fred Lang.

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Northern third of 612 Oak Street

However, the front may have been brick faced because there was a report in the local newspaper of that time as follows: “It is not certain where the bricks in the building were made. There have been a number of places in Baraboo where brick was manufactured including the Captain Moore, Weirich, Secker, Griswold, and Paddock yards. Brick for the building probably cost about five or six dollars per thousand.”

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612 Oak Street North

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It was reported that Greenslet moved to 513 Broadway between 1895 and 1898. However, between 1903 and 1905, 610 Oak Street was listed as the **Warren House Livery**, operated by T. N. Vanderveer.

Some records indicate that Sherman Luce purchased this building during the 1890's and conducted the **Sherm Luce Livery**. **G. J. Paddock** also operated a **Livery Stable** here between 1900 and 1925. The 1917 city directory lists the **Sherm Luce Livery & Carriage Company** at 610-612 Oak Street

There are some records that indicate that this building was owned by Paddock during this time. Luce also operated here until about 1922 when **Henry Potterville** purchased the building. Those acquainted with the livery business in the past years state the barn never made a great deal of money. The outlay for vehicles, horses, harness, feed, labor and other expenses devoured the profits.

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In 1951, the Mandt brothers announced that they would be moving to South Boulevard in a few months. They leased the building owned by Dr. John Moon and formerly occupied by the Schuette Implement Company.

In 1964 the **House of Pierre** was operating here. By 1968 the Coiffure Stylist business was located at 221 Fourth Avenue. 1971 finds the **Joe Burke Insurance Agency** here. **Gerald Beltor Realty** shared this structure in 1976. Burke remained here until at least 1985. Following Burke in 1986 was the **Clay Castle**, which produced and sold ceramic products. **Phyllis J. Stawicki** conducted this business until 1989.

Between 1989 and 1991 **Robert Sprecher** conducted **Micro Solutions** here. He then moved north of and adjacent to the Alley. **Softsell Promotions** was located at this site between 1992 and 1994. In 1995 **Beth Roney-Drennan** moved the **Peoples Legal Assistance Center** here from 221 Third Avenue, renaming it the **Teresa House Inc. Legal Clinic** in 1997. On January 1, 1998 we find **Alan Bomstein** conducting **Simple Pleasures & Forget Me Nots, Bath Shop**, later calling the establishment **Balloons Plus, Party and Magician Supplies**. In 1999 **The Ultimate Computer Arena** is located at this site being replaced with the **Community Psychological Center LLC** in 2000.

612 Oak Street North

In June of 2004 **Salome Gall** moved **Salome's Sewing and Alterations** to this address. Salome was born in the Philippines on April 6, 1959. She traveled to Saudi Arabia in 1987 where she was the personal dressmaker for the Princess Hessa Abdulaziz. After seven long years of heavy responsibility, Salome moved to Kuwait where she met her future husband **Duane** who was employed by General Dynamics. They were later married in Hong Kong and in 2002 Duane came back to his hometown, Baraboo, with his new wife by his side. Salome then leased a small space from Judith Curtin at Shear Class and opened her sewing shop.

In October of 2005, **Michael Richards** located here conducting **The Downtown Tailor**. By January of 2007, and probably much earlier, there was a for rent sign in the window.

612-1/2 Oak St.

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1946-1947 | Lillian K. Eldridge School of Dancing |
| 1954 | Dr. Donald K. Baxter |
| 1954 | WRDB-WWCF Studio |
| 1955 | WRDB Studio |
| 1957 | Halsted & Halsted General Contractors |

614 & 614-1/2 Oak Street

614 & 614-1/2 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street,
north of and adjacent to the alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets.
Block 23, lot 6
Sanborn map location 721 Oak Street

This property was a government grant to **Edward W. Hart** in 1847. Hart sold it to **James C. Hawser** and in 1856; Hawser sold it to **William Andrews and Herbert Huntington**.

The next owner was **Joseph Downer** who acquired the property in 1861, selling it to **Samuel S. Grubb** in 1870.

The Grubb brothers, **W. (Wlm?) S. and Samuel** had their **hop business headquarters** here at one time. This was probably about 1870-1892, as the abstract revealed that it belonged to Samuel S. Grubb during that period.

In July of 1876, **A. Rich** sold this building to **H. C. Noyes**. In August of 1877, **J. S. Hall** moved his **Marble Works** to this site from 112 Fourth Avenue, later known as **Hall Brothers. Baldwin & Noyes** had previously occupied this location. However, in April of 1881, **Messrs. Knowlton & S. A. Collins** of Cazenovia purchased this business and renamed it the **Baraboo Marble Works**. Then, in November of the same year, the firm dissolved and **W. A. Knowlton** continued the business. However, somehow Collins ended up with the business because in December of 1883, **Collins** transferred his entire interest in the **Marble Works** to Mr. **Ezra O. Holden**. The address of this business was given as Oak near Fourth, so it was approximately at this address.

Charles Wild purchased the property in 1892, evidently from Grubb, and sold it to **E. O. Holden** the same year.

The name was changed to **Holden's Monument Works**. Later, Holden also held the office of Superintendent of The County Poor. The Monument Works was located at this site until his death in 1906.

Holden died in April of 1906 while at work in the Baraboo cemetery laying a stone in the Ross lot. The deceased was born in Chesterfield, New Hampshire in June of 1833. As a young man he learned the trade of a cooper in Youngstown, New York. Later he went

to Iowa for a short time, returning to Youngstown to get married in 1857 to Miss Jennie M. Hyde, who survives him. They traveled to Baraboo on their wedding trip and Mr. Bassett convinced him to stay and work in Bassett's cooperage. Besides his wife he left three daughters, Suzie, Helen and Jessie. A son Robert and another daughter preceded him in death.

After Holden's death, the Stotzer Granite & Marble Works who had opened an office in the Elkington Building on Fourth Street purchased his business from the estate.

The Lars Haugen, Tailor shop, occupied this site in 1910. Haugen, who was formerly employed by H. Kasiska as a coat maker, opened a bushel and tailor shop here in March of 1910 and remained until the middle of 1911 when he moved to 128 Fourth Avenue. In August of 1911 **Thomas Whistance** moved his shoe shop from 606 Oak into this frame building and remained here until at least 1917.

In December of 1932, **C. W. Gerks** moved his **cabinet making shop** to this location. He had been located on the second floor of the old frame building located at 151 Third Street until it was razed recently. He had taken up temporary quarters over Grant Alberts' blacksmith shop prior to moving here.

E. H. Kinney purchased **Glen Hyatt's Barber Shop**, which was located here, in August of 1943. Prior to that date Kinney had been with Potratz. In 1945 **Charles Cafilisch** purchased Kinney's wood frame building from **Mrs. Jessie C. Holden** with possible intentions of expanding his business into those quarters. Kinney remained here until at least 1947.

In March of 1948, the old frame building, located here was being razed to make way for a new modern business building. The new building would be of cement block faced with brick. The old building, as so many of the old buildings were, was constructed higher than the street with steps leading up to it.

As early as 1949, **Ernest Mueller** was conducting **Mueller Studio and Camera Shop** on this site. Mueller moved his business to 110 Fourth Avenue in 1952.

Thorp Finance Corporation held their grand opening at their new office at this site in January of 1953. The manager, **John**

614 & 614-1/2 Oak Street

Hogness, and his assistants showed a series of glassed-in private offices that were arranged attractively with modern furnishings.

In January of 1954, **Anthony Chicanich** purchased the **Modern Shoe Repair** business from **Ralph Bethke**. It is believed that Bethke moved here about 1951 from Fourth Street. Chicanich died in August of 1956.

Thorpe Finance was located here until at least 1982. 1985 finds **Heights Financial Corporation** at this site while in 1988 and 1989 **Harlan's TV and Appliance Corporation** was being conducted. **Joe Burke Agency** shared this location in 1969.

In 1993-2001 **Micro Solutions Computer Service and Sales** moved here from 612 Oak Street North. The name was later changed to **Micro Solutions Consulting**.

In the year 2000, Micro Solutions Consulting announced that its Internet service provider business had been sold to **Go2America of Wausau**. Micro Solutions was the first Internet service provider in the Baraboo and Wisconsin Dells area, providing Internet service since November of 1995. They have been in the consulting business since 1990. **Mitch Viegut** owned the new company.

In May of 2001, **Robert Sprecher** and Wegner LLP announced the merger of the two companies. The new operation will be called "**Wegner Technologies, LLP**". Mr. Sprecher would hold 40 percent of the new business while the Wegner Group would hold the remainder. Sprecher announced that they would soon be leaving their Oak street location and moving to the Wegner building on Second street. Micro Solution's staff of seven would stay with the newly formed company.

From 1993 to 1994 **Business Record Methods** was operating here while on November 26, 2001, "**Curves for Women**" left their west Baraboo home and moved to downtown Baraboo. The owner of the new business, **Rosalyn Koyak** said that the move made Curves more spacious and accessible. Curves is one of the top franchised fitness centers in the United States with over 3000 centers nationwide.

In August of 2005, **Michele Hotzel** was reported as being the new owner of the **Curves for Women** establishment. Hotzel had been

employed as a trainer at Curves since November of 2004. This was the year that Curves celebrated ten years of service in the Baraboo area.

Tammy Rudolph-Pate and **Kimay Hasheider** announced that they had assumed management and ownership of curves in January of 2007. Rudolph-Pate was one of the early customers in the year 2000 and when the duo learned that the franchise was for sale they jumped at it. The two were not exactly new to the system, as they had conducted similar businesses in Monroe and New Glarus.

614-1/2 Oak Street

Fred Morey noted that he had practiced here with the **Electric Band**, which **Lewis Weirich** directed, probably about 1888. About 1890, Morey formed a band, known as the A. A. U. W. Band that practiced in the old Stanley building

616 Oak Street Ben Doty Battery and Tire Company



Benjamin E. Doty at work, c1930

616 Oak Street

616 Oak Street

Located on the east side of Oak Street, north of the alley
between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

Block 23, lot 5 & 6

Sanborn map location between 712 & 722 Oak Street

In September of 1902, **W. D. Stanley** requested a permit to construct a one-story brick veneered building at this location, known as Block 23, lots 5 & 6. It is assumed that his request for a permit was granted.

In August of 1906, **W. D. Bartlett** moved his **general repair and second hand shop** to this site. In January 1908, he moved his business to 131 Fourth Street.

Charles E. Brown, who formerly lived in Prairie du Sac, opened the **People's Grocery Store** here in January of 1909. Brown was once a resident of this area and had several brothers here. In January of 1910, Brown closed operations at this address

April of 1910 found **W. W. Wareham**, M. D. V., settled into his new **veterinary quarters** on Oak Street, next to George Gibbons' blacksmith shop. Wareham was a graduate of the Chicago Veterinary College. By 1912 we find the **Ray W. Jeffries Electrician Shop** at this location.

In March of 1919, **Benjamin E. Doty** returned from Milwaukee and purchased the shop back from Hughes. Hughes had been located at 121 Fourth Street.

Next comes the **Doty & Binger Battery and Tire Co.** in 1920. By 1921, Doty had purchased Binger's interest in the business. Then Doty and **Glen O. Allen** joined forces, but this partnership ended in January of 1923. **Ben Doty** went on to become the **Star Automobile** dealer here in 1924.

In 1924, **Albert Carlton** of Milwaukee, a son-in-law of Frank Wickus of Baraboo, purchased the **Ben Doty Tire and Vulcanizing shop** and took possession Wednesday, August 20. Carlton had been associated with the Federal Tire Company for the past two years and was thoroughly familiar with auto tires and auto repair work. In January of 1929, the firm of **Carlson-Wickus Used Cars** was located

here and in September of the same year, Carlson-Wickus, having obtained the Chrysler Agency, moved to 104 Broadway.

Ben Doty, who had earlier moved to the Gem City Garage building, would then move his **vulcanizing and tire business** back here and remain in business until 1933. **Mrs. Edith M. Doty** insured this building in 1935 and 1936.

By 1933 there was a **Carpenter Shop** located here, being followed by the **Hein Motor Sales Studebaker Sales & Service** business in 1936. In 1936 a sign permit was issued to **Basil S. Davis** for the new **Davis Auto Repair Shop**. This business was obviously short lived as in the latter part of the same year we find **W.H. Voiles Electric Repair Shop, Willy's Sales & Service**. The last two years his business was listed as **Voiles' Electric Service**.

In October of 1941, Walter Voiles was issued a building permit at 616 Oak Street for remodeling.

In March of 1942, **Charles Cafilisch** purchased the building at this site from Voiles to house the **Badger 5 Hour Cleaners**, later to be known as the **Badger Cleaners**. He immediately remodeled the interior and put on a new front. He moved from the Degan building at 111 second Street in April of 1942. Voiles had purchased the H. H. Grubb residence on Ridge Street where he expected to move his shop.

In October of 1963, Cafilisch, 56, was found dead at his place of business. Employees reporting for work at 7:00 notified authorities that determined that his death was at his own hand, a result of hanging.

Joe Halasz purchased this business about 1980, later selling it to **Everett and Nancy Cassity**. The Cassity's sold to **Dave Bieno** in 2006.

618 Oak Street

618 Oak Street

Third structure on the east side of Oak Street,
north of the alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets.
First Sanborn Map 1885
Sanborn Location No. 722

In September of 1880, **George Gibbons** purchased a building lot of **Levi Crouch**, next south of Davis & Ewing's Livery and began erection of a **Blacksmith Shop**, a stone building, 22 X 40; 11 ft. clear, for his own use. The new shop had a price tag of \$800. In June of 1887 he added a 20 ft. addition.

In May of 1912 **Phil H. Gibbons** sold his shop, located at 618 Oak Street, to **A.R. Jaedike** and **George Gall**. Jaedike had conducted a business in the Elkington Building on Fourth Street for about a year while Gibbons had employed Mr. Gall.

In August of 1914, Jaedike was alone here conducting the **Gem City Horse Shoeing Co.**, a general blacksmith shop after having purchased Gall's interest in the business.

In February of 1918, Jaedike traded in his building and the lot it sits on towards a farm at Viroqua. Jaedike was not sure whether he would move or rent the farm and continue his business here. After closing the shop for a brief period, Jaedike again opened it in April.

However, Jaedike did not stay here long. Due to the shortage of machinists during the war he moved to Beloit where he became employed at the Fairbanks-Morse Company as a tool dresser. Ed Weber who had formerly conducted the Weber Hardware at 151 Third Street was also employed at Fairbanks-Morse.

In April of 1919, **Jerome Briggs** purchased and remodeled this building, which was then owned by **Phil Gibbons**. He then put in a full stock of feed, flour and farm seed such as clover, timothy, etc. Briggs first went into business in the old stone building located where the McGuan-Fogle store later operated on Oak, then in the building later occupied by the Koppke store and later in the Herfort building at 109 Third avenue, which would eventually house the Welch plumbing works. After the remodeling of the former Gibbons property was done, Briggs moved his **Flour and Feed Store** there. In 1921 he went into the grocery business, renaming the business **The Sterling Grocery**

Store. In June of 1921, **L. W. Briggs** purchased an interest in this store. However, by the end of July of the same year, L. Briggs had transferred his employment to the new Baraboo Dye House on Oak Street where he would reign as manager.

In March of 1922 **W. I. Cole**, generally known as "**Irvie**", joined Briggs and the business became known as **Briggs & Cole Grocery Co.** Mr. & Mrs. Cole moved to the city to better educate their children of which they had two in high school. However the firm dissolved their partnership in September of 1922. Mr. Cole had been associated with the business for only six months and the former owner would then continue to run the store again as the **Sterling Grocery Store**.

W. L. Peterson of West Salem then purchased the business and took possession on Dec. 1, 1923. Mr. & Mrs. Briggs had conducted a feed and grocery store in Baraboo since 1902, and felt that they were entitled to a little rest. Mr. Peterson was married and had three children. Next, **S.W. Sweger**, who had been in business in Viroqua and Westby during the past 25 years, purchased the store from Peterson in November of 1924.

Then, in May of 1926, **Harold Boyd** purchased the store. He planned to continue the business along the same lines as the previous owner. The store was then connected with the city delivery system. Mr. Boyd was experienced in the grocery business, having been engaged in this line with his father at Marshalltown, Iowa, before coming to Baraboo.

The jewelry repair shop which Mr. Boyd had opened some months ago at 504 Oak, would be located in the rear of the grocery store and he would continue this work in connection with the new business.

This business was short lived and in August of 1927 C.E. Price purchased the Harry Apostle shoe shop on Fourth Street. A few months later, Mr. Apostle opened **Apostle's Lunch Room and Pool Hall** at this site.

In March of 1929, **William Pierce** purchased this building from J. Briggs. Mr. Pierce was formerly in the grocery business on Walnut Street and left his son, Ralph and Orrin Brand in charge of that

618 Oak Street

business. Harry Apostle promptly purchased a lot at 116 Fourth Street for his business.

In July of 1933 **Leo DuBoise** was granted a new beer & wine license. He was issued an extension in July of 1936.

By 1936 and until at least 1938 **Bob Caffisch** operated the **Silver Bar Tavern** here. By 1938 it was called the **Wagon Wheel Tavern**, which was purchased in 1946 by **Leo A. Frazer** and **Leonard W. Zobel**, partners. Frazer and Zobel had married sisters. About 1961 Frazer purchased Zobel's interest in the business and then sold to **R. Kenneth** and **Carol Fishburn** in 1963.

The Fishburn's were co-owners of the business as late as 1973. By 1974 the business was renamed **Dolly's Wagon Wheel Tavern** with Carol Fishburn listed as owner as late as 1980.

Sometime in 1980, **Barbara's Happy Days**, a youth recreation center opened at this site.

In 1985 we find **Tom & Jerry's Pizza Inc.** here while in 1987 **Karen Carpenter** established **Karen's Hair Care** here. In 1988 the **Pizza Hut Delivery** kitchen was operating out of the rear of this building with **Suzie's Kitchen** sharing their space in 1989. Carpenter operated here until 1994 when **Judith Curtin** established **Shear Class** here. Pizza Hut Delivery eventually moved to Eighth Street. Sometime in 2002, **Salome's Sewing and Alterations** joined Shear Class at this location. In July of 2004 Salome moved her operation to North 612 Oak Street.

2005 found this site sitting empty.



Wagon Wheel Tavern

618 Oak Street

circa 1941-1946

619 Oak Street

619 Oak Street

Located on the west side of Oak Street north of the alley
between Fourth & Fifth Avenue
Block 22, lot 1
Sanborn map location 614 Oak Street

Lum Parrish had a small **livery stable** at about this location prior to 1850. In 1850, the sign out front read **Parrish and Hart Livery Stable**. In November of 1854, Parrish & Hart established a new line to Madison via Lodi. The four-horse coach left Baraboo every Monday, Wednesday & Friday returning to Baraboo on the next day. At the same time, the **Bacon & Stanley Line** was operating an Express Line, running to and from Madison, via Lodi, on a daily basis. **Wheeler and Case**, at the same time, was running Baraboo to Prairie LaCrosse. The run would leave Baraboo every Monday morning at 7:00 and leave LaCrosse every Thursday morning at 6:00.

The 1885 Sanborn insurance map shows four structures directly north of the alley between Fourth Avenue and Fifth Avenue on the west side of Oak Street.

The building north of and adjacent to the alley (Sanborn 611) is unidentified in 1885. As early as August of 1866, **E. W. Piper** had a **Photographic Studio** on Oak, north of the square. It may have been here but by 1892 there was nothing but an empty lot here with a woodpile on it.

The second building north of the alley (Sanborn 612) is identified as a **Flour & Feed store**. By 1890, there is evidence of a house and work shop owned by a **Mr. Murray**.

In December of 1872 it was reported that Mr. Gust & Brother were constructing a building, 18 by 36, almost directly across from the Davis Livery on Oak Street. Next north (Sanborn 613) is shown as a **Meat Market**. In the early part of 1877, the **Gust Brothers** conducted a meat market here and in 1880, **Adolph Gust** conducted the **William Gust Meat Market** at this site. In 1887, it was reported that **August Gust** intended to open another **meat market** north of the Warren House, recently occupied by **J. D. Bergert**. On April 28, 1890, a fire broke out at this site, then occupied by the **Webb Brothers' Meat Shop**, and still owned by William Gust... The building had a value of

about \$400 as did the stock and tools of the Webb Brothers. The fire was discovered in the rear of the building and quickly spread to the bakery next door. The house and **shop** of **John Murray**, a few feet south of the market, was saved with little damage. Mr. Murray, an invalid was carried safely from the building.

The fourth building (Sanborn 614) is identified as a **Music Store** in 1885. In November of 1884, **Robert A. Radel** was advertising a **Meat Market** opposite Ewing's Livery, which would place it about here. By 1890 was **Locke's Bakery**. In 1888, **A. G. Locke** came to Baraboo and opened **Locke's Bakery** at this site. Locke was New Hampshire born and moved to Chicago in 1859 where he remained until entering the Navy under Admiral Dahlgren. At the end of the war he returned to Chicago where he remained until 1888 when he came to Baraboo and reopened this bakery. In May of 1890, it was reported that **A. G. Locke** had rented the Stutson building at 111 Third Street for his bakery and would be opening within a week.

Locke evidently closed his bakery on Third Street as it was reported in March of 1891, that Locke had re-opened his bakery here. In 1893, Locke moved to 121 Third Street.

In March of 1896, Locke suffered a fire at his bakery, which as described as being at the rear of the Warren Hotel. The family lived on the second floor and had not yet arisen. Ben Le Baron, who looked after the oven, was in the basement when he noticed a blaze in the frame of the building over the oven. An alarm was immediately turned in but the rear of the building was eventually lost. About 300 loaves of bread were ruined by water.

It appears as though a new structure was built after the fire as by 1892 this building is identified as 619 Oak Street. It houses a **Flour & Feed Store**. It is probably about 60 feet north of the alley. By March of 1898, Jacob Ott is conducting a **Carpenter Shop** here and by 1904 it houses an **office**.

In March of 1904, **Dr. L. Helm** was busy remodeling the building behind the Warren House. He planned on opening a **veterinarian office**. He operated here as a vet until 1910.

By 1910 Helm had switched to a garage and auto business and was operating **L. P. Helm, Garage & Automobiles**.

619 Oak Street

The “**Wisconsin**” was the name of the new truck, which was built by Helms with, plans to produce them for sale to the general public. For several days, the truck newly manufactured at Helm’s Oak street garage, was put through tests to prove its durability. The truck was that of a two-ton type, with a 35-horse power engine. Intentions were to sell the car for \$2,000 or possibly less.

A demonstration was given on Wednesday, April 31, 1913, which proved that the car had the ability to make good. A 3600-pound load of bran was put on the truck at the depot for the Lyon’s store. There were also four men on the truck. A dray loaded with 6000 pounds was loaded at the same time, and at the suggestion of a witness, Mr. Helm hitched the dray behind the truck and took the whole load to Lyons in half the time a team could have taken one load.

Two more trucks were under construction at this time and the prospects were that some Baraboo people would invest in them for general use. At the September 1913 meeting of the city council, it was decided to invest in an auto fire truck, and after considering several options it was decided to take the home product, the Wisconsin truck, built by L. P. Helm.

The truck was to be a standard model-A chassis, with a 60-horse Waukesha motor with 5 X 6 inch cylinders. The car would be a twin-chain drive with dual wheels on the rear, geared to 25 to 30 miles an hour. It was to be equipped with a 50-gallon chemical tank, two or three ladders, hose basket and the usual fire fighting tools.

The 1927 Sanborn map shows a much larger structure than was there in 1904. Sometime in that window of time, the old structure may have been added on to or demolished to make way for a new, larger building.

By 1917 the **Judevine, Langdon & Palmer Garage** was being conducted here by **Herbert W. Judevine, Earl Langdon** and **Mac M. Palmer** as partners.

It is thought that **J. F. Sneathen** had a **Maxwell Agency** and an auto repair shop here in October of 1917. It was called the **Central Garage**. **Ward Shepard** was the demonstrator. If this agency was not here, it was somewhere on Oak. In February of 1918, Sneathen sold the then called **Maxwell Garage** to brothers, **Harry and George**

Dougherty. Then in September of 1919 **M. Feinberg** was running the **Baraboo Auto Exchange & Supply Co.** at this site.

In November of 1919 the **Reul Brothers** leased this building, planning on moving their machinery, equipment and accessories here where they would operate their repair shop, retaining the large garage across the street at 620-624 Oak Street for storage of automobiles, etc.

Arthur S. Lanich, who formerly operated a garage there, owned the building at 620-624 Oak. Lanich who still owned that building resided in Canton, Ohio.

The Baraboo Auto Exchange & Supply Company, of which Mr. M. Feinberg was the proprietor, would then take care of its business at the other garage at 102 Ash Street. Feinberg would eventually open an Auto Exchange business in 1925 in the former elephant barn of Ringling’s on Water Street. In January of 1920, Julius Reul purchased the interest of his brother, Charles in this establishment.

Later in 1920, **Lloyd (Tip) Tarnutzer** purchased the interests of Julius Reul in the **Reul Brothers’ Garage** at 620-624 Oak Street. He expected to take possession July 15, 1920. Mr. Tarnutzer also leased the Helm building at this address that would be used for repair purposes. The new proprietor hailed from Prairie du Sac and was the son of **Sheriff and Mrs. William Tarnutzer** of this city. Tarnutzer had handled the **Moline** automobile since 1910 in Prairie du Sac. He had the Dodge agency since 1914, the date the Dodge Brothers started car production and owned one of the first **Dodge cars** in the state. Mr. Tarnutzer had two garages in Prairie du Sac that he would continue to operate. The **Tarnutzer Garage** operated until at least 1940.

In June of 1951 **John M. Morrnick** of **Morrnick Auto Sales**, local **Studebaker** and **Edsal dealer** purchased the Tarnutzer garage located across and on the west side of the street. The purchase was made from Lloyd Tarnutzer and included this large garage and storage building.

In 1954 and 1955 the **Firestone Store** was being conducted here by **Leonard Harms**. **John Morrnick** had decided to move his repair shop across the street to his garage building. By 1957 Harms had moved to 701 Oak Street.

619 Oak Street

L. H. Ploetz of Ploetz Furniture purchased this building in March of 1965. The purchase, made from **LaVerne Tarnutzer**, included the garage building across the street at 620-624 Oak Street. The buildings would be used for storage.

In October of 1965, the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company of Milwaukee announced the opening of a new **Firestone Safety Center** at this location. The company would feature all makes of Firestone passenger, truck and tractor tires. **Gene Paris** would conduct the business.

In 1978 **Hill, Quale, Hartmann, Bohl & Evenson** law offices were operating out of a new building on this site. Many partners and associates would come and go over the following years.

August of 1986 found Atty. James Evenson became **Judge James Evenson** as he was sworn in by **Judge Robert Curtain**. Evenson, who would preside over Branch II, vowed to work hard and commended his predecessor, **Judge James Seering**.

On July 1, 2005, Quale Hartmann Law firm merged with the Madison based **Boardman Law Firm**. In the year 2010 the **Boardman, Quale, Hartmann Law Firm** will celebrate its 100 year anniversary.

A brief history of the firm was printed in the *Baraboo News Republic* on February 2, 2010 as follows:

"The firm was started by James H. Hill, who graduated from Spring Green High School at the age of 15. In 1906, he was elected clerk of court for Sauk County. While in that office, Hill studied law on his own, and wrote and passed the Wisconsin bar examination in 1909.

Early members of the law firm included Wisconsin's 65th. Woman lawyer, Erma Miller. She also passed the Wisconsin Bar examination without any college education in 1927. She practiced law in the firm's Baraboo office until illness forced her into retirement in 1970.

Another early member was James H. Hill Jr...He joined the firm after graduating from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1933. Rounding out the first 50 years of the firm's existence, Glenn Quale became the law firm's fourth lawyer in 1952.

More recently, circuit judges James Evenson and Guy Reynolds are former members of the firm as is Baraboo's City Attorney, Mark Reitz.

Thomas Groeneweg has served area businesses with real estate expertise since 1975. Just a Lodi farm boy, as he likes to say, Forest Hartmann started with the firm in 1966 and continues to provide leadership to attorneys old and new."

620-624 Oak Street

620-624 Oak Street

Located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Oak and Fifth Streets.
Block 23, lot 5 & 6
Sanborn Location No. 723

In the early years of Baraboo, a framed cottage stood at this corner facing Fifth Street, possibly belonging to Joe Davis.

In 1872 **Joseph Davis** erected a **livery stable** on this corner. The new building would measure 40 by 75 feet, incorporating the old building. The whole building was 66 by 75, including carriage rooms, offices etc.

In October of 1875, **J. H. Vrooman** purchased this livery from J. R. Davis and his son. The **Crouch Brother, Levi and Fred**, purchased this livery from Vrooman in February of 1878, possibly moving the stock to 620-624 Oak Street. There are also some reports of **Samuel Crouch** being here at that time.

In September of 1878, **Davis & Ewing**, who had a livery on Fourth Street, exchanged stables with the **Crouch Brothers**. The former would occupy the **Oak Street Stable** permanently and the latter the other temporarily, until their new stone structure, located at 610-612 Oak, was completed. In January of 1882, the firm of Davis & Ewing ended their partnership here. The business would be continued by Ewing.

In 1888, Ewing constructed a new livery at 117-119 Fourth Street. A livery or feed store was located here until at least 1913. In 1902, the **Schneller Livery Stable** was being conducted here.

In June of 1915 **Earl Graves** and **Marion Douglas** purchased the livery at 117-119 Fourth Street. At the same time, the new owners bought out the bus line of Sherm Luce located at 610-612 Oak. Their headquarters would be at the old livery barn at this address and would be operated as the **Gem City Transfer Line**.

In July of 1915, **W. D. Johnson** purchased this property with thoughts of building a large garage in which automobiles could be stored. It was reported that he bought the "**Crouch**" property. Johnson remarked that gasoline was slowly replacing oats as fuel and he was going to plan for that circumstance.



View showing the north side of Tamutzer's Garage from Fifth Street circa March of 1951. The picture is of a 1937 Plymouth 4-door sedan owned by Raleigh of North Freedom. He had been at an eighteenth birthday party for the author of this narrative in North Freedom and was returning to his workplace, the Warren Hotel, when he fell asleep and struck a tree in the 800 block of Eighth Avenue. Angle suffered a cut lip and bruises to his legs.

Razing of the barn started at once and the Gem City Transfer Line moved to 123 Vine Street. Part of the old structure was at one time used as a residence for the parents of **J. W. Davis**; Davis at this time was a member of the Davis & Cooley Coal firm.

Johnson placed the contract for the construction of the new building with the Home Lumber Construction Company of Reedsburg. The building would be 68 X 133 feet in size. It would have a concrete floor, brick walls and an oval roof of thirty pound leaded tin. There were plate glass windows on the front and one on the north with entrance to the office on both streets. Autos entered on Oak and exited on Fifth.

In September of 1916, negotiations were completed whereby the **Lanich Garage**, which was just east of this location, would

620-624 Oak Street

become attached to this property. In order to swing this deal Lanich took in two new partners, **August & Edward Schirmer**. The Lanich building would be connected to this building by means of a large doorway, which would be cut through the rear of this building into the Lanich building. It was expected that the Lanich-Schirmer automobile agency would be the largest in the state with over 15,000 square feet and entrances on two separate streets. The new firm expected to continue selling the Mitchell auto that was built in Racine.

In September of 1917, Lanich bought out his two partners and committed to conduct his enterprise alone. This ownership appeared to be short lived as in January of 1918 Lanich sold the business back to the **Schirmer Brothers**. While at this location, Lanich had developed and patented a remote garage door opener. He had installed this device at his garage as well as the Philbrick Garage. It was said that two manufacturers were after this patent and Lanich was about to take one of them up on their offer and would then move to supervise the production of the openers.

Later in the month of January, the Schirmer Brothers turned around and sold the business to **Charles G. and Julius F. Reul**. Julius had been employed in the garage the prior six years.

It is thought that in 1919, **Arthur S. Lanich** owned this building, although he lived in Canton, Ohio. The **Reul Repair shop** was located here at that time.

In January of 1920, Julius Reul purchased the interest of his brother, Charles in this establishment.

Lloyd Tarnutzer purchased Julius Reul's interest in the Reul Garage in July of 1920, expecting to take possession about July 15. Tarnutzer also leased the Helm building at 619 Oak Street for a repair department.

In August of 1921, Tarnutzer, purchased the **W. D. Johnson Building**, located at this address, occupied by Tarnutzer's storage and sales department. The Dodge repair shop is located directly across the street from the building he recently purchased.

With the introduction of the 1939 **Dodge** automobile Tarnutzer had been a Dodge Brothers dealer for 25 years. During those 25 years, Tarnutzer had sold only Dodge Brothers products with the exception of



Rollo W. Prothero

the period between 1929 and 1939 when Chrysler gave all their major contracts the **Plymouth** to sell as a car in the lower price bracket.

During the summer of 1914, Mr. Tarnutzer learned that Dodge Brothers, who were then making parts for Henry Ford, were going to put a car on the market bearing their own name. He was able to get a contract from the Dodge organization to sell their products, having Sauk County as his territory, and he received his first car during the fall of the same year. This car was shipped by freight with two other Dodge cars, one going to the Milwaukee dealer, one to the Madison dealer and the other to Mr. Tarnutzer, whose dealership was then at Prairie du Sac.

The first car was used as a demonstrator for a while and later sold to Walter Brandt of Hillpoint. Some of the first sales made were to Henry Felix, William Buehler, Ralph Kindschi and Swain Mather, all of Prairie du Sac.

These first Dodge Brothers' touring cars sold for \$817.50 without a spare tire or bumpers. In 1919 Dodge Brothers decided that a larger city would be more desirable for the direct dealership so Mr. Tarnutzer decided to rent this location from Johnson in Baraboo.

620-624 Oak Street Lloyd Tarnutzer Dodge Dealership



Lloyd Tarnutzer with antique and new 1938 Dodge Luxury Liner

620-624 Oak Street

During the pre-showing of the 1939 Dodge to the dealers in Chicago, Mr. Tarnutzer was presented with a silver plaque in recognition of his twenty-five years of continued service as a Dodge dealer. The meaning and significance of the award were told in the artistically engraved declaration that commands all men to:

"Know By These Present That Lloyd Tarnutzer Has For Twenty-Five Years Remained In Continuous Business Association With Dodge, In Recognition Whereof We Have Caused to be Issued This Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Token."

George W. Malcomson, Chicago regional manager officially representing the Dodge Company, made the actual presentation of the impressive plaque.

The dealer firm honored in this manner is one of those who have held the Dodge dealership since the company began operations a quarter century ago. Hence the dealer's silver anniversaries coincide with the silver anniversary of the manufacturing company whose contribution to American automobile progress then consisted of over four and a quarter million Dodge Motor cars.

There were only two other 25-year dealers in the state of Wisconsin and only 95 in the United States. The other dealers in Wisconsin were Edwards Motor Company of Milwaukee and Zastrow Motor Company of Racine.

During the 25 years as a Dodge dealer Mr. Tarnutzer sold at retail and wholesale 2292 Dodge and Plymouth cars and trucks. Of these he had a record of every deal as to the date, the owners name and address to which it was delivered.

Mr. Tarnutzer, in 1939, had on display in his Baraboo show room one of the first 1914 touring cars, together with the new 1939 Dodge sedan.

Lloyd Tarnutzer died in November of 1964 at the age of 76 at the Sauk-Prairie Memorial hospital. Tarnutzer was born in Madison on July 11, 1888 and on October 28, 1911 married Alta Kindschi.

In December of 1942, **Prothero & McGinnis** moved from Water Street to this location after **Farmers Union Oil Company Cooperative** moved.

The Prothero-McGinnis Buick Dealership moved from the corner of Fifth and Oak to the corner of Eighth Avenue and Summit in January of 1946. At that time the partnership was dissolved and **Reuben Prothero** became a partner of Rollo. In 1953, Reuben purchased the interests of Rollo Prothero in this dealership.

Rollo Prothero died in November of 1957 at the age of 76. Prothero had served as the Mayor of Baraboo from 1930 until 1936 and again from 1950 until 1954. A few years prior to Prothero's death, he and his daughter, Clare Ellen Prothero of Madison, purchased land just east of highway 12 south of Lake Delton and constructed the Green Ram summer theater there. Mr. Prothero resided alone there in the adjoining farmhouse. James McGinnis died in August of 1953 at the age of 82 years.

In June of 1951 **John M. Morrnick** of **Morrnick Auto Sales**, local **Studebaker** and **Edsel dealer** purchased the Tarnutzer garage located across the street from his present location. The purchase was made from Lloyd Tarnutzer and included the large garage and storage building across the street. In 1957, Morrnick obtained the Edsel agency and in 1959 the Mercury agency. Morrnick was here until at least 1962.

L. H. Ploetz of Ploetz Furniture purchased this building in March of 1965. The purchase, made from **LaVerne Tarnutzer**, included the shop building across the street at 619 Oak Street. The buildings would be used for storage. **Fichter Oil Company** was located at this address in 1961. Eventually this building was razed and at the time of this writing was a city parking lot.

623 or 627 Oak Street

623 or 627 Oak Street

Located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Oak and Fifth Avenue
Block 21, lot 1
Sanborn map location 615 Oak Street

In 1863, there was a two story building on the corner of Oak and Fifth Streets, described as one block north of the Western Hotel on the west side of Oak Street. The first floor housed a **Pump Factory** while in November of that year **Wm. H. Hill** and **E. Henderson** opened an **Ambrotype and Photograph Gallery** in the upper rooms.

By January of 1864, **E. W. Piper** and **Asa Wood** were operating a gallery, which was located in Huntington's picture rooms on the second floor also. They probably replaced Hill and Henderson. Piper and Wood's gallery may have been farther south on Oak, see 619 Oak Street. Huntington had several buildings around the city at various times in Baraboo's history.

In 1853 **W. W. Woolcott** had a **Carpenter Shop** at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Oak Street. One thing we know is that he was located opposite the Davis residence that was on Oak. In October of 1866, **Woolcott & Somers**, local builders, constructed a story and half carpenter shop on Oak Street near Fifth, probably at this location. This site was probably at the Sanborn map location No.614, which was the fourth building north of the alley between Fourth and Fifth Avenues on the west side of Oak.

In September of 1867, an announcement was made regarding the dissolution of the partnership of **Woolcott** and **B. O. Rickards**. About 1868, Woolcott packed up his tools and left for greener pastures. However, the grass did not turn out to be greener and he returned in December 1870. His trade was general carpentry including house building, window or door frames, joiner work, doors, sash, blinds, repairing of woodwork and saw filing. By November of 1873, Woolcott had joined forces with **S. F. Amy**, however by June of 1876, Woolcott and Amy had given notice of the dissolution of **Woolcott & Amy, Carpenters and Joiners**. Woolcott would continue at his old stand on Oak & Fifth until at least 1881.

It is thought that **Jacob Ott** was in business in this building also. Ott, a contractor, builder, wagon maker and boat builder of wide experience, was born in Milwaukee and came to Sauk County in 1864 locating in the town of Franklin. He learned his trade with Bohnsock of Sauk City. He worked in Spring Green for a while and then went to Chicago in 1872, contracting in that city. Six years later he moved to Kansas, then in 1881 he found himself in New Mexico as a foreman of a carpenter gang for the Denver & Rio Grande Railway. By 1882 he was back in Baraboo.

J. W. Rhodes and Edward J. Campbell, carpenters & builders had a shop here in 1895 and 1896. Their address was given as 503 Fifth Avenue.

In May of 1900, **Fred Catlin** purchased this lot at an auction for \$500 and by September he and **Pat H. Hallahan** were conducting the **Catlin-Hallahan Wagon & Blacksmith Shop** at this site. They remained here until at least 1908 and probably longer.

In January of 1915, **William Hinrich** purchased the **blacksmith shop** of **A. R. Barber** located at this site. Hinrich had been employed at the Koepp shop on Fourth Street for the prior three years.

In June of 1915 A. Koepp purchased this shop and until at least 1920, and probably until 1926, the **Albert J. Koepp Blacksmith Shop** was located here. At the same time, Koepp conducted a shop at 127 Fourth Street.

Twenty-three years after Koepp started his blacksmith career, he was as useful to the new vehicles as the old. In 1926, it was surprising to some to know that the blacksmith shop was useful for many automobile repairs. On the day following Labor Day in 1926, Koepp repaired 13 sprang automobile axles. Now, instead of shoeing horses, he was gradually becoming an auto smithy.

In 1929 **Frank J. Potter** of Baraboo purchased the filling station at the southwest corner of Fifth and Oak Street. Potter expected to take over the active management of the station. Mr. Potter returned to Baraboo, his hometown, about a year ago. He had been living in Madison. In January of 1932, Potter joined forces with the Andro Insurance Agency and placed the service station in the hands of his

623 or 627 Oak Street

brother, probably **Boyd Potter**, and **Kerman Kutzner**. By December of 1932 **Harry M. Gibbons** was conducting the Potter station.

By 1936 the **Farmer's Union Oil Co.** is here and in 1938 **William Schultz** is operating the **Be Square Service Station**. In 1939 we find the **Barnsdall Service Station** followed in 1940 by **Schulte's Skelly Service Station**"

From 1946 to 1968 **Robert L. Davis** ran the **Yellow Cab Company** here while **Everett D. Davis** operated the **Davis Sinclair Station**.

Robert Fichter & Wayne Lankey were partners in the **Fichter Oil Company at this corner** from 1957 to 1964. In 1972 we find the **Baraboo Skelly Service** here while **Car Sparkle** is at this site in 1973. **Anthony Canepa** operates the **Canepa Tire Center** here from 1975 to 1976 while the **Skelly Tire Service** business is here in 1977 and 1978. In 1979 to 1981 **Craig Automotive** is here and from 1981 to 1982 **Robert Barkenhagen** operates **Bob's Automotive** on this corner.

In 1982 **David D. Caflisch** established **Caflisch Auto & Truck Repair, Inc.** on this site. In December of 2005, the city council approved \$100,000 in the 2006 budget to purchase the Caflisch property. The city wished to have more green space in downtown Baraboo. Caflisch stated that he probably would not be moving earlier than June of 2006. In September of 2006 the repair shop moved to 600 South Blvd.

It was stated in December of 2006 that the razing of the building was on hold because of the lead paint on the building being termed hazardous. The material on the building would have to be removed by a qualified environmental specialist rather than city workers. The material would also have to be disposed of in a qualified landfill.

Once the building was removed and the lot sod and seeded an idea was put forth by Bekah Stelling and others to develop a park on the site. These small downtown parks are referred to as Pocket Parks. In April of 2010 a ribbon cutting was held. In December of 2010 a request in the amount of \$2,800 was made to the City's Business

Improvement District Board for funds to purchase a picnic table and three benches.

Stelling said costs for the park do not come out of the BID budget, but a fund supported by donations the board is administering. Stelling was just asking permission to spend part of the \$21,500 in the fund. More can be found in the "About Section, Parks of Baraboo, Section S"

701-705 Oak Street

701-705 Oak Street

(Later Known as 100 Fifth Avenue)

Located on the northwest corner of the intersection of
Oak Street and Fifth Avenue
Block 15, lot 11 & 12
Sanborn map location 115 & 116 Fifth Avenue

Early on, this property was owned by a party by the name of **Flanders** who were early residents of Baraboo.

A building at 701 Oak Street was built in the spring of 1884, by **John Hull, L. Watson** and **C.A. Swineford**, and was named **The Roller Skating Rink**. The skating rink, 60 X 120, and costing \$5,000, was said to be one of the finest in the state. It's formal opening was held on March 27. It is not clear that Swineford actually was connected with the construction of this structure. In November of 1886, **John Brewer** was conducting the rink, having leased it from the owners. However, the investment was not profitable and by December 24, Brewer had closed the operation.

In May of 1887, Swineford, who at that time was the sole owner, disposed of the rink to **Geo. Capener**, who had plans to convert the building into a first-class opera house. Capener added the western part of this structure. By June Capener had already begun the work of remodeling the rink. It was expected that the new opera house would be opened no later than the first of September of "87."

Capener was born in London, England on July 29, 1829 and came to America at the age of seven years. He resided with his parents in Ohio and elsewhere until 1848 when he came to Milwaukee. He returned to Ohio in 1849, moving to Baraboo in 1850.

The stage of the new opera house was expected to be 32 X 60 X 3 feet high. There would be a level floor in front of the stage 40 X 60 ft. in size, and the remaining space 84 X 60 ft. would be taken up by elevated seats. The height of the ceiling would be 21 ft. There would be three exits, 8 ft. wide, two on the south side and one on the east. The scenery and stage fixtures were purchased and were an exact duplicate of the Palace Theater in Milwaukee.

On September 18, 1887 the **Capener Grande Opera House** opened with the Alvin Joslin Comedy Company. The first opening was



Capener Opera House Crew circa 1887-1905

a benefit for George Capener to help defray the costs of the remodeling. The company consisted of twenty-two persons and the admission price was \$1.00, reserved seats, \$1.25.

According to an article in the February 26, 1895 issue of the *Baraboo Weekly News*, **F. E. Shults** was expected to purchase and take possession of the Capener Grande Opera House soon. It is believed that a **Mr. Butler** had a share of the ownership of this building with Shults. Capener retired at that time.

Under the heading "Hard Lines For Baraboo", the December 28, 1896 issue of the *Janesville Recorder* admits that Janesville was a poor show town, and then tried to cover her nakedness by holding Baraboo up to view. Since Baraboo had many of the best attractions on the road the prior year, it was not to be wondered that the *Recorder* would be a little jealous. As for discrediting reflections cast upon

701-705 Oak Street



Partial View Grande Opera House circa 1887-1905

Baraboo, they counted for nothing except to show the ramblings of some silly wanderer's brain.

Here is what the *Recorder* printed about Baraboo:

"There are some people who have been unkind enough at times to call Janesville a poor show town. If that statement is true there are others. One of the others is a town in Wisconsin known as Baraboo. It is true the world's greatest circus is there, but when you have said that, you might as well close the book. That is all there is of it. After the Ringling show goes out in the spring the inhabitants hibernate or go off into a hypnotic state until the season is ended and then turn out en masse to welcome the "big five" home. That is what they live for and they are satisfied.

The town boasts of an "Opera House." It is a long wooden structure, so like a barn in appearance that the local manager, in

order to distinguish it from the neighboring stables displays a large sign that reads, "Theatre Tonight."

In November of 1897 the following article appeared in the *Baraboo News*.

MOVING

Pictures Will Be Exhibited at The Grande

Edison's wonderful moving pictures will be exhibited at the Grande next Friday and Saturday evenings, November 12 and 13. This is the most wonderful invention of the age. You sit in the hall and see trains of cars moving, burning livery stables, rushing street scenes in large cities and many others both grand and laughable.

This is not a magic lantern but Edison's marvelous moving pictures. The prices have been put so low that all can see the show both nights, admission being only 10, 20 and 30 c. Don't forget the dates and go for it at the Grand.

In May of 1898, Mrs. Mary Shults secured the opera house by paying R. A. Cowan and L. Watson, who held a claim against the property, \$2,800. The property was then free and clear of any encumbrance. **F. A. Philbrick** managed the house in 1898-1899 and possibly later.

Alderman Recalls Early Efforts to Secure Opera House

In a reminiscent mood back in 1938, Alderman Ernest Sanderson recalled the days in Baraboo when local folks were so earnest in their desire for an "opera house" for Baraboo that they subscribed money in the amount of \$4,000 to be given as a bonus to anyone that would supply the city's need for a place in which entertainment could be given.

Mr. Sanderson happened to be chairman of the citizen's committee, which was in charge of the drive so he was familiar with all of the hardships of those days, as well as the happiness of the entire community when Al. Ringling stepped forward and told the people that he would build them an opera house and without any bonus either.

Mr. Sanderson's reminiscences go back to a snowy Washington's Birthday in 1905 when he and Frank E. Shults, who later

701-705 Oak Street

became Baraboo's postmaster, were shoveling their sidewalks on Oak Street, where the Sanderson barbershop now stands.

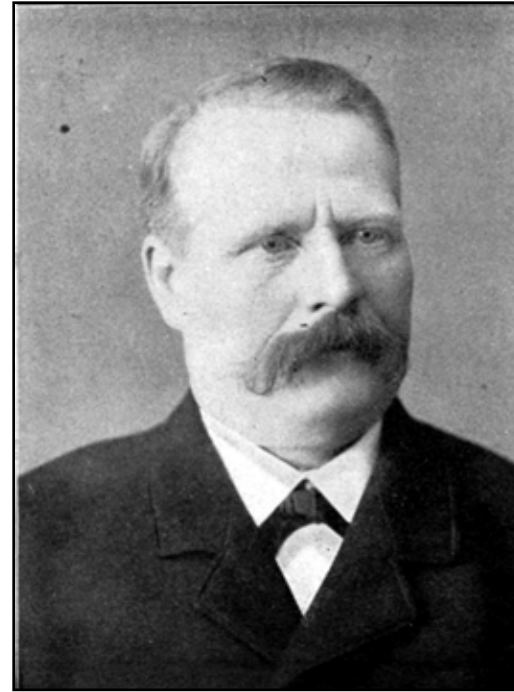
It was about 2:00 in the afternoon when Mr. Sanderson remarked to his fellow shoveler, "Seems like I smell smoke". Just then a puff of smoke came floating down the street from the city opera house, owned by Mr. Shults, and both men dropped their shovels and headed for the frame structure.

Newspaper accounts of the blaze indicate that it was a serious one, the heat being so intense that a fire hose clear across the street caught on fire at one time, allowing the water to fly in all directions. The Holcomb-Pease residence north of the opera house caught on fire, as did also Fred Catlin's blacksmith shop, Mrs. Brandenburg's house and a frame house occupied by Dr. Thompson. F.E. Shults, the owner of the building, estimates his loss at from \$5,000 to \$6,000.

Within two hours the building was ash and Baraboo was without a gathering place of any sort save the G.A.R. hall, which could accommodate but a small crowd. This condition went along for several years and then a group of fellowship club members got together and decided that something must be done--a thriving city like Baraboo could not be without a place in which a concert could be given, a political meeting held, or a repertoire company show.

The Fellowship Club was primarily a church group but in those days it also served as a civic organization, working to better all interests of the city. A citizens' committee to work on the opera house situation was formed and Mr. Sanderson named its chairman. Its aim was to obtain pledges enough to secure a substantial bonus to be offered to anyone who would put up an opera house at a cost of not less than \$20,000. The thinking of the day was "that now that the old building is out of the way, a fine new opera house in keeping with the new post office and courthouse, would be in order."

Businessmen and citizens pledged whatever they were able, some giving a dollar, others as much as \$100 and there was great jubilation among the Citizens Committee when the sum had reached \$4,000. But even then, Mr. Shults was the only one who showed much interest in putting up such a building and he was not especially enthusiastic. It was here that Al. Ringling, always civic minded and



George Capener

interested in the welfare of Baraboo, stepped in. "If Baraboo folks are that much interested in having an opera house, I will build you an opera house," he said. And this he did, beyond the rosiest dreams of any on the committee or any of the people who had pledged their amounts small or large to fill this need. The only assurance he wanted was that the people of Baraboo really wanted an opera house and when their pledges proved it, Mr. Ringling went ahead and gave to the city, the splendid building which today stands as a memorial to his generosity.

It is a happy thought that through his nephew, Henry Ringling, the purpose of Al. Ringling was continued. When Henry Ringling took over the local theatre, he saw to it that his Uncle's building was preserved for Baraboo. During the early part of the 1930's,

701-705 Oak Street

innumerable improvements were made to the building, every phase of it was altered to conform with the newest ideas in theatre comfort, so

that when Baraboo people attended, even a 15-cent moving picture show, they would do so in a building patterned after the Versailles Opera House, in surroundings, the elegance of which are a never-ending source of wonder to strangers, visiting the city for the first time.

Not only this, but the theatre owner also acquired the unsightly building which stood beside the theatre and this was razed and replaced by a structure in keeping with the theatre's architecture thus preserving appearance of this business street.

Anyone visiting the theatre and knowing its background must feel grateful to Mr. Ringling and his nephew for supplying Baraboo with this splendid amusement place--and while not all can have the personal knowledge of its background that Mr. Sanderson possessed, all can recognize the loyal support that it merits.

In December of 1905 and January of 1906 the Old Catholic church was remodeled into an opera house, and was made first class in every respect so far as its capacities would allow. Workmen busied themselves under the directions of J. P. Hughes of Chicago, building the stage.

With the floor and gallery, it was expected that about 500 people could be seated. It was planned that electric lights would be

placed throughout and a drop light effect would be arranged for the stage. A beautiful curtain was prepared, and the building was furnace heated.

It was expected to be in readiness about the middle of January, when the opening performance would be given, consisting of acts by members of the Ringling Bros. show and by performers of note from Chicago and Milwaukee. After the holidays regular traveling companies would be billed. Of course none except moral performances would be permitted.

The house was under the general direction of Rev. Fr. Durward, and Mr. Hughes, who had wide experience, was the stage manager and billposter.

Since the destruction of The Grande by fire, Baraboo had been sadly in need of a playhouse, and this would do very nicely until such time as a fine one may be built.

In June of 1909, Shults sold this vacant corner lot to **Samuel Dixon** for \$1,275. Dixon planned on constructing a residence here.

Orriel Philbrick and **Clinton Mather** announced in March of 1912 a deal whereby they came into possession of this property. The property was purchased from **Samuel Dixon**. This lot was 66 feet wide and 182 feet deep. It was expected that a new block building would be underway shortly. Since the burning of the old opera house seven years prior, this lot had been quite an eyesore. In May of 1912, **Philbrick & Mather** moved here from Fourth Street.

In 1914 the **Gem City Garage** was located at this address, **Clinton F. Mather** was the proprietor and sold the **Willys-Overland automobile** and the **International-Harvester truck**. He and his partner, Oriel Philbrick, had dissolved their partnership with Philbrick assuming the real estate and insurance business of his late father, F. A. Philbrick. By late 1914, Mather was again the Ford agency in the city.



701-705 Oak Street

In March of 1916, **N. H. Smith and Herbert Judivine** leased the building at this site and assumed control of the agency for the sale of the Ford and Maxwell automobiles. Mather would stay as an employee and would be in charge of the repair work. It also seems that O. Philbrick was selling Fords also. This he did while working out of the Prothero-McGinnis garage on Broadway.

On March 1 1917, the lease was terminated on the Gem City garage for the parties who held it and **Orriel Philbrick** assumed possession with a 5-year lease. This lease was signed in August of 1916 and with the signing Philbrick received the Ford agency once more.

The Gem City garage was then the **Ford** headquarters and C. F. Mather was doing expert repairing as in the past. Mr. Philbrick then sold the Ford Garage to Mr. **Raymond Wheeler** and enlisted in the Aviation Corps. Philbrick took his training at Rantoul, Illinois and in the south. In July of 1919, Philbrick purchased back the Ford garage from Wheeler. In the autumn of 1919, Philbrick purchased the Moeller property at 207-209 Third Avenue for his car agency. This building would remain in his possession and the Fordson tractor would be sold from this location.

In the early part of December 1920, the **Earl Schilling Garage** moved to this corner taking over the old ford garage building. However, a week later, Schilling sold his garage business to **Tony Koberstein**. Schilling took a job in Madison as an assistant manager of the truck department in the state garage.

The 1920 telephone directory listed **T. Koberstein** as owner. **Philbrick** still sold the Ford automobile at the same location during this period.

In October of 1922, the Gem City Garage underwent a change in ownership. Koberstein took into partnership, **Carroll Hackett and Schuyler Mather** and the business would thereafter be known as the **Gem City Filling Station**. The southeast corner of the building would be removed and a circular drive installed along with gas pumps.

By 1923 the **Gem City Filling Station** was in the hands of **Carroll Hackett**.



Gem City Oil Company

In August of 1924, **A. T. Huerth** rented space here for the display of **Nash automobiles**, for which he is the agent in this area.

In June of 1925, the **Gem City Service Station** underwent extensive improvements preparatory to taking on a new line of gasoline and oils manufactured by the **Pure Oil Company** of Columbus, Ohio. **Bode H. Karll** entered into partnership with **Carroll E. Hackett**, the proprietor of the Gem City Garage, in the new enterprise. A 60,000-gallon capacity tank to accommodate the Pure Oil products was installed by Hackett and Karll, just southwest of the city limits. The garage installed a comfort station, for the convenience of motorists, a drinking bubbler occupied a handy position at the corner of the station and a hose connection to refill radiators with water was in easy reach of motorists who stopped for gasoline.

The repair department had been turned over to **Julius Reul** who had considerable experience in the automobile line for the past 14 years. In December of 1926, Reul moved his **Studebaker Agency**, which he had recently acquired, to the West Baraboo garage

In March of 1929, a transaction was completed whereby Bode Karll bought out the interests of his partner, Hackett, in the Gem City

701-705 Oak Street

oil company. Mr. Karll, as well as the protected Seiberling tires and tubes, Freshman and Mighty Majestic radios, radio parts and automobile accessories would handle **Energiee and Purol gasoline**.

In August of 1926, **Julius Reul** secured the **Studebaker Automobile Agency** for Baraboo and left for South Bend, Indiana to drive back his first demonstrator.

In 1924, **Ben Doty** moved his **vulcanizing and tire business** here from 616 Oak Street. In September of 1929, Doty moved back to 616 Oak.

In January of 1936, **The Independent Oil Company** took over the Gem City Oil company filling station; The station, which had been the property of B.H. Karll for about the past thirteen years, became that of **E. A. Isenberg** and **Robert H. Osborne** of this city.

Mr. Osborne was well versed in the oil business having had fifteen years of experience including that of refinery and laboratory work. **Frank Waldo**, who had been with the Gem City Oil Company for the past four years, was to continue as manager. The service and quality merchandise of the past would continue to be handled at the station according to Mr. Osborne.

Sometime between 1926 and 1944 **Robert Osborne** acquired **Reul Studebaker Sales**. Osborne sold the Studebaker and B. F. Goodrich tires until about 1950 when **Jack Morricks** took possession. In November of 1951, Orlin Emerson, of the Emerson Oil Company of Waukesha leased the Osborne Oil Company Station here.

By 1952 we find **Baraboo Rambler, Inc.** here. By 1957 **Leonard Harms** had moved his **Firestone Store** to this site.

Don Schleicher, local Rambler dealer, moved to this location on November 1, 1958.

In April of 1963 it was announced that Pope Auto Sales purchased Baraboo Rambler Inc. and the agency would be moved to 620 Eight Avenue.

Raymond W. Farrey and **Monica A. Farrey** were listed as partners in the 1960 & 1964 telephone directories in the **Far-Mor Oil Company** and the **F & M Garage**. They were listed at 600 Eighth street in the 1968 telephone directory.



Osborne Auto Company

By 1973 "**The Room**" (Recreation) and the **New Market Inc.** was here and being managed by **Robert Clinch** and **Bill Zimmerman**. **Craig Nelson** and **Deborah Nelson's Sunshine Plant Shop** followed them in 1975. In 1981 and 1982 **Osborne-Marquardt, Inc.** was located here with the **Schwarz Insurance Agency** locating at this site in 1982. During the period from 1982 to 1989 **Carpenter Glass**, owned by **Roy Carpenter** also shared this building.

In 2011, Schwartz moved their insurance agency to 401 Broadway. In July of the same year, **Julie Keller**, the new building owner, was overseeing major remodeling of the building by Sand County Contractors of Baraboo. The building would then house the **Coffee Bean Connection** coffee shop and **Very Wild Flowers**, purveyors of original art works.

In November of 2011, **Richard Manthe** and **Steve Ramsey** moved the **Coffee Bean Connection** to this location from 123 Fourth Street where they had operated since 2006.

701-705 Oak Street

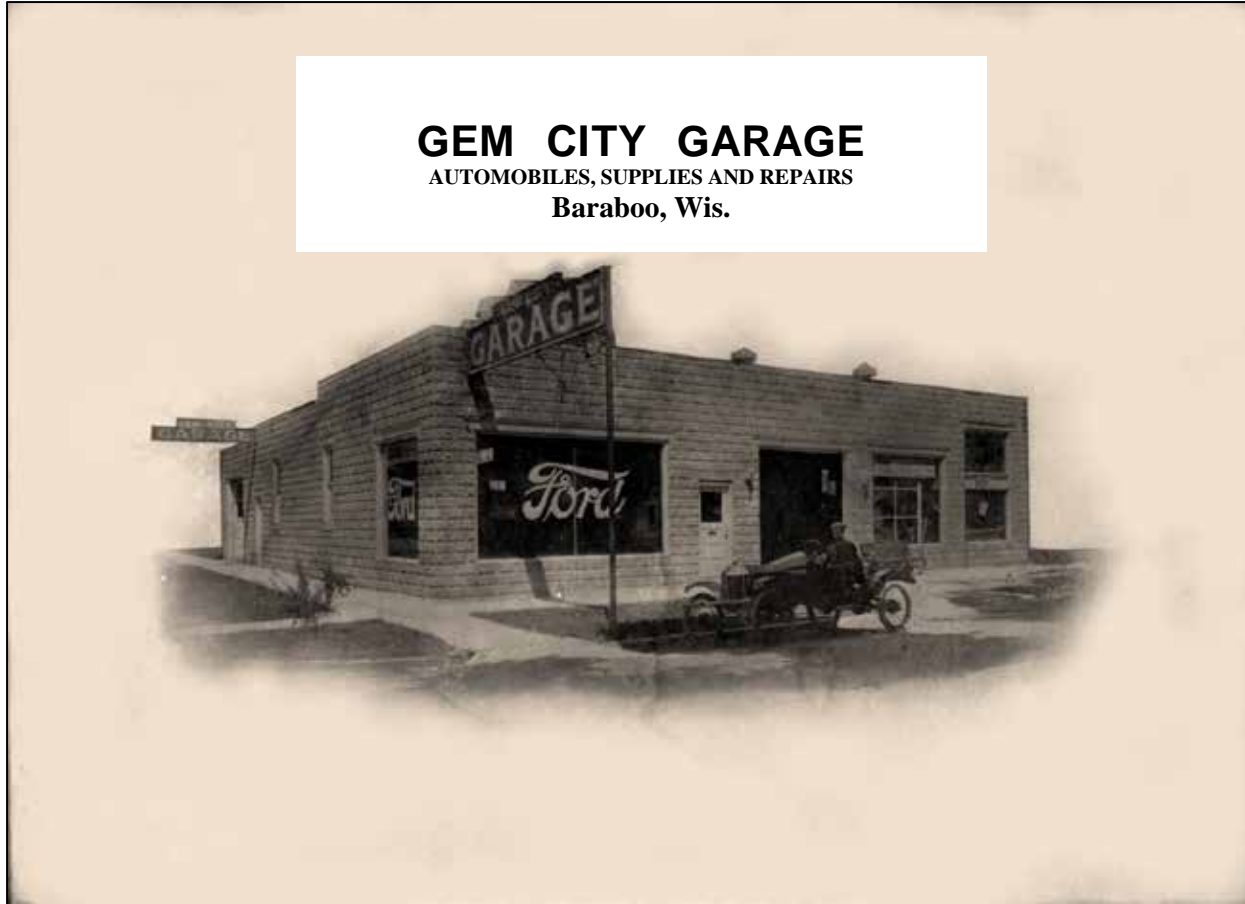


Sand County Contractors at Work

701-705 Oak Street

Gem City Garage

GEM CITY GARAGE
AUTOMOBILES, SUPPLIES AND REPAIRS
Baraboo, Wis.





701-705 Oak Street

Coffee Bean Connection



702 Oak Street

Morgan Trimmer opened the **Allure Hair Salon** her on October 19, 2011. Joining Morgan was **JoVonna Tessmer** who offered manicures and pedicures.



Morgan Trimer & HoVanna Tessmer