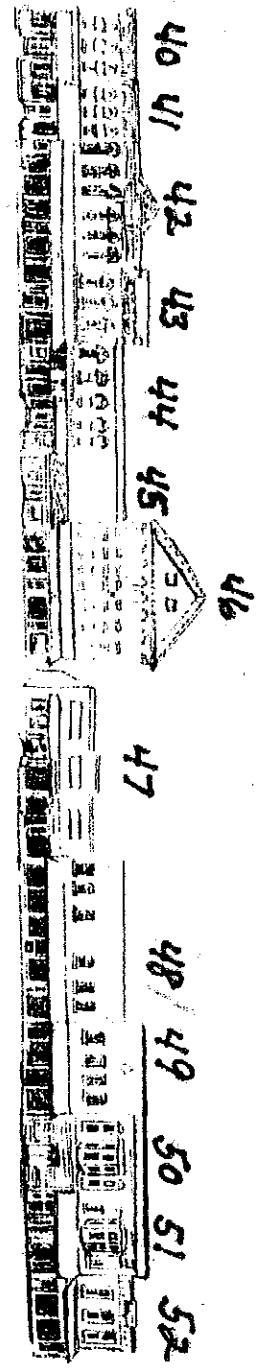


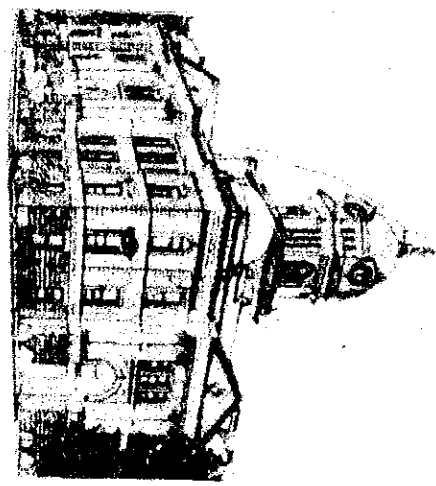
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Take a walk

around the Hancock County



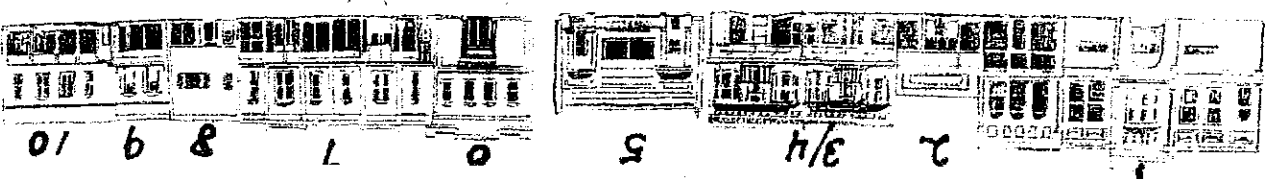
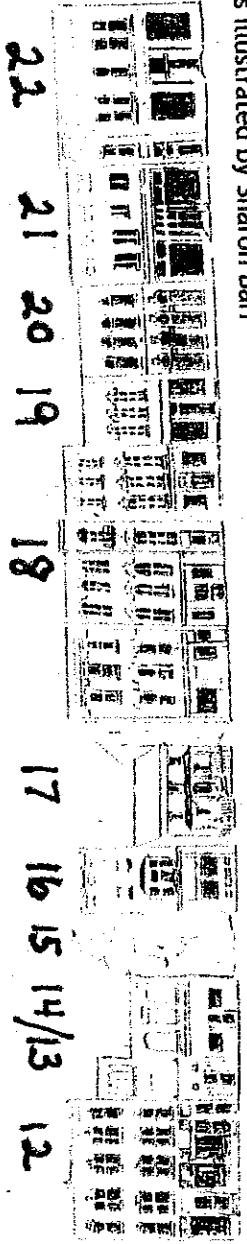
Terry Newell

Centennial

1908 - 2008

Courthouse Square

Buildings Illustrated by Sharon Barr



WALK AROUND THE HANCOCK COUNTY COURTHOUSE SQUARE IN 1908-2008

by Judy Welch Allison

Starting on the northeast corner of the square is the First Baptist Church. In 1908 it was a brick structure 40' x 60' that was built in 1863 and dedicated on January 15, 1865. The minister from 1908 to 1915 was Thomas Howard Boggs from Carthage, Missouri. In 1891 a bell was hung in the belfry. That bell is now displayed in front of the Carthage Volunteer Fire Department. The cornerstone for the present building was laid on October 8, 1910 and the church was dedicated on October 8, 1911. The crowd was estimated at 1,000 in attendance. It was considered the most modern church facility in Illinois at that time. The education building was completed in 1990.

The types of architecture in the buildings around the square ranges from Greek Revival to Art Deco, typical of a Midwest "town square" during the period of 1856-1923. A most significant period of local architecture is represented by a number of the buildings built by the father and son team of George and Edgar Payne. They were very prominent architects of commercial and other types of buildings, which included homes. The courthouse square is delineated by Main Street on the north, Wabash Avenue on the south, Madison Street on the west and Adams Street on the east. The businesses are numbered according to Robert Christie's 'Carthage Courthouse Square Historical District' of 1986.

1. 55 South Adams The MCMAHAN-WALKER BUILDING was built in 1896 with George W. Payne and Son as the architects. This is a Romanesque Revival style with a stone segmental arched entry between the two principal storerooms. An ad in the 1908 newspaper for The Parker Company displays calicoes selling for 6 cents a yard. The C. C. Main grocery was in the south portion of the building and later became the P. D. Williams grocery. Other early businesses were the Hendricks Overland Agency, Carthage Marble and Granite, Business Exchange Real Estate, the Artist Harry Evans, Parker Dry Goods, Consumer Home Oil Company, Swain and Son Music Store, Berry Jewelers and two wallpaper and paint stores. Firestone was in the north end before moving south to their present location. W. D. and then Gay Egbers ran a store there until 1960. Many prominent law firms have occupied this building. At one time the second floor housed the Park Hotel and the first office of Doctor Trotter. Present Use: The law firm of Capps, Ancelet, Clark & Rasmussen, the County Insurance office of Jacque Whitaker on the north, and the southern end by the State Farm Insurance office of Kris Dornbush; storage is on the second floor. Present Owner: Barrister Building Corporation.

2. 59 South Adams The TYLER BUILDING did not exist in 1908. The space was originally occupied by Cunningham's Blacksmith Shop; a pioneer service on the square. Demolished and left as an empty space until in 1890, John Sample and John McMahan built a simple roof structure between the two buildings and used the crude space as a carpenter's shop. Around 1910 Charles Tyler added a proper façade and inner walls and opened a jewelry store. Later a pastry shop operated here successfully. Present Use: Sharpe Real Estate. Present Owner: Randy D. and W. Christine Sharpe.

3/4. 65-67 South Adams The WELCH BUILDING is a two-story three-bay building with its original decorative cast-iron storefront and was built and owned by John Welch in 1902. The second story features a pair of oriels separated by a roofed balconet with a wrought iron balustrade. Welch was a 21-year old clerk with Carthage's largest and most successful grocery store, Nick Helfrich and Co. In 1909 Welch became Mayor of Carthage. While Mayor he added the decorative lighting to the square. Welch then operated his own grocery on the south end until his death in 1938. He was known as J. J. Welch, the Grocer. He advertised candy at 10 cents a pound and a special sale on enameled ware, also 10 cents. The ad said they would pay 25 cents a

dozen for eggs. The phone number was 22. The north side of the building housed a restaurant and a jeweler. Present Use: Town House Restaurant on the north side and the Plum Tree Supper Club on the south. After many years in the business, Darrell and Jearlyn Plumley sold the business to Cazim "Jimmy" Imeri in 2008.

5. 71 South Adams The DIME SAVINGS BANK was designed by George W. Payne and Son and built by O. F. and M. B. Berry, attorneys and investment counselors in 1902. It was built of buff Milwaukee tapestry brick with blue and gray tile throughout. Mahogany counters still sit atop granite counter faces. The small porticos remain on the façade that provided twin entrances to the bank. The bank evidence is still seen by the presence of two vaults on the north side of the room as one enters on the first floor. The Mississippi Valley Telephone Company was an original tenant in the rear of the building. O. F. Berry was also a mayor of Carthage. He had the bricks laid in the streets surrounding the square, and he later served as a state senator from 1888 to 1908. He gave the first \$500.00 to establish the first public library in Carthage. In 1932 the bank failed and the Farm Bureau bought the building. Present Use: Woot Computers by Jeremy Kelley, Tranquil Touch Massage by Lydia Gutting, the Sharon Barr Art Studio and the Hancock County Red Cross Chapter on the first floor and Hospice downstairs. Present Owner: Susan Boyer.

6. 73 South Adams The MASONIC LODGE was built by the Ancient Free & Accepted Order of Masons in 1887. The architects were George W. Payne and Son. This is a four-bay two-story brick building with classical second floor window cornices and a single-door entrance flanked by Doric Tuscan columns. It originally had a pyramidal roof and a large arched attic window in the center of the upper façade. In 1908 it served as the second home of the Masons and Order of the Eastern Star and a Buggy Repository/Harness Shop. In 1924 it was damaged by fire and rebuilt one block east on Main Street across the street south from the Lutheran Church. The telephone company occupied the building until 1985 when it was purchased and occupied by the Hancock County Health Department. It was then purchased by Dr. Rachel Rahmen for her office. Present Use: Unoccupied. Present Owner: Dr. Rachel Rahmen.

7. 81 South Adams The REYER BUILDING, designed by E. A. Payne and built by Fred Reyer in 1906, was built to house two commercial operations on the first floor and a skating rink/dance hall with a hard maple floor on the second floor. Reyer operated his plumbing and heating business on the first floor and rented out the rear for warehouse space. Reyer had the plumbing and heating contract for the present courthouse. He was instrumental in building the Carthage water and sewage plants. In 1908 this would have been one of the newest buildings on the square. The Sanborn map also shows a cigar factory and hardware store in this building in 1912. Present Use: L M L Reproductions, Carthage Recreation Center and Dick Lunt on the main floor. The second floor is unoccupied. Present Owner: American Legion.

8. 91 South Adams This building was built in 1885. In 1908 this building was either a cigar factory as shown on the Sanborn map of 1906 or restaurant and printing shop as shown on the Sanborn map of 1912. Present Use: SO-IL Service, Inc. Present Owner: Don Owings.

9. 93 South Adams The RAMS BUILDING was built in 1895 by Henry Rams who was a builder. The façade was to closely match the Johnson Building next door. He built this building to house a popular new entertainment. For a number of years it was the Davis Brothers' Bijou Theatre and Music Store where, according to a newspaper ad of 1908, one could enter and win a beautiful \$325.00 Howard piano. The newspaper also showed an ad for the Carthage Business College, the school where you can accomplish the most in the shortest time and at the least

expense, M. E. Davenport, President. Present Use: H & R Block Tax office. Present Owner: Larry Pratt, Macomb, Illinois.

10. 97 South Adams The JOHNSON BUILDING was built in 1894 by Homer Johnson and served as a livery stable until 1903. The building had its own windmill and water tanks for the horses. In 1908 it was the Collins Heaslip Duncan Carpet Company and Furniture Store. In 1912 it was the Carthage Furniture and Undertaking Company. A picture, presently in the Wood Inn on the right as one enters, shows this building. Menn's Firestone has been in business sixty-one years. It began on the north end of the block in May 1947 and began in the present location in 1961. Present Use: Menn's Firestone Store on the first floor and storage on the second floor. Present Owner: Jo Menn.

11. 604 Wabash In 1908 the JOURNAL BUILDING did not exist, as it was not built until 1923. In 1908 you would have seen the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson and their two daughters, which also served as a boarding house. The property was sold to John Beckman who built the present building. There is no storefront, as the first floor was always offices and workspace. In the center of the second floor, which originally was an apartment, was a balcony. The building was built to house the local county weekly newspaper. The second owner, Don Forsythe, became one of the most influential local citizens and was made International President of Kiwanis. He was founder of a hearing clinic at Michael Reese Hospital and has been Carthage's most famous citizen in recent years as a result. Present Use: Retired Seniors Volunteer Program in the front and Biddey's Press on the south. Present Owners: Randy Biddenstadt, Bert Midlane and Wes Walton.

12. 536 Wabash The ODD FELLOWS BLOCK was built by the International Order of Odd Fellows in 1894 on the former site of the Jacob Sholl residence. This is a three-story five-bay brick building which is entirely original, including cast storefront elements, art nouveau clerestory glass and display window apron ornament. In the beginning the first floor storerooms were occupied by a grocery store on one side and a dry goods store on the other. In 1908 the east side was the post office and the west side was a grocery store. The second floor, as in many buildings around the square, was used for law offices and also a banquet room. The third floor served as ante, reception regalia, banquet, and lodge rooms for the IOOF. Present Use: The east side is occupied by Absolute Fitness and the west side is the Hancock County Farm Bureau. Apartments are on the upper floors. Present Owners: Ronald and Linda Kelly.

13/14. 538 Wabash CARTHAGE CITY HALL/LIBRARY/FIRE STATION was built as two buildings 1893/1900 by the city of Carthage and fused together for combined city use, the interiors of the buildings are completely integrated. The architects were George W. Payne and Son. In 1908 the fire station would have looked much different with the bell tower four stories in height with an open fourth floor bell housing supported by center pairs of columns. This is pictured on page 216 of the '1968 History of Hancock County'. The firemen's quarters were on the second floor. The engines were on the ground level behind a large segmented stone-arched set of doors. The city hall function was on the second floor rear. The library was in an upstairs room at first, and with the construction of the new fire station and city hall buildings, it was moved downstairs where it remained for 97 years until the move to the old Marine Bank Building in the summer of 2007. In 1965 the city hall moved away from the square, but it moved back into this same building in 2008. Present Use: City Hall. Present Owner: City of Carthage.

15. 542 Wabash MINI-PARK. In the 1906 Sanborn map it was shown as a frame structure with a tailor shop on the east and a Chinese laundry on the west. In 1912, the Sanborn Map shows a cobbler on the east and a cigar factory on the west in the same building. Later it was occupied by

Bert Fleming's Barber Shop and Melvin Leo Austin's law office. Present Use: Mini-Park. Present Owner: Carthage Public Library.

16. 544 Wabash The FOULDS BUILDING was designed by architects G. W. Payne and Son and built in 1907 by Joe Foulds. The second floor features an oriel seen several other times around the square. It began as a bowling alley on the ground floor with a Chinese laundry in the basement operated by a Chinese handyman who worked at the bowling alley. By 1912 Frank Walton operated the American Theatre there in the era of the silent moving pictures, however with the advent of talkies a larger auditorium was needed. The second and third floors provided fine apartments. Present Use: Unoccupied. Present Owner: Randy Reed.

17. 528 Wabash The SHERIFF'S HOUSE was built in 1866 by Hancock County. This is a three-bay two-story brick hall-and-parlor double-pile vernacular Georgian house with a lateral gabled roof. A colonial Revival porch was added around 1900. The building sits back 14 feet from the sidewalk marking the normal setback of the first generation of residences on the square. This jail replaced the first stone jail two blocks northwest of the square. The stone jail had been the scene of the murders of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, leaders of the Nauvoo Mormons. The building sits on the site of the first Hancock County Courthouse, a log structure built in 1833. The Sheriff's House was the residence of the country sheriffs and their families until a new jail was built and occupied in 1987. The sheriff in 1908 was Carl Bertschi from Niota. The jail is in the rear of the building. South of the jail is the building that housed the heating for the courthouse. An underground tunnel had pipes to send heat to the courthouse. Present Use: Crooked Creek Art Gallery which is operated by Terry & Sue Newell. Present Owners: Hancock County Historical Preservation Association.

18. 520 Wabash The CUTLER HOTEL's architect was G. W. Payne, and the owner/builder was John Dee Stevens. The original building was the west seven bays. It was built in 1876 and was first called the Centennial Hotel. The builder was the immediate past sheriff who would have lived in the sheriff's house to the east. As a deputy sheriff in 1847, he had served arrest papers on the Mormons in Nauvoo. The hotel was also known as the Stevens House. Its interior and furnishings were reputed to have been second to none. In 1880 John Stevens was elected to serve one term in the Illinois General Assembly. Stevens as postmaster during President Cleveland's term and in 1886 he rented the hotel to Howard Cutler. In 1889, Howard Cutler, a prominent druggist on the north side of the square, purchased the 24-room hotel. In 1893 Cutler added to the east side a building half the size of the original, expanding from 24 to 36 rooms. The first floor of the new addition was occupied by the post office and the Helfrich Tailor Shop. He worked tirelessly for the city. Present Use: Unoccupied. Present Owner: Robert Cook.

19. 516 Wabash The HELFRICH BUILDING was built in 1875 and in 1908 was the City Meat Market with the proprietor being Joseph Edward Helfrich. The original storefront is intact in all respects with a double-door entry. Born and reared in Germany, Joseph Helfrich came to Carthage in 1858 to avoid compulsory military service in the old country. He later served in the Civil War. The ad in the 1908 Republican Newspaper says "continues to keep in stock choice fresh and cured meat, sausage, fowls and fish in their season at lowest ruling prices". Present Use: Illini West Pizza. Present Owner: John Mason.

20. 512 Wabash The PATTERSON BUILDING was built in 1875 by W. W. Patterson. It is a two-story, four-bay brick Italianate building with vernacular corbelled cornice. The second floor, the shop windows and entry are corbelled brick and round-arched. The keystones are carved limestone. In 1908 it housed a paint and wallpaper business. *The Original Storefront is Intact and May Represent One of the Most Completely Original Buildings on the Square.* It was, in the

beginning, the most successful grocery operation the Carthage square ever had and it was operated by J. B. Patterson and Nick Helfrich. Later tenants were The Cherri Inn operated by L. C. Cherrill and the South Side Café operated by Mrs. Inez Lawson and Mrs. Pauline Smith. Present Use: Storage. Present Owners: Pat and John Fecht.

21. 508 Wabash The MATTHEWS BUILDING was built by A. B. and Edward Matthews in 1892. This building was built as an income property and was first used by the Carey Furniture Company on the first floor and the Sharp and Berry Law offices on the second floor. The Taylor and Edwards Hardware Store used the entire building for 55 years starting in 1897. Taylor and Edwards installed Carthage's first elevator at the rear of this building for transporting hardware up to the second floor storage area. The Main Cleaners occupied the east end of the building for many years. Willard Davidson had a barbershop on the west side of the building after being in the basement of the Dime Bank building. Present Use: Storage. Present Owner: Barbara Main.

22. 500 Wabash The OPERA HOUSE was built in 1892 with the architect being G. W. Payne. This is a two-story six-bay brick building. The Sanborn maps show this space as a Dry Goods Store in 1906 and as a Variety Store in 1912. The caption for the picture on page 216 of the '1968 History of Hancock County' shows J. A. Dorsey selling clothes in this building. In 1906 the building was used by the Nelson-Halmon Comedy Company for performances. In 1919 the Marine Bank bought this building and removed the top floor and the entry pavilion to the upper floors. In 2007 the Marine Bank gave the building to the Carthage Public Library, and the library moved from the east end to the west end of the south side of the Carthage square. The Marine Bank moved into its new building at 410 Buchanan in October of 2005. Present Use: Carthage Public Library. Present Owner: Carthage Public Library.

Addenda. The southwest corner of the square would have contained a residence in 1908. It was the home of Mrs. Clara M. Griffith and later Howard Ellis Cox. Farther down Wabash to the west is the Woodbine Theatre, operated for many years as a motion picture theatre. Across the street are three buildings, now mainly storage. In the 1908 era there would have been, starting on the west, a marble works and cigar factory, then a cobbler, and on the east a printing shop. At one time the post office or Western Union was located in this area. Sherman Tweedt started his long career as a Maytag businessman in the middle building, and later moved to the Helfrich Building on the west side of the square.

23. 98 South Madison The TAYLOR BLOCK was owned and built by Charles Taylor in 1896. Sanborn maps for 1906 and 1912 show a Dry Goods Shop on the south and the Variety on the north. A picture on page 218 of the '1968 History of Hancock County' shows a sign on the south wall advertising the Emrich and Owsley Dry Goods, a second shop, boots and shoes, the Griffith-Hatch Bookstore and the E. P. Stewart Jewelry Store. The building was built mainly for his son, and it was called the C. D. Taylor Feed Store. The entrance to that was on the south side of the building. The second floor rooms were used for offices. Present Use: Illini West High School Superintendent's office. Present Owners: Mike and Linda Kelly.

24. 90 South Madison The CALLAHAN BUILDING was built in 1888 by Dr. James Callahan to house his office on the second floor. The first floor housed Emrich and Owsley Dry Goods Store until they moved to the Taylor Block for more space. In 1907 Callahan's son-in-law started the Nickel Novelty Store and Electric Theatre, which had the slogan "Everyone 5 cents." Later the first floor was the Lawrence Hardware Store. This building was built simultaneously with its twin to the north, the Helfrich Building. Present Use: Part of the Kelly Company. Present Owners: Mike and Linda Kelly.

25. 88 South Madison The HELFRICH BUILDING was also built in 1888 by N. J. Helfrich. Nick started in the grocery business with W. W. Patterson on the south side of the square, next door to his cousin, Joseph Helfrich's Meat Market. Nick was called one of Carthage's most popular citizens. He was successful in the grocery business and active in all civic affairs. One son was in the grocery business and another son became a prominent local banker. He headed up the building of the IOOF building on the southeast corner of the square. For many years Sherman Tweedt, 100 years old as of August 16, 2008 operated the Maytag store here. He had started the business on Wabash Avenue across from the Woodbine Theatre. Present Use: Kameron Miller, Attorney. Present Owner: Kameron Miller.

26a. 86 South Madison This double brick building was built in 1875 by Messen Clark and W. J. Dale. The DALE BUILDING, now covered by a mint green façade, was occupied by a Book and Jewelry Store in 1906 and a Book and Stationary Store in 1912. So it was very likely to have been one of these two in 1908. The second floor of the Dale Building housed the Dale family. Present Use: WCAZ Radio Station. Present Owner: Rob and Ann Dunham.

26b. 84 South Madison The CLARK BUILDING was built in 1875 by Charles Clark. It is the northern half of the Dale Building to the south. The storeroom was originally leased to A. Gutman Grocer, who also dealt in produce, hides, wool and furs. It was a tobacco factory and a Men's and Boy's Clothing Store. The upper floor had always been apartments. Sanborn maps of 1906 show a hardware business here and the 1912 maps show a Book and Stationary Store. Present Use: Samuel Naylor VI Law Office. Present Owner: Samuel Naylor VI. (**Researcher Note:** In examination of the room on the second floor, it was determined that the old windows are still in place and possibly the mint green siding could be taken off to reveal the original façade.)

27. 82 South Madison The building that would have been here in 1908 was destroyed by fire, but would at that time have been occupied by the following in 1908: the south end by a tailor, the middle section by the J. E. Loop Meat Market as advertised in the 1908 Republican newspaper, or a confectionary shop as shown on the Sanborn 1906 Map, and on the north side by a boot shop, blacksmith, or millinery shop as shown on the Sanborn maps of 1906 and 1912. At one time the lot was occupied with Carl Motors vehicles. In 1980, Karen Murphy opened Karen's Fabrics in a new building that has since been Country Pastimes, and is now Gary Grimm and Associates. Present Use: Gary Grimm and Associates. Present Owner: Phoebe Hartzell Wear.

28. 70 South Madison The SELOVER BUILDING was built in 1867 by J. B. Quimby and considered by Robert Christie as One of the Best Preserved Buildings on the Square. The ground floor was built as a clothing store by J. B. Quimby, who remained in business only a year. He then moved a block north and opened a buggy business. The second and third floors were used as offices and a hall respectively. The original shop front remains completely intact, including cast iron columns flanking the recessed entry, awning and display window aprons in a carved sunburst pattern. The 1906 Sanborn map shows it occupied by a Jewelry Hall, and the 1912 map, shows it occupied by a Jewelry and Millinery Store. S. G. Case occupied the building as the Rexall Drug Store and then sold it to L. E. and Edith McHugh, who operated it for years. They then sold it to their son, Robert, a registered pharmacist, who continues to operate it today. Present Use: McHugh Drug Store. Present Owners: Robert and Lydia McHugh.

29. 64 South Madison The MARKILIE BUILDING was built in 1868 by William Dale. The original storefront has been replaced by aluminum. Dale built this building for his dry goods business, before he built several doors to the south in 1875. The building was then sold to Duffy and Wetzel who operated a livery there. In 1893 the building burned and had a new façade

added. In 1898 Dr. Markilie bought the building and embellished the façade with an iron balcony (since removed) and added a third floor for apartments. Both the 1906 and the 1912 Sanborn maps show the front half of the building being occupied by a drug store. Present Use: Unoccupied. Present Owner: Janice Marasco, Annapolis, Maryland.

30. 10 South Madison The OWSLEY BUILDING was another work of architects George W. Payne and Son. This is a two and one-half story seven-bay brick commercial building. It has a raised center corbelled cornice with corner piers. A large lunette is a feature of the attic level under the center cornice. A small Bulls-Eye light is at the attic level above the inner stairway. It was built in 1898 by Erasmus Quimby and was reported in a July 6, 1898 article in the Republican Newspaper "The front of this building will be unbroken with pillars and will be the handsomest in this part of the state." Quimby had been in business on the north corner of this street and went into business with a new partner, Edward Gill. In 1907 Emrich and Owsley bought out Quimby and Gill. A succession of men's clothiers occupied the space. The most recent was the ownership by Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone Califf and then Phillip Califf. The business was bought on July 1, 1980, by Charles, Brian in 1983, and Dennis Royalty. Present Use: Royalty's Clothing. Present Owner: Dennis Royalty.

31. 9-10 South Madison Where Royalty's Clothing Store is now located, was in 1908 a one-story frame building occupied by a barber on the south, a meat market in the middle and either a cigar store or a boot maker / blacksmith on the north. The Royalty Shop was built in 1940 for Benteco, The Benner Tea Company, who had been on the north side of the square. When the Royalty family bought out Califf in 1980, an opening to join the two spaces was made and the businesses were combined into Royalty's Clothing. Both Quimby and Charles Royalty had previously operated their business in the Spittler Opera House building on the north end of the block. Charles bought out Betty Plumley in 1961 and then came into the present building in 1966. Present Use: Royalty's Clothing. Present Owner: Dennis Royalty.

32. 8 South Madison The WILLIAMS BUILDING was built in 1880 by C. F. Williams. This building replaced a small frame building, which was one of the original businesses on the square. It was sold in 1882 to the J. M. Berry Jewelry Company. In 1889 a second floor was constructed to house dressing rooms for the opera house next door and to give some seating capacity to the opera house. When the opera house was no longer used, the upper floor was converted to offices. In 1908 this was a Jewelry Store operated by Duane G. Berry. Several ads in the 1908 newspapers are as follows: The Reliable Jeweler and Optician, one is encouraged to buy an automatic eyeglass and pencil holder; an ad for an after Christmas sale, Beauties in cut glass goods, satisfactory silverware, watches, clocks and souvenir spoons. Otis Bray was in this building after Berry died. Present Use: Chamber of Commerce and the Lehr and Clark Insurance Company. Present Owners: Jeff and Karen Clark.

33. 4 South Madison The SPITTLER BUILDING, also known as the SPITTLER OPERA HOUSE, was built in 1881 to replace one of the oldest buildings on the square that had been built in 1836 and housed the offices of Dr. Evans. This building was also a George Payne designed building, along with McColm. The first floor was, for many years, a dry goods store. In 1908 it was the Elder and Quimby Clothing Company, then the McClures, then Edward Hackett, then K & B, then Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Plumley and then Charles Royalty, who, like Quimby, later moved to the Owsley Building. Originally, the opera house on the second floor was not finished and for two years the Home Guard rented the space to use as an armory. When the stage was built, the opera house was the first in Carthage to have gas/electric lighting. The second floor opera house was the scene of local entertainment and traveling musicals. The risers of the stairs to the opera house were glass, back-lit with electric bulbs, each carrying a local advertisement. When the opera

house waned, O’Harra, Scofield and Hartzell had law offices on the second floor. Present Use: Ramsey Financial Services. Present Owner: Ramsey Financial Services.

Addenda. Walk west on Main Street to the Wood Inn from the northwest corner of the square. The Wood Inn is #34 on the walk.

34. 415 Main The WOOD INN. The only evidence for this building is a 1908 ad for a Wood’s Restaurant saying, “We take pride in our Meals. They are Cleanly, Well Cooked and Well Served. Try them for yourself when in Carthage.” Also the ad mentioned a Confectioner, Caterer and a Baker. There was also an ad by 1987 owners, John and Charlotte Laffey, in the Journal Pilot Newspaper dated Wednesday, June 24, 1987 for an invitation to celebrate the one hundred and fifty year anniversary of The Wood Inn. It stated that The Wood Inn was built in 1891. A large fire in the 1940’s caused the façade to be replaced. Present Use: The Wood Inn. Present Owner: Mark Harrison.

35. 419 Main The SCOVERN BUILDING is east of the Wood Inn and was built in 1891 by Henry W. Scovern as a blacksmith shop and wagon sales store. The original storefront remains with large 2’ x 4’ panes of glass making up the large display windows and clerestories. The building later held Scovern’s Farm Machinery business. Henry Rams later bought out Scovern and built buggies here. When automobiles caught on, Rams and E. P. Cutler opened a dealership and garage here. In 1918, William Smith of Bentley bought the International Harvester dealership. Present Use: Storage. Present Owner: Mark Harrison.

36. 423 Main The DUFFY BUILDING was built in 1895 by John S. Duffy. This was a two-story four-bay commercial brick with double entry original garage-type doors. It has its original display windows and upper apartment sidewalk entrance door. An entry door on the second level opened onto a delicate balustraded balconet, which has since been torn down. The storefront has been changed from the original. It was built by the Matthews Brothers. This building opened as a feed store owned by John Duffy. Duffy also carried Case Implements, Garland Riding Plows and Moon Buggies and Road Carts. Present Use: Beauty Salon operated by Ashley Housewright and Jennifer Duffy. Present Owner: Mark Harrison.

Addenda. As one looks at the Twaddle Furniture Building today, you are seeing a combination of the COCHRAN and the FERRIS buildings into one storefront. One needs to look at an old photograph before the storefront was added to understand the two buildings.

37. 425 Main The COCHRAN BUILDING was built in 1871 and has always been a furniture store. The storefront has been altered extensively. The upper façade about the storefront cornice is reversible. In 1908 it would have been the J. Nace Furniture and Undertaking business. The Carthage Republican Newspaper in 1908 shows an ad for carpets, curtains, furniture, undertaking and licensed embalmers for this business. J. E. Williams operated the business after Nace.

38. 429 Main The FERRIS BUILDING was built in 1875. The president of the First National Bank (2 doors east) built this building as an income property. Nace had outgrown his building at 425 Main, so Ferris, then president of the bank to the east of this building, built this building to lease to Nace to expand his business. The building was later occupied by Russell Smith who had a Victrola, Paint and Wallpaper business. Keith Twaddle moved to Carthage in 1947. His dad rented the buildings from Williams until 1977 when he purchased the buildings and opened Twaddle Furniture. He and his son Stanley ran a successful business for many years. When Stanley retired in 2008 the business was closed. Keith is one of our oldest residents, having just

turned 93 on August 5, 2008 and still golfs occasionally. Present Use: Unoccupied, Twaddle Furniture closed on June 30, 2008. Present Owner: Keith Twaddle.

39. 433 Main The HANCOCK COUNTY NATIONAL BANK was built in 1872. In 1908 it was a bank and has always been a bank though there have been many name changes. Mary Agnes Cherrill Habben recalls that the Hancock County National Bank “morphed” from the Cherrill and Sholl Exchange Bank that was located in the Orth Building where Lena Kennedy once had a store, and is now a Swap and Shop business run by Terry Markey. Mary recalled going with her father, Larry Cherrill, every night at 8:00 p.m. to lock the vault, as the lock was only good for 12 hours. In 1934, it became the First National Bank of Carthage, in 1985, it became the First Midwest Bank and from June 30, 1989 to the present, it is The First State Bank of Western Illinois with Ron Peterson its president. In 1955 the entire building, except the cornice, was covered with aluminum. In 1983, all the windows were removed, classical corner entry pavilion was removed, new down-sized windows were installed and the aluminum removed. The loss of the original detail and fenestration rendered the building non-contributing to the nomination form for the National Registry of Historic Places. Present Owner: First State Bank Corporation, Inc.

40. 501 Main The HUNSACKER BUILDING was built in 1864 by G. J. Hunsacker to house his grocery business. This is a two-story, three-bay Italianate brick building. It has eyebrow arched second floor windows with limestone keystones. The corners of the storefront are brick-quoined. The original storefront components have been replaced, but the recessed entry configuration remains with flanking display windows. Around 1868 the post office occupied the building. It was also used a grocery, hardware, kitchen wares and feed operation. About In 1908 the Luther Shipton Grocery Store was here with a bakery. Newspaper ads testify to his business being on the northwest corner of the square. Next to occupy this building was the Harp Variety Store, W. S. Wallace, The Clare U. Walker Insurance Agency, Marcus Metternich and James Burling, Dr. Harold Bernstein and Dr. Eddingfield occupied the back of the building. Present Use: Conn Communications. Present Owner: Chenille Saunders.

41. 503 Main The STRADER BUILDING was built in 1892 by John Strader as an income property. This building is a twin to the one just described and was first leased to the Elder Drug Company. J. H. McCullough operated a drug business until about 1925. One of them was there in 1908. Then Harve Waggoner opened The Benner Tea Company (Benteco), moved to the present Royalty’s Clothing Store in 1940. It was sold to Henry Jaster and next to Francis Lunt. It was later the Le Clair’s Gift Shop, which was part of the Ben Franklin Store adjacent to the east, a wall being partially cut out to join the businesses. The second floor for many years was occupied by Judge David Mack and his son, Edward Mack, as law offices. Present Use: Center Stage. Present Owner: Chenille Saunders (**Researcher Note:** According to a picture acquired from the Kibbe Museum this was a frame structure until 1892.)

42. 505 Main The CULKIN BLOCK was built in 1877 by John Culkin. Culkin came to Carthage in 1868 from Ireland. His strong personality and thrift caused his business to prosper. He built this building as a haberdashery, clothing and gentleman’s furnishings store. It was one of the largest storerooms in Carthage. He occupied this building in 1908, until about 1932. He accumulated one of the largest acreages in Hancock County. He was a community leader. He advertised frequently in the local newspaper as “CULKINS, The Good Clothing Store.” Suits sold from \$7.95 to \$9.95. Clarence Gasperi and his son Larry were here for many years, then Willis Smith from 1990-1999, the E. J. Pullins True Value Store from 2000-2005. Present Use: North Side Java and Hometown Apparel on the west end of the building and The Flower Shop on the East. These businesses are operated by Jerilyn Miller, Cindy Knowles and Pam Houston. Present Owner: Jerilyn Miller.

43. *511 Main* The RANDOLPH BUILDING was built by James Randolph in 1875. Dr. Randolph had a mercantile business in Plymouth, Illinois and branched out to Carthage in 1867. He was an ardent backer of Carthage College, a champion of the temperance movement who fought for the abolition of liquor in Carthage and was one of Carthage's moral and religious leaders. The home he built is located 2 blocks west of the square on Main Street and is presently a bed and breakfast called The Randolph House. Around 1909 Mrs. E. R. Boston opened The Boston Store here until the mid 1920s. Businesses that have located here were: A & P Grocery, Grab-a-Snack Restaurant, Willis Smith and the E. J. Pullins True Value Hardware Store from 2000-2005. Present Use: Connected with the Culkin Building containing North Side Java and Hometown Apparel on the west side and The Flower Shop is located in the Randolph Building on the east side. Present Owner: E. J. Pullins.

44. *517-521 Main* The SPANGLER BLOCK was built in 1868 by John Spangler, a druggist who later took a position as a druggist and counselor at Joliet State Prison. Around 1900 W. W. Nicholes had a newsstand there. Sanborn maps show that in 1906 there was a Harness Shop on the west side and a Confectioners Shop on the east side. In 1912 the map shows the west side as having a plumbing or harness shop. H. H. Brooks and the Trout Brothers had a dry cleaning business that moved east to the Orth Building and J. F. Motter operated an insurance office there with Clare Walker, who later moved to the Hunsaker Building. Ardel Long had a jewelry business, next was the E.A. Lehr and Jeff Clark Insurance Agency. Jeff Clark is now in the Williams Building on the west side of the square. Other occupants were Siegel's Sandwich Shop and O. E. Patrick's Shoe and Repair Shop. Present Use: Taste of China, which is using both sides of the building. Present Owner: Al Hua Zhang, Fort Madison, Iowa.

45. *524 Main* The REPUBLICAN BUILDING was built in 1868 and originally owned by the Davidson family who published the Carthage Republican Newspaper. The façade is the duplicate of the two buildings to the west. Although the storefront has been altered, the upper façade and cornice remain intact but have been covered entirely with a mansard. Also W. O. Sharp owned and published the Carthage Gazette Newspaper there for many years. In 1908 it was a printing establishment. In later years Faul's Jewelry and The Eads Jewelry Store were there. Present Use: Christian Radio Station 90.9. Present Owner: Jerry Eads.

46. *525 Main*

****Oldest Building on the Square****

The SHOLL BUILDING was built in 1856 and is the tallest building on the square other than the courthouse and was built strictly as an income property. It is generally a temple form with a pedimented, gabled façade. The eaves are all wood-bracketed in the popular style of the day. This is a seven-bay, three-story building. The upper façade windows have limestone slab lintels and sills. The two storefronts have been modernized several times with unmatched brick. The open façade has unbalanced fenestration and two different brick surfaces. The two brick surfaces were the result of the Union Army commandeered all the red brick during the Civil War and they had to use the yellow brick in its place. In 1908 John Schultz was the sole proprietor of the Schultz Drug Store that had been established by his father Jackson Schultz in 1865. The drug store was on the west side of the building and the C. W. Walker Men's Clothier was on the east side. The Masons and the Odd Fellows were combined on the third floor, housing the Odd Fellows in the front half and the Masons in the rear half. This seems to have been the first building built for that purpose. The lodge rooms, both abandoned in the 1880s and 90s for larger quarters, remain intact, having never been used since the lodges left. In later years, O. C. Sherrick bought the building after the Kroger Grocery Store closed. Two different families covering five generations have operated what is now known as the Sherrick Drug Store.

Downing came into the business in 1952 and was there for many years. The building was also occupied by the Ag Soil Conservation Service, the Hancock Savings and Loan, and the Lehr and Clark Insurance Company. Present Use: Sherrick Drug & Medical. Present Owner: Hancock Area Medical Supply.

47. 537 Main The ORTH BUILDING was built in 1890. It is across the alley to the east of the Sherrick Drug & Medical Store. The Orth Building contained three different stores. On the west side in 1908 was Cochran's Barber Shop, later the Trout Brother's Cleaners, and then the North Side Cleaners. In the middle was G. W. Orth's Meat Market, Emma Allen's Restaurant and on the east was the Exchange Bank of Cherrill, Sholl and Company. A fire in the mid-1920's required a major reconstruction, which included a new commercial façade, popular in that period and of sympathetic architectural quality in its look. Later it was occupied by Edward Kelly's Plumbing and Heating, then Ralph Pancake's Shoe Repair business, and then for many years, Kennedy's Wearing Apparel operated by Lena Kennedy. Present Use: West side is Bob Kelly's American Family Insurance Company, the middle section is Duane Prior's Chiropractic Office and on the east is the Swap and Shop operated by Terry Markey. Present Owner: Bob Kelly.

48/49. 541 Main The CUTLER BUILDING was built in 1885 by Dwight Cutler and the WRIGHT BUILDING was built in 1915 by Harry Wright. This was a seven-bay, two-story brick building with simple round-arched second floor windows. The original storefront arrangements remained in 1987. Dwight Cutler came to Carthage in 1869 and purchased an existing drug store from A. F. Sims. The drug operation was supplemented by an extensive bookstore and stationary business. These two buildings have now been combined to make the present day business of Country Pastimes. There is a new brick front. In 1908 the west store was Boscow's Grocery advertised as "The Reliable Grocer." This store was sold to grocers, Bob Carlton, John Powell, L. B. Campbell and finally to John Jacoby. It then became Jenkins Billiard Parlor. The Cutlers were active in all aspects of community life and were among the most influential in the continued development of Carthage. Cutler's son later purchased and operated the Stevens (Centennial Hotel) and named it the Cutler Hotel. Present Use: Country Pastimes. Present Owners: Pam and Mark Schieffer.

49. 545 Main The WRIGHT BUILDING did not exist in 1908. It was built circa. 1915 by Harry Wright. The original storefront remained in 1987 with only the original cast columns missing. Originally, this was the site of the Mack Sholl and William Bartels mercantile operation; it was demolished to make way for Wright's new hardware and plumbing and heating business. Wright supplied virtually all the plumbing and heating used in Carthage after he entered the business. He ran the business with his sons, Fred and Harry, and later his son-in-law Harold Williams. Dr. Robert F. Sheets occupied the upper floor as a physician's office for years. The Selective Service Office was also there for many years during part of World War II and later. The east room of Country Pastimes is where Wright's Hardware would have been. Present Use: Country Pastimes. Present Owners: Pam and Mark Schieffer.

50. 546 Main (Researcher's note: The address was for some fourty years 551 Main due to unknown error.) The SEGER BUILDING as built in 1906 by Emmett Seger. A colonial storefront replaces the original recessed entry. A center-placed oriel is the most prominent feature of this three-bay, two-story brick building. The cornice is a neatly double-row corbelled one with a finish slotted brick row. It was built expressly for his bakery. This is what was located in the building in 1908 when the courthouse was built. In time it included a restaurant and a candy and ice cream business. It was to eventually house George Hearne's Mortuary; several restaurants operated by Mr. and Mrs. John Long and their son, Levi; Bert Fleming and McMahans; a Brown Lynch Scott Store, managed by Elmer Holt and later Oscar Davis and also

an appliance store run by Rampley's Gas Service. Present Use: LeRoy A. Ufkes, Law Office. Present Owner: Joan Aleshire Ufkes, wife of LeRoy A. Ufkes.

51. 548 Main The RIGER BUILDING was built in 1907 by Fred Riger and is a twin to the Seger Building next door to the west. Riger leased the building to a succession of restaurants for forty years. Law offices, as in many of the buildings around the square, occupied the second floor. In the 1950's the ground floor became the Coast to Coast Store operated by Joe Grate and Ralph Dennison, then by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Harrell. It was later a variety of businesses including a Sears Catalogue Store operated by Alfred Kipling. (**Researcher's Note:** Noteworthy are the second floor oriels that had also been on other buildings around the square but are now removed. Although the architect of this building is not known the Payne influence is seen in this structural element.) Present Use: Computing Made Easy classroom. The main office is located at 225 Buchanan. Present Owner: Eric Dooley.

52. 557 Main The BELKNAP BUILDING was built in 1917 by Scott Belknap. According to the Sanborn map of 1906 there was a harness shop in the western half of the building and the east half was vacant. The 1912 map shows a Book and Stationary Shop in the western half and the eastern half was still vacant. 'The 1968 History of Hancock County' says that Tressler's Music Store was here in earlier times. The property was sold to Scott Belknap, and he built the present store. The store entrance is diagonal on the corner. A cornice displays a stone tablet with the name Belknap. The original center recessed entry is replaced with dual plate glass display windows. This building first housed a Nash Agency and Garage belonging to Forest and Albert Gabel. Upstairs was the George Hearnes Tire Shop. The Pitt and Prox had a Buick Garage there. The Keifer Grocery and Supermarket occupied the building around 1950, then Montgomery Electric, then Homer Taylor's Furniture Store and now Don Bentzinger Home Supply. Present Use: Bentzinger Home Supply. Present Owner: Don Bentzinger.

Addenda. Now we will cross Adams Street and continue east and then look south behind the McMahan-Walker Building (#1). There you will find:

53. 600 East Main The CHEVILLION BUILDING was built in 1901 by Leon Chevillion whose parents had come from France to Nauvoo with the Icarians. This eight-bay, two-story brick building is divided on the upper façade into four panels separated by brick pilasters. The second floor windows are segmental brick arched in the two center panels and eyebrow-arched in the outside two panels. A five-course corbelled brick cornice caps the building. The store fronts have all been altered somewhat. Leon started and operated the largest farm implement dealership in Hancock County. He also sold buggies, wagons and hardware. This is the business that would have been there in 1908. About 1930 he sold the business to Lee Huey who established a widely know hybrid seed company. The seed business is now at the east end of Main Street operated by Ryan Bergmann. Present Use: Storage. Present Owner: Denny Glick, Warsaw, Illinois.

54. 616 East Main The LAWTON BUILDING was a blacksmith shop built by John Lawton in 1902 and was located there in 1908. This building is a two-story, two-bay brick building with a wagon entrance filled in to frame a main door. The building has a simple paneled cornice of brick. Later Lawton trained Frank Edison and Tom Rand in the art of blacksmithing. In later years it was Montgomery Electric. Dan Gillogly moved into this space in 1979 and has been there ever since. Present Use: Craft Studio, opens seasonally as a Christmas shop. Present Owner: Dan Gillogly