



Guttenberg, Iowa
The “Limestone City” of Clayton County
Its Architecture and History, 1854-1951

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History Pays! Historic Preservation Consulting Firm

Des Moines, Iowa

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Community Credits:

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The members of the Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission performed much of the community volunteer hours which made the project possible. The members were Bonnie Vorwald, Chairperson, Lou Kuempel, Secretary, Mary Newbern, Jerry Dumpke and Donna Lund.

A number of historically-minded volunteers contributed greatly to the project. Neil Webster took survey photos. Larene Backhause provided a large amount of newspaper and other historical research material. Jim Kuempel seemed to be a Commission member who was just a spouse who was kept busy except when he was walking the dog. The list of volunteers who delivered and picked up survey site sheets and talked with property owners was a lengthy one. The list included Jerry Dumpke, Lois Goerd, Vernon Heck, Becky Hefel, Jim Kuempel, Lou Kuempel, Donna Lund, Arma Jean Newbern, Mary A. Newbern, Russell Schroeder, Sheila Tomkins, Bonnie Vorwald, Kathy Weseman, and William Wolfe. A number of residents loaned historic photographs for the project and these included Irish Degnan, Larene Backhause, Russell Schroeder, Joe Ihm, Jim Kuempel, and Bud Frommelt. The effort to identify local house builders and the homes they built was taken on by Norma Esslinger, Phyliss Reinitz, Duane Duwe, Howard Duwe and Russell Schroeder.

Cover Photo:

Aerial view of Guttenberg, 1949, Des Moines *Register & Tribune*, State Historical Society of Iowa Photographic Collection (Image 9899.2).

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**National Register of Historic Places
Multiple Property Documentation Form**

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

New Submission Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

The History of Guttenberg, Iowa As Expressed by its Architecture and History, Past and Present, 1854-1955

B. Associated Historical Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

- Context #1, Guttenberg's Town/City Growth and Development, 1854-1951:
- Context #2, "Wir Sind Deutsch," Germans Dominate in Guttenberg, 1854-1900:
- Context #3, The Role of the Mississippi River on Guttenberg's History and Development, 1854-1951:
- Context #4, Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1854-1951:
- Context #5, House Construction in Guttenberg, 1854-1951:
- Context #6, The role of the Federal Government in Guttenberg's History, 1939-51:
- Context #7, The Commercial and Industrial Architecture of Dubuque, 1854-1951:

C. Form Prepared By

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City or Town Des Moines State Iowa Zip Code 50312

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature and title of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Table of Contents for Written Narrative

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and the title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheets in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Fill in page numbers for each in the space below.

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Introduction:

It is unusual that a community is surveyed twice over a 22-year period by the same person. The experience offered an opportunity to measure change, good or bad, relative to historic preservation, tourism, and sense of community. At first glance, the historic building casualties since 1979 are fairly alarming and a number of property owners have made lamentable design decisions relative to their historic buildings. The city has also reached the point where any new housing construction requires the elimination of something old, and the willingness to swap modular double-wides for an older house is strongly compelling. Flood protection has allowed the infilling of the backside of the city, between the bluffs and highway, and this once distinctive seasonal wetland is fairly built up. At the same time, the local historic preservation commission has good community and political support and it is hoped that this most recent survey effort will strengthen and clarify the important role of the commission. The recommendations embodied in this report could help to identify and perhaps preserve the historic buildings in Guttenberg. The Commission has had notable successes with its efforts to preserve the Lock Master's house and to acknowledge the significance of the Fish Hatchery.

There has been a lot of change in Guttenberg since 1979. A new generation of community leaders is in place and there is a very tangible sense of confidence and potential for local growth. The highway businesses are stronger than ever but the historic downtown is holding its own and retains much of its special sense of time and place. Guttenberg, in short, remains a delightful place to live or visit and Iowans who never take the time to go there are missing out on a very special experience.

E. Historical Summary:

General Description:

Guttenberg is a small community on the Mississippi River in northeast Iowa, much of its population of some 3,000 still descended from German immigrants who established a town here, on the site of an earlier village, in 1845. Strong physical features delineate the town's boundaries: the Mississippi River on the east and high, wooded, limestone bluffs on the north, south and west. The town is situated on a narrow plain that extends about three miles north-south through the community along Fifth Street, parallel to a railroad line occupying the former Third Street. West of the highway, and extending nearly to the base of the western bluffs, the plain forms a shallow depression that flooded regularly in the 19th century with the spring rise on the Mississippi, and thus experienced almost no development. As a ponding area, part of the Corps of Engineers' flood control program, it is still largely unimproved.

These elements, rail line, highway, and flood plain, effectively divide Guttenberg into two parts. The larger, more intensively built-up area lies to the east, between the river and the rail line. Here are concentrated the business district, most remnants of former industrial activity, and most residential construction. Beyond the railroad, highway and floodplain is a narrow shelf of sloping ground, bounded on the east by Bluff Street and on the west by the bluffs themselves. In many places only a hundred feet wide, this 1½-mile-long shelf forms a discrete residential district, with houses irregularly-spaced along its length and set close beneath the looming bluffs.

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The linear character of Guttenberg is further expressed in the arrangement of activity within the eastern section of the community. The riverbank, once built up with sawmills, lumber yards, wharves and warehouses, is now a long, narrow city park and site of a federal fish hatchery, public school, three enormous stone warehouses, and Lock and Dam No. 10. Main Street is River Park Drive, and most commercial activity, facing the river, between Pearl and Lessing Streets, and to a more limited extent along First Street. Although residential construction extends both north of Pearl and south of Lessing, these streets form rough limits to the northern and southern extent of concentrated building. The western edge is defined by the railroad tracks, but not strongly, as Guttenberg's inhabitants had nearly 30 years to build on both sides of Third Street before the railroad arrived in 1871.

The overall character of Guttenberg is not unlike that of small Iowa towns. Streets are pleasantly tree-shaded, houses are fairly close together (particularly toward the center) yet with sufficient space for small or medium-sized front and side yards. The scale is low--few buildings are over two stories high--and most of the "intrusive" construction is located along the highway. While the grid-like town plat has been largely followed in the commercial and adjacent residential areas, the fringes (to the north, south and west) in particular show oddities of siting, with houses fronting alleys or the railroad tracks, or located with scant regard for official block and parcel lines.

Several buildings, principally by virtue of their size, are important visual landmarks of the community, although none serves as a strong focus of orientation for surrounding structures. Three are the mid-19th century stone warehouses along the river (187, 198 and 210) that terminate the eastern ends of Herder, Schiller and Lessing streets, respectively. The other landmark is St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church (77) built in 1902 in a late Gothic Revival style. Twin spires flank a tripartite entrance portal, and rise to a height (146 feet) well above any other structure in the community.

Wood, brick and limestone comprise the principal materials of construction in Guttenberg. Wood was used in all types of structures, from houses and outbuildings to commercial blocks. A number of early houses and commercial blocks are of brick (which was locally available by 1854) as are a small group of turn of the century residences and many commercial structures.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of Guttenberg's architectural landscape, is the relatively large number of limestone structures, ranging from the great warehouses to small cottage or cabin forms, nearly all of which were built between 1845 and 1870, and which at one time numbered over 100. The stone, obtained from the surrounding bluffs, varies from cut and coursed quarry-faced block to rubble, the more elaborately-dressed stone used mostly for the warehouses and commercial blocks. The largest commercial buildings are built on top of deep vaulted basements, some with several levels, while a number of residences contain vaulted root cellars and spring houses. Massive interlocking timbers, hand-hewn, still support the floors and roofs of these structures. Originally, many of the basements had excavated exteriors, with full sized windows, doors and stairways.

Exterior cellar entrances with wooden doors are sometimes associated with these structures. Stucco appears to have been applied to the vast majority of the stone structures about 1890-1900, and in some cases much later. Sometimes, the exteriors were then decorated with a large simulated block pattern in black or red. The coating probably prevented weak rock from flaking and served as a minimal insulation. While many buildings in

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Guttenberg retain a high degree of exterior integrity, modernization and additions are not uncommon. Typically, the most radical alterations have affected commercial blocks, among the unfortunate being the application of a supermarket front to one of the stone warehouses along the river. Frame houses, in particular, have experienced additions and application of aluminum or asbestos siding. A common method of gaining more living space has been enclosure of porches, many of them two stories high, obscuring a number of potentially interesting facades. Another, earlier, siding material, found principally on commercial blocks, is sheet metal pressed to resemble brick and painted silver. Rather oddly, this material (and also modern aluminum siding) sometimes covers stone and brick structures as well as those of frame construction.

Early outbuildings are relatively rare in town center. Their numbers tend to increase with distance from town proper. Tile and concrete-block sheds and garages, dating from the 1920's and 1930's predominate in the commercial area. Houses along the western bluffs offer a fine collection of vaulted cellars, pumps and wells, spring houses and carriage houses. Houses in the north end of town often retain early garages, pumps and summer kitchens. An interesting feature is the "flying buttress" eaves spout, in which an eaves pipe extension is braced to carry water over the sidewalk to empty into the street.

Along with the more common threats to historic and architectural resources, such as neglect, insensitive modernization and demolition, Guttenberg is faced with several others. First, much of the town is built on ground that is largely silt and sand, which is not only unstable but holds water after floods like a sponge. This dampness threatens many of the oldest buildings in the community, which were built of limestone, a rather porous material.

Also, the limestone itself may not be of very high quality--suggested by the extensive (and early) application of stucco to many building exteriors. In this regard, recent local "restoration" projects may in the long run have done more harm than good, because many of them have involved total removal of stucco and application of masonry sealants. Finally, barges create noticeable vibrations as they pass through the river locks, which may be contributing significantly to the number of sagging walls along River Park Drive.

Guttenberg's architectural landscape is unpretentious, stressing simplicity of form and avoidance of decoration. Elaborate surfaces characteristic of the Gilded Age romantic revivals are largely absent from Guttenberg, chief exceptions being a small number of commercial fronts, a handful of c.1900 brick houses in the late Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style, and St. Mary's Church. The earliest style found in Guttenberg is the Greek Revival, but never in pure form; rather, aspects of the style, such as frontal symmetry, pedimented window heads, and cornice treatment, have been adapted to vernacular building forms.

The well-preserved nature of a number of early commercial blocks is an important feature of Guttenberg's architecture, as such buildings in many Iowa communities were altered or modernized periodically over the course of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Most of the remaining examples are, not surprisingly, of masonry construction. Most notable are two-story blocks with steep side- gable roofs, many with parapet gable ends. The fronts are three or more bays wide, with first floor storefront windows larger than those above. A few have cast-iron fronts, but only at ground floor level; the material is also employed for cornices and window hoods.

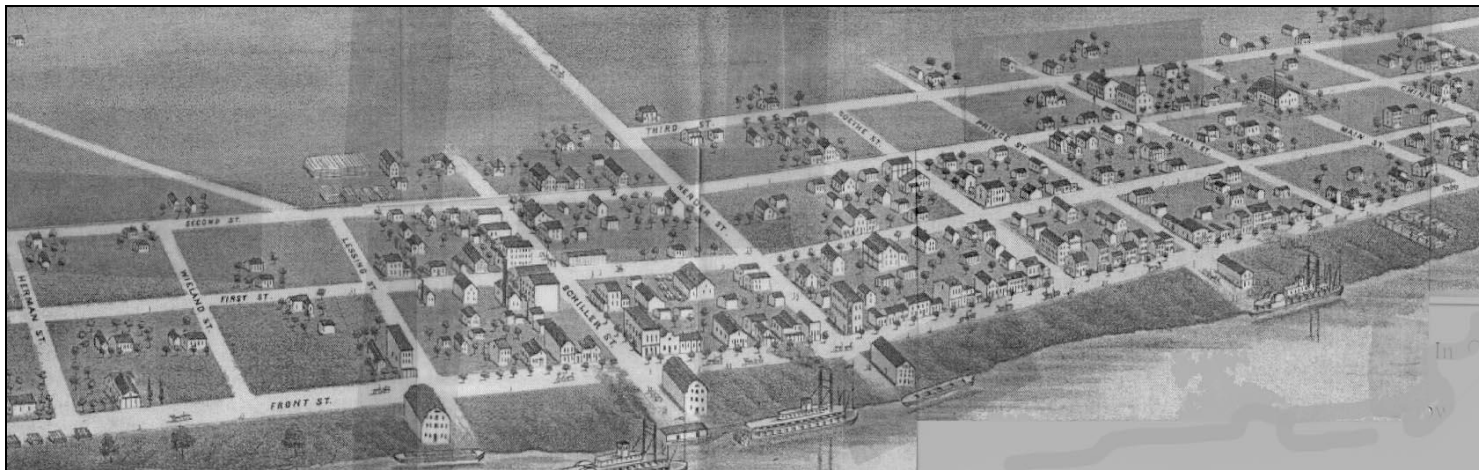
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1869 Bird's Eye View of Guttenberg, view from the Mississippi River

Turner Hall and St. John Lutheran Church visible in right background, the four river warehouses line the riverbank

Guttenberg's commercial architecture also includes an assortment of late 19th and early 20th century examples, from small town commercial Italianate, with front parapet and bracketed cornice, to diminutive pressed-brick storefronts--and a Romanesque Revival bank with corner turret, from the early 1900's housing from this period is more varied than was the case earlier in the 19th century. Forms include the two-story L or T plan wooden "farmhouse," the four-square, hipped roof box with wide eaves, and Craftsman houses.

Historical Overview of Guttenberg:

The earliest Euro-American occupation of the narrow floodplain along the Mississippi is not well-documented but probably occurred shortly before or after eastern Iowa was opened to white settlement by the Black Hawk Treaty of 1833. A seasonal campground of the Sauk and Mesquakie tribes in the 1820's this area may have hosted Indian traders in those years, who viewed the plain, with narrow creek valleys opening into it from between high limestone bluffs, as a good place from which to conduct business and gain access to the prairie interior to the west. The tiny settlement which grew up on the plain was called Prairie la Porte, and as the largest population center in newly-established Clayton County, was designated county seat in 1838. This status was not long retained, however, as movement of settlers into western portions of the county resulted in removal of the county seat to more centrally-located Garnavillo in 1843. Within a few years, Prairie la Porte was almost totally abandoned.

The Western Settlement Society of Cincinnati was a semi-charitable organization founded to aid German immigrants who wished to settle in the American Midwest. In 1844, the Society purchased three hundred acres to the north, and 160 acres to the south, of the Prairie la Porte plat, and the next year acquired the plat as well. Five German families arrived in March 1845, the most determined of an original band of 200 souls, most of whom had remained behind in Burlington, Iowa. By 1851 the town had grown to nearly 300 people, and by 1856 to over 1500, only a few of whom were not German immigrants. The new settlement was appropriately renamed "Guttenberg", and the name was accepted by the State Legislature. Additional streets were laid out, from the south Hermann, Wieland, Lessing, Schiller, Herder and Goethe streets; and, above the original plat, Mozart and Haydn streets. Prairie la Porte survives in county records as the north half of the original town plat.

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With the coming of the Germans, settlement on the narrow plain began a period of sustained growth. By 1860 over 100 substantial stone houses, commercial blocks and small industrial plants were in existence, augmented by buildings of locally manufactured brick, timber from nearby bluffs, and dressed lumber from area mills. Much early economic activity resulted, logically enough, from Guttenberg's location on one of the nation's principal arteries of transportation--the Mississippi River wharf and warehouses handled a variety of products brought out of the northeastern Iowa interior: pig lead from the region's small lead mines, wheat and other grains from the farms. In addition, Guttenberg developed a number of small industries, among them barrel manufacture, lumber and grain milling, leather, brewing, dairying, and even wine- making, with grapes from vineyards planted on the bluffs above the town. Steamboat travelers and area farmers also provided brisk business for local entrepreneurs: grocers, dry-goods merchants, and hoteliers.

As was the case with many of Iowa's Mississippi River towns, the coming of the railroad to Guttenberg in 1871, and its extension into many northeast Iowa counties, coupled with a national decline in river traffic, required adjustment of local economic activities. Ferries and packet boats no longer brought travelers, and the railroads took over transport of goods and produce. Grist mills stood idle, as area farmers converted operations from grain to dairying. For a time, however, the Mississippi continued to provide a livelihood, as the medium of transport of log rafts floated down river from Wisconsin and Minnesota forests. In the late 1870's, local sawmills offered opportunity for employment that was sustained until just before World War I.

Anticipating the depletion of northern forests, Guttenberg's town council in the 1890's began a program to attract new industries. A second period of economic opportunity resulted from this effort, which brought in an excelsior plant, an overall manufacturing plant, three pearl button factories, and a corn canning operation. The attendant prosperity resulted in modernization and new construction in the business district, and the building of several fairly imposing brick residences that expressed, albeit with discretion, the improving fortunes of the town's entrepreneurs.

Since the early 20th century, Guttenberg has managed to maintain a small, but viable economy. The period 1910-1917 was one of full employment. In fact, the town drew in young men from outlying towns and farms to work in the button plants. Guttenberg continued to serve as a collection point for farm produce (the coming of the railroad had altered the town's role from that of supplying the farms and smaller communities, to the role of merely collecting farm products from a smaller area. A creamery was opened in 1920. A new north-south highway connection in 1929 (US Highway 52) provided bus service and further reduced isolation.

In the areas of commerce and industry, Guttenberg combined activities common to most small 19th century American towns with enterprises distinctly reflective of its location on the Mississippi. Standard offerings included dry goods and general merchandise" stores, blacksmiths, and hardware and building suppliers. Among three responses to economic activities of northeast Iowa were wharves, cooperages, flourmills and grain elevators, and warehouses, the later built to handle farmers' grain and other commodities, and to ready them for shipment on the river. Other agriculture-based industries were breweries, winemaking and dairying. The Mississippi also encouraged construction of sawmills, and toward the end of the 19th century provided raw material, in the form of

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Excerpt, 1886 Town Plat, Public Square south to Hermann Street
Note how the buildings form a crescent on the high ground close to the river.
Goethe Street separates the Prairie la Porte and Guttenberg plats

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Overview southeast from the bluffs, c.1898-99, Public Square to Pearl Street
The railroad runs across the image, along Third Street, the Methodist Church is just
Above and to the left of St. John Church. Fifteen of these buildings survive today
(original image is displayed at City Hall)

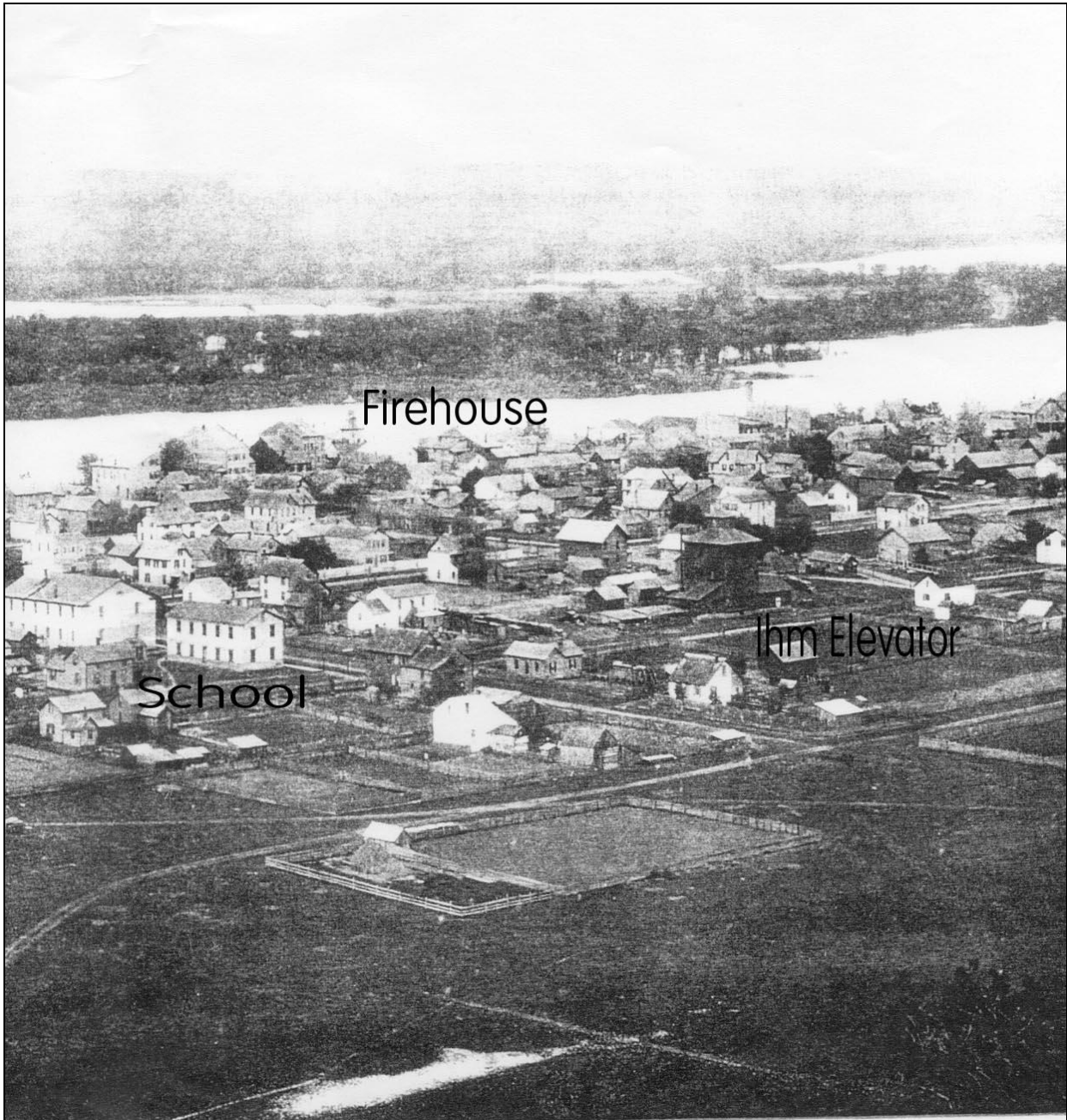
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Overview southeast from the bluffs, c.1898-99,
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clam shells, for pearl button factories. Guttenberg's location on the river, with the attendant flow of traffic and travelers, gave local hotels a special prominence and substantial business. Benefits of location continued into the 1930's when river-oriented federal projects, such as the lock, dam and fish hatchery, brought a measure of stability in economically precarious times. The diversity and river orientation of Guttenberg's economic history are notably illustrated in the variety of buildings remaining from these activities, some housing functions similar to the original, others long since converted to new and different uses.

The Depression does not appear to have closed many significant firms in Guttenberg. Both banks (founded in 1887 and 1900) survived while other towns lost their only banks. The Federal Government's public works programs provided-a financial blessing. Lock and Dam No. 10 (1934-1937) provided jobs and money, as did the construction of a new municipal building and a fish hatchery (1938). An influx of workers greatly changed a previously insular and conservative community into a more "friendly town". State support of the sole surviving pearl button plant returned it to full production (employing women for the first time).

In more recent years, new companies have included Iowa Food Products Co. (1942), the Guttenberg Locker Plant (1949), a mobile home company later reorganize as Trademark Modular Homes, and the Clinton Pallet Company. Tourism, especially in the fall, thrived following the development of color photography on a commercial basis and improvements in highway transportation. A small private airport on Abel's nearby has served to benefit the community generally as well.

Historical Contexts:

Guttenberg's most important historic resources represent two broader themes in its history. The first is the remarkable vernacular architecture of an early Iowa immigrant community, with its heavy reliance on use of local native building materials. The second is the variety of commercial and industrial pursuits that brought initial and later long-term prosperity to Guttenberg and enabled the town to fully exploit its location on the Mississippi River.

Guttenberg has long been noted for its well preserved pre- and post-Civil War vernacular architecture. Its vernacular buildings represent houses and their related outbuildings, commercial blocks and even a few very early industrial complexes.

Perhaps the most striking feature of Guttenberg's architectural landscape is the large number of limestone structures, the majority dating from before the Civil War and some perhaps built as early as the mid-1840's. They represent a rather extensive use of a locally-available but unwieldy, building material, possibly even in preference to equally-available timber. Examples of stone construction include not only industrial and commercial buildings (where the material's load-bearing and fire-retardant qualities would have been most appreciated) but also houses, large and small. Use of limestone is not unique to Guttenberg it is found in many eastern and central Iowa communities, and as in Guttenberg was most commonly used in the 1845-70 period, but the high proportion and variety of stone structures remaining in Guttenberg sets this community apart from many towns of its age in the state.

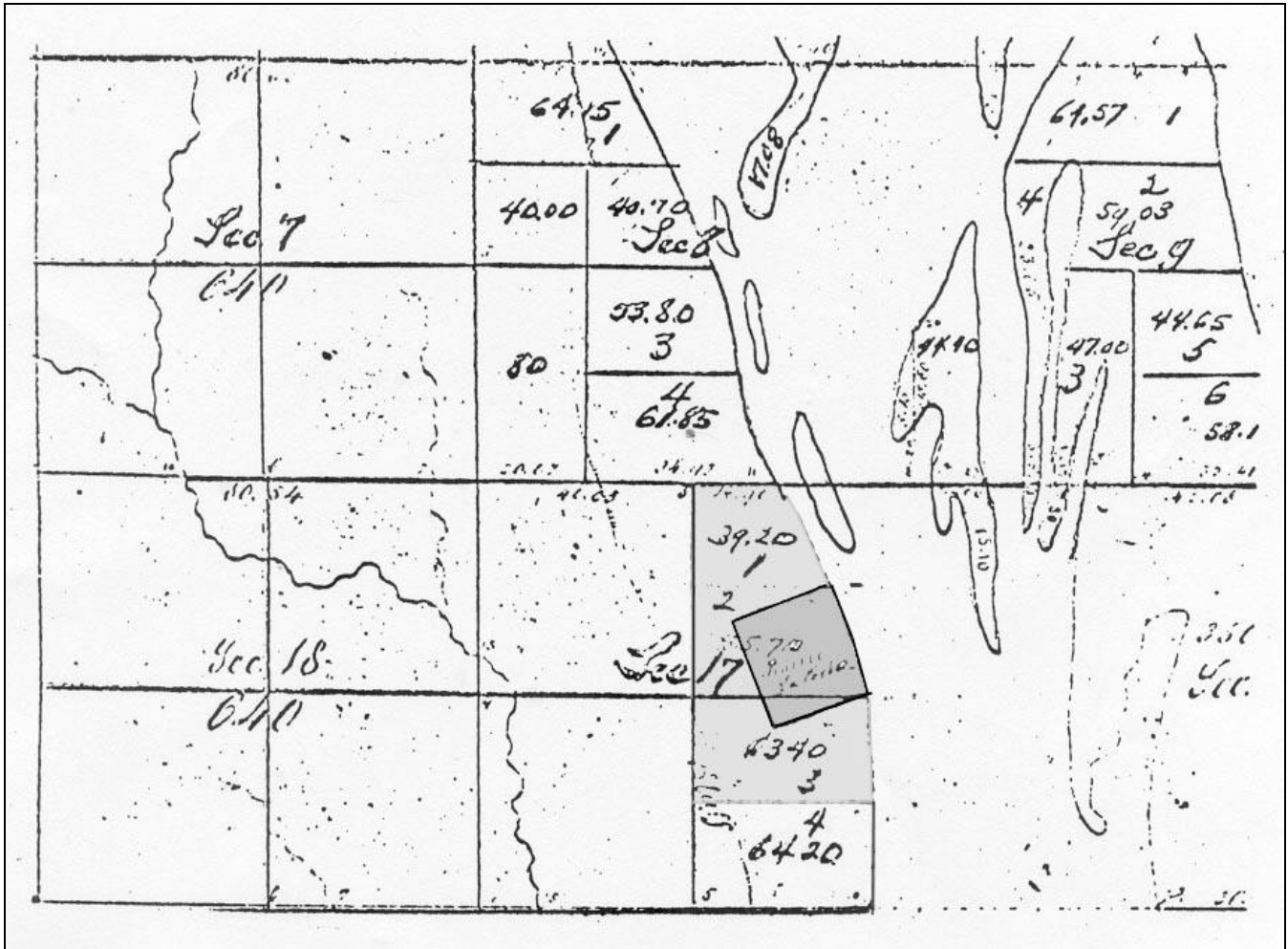
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Original Federal Land Survey, Dark gray locates Prairie la Porte plat,
light gray Lots 1-2 and 3 which became the Guttenberg plat

The buildings of Guttenberg's "formative" period (1845-70) set a tone of functional simplicity in local architecture that remained strong throughout the 19th century, despite increasing use of milled lumber and other manufactured materials such as stock decorative elements (metal cornices and storefronts), which if not necessarily cheaper than stone were far easier to use. Simplicity of massing and surface treatment continued to be a hallmark of Guttenberg's architecture, however, whether due to cultural influences or simply lack of wherewithal to fully exploit the late 19th century American enthusiasm for picturesque surface elaboration. Guttenberg's business establishments also reflected this conservatism, in which many of the early blocks were retained despite the tremendous popularity in Iowa of the "commercial Italianate" style and the equally popular false front so common on America's late 19th century frontiers.

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Context #1, Guttenberg’s Town/City Growth and Development, 1854-1955:

Guttenberg's river front location quite naturally influenced early commercial development in specific ways. The town first served as a focal point for westward settlement and as an early governmental and administrative center. The early location of the county seat (1838-1843) spurred town growth and local business development. The city served as a supply center for the general area until the Civil War period, when railroads and an interior road system combined to decrease Guttenberg's role as a market center. The earliest businesses included general supply stores, blacksmith and wagon shops, and hotels. Herman Graybill's tavern and store rented a room for the earliest governmental meetings. The loss of the county seat slowed growth and some population decline naturally followed. Two factors caused an economic revival of the town, the arrival beginning in 1845 of hundreds of German immigrants (including skilled tradesmen, artisans, craftsmen) under the auspices of the Western Settlement Society of Cincinnati, and the early development of the lead mining industry along Miners Creek.

The historical origin of Guttenberg (former Prairie La Porte) can be traced to the period of French exploration and (scattered) settlement. Marquette and Joliet in 1673 noted in their journals a large chain of very high mountains followed downstream by a stretch of river that was filled with islands on the east side of the channel. This spot, some fifteen miles below Pike's Peak, offered to the early explorers and traders a door on the prairie by means of following the river or creek valleys into the interior. The name "Prairie La Porte" thus was given to the future site of a settlement. As late as 1823 the site was a Sac and Fox campground. The level, three-mile long plain (composed of river deposits), offered a unique site for settlement. The Louisiana Purchase of 1803 transferred jurisdiction and ownership to the United States and the Black Hawk Purchase of June 1, 1833 finally opened the area for legal settlement by American citizens. The District of Iowa, divided in two counties, Dubuque and Des Moines, was then a part of Wisconsin Territory. Dubuque County was subdivided into eleven counties in 1837, thereby creating Clayton County. The north boundary of this new county was the southern boundary line of the Neutral Ground, an area created in 1830 to allow mutual unmolested hunting by various Indian tribes.

At the time of county organization, Prairie La Porte was the largest settlement. Naturally it functioned as county seat from that time on. The first governmental function was served on September 10, 1838 when the town served as one of two polling places for the election of the first county officers. In May of that year the first term of the Iowa District Court met in Guttenberg. Two weeks later, on June 12, 1838 the Territory of Iowa was created and the second court meeting on September 11 met as Territorial Court.

The town was first surveyed in 1839, with a ninety-three acre plat, divided into seven blocks (north from present-day Goethe Street to Mozart Street) north and south by six blocks from east and west. Street names from the south were Prince, Pearl, Main, China, Regent, and Pryam streets.

In September 1840, the first courthouse structure was built. It would serve the county until 1843 when Garnavillo (originally called Jacksonville) was selected as a more centrally located site. The rough terrain of

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Prairie La Porte would never have allowed the development of a large city, but by 1838 the County population was 274 persons, fifty-one families, or one third of the total Territorial population of 697.

Subsequent settlement of the interior in conjunction with the loss of the county seat, caused the town to lose population. The development of the lead mining industry in the area probably sustained the town in a minimal way. Little information is available concerning the state of the town by 1845, the most extreme assessment stated that only two buildings remained, and that one of these, the old court house, was falling down.

The County found a buyer for its town plat. The Western Settlement Society of Cincinnati, Ohio was a semi-charitable organization founded to aid German immigrants who were settling in Western America. In 1844 the Society purchased three hundred acres to the north and one hundred and sixty acres to the south of the Prairie La Porte plat. The next year this plat was also sold by the County to the Society. Five German families arrived in March 1845, the most determined of an original band of two hundred souls, most of whom had remained behind in Burlington. There is little information on how fast the immigrants arrived, but by 1851 the town population was less than 300. The new settlement was renamed "Guttenberg" in honor of the German printer Johannes Gutenberg and the name was accepted by the State Legislature. Additional streets were platted and named, from the south Hermann, Wieland, Lessing, Schiller, Herder, Goethe and above the original plat were Mozart and Haydn streets. Prairie La Porte survived in County records in the status of a subdivision within the larger plat.

The origin of the name "Guttenberg" for the new town is unclear. City historian Walt Jacobs championed the claim that the name honored the German printer Johannes Gutenberg. He based his hypothesis on the timing of the name selection, c.1843-44, on the eve of the printer's fair scheduled for the summer of 1845. The fairs were held every hundred years following the death of the noted inventor of moveable type. Jacob went so far as to have the city named changed to "Gutenberg," alleging that the extra "t" had slipped into the spelling of the name as early as 1846. The alternative explanation for the origin of the name was in reference to the bluffs, "Die Guten Bergen" (Jacobs, pp. 16-17, 22).

The bluff line to the west edge of the plat was the site for many early homes. To some extent city lots were sold along with single-acre lots which were on top of the bluff. Apparently this plan to have residences along the hill and commercial buildings in town never worked out. Many substantial stone houses appeared along the bluff line where natural springs offered the first town water supply. As late as 1855 there were only four or five non-German families living in Guttenberg and these included some notable merchants and local political figures. The first substantial house, built of stone, was the Overbeck and Telgemier house (not located or identified) constructed by the two families in 1845. At the peak of lead mining efforts, the town boasted a population of five hundred with two hotels and a good steamboat landings. By 1856 the population exceeded 1,500 (having increased from a mere 300 residents in 1851).

Prosperous growth continued until the coming of the Civil War period. The majority of stone construction took place in the years 1856-60. Finished lumber was brought in by steamboat until local mills were established. It Locally produced brick was available by 1856. Cheaper and faster construction was possible using lumber and

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brick and stone construction was no longer predominant. The coming West of the town the plains were used for small-scale farming. The town itself was concentrated towards the southern end of old Prairie La Porte. The commercial area tended to move south during the period 1886-94, finally being generally fixed between Lessing and Prince Streets. Industry was mostly located in North Guttenberg with the exception of most of the lumber and saw mill activity which remained in South Guttenberg.

The German influence not only determined the types of buildings built, but it provided the cultural milieu that valued and preserved the old structures. Most of the stone buildings and many of the frames were modernized with coats of stucco or with asphalt shingle siding. The old open porches were built in to provide extra rooms as well as to keep out the bats.

The same influence probably was the key factor that held the town together over the years. A weekly newspaper was published in German in the 1860's and the Guttenberg Turn Verein, organized in 1856, reflected this predominant cultural influence. The Turner Hall was physically and socially in the center of the town's life, Only two faiths, German Lutheran and German Catholic were founded by 1892 (St. Mary Catholic and St. John Evangelical Lutheran Churches). German immigration continued beyond original settlement, providing a fresh German ethnic input in the city. As late as 1925, 134 persons of foreign birth remained in Guttenberg, 120 of these aged 45 or older.

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Chronology of Guttenberg Development:

1859:

Town Clock: A movement is on foot under the superintendance of Rev. T. H. Huschmann Pastor of the Lutheran Church, to furnish that church with a steeple, bell and town clock—many of our citizens have subscribed liberally to the enterprise, the list being headed by Messrs. Fleck & Bro. with a donation of \$50.

We understand that there is no doubt that the requisite amount will be obtained without much trouble.

A town clock will be an improvement and a great convenience in our city.

Mississippi Valley Register, June 23, 1859

The Duquque *Daily Times* reported in early August that “This smart German city, late seat of justice of Clayton county, is gradually improving [after the damage wrought by the financial panic of 1857-58].” Sullivan’s three-story brick Front Street store and Masonic hall was being finished. Metzger & Welschbillig were raising up a two-story business house on the same street. One or two mechanical shops were newly built and the Lutheran Church had obtained a bell and town clock for its steeple. Judge Jacob Nicklaus had just finished “a well built and commodious brick house” and Postmaster J. P. Kriebs had added a basement under his house along with a new front.

“One or two stone houses are under way by parties unknown to us. Limestone enters largely into the composition of Guttenberg.”

Dubuque Daily Times, August 8, 1859

There were local concerns that Sullivan’s building was too tall to be safe, but the *Mississippi Valley Register* assured its readers that the building had a strong “democratic foundation.” The third floor was to house undertaker Bowman “and his [unnamed] Irish firend.” The local paper was “impressed with the belief that the growth of Guttenberg this year will exceed that of last” (*Mississippi Valley Register*, June 23, 1859).

Many other buildings are in progress...the improvements begun convince us that more will be done in the way of improvements, than was anticipated by any of our citizens in the spring...

The splendid crops being harvested, has dispelled the gloom which overspread our community a few months back, and buoyed up with the hope of a brighter future, they are pushing on improvements necessary to accommodate the immense business to be done when the present grain crop is brought to our market.

Mississippi Valley Register, June 23, 1859

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The IOOF Lodge No. 126 organized and the Mississippi Valley Register started publication on May 19, replacing the Clayton County Journal, removed to Garnovillo, the newly designated county seat. J. Wert Smith, from McGregor, moored his floating ambrotype studio at the city wharf at the end of September. At year's end the town had its own ambrotypist, Frederick Elsfelder (*Mississippi Valley Register*, June 23, July 28, September 29, December 15, 1859).

A few locust trees have been planted in Guttenberg, and their heavy coat of luxuriant leaves, is grateful to a stranger's eye, as he passes through the streets on a warm August afternoon. We trust that the number of such trees will ere long be multiplied tenfold in the limestone city of Clayton county...

Dubuque *Daily Times*, August 8, 1859

LEAD MINES.—The Guttenberg Lead Mines continue to yield a fair compensation, to the enterprising miners. Though it is seldom that any very large leads are found; still the hills are full of the ore, and will ever be a source of wealth to our town. These Mines accounts for the reason, that not a person has left Guttenberg, this spring, for the Peak. While it would be difficult to find another town in Northern Iowa, from which there have not more or less gone to the Peak, our citizens wisely remain in the lead mines, which do not promise sudden acquired fortunes, but a sure and comfortable living.

(*Mississippi Valley Register*, May 10, 1860)

1860:

Guttenberg is rapidly recovering from the affests of the hard times and begins to assume quite a lively appearance.

For some days past our city has been thronged with teams from the country loaded with pork, grain, hay and wood, a great quantity of pork has found a good market in this place. Our town people are busily engaged removing their hay from the islands.

Mississippi Valley Register, January 12, 1860

A two-story stone house, owned by B. H. Overbeck was destroyed by fire on March 9. Moses Crawford operated the wharfboat, as he had for seven years, operating as express agent and providing a forwarding and commission service. New buildings included J. Hune's frame dry goods store, H. Eckert's brick house and storeroom, and the new Catholic school (*Mississippi Valley Register*, March 16, 29, August 2, 1860).

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One more abundant harvest, such as we have this year realized, and everything will be as brisk as ever, and the blight of “hard times” will vanish.

Mississippi Valley Register, October 23, 1860

AROUND —In passing about town we see quiet an improvement in the business aspect of our place. The merchants, mechanics and business men generally seem to be full of business, and all wear a happy contented countenance. Messrs. Fleck & Bro. are buying immense quantities of Wheat, Corn, Barley and potatoes, and paying the highest market prices in cash; they are also selling large quantities of goods. They estimate the business of the past year at about \$300,000, and expect to exceed that amount this year; Ihm & Weiner, William Sullivan, Hottinger & Heine, Falkenhainer & Bro's. and G. F. Wiest have well filled stores, and are each doing their respective share of business in proportion to their stock in trade. The business of our town upon the whole is perceptible increasing everyday. Wheat is being brought from the vicinity of Nottingham and other points quite distant, which is an evidence that farmers receive a better price here for their produce than they receive elsewhere.

Mississippi Valley Register, November 1, 1860

1861:

The *Mississippi Valley Register* finished its second volume and departed west, suffering from “western fever” and determined that “four newspapers are most to [sic] many to get very fat in Clayton County, with present population (*Mississippi Valley Register*, May 10, 1861).

The German predominance in Guttenberg appears to have fostered a decidedly pro-Union stance as the war clouds engulfed the nation. Prominent pro-Union community leaders included John Schroeder, C. F. Chase, S. Holstein, D. E. Meyer, and Dr. Hoffbauer. A liberty pole was raised up and the first Union demonstration took place on May 9, 1861. A local military company was being formed as early as May 3. H. Ihm was its president, H. Keller the secretary. Lieut. Leffingwell, of a Clayton County company visited the town and invited the volunteers to become a part of his unit. By May 9, there were 35 names on the town company roster, with John Schroeder as acting captain. It was hoped to form an entirely German company from enlistees from all over Clayton County (*Mississippi Valley Register*, May 3, 9, 1861).

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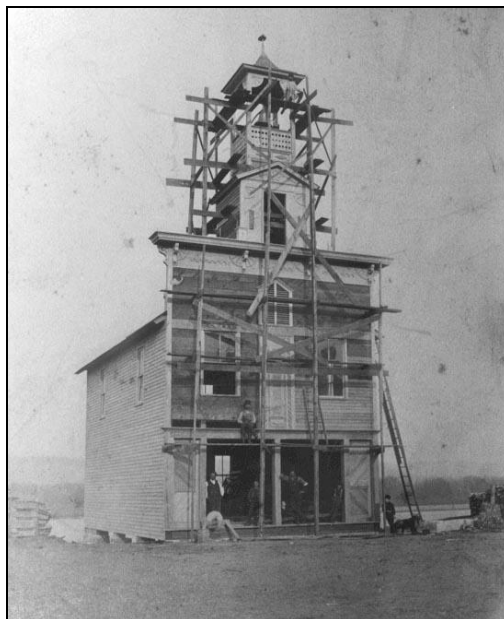
1870:

The flouring mill had 15 employees, was capitalized at \$145,000 and shipped 40,200 barrels of flour during the year, valued at \$200,000. Total mercantile business in the town was estimated at \$1,000,000. Three lumber yards produced 4,480,000 feet of lumber, shingles, lath and pickets. The saw mill sawed 500,000 feet of logs. The three wagon factories employed a dozen men and sales totaled \$13,500. All this was in place without a railroad, the nearest rail shipping point being at Prairie du Chien, 21 miles away. The Dubuque Daily Herald noted that this level of activity “will give an idea of the importance of the trade to be reached by the completion of the Minnesota [rail] road to that point.” The same source added, “There is a rich agricultural country, tributary to Guttenberg, extending fifteen miles south and west, and five miles north, which will give a rich local trade to a growing town when the road shall be completed” (Dubuque *Daily Herald*, March 17, 1871).

1872:

The Guttenberg Turnverein hosted its first North Iowa Turnfest in early June over a three-day period. The railroad issued half-fare tickets to encourage area Turners to rendezvous in Guttenberg and special excursion trains linked Lansing and Dubuque with the city. The event featured music, exhibitions and prizes (Dubuque *Daily Times*, June 8, 16, 1872).

1887:



City Hall/firehouse construction, 1887

1892:

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John Rau Farm Implements float, 1892 (note former Fleck Mill in background, also wooden sidewalk in left foreground (courtesy Irish Degan))

1894:



Fleck Mill fire ruins, 1894

The major fire of the year started early on July 2, 1894. The local company had a fire engine that was second-hand from Dubuque. They soon lost any advantage on the fire and aid was obtained from Dubuque in the

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form of the “Graves” fire engine and 800 feet of hose. The relief equipment was loaded in 15 minutes from receipt of the telegraphed call for aid and was on the scene within 55 minutes. Control was achieved by 10:00 am, three and a half hours from its outbreak. Losses were three houses (G. H. Jenkins, Bernman & Neils, John Holahn), the mill, and The Schroeder Hotel, and homes of B. H. Pelyor and Mrs. P. Klein all badly damaged. Total losses were estimated at \$15,000, \$8,000 of that being the loss to the mill owners (Dubuque *Daily Herald*, July 3, 1894).

1897:

Sumner Miller founded the Guttenberg Press in a 20x60 building that later (1983) housed a coin laundry. The paper occupied its present offices only in 1955. The first issue rolled off the presses on January 6, 1897 (typed manuscript, 1983).

1899:

New residences completed during the year were the new St. Mary Rectory, the William Miller brick house, John “Jumbo” Kossuth’s house. The new city-sponsored pearl button factory was built. Demolitions included the old planing mill, a carpentry shop on the St. Mary church grounds, the Lorentz & Kirch butcher shop, and a log house (near the planing mill) said to be the oldest in town (*Press*, May 31, June 21, July 26, August 9, 16, 23, 30, September 6, 20, October 4, 11, November 8, 15, 29, 1899).

Zimmerman & Ives exported 1,191 carloads of lumber during the year and their business was “constantly on the increase” (*Press*, January 17, 1900).

1900:

One persistent nuisance in the city, according to the editor of the *Press*, was merchants allowing gutters to empty onto public sidewalks, causing the latter to ice over (*Press*, January 3, 1900).

The new button factory had a steam whistle that sounded like those used on the river and heads turned its way whenever it sounded (*Press*, January 17, 1900).

J. P. Eckart, Thos. Ives, Henry Brandt, John Walter and James E. Corlett founded the Guttenberg State Bank, capitalized at \$25,000 (doubled in 1920). A new prominent bank building followed in 1902 (undated clipping, Elkader *Register*).

Veterinary Surgeon W. Stephan set up a hospital in William L. Kords’ “large barn...in the lower part of our city.” A large cistern was built as a water source. Kords, apparently a partner in the enterprise, was to keep his trotting stallion “Manager” in a heated stall at the hospital (*Press*, July 4, 1900).

During the year Huene’s warehouse was remodeled into a four-unit “tenement house.” E. C. Ennon’s saloon was moved up on South First to make way for the new bank building. Tom Cassutt built a harness shop and

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the new St. Mary Rectory gained a new summer kitchen and ice chest. The Naescher building was moved to the north end of town. The new bank was started in early August. Julia Felder veneered her house on Railroad Street. Frank X. Wolter built a new house (“when finished Frank will have one of the finest residences in Guttenberg,” Press, September 15, 1900.) George Mohrhouse, Otto Lake, C. C. Niemeyer, and F. N. Friedlein built new houses. H. J. Overbeck built a frame warehouse on the riverbank opposite his store

1902:

Eight Guttenberg women formed the Ingleside Club. A few years later, with augmented ranks, they oversaw the planning of Ingleside Park, employing civil engineer Martin Keller, a former city resident, as designer (Degnan, “Brief History of Ingleside Park”).



Ingleside Park (courtesy N. Thein)
The fieldpiece fell victim to the World War II scrap drive

1903:

A special census conducted by Township Assessor C. W. Scholtz found 2,143 residents in Guttenberg, a substantial gain over the 1900 Federal census figure of 1,620. The growth was attributed to the button factory established in 1899, which by this time was employing 110 cutters and 14 other workers and managers. Six tons of shells were being cut daily. Weekly pay for medium cutters started at \$8 while first-class cutters could make \$15. It was noted “even boys of 16 years of age can make a dollar a day.” The shell middens totaled 3,500 tons and plans were in place to ship them by rail to Chicago for processing as chicken feed. The reserve shell pile contained 600 tons of shells. All was not rosy in button-cutting however. During February the workforce was forced to cut only thicker mucket shells and productivity tanked. The company adjusted pay rates and the workers went back after a week’s downtime (*Telegraph-Herald*, April 6, 1903).

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The first electric street lights were illuminated at the end of October. Boulevard lights were placed along Front, Depot and a part of First Street. Schmidt Bros. & Company of Elkader provided the electricity for the system (*Press*, October 30, 1903).

1908:

The H. B. Glover Company Factory #2 was established in Guttenberg in the fall of 1905 in the north side of the IOOF Building (422 South River Park Drive). In 1905 it expanded to fill the entire ground level. A fire in April 1908 shut down operations. The firm resumed work in mid-May but shut down again on August 1 for undisclosed reasons. The Home Electric Company had placed an electric motor in the basement to run the 88 sewing machines. It wasn't until October 22 that the work whistle finally blew. When at full operation the factory employed 70-80 women as machine operators with a monthly payroll of \$750-850 (*Press*, undated 1908 clippings).

Meuser Lumber purchased Seippel Lumber Company and a Mr. Houk bought the *Press* from Sumner Miller on January 24 (*Elkader Register*, __ 1925; *Press*, December 31, 1925).

During June a wind and hail storm caused damage and flooding across a 15-mile swath of the county towards McGregor (*Agricultural Yearbook*, 1908, pp. 15-16).

1911:

The *Press* was again sold, this time to the Muschewske Brothers of Elkader. They would continue with the paper for more than 11 years (*Press*, December 31, 1925).

1912:

Mayor G. H. Niemeyer and the Council granted the Guttenberg Canning Company the right to run a railroad spur line along Third Street, west of the main tracks of the Chicago Milwaukee & St. Paul line (*Press*, April __ 1912).

1913:

A tremendous wind storm struck Guttenberg on July 8, 1913, striking from the northwest. The 60-mile-per-hour winds tore the second floor off of the new canning factory along with the smokestack. Trees up to three feet in diameter were taken down. Smokestacks on the planing mill and excelsior plant were flattened and roofs were taken off or damaged and chimneys wrecked. Lumber as Meuser's yard was scattered and William Opplinger's buildings in the south part of town were blown off of their foundations and one was turned upside down. A falling tree wrecked Miner's Creek Bridge (*Press*, July 10, 1913).

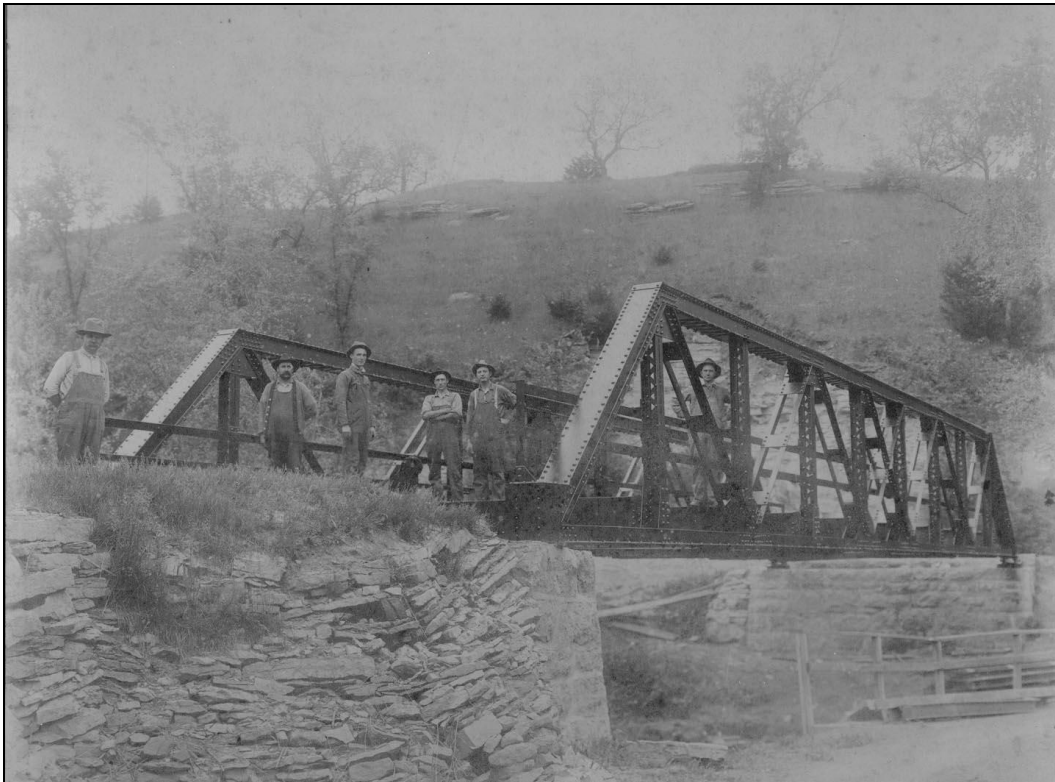
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The replaced Miner's Creek Bridge after the 1913 storm

1914:

Present indications warrant the belief that the year of 1914 will be a busy building year in Guttenberg, as it is rumored that several new residences will be put up the coming summer/ and other improvements will be made, such remodeling, painting and building cement sidewalks. This means that there will be plenty of work here.

Press, February 12, 1914

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As we are now beginning a new year there is considerable talk as to what could be done during the next twelve months to boost Guttenberg, and make it a bigger and better town. We have a good town, but we can make Guttenberg progress still more if we all, business men and citizens, get together and work in harmony for the good of our town, but in order to accomplish something, we must all work together as one. We can do it here as well as they are doing it in all other towns throughout the state, if we only wish to. Times have changed from what they used to be years ago, and a town must keep up with the times if it wishes to progress. Resolve to boost for Guttenberg every day—twenty-four hours—during 1916 and be progressive. Let's all wake up and boost for the town, for its public enterprises and for its citizen's individually. If we all get the progressive idea people from far and near will look up to our town and will be glad to make it their town.

Town-boosting, 1914 (*Press*, January 7, 1914)

1918:

The Farm Horse Tractor Company constructed its plant and would occupy it until 1923. The Climax Manufacturing Company, makers of pump jacks, occupied the building for several more years. It later housed the Enderes Manufacturing Company, makers of “Original Enderes Tools” (*Press*, April 15, 1943).

An April 16, 1918 fire destroyed the two-story Kruse building and damaged the Freidlein Hotel. The Kruse building was termed “an old landmark” which was built in 1855. Rain kept the fire from spreading, which it would have done, being aided by a strong wind. The *Press* lauded the city's “good water works” (“...taxpayers should never hesitate to pay taxes for such worthy things in their towns. Had we not had water works the damage would have been much greater.”) and the good efforts of the fire department (“of which our town can feel proud”) (*Press*, April 18, 1918).

Storms across Iowa the night of May 22, 1918 killed six persons and caused millions of dollars in damage. A Guttenberg tornado was particularly destructive. Four houses at the south end of Bluff Street lost their roofs for

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the most part and St. Mary’s Church was partly unroofed. The depot lost its roof and all of its windows. There was one injury in the town. A week later, area gawkers were still visiting the scene of destruction, attracted by “many, almost unbelievable stunts, [which] were pulled off by the tornado” (*Press*, May 23, 30, 1918).

A funnel cloud seemed to travel slowly from southeast to northwest and was attended by a heavy rumbling noise. Color was dark slate. Lightning all around. Only a little rain occurred before the storm struck—heavy after. Hail did not amount to much. Storm was a whirl and it threw wreckage 150 feet up along the hillside. Path in Guttenberg was about two blocks wide and about eight blocks long, then it crossed the Mississippi into Wisconsin. No one was killed but three were injured. Houses were unroofed, barns and other buildings were wrecked and some were blown across the river into Wisconsin. Estimated property loss about \$20,000.
Guttenberg Postmaster (Nineteenth Annual Year Book of Agriculture, 1918, p. 546.

1919:

At the end of 1919 the *Press* celebrated the sense that improvements made that year showed “that our town has prospered during the past year and is progressing and coming to the front...Guttenberg is a good town, but is getting better from day to day, and is rapidly coming to the front as a manufacturing center.” The Farm Horse Tractor Factory opened for business, as did Ed Eberhardt’s Butter Tub Factory. “Many new residences” were built and others improved. J. F. Groth built the Overland Garage on Depot Street, and it was described as “a well put up building.” The Guttenberg Canning Company packed a record crop of sweet corn and pumpkin. Good crops enabled area farmers to make improvements. All factories were operating “full blast” and those who sought work could find employment. Perhaps referring to the ill feelings caused by the war, the *Press* encouraged residents to adopt the slogan “live and let live” so that 1920 would be as prosperous (*Press*, January 1, 1920).

J. T. Kuempel and A. J. Lake purchased Kuempel Brothers Hardware. Their new firm became the distributor for Maytag Washer Company, sole Lowe Brothers paints, and offered Copper Clad and Quick Meal cooking ranges. Their building, built of stone by Jake Falkenhainer in 1868, had always housed a hardware firm (undated clipping, *The Elkader Register*).

1920:

The Guttenberg Farm Horse Tractor Company, two years old, had 50 employees and produced 40 tractors per month. Most were sold in Allamakee and Clayton counties in Iowa and in Grant County, Wisconsin. Plans were announced to increase the company’s stock subscription to \$400,000 and to build a plant capable of completing three tractors a day (Dubuque *Times-Journal*, February 15, 1920).

Guttenberg, the thrifty progressive city on the Mississippi river...believes that a town with progressive, enterprising business men, having the good will and

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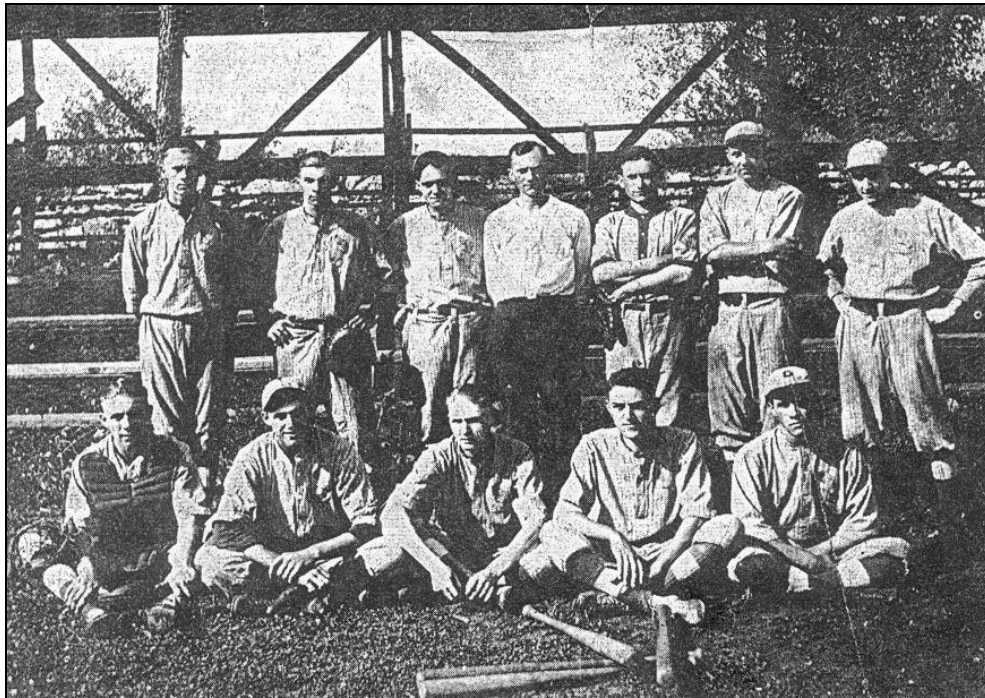
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confidence of the people of the surrounding territory, can forge ahead, by providing employment for people who go there to live.

(Dubuque *Times-Journal*, February 15, 1920).

1921:



Guttenberg's notable 1921 baseball team (courtesy Irish Degnan)

1922:

During the year “most” of the factories were “running on full time and with full crews.” This list included the Eberhardt butter tub plant, the Montgomery and Unites States button factories and the H. B. Glover garment factory. The Guttenberg Canning Factory “has also been prosperous the past year and will run to capacity in 1923.” (*Press*, January 11, 1923).

Guttenberg is recognized as Clayton county’s manufacturing center, because it has more manufacturing institutions than any other town in this county.

It is one of the best towns along the Mississippi river, but can be made a still bigger and better Guttenberg, if we, the inhabitants, all pull together and boost for our community in general (*Press*, January 11, 1923).

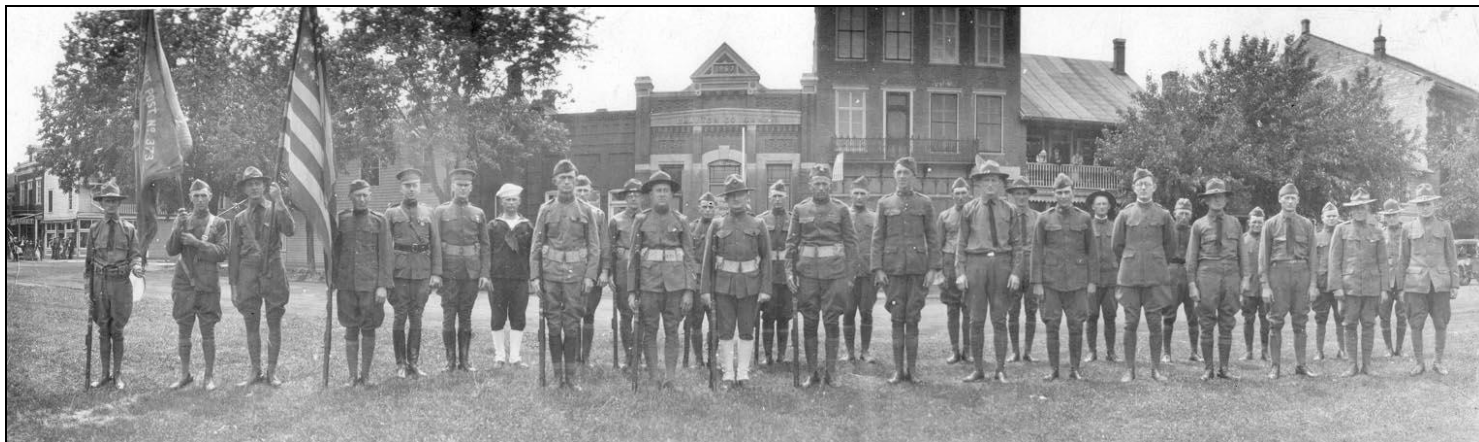
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American Legion Prairie la Porte Post World War I veterans donning their recently cast off uniforms
May 30, 1922 (courtesy Irish Degan)

J. M. Holmes of Lexington, Nebraska, purchased the Press in October. Holmes ran the paper for three years, leasing it to I. L. Stenson in May 1925 (*Press*, December 31, 1925).

1923:

A January *Press* progress review observed “1923 Begins Prosperously in Guttenberg.” It noted that “most of our factories are running on full time and with full crews.” This list included the Ed P. Eberhard Lumber Company butter tub factory, the Montgomery and United States button factories, the H. B. Glover garment factory (“which employs a large force of ladies at good salaries”) and the Guttenberg canning factory. Two new factories were being built, an ice cream and dairy plant (Fred Mueller & Sons) and a new creamery (Henry L. Flagle) (*Press*, January 11, 1923).

Guttenberg is recognized as Clayton county’s manufacturing center, because it has more manufacturing institutions than any other town in this county. It is one of the best towns along the Mississippi river, but can be made a still bigger and better Guttenberg, if we, the inhabitants, all pull together and boost for our community in general. Let’s make 1923 a real booster year, which means a bigger and better Guttenberg

Press, January 11, 1923

Late in 1922 Henry Flagel obtained City Council permission to use a riverbank site at the south end of town for a creamery, and began the construction of a 30x32 two-story building in early 1923. The building was ready and the business opened May 7. Area dairymen were promised two cents more than the Chicago rates. Flagel’s long-term hopes for a successful venture were dashed and the plant was sold under a foreclosure auction on October 10, 1925. P. J. Van Alstine purchased the building in early April 1926 and made an attempt to run the

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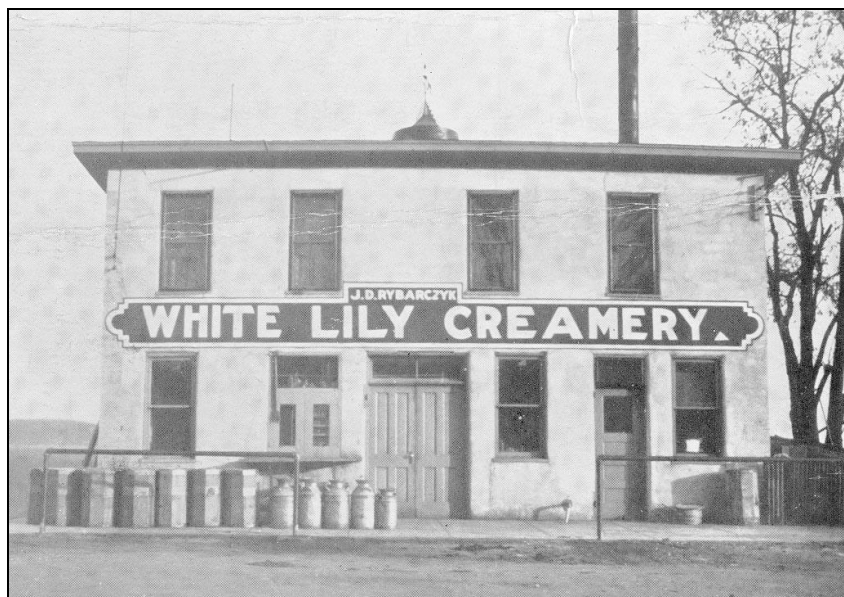
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creamery. John D. Rybarczyk in turn bought it in February 1927 (*Press*, December 1, 1922; April 19, June 21, 1923; April 1, 1926; February 19, May 5, 1927).

Plans to establish an ice cream and dairy plant were announced early in the year, by Fred Mueller and Sons. The Climax Engineering and Foundary Company was incorporated to “manufacture, assemble and sell tractors, farm machinery, and other machinery, also to do foundary work, machine work, repair and job work...” It was capitalized at \$40,000. Its organizers were M. Gilbertz, E. H. Abel, A. O. Hamann and Emil Ihm (*Press*, August 9, 1923).



White Lily Creamery, c.1927
(image courtesy of Charlotte Baril)

St. Paul’s United Lutheran Church dedicated its new church on May 20. Work on the new church was begun October 1, 1922. The \$18,000 building, “a pressed brick edifice, beautiful in appearance, well appointed, and especially adapted to the needs of the church” allowed its congregation to end its use of the IOOF hall as a temporary sanctuary (*Press*, May 24, 1923).

1925:

The H. B. Glover Overall Factory returned to operating at full capacity mid-year. Company headquarters were in Dubuque and there were other factories there, at Dyersville, and at Rock Island, Illinois. The firm employed 45 salesmen who covered the entire country on their rounds. On October 31 the company marked 21 years of operation in Guttenberg. The work force was 36 young women. Monthly output was 1,000 dozen overalls (*Press*, January 25, June 25, November 5, 1925).

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The city had four churches (St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran, St. Pauls United Lutheran, the Methodist Episcopal and St. Mary’s Catholic) as of 1925. Lodges and organizations numbered eight (Masons, Eastern Stars, Odd Fellows, Rebekahs, Modern Woodmen of America, Brotherhood of American Yeoman, Royal Neighbors, Mystic Workers, and the American Legion post and its auxiliary, and a 30-piece girls’ band). A. H. Borman was mayor (*ibid.*).

Meuser Lumber Company had been in business for 17 years. F. J. Friedlein managed a 15-acre complex that included 15 coal sheds, a two-story 60x200 lumber shed, planing mill, office, barns and an ice house. The yards functioned as the clearing yard for other area yards. Storage capacity for lumber was a million feet. Ice was sold during the summer (*Elkader Register*, __ 1925).



Filling the icehouse, c.1920

At years end, Guttenberg was described as “a prosperous town of frugal, industrious, thrifty and happy people.” They own had four churches, a water works system and electrical lights, and its factories included the butter tub factory, canning factory, two button factories, the overall factory, cigar factory, implement factory, wagon factory and a new firm being formed to produce refrigeration machines. There were two banks and two hotels. The post office revenues were just a few hundred dollars short of classifying it as of the second class. Guttenberg was the largest town in the county with scenery “more beautiful than the Hudson” (flier titled “The Coming Year of 1926”).

1926:

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S. S. Kell opened a modern bakery on Washington Boulevard “in the heart of the city’s business district.” Said to be one of the best baking facilities in the state, Kell opened at the end of July with two employees. His equipment included a bun cutter. An on site coke supply powered the ovens. On opening day, Kell sold 1,500 loaves of bread, 250 dozen rolls, over 80 cakes and 50 dozen cookies. His bread bore the “Mother Goose” label. Mrs. Ella White was the winner of a large wedding cake prize (*Press*, July 21, 1926).

1927:

The post office relocated in late March to the south half of the former Glover Overall factory, departing the Cassutt building which was built for postal use L. C. Giencke was postmaster. Leonard W. Geuder opened his new “Our Own Hardware Store” in the Overbeck building in mid-November. His store received a new glass front (*Press*, March 31, November 17, 24, 1927).

The Enderes Manufacturing Company opened its plant with ten employees in late January. The firm was organized in October 1926 and occupied the former Farm Horse Tractor factory, reusing much of the existing machinery. It produced Enderes Tools. The firm was capitalized at \$20,000 by the local sale of stock interests. E. A. Beyer was president, Ernest Enderes vice president and the inventor of the line of tools (*Press*, January 27, 1927; January 30, 1930).

Jaeger Manufacturing Plant was also incorporated that year to produce dry cell electric batteries, refrigerating machines, radios, radio supplies and accessories. Capitalization was at \$75,000. Carl Jaeger was president, May Alex vice president (*Ibid.*).

The White Lily Creamery, reopened for the third time under the supervision of J. D. Rybarczyk (*Press*, May 5, 1927).

The Guttenberg Press, owned by J. M. Holmes and Ira L. Stenson, was purchased by R. M. Briebel and G. F. Scott. The new owners were impressed with Guttenberg, terming it “the finest little city in Iowa, and that means anywhere, and the Press will always be found squarely behind any project to make it better” (*Press*, May 5, 1927).

Sonny and William Kann, Jr. purchased north Guttenberg lots along Highway 55 and began the erection of a 80x150 “Lakeside Pavilion.” The dance floor measured 114x60 and was surfaced with clear white maple. Louis Schroeder was the contractor. The opening dance, with 1,800 participants, was held on August 18 and music was provided by Little Benny’s Orchestra, from Minneapolis. By early October it was estimated that 10,000 persons had already danced at the pavilion. The Black Blue Serenaders appeared on October 7. The Press promised that the band could play more than jazz but admitted “the popular demand is for jazz, however, and the public must be satisfied, but an occasional interpolated sweet number is enjoyed all the more by the lovers of *real* music” (emphasis added) (*Press*, June 20, August __, 25, October __, 1927).

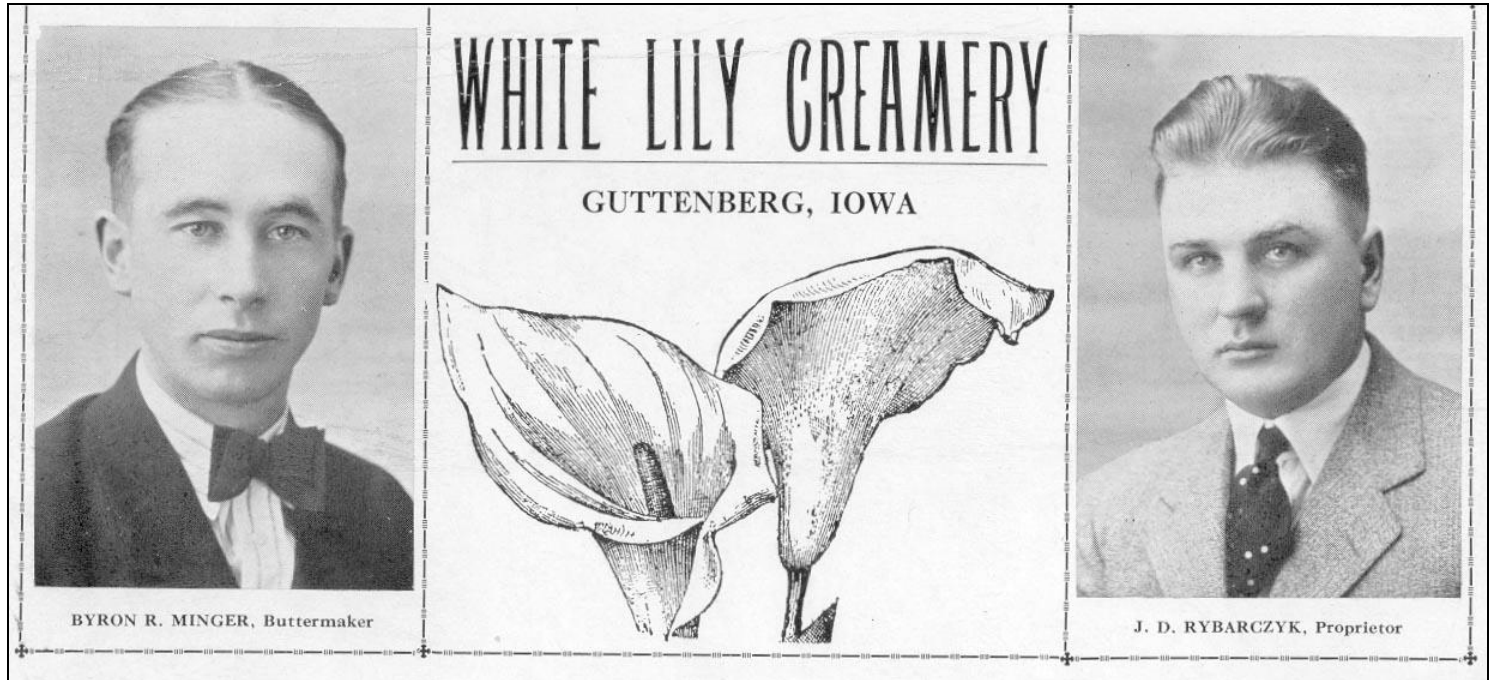
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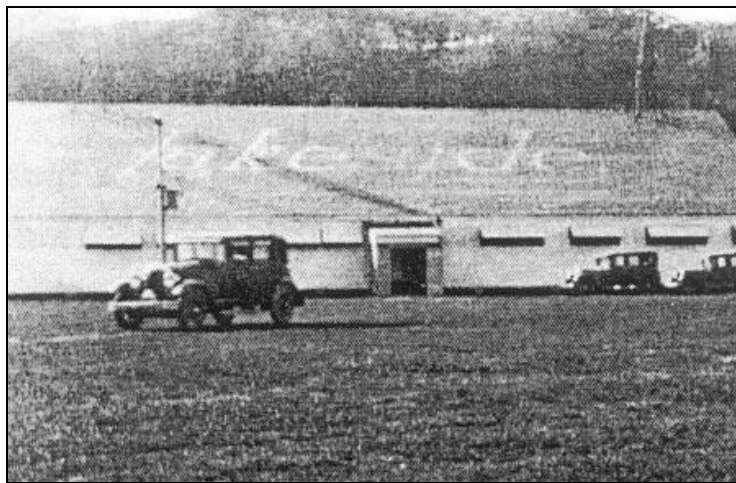
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Creamery personnel, 1927 (image courtesy of Charlotte Baril)



Lakeside Ballroom, c.1930s

The new Masonic Temple (Prairie La Porte Lodge) was dedicated on June 22, the cornerstone having been dedicated the previous fall. Two hundred masons attended and the El Kahir Shrine band provided a musical concert for the occasion (*Press*, June 23, 1927).

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Lakeside Pavilion interior (courtesy of N. Thein)

1930:

John Dubbels retired from 53 years of work in the harness trade and it was suggested that he held the state's most veteran tradesman given his lengthy record. He was born in Guttenberg in 1850 and first apprenticed (1864) with his step-father Fred Schroeder. He had his own firm by 1877. Failing eyesight forced him to shut down (*Press*, May 22, 1930).

The Telegraph-Herald proclaimed “Guttenberg Will Be Mecca For Tourists After No. 55 is Paved.” Indian trails had now become highways.

The loop of concrete is in the making. The grade was cut and filled down the north hill last winter and is to be paved this spring. Meanwhile graders will be blasting and steam-shovelling a road up another ravine south of town. An expensive piece of highway building for Clayton County, but necessary of the county's largest town would not be on the primary road map. Fine also for the touring public as a whole, since the motorist... will be served an eye feast of superb Mississippi river scenery...

Dubuque *Telegraph-Herald*, April 20, 1930

The town's attractions included “notable scenic beauty, historic setting reaching back more than a century...one of the finest river parks in the Mississippi valley [and] busy factories.” Those factories included the pearl button

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factory, the “Red-E-Cut” furniture factory of the Kuempel Company, Enderes & Son, shipping tools to eight states and the seasonal canning factory (Dubuque *Telegraph-Herald*, April 20, 1930).

1931:

The Wardell Chevrolet Company opened its new garage and salesroom at Schiller and South First. The building (50x136) occupied an entire lot and was finished with a matt-faced brick and tile. The auto showroom measured 36x50. L. O. Hall managed the firm. A corner filling station dispensed Red Crown and Red Crown Ethyl gasoline (*Press*, June __, 1931).

1932:

The Guttenberg *Press* and Garnavillo *Tribune* merged in October and the combined paper boasted the county’s largest subscription. The *Tribune* was founded in 1910. It was continued as a subsidiary publication (*Press*, February 24, 1910; October 20, 1932).

1933:

First annual birthday ball held at Lakeside Ballroom. The American Pearl Button Plant #1 resumed operations in May, funded by state emergency employment funds.

1934:

The Farmers’ Cooperative Creamery Association reopened the White Lily Creamery on February 1. The plant butter maker was John D. Rybarczyk, the creamery’s former owner. Edward Vorwald was president of the association (*Press*, February 8, 1934).

Lock construction of Lock & Dam #10 began February 23, 1934 and work was finished May 29, 1935, work on the dam began February 11, 1935 and was concluded December 15, 1936. Dedication took place July 31, 1937 (*Press*, August 12, 1998).

1937:

This was the year of the Gutenberg centennial celebration, held for three days ending August 1. The event coincided with the dedication of the new lock and dam system. The Guttenberg Community Club had been moribund for some years but G. W. Hunt, its last president, led in planning the event. A 20-car caravan with choruses and bands, promoted the event. A museum was set up in the school gym. “Centennial Day” had a historical and German cultural focus. “Dedication Day” was committed to the lock and dam celebration. Finally, “Homecoming Day” drew regional talents to Guttenberg and 8,000 cars jammed city streets.

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1937 Centennial float (courtesy Irish Degan)

1938:

The old 1887 frame town hall was demolished in August to make way for the building of the new fish hatchery. City government had used it until 1927, when offices were switched to the building then occupied by the Andregg tavern (*Press*, August 4, 1938).

The PWA and WPA together allocated \$70,000 for the fish hatchery. The facility would cover a total of 350 acres on the island opposite town. An office-aquarium building was first placed on the site of the demolished city hall. The facility also included a floating dock. Immediate hopes to expand the facility further were dashed by a presidential veto of a \$3,260,000 appropriations bill for the Bureau of Fisheries. The bill included \$180,000 additional for the project (*Press*, July 7, 1938).

The City Council approved a resolution to build a municipal building in cooperation with the federal government which paid 45 percent of the total cost. The project was to be finished within twelve months but extensions made the completion deadline April 15, 1940. Eugene Eberhardt contracted to dig the foundation excavation (City Council Minutes).

1939:

In early March a Mason City contractor received the \$55,000 contract to build the new city hall and P.W.A. approved the construction contracts. The ice left the river on the first day of spring and the Wake Robin opened the shipping season on April 6, being first to pass through the locks. A federal barge strike hampered river traffic. The first diesel powered tow passed through on April 13. The municipal water system gained a city-wide water softener unit. Three hundred county residents took a special train to Decorah to welcome Norway's Crown Prince Olav and Princess Martha. The second annual Johann Gutenberg days took place. Hearings were held to study shoreline damages caused by the dam pools #10-11. The old trailer dam remnants were removed and plans were made to construct a new \$27,000 dike and mooring pier. The hatchery aquarium opened in early August. The local canning factory packed 44,000 cans of corn. The depot was repainted and reroofed. The new city hall was

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dedicated on November 5 with 3,000 persons attending the ceremonies. A bust of Johann Gutenberg was placed in the new building by the Commercial Club. Mayor John Adams resigned and was replaced by Dr. G. C. Miller early that same month. Charles Milham succeeded Finley McGrew as editor of the *Press*.

Public garbage pickup was begun May 4, 1939 (City Council Minutes).

1940:

Record snow in mid-January shut the city down. Postmaster J. C. Kickbush, postmaster for 26 years, retired. One hundred attendees learned about soil conservation in the new city hall. An eight-car derailment in mid-March tied up train service. The Guttenberg Isaac Walton League received its charter. The river shipping season opened in mid-April. A 25-man crew started cutting back the bluffs along Highway 52. Northwestern Bell planned to convert local phones to the dial system and began installation in mid-September. Boaters were prevented from mooring within restricted areas near the dam and trespassing was forbidden. A massive dredge began its work below the city. The county sheriff raided five town businesses, presumably pursuing illegal gambling. A population boom was indicated by school enrollment. Local stockyards were extensively improved. Draft registration was conducted in October with 276 registrants. Five political parties were on the fall election ballot. The county produced a landslide Republican vote. The winter came early, early blizzards stranded hunters on the islands and the *Alice M. Tyler* had to break heavy ice to escape south during early December.

1941:

The post office set a new record for Christmas season business. The Council regulated bicycle riders. War veterans registered on February 21. The former excelsior factory was demolished. Plans were announced to reopen the canning plant. Record snows fell in early March. Ten lockings over seven days established a new record and the *Herbert Hoover* was the largest tow to pass through upstream in mid-June. The *Minneapolis Husky* was the first oil tanker to lock through. The U.S.O. drive for the army and navy started in late June. Scouts gathered aluminum for the defense effort in late July. Turner Hall was demolished in early September. School enrollment was up again over the previous year. A new sawmill opened in late November. During the week after Pearl Harbor, the purchasing of tires was prohibited.

1942:

The Automobile Use Stamp went on sale on January 15. The Red Cross war drive quota was met in just three days that month. Thirty-two men were inducted in late March. New toothpaste could be purchased only when the old tubes were turned in. Sugar ration applications were taken in April and 1,775 applications were received. Rubber was collected beginning in mid-June and War Stamps went on sale July 2. The “Minute Men” oversaw the scrap metal drive which started in early August and the field gun in the park was turned in by the America Legion post. Guttenberg led the county in the USO drive. The Guttenberg Canning Factory packed 125 tons of corn in a single day. The dredge *Rock Island* worked the river channel in the fall. The Clayton County

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State Bank and Guttenberg State Bank merged in late September, forming the Security State Bank. It occupied its new quarters in early December. Republicans swept the primaries, and the fall election as well. Coffee rationing was imposed in mid-November. Clayton Lumber Company was operating the new sawmill. Canned goods were rationed at the end of the year.

Clair Limbeck opened Iowa Food Products Company, a new \$100,000 factory in mid-July 1942. He had previously owned the canning company. The new firm processed poultry and eggs and during the war became one of the country's largest preparers of dehydrated eggs. In the late 1940s the firm was sold to the Iowa Food Corporation with Kenneth Witherell as general manager. At its height, the factory was the city's largest employer of the time, with over 100 local jobs. The building and plant went on the auction block in May 1963. Locals rushed to secure the property and most of the equipment, hoping to entice a new company (*Press*, May 23, June 6, 1963).

1943:

The Commercial Club was planning a Service Men's honor roll. Douglas White was first war fatality. Ration books (5,689 total) were distributed in early March. The Red Cross Drive once again met its goal in three days. Clayton Lumber Company lost a wood drying kiln to fire. The post office was designated a second class facility at the end of June.

The Enderes, Son and Company was sold to Harry Wardell and a Mr. Moore, both from Oelwein. The same tools would continue to be manufactured but a plant expansion was announced. The Enderes firm had been strapped for capital and had been “unable to expand to meet wartime needs” according to company director Dr. A. E. Beyer. John Enderes was then company president (*Press*, April 15 1943).

The City Council prohibited the playing of ball or other games in Ingleside Park. Turner Park was recommended for these games (City Council Minutes).

Effective February 1, federal restrictions on outside and display window lighting went into effect (City Council Minutes).

1944:

The City purchased \$10,000 in war bonds in February and again in June (City Council Minutes).

1947:

Record blizzard strikes at end of January. The *Cairo* opened the shipping season in late March. The Citizens Party triumphed in the city election with Chris Frommelt as mayor. Fly control and the enforcement of traffic regulations were local issues. Snow and hail struck at the end of May and another snow storm followed the

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first week of June. A community playground was started at Turner Park in August and opened the next month. The John Koch home was destroyed by fire.

The City sold its power plant to Interstate Power Company with the provision that the company would install a 750kw diesel engine in the plant by March 1, 1949 (City Council Minutes).

1948:

The City Council passed an ordinance requiring the issuance of building permits that went into effect January 1, 1948. Any construction along the river front was banned (City Council Minutes).

1949:

The Ihm Brothers name disappeared from the list of city merchants when Carl Ihm closed the firm in early May. Ihm and Weiner was founded in 1858, was then run by Hermann Ihm until 1909, and became Ihm Brothers a few years later. Brother Emil Ihm's death ended the partnership and forced the cessation of business (*Press*, May 5 1949).

The first city referendum seeking to correct the spelling of the city's name to “Gutengerg” fails by a vote of 127 to 88 (*Kiwanis Magazine*, July 1962, p. 20).

The first chain store, Harold Murray's Super Value, was issued a beer and cigarette permit. The fear of polio caused the City Council in August to prohibit outside entertainers from performing in Guttenberg (City Council Minutes).

1951:

By April 15, 1951, Mississippi floodwaters had closed off Highway 52 in the highest level flood in memory. The emergency was a boon to tourism and an estimated 18,000 visitors were attracted to come view the record surge of water (typed MS, “The Year 1951”).

Rail passenger service ended in Guttenberg on June 9, well before it halted in the larger cities.

The local button factory received a four-barge shipment of 400 tons of clam shells. The city's most expensive fire, on September 17, destroyed two buildings owned by G. W. Hunt, and damaged Clifford Frommelt's men's clothing store and, Harry Stoeffler's meat and grocery store. The fire was well advanced before it was discovered and it took fire companies from Garnovillo and Colesburg to quell it (ibid.).

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The first historic survey of Guttenberg was conducted by J. A. Hussey, of the National Park Service, as a part of the development of the Mississippi River Parkway project. While not a formal survey in any sense, Hussey took photographs and reviewed the town’s history (ibid.).

The Enderes Plant had been operating at a loss for some time and the situation reached a crisis point in May and June. Harry Wardell and Earl Moore then owned the plant, having succeeded a group of Dubuque investors. Carl and Harold Kann offered to run the firm on a smaller scale but Leslie Muter, a Chicago radio and electronics manufacturer, was recruited to buy the plant. Muter promised 250 local jobs. For the first year it was a money-losing proposition and the first quarter loss in 1952 was \$7,000, but the new owner remained optimistic that a turn-around was near. As late as 1966 the plant produced Muter radio speakers (*Press*, May 14, 1952; *Telegraph-Herald*, November 6, 1966).



Walt Jacobs (left) and Charles Millham, *Press* editor examining the city’s copy of the Gutenberg Bible
(courtesy Irish Degnan)

1952:

Meuser Lumber Company lost its office to fire and promptly replaced it (*Press*, February 1, 1952).

This was another flood year and the City Council declared an emergency May 18 (City Council Minutes).

1953:

The two-story railroad depot/agent residence burned on July 5. The oil soaked floor burned quickly and the agent’s family barely escaped the flames. A replacement depot was started two days later with 14 carpenters on the job. Six days later it was done (“The Year 1951”).

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1956:

Postmaster Walter Jacobs passed the 20 year benchmark as town postmaster, having taken office on June 3, 1936. Just 12 postmasters had served Guttenberg up to that time. The city also had its first city manager in the person of John S. Beckman. The Press warned “One thing is certain, he’s going to have to be made of iron, for community habits of long standing are going to have to be broken in the interest of efficient management” (*Press* clipping, undated).

As we often have said, operation of Guttenberg’s town business is big—a whole lot bigger than the management of almost any other town of its size—because, in addition to the usual services carried on by a town, our town conducts a municipal electrical system which itself accounts for twice as much money, approximately, as all other city activities.

Undated *Press* Clipping, 1956

1961:

A. J. Lake’s interests in the Kuempel-Lake Hardware Company were bought out by J. T. Kuempel in late April. Lake ended 42 years of partnership with Kuempel. The firm dated back to 1893 and it was known as Kuempel Brothers (Edward and John) until 1919, when Kuempel and Lake became partners. In its later years the firm achieved statewide notoriety and Kuempel headed the Iowa Retail Hardware Association as its president. Lake came to Guttenberg in 1915 and served as years as the “perennial” adjutant of the American Legion Prairie la Porte Post (*Press*, April 20, 1961).

The city again voted on respelling Guttenberg as “Gutenberg,” but a vote of 208 to 166 doomed the hopes of Walter Jacobs to fix what he believed was an age old plat titling error. The vote garnered Guttenberg nationwide attention in such journals as the *New York Times*, *Orlando Evening Star* and the *Pittsburg Press* (*Kiwanis Magazine*, July 1962, p. 20).

1962:

This was the high-water mark of the “Gut(T)enberg Dispute.” Featured in the *Kiwanis Magazine*. Advocates of the name change, argued that the corrected spelling would make the city the only one in the nation spelled “Gutenberg” there being a Guttenberg, New Jersey. The “change the name movement” leadership was composed of Postmaster Jacobs, merchant Carl Kann, and newspaper editor Charles Millham. By the second referendum, a vision of a national graphics arts museum was being touted as a rightful honoring of the printer Johannes Gutenberg and a means of enhancing the city economically. The town had just recently been officially designated a city. The *Kiwanis* writer found Guttenberg to be “a quiet, contented village...with the charm and quaintness of that which is old, and, for the most part, untouched.” The resistance to renaming the town was

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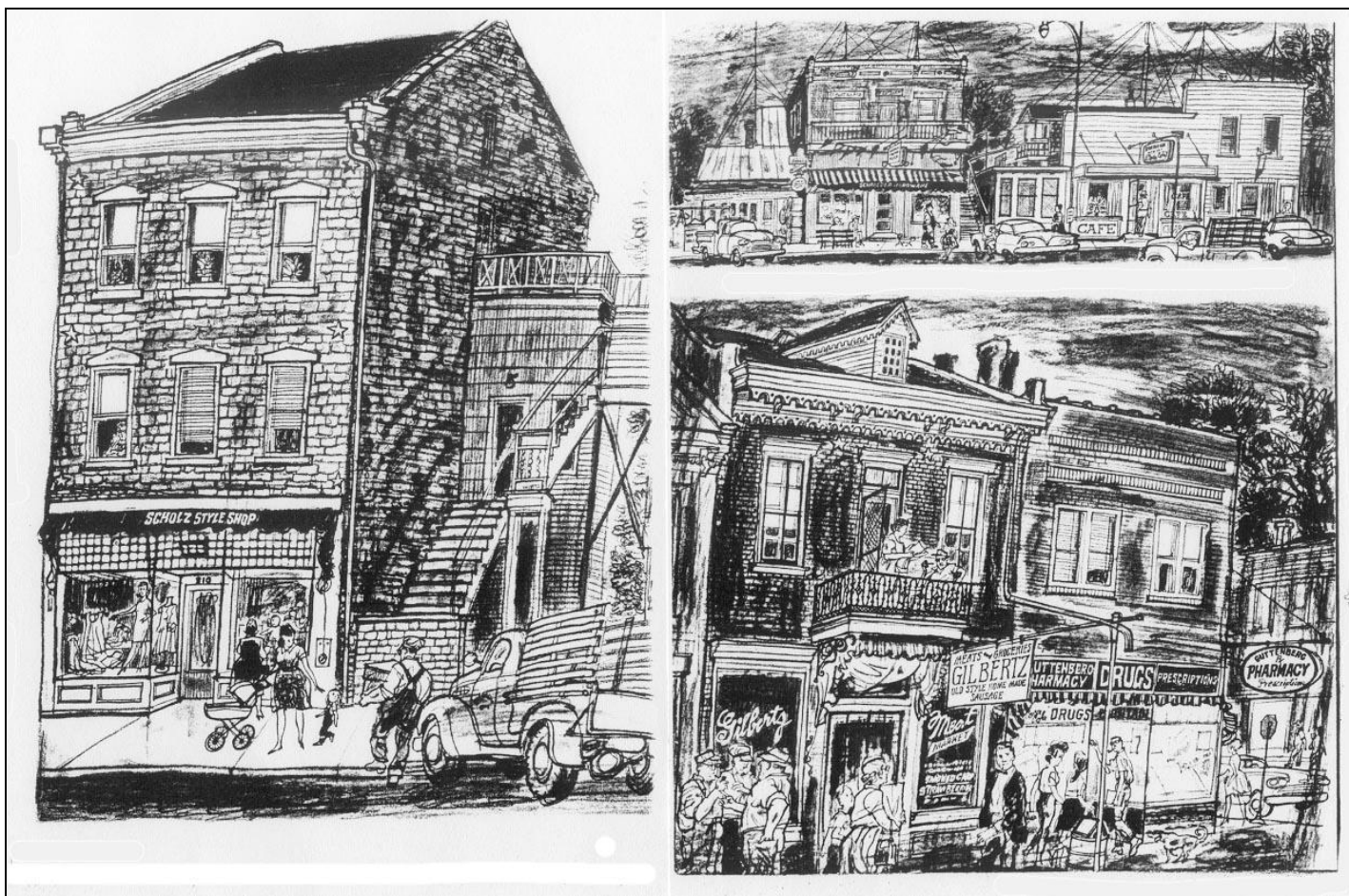
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ultimately a very Guttenberg thing to do. In the end, Leonard Shupe, a Manchester fisherman in the city summed up the whole matter, “Well, one t or two, Guttenberg is a great place to go fishing” (*Kiwanis Magazine*, July 1962, pp. 20-25).

1964:

The railroad depot was demolished (*Press*, August 27, 1964).



Caricatures of Guttenberg by Kiwanis Magazine artist Howard Mueller
(*Kiwanis Magazine*, July 1962, p. 21-22).

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Context #2, “Wir Sind Deutsch,” Germans Dominate in Guttenberg:

Guttenberg.

Guttenberg is well known as a German town, containing about two thousand inhabitants, among whom, are but a very few families of Americans. And we are aware, that an erroneous opinion is existing, to a greater or less extent among those who have never visited the place, in regard to the capability of the Germans to speak intelligibly the English language. Many individuals come to the conclusion, that the German language is the only one spoken to any extent, and that Americans would find much difficulty to make themselves understood, should they have an occasion to visit Guttenberg. This is not the case; but on the contrary, there are but a very few persons in town, who cannot speak the English language sufficiently well, to be understood by Americans without the least difficulty. The rising generations, with very few exceptions, speak as good English as any other class of children. The scholars in the schools are quite as far advanced in the English branches, as scholars generally. In fact the town is becoming so greatly Americanized, that it will not be likely to pass for a German town; many years longer.

A German Town (*Mississippi Valley Register*, May 10, 1860)

This context will look at ethnicity, with a particular focus on German emigration and German cultural and religious groups from the founding through 1955. A particular investigation will look at the degree to which the town avoided the anti-German hysteria of 1917-18.

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Guttenberg was originally envisioned as a purely German settlement by its founders, but it was cosmopolitan almost from the beginning, although its core was “German.” Of course there was no unified Germany until the early 1870s so the town’s “Germans” were coming from any number of German-speaking principalities, including Alsace-Lorraine and Luxembourg. It is the latter point of origin that is of special interest because Luxembourg emigrants are associated with a particular stone building tradition.



The city’s school band with Turner Hall in the background, c.1935 (courtesy N. Thein)

The first newspapers were printed in English. These were the *Clayton County Journal*, established in late May 1856, being the successor to the *Clayton County Herald* of Garnovillo, and the *Mississippi Valley Register*, which started up in May 1859. The first German language paper in Guttenberg was *Die Mississippi Woechter*. Historian Jacobs gives no date for its establishment but he implies that it was in existence at the start of the Civil War (ibid., pp. 31,33).

Of the Germans who first came to the new town site, there were enough Catholics and Protestants to allow for their respective churches, St. Marys Roman Catholic (1851) and St. John’s Lutheran (1854). Given the later date for the Lutherans, it is possible that Catholics predominated in the first wave of settlement (ibid., pp. 28-29).

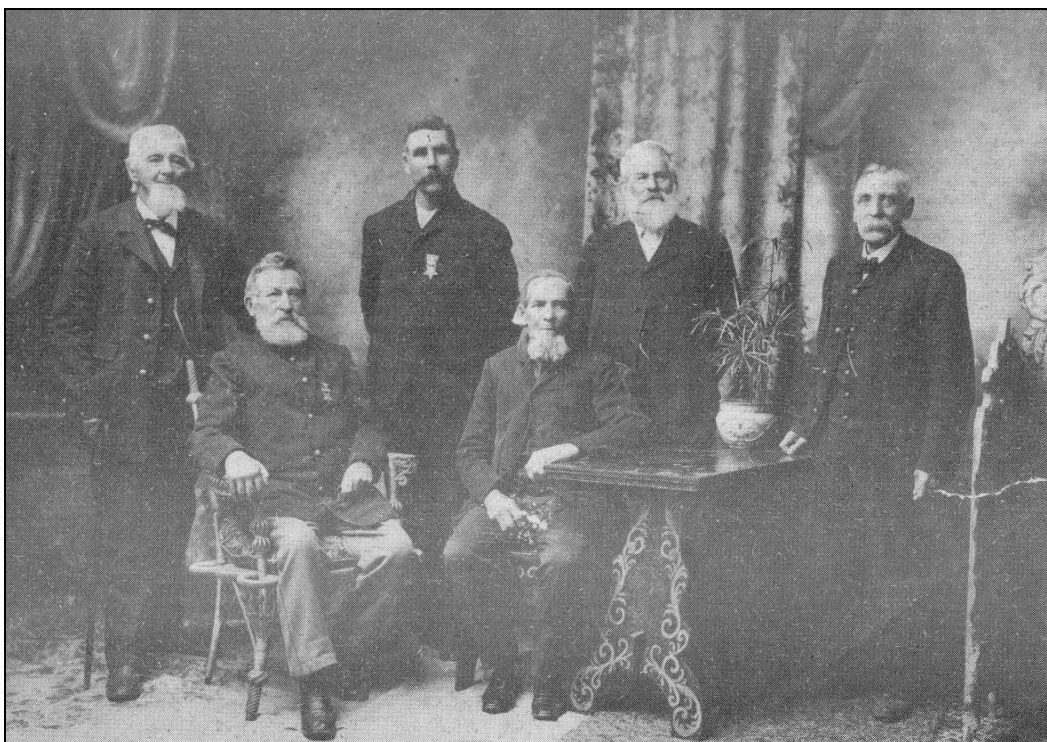
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German Guttenberg Civil War veterans (*Press*, March 5, 1975)
Front row (l to r) Henry Schorg, Fredrick Saeugling,
standing (l to r) John Anderegg, Charles Scheder, John Kirchbeeler, Fredrick Duwe

Germans predominated in the “Steuben Guards” which was the town’s contribution to the Civil War. So many German males were absent that the TurnVerein discontinued its meetings for a time (*ibid.*, pp. 39, 48).

The first German social organization, the Guttenberg TurnVerein, was organized on April 28, 1856 but it wasn’t until late November 1872 that they secured their own building. They purchased and refitted the Hummel and Brenn dance hall. Historian Jacobs notes “This group more than any other, represented a tie with the old homeland of most of its members, for the Turnvereins were strictly a product of Germany, from whence most of these men came.” The hall was located on the present hospital grounds. It continued to house a broad range of community events including school and basketball events. It was demolished in 1941, having been largely replaced by the new Municipal Building (*ibid.*, pp. 30, 48-49, 123).

A state prohibition of intoxicating liquors, wine and beer took effect July 4, 1884. Jacobs notes that local production was curtailed but not halted and that pharmacists, who were the only legal vendors of spirits for medicinal purposes, developed a heavy trade in that department. The Council licensed seven local saloons beginning in 1891. A year later there were nine saloons, supplied by three local breweries and distilleries. He also

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credits prohibition with transforming the predominantly pro-Republican Germans of Guttenberg and Jefferson townships into Democrats. Those townships would dominate county politics at least as late as the 1890s (*ibid.*, pp. 54-55, 59).

By 1913 the town had two bands, the Guttenberg Military Band and the Friedlein family band, the latter being German by default (*ibid.*, p. 93).

The demise of German-American ethnic identity and cultural activities can be dated to the country's involvement in World War I against Germany and her allies. Guttenberg Germans were overtly supportive of their homeland prior to American's entry into the war in April 1917. Large donations were made to the German Red Cross. Jacobs offers the following summary of the resulting-anti German feelings in Guttenberg:

There were, of course, some residents who were not of German extraction whose sympathies were otherwise, and this difference in opinion and sympathy made for many strong words and arguments during this period. With the entrance of the United States into the conflict, it was difficult for these German sympathizers to forget about previous loyalties immediately. This led to some unfortunate incidents. Some of the radicals saw fit to make reports to the United States Marshal and there were letters and investigations which made for a great deal of disharmony in the community, and which to this day have never been quite forgotten.

An effort was made to change the name of the town but no formal Council action was taken (*ibid.*, p. 94).

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Context #3; The Role of the Mississippi River on Guttenberg’s History and Development:

The Mississippi River carved out and later filled with silt the site that became Guttenberg (Prairie La Porte). It brought the settlers to the site and during most of the town's history it continued to transport its goods and raw materials making economic life possible. Geographical location pre-determined the existence of the town. A three-mile long flat plain closed in by high bluffs to the west provided a fine camp site or settlement site. The creek or river valleys which emptied into the river above and below this plain provided easy access to the interior. In a rough terrain that retarded road construction and delayed for years the arrival of the railroad, the river was a key factor in transportation and Guttenberg was on the river.



The landing, c. 1920

A good river landing was built early by the town. In addition each warehouse had its own landing or barge. Moses Crawford operated a riverfront barge that functioned as dock and grocery store. Steamboats brought immigrants, settlers and provided the only mail service, and carried away milled flour and grains, farm produce, meats and leathers, and pig lead. The winter period, when the river was frozen, left the town isolated, but the warehouses during these months continued to fill up with produce for spring shipment. In 1854 a steam ferry service was established between Guttenberg and Glen Haven, Wisconsin, three miles upstream. There was at that

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time a pontoon bridge upstream at McGregor. Clayton and McGregor owed their establishment to their having good ferry sites.



Four packet steamers (courtesy Dubbels)
The steamer at right has suffered an explosion (see image below),
the next boat appears to be a floating showboat..

By the late 1850's the zenith of riverboat packet traffic had passed and the war nearly obliterated this trade. It was to be replaced by a growing flood of log rafts which had developed as a means to transport softwood from the northern forests to riverside saw mills. In the days before overnight river travel was possible, steamboats and rafts tied up overnight, and Guttenberg benefited from this trade. Towns charged wharf fees and each spring boats would race upstream in the hopes of being the first to reach a town because the winner was often awarded free wharfage for the year. After the Civil War, steamboats were relegated to the less glamorous role of towing and steering log rafts.

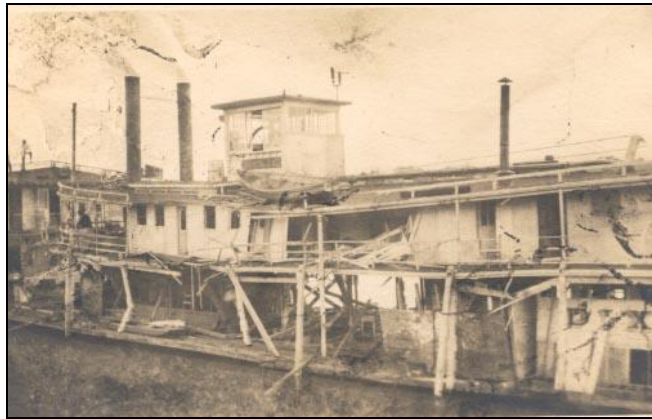
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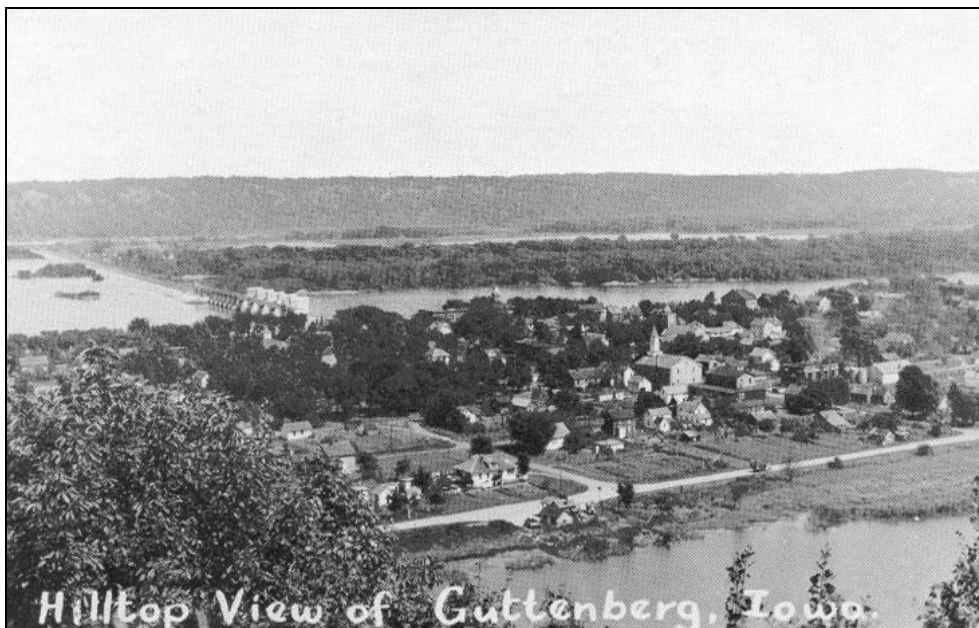
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Exploded river packet boat *Dixie* (courtesy Dubbels)

The river brought destruction along with transportation opportunities. The center of Guttenberg's commercial area is fifteen feet above flood level, but flood waters would surround this "island" and cut off the town from the bluff line to the west. The flood of 1880 required the establishment of an emergency ferry between town and bluff which lasted two weeks. Again in 1902 and 1903 high flood waters were experienced. The year 1965 brought the worst flood in recent years and a new levee system with ponding area established in 1971 now protects the town.



High water in Guttenberg (courtesy Backhaus)

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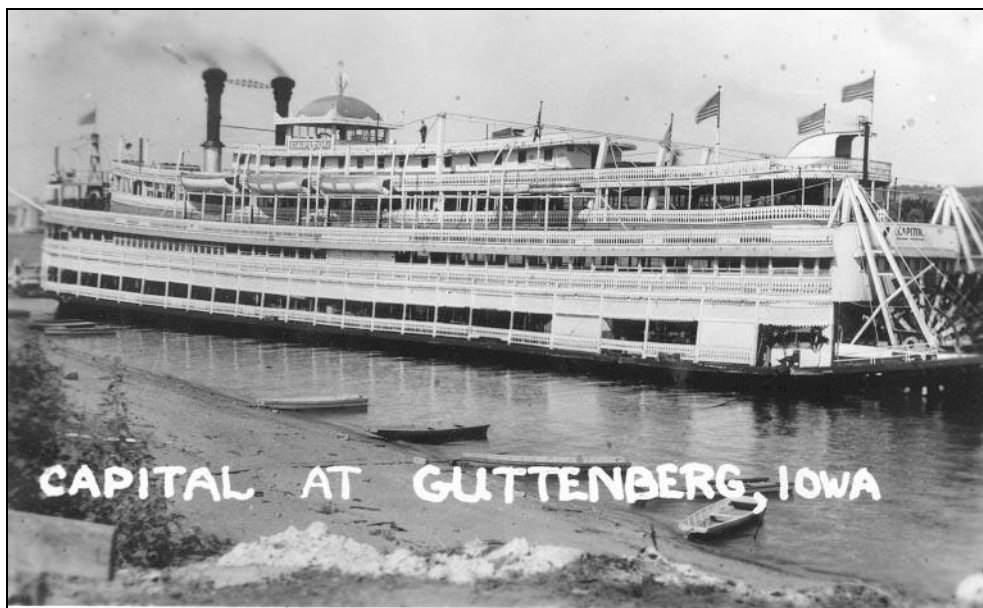
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The ferry service continued to serve the town under various arrangements (it was at one time horse driven!) and the trade picked up whenever Iowa entered periods of partial prohibition. The main river channel by 1900 had switched to the east through "Twelve Mile Slough" or "Cassville Slough" and the town was bypassed by the few steamboats which still operated. Passengers had to cross by ferry to catch a packet or go to Dubuque by train.

Log rafting declined as additional mills opened and the forests were decimated. The last log raft to reach Guttenberg arrived in 1911. The Eberhard company brought some white ash rafts down for butter tub manufacturing in 1919-20. The railroads were able to command both freight and log shipping. During the late 1890's Guttenberg had packet service connections with Dubuque and LaCrosse. Beginning in 1907 until 1914 service was established with Dubuque and Prairie du Chien.

The War Department (predecessor to the Corps of Engineers) officially changed the main channel location to the west or Guttenberg side and the Cassville Slough was closed during the winter of 1909. Guttenberg once again was in a good location with regard to the river. The establishment of the mandatory nine-foot deep channel led in 1934-7 to the construction of Lock and Dam #10, part of a massive series of similar installations designed to regularize river traffic. The river rose eight feet above the original channel level upstream from the dam.



Steamer *Capital* c.1930s (courtesy N. Thein)

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Steamer Eclipse (courtesy Irish Degnan)

The return of river traffic in the form of diesel towboats continues to this day and barge traffic carries mostly grains, oil and coal.



President Steamer, c.1920s (courtesy N. Thein)

John W. Stamm (1860-1939) was one of a number of Guttenberg river pilots. He was born in Guttenberg. He piloted packets running between St. Louis and St. Paul. With the decline of river shipping he became a rural mail carrier and served as engineer for the Guttenberg Canning Company (obituary, *Press*, May 31, 1939).

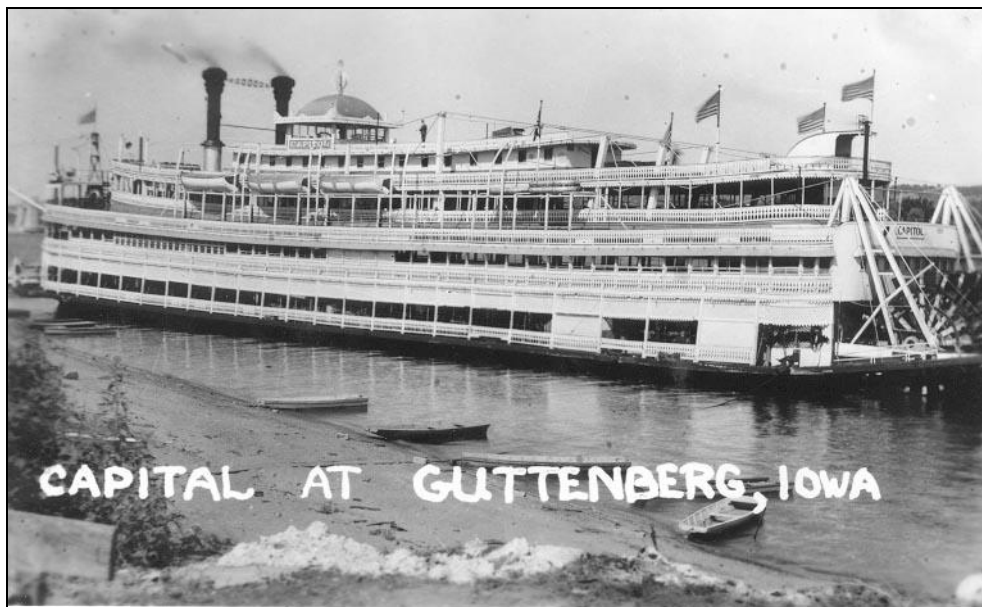
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Steamer Capital (courtesy Dubbels)

Roads and Highways:

The earliest land routes had to surmount the bluffs which surrounded ,Guttenberg on all sides. The only original trace in the area was the old military road between McGregor and Fort Atkinson. County roads dated from the county organization in 1837. The earliest roads followed the creek and river beds. The Legislature established a major road from Millville to Dubuque. Two early county maps trace the earliest routes. J. O. Crosby's map (1857) indicates two roads leading out of Guttenberg, one from the south end of town to Millville (with a branch road running north to Garnavillo), and a second following Buck Creek from the north end of town to Garnavillo. Thompson & Brothers map (1866) traces five roads in existence within the next ten years. From the south end of town they lead to Miliville, Elkport (road follows Miner's Creek and Turkey River west), and to Garnavillo. From the north end of town two roads lead to McGregor and to Garnavillo. The 1869 "Bird's EyeView of Guttenberg" indicated a "Hill Road" leading up the bluff from the western foot of Herder Street. This road however was only a local road, servicing those who lived on the bluff top and those who frequented the boweries on the bluff. The five main roads would serve the town until the construction of a modern and less steep highway in 1929. This route penetrated the highlands north and south of the town.

By 1856 the merchants of Guttenberg were able to gain selection as hosts for the Third Annual County Fair. This would have indicated both their enterprise and the existence of some rudimentary road system. By the end of the Civil War the town had stage connections with Dubuque and Garnovillo along with mail service three times weekly. During the war, more cropland was cleared resulting in a larger quantity of products being brought into town to be sold. Guttenberg's river connections made the town competitive for market pricing and farmers brought

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their goods from as far west as Independence, Olewein, and Arlington. The arrival of the railroad in 1871 would eliminate the need for distant farmers to travel as far to market.

The first automobile garage in Guttenberg, a Ford agency, run by Kuempel Brothers, opened in 1903. They were joined in 1913 by a second firm. In their first year, Kuempels sold 25 cars. The Wardell Chevrolet Garage opened in June 1931, occupying its new building at the southwest corner of South First and Schiller streets. The automobile made steep roads more conquerable and also eventually brought about an improvement of road surfaces. In town the twenty-year old practice of sprinkling roads was replaced with an oiling process. Guttenberg never achieved brick paved streets or even many paved ones. Today the town roads are surfaced with asphalt. Formal street signs came to Guttenberg only in 1951 along with house numbers.

Railroads:

Railroads did not connect Guttenberg with other Iowa towns until 1871, relatively late compared to other points in the state. Following the Civil War two railroad companies planned routes through Clayton County, but both bypassed Guttenberg. Several years later the town voted a 5% tax and subscribed \$30,000 worth of stock to attract the Chicago, Dubuque and Minnesota Railroad. On February 8, 1871 the town council voted to grant the railroad right of way over all town streets and provided two city blocks for use as depot and freight area. The railroad subsequently occupied most of Third Street. The first passenger train reached town on October 9, 1871. The company named a locomotive in honor of the town. A station and freight house were built that same year.

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Tourism promotion, early 1920s (courtesy N. Thein)

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Ihm Elevator, Prince and South Second streets (*Press*, June 17, 1951)

The railroad, by connecting Guttenberg with other more prosperous points, about a decrease in the towns original market area as has been noted. Shoppers could now travel to Dubuque or Chicago to trade. The town became an adjunct of the farm as rural creameries and pure bred cattle replaced earlier agricultural pursuits. The railroad's arrival did result in the construction of the Ihm grain elevator in 1877.

Air Travel:

In 1943 Guttenberg became one of the first towns in northeast Iowa to have an airport. The small seasonal grass strip was located on Able Island just north of town and continues to serve local needs.

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Context #4; Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

Lead Mining:

The lead mining industry was already well developed in the Dubuque and Galena areas to the south, and the need to transport lead ore down river had served to encourage riverboat traffic on the Upper Mississippi River. The lead ore found near Prairie La Porte (Guttenberg) was of a high grade, being composed of up to 82% pure lead. Unfortunately it was deposited in narrow horizontal veins which were difficult to work. The majority of mining activity was more properly a township rather than a town activity as is shown by the 1860 Census which listed nine miners as town residents while Jefferson Township exclusive of the town included twenty miners. In addition the mining industry supported a good number of coopers, woodchoppers, carpenters, blacksmiths and millers.

Two lead smelters (Smith's, and Pelzer's) were built along the Creek by 1858. During the mining era, more than a million pounds of lead were produced in the Guttenberg area. A decline in lead prices brought an end to mining on a large scale in this area. The industry never brought great wealth to the town and it took several fortunes. The last mining fever was experienced c. 1900 and was -short-lived.

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Logging And Lumber:

The town of Guttenberg is most noted for its role as a center for lumbering in Iowa during its early years. Log rafts, numbering 620 in 1857 alone, drifted (and later were towed or pushed) downstream to river sawmills. Guttenberg was the site of the first steam-powered sawmill to be established north of Dubuque and west of the Mississippi. Adam Goetz was the builder/operator in 1854, and the plant was on the riverfront below town (later

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the location of Zimmerman’s Mill). Goetz’s mill burned in 1855 but was replaced. It processed pine logs floated down the river. Goetz added a planing mill and sold his saw mill to Zimmerman & Pelan in 1872. Zimmerman partnered with T. S. Ives beginning in 1891. Ives was a millwright and modernized the mill. Prior to its establishment finished lumber was brought to town by steamboat for construction needs. By 1877 the Guttenberg mill had a seasonal capacity (four-month season) of two million board feet.

The Zimmermann and Ives Mill, successor to Goetz's, was considered to be one of the most important mills in Iowa during the late Nineteenth Century, employing at its peak 250 men. The last log raft arrived at Guttenberg in 1911 (also reported as 1905) and Seipple Brothers purchased the mill in 1908, being replaced by the present Meuser Lumber Company ten months later. The total depletion of the northern forests put an end to large scale saw mill operations. The Eberhard Mill in the early Twentieth Century turned to hardwood sawmill work, and eventually turned to butter tub manufacturing and government contract work (“Fascinating Story of Lumbering Near Guttenberg Is Told By Lumber Men,” *Press*, 1949).



Ed Eberhart’s Lumberyard, north end of Guttenberg
Guttenberg Hardwood Saw Milling Company,
established 1902, is behind photographer to the north (*Palimpsest*, October 1966)

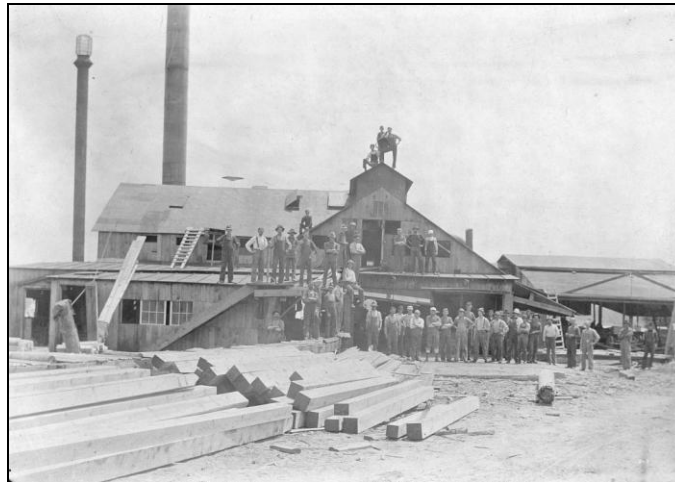
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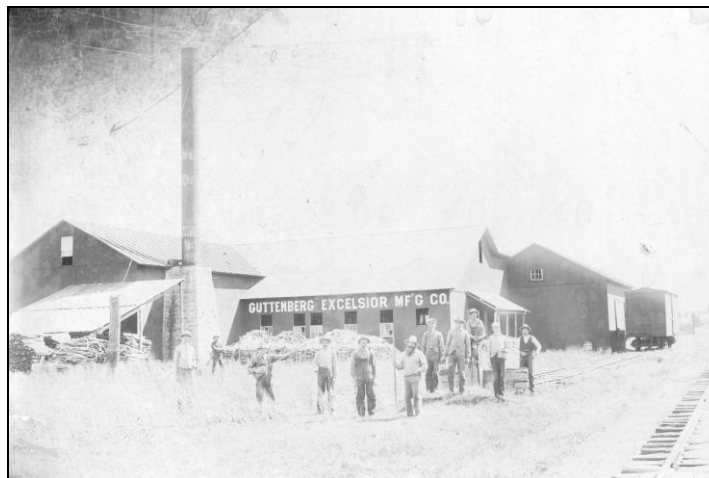
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Zimmerman & Ives Saw Mill, 1902, on riverfront at foot of Koerner, view south
Sorting shed at right rear (courtesy Irish Degnan)

Industrial Diversification:

The demise of a second industry threatened the economic lifeblood of the town. The town council had over the years offered various subsidies, which included free sites, buildings, and utilities, in order to attract new business to town. Guttenberg Excelsior Manufacturing Company, organized in 1892, was the first such plant west of the Mississippi River.



Excelsior Plant, North Third and Regent streets
View to southeast, note tracks to right (courtesy J. Green)

The H.B. Glover Company of Dubuque established an plant that made overalls (1905). H. Chalmer's Pearl Button Company, established in 1899, was the first of three such plants to be established in Guttenberg.

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Guttenberg Corn Canning Company was established in 1912 and the Farm Horse Tractor Works, from South Dakota, briefly (1919-1921) produced tractors there.



Guttenberg Canning Company, view northwest, husking shed to front left (courtesy, Irish Degan)

These firms employed men and women (the latter at H. B. Glover) and combined to make the pre-World War One era a prosperous one. The population continued to slowly grow while comparable river communities stagnated. Towns which were in decline supplied some new firms to the town (i.e. Kuempel Bros. who had suffered two fires in their firm while in Clayton). Some wealthy families left Guttenberg for Dubuque and other cities. These were replaced in part by former farm families who sent their children (or lost their children) to town life (i.e. W.H. Kann, hardware merchant). The new industries which appeared in Guttenberg during these years reflected directly the statewide ranking of industries according to their economic worth.

Pearl Button Production:

It was the arrival of the pearl button industry in Guttenberg that jump-started the community's industrialization, population growth, and its eventual integration into a broader cultural and economic community. In population alone, the 1900 figure of 1,620 jumped to 2,143 by 1903, a one-third increase in just three years. By World War I, Guttenberg was the county's industrial center (Dubuque *Telegraph-Herald*, April 6, 1903).

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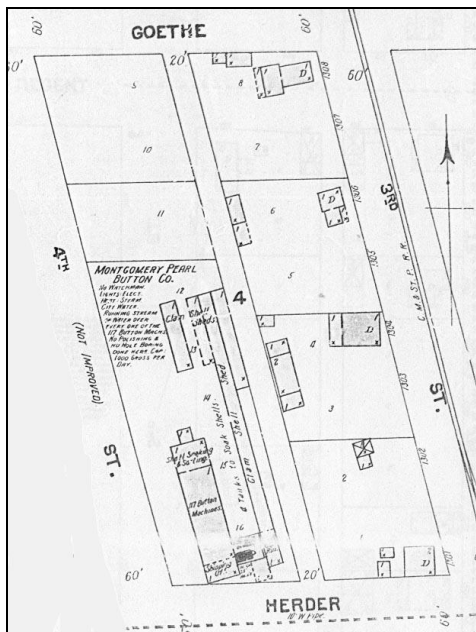
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The pearl button industry in Guttenberg had its origins in the summer of 1899 when Harvey Chalmers & Son of Amsterdam, New York, expressed interest in establishing a factory there. The town responded with borrowing \$2,500 (\$4,300 by one report including an engine, boiler and dynamo) to erect a factory building for the venture. William Johansen prepared the plans and Thos. Pauli built the 110x28 building, a 200x12 shed, and an 18x20 engine house. W. H. Scholz sold the necessary five town lots for \$550, the site being adjacent to the railroad. The cutting room had 40 machines and skilled operators could earn up to \$2.50-2.75 per day. The initial workforce was 74 cutters and nine other positions. This plant (see Sanborn map excerpt below) was located at Herder and South Fourth streets (non-extant) (*Press*, January 10, 1900; *Telegraph-Herald*, April 6, 1903).

The second plant was established by the Empire Pearl Button Company of Muscatine in the former Wiest-Class warehouse at 703 South River Park Drive. This factory was one of the first to use electrically powered cutting machines. By 1928 it was called the American Pearl Button Company. State funds resurrected this plant in 1933 and it was the last of three button plants to operate in Guttenberg, finally closing its doors in 1960, being last known as “Hammer’s Button Plant.” The reopened plant employed both men and women in equal numbers. At its height the button industry employed 150 persons. Chris Frommelt was plant superintendent and manager for over 50 years. Frommelt also served on the city council for 35 years and was mayor for five years. The industry died out mainly because of competition with plastic buttons but also because the automatic clothes washer was not kind to shell buttons (*Press*, May 4, 1933; November 17, 1966; May 8, 1996; obituary, Chris Frommelt, *Press*, July 24, 1962).



Montgomery Pearl Button Company Plant (1902 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map)

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Barges loaded with clam shells, c.1915 (courtesy Bud Frommelt)



Waste clam shells, Empire Button Works

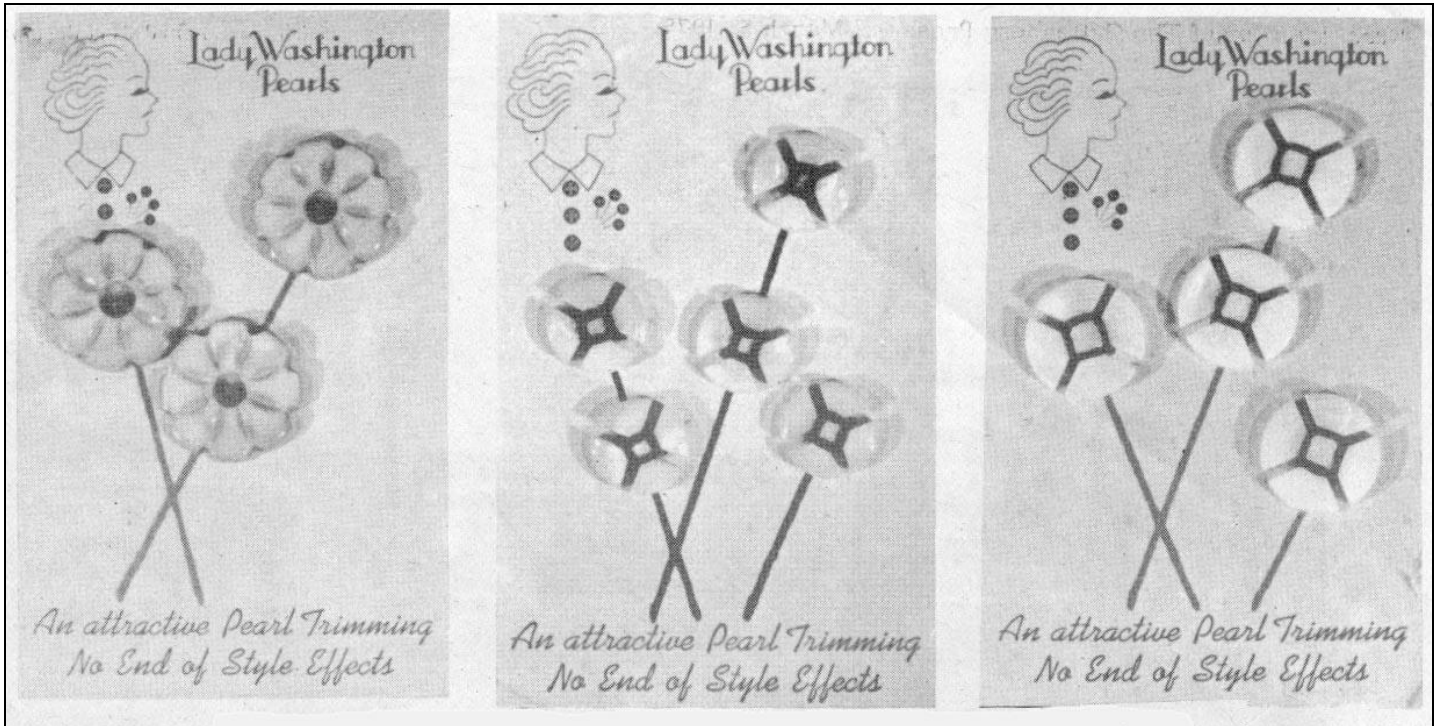
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Pearl Buttons from Guttenberg (*Press*, March 5, 1975)



Button workers on waste shells (courtesy Bud Frommelt)

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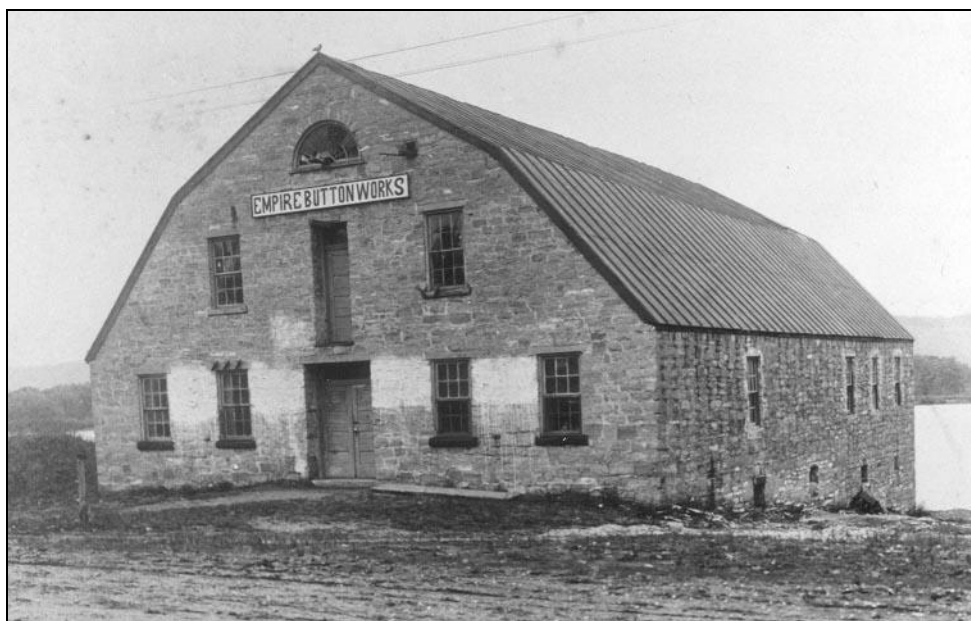
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Shell waste and button cutters (courtesy Irish Degan)



Empire Button Works

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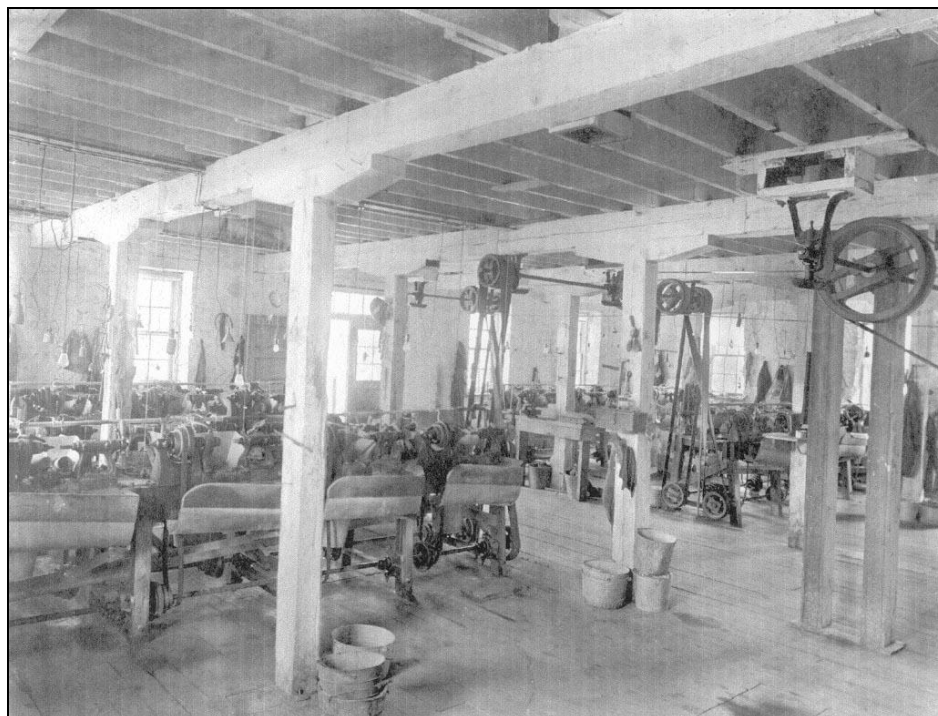
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American Pearl Button Company, 1958 (State Historical Society of Iowa, Photo #9899.5)



Interior, Empire/American Button Works (courtesy Bud Frommelt)

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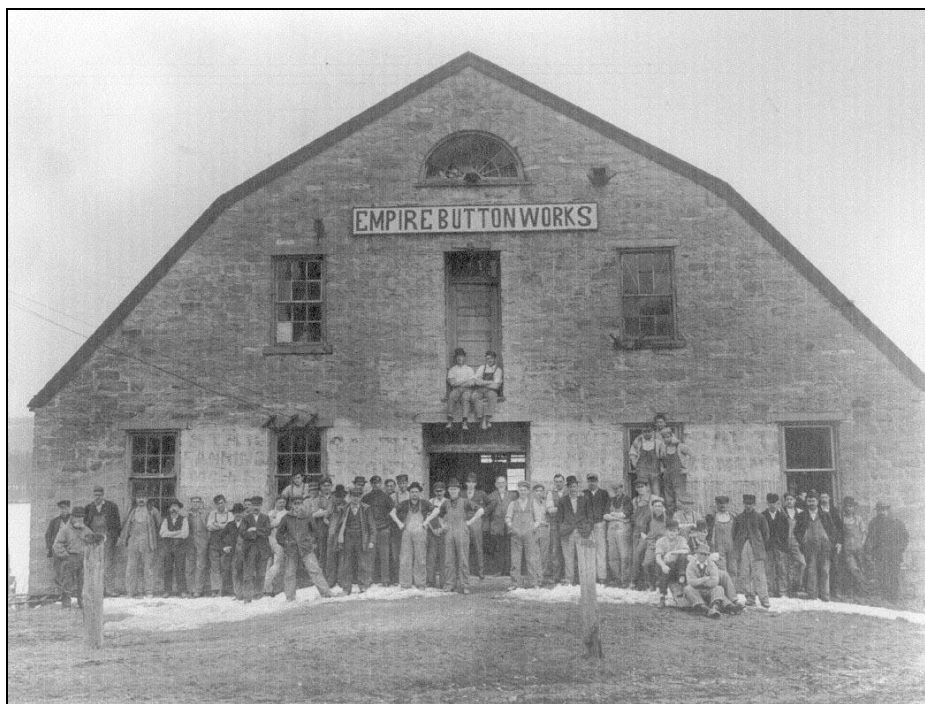
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The period 1910-1917 was one of full employment. In fact the town drew in young men from outlying towns who worked in the button plants. The town continued to serve as a collection point for farm produce (the coming of the railroad in 1871 had reversed the role of the town from that of supplying the farms and small communities, to the role of merely collecting farm products from a smaller area). A creamery was opened in 1920. A new north-south highway connection in 1929 provided bus service and reduced isolation.

Guttenberg is one of the few river towns where pearl button manufacturing has survived the decline of clamming on the Mississippi. Two factories have been cutting button blanks for about thirty years. Each employs forty to fifty men. The button blanks are shipped to Muscatine to be finished into pearl buttons. The cut shells go there also to be ground to make pebble-dash.

Dubuque *Telegraph-Herald*, April 20, 1930



51 Button workers on a wintery day (courtesy Bud Frommelt)

The coming of the Depression does not appear to have closed many significant firms. Both banks (founded 1887 and 1900) survived while other towns lost their only bank. The Federal Government's Public Works Program proved to be a financial blessing for Guttenberg. Lock and Dam #10 (1934-7) provided jobs and money, as did the construction of a new Municipal Building and a Federal Fish Hatchery (1938). An influx of workers into town greatly changed a previously insular and conservative community into a "friendly town." State subsidization of the

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sole surviving pearl button plant returned it to full production (employing women for the first time) and full employment.

In more recent years new companies included Iowa Foods Product Company (1942), Guttenberg Locker Plant (1949), a mobile home building company (later reorganized as Trademark Modular Homes), and Clinton Pallet Company. Tourism, especially in the fall, thrived following the development of color photography and the improvement of transportation. A small private airport on Abel’s Island served to benefit the community generally.

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Context #5, House Construction in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

This context focuses on house construction but is intended to treat all construction activities including commercial, industrial, religious and public buildings, as well as infrastructure projects. There are three goals under this context. The first is to identify and document the noted local builders. The second is to develop a chronology of local construction in an effort to identify the boom and bust building cycles. Finally, this context will summarize the local construction with a special emphasis on local trends and features and changing building techniques. The pattern of city improvements is also treated under the municipal growth context, and the federal role in construction and in new house financing is treated in the federal context.



Ihm House, North River Park Drive, under construction, 1927 (*Press*, March 5, 1927)

Many of Guttenberg's major buildings were designed and built by firms from other cities. These names are necessarily excluded from the following local builders' list because the intent in this section is to identify local builders who built numerous houses or buildings. A few listings, however, are for sub-contractors, cabinet makers, foundation builders, and the like.

The majority of listed builders are those who were active within surviving oral history memory. A surprisingly large number of these were born in the years just prior to World War I. The restrictive amount of building sites in Guttenberg precluded many builders from ever operating on a large scale and most likely combined house construction with smaller repair and construction work. An exception is Burnell Reinitz, who is credited with building 40 houses in Guttenberg following WWII.

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Guttenberg Builders, Realtors, Designers:

It is of particular interest to identify the stone masons and carpenters who built Guttenberg's several hundred stone buildings during the middle 1850s. A few names appear in the annotated list below from this period of building but a large number of stone masons are listed in the 1856 state census. This list indicates that all of these masons were German-born, and for the most part they represented the same generation of immigrants. The one native-born exception is noted below. This list with ages is separately appended, in alphabetical order.

Allers, Carl, 28
Birh, August, 30
Brookman, Bernhard, 36 (brickmaker)
Burmeister, Johann, 24 (resides with Radenmacher)
Daun, Georg, 28
Fosen, Joseph, 31
Grasf, Louis, 30
Heilmann, Johann, 52
Heilmann, Leonard, 20 (same house as Johann Heilmann)
Heinrich, Johann, 24 (resides with Radenmacher)
Johnson, Peter, 23 (engineer, likely at the mill)
Kirspill, Johann, 25
Kruse, Heinrich, 37
Langley, Fr. L., 36
Marble, M., 22 (New York born, resides with miller T. Ensign)
Marxer, Andreas, 48
Meier, Alexander, 26
Meier, Ignatz, 31
Meier, Joseph, 32
Natt, Casper, 39
Niemann, Charles, 43
Nipp, Alois, 31
Orias, Florenz, 31
Parr, Johann, 32
Peters, Wilhelm, 20 (resides with Radenmacher)
Radenmacher, Christ., 37
Reickow, Freidrich, 34
Richen, Carl, 38
Seemann, Wilhelm, 21
Thobons, Heinrich, 29
Troster, Carl, 34
Vogel, Johann, 32

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Voigt, Michael, 35
Vonbruch, Andreas, 36
Vonbruel, Johan, 42
Waterskuhl, Thomas, 32

Anderegg, J.:

Had the carpentry contract for the first St. John Church in 1854 (“A Brief History of the Congregation,” p. 1).

Bangs, Wesley (1918-1985):

Bangs was a local carpenter and general laborer and built “Mickey Mouse things” in Guttenberg. He was born in Allamakee County (obituary, *Press*, October 23, 1985).

Becker, William (1884-1963):

Becker was born in Millville Township and was a lifelong county resident. He worked as a carpenter with Rob Troester and Paul Freidlein (obituary, *Press*, January 31, 1963).

Berger, Charles “Charlie”:

Local carpenter. No obituary found.

Boich, Bell, Paul and Willie:

Local carpenters.

Bolsinger, Stanley:

Local carpenter. No obituary found.

Buechel Sr., Henry :

Stone contractor, St. Mary’s School, 1894 (Jacobs, p. 66) and did foundation for the William Miller brick house (*Press*, August 16, 1899).

Burr, Mathias:

Carpentry contractor, St. Mary’s School, 1894 (Jacobs, p. 66).

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Bush, Elmer F. (1912-1998):

Bush was a self-employed contractor for 45 years. Born in Colesburg, he also lived in Oneida, the Greeley community, and was a Manchester resident at the time of his death. He was a World War II veteran (obituary, *Press*, February 18, 1998).

Brinkman, Rev. J. H. (1859-1925), architect:

“Architect” for St. Mary’s school, parsonage and church. He prepared the sketches, plans and specifications and supervised construction for each. He also can be credited with the final layout of the larger St. Mary Parish complex (Jacobs, p. 66).

Brush, Leonard (1913-1987):

Brush was born in Kansas and also resided in Waterloo, but lived in Guttenberg at the time of his death. He owned Brush Construction Company (obituary, *Press*, March 18, 1987).

Buechel, Henry:

Shared the stone foundation contract for St. Mary School (1894) with Joseph Vogt (History of St. Mary’s Parish, p. 18). Vogt, Buechel and Vogt did the same for the new church (1902) (ibid.).

Cassutt, Wallace “Bud” (1906-1965):

Cassutt was a life-long Guttenberg resident. He was a carpenter “for a number of years” and ran a local tavern with his wife, Agnes (Bruckner). His most notable building was Trinity Lutheran Church. Ed Wagner worked for him (obituary, *Press*, January 28, 1965).

Christensen, William (1824-?):

Served as architect and construction superintendent for Sullivan’s three-and-a-half story brick warehouse/store on Front Street (near Ihm & Weiner’s store) in 1859. It was said “This building is a diploma of ability to Mr. C. such as can never be issued by any college” *Valley Register*, October 27, 1859. He is listed in the 1856 state census as a carpenter, aged 32 years.

Christian, Elmer (1914-1991):

Christen was born in Elgin and lived in Manchester (as of 1933) prior to residing in Guttenberg. He was a self-employed carpenter and built the Anna Moser building. He worked 26 years for JohnD eere in Dubuque (obituary, *Press*, April 17, 1991).

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Cleveland, Austin:

House painter, does interior painting for Otto Lake’s new house (*Press*, October 24, 1900).

Cleveland, Clark (1918-1987):

Cleveland was born in Manchester and died in Guttenberg. His obituary makes no reference to his work record (obituary, *Press*, August 19, 1987).

Clinton, Gerald “Gary” (1918-1998):

Clinton was born in Littleport. He apprenticed as a carpenter under his father, Ernest Clinton, and his uncle Carl Gorkow, working in McGregor, Monona and Lancaster Wisconsin (another account credits Ed Wagner with teaching him the building trade). He worked at the C.C.C. Camp at McGregor, working on the Pike’s Peak project and other county projects. He saw military service in the Panama Canal Zone during WWII. Clinton is credited with building 510 N. River Park Drive (Ann Bowers house), 6__ South Second (Frank Zukey house), and 626 S. River Park Drive (Irene Becker house). He worked for Ed Wagner for years and later worked with Gordon Peterson. He built the park buildings at Effigy Mounds (obituary, *Press*, December 16, 1998).

Dupenmeier, Henry:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary found.

Eberhardt, Edward P.:

He was a noted builder of wing dams, railroad culverts and bridges.

Egleseder, Val:

He was a local carpenter.

Esslinger, John (1917-1993):

Esslinger was born in Dubuque but attended high school in Guttenberg. He was a WWII veteran and worked in the area as a carpenter prior to his work with the lock and dam, from which he retired in January 1983. He built the Don Meder house (1949), the Tommy Tompson house, and Dr. Goddard’s house, all in Northern Guttenberg (obituary, *Press*, October 13, 1993).

John built 44 houses in partnership with Burnell Reinitz (some of these might have been built solely by one or the other builder): 114, 207, 319, 323, 522, 523 North First Street, 127, 723, 815 South First Street, Elmer Wernke House (no number), 327, 415, 522, 614, 819, 830 North Second Street, 503, 826 South Second Street, 100, 101 Able Drive, 115 Broadway, 106 Crest Drive, Dr. Beyer House, Garber Road, Walter Meyer (no number), 110,

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203, 207 Lorenz Street, 102 Mozart Street, 114 Prince Street, 206, 222, 230, 410, 522, 530, 614, 902, 910, 918, 926, 930 North River Park Drive, 602, 626 South River Park Drive, 127 Valley View Drive (lists provided by Mrs. Esslinger, Mrs. Reintiz).

Flagel, Henry Louis (1866-1950):

Flagel was born in Germany and immigrated at an early age to the Osterdock area. He became a buttermaker and in 1922 he built the White Lily Creamery, his only building effort in the city, but a notable one. He worked in the butter making trade for 30 years, but his operation of the Guttenberg creamery was unsuccessful. He also led the Osterberg Band in his early years. He died at Elkader (obituary, *Press*, November 30, 1950).

Friedlein, Paul John (1887-1984):

Friedlein was born on a farm near Guttenberg. He was a WWI veteran and was made lame by a wartime wrestling bout. He was a noted area musician but was also a skilled stone mason. He built his own house and a stone grotton on a hill south of the city. He worked with Bill Becker and Rob Troester, built the Dickson house, “many houses” at Camp Hideaway, and many stone foundations for area barns (obituary, *Press*, January 25, 1984).

Friedlein, W. E. “Wiley” (1877-1951):

Friedlein was born near Osterdock and relocated to Guttenberg at age 18. He worked for the Zimmerman & Ives lumber mill, then for Friedlein Brothers implement company. For most of his working life he was a carpenter. He lived in Guttenberg all of his later years save for six years spent living in Tacoma, and Cedar Rapids (obituary, *Press*, May 17, 1951).

Fuehling, William:

General contractor of Guttenberg State Bank (*Press*, September 5, 1900).

Guetzko, Edward:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary found.

Gull, Harry E. (1912-1991):

Gull was born in Mallory Township but lived much of his early life in Manitoba, Canada. He saw WWI military service and barely survived a munitions ship collision and explosion. He worked postwar for the T. A. Burroughs Timber Company in Manitoba and then worked in the 1920s for Ford Motor Company in California. He turned to farming near Garnavillo in the 1930s. He also ran a service station and operated the *Gray Gull* towboat up until the outbreak of war. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and was one of five crew members to survive a late 1942 torpedo sinking of his ship. He saw Pacific theater service and was wounded. In the midst of the war, he married Dubuquer Marie Wirth in California and returned postwar to the Guttenberg area. He was a

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carpenter and concrete worker and was mostly involved in building barns. He also eschewed the use of a level in his work, eyeballing each setting (obituary, *Press*, November __, 1991).

Hastings, David:

He was the builder of the first courthouse in Prairie la Porte in 1839 (Jacobs, p. 11).

Heiderscheit, Nicholas J. (1893-1972):

Heiderscheit was born near Holy Cross. He was a self-employed carpenter and did much stone work, working with Paul Willie and Bill ___ (obituary, *Press*, April 12, 1972).

Heitman, Henry (1861-1928):

Heitman was a local cement contractor. He was born in Guttenberg but lived for some time in Glen Haven, Wisconsin. He laid many of the first concrete sidewalks in the city but his obituary stated “he was a stone mason by trade which trade he followed for many years” (*Press*, October 4, 1899).

Hinsch, Henry:

Contractor for the gymnasium/auditorium (1925) and the Masonic Lodge (1926-27) (Jacobs, p. 104).

Jaster, Arthur “Art”:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary found.

Jenkins, Horace G. (1859-1914):

Jenkins was born in Clayton County and first farmed with wife Emma Rau. He served as a county supervisor and as mayor of Guttenberg but in his later years worked in real estate and insurance (*Press*, May 21, 1914).

[Hubert] Kappen & [J.] Williams, painters

Did the painting for the new St. Mary Church (1902) (also H. Kappen) (History of St. Mary’s Parish, p. 18). During 1900 they did the painting for the new F. N. Friedlein house, the C.C. Niemeyer house, the F. X. Wolter house, and the Guttenberg State Bank (*Press*, October 10, 1900).

Keller, Martin:

Martin was a former Guttenberg resident who became a landscape architect in New York. He designed Ingleside Park (1902) (Jacobs, p. 68).

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Lohde, F. D.

Did the carpentry work for the new St. Mary Church, 1902. Was he local? (History of St. Mary’s Parish, p. 18).

Meuser Lumber Company:

Built houses at the following locations: Lots 6-7, Block 96, 1955; Lot 11, Block 84, 1959; Lot 11, Block 107, 1961; 715 North 2nd Street, 1962.



Meuser Lumber Company Advertisement. c.1930

Meyer, Norbert M. (1909-1979):

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Meyer was born at Holy Cross and was a carpenter for many years (obituary, *Press*, February 7, 1979).

Mitzner, Fred A. (1898-1981):

Mitzner was born near Colesburg and graduated from high school at that same place. His father, Ferdinand Mitzner was also a carpenter and cabinetmaker. He was primarily a cabinet maker and never resided in Guttenberg (obituary, *Press*, March 11, 1981).

Morarend, Dietrich:

Contracted to cut and haul stones for the first St. John Church in 1854 (“A Brief History of the Congregation, p. 1). He is one of a very few mid-1850 stone workers who are identified but he fails to appear in the 1856 state census.

Nix, John:

Contracted to add a brick chimney to St. Mary’s Church (*Press*, September 6, 1899).

Pauli, Tony:

Built the pearl button factory for the city for \$1,539 in 1899 (*Press*, October 11, 1899). He moved the old St. Mary’s Parsonage (“It is quite an undertaking,” *Press*, November 29, December 13, 1899) in late 1899.

Peters, Rev. Martin:

He was the “architect” for Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, built in 1932 (Jacobs, p. 109).

Peterson, Oliver (1888-1971):

Peterson was born near St. Olaf and was primarily a cabinetmaker, although he built his own home (located across from St. Mary’s School, now the Bob Leeman house) (obituary, *Press*, October 13, 1971).

Phelps, Lowell:

He was a local carpenter.

Pinz, Barney:

Demolished the Lorentz & Kirch building (butchers) to build a commodious store/dwelling. Was he a contractor? (*Press*, August 23, 1899),

Prandy, George, plasterer:

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Was drawn to Guttenberg from Dubuque to ply his trade (*Press*, March 21, 1900).

Prior, Herman:

He was a local Carpenter, c.1858-70. It is not known if he built houses.

Rausch, Nicholas “Nick”:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary found.

Reinitz, Burnell Luverne (1922-2000):

Reinitz was Guttenberg-born. He worked locally as a carpenter from 1940 until 1943, and after WWII as a self-employed carpenter 1946-57. During the latter years he built or helped built some 40 houses in Guttenberg, making him one of the most prolific area homebuilders. He served as an aviation cadet during WWII and worked for the lock and dam 1957-86, the last 18 years as Lockmaster. Houses known to have been built by him include those of Russ Schroeder, Walter Meyer, Martin Wolter and Bonna Basler. A list of 44 houses built by Reinitz or his building partner John Esslinger, appears under Esslinger’s listing (obituary, *Press*, December __, 2000).

Reinitz, Henry:

He was a local carpenter. No obituary found.

Rolfes, Frank (1849-1938):

He was born in Canton, Ohio and came to Guttenberg in 1889 “where he followed the carpenter trade for many years.” His wife was Catherine Eilers of Guttenberg. Married in 1876, she died in 1913 (*Telegraph-Herald*, December 29, 1938).

Sandusky, John:

He was the unsuccessful bidder on the new firehouse in 1887 (Jacobs, p. 56).

Saugling, Frank:

Installs new pressed steel ceiling in Palace Saloon along with William Korda (*Press*, November 7, 1900).

Schieltz, Dudley:

He was a local carpenter.

Schierholz, Henry (1875-1940):

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He was born at Luana and lived at Monona prior to moving to Guttenberg, c.1912. He was termed a “well known” town resident at the time of his death. His obituary makes no reference to his working career (obituary, *Press*, July 17, 1940).

Schroeder, Louis H. (1857-1933):

Schroder was born in Jefferson Township. He was a carpenter and cabinetmaker and worked as a contractor in Guttenberg for many years. He also worked as a carpenter for the Standard Oil Company. He was the successful bidder on the new firehouse in 1887 (Jacobs, p. 56). He built Lakside Ballroom in 1933. He built and resided in what is now the Von Handorf house on South River Park Drive. He was termed a pioneer resident at the time of his death. He was also a noted area musician (obituary, *Press*, January __, 1933).

Schroeder, in partnership with William Mohrman and Alvin Strube, built the John “Jumbo” Kossuth house in 1899 (*Press*, August 9, 1899). When the Kossuth house was finished in mid-November the *Press* noted “when Louis has a contract to fulfill he does it up in first class shape and no complaint can be made” (*Press*, November 15, 1899). Schroeder moved E. C. Ennon’s saloon from the building site for the Guttenberg State Bank, placing it north of Clemens Kappen’s building (*Press*, May 2, 1900). Schroeder, Wolf and Frommelt moved the former Naescher Building to north Guttenberg for Henry Eilers (*Press*, August 8, 1900).

Schorg, Frank:

He built the homes of Alo Tompkins, Lois Backes and Fritz Kann. Schorg was born in Germany and came to the U.S. in 1858, settling in Jefferson Township. He saw Civil War military service and worked for several years as a miner. He farmed until c.1905, at which time the family relocated to Guttenberg. His obituary makes no reference to his work as a builder (obituary, *Press*, February 15, 1915).

Schorg, Henry (1875-1940):

He was a local carpenter.

Swisher, Edlon:

He was a local carpenter.

Thorson, Thorwald (1879-1962), Forest City, Iowa architect:

Norwegian-born and brought to the U.S. at age two, he was trained at the University of Iowa and the University of Wisconsin. After teaching he began his design practice in 1903 and was on his own by 1914, specializing in church designs. His particular interest was in Gothic architecture. His son Oswald (1912-79) partnered with him in 1945 as Thorwald and Thorwald, with offices in Forest City and Waterloo. Thorwald designed the present St. John Lutheran Church (1948) the largest load-bearing stone building in Guttenberg (Shank, pp. 163-65).

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Troester, Anton:

He built 618 North First Street in 1959.

Troester, Robert “Bob” (1901-1958):

He was born in Millville Township and worked as a carpenter and worked with Bill Becker and Paul Friedlein. In later years he farmed near Osterdock (obituary, *Press*, February 13, 1958).

Troester, Laverne:

Vogt, Frank:

He was a local stone contractor and built St. Mary’s School in 1894 (Jacobs, p. 66). Vogt, Buechel and Vogt did the same for the new St. Mary church (ibid.).

Vogt, Joseph (1859-1940):

Vogt was born in Germany and came to America in 1881, and to Guttenberg in 1884. His obituary simply reported “for many years he followed the trade of stone mason.” He shared the stone foundation work for St. Mary School (1894) with Henry Buechel. He was preceded in death by his wife Augusta Ohlendorf in 1905 (History of St. Mary’s Parish, p. 18; *Press*, September 12, 1940).

Vogt, William:

Laid the stonework for the first St. John Church in 1854. He is one of a very few mid-1850 stone workers who are identified and likely was the builder for many of the other stone buildings. St. John was the largest stone building in Guttenberg at the time (“A Brief History of the Congregation,” p. 1).

Vogt, William Henry “Bill” (1890-1970):

Vogt was a lifelong Guttenberg resident. He was a veteran of WWI. He worked as a cement contractor (obituary, *Press*, May 7, 1970).

Wagner, Edward (1893-1983):

He was the contractor for the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (1932) and the replacement St. John’s American Lutheran Church in 1948-49. He taught the carpentry trade to John Esslinger and Burnell Reinitz (Jacobs, pp. 109, 126; obituary, *Press*, July 20, 1983).

Walke, August:

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He built Mary Ford’s house in 1914, also Butch Borman’s house. He might have built the Hannah house and Jim Jacob’s house.

Weseman, Delos:

He was a local carpenter.

White, Joseph F. “Joe” (1902-1985):

White was born in Littleport. He worked as a carpenter and is also said to have been a cement contractor (obituary, *Press*, November 20, 1985).

Willie, Anton (“Tony”):

By mid-1899 (when research began) Willie was literally exploding on the scene as the preferred brick contractor. He built the new St. Mary’s Rectory (it “will be one of the finest structures in our city when completed,” *Press*, July 26, 1899, “it is one of the most convenient residences in our city and the exterior appearance is a credit to the town,” *ibid.*, November 8, 1899). He then turned to the new Guttenberg State Bank building in October, 1900, which he finished in late December (a “most excellent piece of brickwork... Tony is one of the most reliable brick contractors in eastern Iowa and employs none but first class workmen on jobs that he contracts for. Tony will do the brick laying in this city hereafter if good work counts,” *Press*, December 20, 1900). He also did the brickwork for the Frank X. Wolter and William Miller houses that year. He was still working as a brick work contractor as of 1903.

Willie, William J. (1891-1963):

Willie was born in Dubuque and his family moved to Clayton County while he was still a youth. He worked as a bricklayer until c.1960 and then was a farmer (obituary, *Press*, August 15, 1963).

Wittman, Julius “Buck” (1914-1975):

He was born in Elkport and learned the carpentry trade from his father, John Wittman. He specialized in house construction (obituary, *Press*, September 19, 1975).

Wittman Brothers:

There were three brothers, Julius (see above), LeRoy and Carroll Wittman. LeRoy lived in Dubuque as of 1975, and Carroll lived in Cedar Rapids by that time (*ibid.*).

Wolf & Frommelt:

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Build George Mohrhouse residence and J. S. Herboltsheimer's shop (*Press*, December 6, 1900).

Zwack, Anton:

Contractor for the new school building in 1903 (Jacobs, p. 72).

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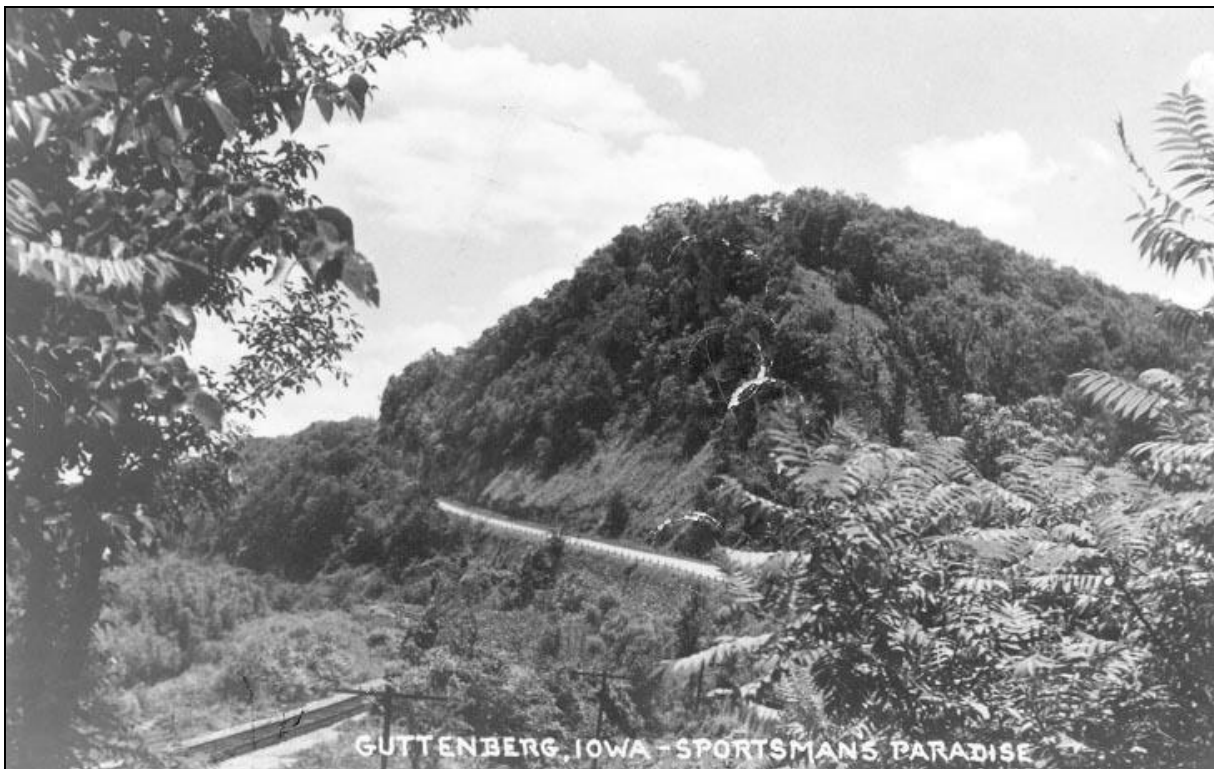
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Context #6, The role of the Federal Government in Guttenberg’s History, 1939-52:

Opening Guttenberg to the world, new highways to the north and south:



The old way in (courtesy Felder)

Jefferson Township was belatedly involved in the county road improvement program. Federal highway money was critical in funding these major improvements, passed through the medium of the State Highway Commission. The existing routes were the Big Springs Road to the north and the road up Kleinhaus Hollow to the south. Beginning in 1929, a new north road was blasted out of the stone hills and by the end of 1930 a new southern route was completed. The road through town was graveled but for the times it was good enough to bring the first bus service to the city. The City Council was resentful that the new route had been laid out “without reference to the regularly used streets” of Guttenberg (Council Minutes, May 4, 1931; Jacobs, pp. 106-08).

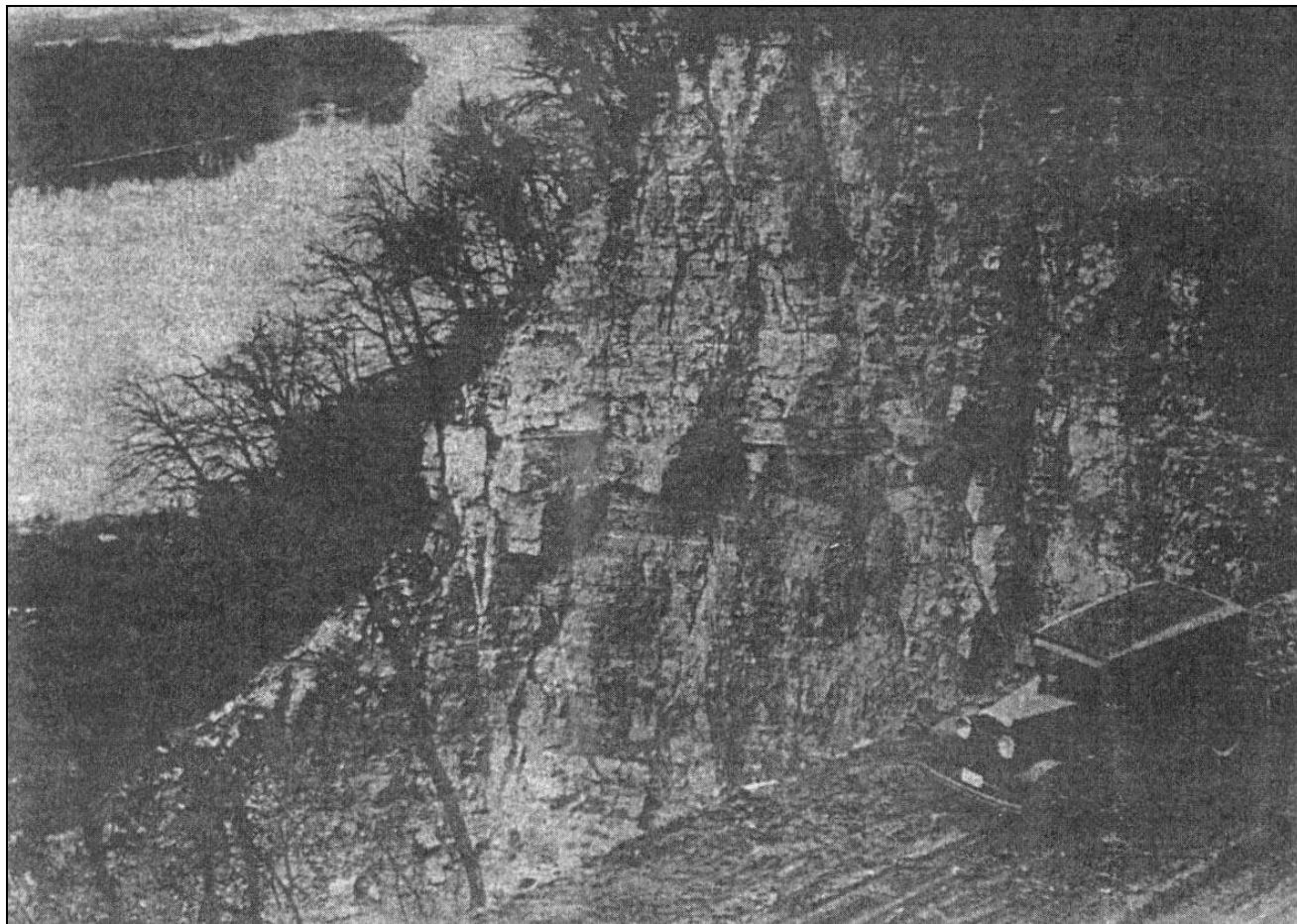
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“Mountain Road Built in Iowa (*Register*, December 28, 1930)

Beginning of rock hewn descent into Guttenberg. Here you get a view of the bluffs through which the new road makes its way north into Guttenberg and a vista of the Mississippi river to the south. This old road corkscrewed into town on a one-track path winding by sharp turns and dangerous course to the river bank. The new road comes down a wide ledge by easy grades none in excess of 6 percent

(*Register*, December 28, 1930).

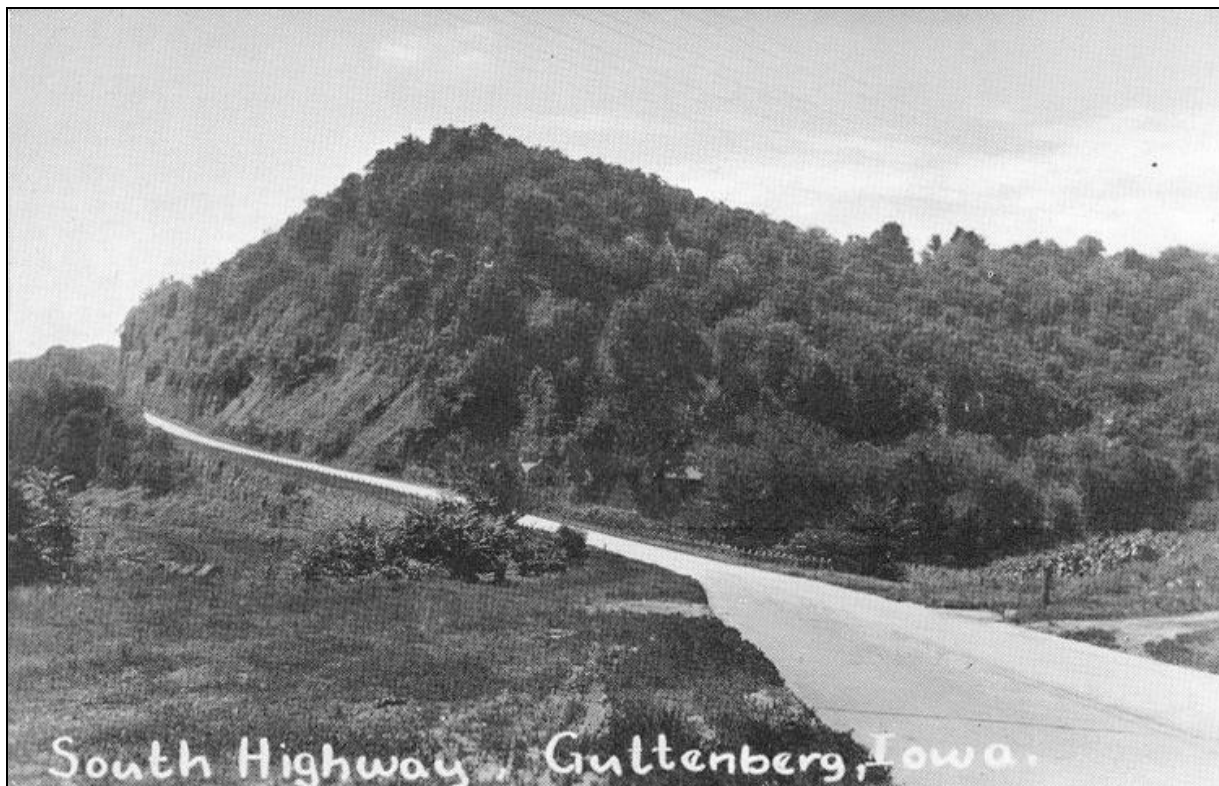
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The new highway (courtesy of L. Backhaus)

Responding to the crisis of the Great Depression:

The city council minutes from the early 1930s make no reference whatever to the national economic collapse that was triggered in late October 29, 1929 and began to impact the Midwest over the next year. In fact, the city was busy forcing the state to oil the new graveled Highway 52, controlling illegal dumping along the riverfront, and building a light and power plant. Still, as is explained below, the lock and dam project was relocated to Guttenberg in response to high area unemployment. One saving grace was the retention of both town banks throughout the Depression, certainly both unusual and fortunate for Guttenberg.

In addition to the dam project, the city gained a number of other federally assisted projects. The U.S. Bureau of Fisheries located a Federal Fish Hatchery in 1938. The city provided the land for the complex. Works Progress Administration programs included the provision of curbs and asphalt paving on the downtown streets also in 1938. The city established a free public library in early July 1936, although this improvement is not known to have had a federal involvement.

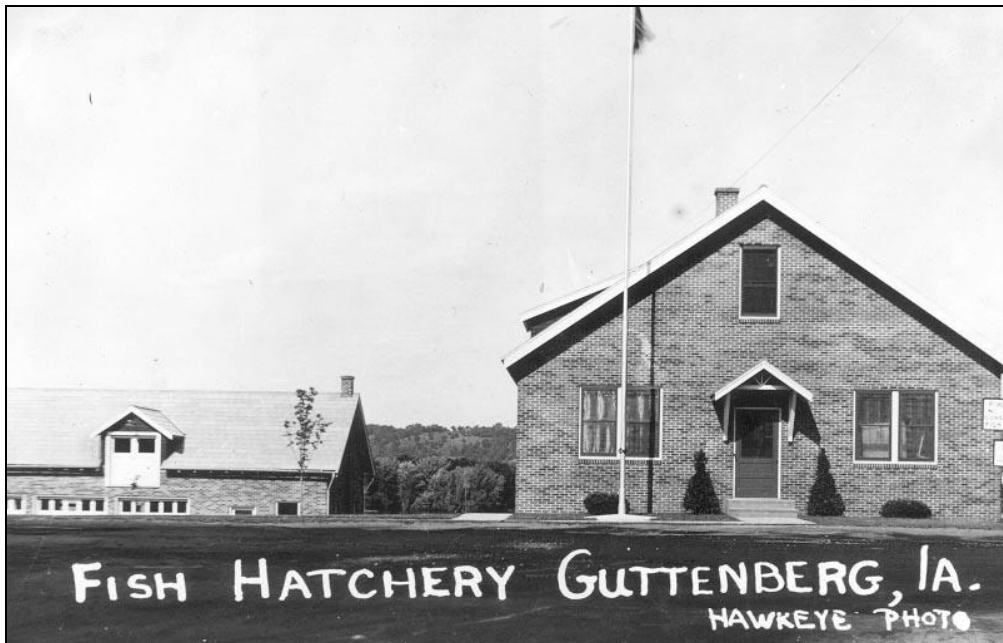
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Fish Hatchery complex, view east (courtesy N. Thein)

The 1939 Municipal Building was partly funded (\$33,000) by a Public Works Administration grant (Jacobs, p. 121).



New municipal building (courtesy N. Thein)

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Taming the Mississippi River:



Train wreck in the river (courtesy Felder)



Guttenberg as an island, spring 1916 flood

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Flooded Guttenberg from the south, undated (courtesy Dubbels)

Corps of Engineers Historian John O. Anfinson is in the process of finalizing a most excellent study of the upper Mississippi to be titled The River We Have Wrought: The Upper Mississippi River, 1823-1940. Originally scheduled for publication in mid-2000, the book will take at least another year to be published. Necessarily this delay complicates using the work as a source for this study if only because it would be unkind to steal the author's thunder by pre-publishing his conclusions. Consequently Anfinson's findings will be only generally summarized at this time.



Willow mat base for a new wing dam

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The Six-Foot Channel:

The federal government, represented by the Army Corps of Engineers, was content through the 1890s and the earliest years of the 20th Century, to collect snags and to control sand bar growth through the use of wing dams and canals. Ed P. Eberhardt, a Guttenberg lumberman, developed a substantial regional trade in the construction of wing dams during the winter months. In 1907 the U.S. Congress authorized the establishment and maintenance of a six-foot deep navigational channel. Three dredges, the Geysler, Etna and Vesuvius, were committed to the Guttenberg stretch of the river. By 1909, the six-foot channel plan was routed along the Iowa side of the river at Guttenberg and Twelve Mile (or Cassville) Slough was closed off to raise the water level. The slough, along with the regular flood deposits from Miners and Buck creeks, had long plagued the city's riverfront access (Jacobs, pp. 80-81, 85-86).

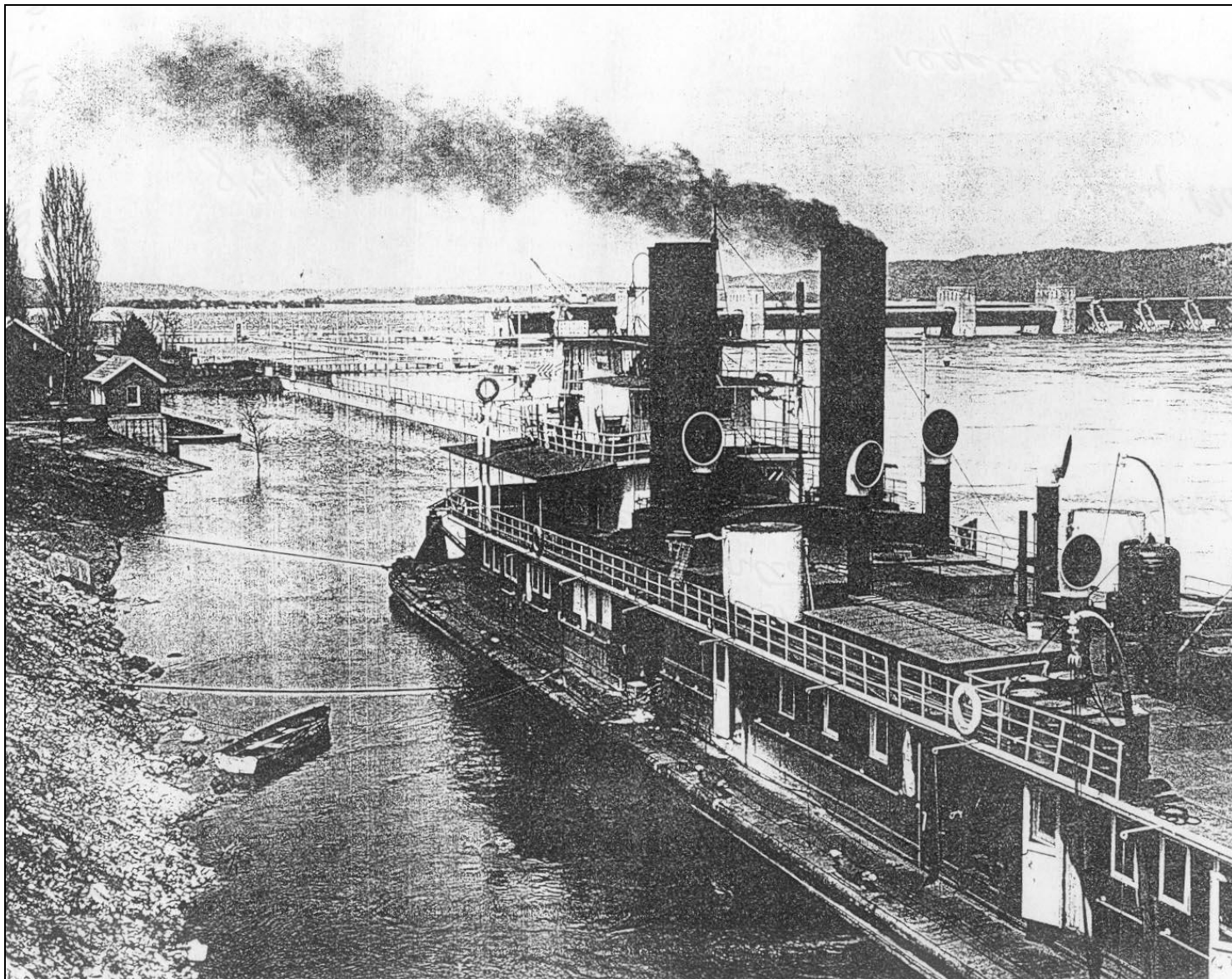
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Federal Barge Lines towboat St. Louis, tied up during 1951 flood (*Register*, April __, 1951)

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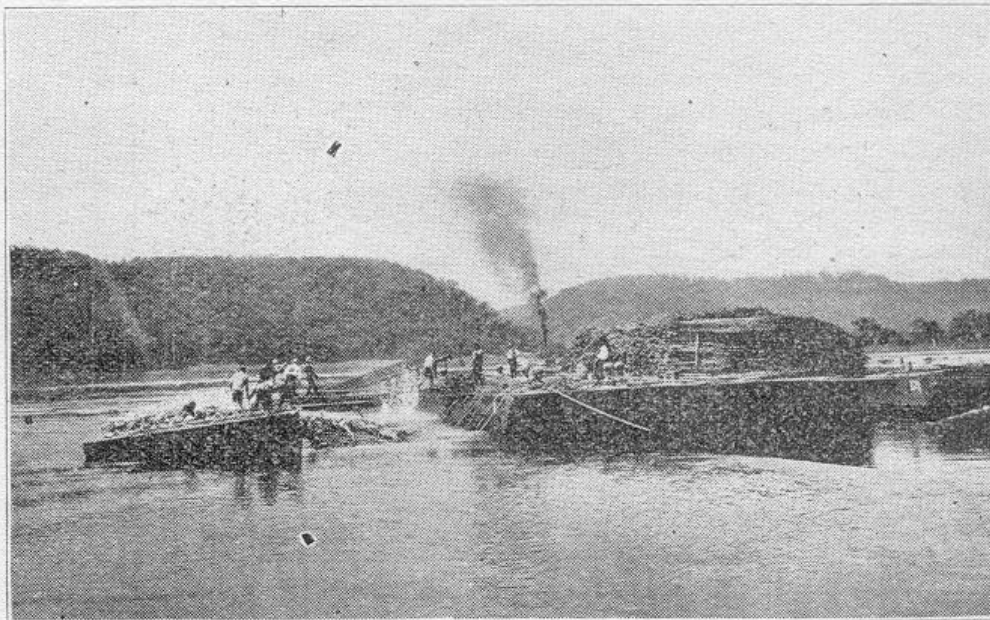
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“Making History On The Mississippi”



36 Years Of Service On The Father of Waters

Since the turn of the century it has been our good fortune to play a part in the development of Guttenberg and river traffic which goes past its doors. We look back on those years with pleasant memories and toward the future with anticipation of greater opportunities for modern construction and river transportation services.

STEEL BRIDGES

BUILDINGS

CONCRETE CULVERTS

DIESEL TOW BOAT, “WAVE”

BOATS AND BARGES FOR RENT BY DAY OR CONTRACT

EBERHARD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

GUTTENBERG, IOWA

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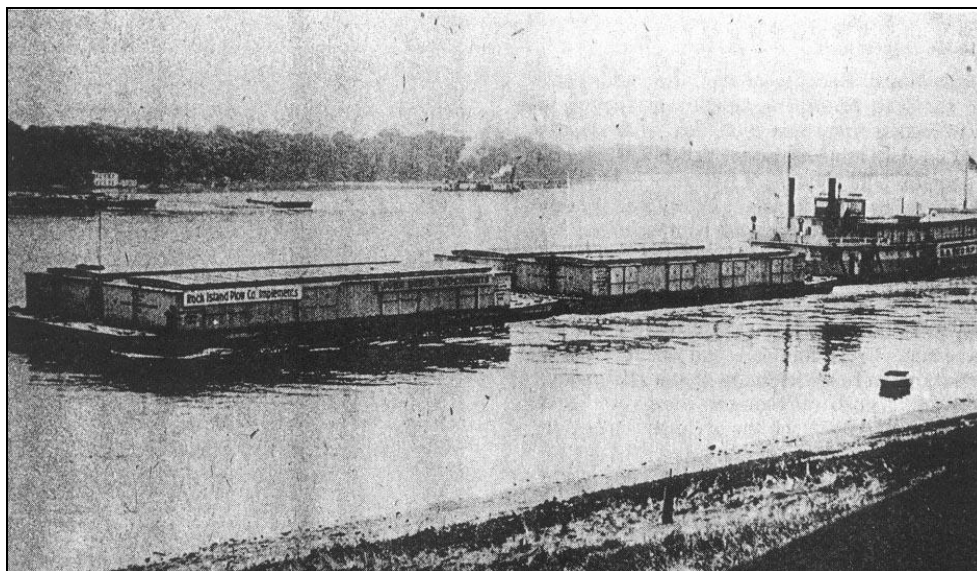
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The Development of upper river barge shipping:



The first Federal Barge Line Shipment, August 20, 1927 (*Telegraph-Herald*, October 20, 1975)

The Mississippi was only improved for commercial navigation just as it was losing its last substantial shipping use, the log rafts. The moribund river trade was revitalized by two federal initiatives. Railroad car shortages were first felt in 1906-07 but the shortages became acute during America's pre-World War I industrial mobilization for Europe's war. The lack of ocean freighters forced east coast shipping interests to collect and use cars as temporary warehouses and cars were soon drained away from the Mississippi River Valley, hampering local industries and agricultural shippers. The east/west shipping system that had replace river shipping during the Civil War suddenly ceased to work. The 1917 Railroad Control Act provided substantial funds for the construction of barges and boats to supplement rail service in response to the car shortage. The federally organized and run barge fleet, the "Inland & Coastwise Waterways Service," was begun in July 1918 and was under the Railroad Administration. It passed to the Secretary of War's control in 1920 and became the Inland Waterways Corporation in 1924, at which time it was extended to the upper Mississippi River (in the form of the Upper Mississippi Barge Line Company, formed at Minneapolis, to be leased by the corporation, Dubuque contributed \$5,000 towards the cost of capitalizing the new company). The barge line wasn't ready to operate until 1927 by which time it had two towboats and 11 barges. Nothing could be usefully shipped until cities like nearby Dubuque constructed modern barge terminals and these cost \$200-500,000 each. Somehow Dubuque had its own barge terminal in place by 1928. The first federal barge shipment left Minneapolis on August 25, 1927 (see photo below). The Dubuque Boat and Boiler Works built the towboats which were used by the new firm. By 1926 the Federal Barge Lines offered two weekly departures each way between St. Louis and St. Paul. It was this barge-shipping initiative which put in place the supportive constituency that first secured a federal six-foot and then a

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nine-foot channel federal commitment, the latter coming only in 1930 (Tweet, 1984, pp. 256-57; Anfinson, Chapter 8, pp. 1, 11).¹

Another key factor that pushed for improved Upper Mississippi River navigation was the opening in 1914 of the Panama Canal. The canal reordered the balance between expensive rail shipping costs and cheaper water shipping costs and Midwest shippers were handicapped. Shippers with direct canal access (coastal shippers using ocean freighters) had their costs cut while upper Midwest river shippers with indirect access (transshipment from river barge to freighter) were less competitive, being now further away from a foreign market. It cost more to ship from Dubuque to San Francisco by rail than it did to send a shipment from New York to San Francisco by boat. The nine-foot channel concept was first advocated as a means by which shipping costs inequities could be addressed and the farm crisis of the mid-1920s could be tempered. The overriding goal was that of simply increasing river traffic. By the mid-1930s the justification was based on public employment and responding to the Great Depression. The nine-foot channel was strongly opposed from the start by conservationists, railroads and some engineers. The first serious study, conducted by Corps Major Charles Hall in 1927-28 recommended against both a simple channel (which wouldn't work) and a lock and dam system, which would have transformed the river into a string of stagnant lakes. Hall feared broadscale damage to the public health and to wildlife. The belated inclusion of the nine-foot channel in the 1930 Rivers and Harbors Act was accomplished in the form of a last minute 1935 Senate amendment to the original act. With this accomplishment what has been termed the “Golden Age” of the Corps of Engineers had its beginning (O'Brien, p. 14; Anfinson, *Ibid.*, pp. 13-14).

Anfinson cites two other events which led to the construction of the nine-foot deep navigational channel. The Indiana 1921 railroad rate case shattered the historic linkage between rail and river shipping rates, and drove the former upwards. The national farm crisis of the early 1920s ended two decades of record farm commodity prices. These prices went through the floor in mid-1920 and farmers now joined the advocates of channel improvements in the hopes of securing a foreign market (*Ibid.*, pp. 17-18).

The original 26 sets of locks and dams were built in order of their importance in alleviating age-old navigational obstacles. Lock and Dam #10 was the exception, being relocated from its intended location between Clayton, Iowa and Cassville, Wisconsin, to the Guttenberg riverfront in an effort to relieve area unemployment. Hanlon and Oakes, St. Paul contractors, built the 110x600 feet lock between 1934-May 1935. The McCarthy Improvement Company of Davenport, built the dam itself between 1935 and December 1936. Timber removal from within the upstream raised water level, wasn't completed until late 1937. The dam employed four 80-foot long roller gates and eight 40-foot long tainter gates (O'Brien, pp. 14, 27, 30, 136-37, 166-67; The Middle and Upper Mississippi River, pp. 5-7).

¹ By 1928 the federal barge line had four towboats and 60 barges. Supporters for federal assistance noted that communities made no contribution to the barge service below St. Louis, but they paid all of the cost for upper river shipping development (Anfinson, *Ibid.*, p. 30).

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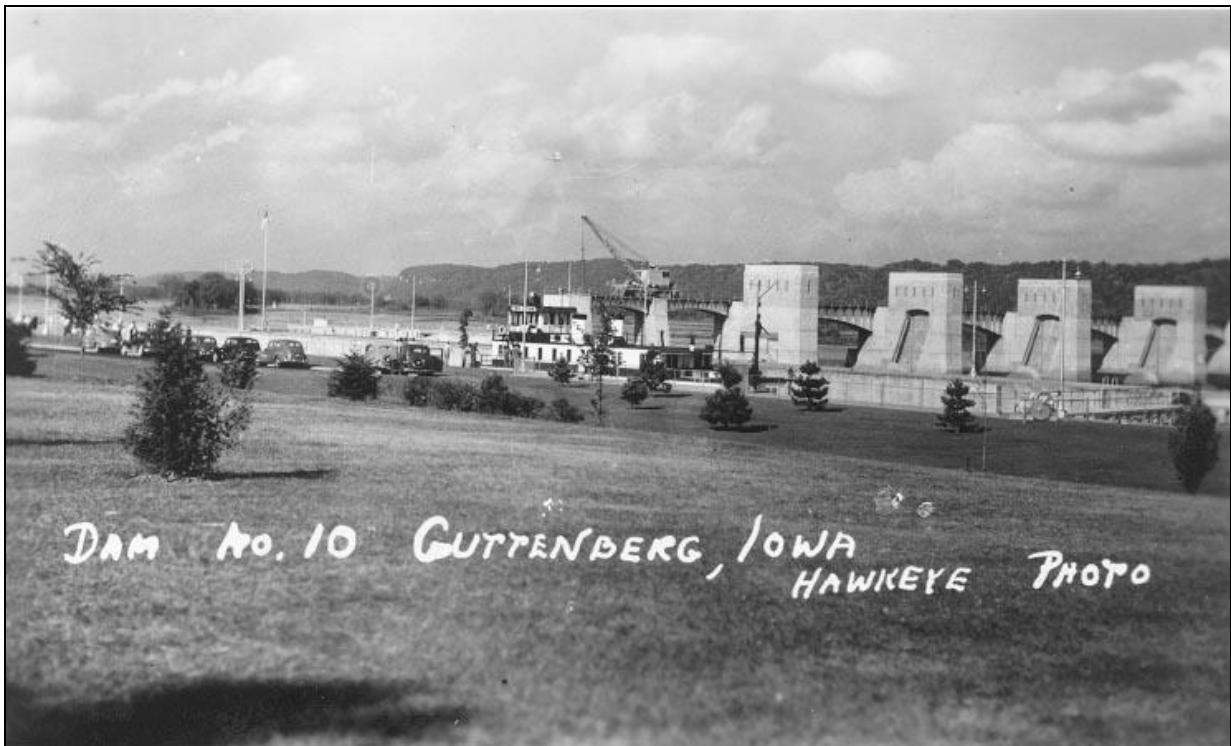
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The massive construction effort, with a total value of \$3,841,750, brought 400 new residents and as many commuters to Guttenberg and, in Walter Jacob’s words

it brought about a complete change in the make up of the community...the absorbing of this many more workers in the various phases of community life totally changed the complexion of the town. Prior to the construction of the dam, Guttenberg was a very self-centered community, in which a resident would hardly be accepted if he were not of at least the second generation of his family, but because of the influx of people of different backgrounds, of different ideas and ideals, Guttenberg has become one of the friendliest towns in Iowa (Jacobs, pp.112-13).



(Courtesy N. Thein)

The new navigation system was completed just in time to aid the national mobilization effort prior to and during the Second World War. Petroleum shipments comprised 35-40 percent of all barge traffic through 1941. Total shipping by 1945 amounted to just 5,000,000 tons. By 1960 this total increased to 27,000,000 tons and was dominated by grain shipping (Anfinson, Epilogue, p. 4).

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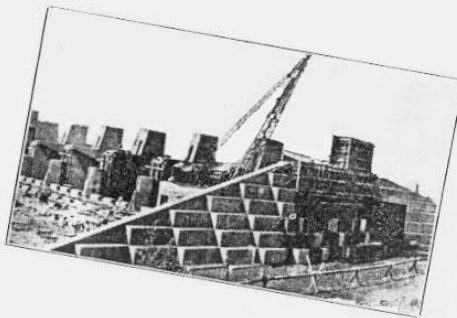
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A Fitting Climax To A Century Of Progress

The Guttenberg dam is a unit in the United States Government's \$150,000,000 nine-foot channel project to restore the economies of water-borne freight traffic through the upper Mississippi valley, and affording new possibilities for the establishment of factories and business enterprises.

This immense bulwark of concrete and steel to control the waters of the mighty Mississippi is a fitting monument to a century of progress in Clayton County. It places the city of Guttenberg in the national limelight on this great channel for water-borne transportation.

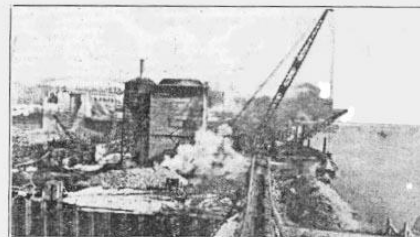


We appreciate the fine cooperation we have enjoyed from the people of this community. Your business men have helped us at every opportunity and the men who were actually employed on the project were exceptionally good, capable workmen.

We congratulate Clayton County on this, its 100th milestone. If there is anything to the old saying, the first 100 years are the hardest, you have nothing to worry about.

The structure is made up of a main lock, an auxiliary lock, eight 40-foot tainter gates, four 80-foot roller gates, 5,400 feet of earth dike, and 1,000 feet of concrete spillway.

A few items that entered into the job are as follows:
Excavation, dredging and dike, 592,000 cu. yd.
Concrete, 43,400 cu. yd.
Steel sheet piling, 2,900 tons.
Wood piling, 134,000 lin. ft.
Reinforcing steel, 827 tons.
Structural steel and metal parts, 2,045 tons.



McCarthy Improvement Co.

CONTRACTORS

Celebration of the dam construction (Clayton County Centennial Edition, July 1930)

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Aerial view showing the prominence of the lock and dam facility, view to northeast

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Context #7, The Commercial and Industrial Architecture of Guttenberg, 1854-1951:



Downtown panorama (Des Moines *Register*, September 12, 1941)

Guttenberg's mid-19th Century downtown riverfront was celebrated throughout the state and region as a charming architectural treasure. The watercolor depicted above appeared in the Sunday *Register* and gives a good sense of the cadence of the commercial buildings. While this separate section treating commercial and industrial properties might appear to be redundant, given the attention already given to style and type, neither of these classifications is very helpful when common commercial and industrial buildings are being considered.

Guttenberg's commercial and to a lesser extent its industrial history is represented by the River Park Drive district, two properties in Bluff Street, and 16 individual properties. The District is a 4 1/2-block long segment of River Park Drive which has historically been the commercial center of Guttenberg. Forty-five buildings are located on the west side of the street, facing the river and nine more buildings set at intervals along the bank. The northern boundary of the district is established with an abrupt change from residential to commercial architecture, about midway along the block between Prince and Pearl Streets. From this point (beginning with 216 South River Park Drive) commercial structures, mostly sharing party walls, extend south to Herder. Below Herder, commercial blocks are mixed with turn of the century houses to Lessing Street. The Fleck warehouse and store, facing one another across River Park Drive, mark the southern boundary of the district, as they did according to an 1869 bird's-eye of the community. The river bank east of River Park Drive, is, as the name suggests, basically a long public park. Its grassy expanse is punctuated by three large stone warehouses, a fish market and collection of fishermen's shanties, a small late-Victorian house, and a group of buildings associated with the government fish hatchery. The north end of the park is decisively terminated by the Guttenberg public school complex and the adjacent Lock and Dam No. 10.

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The resources of this district are fairly evenly divided among outstanding, contributing and intrusive structures. Minor fires, and several instances of rather unsympathetic modernization account for the relatively large number of intrusions. In some cases, the modernization may be reversible (i.e. alterations are superficial) which could warrant reclassifying such structures as contributing to the historic district if restored. The same applies to several contributing structures, which have potential to become much stronger elements with appropriate restoration measures.

In general, the district resembles many small-town Iowa commercial centers, in its preponderance of one- and two-story business blocks of brick and wood- frame construction. The buildings date from at least the early 1850's to the present, and within certain limits, represent the styles of commercial architecture popular in American small towns over this 130-year interval. The most distinctive features of the district are the buildings of fair to excellent integrity that remain from the 1850's. Built of stone or brick, these structures are local expressions of the urban Greek Revival, with high-pitched, side-gable roofs with end parapets, three-or four-bay facades embellished with little more than shallow pedimented window hoods, and uncluttered ground floor shop fronts. A few versions of commercial Italianate also appear in the district, but most have lost the decorative elements (bracketed metal cornices, in particular) normally associated with this style. Strikingly absent are examples of cast iron fronts or elaborate metal cornices. The survival of earlier buildings meant that there was neither need or space to build these in the late-19th Century. The storefront at 520 South First Street, a block from the river, is the best example.



520 South First Street, rare metal cornice example

Turn of the century blocks, with the exception of the IOOF hall (#530) are usually of brick, with a small amount of decorative corbelling at the cornice line. Several buildings from the 1920's and 1930's blend reasonably well with older structures, as they are brick and of a scale appropriate to the streetscape. As is often the case in commercial districts, artificial siding has been used in Guttenberg to the detriment of buildings to which it has been applied. Also, the frontier style "false front", which has a few examples here, seems slightly out of place, whether the building is quite large or very small, of recent vintage or from the turn of the century. However simple, the false

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front appears pretentious in a community in which the prevailing architectural statement, residential, commercial, or industrial, has since 1845 been "what you see is what you get."

Although the focus of commerce and industry in Guttenberg has historically been centered along River Park Drive (originally Front Street), remains of 19th and early 20th century economic activities can be found throughout the community. As early as the 1860's the business district was not exclusively confined to the river front. It extended west, principally along Goethe and Schiller streets to First Street, and today a number of notable commercial blocks remain on these streets. Industrial properties are more widely scattered, with an early 20th century corn canning plant well to the north, a small cigar factory on Prince, and the remains of the giant Fleck mill and warehouse on Schiller. Other vestiges of early industry are located well to the west, along the bluffs and in narrow valleys opening onto the plain: the Pelzer flour mill (west of town, Miner's Creek, non-extant), the Van Staden distillery (#453), Dunker Winery (#416), and Jungt brewery (#430), set along Bluff Street) and the large creamery on the Harter farmstead (#420), also on Bluff Street).

Commercial and industrial buildings, of any age, must continually meet challenges of utility and profitability if they are to survive; and even when they do survive, it is often in a form far different from the original. The relatively large number of well preserved commercial and industrial buildings from Guttenberg's formative years thus presents a somewhat unusual opportunity to view and appreciate functional architecture from northeast Iowa's pioneer and early development period. Equally important, the original, and many subsequent, activities associated with these buildings include representatives from the state's earliest settlement period, and also those particular to a river-oriented community. In addition, there are those that simply illustrate the myriad of enterprises once the foundation of any prosperous town in the 19th century Midwest. As with Guttenberg's residential architecture, none of these resources is unique, but the fact that the town remains small makes their number more notable, and the individual examples can be more easily appreciated and related to their historical context than is possible in many larger Iowa communities of the same age.

Established when the Mississippi was still an uncontested avenue of transportation and commerce, Guttenberg's commercial center was appropriately river-oriented. As in many other river towns, Guttenberg's business district stretched along the river bank, with River Park Drive's original name, Front Street, emphasizing the true orientation of the community. As with their houses, Guttenberg's German settlers quickly adopted limestone as a preferred medium of construction, with the more expensive brick, locally available by 1854, a close second. By the early 1850's substantial business blocks were rising along Front Street, many combining ground-floor commercial space with proprietors' living quarters above. A popular building form was the 3 or 4-bay steep-roofed, side gable block, sharing parapeted party walls with similarly-built neighbors. They displayed regular fenestration, and narrow cornices, clean simple lines, and occasional use of cast iron for shop fronts (see Fleck Store ##566). Among the best example of this type in Guttenberg is 216 S. River Park Drive (#501), which flanks the highly idiosyncratic Albertus building (#502) on the north, the latter a considerably larger building dated to 1852 that features the Gothic-deprived pointed arch at all openings of the main facade. South of this group are #508, and Ihm & Weiner's Dry Goods store (#510), opened for business in early 1857. Departing from the generally narrow proportions of many business blocks, and thus having a more domestic character, is #511, divided into six bays at street level and seven bays above.

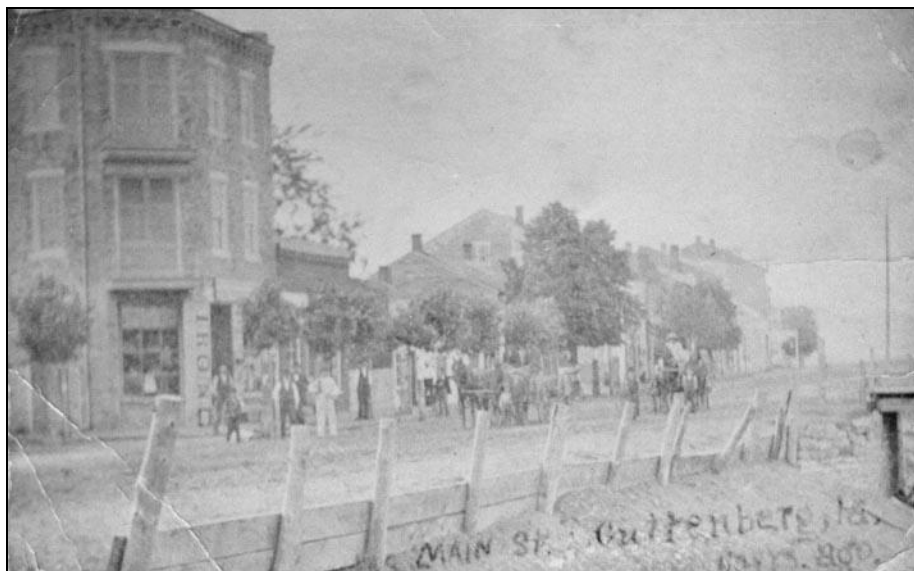
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Front Street Photo, north from Herder Street, c.1890

Most of these early establishments were two-stories high, but several merchants were more ambitious. Charles Faulkenheimer's hardware store (#533), three stories with a cut corner, was built in 1856, with Ihm and Weiner's three-story block opening a year later. Anchoring the south end of the business district was another exceptionally tall stone building, George Wiest's hardware and tin shop (#556), opened in 1856. It was purportedly built so far south by accident, the owner having commissioned its construction without visiting the town. By far the largest of Guttenberg's early business buildings were the riverbank warehouses, three of the original four still remaining. Rising nearly four floors at the water's edge, these stone structures (#534, #545, #557) have wide double-pitched or gambrel roofs and flat slab lintels of dressed stone; all were built by 1858.

A corner location often required more consideration than did mid-block sites, where only one facade of a building needed to be "presentable." In two cases, Wiest's hardware (#556) and Henry Dubpernell's butcher shop (#507), the traditional side-gable roof sloped down to near flatness above the two street facades, which were then finished off with neat molded cornices.

As the 19th century moved beyond the Civil War, changing fashions in commercial architecture found expression along Guttenberg's Front Street, principally in the form of bracketted metal cornices or decoratively-corbelled brick parapets. The false front appeared late in the century, on small buildings of frame, rather than the traditional masonry construction. On the whole, the later buildings were less impressive in size, substance and workmanship, than those from Guttenberg's pre-Civil War years and reflected both the continuing usefulness of the early structures and the later decades' more reduced economic circumstances that may have discouraged new construction.

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Guttenberg's distinctive riverfront with its three warehouses, flour mill stack, city hall, c.1880s (courtesy Dubbels)

Throughout its history, Front Street has been the scene of a rich variety of enterprises, most buildings experiencing several different uses over the years (see individual inventory sheets). Among the earliest businesses were dry goods and "general merchandise" stores, such as Ihm & Weiner's, the Fleck Brothers' and many specialty quarters with a printer, a millenary shop and leather goods emporium, butcher shop and meat market, drug store and bakery--all in operation before 1860. Small-scale manufacture was not limited to furniture, but included a brewery, and, toward the end of the century, several cigar factories (on Front Street, the Albertus Building in 1886, and the building to the south in 1894; and Meyer's on First Street). In 1905 the H-B Clover Overall Company occupied half the ground floor space of the IOOF hall. Perhaps due to the availability of lumber sawmills--carpentry and furniture making was a small but active industry, with operations located in various buildings on Front Street during the 19th century. Two of Guttenberg's more notable early economic activities involved the housing of commodities in transit: people, and grain and merchandise. Thus, hotels and warehouses were particularly important in the community. Dominating the scene were the four river warehouses, the three remaining owned by George Weist and the Fleck Brothers and John Shmees. The fourth was owned by Herman Ihm of Ihm & Weiner's. These warehouses were transfer points for manufactured goods coming into Guttenberg by river steamer, and for locally grown or made commodities going out such as grain, hides, pig lead, and meat. Even these large spaces were insufficient to meet the need, however. For example, the Fleck Brothers had a large mill and warehouse on Schiller Street, a portion of which still stands and is occupied by the Guttenberg *Press* (#567).

No less important were hotels serving river travelers, farmers in town to sell grain and meat and to buy goods. All these buildings, built before the Civil War although used as hotels at various periods, are of limestone, well-built in the vernacular and modified Greek Revival forms in favor in Guttenberg at the time, and are still among the more substantial structures in the community. Among the former hotels remaining in Guttenberg are the Albertus Building (American Hotel, 1858) on Front Street, the Chicago House, c.1857, on Goethe (#464) and its associated billiard parlor and saloon (#463); the Union Hotel, 1858, on First Street; the Jefferson Hotel,

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on Schiller Street, 1870, (\$571), and Beutell's boarding house, built in 1859, also on Schiller Street, in the early 1880's. Another, known as the Friedlein Hotel (#395) and boasting its own bakery, was unfortunately located far from the center of business activity, on Third Street. The extent of operations here has not been determined, but it may have experienced a modest business once the railroad was built through Guttenberg, and near the hotel, in 1871.

Three other commercial structures, all located off Front Street, also deserve mention on architectural grounds. Well preserved (despite additions which now threaten to overwhelm it) is a wood frame, two-story building, originally John Dubbell's harness shop (#346), which retains its early storefront and pedimented window surrounds. On Herder Street is a two-story, front-gable brick block, with stone key-stones in flat window arches, and a round-arched window in the gable end. Built in 1876, this building, like many others in Guttenberg, combined residential and business uses, including the town's first movie house around 1910. Vividly expressing this dual function is the Eckert building (#339), which from the front appears to be a flat-roofed two-story commercial block with a metal cornice, but from the rear is a gable roof house that once had a two-story porch across the long south side.

Early Commercial Examples:

The most distinctive of this class is the range of massive stone buildings. Many of these have been described under the several styles, particularly the Adams/Georgian. The best examples are found at 5 Goethe Street, 216, 300, 306, 700 South River Park Drive and the Guttenberg *Press* building at 10 Schiller.



310 South First Street (original appearance, scored stucco exterior)

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310 South First Street (1979 photo)



7 Schiller (early brick, metal lintels)

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426 South River Park Drive

Other early brick commercial buildings include 15 Herder Street, 106 Schiller Street and 314 South River Park Drive (originally three stories high, now two).

False Fronts, Metal Cornices:



14 Schiller Street

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308 South First Street



400 South River Park Drive (non-extant, note the residential/commercial combination)

Other examples of false front frame commercial properties are 512, 526 South First Street, 304, and 514 South River Park Drive.

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Philip Herboldsheimer Wagon Shop, 1916 (non-extant)

The smithy dated to the mid-century, the wagon shop at right, to 1899

South First Street, southeast from Municipal Building, view to northeast (*Press*, November 10, 1949)

Commercial Buildings, c.1910-25:



422 South River Park Drive (overall factory and twin storefronts)

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527 South First Street



102 Schiller Street

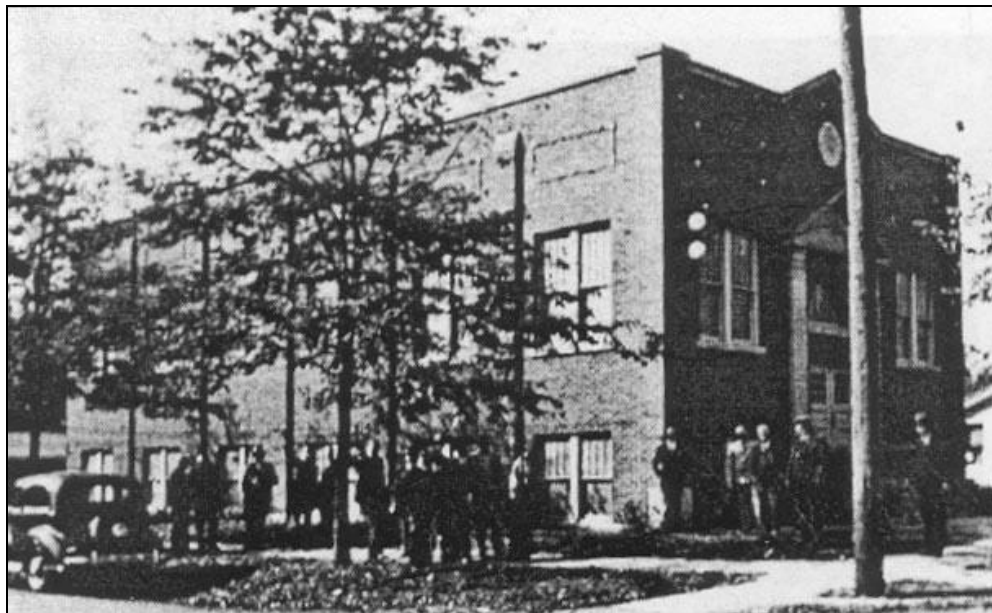
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130 South First Street—Masonic Hall

Other excellent examples include 15 Goethe (see photo under Richardsonian Romanesque style), and 527 South First Street.

Industrial Buildings:

Although much of Guttenberg's economy stemmed from its role as a wholesaling and commercial service center, industries have played important roles as well. Of the sawmill industry, no directly-associated structures remain, but the later pearl button factories are presented by the warehouses that sheltered them around the turn of the century. Also extant is the brick complex of the Guttenberg Corn Canning Company (89), built in 1912 and still serving industrial uses. Of particular interest, are the remains of several of the town's earliest industries, in structures dating from the 1850's, all of which were agriculturally-based. Alcohol was manufactured at several locations: beer and liquor at the Vanstaden Distillery (123) and Jungt Brewery (107), and wine and vinegar on the bluff top property known as Dunker's Winery (97) which still retains traces of vineyard terraces to the south. North of Dunker's is Patzer's Dairy Farm (98) which has produced dairy products and honey since the 1930's. Little is known about this farm, but the complex includes a weathered frame house of the local "saltbox" type, suggesting an early date of occupancy. Well to the south, on Miners' Creek Road, lie the ruins of B.H. Pelzer's four-story flourmill, built in 1849 and dynamited 100 years later. A barn was built over the foundation. Extant but needing repair is Pelzer's stone house with brick addition and remains of a millpond. The original functions of these properties are no longer easily discernable, but archaeological investigation could potentially reveal many interesting aspects of these pioneered industrial complexes.

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413 North Third Street—Guttenberg Corn Canning Company



803 South First Street—Meuser Lumber Warehouse



214 North Second Street—Kann Manufacturing (non-extant)

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402 South Bluff Street—Jungt Brewery



531 South River Park Drive—warehouse, pearl button factory



Ice house, Herman Street.

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F. Associated Property Types:

Vernacular and Stylistically Influenced House/Cottage Sub-Types/Styles:

This typology of residential styles and types is based primarily upon Virginia and Lee McAlesters' A Field Guide To American Houses (New York: Alfred. A. Knopf, Inc., 1984). Theirs is a generally accepted comprehensive stylistic typology. They also simplify the number and range of accepted styles and some styles will not appear separately but have been consolidated into a larger stylistic category.

This typology attempts to distinguish type and style. The same property can frequently be analyzed from the perspective of type and/or style and this can cause confusion. Some house types are treated as styles by some typologies. The Cape Cod cottage for example is frequently subsumed under Colonial Revival style and is not separately defined as a recognizable type. This approach is used here. This typological approach assumes that style will be emphasized when there is a predominance of stylistic attributes present in a property and vernacular or type related attributes will be stressed absent a strong stylistic presence.

Some properties will fall through the cracks, failing to fit any category in the typology. Alterations since construction explain some of these. Idiosyncratic design and building tastes likely explain most of these. These exceptions are not unimportant and they might represent the work of a particular builder/designer or my hint at interesting local building patterns and traditions. Care must be taken before these “outliers” are simply combined into other categories and are consequently lost.

For the most part only surviving “best” examples are illustrated under each classification.

Romantic Style Houses, 1820-1880:

The romantic styles represented a conscious avoidance of things English following a hard-won independence. The Greek Revival style was the first of several romantic styles and it enjoyed the most enduring popularity. Beginning c.1840 other styles with Medieval and Italian origins were introduced and successively rose and fell in popular esteem. Both the Gothic and Italianate styles persisted beyond the Civil War years and would be reinterpreted as Victorian era styles during the 1880s (McAlester, p. 178).

Colonial Houses: Georgian (1700-c.1830)/Adama (1780-1840):

A number of early commercial buildings in Guttenberg can only be classified as reflecting a Georgian or Federal style. While the Georgian style predated Guttenberg's founding, it would appear that the exposure to Cincinnati's commercial buildings influenced the later c.1850s storefront designs in Guttenberg. The same

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tendency is evident in nearby Dubuque and other Mississippi River communities. McAlester identifies the same four subtypes for both styles and there is no real distinction between the two styles apart from the nature of their ornamentation, and these distinctions appear to apply mostly to residential design. In Guttenberg the side gable or townhouse subtypes apply.

No examples of the Georgian/Adam/Federal Style (c.1780-c.1840), the earliest two phases of the Romantic period, are to be found in Guttenberg. The many row house examples are best classified as Greek Revival in style.



122 South First (1979 photo)



Unusual story and a half storefront (left) behind a 1892 Parade Float, 300s South First Street, west side

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The building shown on the left (see image shown above) is at best a curious vernacular expression of the Adams style. It is no longer extant.



216 South River Park Drive (1979 photo)



5 Goethe Street (1979 photo)



222 South River Park Drive (1979 photo)

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300 South First Street (1979 photo)



413 South First Street (1979 photo)

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414 South River Park Drive (1979 photo, non-extant)

In St. Louis this type of building and roof combination is termed a “half-flounder” because it appears to be half of a full building.



700 South River Park Drive

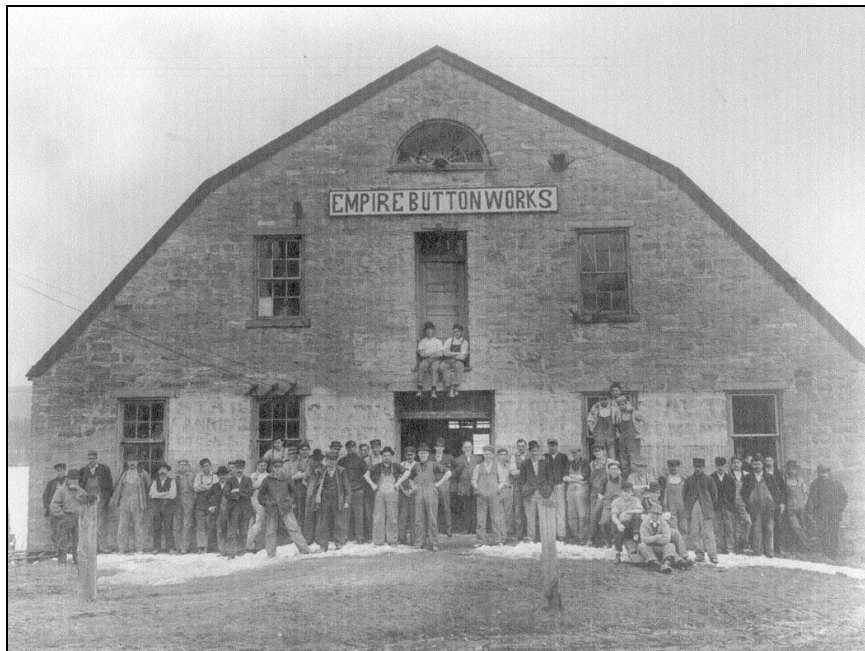
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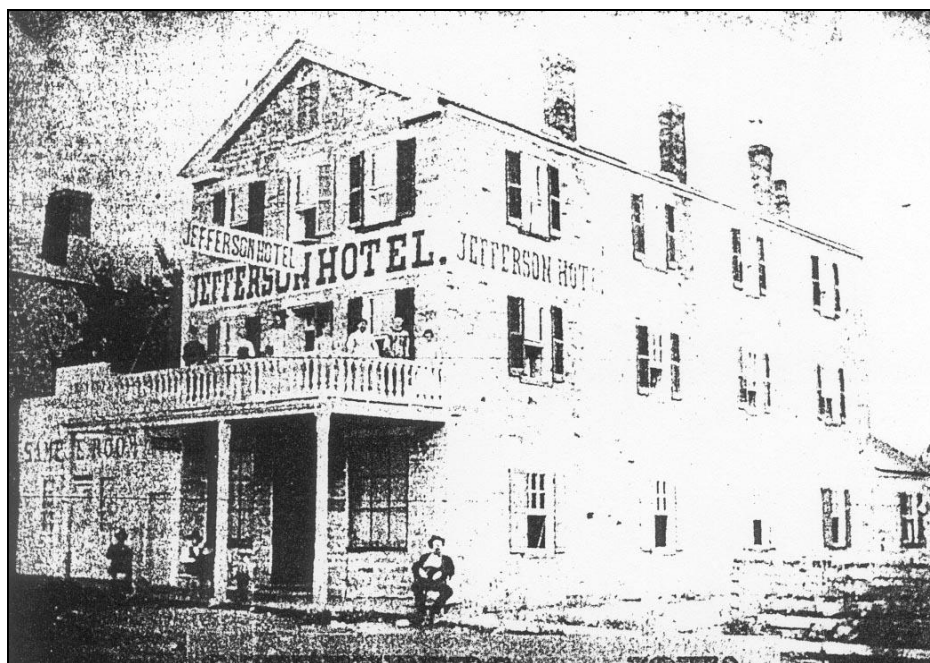
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Empire Button Works, 703 South River Park Drive (courtesy Bud Frommelt)



Hotel Jefferson, Schiller and South First Street

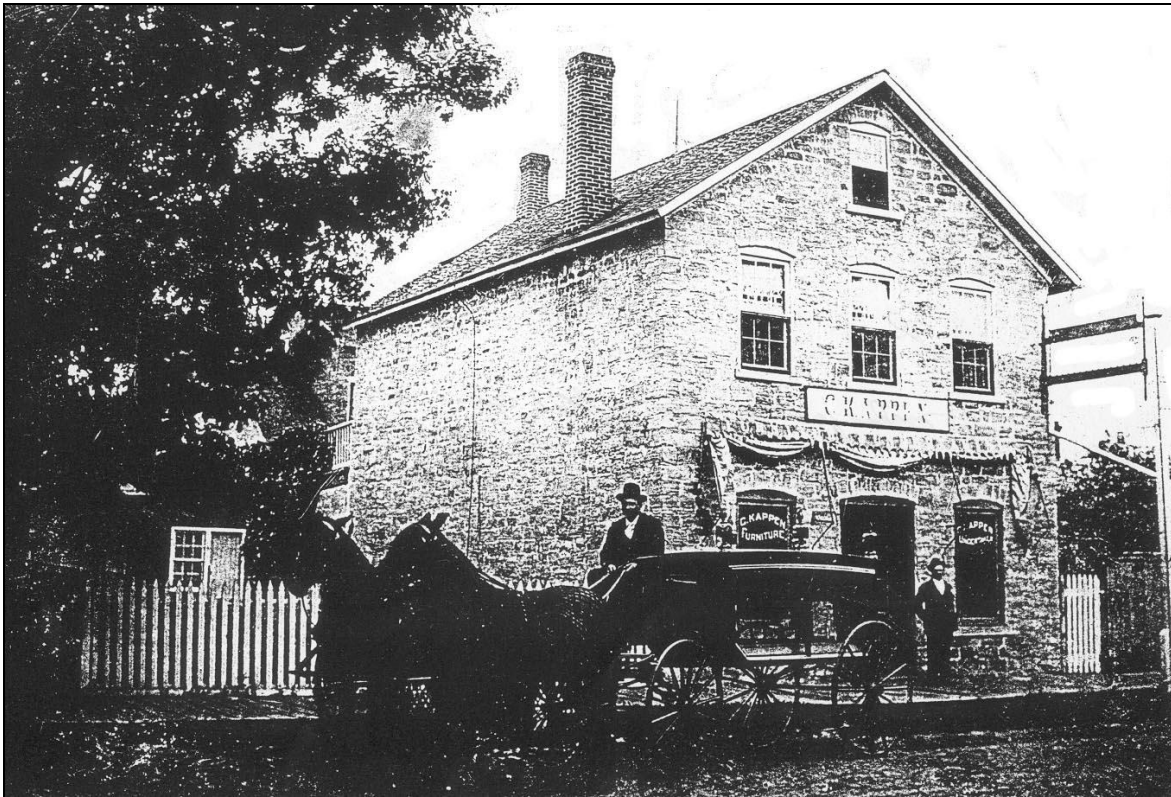
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C. Kappen Stone residence and store, South First Street (built 1862, non-extant, view southeast)
Hearse in foreground was first in the county, built in 1864 (Clayton County Centennial Edition, July 1930)



300 South River Park Drive

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306 South River Park Drive



430 South River Park Drive

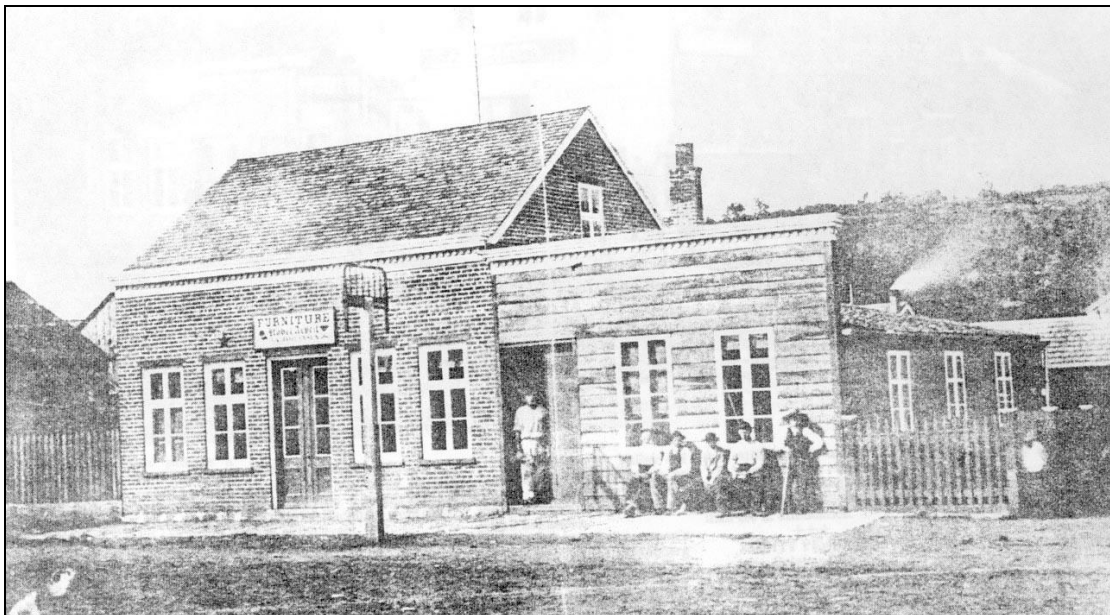
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Early brick side-gable storefront, First and Prince, view southwest
John Nicholas Johanssen furniture store



Same view, with two story factory addition, pre-1886
Note growth of trees between the two images

Additional examples are found at 302, 306, 402, 406, 416, 508 and 618 South River Park Drive.

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Greek Revival Style, 1825-60:

The Greek Revival style was nationally dominant from 1830-50 and it was also called the “National Style” accordingly. It persists as late as 1860 in areas which enjoyed rapid development in the pre-Civil War years. It died out with the economic downturn of the late 1850s and the coming of the war (*Ibid.*, p. 182).



910 South River Park Drive (c.1856-62) National Register Listed

This style employed a low-pitched gable or hip roof in either a side gable or front gable orientation. Greek temple design is reflected in a two-part broad band, which runs beneath the eaves line and substantial round or square columns, which support a centered entry or full-width front porch. The trim band consists of a frieze (top) and an architrave (lower). Columns are usually Doric in style. The front door is commonly highlighted by flanking sidelights and a transom light. Transoms are rectangular (not in the Georgian fanlight form).

This style assumes the same basic forms as do the Adams and Georgian styles. The fundamental difference is the presence of temple front, columns and portico porch, or a pedimented front, or absent that, the use of a symbolic classical entablature. The Lake-Wehmer house, pictured above, combines the Greek Revival and the gallery porch form.

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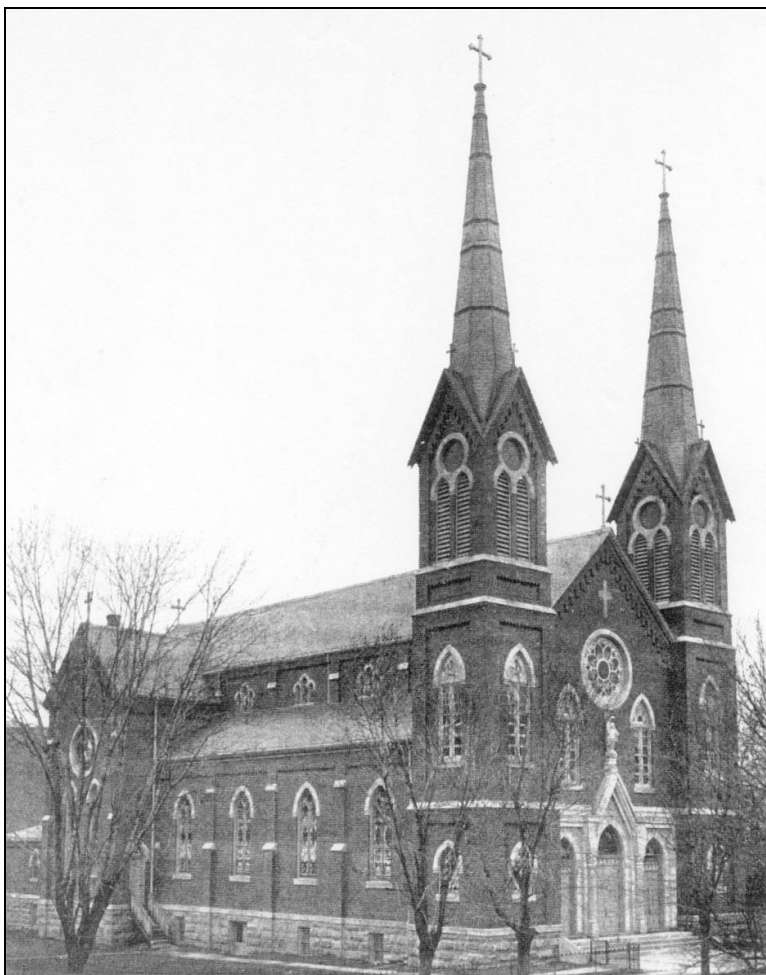
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Gothic Revival Style, 1840-1880:



St. Mary's Catholic Church (*Diamond Jubilee of St. Mary's Parish*)

This picturesque style had its origins in England in 1749 and was a reinterpretation of Medieval architectural themes. The first American example dates to 1832 and was the work of architect Alexander Jackson Davis, the initial promoter of the style. He published the first known plan book in 1837 which he used to present three-dimensional examples of his work. Architect Andrew Jackson Downing carried the promotional effort on a broader scale beginning in 1850. The Gothic Revival was particularly appropriate for a picturesque rural cottage setting and it was ill-adapted to construction on a narrow town lot. The style persisted in popularity through 1865 and it was commonly employed during the Civil War years in military chapels, officer's quarters and military installations. It was also popular for public settings such as parks, cemeteries and fairgrounds (*ibid.*, p. 200).

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Italianate Style, 1840-85:

The popularity of this style coincided with the explosive new growth of Midwestern urban centers and the style is consequently well represented in that region. Like the Gothic Revival, this picturesque style was developed first in England and was an attempt to emulate the rambling Italian farmhouse/villa. The earliest American examples date to the late 1830s. Architect Andrew Downing also promoted this style nationally and the Italianate was dominant over the Gothic Revival by 1860. It reigned nationally until the financial panic of 1873. Two sub-phases have been distinguished. A simpler plain phase lasted until the late 1850s and what is termed “High Victorian Italianate,” a much more elaborated range of designs, closed out the style (Ibid., p. 212).

This style was rarely a single story in height, but commonly had two or three stories. The usually hipped roof has a low profile and broad overhanging eaves and the eaves are supported by exaggerated and ornate brackets. Windows are narrow and are commonly arched with stylized hoods. Cupolas or square towers are also frequently incorporated (Ibid., p. 211).

The utter absence of this style, apart from some commercial applications, in Guttenberg, offers perhaps the most striking example of the local preference for a vernacular architecture over popular styles. No residential examples have been identified at all. Examples which are present are either public, institutional or commercial properties.

Three of six defined subtypes are found in Guttenberg:

1. Square or rectangular box shape with uninterrupted hip roof with optional cupola (half of examples) and a centered front entrance (usually three or five bays). This is the most common subtype form.



1910 High School (non-extant), River Park Drive (courtesy L. Backhaus)

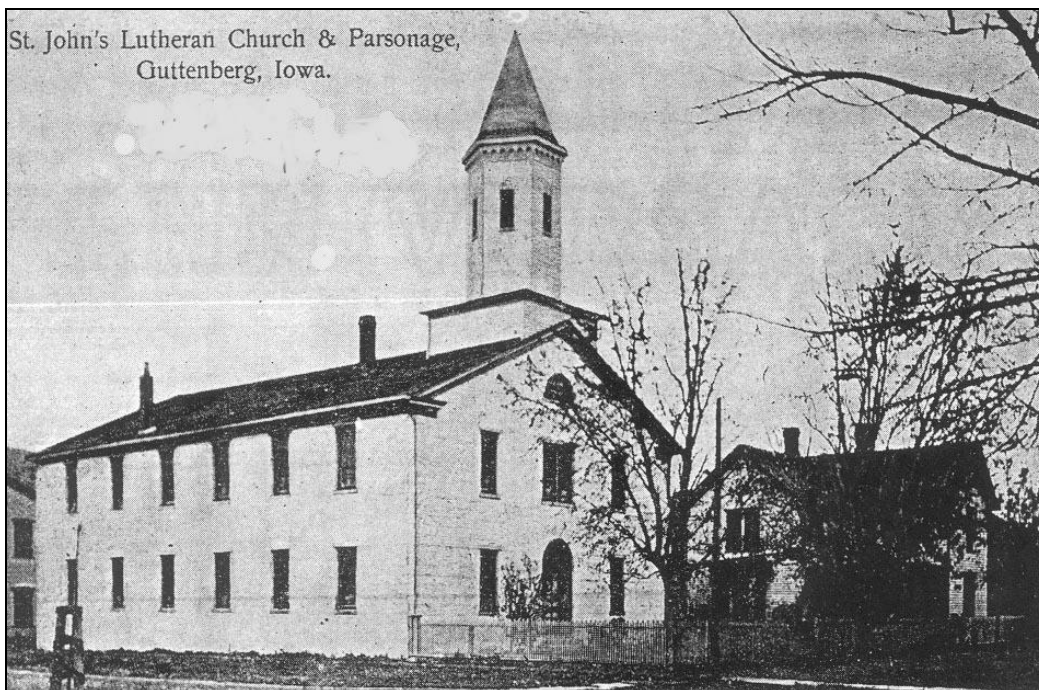
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205 Pearl Street (non-extant) St. John's Lutheran Church (courtesy L. Backhaus)



Former city hall (one of several surviving former courthouse buildings), 510 North First, greatly altered

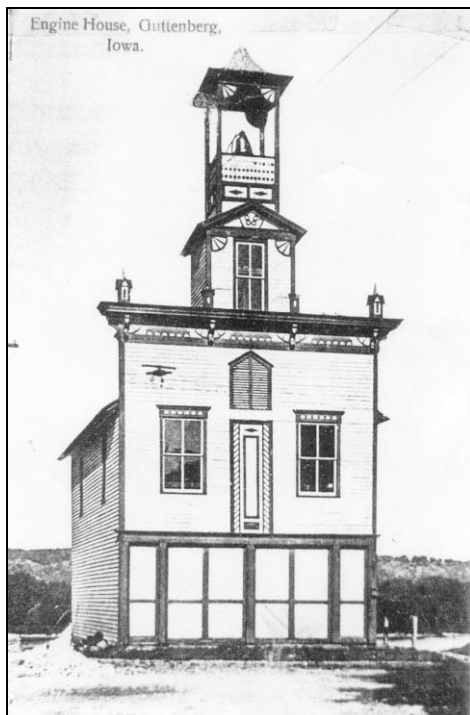
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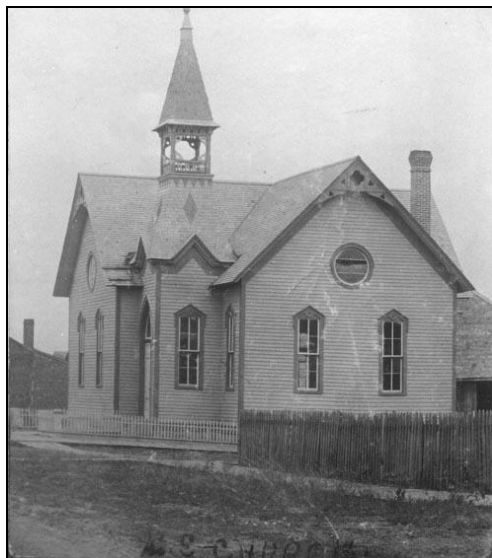
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Firehouse and city hall, 1887 (non-extant), South River Park Drive (image courtesy Irish Degan)



Halstead Memorial Methodist Church, 1892, original appearance, view southwest
(southwest corner South First and Pearl streets, now greatly altered)

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2. The centered gable subtype is based upon a hip or side gable core. Commonly the cross gable is incorporated into a shallow central wing.



822 South River Park Drive (1979 photo)

This is a single-story version of the “steamboat gothic,” but this one is slightly more Italianate than Gothic.



822 South River Park Drive, historical appearance

3. Front gable with detailing.

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15 Herder Street

3. Town house with straight bracketed pediment, flat or low pitched roof form. Window treatments identify this subset. No examples found.



316-318 South River Park Drive (postcard loaned by Irish Degan)

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300 South River Park Drive

While this livery extension fails to fit under any of the four Italianate subtypes, its window forms and cornice qualify it as an Italianate design.

Victorian Era House, 1860-1900; The Second Empire, Victorian Gothic, Queen Anne, and Richardsonian Romanesque styles.

Second Empire Style, 1855-1885:

The first Victorian era style, the Second Empire found its inspiration in the rebuilding of Paris which followed the restoration of the French monarchy. McAlester note that in America it coincided with the first post-Civil War administration and was known as the “General Grant” style. The style is purported to have developed in Paris as a tax avoidance practice, the Mansard attic space not being counted as livable and therefore taxable space. Accordingly this mansard level is usually well lighted with richly ornamented windows. The style was a victim of the economic panic of 1873 although it appears to have persisted as a domestic style into the next decade (McAlester, p. 241).

This style enjoys the visual dominance of the Mansard roof form, a French-derived attic treatment which allowed for livable upper level space. No other Victorian style has so singular an identifier. The roof form is accompanied by molded cornice lines and decorative brackets set beneath the eaves

This largely urban style was particularly popular during the 1870s and lent itself to row house and multi unit residential buildings. Hotels and other commercial buildings greatly favored the style during these years.

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Simply defined, this style placed a mansard roof on an Italianate base, effectively adding a full floor. The style appears along the Mississippi River by the early 1850s but reached its greatest popularity during the middle 1870s in the Midwest.

There is just one Guttenberg-area example. Additional research is needed to determine whether the roof form is original to this house. At least one L-plan residence features a Mansard porch roof treatment.

Victorian Gothic (1860-1890):

This style is distinguished by the presence of polychromatic horizontal bandings which are formed by the use of contrasting materials and colors in the building exterior finish. For residences plain stucco is used in addition to the more common brick. The same Gothic trim work of the Gothic Revival **Error! Bookmark not defined.** persists but straight headed windows are used along with the pointed arch form.

This style lent itself to the design of many picturesque churches especially those of frame construction. Institutional (armories, public buildings) and commercial structures also favored the style. The style's elements are also commonly found in vernacular house types.



614 South River Park Drive

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212 South First Street, St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Queen Anne (1880-1910):

The Queen Anne style built upon the visual busyness of the Stick Style and this longest enduring style (unless one counts the Colonial Revival which really consisted of a series of distinct reinterpretations of the Colonial) sought out and utilized any structural or decorative trick to achieve exterior variety. Over time the style utilized any asymmetrical form and this asymmetry was greatly facilitated by balloon frame construction. Porches were thin and delicate in their ornamentation and the wrap-around porch is a certain indicator of the style. Few original porches survive however, and Classical Revival era replacements are usually in place.

While the Stick Style aggressively infilled any wall surface, the Queen Anne tended to be ornamental in gable ends and porch pediments, usually mixing wooden shingle shapes. Queen Anne plain wall areas are minimized by the complexity of the exterior shell and varied wall coverings (shingles, brick, wood) are frequently used to break up these wall panels.

Like the Italianate, the Queen Anne was visually a very vertically inclined expression. Much of this feeling has been lost due to the removal of tall and ornate chimneys, roof crestings and finials.

The Queen Anne style, like its Italianate and Second Empire antecedents, is comprised of four subtypes, which employ three basic core shapes. The first two subtypes share a common core shape. The longevity of this style and its coincidence with large scale urban growth make it a very common one amongst the Victorian-era styles. It accounts for the vast majority of designed houses in most communities.

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Four decorative treatments further distinguish Queen Anne houses. Spindlework encompasses Eastlake or detailing classes of turned decorative posts and friezes. Free Classic ornament substitutes classical columns, Palladian windows, dentils, and bay windows. Half timbered examples use early Tudor derived half timbering and window groupings. Patterned masonry elaborates stone and brick work and can use terra cotta inserts and decorative panels. “Eastlake Style” and “Shingle Style” decorative motifs are not treated as a styles in this typology but are regarded as part of the Queen Anne style.

Three of four identified Queen Anne subtypes are found in Guttenberg:

1. Hipped Roof With Lower Cross Gables: More than half of all Queen Anne **Error! Bookmark not defined.** houses present a dominant front gable with one or more subordinated cross gables. Most common is an L-shaped plan with front facing and side facing gable ends. Hipped examples differ from the norm by running the ridge front to back on the plan rather than from side to side (see Italianate). Towers occur at a front corner.



11 Prince Street (1979 photo)

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622 South Second Street (1979 photo)



226 South River Park Drive

The porch is a replacement. Note the squarish core form as well as the decorative belt courses between the floors.

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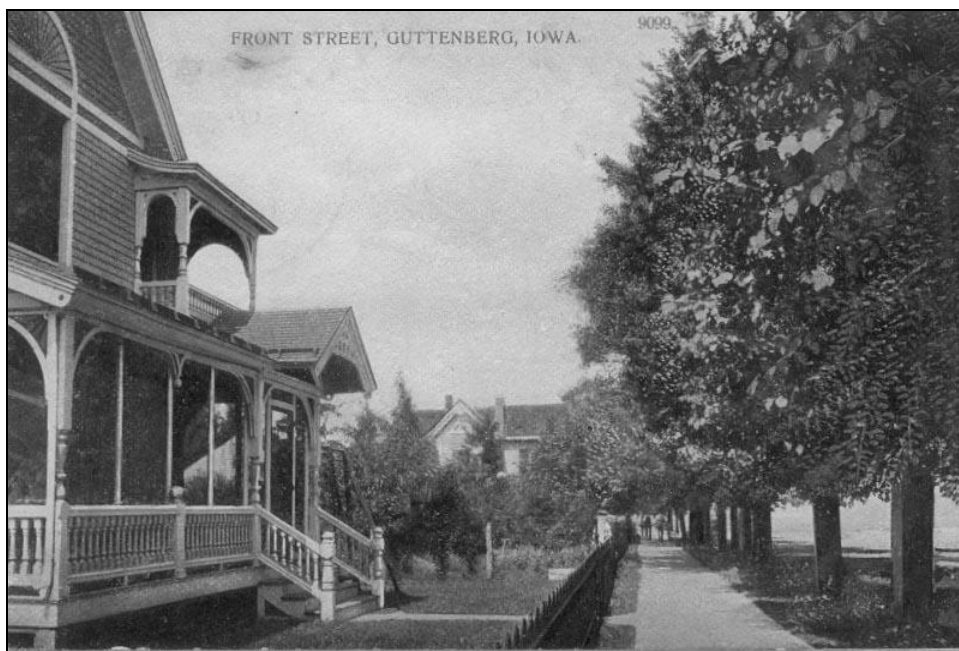
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130 South River Park Drive (1979 photo)



130 South River Park Drive, original ornamentation (postcard loaned by Backhaus)

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103 North First Street (2001 photo by Neil Webster)



318 North First (1979 photo)



318 North River Park Drive (1979 photo)

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Other examples include 206 South River Park Drive and 404 South Second Street, both of which are frame residences. The second house features sunrise motifs above its windows. Cottage examples include 322 North First Street (date uncertain, Craftsman detailing), 230 North First Street, 318 North River Park Drive (brick), 322 North River Park Drive (brick), 103 North First Street (brick), 302 Pearl Street, 612 South First (brick), 204 South River Park Drive, and 319 North First Street.

2. Cross-gable roof, usually L-shaped with a dominant front gable and subordinate gabled side wing.



722 North First Street (original appearance)



722 North First Street (1979 photo)

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722 South River Park Drive (1979 photo)

This example is as close an approximation to the “shingle style” as can be found in Guttenberg.



422 South Second Street (1979 photo)

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306 South Second Street, original appearance.



306 South Second Street (1979 photo)

Other examples include 114 South River Park Drive, 215 South First Street, 1231 South Bluff Street, 227 North First Street (all brick examples), and 610 South River Park Drive (frame example). Cottage examples are 422 South Second (brick), 607 South River Park Drive (frame photo studio/residence), and 621 South Second Street.

3. Front Gabled Roof: A single full width front gable caps the fairly symmetrical rectangular plan.

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518 South River Park Drive

Richardsonian Romanesque (1880-1900):



15 Goethe Street, original appearance

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15 Goethe Street, 1979 photo

The subtypes of this style are based not upon basic form, but rather on roof type. Three components identify the style. These are the use of round topped arches, rough faced stonework and the presence of round conical capped towers (75% of properties according to McAlester). Dark red brick with thin colored mortar lines and rubbed brick arches, as well as the application of decorative terra cotta panel inserts, are also associated with this style. While the brickwork seeks to minimize surface texturing, stone walls seek a varied and rusticated visual surface effect but avoided applied ornament.

It was this style which coincided with another intense church building phase and numerous religious properties represent its influence. The only Guttenberg example is a commercial property.

The upper windows of the State Security Bank building are the closest approximation in Guttenberg to the massive brick segmental arches which are the trademark of this style. The corner turret on the bank is very typical of corner commercial buildings in Dubuque. The turret form is usually associated with the Queen Anne style, so this example is a combination of two styles.

Unlike other Victorian era styles, this one, while still evocative of the Romanesque era, was uniquely American in its inception, being largely credited to Boston Architect Henry H. Richardson. His work directly influenced the forthcoming Sullivanese and Prairie styles, also American generated styles and a conscious result of an architectural search for an American derived style that did not come from European sources (Blumenson, p. 47).

Eclectic House Styles, 1880-1940:

McAlester groups these styles under three general sub-categories, the Anglo-American, English and French Period Houses (includes the Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Tudor, Chateausque, Beaux Arts and French Eclectic

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styles), Mediterranean Period Houses (includes the Italian Renaissance, Mission, and Spanish Eclectic styles) and Modern Houses (includes the Prairie, Craftsman, Modernistic, and International styles). Until the end of World War I, eclectic influences were largely limited to the larger house. After the war, economical brick and stone veneers extended these styles to the small tract house as well.

Anglo-American, English and French Period Houses:

This subgroup of the numerous eclectic styles can be distinguished by the common effort of its several styles to more accurately replicate various European and New World building traditions.

Colonial Revival/Dutch Colonial Revival (1880-1955):

The first twenty years of the Colonial Revival saw the emergence of an amalgam of Queen Anne basic forms with so called Colonial and even Classical ornamentation. It wasn't until c.1910 that the style first clearly focused on faithfully replicating original American Colonial house plans. The Colonial, even in its earliest expressions, represented the emergence of the first American-generated architectural style (Labine, McAlester, pp. 321-341).

These later houses differed fundamentally from their Neo-Colonial predecessors because they actually attempted to replicate actual upper class late 18th Century Colonial plans. The house footprint was rectangular and the facade was symmetrically arranged. The decorative components differed from those of the Neo-Colonial; and included scrolled pediments, dentil bands, modillions, fanlights over doorways, and formal porch columns (Clem Labine, “The Neo-Colonial House, *The Old House Journal*, May 1984, pp. 73-77).

Even the more accurate designs departed from the Georgian and Adam originals by adding window groupings, side wings, dormers, broken pediments and various window hood treatments. The gambrel roof form was completely reinvented to serve the needs of taller residences. The Colonial Style is unified through its common linkage to a true Colonial architecture. The higher end examples of each subtype shared the same range of window and decorative treatments. The earliest style examples can be distinguished from Free Classic Queen Anne precursors only with great difficulty. Colonial inspired elements are simply overlaid on the same asymmetrical house core. Hipped roof subtypes accounted for one third of Colonial Revival houses in the years leading up to World War I.

Later examples of this style employ a centered entrance on the long side of the house plan, and the entryway is a point of particular design attention. Porches or hoods are minimized for all but the second described subtype. Brick and stone exteriors are associated with early high-end style examples. Brick veneers on tract house examples appear in the post-World War I years. There are nine subtypes of the Colonial Revival Style:

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Colonial Revival elements were incorporated into the Guttenberg vernacular, fusing classical elements with narrow two story single family and duplex house plans. The dearth of examples of this style in Guttenberg is impressive and the few illustrated examples offered below exhaust the inventory.

Just five of eight identified subtypes appear in Guttenberg:

1. Hipped Roof Without Full Width Porch: Most popular nationally after 1910, this subtype uses an elongated hipped roof plan with central or off-center entrance, a small entry hood, porch, or no porch at all, with more extensive Colonial detailing.



St. Mary's Rectory, 1899 (Diamond Jubilee of St. Mary's Parish)

2. Side Gabled Roof: This subtype follows the same ground rules specified for the subtype described above, but substitutes side gabled roof. The resulting footprint tends more toward the rectangular as opposed to the square (which favors the hip roof form). This subtype can be as narrow as two bays (and as a result squarish in its footprint) but it most commonly occurs in a three or five bay plan, with either an off-center or center hall entry scheme. The center hall plans favor a symmetrical fenestration scheme and a vertical line of central components is commonly employed, based upon the alignment of the porch or hood, entry, a smaller upper floor window set or decorative window, and a rooftop dormer. Additional subordinated side extensions are common in later examples. Solariums, porte-cocheres, garages, and entire wings are stepped back from the core front wall plane and have separate lower roofs.

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310 South River Park Drive

This example is attempting to be more authentic with the use of half windows and a rambling asymmetrical façade window arrangement.



406 South First Street

This example could possibly be a remodeling effort. The core plan resembles a three-bay row house. The side wing is a later addition.

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11 Lock & Dam Lane (1937-38)

It took the federal government to provide the “most” Colonial example in the form of the lockmaster’s residence. There is no other comparable Colonial “dollhouse” example to be found in Guttenberg.

3. Centered Gable: Either of the two examples described above with an added subordinated front cross gable usually superimposed on an entrance pavilion.



118 North River Park Drive, 1927

There are several examples of this subtype in Guttenberg. All are of brick construction

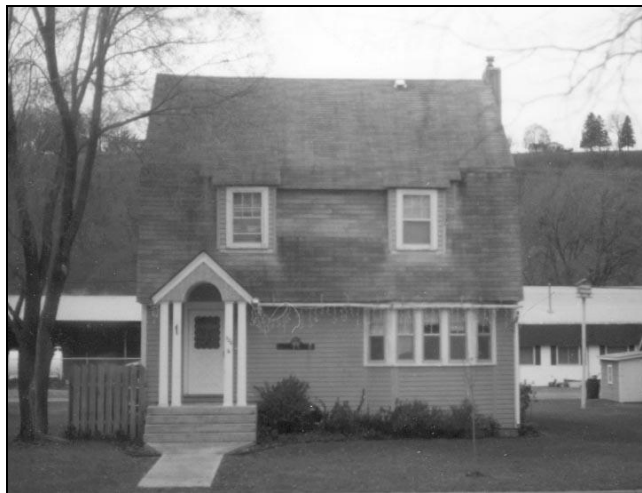
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4. Gambrel Roof: Pre-W.W.I examples combined front and side gable gambrel wings. The postwar Dutch Colonial runs a steeply pitched gambrel roof parallel to the front. The key characteristic of this Colonial Revival subtype is the use of the gambrel roof form. When wall dormers are employed the subtype very nearly becomes the full two-story house. Like the Cape Cod, twin dormers can peer out from the gambrel roof surface. Confusion comes when all things gambrel are simply lumped together as Dutch Colonial Revival.



326 North Second Street

The above example is the only Dutch Colonial Guttenberg example to be found. It is fairly atypical given that the dormer windows are not part of a larger unified dormer with a clapboard frontage (or the roofing material now covers this once exposed connecting wall).

5. Cape Cod (1920s-1950s):

Numerically the Cape Cod cottage was the most popular small house type in America for over 30 years, an honor previously and much more briefly bestowed upon the bungalow, and subsequently by the ranch house and split level. Unlike the bungalow with its multitude of forms and styles, the Cape Cod had a precise and unchanging basic appearance and form. This form was that of a story and a half side gabled cottage with steep roof pitch, with twin dormers set atop its front roof plane. Colonial Revival style by definition, it employed a symmetrical facade with centered entryway, double hung light sash windows with various Colonial multi-light patterns, Colonial detailing around the entrance, window shutters, a broad clapboard covered exterior, and the occasional use of stone or brick as supplemental building materials.

Even the Cape Cod form could evolve and more expensive house plans tended to elongate, spacing the dormers across a broader roof plane (or rarely adding a third middle dormer, more commonly broadening the two

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dormers) or adding subordinated side wings, particularly breezeway/ garage combinations. Schweitzer and Davis date the introduction of the type to 1929 and its zenith in popularity to 1935-40.

The frequency of the Cape Cod style is underestimated because the form is defined by the presence of dormer windows. Architect Charles Keefe, writing in late 1930, called for the recognition of the styles “inherent characteristics.” These elements included a clapboard/shingle exterior, a recessed front entryway with flush-set pilasters and transoms, low design lines (with eaves lines close to the tops of windows and doors), no front porch (usually a lattice surround on the entryway), a massive central chimney, and a 39x30 overall footprint. Keefe makes no reference to the use of dormers. Of course it can be argued that the popular or idealized Cape Cod form is the twin-dormer plan, but caution is urged that earlier examples might have more closely approximated Keefe’s standards and these are likely classified as colonial bungalows in contemporary surveys (Keefe, pp. 9-11, 66-67).



211 Herder Street (1953)

There are no original twin-dormer Cape Cod cottage examples in Guttenberg.



1218 South Bluff Street (modification of earlier cottage)

The above example comes closest and it is likely a remodeling of an earlier brick house.

Tudor Revival (1890-1940):

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This style loosely evoked late medieval English houses rather than anything specifically Tudor. Unlike the Colonial Revival, earlier formal Tudor designs tended to be more accurate while later ones were more generalized. The style found popular acceptance for both more modest and tract house applications beginning in the middle 1920s and this popularity, rivaling the Colonial Revival, persisted until World War II. The abrupt demise of the Tudor style, in the years right before the outbreak of the war, is a research topic that is yet to be explored. The Tudor would rebound in suburbia during the early 1970s and remains a part of that stylistic range today.

Like the earliest bungalow form, the Tudor Revival house was dominated by a steeply pitched roof. A massive and elaborate chimney was also central to the type. The style could also be incorporated onto a simplified Queen Anne foundation. These transitional house plans tended to have central halls and entrances, and elaborate applications of dormers, oriels and bays. The houses ranged from the small house to the great country house (Bruce Lynch, “The Popular English Revival Style,” *The Old-House Journal*, July 1983, pp. 117-20).

An asymmetrical facade was the hallmark of this style with no preferred core form save for a decided preference for the side gabled roof form. Roofs are steeply pitched and are set behind one or more prominent cross gables or gable/dormer combinations that cluster or are distributed across the facade. Half of the style’s examples employ a non-structural half timbering usually in the gable areas. Bands of tall narrow windows and tall chimneys with chimney pot caps give these buildings a vertical visual sense.

Three of four identified subtypes are found in Guttenberg:

1. Stucco Wall Cladding:



410 South River Park Drive

2. Brick Wall Cladding:

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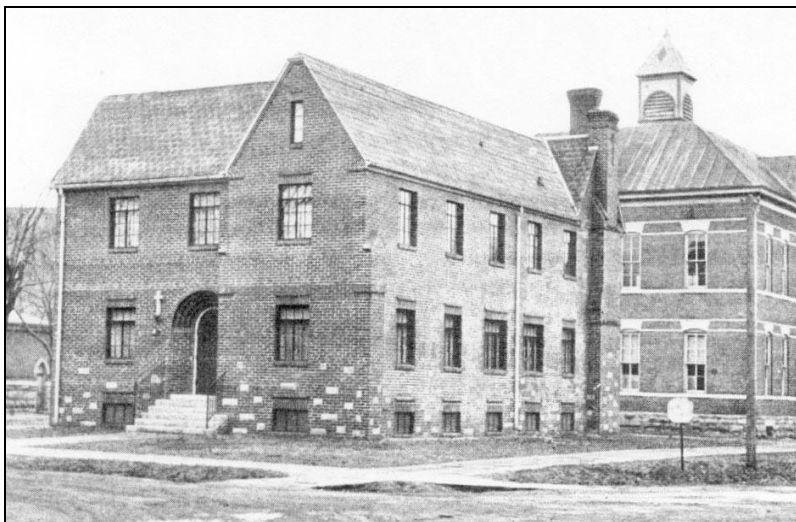
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The vast majority of area examples have brick veneered exteriors, commonly accented with decorative stone inlays around the entrance, at corners, and in the chimney construction. A random intermixing of stone or other inserted materials is frequently found. Late-1930s examples commonly use a polychrome brick.



Sisters' House, St. Marys Church (historical image)

3. Frame Wall Cladding:

All of the city's frame examples of this style cluster in the 800s block of South River Park Drive. Obviously one single builder was responsible for this well preserved cluster of houses.



810 South River Park Drive

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814 South River Park Drive



806 South River Park Drive

Modern Houses:

Arts and Crafts/Craftsman (1905-1930):

The Craftsman Style is a fairly recently generated term. Today the term embodies the more stylized range of bungalow and foursquare exterior treatments. In its own time, this style was best represented by the house and interior furnishing designs of Gustav Stickley, founder of the Craftsman movement. Stickley's house designs were substantial in size and were uniformly executed in concrete, stucco, and wood, and used Arts and Crafts detailing.

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Schweitzer and Davis distinguish between a Craftsman house type and the bungalow type. They define the former as a two-story house being either more substantial in their massing or more complex in their design than the bungalow. They identify three regional subtypes of the Craftsman style, the Colonial/Adirondack (East Coast), the Prairie (Midwest), and the Oriental (West Coast). Stickley considered the bungalow house form to be appropriate only for seasonal occupation, as a summerhouse, and his year round designs were rarely bungalows. He was strongly influenced by the Mission, Spanish Colonial and his own “Craftsman” values. A good house exterior included sloping roofs, verandahs, pergolas, the use of rough timbers, overhanging eaves, and exposed construction (*Craftsman*, June 1908).

The Craftsman design aesthetic sought to integrate the house and site. The interior and exterior were integrated by the use of windows and multiple entries. No room was to be buried within the house without windows and nearby egress. Building materials were to retain their natural untreated qualities to the greatest extent possible, and major structural members were to remain exposed and visible. Stucco and shingle exteriors were favored. Structural members, such as rafter tails, knee braces, tie beams, and tapered or battered porch posts are purposely exposed. Craftsman windows, with multi-light upper sash (usually with vertical divisions) were commonly used in many other styles of the time.

This style had its roots in the Arts and Crafts movement, which in turn derived largely from the writings of Englishmen John Ruskin (1819-1900) and designer William Morris (1834-96). It was both a reaction against industrialized society and an effort to unify art and architecture with morality, politics and science. The movement celebrated individual craftsmanship over mass produced repetition and sought to achieve societal improvement through its design concepts and its teaching of the basic crafts. Stickley was one of the leading American adherents of the Arts and Crafts movement. By the early 20th century the architectural and design aspects of the movement focused upon integrating the house with nature and the particular house setting, as well as celebrating the exposed usage of minimally processed natural building materials. Thus structural columns and beams are prominently displayed and cladding materials favored the use stucco, cobblestone, shingles wood. Asymmetry of design was celebrated, favoring complex roofing schemes and visual variety in fenestration, patterns of materials, porch lines, and the overall house plan. Favored structural expressions include the exposed knee brace and rafter tails, extra stickwork, and the common use of battered or sloped porch columns, of varying lengths, in combination with heavy pier bases.

Art Moderne/Modernistic (1925-1940):

The style encompasses two subtypes, the Art Moderne and the Art Deco. Both subtypes employ the same basic flat roofed (less commonly gable or hip) square or rectangular core. The Art Moderne rounded corners and streamlined the whole through the use of horizontal lines and patterns. Art Deco imparted a largely vertical emphasis by adding towers and other vertical elements, and ornate detailing. Both styles disappeared with the coming of World War II.

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Three public buildings in Guttenberg attest both to the city’s improvements in infrastructure and services and the helpful role of the federal government in fighting unemployment caused by the Great Depression. The Municipal Building is an excellent example of the Art Moderne style, while the power and water plants are both Art Deco style examples.



502 South First Street

Vernacular Cottage/House/Commercial Types:

The 1979 architectural survey focused on pre-1870 vernacular residential examples. All of the houses were built during the initial Settlement period (c.1845-50) or in the subsequent two decades of town growth. A particular focus was placed on studying stone construction. Less intensively studied were houses built of brick or wood. Overwhelmingly vernacular in character, these houses were then grouped into five property types:

Side Gable Subtypes:

The 1979 historical survey identified an elongated “Bluff Street” subtype, the stone “cabin,” the saltbox, and a square sub-type. The present survey adds the “I-house” and a variety of lower and narrower side gable subtypes. Another distinctive side gable subtype is the “gallery” subtype.

The Bluff Street elongated side-gable plan:

Perhaps most distinctive is the “Bluff Street type.” Usually of stuccoed limestone, these side-gabled houses are two stories high, often with single-pile plan, the fenestration in their five- or six-bay wide fronts is often but not always symmetrical. Roofs are shallow-pitched with narrow to nonexistent eaves, a few have partially-returned

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cornices. In a number of cases, one or two-story porches extend the full width of the main facade; nearly all have been fully enclosed. In general, these porches are distinct appendages, but in a few instances, the front wall of the house is recessed, and the porch subsumed under the main roof without altering the symmetry of the gable. Although few construction dates have been confirmed for houses of this type, all available evidence points to their being among the oldest buildings in Guttenberg, with some dating perhaps to the late 1840's and early 1850's.

The type is not restricted to Bluff Street however. Examples of this house type outside the Bluff Street District include the Ihm (003), Kuempel (008), Borrett (011), Moser (012), Jaeger (063), Wessell (064) and Bolsinger (125) houses. The Felder (068) and Matt-Bahls (092) houses are particularly noteworthy because their two-story porches, with exterior staircases, are intact and unenclosed. Many of these houses could also be classified as “I houses” although some are longer than the three to five bay width of the I-house, or are more than a single room in depth, also mandated by the I-house.



111 Herder Street



1210 South Fourth Street (stone)

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Additional examples are found at 306 North Second Street; 120 South Bluff Street; 10 Prince Street; and 202 Schiller Street.

I-House (c.1850-1890):

This two-story type is defined as a side gabled house although it does occur as a story and a half. Associated particularly with the states of Illinois, Indiana and Iowa, the plan is two rooms and a central hall across and a single room in depth, so it is basically two rooms over two rooms. The type can range from three to five bays, substituting a side front entry for the central one in the shorter versions.



202 Schiller Street (I-house)



310 North River Park Drive (story-and-a-half I-House, non-extant)

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522 South First Street (I-house with rear wing)



10 China Street (pre-1869, stone I-house)



730 South First Street (I-house)

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Story-and-a-half I-house examples also include 715 South First Street; 602-06 North Bluff Street; and 402, 606 South Bluff Street. Additional two-story examples are found at 127 North First Street; 710 North Bluff Street; 1016, 1018, 1022-24 South Bluff Street; 303 North Bluff Street; and 308 South River Park Drive.

The square houses with side-gable roof subtype:

The 1979 survey termed these "Wide gable" houses. Examples of this subtype have 3 or 5-bay fronts and are as deep or deeper than they are wide. The defining characteristic is their squareness, even more so than the use of the side gable form. Their side-gable roofs are quite broad, rising to accommodate a narrow second story beneath the peak. Examples include the stone Parker (091) and Moser (119) houses; the Kolker (132) and Lake (213) houses, both of brick; and the wood-frame Kann house (224) which features four very small attic windows tucked beneath the narrow eaves.

Single-story plans:



910 South River Park Drive



115 Schiller Street

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An additional example is found at 510 North First Street.

Story-and-a-half plans:



603 South Second Street (pre-1869)

An additional example is found at 826 South First Street.

Two-story plans:



216 South First Street

Additional examples are found at 110 North First Street; 216, 300, 307, 510 South First Street; 526-30 South Second Street; 310 North Third Street; 302 Pearl Street (jerkinhead roof); 10 Schiller (stone commercial); 300 South River Park Drive (stone commercial); and 11 Schiller Street.

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The "Saltbox" sub-type:

Various of stone, brick and wood-frame construction, houses of this type are characterized by side-gable orientation, lack of a front porch, and an addition across the rear generally covered by an extension of the main roof to create a local version of New England saltbox. The largest example of this type is the Nieland house (062), of stone construction with a 5-bay main facade. The symmetry of this 1 ½ story house is rather oddly altered by the insertion of three very small windows beneath the eaves on the north end of the front. The wood frame house at 11 Herder (135) and the brick Parker house (085) have symmetrical 3-bay fronts and are also 1 ½ stories. The Eglseder house (002) has two full stories, entrance to the left side of its 3-bay facade, and very shallow wood pediments over the front windows and door. Four South Bluff houses are of the local "saltbox" type: one, the Jungt house (107), a 1 1/2 story saltbox, is part of a mid-19th century brewery complex. The 1869 bird's eye view lithograph depicts several apparent saltbox plans.



402 South Bluff Street



Patzer's Dairy Farm, Acre Street

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Stone barn, Acre Street

Other side-gable subtypes:

Single-story short plans:

The 1979 survey classed a number of very small stone houses as belonging to a "Stone cabin" subtype. These little houses are the last pretentious examples of Guttenberg's very unpretentious architecture. With side-gable orientation and a single-story height, they make no attempt toward symmetry or refinement in use of materials. This group includes the Ulrich (067), Kottke (066), Brieman (087), Schrunk (095), Kasper (120) and Kann (stone) (129) houses.



230 South Third Street

Other examples are 531 North Second Street; 218 North Second Street; and 402 South Bluff Street.

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Story-and-a-half short plans:



1015 South Second Street



11 Wieland Street, original appearance



11 Wieland Street, present appearance

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110 Goethe Street



328 North River Park Drive



631 South First Street

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Other excellent examples are found at 123-25, 612, 620, 620 ½, 623, 726, 823 South First Street; 310 North Second Street; 1003 North Third Street; 114, 118 South Third Street; 602-06 South Bluff Street, the Freeman House on Miner’s Creek; 215 Herder Street; 11 Koerner Street; 210 Lessing Street; and 518 North River Park Drive.

Two-story short plans:



408 North First Street

Other examples are found at 121 North First Street; 620, 802 South First Street; 718, 831 South Second Street; 114, 602, 1014, 1106 South Bluff Street; 126 Herder Street; 1030 South Highway 52; and 207 South River Park Drive.

The “Gallery” Subtype:

This is one of the city’s most interesting vernacular house forms and one that warrants focused attention. The gallery form consists of a two-story open porch that covers the entire south-facing side wall. The gallery form is commonly associated with French vernacular architecture and is also linked with the Mississippi River valley. The 1869 bird’s eye view identifies at least 13 of these, fairly evenly divided between those which front east or south.



118 South First Street

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211 South First Street



413 South First Street



613 South Third Street (stone, pre-1869)

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430 South First Street

Additional surviving examples are 120, 126, 606, 614 South Bluff Street, 127 North First Street and 223 South Second Street. The house at 411 South Second Street is likely an altered gallery example.

Gable Front Subtypes (pre-1850-1930+):

The 1979 survey identified a two-story gable front as a vernacular subtype. This survey adds the square subtype, and divides the original front gable one into a variety of subtypes based upon width (number of window/door openings) and height. The 1979 survey identified a two-story gable front as a vernacular subtype. This survey adds the square subtype, and divides the original front gable one into a variety of subtypes based upon width (number of window/door openings) and height.

This type is also termed the “Open Gable,” or “Gambrel Front.” The two defining characteristics are a front gable roof (as opposed to a side gable) and a gable end house entrance. The type ranges from one room and a side hall in width to two rooms and a central hall (three to five bays). Generally the overall plan is a rectangle with its shorter dimension fronted to the street.

The housing literature is silent with regard to this commonplace type and even Schweitzer and Davis fail to identify to acknowledge it. The diminutive size and early date of these cottages (c.1890-1920) hints that this very small cottage form was already well established in the public’s tastes when the bungalow form appeared.

Guttenberg gable fronts can be divided on the basis of their height and their breadth of plan. Single story and a half plans are few and far between in Guttenberg. The Phase I survey identified just four of the former and six of the latter. Most of these examples postdate 1900.

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The one-story "front gable:"



15 Goethe Street

Other subtype examples are 219, 620 1/2 South First Street and 804 South Second Street. A large number of these are treated as bungalows/cottages in a separate section below.

The one-and-a-half story "front gable:"



10, 14 Herder Street (two frame examples)

Other examples of the subtype are 302 South First Street; 518 South River Park Drive; and 10 Wieland Street.

The two-story "front gable:"

The two-story front gable house, a vernacular adaptation of the temple form Greek Revival, has several examples in Guttenberg. The three best examples outside the Bluff Street District are the stone Winkler house (030), with a partially-turned cornice and stuccoed exterior; the wood frame Hess house (041) which although

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sided with asbestos retains original window surrounds with shallow triangular pediments with a Greek Revival entrance framed with sidelights and rectangular transom; and the large brick Fuerste house (039), four bays wide and 5 deep, with segmental- arched window and door openings. The subtype can be further divided into two subgroups, those having nearly square plans, and more narrow plans.

Square two-story gable front plans:



503 South First Street (also an example of a square plan)



510 South First Street (also a square plan)

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11 Schiller Street (square stone example)

Rectangular two-story gable front plans:

Each of these examples is three bays wide. They differ primarily in the pitch of the roof, the presence or absence of attic lights or full windows, and their construction materials. Many originally had storefronts on their ground level.



114 South Pearl Street

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115 Herder Street



307 South Second Street

Additional examples include 311 North First Street; 223, 230, 411, 418, 423, 523, 1014 South First Street; 515, 804 South Second Street; 813 South Third Street; 702 South Bluff Street, the Van Staden house on Cemetery Road; and 6 Schiller Street.

Hall and Parlor/Double Pen (c.1817-c.1870):

This double pen cottage form is basically a two-room side gabled single story plan. There is no hall but one larger room (the “hall”) is the more public room on the ground level and this larger room has the only front entryway. John Jakle terms this form the “Pre Classic” I House or the “Early I House”) (Jakle, Common Houses, p. 216). No examples found.

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Pyramidal Cottage or Pyramidal Hip Cottage (c.1865-c.1920):

This story or story and a half-square plan (two rooms deep and two rooms wide) is covered by a hip roof and the roof commonly extends forward to cover a recessed front full width porch. This form is possibly of Southern derivation. The peak of the pyramid is sometimes flattened. The later forms of this cottage type blend into the Bungalow era and these types are distinguished only with some difficulty. This earlier type is sometimes modified using a Craftsman style porch to approximate a bungalow form. Usually the resulting porch is not recessed under the roof. This fairly ubiquitous cottage type is found in an elongated, bungalow-like form, in Guttenberg.



107 North First Street



322 North First Street

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Side Hall Plan (c.1830-1880):

This subtype provides a category for side gable and hip roof houses/cottages that are not front gables. The plan is usually two rooms deep and a single room wide and has a side hall. These cottages are mostly a single story or story and a half in height. In Guttenberg the two story side gable house plan also almost always uses a side hall plan and the vast majority of these occur in a double house arrangement. The double house could be built incrementally and one excellent example of a half-double house that failed to gain its mate is found at 308 East 22nd Street. Two story house examples are not normally included under this vernacular category but Guttenberg’s vernacular types require a section for side gable house plans.

Gabled Ell (c.1850-1920):

This subtype requires that its two wing components possess roof ridges of equal height. Commonly a “T” form is the result when a shallow bay or wing carries the dominant wing beyond the junction point, but the core structure is an L-form. The respective wings can vary in their comparative widths but their roof ridge elevations must be even. Porches commonly infill the reentrant angle and two entrances, one from each wing, open to the porch. The subtype is generally dated to c.1865-1915. Like many vernacular types it fades with the approach of World War I. Central to truly understanding how these houses worked is determining how the subtype effected the room arrangement and flow within the house. Which interior spaces are shared across the two wings for example?

This subtype can be divided into three subgroups which are based on their height.

Single-story examples:



408 South Third Street

Other examples are 114 South First Street and 318 North Bluff Street.

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Story-and-a-half examples:



415 North First Street



631 South First Street

Other examples are 415 North First Street; and 703, 811 South First Street.

Two-story examples:



122 South First Street

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416 South Second Street

Other examples are 227, 519, 730 North First Street; 103, 718 South First Street; 423 North Second Street; 207, and 418 South Second Street.

L-Plan (1850-1900):

This subtype covers L plans that have varied roof heights on their core form and a front ell or wing, or one of the wings having a roof form that is not a gable. They are also termed “upright and wings.” This L-plan type must have this roof form or height difference and the interior rooms must divide at the junction point of the core and wing. Frequently the cross gable is then balanced with a dormer on the subordinate main wing. This type lends itself to stylistic applications, particularly Tudor and Colonial. This type is very rare in Guttenberg given the local preference for narrow elongated lots.



410-12 South Second Street

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502 South Bluff Street



730 South River Park Drive (original appearance)



730 South River Park Drive (present appearance)

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804 South Second Street



617 South First Street

Other examples are 130, 210, 302 North First Street; 303, 410-12, 704 South First Street; 114 Goethe Street (stone); 126, 402, 502, 630 South Bluff Street; 303 Pearl Street; and 210, 730 South River Park Drive.

T-Plan (c.1860-1920):

This type is defined by its “T” footprint rather than its roof elevations. The roof ridges of its parts can be uneven. The “T” is sometimes symmetrical with a wrap around porch on the three exposed sides of the stem of the “T” infill the plan, or it is asymmetrical with a L-shaped porch along the front and one side of the projecting wing. The plan can orient with its projecting wing being set either towards or parallel to the street.

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Popular Cottage/House Types:

The Bungalow (1910-1930):

The bungalow emerged as a popular house type c.1908 and by 1916 was the house of choice across the country for the middle and working class. The type however defies ready definition because it includes subtypes with diametrically conflicting characteristics. There are three generally accepted bungalow subtypes: (1) the single story front gable; (2) the aeroplane and (3) the side gable. A fourth subtype, (4) the Chicago Bungalow, is defined in this study. The aeroplane subtype might be considered a variant of the first one, given that it simply adds an extra room or rooms onto a single story plan. The side gable subtype can be more than two stories high, but that fact is hidden beneath the broad roof planes that descend to the street front. Few hard and fast design rules can encompass these three varied subtypes but it can be generally said that the bungalow form is either a single story small form or if it is higher, the roof form is used to disguise the presence of additional floors. Ideally it is a single story seasonal retreat, being largely open to the outside. In the Midwest the bungalow most commonly has a basement, a steeper roof, reduced overhanging eaves, and a reduced amount of porch and exterior exposure, in contrast with its West Coast precursors. In its tract house form it occupies a narrow urban lot with front and rear porch, and a rear lot garage. The majority of bungalows have no Craftsman affectations to speak of and only rarely employ very exotic building materials such as cobblestones. Even stucco is rarely employed in the Quad-Cities area. It is the general finding that bungalows as a subtype are for whatever reason fairly under represented in this area. At the same time, the term bungalow endured well into the 1950s and early 1960s here and many a cottage and ranch house was marketed as a bungalow well after World War II. The aeroplane was simply not found at all. Especially rare is the straightforward front gable subtype. A front gabled cottage is more likely a bungalow if the porch is not separate from the house core, and forms an extension of the core roof plane. The bungalow finds expression in the following subtypes:

Subtypes:

1. Gable-hip front/narrow front bungalow:

This group of bungalows, primarily consisting of gable front variations, includes bungalow plans that present their narrow dimension to the street. Hip roofed bungalows are included in this type. Variations include a facade wide gable front, with separate porch or a recessed porch, and plans that project off-center porches or side porches from a gable front core. Dubuque's preference for taller gable front homes worked against this bungalow type.

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902 South River Park Drive, Robert Lake House, historical image



130 North River Park Drive



711 South First Street

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518 South First Street



422 South First Street



622 South River Park Drive (original appearance)

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622 South River Park Drive (present appearance)

Other examples are 115 North First Street; 422 South First Street; 523 South Second Street; 114 North Third Street; 107 Herder Street; and 317 South River Park Drive.

2. Aeroplane/Airplane Bungalow:

This bungalow type is a variant of the gable front/narrow front type. The aeroplane plan simply adds another room as a second floor. This level is then separately roofed with matching projecting eaves and detailing.



110 South First Street

See also 311 Main Street.

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3. Side Gable Bungalow:

This general type includes side gable plans, most of which present their broader dimension to the street front. The roof form can have a single roof plane which continues forward to cover a recessed porch, or it can have two roof pitches, and the lower reduced pitch roof plane projects above the porch. Dormers commonly are set into the front roof plane and these can be very large relative to the volume of the roof plane. This type can be further categorized in terms of the use of a full width or partial width porch.



106 Goethe (original appearance)



106 Goethe (present appearance)

The example shown above is really a side-gable precursor to the side-gable bungalow form.

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315 South River Park Drive



613 South First Street (two-pitch front roof)



214 South Second Street (two-pitch front roof)

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Additional gable front examples are 119, 130, 226 North First Street; 618 South First Street; 423, 703 South Second Street (same builder as 118 NRPD); 118 North River Park Drive; and 230 South River Park Drive (double pitch, Craftsman style). Additional hip roof front examples are 722 North First Street; 722 South First Street; 114 Herman Street; 107, 126 North River Park Drive; and 904, 912 South River Park Drive.

Cottalows or Bungaloids?:

In Guttenberg the cottage persists in its popularity throughout the reign of the bungalow and many homes appear to blend the two qualities. Oftentimes the distinction between a cottage and a bungalow can only be based upon the intention of the builder/designer. Cottages tended to have hip roofs, a separate front porch, elevated profiles and an obvious front attic window. Bungalows, in contrast, tended to have a low profile, an integrated front porch and if there was upstairs living space, that fact was disguised. Cottages tended to exhibit late-Victorian design features such as art glass, classical detailing, and small porches. Bungalows tended to exhibit Craftsman style features.



802 South River Park Drive (hip roof, original appearance)



802 South River Park Drive (present appearance)

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110 North Second Street

Foursquare (1904-1940):

The foursquare term is a recently crafted one, coined to identify an accepted two-story house with square plan and hipped roof. The type has an interior floor plan of four rooms on each of the two floors. There is no central hall.

The square house was long touted as the most economical house, it being the nearest thing to an a theoretical frame sphere that could be readily built. It delivered the maximal interior space for the lowest cost per square foot. At the same time it was derided in the period architectural journals for its resulting boxy look. Despite this element of disfavor the house type persisted and designers strove to remedy the limitations of its core form. Its origin remains undetermined. In some manner the near square late Victorian house with its irregular interior plan and assemblage of bays was, like the bungalow, replaced by an economical eight roomed cube plan, with four rooms per floor. The type is defined by the near square footprint, an elevated foundation line, the absence of a central entry and hall and the use of a four room over four room interior plan, and the use of a plain hip roof, with from one to four dormers. This has been termed the “foursquare” or the “Prairie Cube” and a host of similar other names. It has Midwest regional roots and was for a generation the farmhouse model of choice along with the bungalow.

This house type appears to have almost instantly appeared on the national building scene in the years 1904-06. While squarish forms of similar scale preceded the foursquare, it was the simplification of both exterior form and the interior layout that resulted in the foursquare. The shell divested itself of bays, side wings, equal height rear extensions, resulting in the square or very near square footprint. Inside, the floor plan eliminated the central hall and stairway, and embraced the living room concept. The first floor was divided roughly into four square rooms, as was the second floor. A side stair, centered on one side wall became the standard feature.

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The type adopted the full width single story front porch, employed a raised foundation, and added from one to four roof dormers to finalize the basic form. The type could still take on stylistic features and found expression in most of the eclectic house styles.

The foursquare was a very popular house type, particularly during the years 1904-1925. Its rise to popularity paralleled that of the bungalow. The foursquare persisted in popularity after that of the bungalow waned, but after the mid-1920s it appears to have been used mostly to add a vertical Beginning in the mid-1920s the type was further refined, losing its signature front porch and finally gaining side extensions in the forms of solariums, garages and connecting wings, or side wings. The eave sline was sharply cut back in these later houses and the dormers largely disappeared. Inside, the living room expanded to fully occupy half of the main floor plan. The raised foundation disappeared along with the front porch. To many, these houses are not foursquares given these changes. Instead they are categorized as two story Colonial Revival house. This author suggests that there is at least a symbolic link between the square houses of the 1930s and 1940s. The interior floor plan changes, away from the standard four over four room arrangement, was forced by the reduction of the house size. Further research of the design origins of these later square houses and their interior plans will help to determine to what extent they can be called foursquares.



202 North River Park Drive

There is only one foursquare in Guttenberg and this is it. The example shown below is an early cubic plan with hip roof that appears to pre-date the true foursquare. Other cubic plans (front gable and side gable) are also not to be found. Numerous Queen Anne designs have a cubic core plan to them (see 622 South Second Street;206 and 226 South River Park Drive).

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514 South Fourth Street

Minimal Traditional Cottage (c.1931-55):

The near total absence of this ubiquitous house form in Guttenberg is worthy of a study in and of itself. River cities (Quad Cities) appear to have been less enamored with the cube house type and Guttenberg's narrow building lots were particularly ill suited for them. The general lack of hip roofs on dwellings in Guttenberg also appears to have argued against the popularity of the foursquare variety to housing developments. Whole developments consisting on only foursquare houses are not common but they do occur.

The foursquare was a very popular house type, particularly during the years 1904-1925. Its rise to popularity paralleled that of the bungalow. The foursquare persisted in popularity after that of the bungalow waned, but after the mid-1920s it appears to have been used mostly to add a vertical Beginning in the mid-1920s the type was further refined, losing its signature front porch and finally gaining side extensions in the forms of solariums, garages and connecting wings, or side wings. The eaves line was sharply cut back in these later houses and the dormers largely disappeared. Inside, the living room expanded to fully occupy half of the main floor plan. The raised foundation disappeared along with the front porch. To many, these houses are not foursquares given these changes. Instead they are categorized as two story Colonial Revival house. This author suggests that there is at least a symbolic link between the square houses of the 1930s and 1940s. The interior floor plan changes, away from the standard four over four room arrangement, was forced by the reduction of the house size. Further research of the design origins of these later square houses and their interior plans will help to determine to what extent they can be called foursquares.

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This title, coined by Virginia and Lee McAlester, is thought to represent a dilution of the Tudor Revival cottage. They date the onset of the subtype to c.1935. The type was produced by minimizing the size, complexity and style of the then popular eclectic house or cottage. The type is described by McAlester as follows:

With the economic Depression of the 1930s came this compromise style which reflects the form of traditional Eclectic houses, but lacks their decorative detailing. Roof pitches are low or intermediate, rather than steep as in the preceding Tudor style. Eaves and rake are close, rather than overhanging as in the succeeding Ranch style. Usually, but not always, there is a large chimney and at least one front facing gable, both echoing Tudor features (McAlester, p. 478).

Architectural historian Mary Mix Foley terms the type the “builder’s economic house.” Foley dates its emergence with the Great Depression. Foley greatly simplifies the type by presenting a simple and very basic rectangular plan. The McAlester definition, noted above, allows for a broader and more useful inclusiveness. The McAlester examples all depict elongated side gabled plans but also allow for a front off-center gabled wing. The entryway is usually into or adjacent to this short projecting front wing. All of the examples are single story although some steeper roof pitches hint that some livable attic space is present. The McAlester examples also portray plans with side wings, breezeways and attached garages to one side (Foley, p. 220).

Following the broader McAlester definition, the minimal traditional type encompasses any single story tract house that was built between the Great Depression and the mid-1950s that cannot be categorized by either style or another accepted type. The later date counterpart of this type is the ranch house. The difficulty then is distinguishing the two forms (refer to ranch house type, defined below).

A very broad range of single story cottage forms fall under the minimal traditional heading in field surveys and this is no surprise given that the minimal traditional was the dominant cottage form for a 25 year period. This construction era coincided with historical events and economic cycles that combined to favor the mass construction of these very small homes. The square minimal traditional, found in association with 1940-44 and 1945-47 housing developments, was not addressed either by McAlester or Foley. The 24x28 foot standard plan is credited to Robert L. Davison, research director for the John B. Pierce Foundation. It is the square or near square form which dominates the large plat developments of the early 1940s (Mason, p. 27).

Three subtypes are defined for the purpose of this survey project. These are the (1) square, (2) linear, and (3) L-plan. The (1) square subtype is a squarish single story variant. The gable end can be oriented to the front or side of the plan and a hip roof can also be used. The linear and L-plan subtypes are of a later date. The linear subtype most commonly is side gabled and it presents the longer dimension of its rectangular plan to the street front. The L-plan takes this same form and orientation and adds an off-center front wing or a shallower cross gable to the facade. The cross gable can project slightly in a shallow pavilion form (most commonly) or it can be room sized and form an L-plan. As the ranch house period approaches in the late 1940s, the L-plan becomes the most common of the three subtypes. Further research into floor plans will help distinguish between these subtypes.

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One characteristic of the minimal traditional type, unlike the ranch, is that the windows on the facade are of the double hung sash type, and these tend to retain their full length. This reflects the increased proportion of window glass that is put into the ever-shrinking small house. More light disguised the small size of the rooms inside. Windows, particularly picture windows, ran closer to the floor level to maximize interior light. The porch by this time has atrophied to a covered entryway, and there are no dormers, the roof pitch being too shallow to allow for any upper level livable space.

The minimal traditional type coincides with the revival of house building in Guttenberg in the late 1930s. While there are no tracts of war workers' housing in the city, the John Deere workers housing, consisting of Colonial Revival style red brick duplex cottages, exemplifies this general type. These houses are worthy of a survey and study.



626 South River Park Drive (L-plan subtype)



503 South Second (L-plan subtype)

Other examples are 831 North First Street; 507 South First Street; 614 North Second Street; 522 North River Park Lane and the Kregel House on Cemetery Road.

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114 Herman Street-Contemporary style example

The Ranch (1938-present):

The ranch type is another California derived house. All call it the “ranch house” but it technically is a cottage, being just one story high. It first manifests itself in the very late 1930s but it took another decade before the type is built in any numbers and its name has public recognition. Its origins are linked by some to the Spanish Colonial. The ranch shares many attributes with its bungalow antecedent. Both types originated in California and both were in their own time associated with a modern popular lifestyle. The ranch offered an untraditional form and plan, one disassociated from war and the Depression. Both were low profile types and the ranch, originally lacking a raised basement/foundation was particularly low in profile. Both utilized a broad projecting eaves line although the ranch exhibited no structural supports. Both types were strongly oriented to the nature and the out-of-doors. Later ranches utilized rear patios and sliding door access points just as the bungalow used porches, side gardens and terraces accessed by multiple exit points.

To some the ranch is the direct successor to the bungalow and it embodies the same basic principles. John Jakle states “the ranch movement was rooted in the bungalow craze” and early in its history there was the “ranch bungalow” that evidenced a direct California derivation. The fundamental difference was that the ranch glorified self-indulgence, replacing style with convenience, and comfort in lieu of beauty. Previously the family fit itself to the house. Now the house was planned around the needs and tastes of the family. The ranch, unlike its predecessor types, was a home for the affluent suburbanite. Consequently it has to be sufficiently large (Jakle says six rooms minimum) (Jakle, Common Houses, p. 183, 186, Clifford, p. 216).

The term “ranch” was not accepted as the dominant name for this house form until c.1950 according to Jakle. It was otherwise termed “western,” “California bungalow,” “contractor modern” or “contemporary” in the interim years (Jakle, pp. 183-84).

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Defining the ranch today is as problematic as tying down the bungalow. Like the bungalow in and after its day, everything gabled and rectangular is labeled a ranch. Realtors love the term. Consequently the minimal traditional cottage is lumped into the ranch category. John Jakle has developed what appears to be a very useful basic ranch typology. The “standard ranch” consists of a strict rectangular footprint with an attached or integrated garage. It meets Jakle’s six-room minimal test. On a narrow lot, the plan is commonly turned sideways and joined on the streetface with an attached garage or carport. Commonly the form is employed on a wider lot in an effort to differentiate the repeated use of the same plan. Jakle terms this sub-type the “ranch bungalow.” The “minimal ranch” is Jakle’s term for the minimal traditional. While rectangular in plan, the garage is not attached and the plan offers five or fewer rooms. The “composite ranch” utilizes an irregular plan (L or T variants of the rectangular) and a more complicated roof form. A garage or carport is integrated into the plan. Jakle treats the split-level as a ranch house subset. Finally he defines the raised ranch or “split entry” or “bi-level” subtype. Jakle states that it is a variation on the split-level sub-type although he acknowledges that there are only two living levels in the plan (the split-level has three such levels). This sub-type centers an entryway between a raised upper level and a raised and exposed basement. Stairs descend and ascend to the two levels. Jakle terms the sub-type a story and a half (Ibid., pp. 183-94).

The ranch is certainly a single story house with low roof pitch and broad overhanging eaves. Gable roofs tend to be of earlier date and are more associated with the minimal traditional type. Hip roofs are a signature roof form for the ranch. One very common feature in early ranch houses is the use of a half-high window in the private portions of the house. Later designs tend to employ these half-length windows all across the facade. The earlier houses use a composite picture window, formed by a band (usually three sets) of multi paned lights. Jakle adds a long, wide porch to the ranch criteria, but many ranch porches use a long but very narrow porch form.

A common early descriptor that was associated with this type was the term “rambler.” The word means lacking plan or system. The earliest ranches had single pile room plans and these rambled off in any direction, frequently covering several sides of a rear patio area. The earliest ranch examples exhibit this rambling nature. Spanish architectural influences and the concept of a full or partially enclosed central patio played a central role in the emergence of the ranch type.

Some early ranch plans present a series of individually roofed segments, almost a row house-like profile. This ranch form has a taller roof pitch and more closely approximates traditional Colonial Revival form and style. These plans can have the profile of a story and a half cottage.

The ranch interior plan consisted of three zones, these being for housework, living activities and private areas. The housework core combined kitchen, bathrooms and laundry. Multi-functional rooms were the rage. The hygienic kitchen was transformed into combination play areas, laundry rooms, and project rooms. The living room family room and dining room merged. The study or office doubled as a guest bedroom. The emergence of a “teen culture” and improved television and record playing technologies meant that there were quieter parental activities in the living room and the need to segregate teens to a separate recreation playroom in the basement. Additional half bathrooms guaranteed that the private zone of the house could stay private (Clifford, pp. 211-216).

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The ranch house was largely employed by wealthier homeowners between its initial emergence in the late 1930s and its post-1945 gradual rise to dominance by the middle-1950s. Its mass adoption is said to have been in response to a popular demand for a larger house. The type coincided with the trend towards wider and shallower lots and a growing public interest in greater privacy from adjoining neighbors. Clifford Clark believes that the ranch house popularity was rooted more in a public perception of a Southwestern relaxed and comfortable lifestyle as much as it was in the house type itself. This fashion was directly reflected in the massive westward migration that followed the war but which had its roots in wartime industrial worker displacement to that region. New heating technologies would allow for transplanting the type to colder climates (Ibid., pp. 210-213).

The ranch houses were first introduced c.1938-40 but failed to achieve any immediate public acceptance. The first house plans were noted for their “rambling” designs and many consisted of strings of single rooms. The double pile ranch plan was less capable of rambling. During the final years of World War II the housing literature focused on future house building (given that relatively little building was then going on) and the public, with its accumulated savings and its pent-up demand, anxiously awaited what was promised in postwar house building. Most homebuyers had dreams that exceeded their means. Public opinion polls taken between 1945 and 1955 still recorded a majority opinion in favor of the traditional house. Public interest in contemporary design increased as one went west in the country. Potential homebuyers expressed little interest in style per se but there was a strong interest in “a ranch house or a Rambler...which probably means little else than a one story building.” In the North Central and East Central regions about 41 percent of the potential house buyers favored either the traditional or the contemporary house. The national average was 37 percent for a Cape Cod (27 percent) or Colonial, and 42 percent for a ranch (24 percent) or contemporary (18 percent). Fully 21 percent favored an unspecified other house type. Potential buyers wanted broader lots although the vast majority of lots were 40-60 feet wide. A quarter of all lots measured 60 to 80 feet wide. An apparent casualty to fashion was the demise of the Tudor Revival style. The ranch would take on surviving Colonial Revival manifestations. As early as 1946, it was reported that the modern contemporary house had “gained in popularity in recent years” (“What People Want When They Buy A House,” 1955).

Guttenberg’s wartime and postwar industrial revival produced a house-building revival that coincided with the emergence of the true ranch house type. By definition, this type could only be constructed on larger building lots located on the bluff tops or the outskirts of the city. Examples are intermixed with earlier houses. A survey and study can investigate the early emergence (with particular emphasis on pre-World War II late ‘30s examples) of the type and the forms in which it was locally expressed.

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410 North River Park Drive



930 North River Park Lane

Ranch houses are too large for the standard Guttenberg building lot and the example shown above offers one local solution to that problem. Other examples are 222 and 302 North River Park Drive.

The split-level is commonly considered a subset of the ranch. No historical Guttenberg examples of the split-level were found.

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a design for
modern living

... by
Weyerhaeuser

Quality construction at relatively low cost is something all home seekers are looking for these days—and here is the answer.

Weyerhaeuser Panel Homes—precision built for modern living. Plenty of roomy closets. Smooth interior walls.

Every inch of floor space utilized to best possible advantage. Flexibility of design that allows you to add any number of windows, doors and closets—to incorporate some of your own pet ideas and suit your individual taste. You can choose from a selection of 15 standard plans.

*Designed and fabricated by Weyerhaeuser
— America's greatest name in lumber.*

APPROVED FOR F. H. A. AND G. I. LOANS

Take advantage of our long experience. Come in and talk over your new home plans . . . no obligation.

Meuser Lumber Co.

Ranch house ad, Meuser Lumber Company, 1949 (*Press*, January 13, July 21, 1949)
\$6,700 paid for the house, furnace, plumbing and basement

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Registration Requirements: Single Family Residential Property Type:

Description:

This property type includes single family houses but excludes single family residences which are set above commercial storefronts. The latter are treated as subsets of either the commercial or the multiple family property types. Church parsonages are included under this property type. The many types and styles of this property type are defined in the style/type typology (see above).

Significance:

Context #1, Guttenberg’s Town/City Growth and Development, 1854-1955:

Guttenberg appears to retain a record number of this property type and a special effort is recommended to inventory these properties. “True” vernacular properties most likely date to this earliest period and should be sought out. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the overall development of the early city. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding the development of the city.

Context #2, “Wir Sind Deutsch,” Germans Dominate in Guttenberg:

The homes of significant German community leaders would best interpret the cultural dominance of Germans in Guttenberg. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the overall development of the city during these years. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual. Many houses can interpret and represent the working careers of significant commercial and industrial leaders for whom work-related properties are no longer extant. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding the development of the city.

Context #3; The Role of the Mississippi River on Guttenberg’s History and Development:

The homes of noted river captains, community leaders who advocated on behalf of river improvement, or resident contractors who specialized in river related construction contracts (Eberhart) would best interpret this context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the commercial importance of the river or the efforts to improve river navigation. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations with the river themes. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of river commerce or river improvement.

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Context #4; Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

The homes of noted lead miners, industrialists, or captains of local commerce, would best interpret this context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the importance of mining, industry or commerce. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of river commerce or river improvement. The nomination of a home would be of secondary importance if actual mining sites or structures, industrial plants or commercial buildings survive from the productive careers of these significant persons. Absent surviving work sites, houses can interpret these lives if they were directly used by the individuals during their working years. Houses are particularly appropriate if the individual had an office or conducted business in the house.

Context #5, House Construction in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

Houses obviously can best interpret this context which treats changing house styles and building techniques in Guttenberg. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the local house building theme. It could have influenced the construction of other similar houses or it could have been a part of a house builder's home and construction yard. Under Criterion B, the property must have been the primary residence of a notable local builder/contractor and ideally was also associated with his contracting yard. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding local house construction patterns and techniques.

Context #6, The role of the Federal Government in Guttenberg's History, 1939-52.

The homes of noted local promoters of using Federal assistance programs to improve the city would best interpret this context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the Federal highway, Depression relief, Public Works or similar assistance programs. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of these federal programs and their impact on the city's development.

Registration Requirements:

- Individual residential properties must be directly associated with the City of Guttenberg, 1833 to present.
- Individual residential properties must have a direct and significant association with one or more of the established historical contexts, which are defined in this document.
- Individual residential properties eligible under Criterion A must retain the integrity aspects of location, design and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association. The property has to be in its original location, and its original design must be visually apparent, unobstructed by additions or alterations. The integrity aspects of setting, materials and workmanship are expected to have changed the most, and their substantial loss does not disqualify eligibility.

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- Individual residential properties eligible under Criterion B are eligible if they retain the same integrity aspects required for Criterion A (see above). The aspects of workmanship and materials must at least be minimally reflected in the visible façade.
- Individual residential properties eligible under Criterion C must represent a significant style, type, period or method of construction. Rarity of example is a justified reason for significance if the property represents a once common type now rarely found. Many Guttenberg properties might warrant state or national levels of significance because they combine architectural significance with rarity. Significance is possessed if the property represents and interprets the working career of a notable artist, architect, engineer or landscape architect and explains how that individual contributed to their respective fields. A property is significant if it possesses high artistic qualities, which characterize the architectural heritage of Guttenberg. Finally significance is possessed if the property represents local vernacular architecture or stylistic vernacular adaptations.
- Individual residential properties are eligible under Criterion D if they possess the potential to yield information through archeological treatment. For subsurface remains of buildings, structures or objects, it is expected that the integrity aspects of materials, workmanship, and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association are sufficiently retained so that the property is recognizable and qualifies to yield information. For the subsurface remains of dumps, sinks, or other cultural debris, it is necessary that the deposits be relatively intact and undisturbed. The individual nomination form must identify key research questions to be answered and must explain how the information yielded from the property will shed light on these questions with one or more of the established historical contexts which are defined in this document.

Registration Requirements: Individual Commercial Property Type:

Description:

The styles/types of this property type are treated in the style/type section (see above). Survey and research is required to fully document and distinguish the broad range of commercial property types in the city.

Commercial buildings in this study comprise two closely related sub-types, the one and two part commercial subtypes as defined by architectural historian Richard Longstreth. Longstreth has defined 11 basic commercial building types and his is the most comprehensive schema for use in Guttenberg. His types are all defined by the fundamental massing and facade arrangement and each type more or less persists over the years 1800-1950, and each tends to be influenced by the same styles, popular changes and evolving technologies and the availability of new building materials. Longstreth does not proceed to further subdivide each of his types. The types that follow represent groups of buildings that share the same basic structural or ornamental features. Usually these same buildings also share comparable construction dates. Each type is largely defined by the elements or treatments found in the upper story (if present) or the pediment. Storefronts are rarely original and change constantly both in design and materials (Longstreth).

The One-Part Commercial Block (c.1850-present):

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This is the single story version of the two-part type, being essentially only the storefront component, with or without a false front/parapet and cornice line being set above it. The origin of this type was the frontier and suburb and it was commonly expressed in frame construction. This type also includes many later bank buildings although it was overwhelmingly a retailing building type. The same general transitional phases mark the evolution of this type. By the 20th Century detailing was simpler with a greater uninterrupted array of display glass being possible. The Moderne influence resulted in a deeply recessed entrance with a simple wall surface above.

The Two-part Vertical Block (1830's-1930's):

This type consists of two-story buildings. The facade is divided into two horizontal zones, the public storefront level (base) and the more private upper floor (shaft). In the earlier examples the upper level ornamentation is additive and is generally not associated with the facade. This type was well adapted to house a diversified range of commercial uses including banks, hotels, office buildings and department stores. The vast majority of this subtype is two stories high but can range upwards to include as many levels as are generally associated with a pre-elevator era.

The type passed through a Victorian period of ornate exaggeration. The High Victorian years, continuing into the early 1900s was particularly fanciful, employing varied window openings, a broad range of materials, and fancy attics and turrets. Longstreth credits the Academic Movement (c. 1800s into the 1930s) with bringing about a more proportioned reordering of the decorative elements on the upper floors. That level was more unified, with the decorative elements being subordinated to the overall facade. The commercial building was to be unobtrusive and less ostentatious. Multi-colored brick and thin veneer stone was now available. European modernism first influenced the type between the mid-1920s and mid-1930s. A vertical emphasis was added, tying the floors together. An enriched wall surface resulted. A second period of influence (1930s-1940s) resulted in a strong emphasis on horizontally with decorative banding, smooth wall surfaces and the integration of signs into the whole building design. Forty-one surveyed properties fall under this sub-type.

The Three-part Vertical Block (late 1880's-1930's):

This subtype is counterpart of the taller counterpart of the two-part, with the distinction that the uppermost grouping of floors (most commonly from one to three stories) is given a distinctive architectural treatment which is analogous to the capital in the classical column. The American Trust, Banking and Insurance, and the Security buildings all fall under this subtype. The moderne style tended to reduce the dimensions of the uppermost zone with a recessed cap and sometimes add a tower.

The Vault (c.1900-1930's):

This subtype is most commonly associated with monumental bank designs. The entire main façade is enframed by a wrap-around (sides and top) decorative surround. A large entryway is usually combined with classical elements such as a temple front with columns. Façade windows are small. These buildings can be as high as four stories. This subtype was commonly used by the Prairie School in the early 20th century.

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Central Block With Flanking Wings (1890's-1920's):

This subtype is most commonly associated with public and institutional buildings and derived from the Italian Villa form. A central dominant core is flanked by recessed subordinate matching side wings. Banks and theaters also used this subtype. This subtype is commonly associated with commercial expressions of the Second Empire and Romanesque styles.

Enframed Block (Late 19th century-1930's):

Like the central block with flanking wings subtype this elongated subtype has a larger central massing and side wings but all three parts in this instance share the same height and the side wings are narrower. The central core usually employs a row of classical columns. It is also commonly used for public and institutional buildings but banks use it as well.

Three-part Block (1900-1940):

This subtype is elongated and consists of three equal narrow sections, the centermost being more elaborate than the flanking ones. Usually one to two stories high, examples employ English classical forms and ornamentation.

Arcaded Block (1900-1920):

This elongated subtype features an arcade or loggia which covers its façade. Examples range from one to three stories in height.

Significance:

Context #1, Guttenberg's Town/City Growth and Development, 1854-1955:

Guttenberg appears to retain a record number of this property. “True” vernacular properties most likely date to this earliest period and should be sought out. Commercial properties can interpret the physical patterns and scale of city growth and development. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the overall development of the early city. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding the development of the city.

Context #2, “Wir Sind Deutsch,” Germans Dominate in Guttenberg:

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The commercial properties owned by local German families most commonly also contained their homes as well, so this property type is particularly effective in interpreting the combined contexts of commerce and ethnicity. The ethnic association would be primary under this context however. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented association with the German ethnic community in Guttenberg. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual German merchant. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding the development of the city.

Context #3; The Role of the Mississippi River on Guttenberg’s History and Development:

This context combines commerce and the river economy. The river warehouses are excellent examples of properties which exploited the city’s river location to conduct business. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a significant direct association between commerce and the river or efforts to improve to improve river navigation or the riverfront. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations with the river themes. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential to better understand river related commerce.

Context #4; Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

This context directly addresses the role played by commercial properties in the economic development of Guttenberg. It includes only commercial properties but this encompasses such buildings as creameries, produce stations, car dealerships, and so on. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the importance of mining, industry or commerce. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of local commerce, mining or industry.

Context #5, House Construction in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

This context focuses on house building but it really includes all building as well as public improvements including utilities, roads and so on. In Guttenberg the lack of large scale house building over time makes it all the more important to consider all building types. Commercial properties are commonly larger, more elaborate and more expensive and they consequently say more about changing architectural tastes and the role of key local builders and designers. The best of these buildings can interpret this context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the local house building theme. It could have influenced the construction of other similar houses or it could have been a part of a house builder’s home and construction yard. Under Criterion B, the property must have been the primary residence or place of business of a notable local builder/contractor and ideally was also associated with his contracting yard. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding local construction patterns and techniques.

Context #6, The role of the Federal Government in Guttenberg’s History, 1939-52:

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Commercial properties might best represent the working careers of individuals who advocated for, or aided and abetted the various Federal assistance programs to improve the city. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the Federal highway, Depression relief, Public Works or similar assistance programs. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of these federal programs and their impact on the city's development.

Registration Requirements:

- Individual commercial properties must be directly associated with the City of Guttenberg, 1833 to present.
- Individual commercial properties must have a direct and significant association with one or more of the established historical contexts which are defined in this document.
- Individual commercial properties eligible under Criterion A must retain the integrity aspects of location, design and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association. The property has to be in its original location, and its original design must be visually apparent, unobstructed by additions or alterations. The integrity aspects of setting, materials and workmanship are expected to have changed the most, and their substantial loss does not disqualify eligibility.
- Individual commercial properties eligible under Criterion B are eligible if they retains the same integrity aspects required for Criterion A (see above). The aspects of workmanship and materials must at least be minimally reflected in the visible façade.
- Individual commercial properties eligible under Criterion C must represent a significant style, type, period or method of construction. Rarity of example is a justified reason for significance if the property represents a once common type now rarely found. Many Guttenberg properties will warrant state or national levels of significance because they combine architectural significance with rarity. Significance is possessed if the property represents and interprets the working career of a notable artist, architect, engineer or landscape architect and explains how that individual contributed to their respective fields. A property is significant if it possesses high artistic qualities which characterize the architectural heritage of Guttenberg. Finally significance is possessed if the property represents local vernacular architecture or stylistic vernacular adaptations.

Registration Requirements: Individual Industrial Property Type:

Description:

Context #1, Guttenberg's Town/City Growth and Development, 1854-1955:

The earliest plants employed load bearing exterior walls and internal heavy beam and column support systems. Almost uniformly building fronts are divided vertically into bays with intervening pilaster supports. Lower level fenestration and ceiling height tends to be higher than are the upper levels. Later designs, c.1890's and after, employ a more formalized tri-partite system with base, column and cap. Fenestration is reduced in scale with each successive level and a decorative corbelled brick parapet lines form the cap. Centered pediments with

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dates and firm names ornament major buildings. Central bays are highlighted with larger window sets and rounded transom lights.

- Individual commercial properties are eligible under Criterion D if they possess the potential to yield information through archeological treatment. For subsurface remains of buildings, structures or objects, it is expected that the integrity aspects of materials, workmanship, and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association are sufficiently retained so that the property is recognizable and qualifies to yield information. For the subsurface remains of dumps, sinks, or other cultural debris, it is necessary that the deposits be relatively intact and undisturbed. The individual nomination form must identify key research questions to be answered and must explain how the information yielded from the property will shed light on these questions.

Guttenberg retain a number of historic industrial properties and these have survived because they have been reused. Commercial properties can interpret the physical patterns and scale of city growth and development. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the overall industrial development of the early city. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant industrialist. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding the industrial development of the city.

Context #2, “Wir Sind Deutsch,” Germans Dominate in Guttenberg:

The industrial properties owned by local German families can best interpret this context. The ethnic association would be primary under this context however. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented association with the German ethnic community in Guttenberg. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual German industrialist. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding the industrial development of the city.

Context #3; The Role of the Mississippi River on Guttenberg’s History and Development:

This context combines industry and the river economy. In the earliest years the river was a shipping medium for raw materials and finished goods. Later the railroad supplanted this role. In recent years, shipping has gained ground once again. The pearl button industry is an excellent example of a significant property type under this context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a significant direct association between industry and the. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations with industry and the river. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential to better understand river related industrial development.

Context #4; Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

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This context directly addresses the role played by industrial and mining properties in the economic development of Guttenberg. It includes such properties as mines, mills, brick yards, and so on. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the importance of mining or industry. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of local mining or industry.

Context #5, House Construction in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

This context focuses on house building but it really includes all building as well as public improvements including utilities, roads and so on. In Guttenberg the lack of large scale house building over time makes it all the more important to consider all building types. Commercial, industrial and mining properties are commonly larger, more elaborate and more expensive and they consequently say more about changing architectural tastes and the role of key local builders and designers. The best of these buildings can interpret this context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the local house building theme. It could have influenced the construction of other similar houses or it could have been a part of a house builder's home and construction yard. Under Criterion B, the property must have been the primary residence or place of business of a notable local builder/contractor and ideally was also associated with his contracting yard. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding local construction patterns and techniques.

Context #6, The role of the Federal Government in Guttenberg's History, 1939-52.

Industrial or mining related properties might best represent the working careers of individuals who advocated for, or aided and abetted the various Federal assistance programs to improve the city. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the Federal highway, Depression relief, Public Works or similar assistance programs. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of these federal programs and their impact on the city's development.

Registration Requirements:

- Individual industrial properties must be directly associated with the City of Guttenberg, 1833 to present.
- Individual residential properties must have a direct and significant association with one or more of the established historical contexts which are defined in this document.
- Individual industrial properties eligible under Criterion A must retain the integrity aspects of location, design and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association. The property has to be in its original location, and its original design must be visually apparent, unobstructed by additions or alterations. The integrity

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aspects of setting, materials and workmanship are expected to have changed the most, and their substantial loss does not disqualify eligibility.

- Individual industrial properties eligible under Criterion B are eligible if they retain the same integrity aspects required for Criterion A (see above). The aspects of workmanship and materials must at least be minimally reflected in the visible façade.
- Individual industrial properties eligible under Criterion C must represent a significant style, type, period or method of construction. Rarity of example is a justified reason for significance if the property represents a once common type now rarely found. Many Guttenberg properties will warrant state or national levels of significance because they combine architectural significance with rarity. Significance is possessed if the property represents and interprets the working career of a notable artist, architect, engineer or landscape architect and explains how that individual contributed to their respective fields. A property is significant if it possesses high artistic qualities which characterize the architectural heritage of Guttenberg. Finally significance is possessed if the property represents local vernacular architecture or stylistic vernacular adaptations.
- Individual industrial properties are eligible under Criterion D if they possess the potential to yield information through archeological treatment. For subsurface remains of buildings, structures or objects, it is expected that the integrity aspects of materials, workmanship, and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association are sufficiently retained so that the property is recognizable and qualifies to yield information. For the subsurface remains of dumps, sinks, or other cultural debris, it is necessary that the deposits be relatively intact and undisturbed. The individual nomination form must identify key research questions to be answered and must explain how the information yielded from the property will shed light on these questions.

Registration Requirements: Residential and Commercial District Property Type:

Description:

Guttenberg has but two probable historic districts. The Front Street commercial district has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Bluff Street residential district, once envisioned to include most of that street, has been reduced to a few clusters of surviving buildings. The best is centered on South Bluff and Highway 52, while another cluster is focused on the brewery and former power plant. There are no visually cohesive groupings of post-vernacular houses so any Guttenberg districts will embrace vernacular properties. The recommended district is described below. It is also recommended that the Front Street district be enlarged by the addition of contiguous properties located on the several side streets. These recommendations are also described below.

A residential district is comprised of a combination of the several residential types and subtypes, associated outbuildings that were linked with a plat or residential development. The district must be physically distinctive and visually cohesive. For the purposes of this nomination a district is comprised of single-family houses or cottages to the near exclusion of other land use classes such as commercial, religious or multiple unit dwellings. Visually cohesive districts are most commonly comprised almost exclusively of house/cottage designs of a single and unified vernacular architectural expression.

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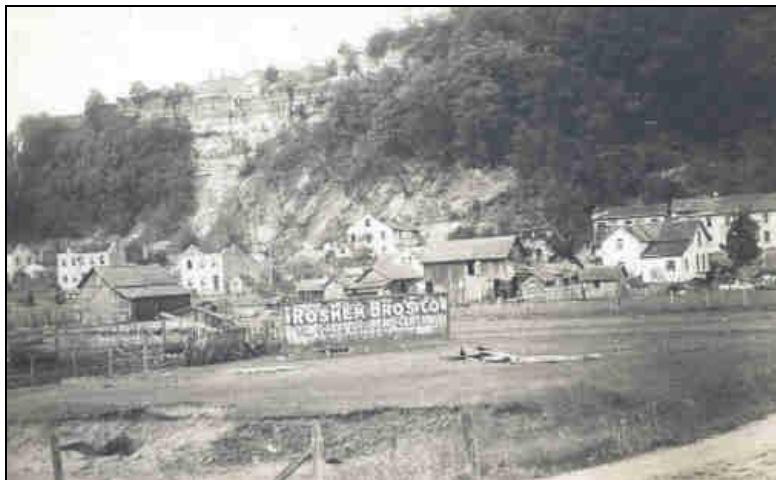
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South Bluff Residential District:

The South Bluff Street district includes the most interesting and best preserved grouping and range of stone I-houses and residences in the city. Stone outbuildings and caves are also associated with several of the properties. The properties to be included are in the 900s and 1000s blocks and 1030 South Highway 52.



Tornado damage, May 21, 1918



Tornado damage, May 21, 1918

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Tornado damage, May 21, 1918, view south

Context #1, Guttenberg's Town/City Growth and Development, 1854-1955:

The Front Street/River Park Drive Historic District (listed National Register of Historic Places, 1984) encompasses the majority of the city's earliest vernacular and early 20th Century commercial properties (54 buildings). This district was listed Criteria A for its important role in the city's growth and development, and under Criteria C for its architectural significance.

Eligible Properties:

Extensions to the Front Street district are recommended (see map, Section G) adding contributing buildings along the several side streets (Prince, Herder and Schiller streets).

There remains a small clustering of individually eligible buildings on First and Second streets, but no district was discerned.

Context #2, “Wir Sind Deutsch,” Germans Dominate in Guttenberg:

The Front Street/River Park Drive Historic District makes no Criteria A claim for having a significant German ethnic association although this would be a justified one. The proposed Bluff Street residential district would have a strong historical claim for its German linkages (Criteria A) and German vernacular architecture (Criteria C).

Eligible Properties:

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The Front Street district interprets the mercantile contributions of Guttenberg Germans to the city. The South Bluff district addresses the vernacular stone architecture that is linked to the German community.

Context #3; The Role of the Mississippi River on Guttenberg’s History and Development:

The Front Street/River Park Drive Historic District necessarily is directly associated with the river history of the city.

Eligible Properties:

Front Street historic district.

Lock & Dam #10, Fish Hatchery complex.

Ingleside Park has no obvious historical integrity but warrants investigation.

Context #4; Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

The Front Street/River Park Drive Historic District historic significance claim under Criteria A was based upon its historic role as the commercial core of the city. Industry played a secondary role.

Eligible Properties:

No clustering of industrial sites was found and very few individual factories retain any integrity.

Context #5, House Construction in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

The proposed Bluff Street district is potentially significant for its German vernacular architecture (Criteria C) and its link with the local house building trade (Criteria C, A).

Eligible Properties:

South Bluff Street District

Context #6, The role of the Federal Government in Guttenberg’s History, 1939-52.

The Front Street/River Park Drive Historic District has a direct association with the Lock and Dam complex, and the fish hatchery, both of which were Federal undertakings. The current boundary excludes the City Hall however.

Eligible Properties:

Lock & Dam #10 complex, Fish Hatchery Complex

Registration Requirements, Residential District Property Type:

- Residential/industrial/commercial district properties must be directly associated with the City of Guttenberg, 1833 to present.

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- Residential/industrial/commercial district properties must have a direct and significant association with one or more of the established historical contexts which are defined in this document.
- Residential/industrial/commercial district properties eligible under Criterion A must retain the integrity aspects of location, design and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association. The property has to be in its original location, and its original design must be visually apparent, unobstructed by additions or alterations. The integrity aspects of setting, materials and workmanship are expected to have changed the most, and their substantial loss does not disqualify eligibility.
- Residential/industrial/commercial district properties eligible under Criterion B are eligible if they retains the same integrity aspects required for Criterion A (see above). The aspects of workmanship and materials must at least be minimally reflected in the visible façade.
- Residential/industrial/commercial district properties eligible under Criterion C must represent a significant style, type, period or method of construction. Rarity of example is a justified reason for significance if the property represents a once common type now rarely found. Many Guttenberg properties will warrant state or national levels of significance because they combine architectural significance with rarity. Significance is possessed if the property represents and interprets the working career of a notable artist, architect, engineer or landscape architect and explains how that individual contributed to their respective fields. A property is significant if it possesses high artistic qualities which characterize the architectural heritage of Guttenberg. Finally significance is possessed if the property represents local vernacular architecture or stylistic vernacular adaptations.
- Residential/industrial/commercial district properties are eligible under Criterion D if they possess the potential to yield information through archeological treatment. For subsurface remains of buildings, structures or objects, it is expected that the integrity aspects of materials, workmanship, and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association are sufficiently retained so that the property is recognizable and qualifies to yield information. For the subsurface remains of dumps, sinks, or other cultural debris, it is necessary that the deposits be relatively intact and undisturbed. The individual nomination form must identify key research questions to be answered and must explain how the information yielded from the property will shed light on these questions.

Registration Requirements: Public, Religious, Fraternal, Recreational and Institutional Property Type:

Description:

The term “institutional” is broadly defined here to encompass public governmental, religious, fraternal, medical, civic and educational properties. Consequently this type includes public buildings, fraternal and ethnic halls, schools, hospitals, churches and church schools, and religious dormitories. Recreational buildings (Lakeside Dance Pavilion) are also included in this grouping because there are so few of these in Guttenberg. This survey looked particularly at the religious properties in the city.

Eligible Properties:

St. Mary’s Catholic School/Church complex

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St. John’s Lutheran Church
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
Masonic Building
Lakeside Dance Pavilion

Context #1, Guttenberg’s Town/City Growth and Development, 1854-1955:

Guttenberg retains three Moderne style public buildings which date from the later 1930s but an early town hall survives as a converted house. Most of the churches are second generation edifices. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D if it possesses a significant historical association with town government, church congregations, fraternal organizations, institutions or recreational facilities. A church congregation has to possess significance which transcends the usual story of a church body. It or its leaders must have effected the denomination or community in some measurable and exceptional manner. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the overall development of the city. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential to help better understand the development of the city.

Eligible Properties:

Municipal Building (recommended for inclusion within an enlarged Front Street district)
Context #2, “Wir Sind Deutsch,” Germans Dominate in Guttenberg:

Fraternal halls and ethnic churches best interpret this context. A property can be nominated under Criterion A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the roll played by fraternal or ethnic organizations, or church bodies. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual. Under Criterion D, the property is significant if it has the potential to yield information to better understanding the development of the city. The Turner’s Hall is non-extant and no recreational grounds are associated with the Germans apart from the winerys and beer gardens which were atop the bluffs.

Eligible Properties:

None found.

Context #3; The Role of the Mississippi River on Guttenberg’s History and Development:

The Lock & Dam #10 complex and the fish hatchery are the most applicable examples of this context under this property type heading. Lost public buildings like the fire house once graced the riverfront and added one more spire to the townscape. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the commercial importance of the river or the efforts to improve river navigation. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential to aid in better understanding of river commerce or river improvement.

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Eligible Properties:

There is no overlap between this context and this range of properties.

Context #4; Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

The Front Street/River Park Drive Historic District accounts for a number of fraternal halls but excludes most of the churches in Guttenberg. These buildings indirectly represent the wealth that was generated by local mining, industry and commerce. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented linkage with the importance of mining, industry or commerce. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of mining, commerce or industry.

Eligible Properties:

There is no overlap between this context and this range of properties.

Context #5, House Construction in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

Churches and fraternal houses can also indirectly represent the wealth that was generated by local mining, industry and commerce. The St. Mary's Rectory is the equivalent of a large single family house. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented linkage with the importance of the local house building trade. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its potential to yield new information that would lead to a better understanding of the local house building industry.

Eligible Properties:

A number of relocated former rectories were identified and one was investigated. Necessarily they have lost their historical associations. One of these, the original St. Mary's rectory, has yet to be located and would be of particular architectural interest, given its early age (1870s-80s).

Context #6, The role of the Federal Government in Guttenberg's History, 1939-52.

Church or other community leaders associated with fraternal or institutional organizations can be historically significant if they played a leading role in securing federal programs for Guttenberg. The associated churches, or fraternal/institutional buildings would be indirectly associated with this context. The best interpretive properties under this context would be the public water works and power plant buildings. These directly reflect federal post-Great Depression assistance. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the Federal highway, Depression relief, Public Works or similar assistance programs. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations.

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Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of these federal programs and their impact on the city’s development.

Eligible Properties:

The role of the Federal Housing Authority necessarily had a major impact on local house building after 1934 and a number of the houses identified in this survey utilized Federal financing or approved designs.

Registration Requirements:

- Individual institutional properties must be directly associated with the City of Guttenberg, 1833 to present.
- Individual institutional properties must have a direct and significant association with one or more of the established historical contexts which are defined in this document.
- Individual institutional properties eligible under Criterion A must retain the integrity aspects of location, design and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association. The property has to be in its original location, and its original design must be visually apparent, unobstructed by additions or alterations. The integrity aspects of setting, materials and workmanship are expected to have changed the most, and their substantial loss does not disqualify eligibility.
- Individual institutional properties eligible under Criterion B are eligible if they retain the same integrity aspects required for Criterion A (see above). The aspects of workmanship and materials must at least be minimally reflected in the visible façade.
- Individual institutional properties eligible under Criterion C must represent a significant style, type, period or method of construction. Rarity of example is a justified reason for significance if the property represents a once common type now rarely found. Many Guttenberg properties will warrant state or national levels of significance because they combine architectural significance with rarity. Significance is possessed if the property represents and interprets the working career of a notable artist, architect, engineer or landscape architect and explains how that individual contributed to their respective fields. A property is significant if it possesses high artistic qualities which characterize the architectural heritage of Guttenberg.
- Individual institutional properties are eligible under Criterion D if they possess the potential to yield information through archeological treatment. For subsurface remains of buildings, structures or objects, it is expected that the integrity aspects of materials, workmanship, and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association are sufficiently retained so that the property is recognizable and qualifies to yield information. For the subsurface remains of dumps, sinks, or other cultural debris, it is necessary that the deposits be relatively intact and undisturbed. The individual nomination form must identify key research questions to be answered and must explain how the information yielded from the property will shed light on these questions.

Registration Requirements: Historic Sites Property Type:

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This range of properties includes the riverfront, Ingleside Park, cemeteries, and any former recreational areas, particularly those having German cultural linkages. There is at least one former baseball field. This property type includes sites, usually without standing structures, which were the scenes of regular cultural events or public activities. Historical archeological properties are also included under this property type.

Significance:

Context #1, Guttenberg’s Town/City Growth and Development, 1854-1955:

Public recreational spaces such as parks, playgrounds and cemeteries, have the potential to interpret this context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D if it possesses a significant historical association with town growth and. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the overall development of the city. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual. A park might be the result of one individual’s advocacy or bequest. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential to help better understand the development of the city. Industrial archeological sites or the sites of past public buildings might be informative about town growth.

Eligible Properties:

Ingleside Park is a very special public park but it has never been investigated in depth for its eligibility. Nothing remains from its historic plantings or layout but the park should be further investigated. The City cemetery, south of the city, has also never been surveyed or investigated. It has an interesting elevated location and offers a pleasant perspective up Miner’s Creek Road.

Context #2, “Wir Sind Deutsch,” Germans Dominate in Guttenberg:

Public places where cultural ethnic events were held can best interpret this context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the roll played by ethnic organizations in Guttenberg. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant ethnic leader. Under Criterion D, the property is significant if it has the potential to yield information to better understanding the role played by German ethnic organizations in the city.

Eligible Properties:

No residences have yet been discovered which have strong historical associations with the German population of Guttenberg. Research is needed to develop the history of the cultural and religious German organizations. A number of German merchants have been acknowledged through their commercial properties. Stone buildings have a proven potential to particularly interpret the German population and further research is recommended to further document and evaluate both surviving and lost stone buildings.

Context #3; The Role of the Mississippi River on Guttenberg’s History and Development:

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Riverfront parks can interpret the importance of municipal beautification of the riverfront. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the cultural and communal importance of the river. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who led local efforts to improve the riverfront. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential to aid in better understanding of river commerce or river improvement. Some of the best designed houses cluster on either end of River Park Drive and their placement with a river vista bespeaks the important role of the river.

Eligible Properties:

Same comments relative to Ingleside Park.

The existing historic district has interpreted the three surviving riverfront warehouses and Front Street in general. There is archeological potential at the sawmill and cremery sites, as well as other riverfront commercial building sites.

The commercial fishermen’s huts have been demolished since 1979.

Context #4; Mining, Industry and Commerce in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

The lead mining district and any known lead smelters lies west of the town proper. Industrial sites such as potteries, breweries or brickyards could interpret the history of industry, principally through Criterion D. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented linkage with the importance of mining, industry or commerce. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of mining, commerce or industry.

Eligible Properties:

No survey of the lead mining region has yet been conducted.

Several residences located on Garber Road (see survey inventory) were surveyed and the Lake House recommended for its architectural merit. Despite Guttenberg’s strong industrial heritage, only the Canning Factory (individually listed) and components of Meuser Lumberyard (see ice house) survive with any integrity. Most lamentable is the demolition of the Enderes Tool Company plant, the former tractor plant.

Context #5, House Construction in Guttenberg, 1854-1955:

The site of a former house contractor’s workshop has the potential (under Criterion D) to be informative about this historical context. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented linkage with the importance of the local house building trade. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its potential to yield new information that would lead to a better understanding of the local house building industry.

Eligible Properties:

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Particular emphasis was placed on this context and numerous houses were recommended as being eligible on the basis of their architecture and a few for their association with local builders.

Context #6, The role of the Federal Government in Guttenberg’s History, 1939-52.

The lock and dam construction site, located immediately west of the complex, has some potential under Criterion D to yield information about the construction of the lock and dam by the federal government. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented effect on the Federal highway, Depression relief, Public Works or similar assistance programs. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of these federal programs and their impact on the city’s development.

Eligible Properties:

The Lock and Dam complex, including the Lock Master’s house, have been determined eligible, as have the Fish Hatchery facilities. The Municipal Building, despite its unsympathetic elevator addition, is recommended as being eligible for its very strong association with federal assistance. The power plant and water treatment plant require further investigation to determine their eligibility (require original photographs for integrity comparisons).

Registration Requirements:

- Historic sites properties must be directly associated with the City of Guttenberg, 1833 to present.
- Historic sites properties must have a direct and significant association with one or more of the established historical contexts which are defined in this document.
- Historic sites properties eligible under Criterion A must retain the integrity aspects of location, design and the cumulative aspects of feeling and association. The property has to be in its original location, and its original design must be visually apparent, unobstructed by additions or alterations. The integrity aspects of setting, materials and workmanship are expected to have changed the most, and their substantial loss does not disqualify eligibility.
- Historic sites properties eligible under Criterion B are eligible if they retain the same integrity aspects required for Criterion A (see above). The aspects of workmanship and materials must at least be minimally reflected in the visible façade.
- Historic sites properties eligible under Criterion C must represent a significant style, type, period or method of construction. Rarity of example is a justified reason for significance if the property represents a once common type now rarely found. Many Guttenberg properties will warrant state or national levels of significance because they combine architectural significance with rarity. Significance is possessed if the property represents and interprets the working career of a notable artist, architect, engineer or landscape architect and explains how that individual contributed to their respective fields. A property is significant if it possesses high artistic qualities which characterize the architectural heritage of Guttenberg.
- Historic sites properties are eligible under Criterion D if they possess the potential to yield information through archeological treatment. A property can be nominated under Criteria A, B or D for its historical

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significance under this context. Under Criterion A the property has to have a documented linkage with the importance of mining, industry or commerce. Under Criterion B, the property must have a direct association with a significant individual who had one of these same historical associations. Under Criterion D, the property is significant for its information potential better understanding of mining, commerce or industry.

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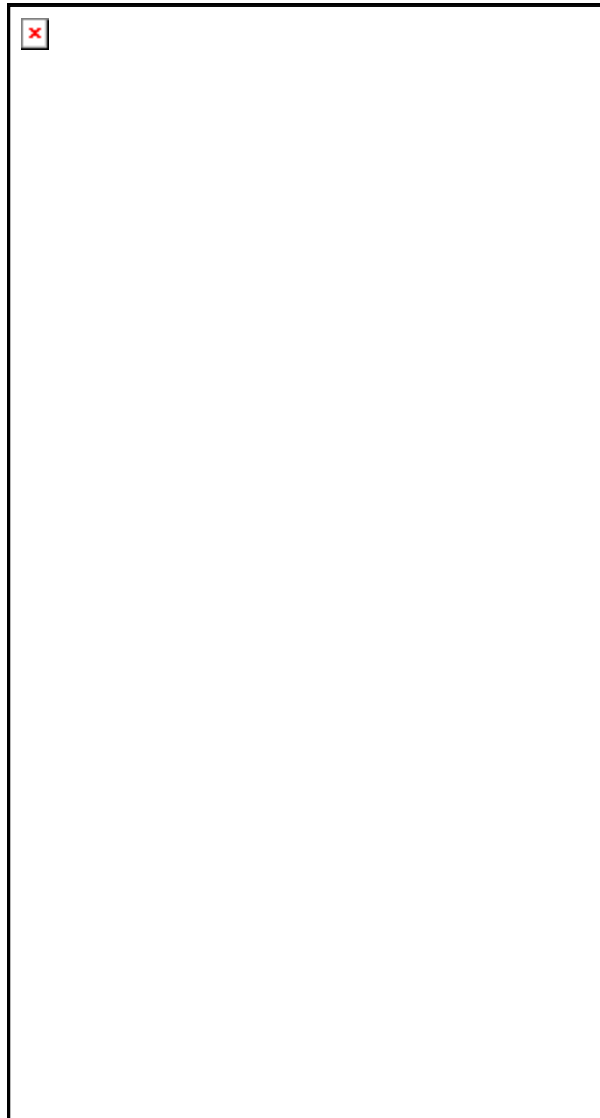
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G. Geographical Data:

This project includes the incorporated City of Guttenberg. A master fold-out survey map with site numbers is appended to this report. The map excerpt shown below locates the Front Street Historic District (light gray shading) as well as recommended additions to that district (dark gray shading).



(North is to the top of the map)

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H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods:

1979 Survey and Evaluation:

Two-weeks of preliminary research were followed by four weeks of on-site fieldwork. The field survey itself consisted of door-to-door inquiry. Frequently the source encountered was a renter or non-owner. Much data was obtained pertaining to current ownership, owner's address, building status (recent modifications), and recent past history. The surveyor was frequently referred to potential oral sources, oftentimes the previous owner. After a week of work it became evident that we were obtaining relatively little "early" historic data with very few construction dates or builder's names.

The principal challenge was locating written historical sources of virtually any sort. Very little material was available for Guttenberg. Fortunately, a history written by Walter Jacobs had been prepared and this fairly thorough work constituted the core of historic material previous to beginning the survey proper. In addition much attention was paid to the Sanborn maps, Guttenberg being represented by a full series (1886-1938). These were found to be invaluable during the survey proper. Industrial Census records were especially useful. Time was taken to tabulate occupations from the Census years 1850-1900. There were no city directories or similar sources available for this site. There were several local publications which featured quantities of advertisements which were of some value. Generally speaking Guttenberg has never located its commercial activities or its residences by street or house number. For this reason it was critical that we locate oral sources in order to locate important structures. County Assessor data was not made available as it was during the 2000-01 resurvey effort. Information was organized under the owner's name so only locals intimate with who was who could efficiently access it anyway.

Arrangements to involve high school students in the survey project in the areas outside of the district had been made prior to the beginning of the survey. Mr. Howard Hubbel, an instructor volunteered his honors class. I met with the school principal and with Mr. Hubbel, and developed a survey form tailored to the abilities of the high school students. Twenty-three students spent two afternoons working north and south of the district. They compiled sixty-three forms, a third of which were eventually included in the survey. While the data obtained was minimal, it was sufficient for the needs of the survey. Potential historic sites were identified and I was able to follow up on those which appeared most promising. In reviewing this project, Mr. Hubbel suggested (a) that a slide or film presentation would be a good training tool to assist surveyors in recognizing potential historic structures, and (b) that it would be more useful to have an instructor who is more knowledgeable with this type of history, and lastly (c) that local service groups might well be included in this type of participation. Because of a lack of time, the high school participation was vital inasmuch as a large part of the community was surveyed on a person-to person basis, and also the project allowed for community people to have an opportunity to identify valued structures on their own.

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Another aspect of community participation, the location of written information and photographs, was less successful. The surveyor located almost all of this type of material through talking to people. Arrangements to have photographs copied at the newspaper office fell through. Much critical data was located for the early period of settlement and growth, 1845-1869. It can be stated in general that there are apparently very few non-oral historic materials or photographs to be found in Guttenberg.

The results of the surveys were compared with the Sanborn material, the 1858 plat map and the 1869 Bird's Eye View lithograph. Site sheets were collated with the card file of businesses. Phone contacts were made during the last week to fill in data gaps. In general, it was found that person-to-person contact produced better data than did phone contacts. Many persons cooperated with the survey by obtaining their building abstracts. These were useful but of course offered no definite information concerning structures. These were crucial for associating local "notables" with structures however.

The 1979 Guttenberg Survey Project exemplified the problems which are inherent in attempting to compile a survey of historic extant structures. The effort was for the most part dependent upon oral history sources in our search for data and to a great extent this data was dated post 1900. While one very fine general history was in existence, we were generally hampered by a lack of potential written sources as well as by a lack of time and person power to better utilize the existing although fragmentary newspaper sources.

2000-01 Survey and Research Methodology:

This project phase sought to update the original 1979 survey, with emphasis on demolished or altered surveyed properties, and to prepare a multiple property document form for the city's historical properties. The Phase II work plan envisioned an extensive and intensive local volunteer role, with the consultant focusing on the multiple property document and guiding the overall survey process. Volunteers gathered historic photos, conducted historical research and took photographs. They distributed questionnaires to the owners of surveyed properties.

An initial two-day consultant visit (October 17-18, 2000) finalized the project work plan and developed an initial survey list of 93 properties. These properties were photographed during a second visit (November 28-29). City staff checked property legal descriptions and set up the inventory forms on computer. Commission members gathered county assessor data for each surveyed property. Loaned historic images were scanned and stored as digital images and the originals were returned to their owners.

One issue that developed as an important one was the confusion of addresses. The city hall staff and the Commission put a lot of effort into correcting addresses so that they would agree with the new E-911 address system. Discrepancies were found in the Assessor's records and in the addresses which owners used. Changing these numbers guaranteed confusion relative to the 1979 addresses.

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While the Commission wanted to broaden and update its survey, there were no prepared lists of altered or even demolished buildings ready at the start of the project. A major reason for this was the lack of any local photograph copies from the 1979 survey. The Commissioners, past and present, had been forced to work with postage stamp-sized photocopied cutouts from photographic contact sheets. It was difficult for them to appreciate which buildings had been altered. The 1979 project had no funding for photographs and even the State Historical Society lacked actual photo prints. This was remedied by using project matching funds to secure prints. While this consumed the consultant’s time resources to organize and label the photos, the project was able to proceed only by obtaining the photos.

Prior to getting the photos the consultant prepared a master list of historic properties in Guttenberg, merging the State Historical Society property list, the Commission’s list and the new survey properties. This fairly massive list, appended below, served as the baseline for the project and enabled the Commission members and city staff to correct faulty addresses and redundant entries. It was also useful in tracking the progress of site sheet development, as folders and computerized site forms (prepared by city staff) were sent to the consultant, and draft site sheets returned for review.

It wasn’t until quite late in the project that all parties became aware of the need to fulfill the project goal of updating altered properties from the 1979 survey. Attention had been focused on the new survey list and the Commissioners couldn’t really develop a list of altered buildings until they had, and had organized their copies of the 1979 survey. This belated epiphany virtually doubled the number of site forms that were to be developed.

While the lack of photographs had hindered the Commission and the promulgation of the 1979 survey results to the community and property owners, the lack of good master site maps was an equal hindrance. A eleventh-hour effort was made to somehow map at least the site numbers on a master city map. The Commission accomplished this in stellar fashion and the resulting map is appended in this report. It is hoped that over time, this mapped data can be transformed into a “data layer” in a municipal or regional planning Geographic Information System. Future maps can locate demolished buildings, eligible or listed buildings, all stone buildings, or code buildings by their year of construction.

The project called for supplementing the existing inventory by surveying additional National Register eligible properties. In Guttenberg it is next to impossible to obtain historical data on a property without exhaustive research. Some historical property associations are known in the oral history. Historical newspaper accounts make reference only to the property owner rather than any address (there were no addresses until very recently). Most of the obviously historic properties were documented in 1979 so the current effort was forced to focus on architecture in lieu of history to a great extent. The passage of over 20 years since the first survey meant that architectural themes ignored in the first survey were now considered important. A strong emphasis on local house builders and designers is the best example of this greater awareness of what might be important. The Commissioners were at times bewildered as the city was canvassed for the best examples of contemporary and ranch house design. The properties which were surveyed in 2001 were those that retained their integrity of design

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and materials. In most cases, additional research will be necessary before most can be deemed historically significant.

No archeological methods were employed as a part of this project.

Recommendations For Future Historic Preservation Efforts:

1. Amend and expand the Front Street Historic District (see map in Section G), adding those commercial properties which line the side streets (Goethe, Herder, Schiller) between Front and Second streets.
2. Nominate the St. Mary’s Catholic Church complex as a historic district.
3. Nominate the South Bluff Historic District.
4. Develop a walking tour and map of the Front Street Historic District.
5. Continue to maintain and expand the local historical inventory. Make it available to the public by depositing it or a copy at the public library.
6. Continue to research the historic contexts developed in this report, identifying associated properties.
7. Focus research attention on the construction of Guttenberg’s stone buildings, c.1855-65, identifying builders and designers.
8. Focus research efforts to locate contemporary descriptions of Guttenberg in area newspapers and journals.

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MASTER LIST OF HISTORICAL PROPERTIES IN GUTTENBERG:

Bolded text indicates the property has been demolished since 1979. A shaded gray highlight indicates that the property is either National Register listed or is eligible for listing.

State Historical Society Site Inventory Number, prefix is 22-00---	Address Original # in parenthesis, E911 is second number	Name	Phase I (1979) Documentation	Phase II (2001) Documentation	NRHP Status and Eligibility Recommendations
294	Near Lakeside Ballroom	Sternwheeler Louise			
1024	103 North 1 st	Ellen Johnson		On current survey list	
1025	107	Jan Frommelt		On current survey list	
1026	115	Tuecke House		On current survey list	Yes
301	(120) 118	Johannsen Bldg	Site form	Resurveyed, altered since 1979	
1027	119			On current survey list	Yes
302	(121) 123	Eglseder House	Site form		
303	127	Ihm House	Site form		
1028	130	Hartman House		On current survey list	Yes
1029	210	Michael & Jill Sasse		On current survey list	
1000	226	Virgil Niehaus		On current survey list	
304	227	Dennis, Gayle Hanna House		On current survey list	Yes
1001	230	Jim Ihm		On current survey list	
1002	302	Dennis, Julie Zittergruen		On current survey list	
305	311	Uriel Grocery	Site form		
306	318	Eberhart House	Site form		
1003	322	Karyl, David Fensterman		On current survey list	Yes
307	403	Moser House	Site form		
1004	415	H. Duwe		On current survey list	Yes
308	510	House/White House	Site form		
1005	519	Ronald, Connie Fischer		On current survey list	
1006	730	Catherine Brink		On current survey list	
963	103 South 1st	Borman		On current survey list	Yes
962	110	Tuecke		On current survey list	
961	114	Grace Sargent		On current survey list	
310	118	Kuempel Stone House	Site form		
960	122	Sara Noack		On current survey list	
959	123/25	Hess Apartment		On current survey list	

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311	130	Masonic Hall			
312	202	Halstead Mem. Meth. Church	Site form	Resurvey, no 1979 photo	
313	207	Tuecke Funeral Home	Site form		Demolished, new bldg. 203-07-11
314	(208) 210	Borrett Stone House	Site form		
315	211	Moser Stone House	Site form		Indiv. Listing Demolished
316	212/214	St. Paul Luth. Church	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Yes
317	215	Jacobs Brick House	Site form		
318	(216) 218	House/Dettbarn House	Site form		
319	219	House/Evers House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
320	222	Northwestern Bell Telephone Office	Site form		
321	223	House/Pfaffly House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
322	(230) 226	Meyers Cigar Factory	Site form		
323	(300) 302	McClaine House	Site form		Indiv. listing
324	(302) 304	Friedline House	Site form		
325	303	House/Christen House	Site form		
326	(304) 306	Office bldg.	Site form		
327	(306) 308	Bldg/Ratskeller Lounge	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Yes
328	307	Bldg/house/Al's Barber Shop	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
329	(308) 310	Wach's Shoe Shop	Site form	On current survey list	
330	(310) 314-16	Bldg/John's Radio & TV	Site form		
331	(403) 407	Gas station/Mike's DX Station/ Detail Shop	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
332	406	House/Dubbels House	Site form		
333	411	House/Winkler Stone House	Site form		
334	(410-12) 410	House/Meyer House	Site form		
335	(413) 415	Eckert House	Site form		Indiv. listing
336	418	House/Cassut House	Site form		
337	(421) 419	House/Eckert House	Site form		
338	422	House/Degnan House	Site form		
339	423	House/Eckert-Vonderhaar House	Site form		

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340	430	St. Clair Hotel	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Yes
341	502	Gutt. City Mun. Bldg.	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Yes
342	503	Fuerste House	Site form		Indiv. listing
343	507	Schultz House	Site form		
344	510	Hess House	Site form	On current survey list	
345	511	Dewgies Auto Parts	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
346	512	Hess Furniture Company	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
347	518	Saeugling House	Site form		
348	519	U.S.P.O.	Site form		
349	520	Millham Laundromat	Site form		
350	522	Kennedy-Charlesworth House	Site form		
351	523	Central Hotel/Klaes Apts.	Site form		
352	(526) 530	Jacobs House	Site form		
353	527	Iowa State Liquor Store	Site form		
354	(611) 611-13	Ford Service Center	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
355	(612) 614	Groth House	Site form	On current survey list	
356	(613) 615	Tomkins House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
357	618	Lois Backes House	Site form		
358	(617) 619	Jaquette House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
958	618	Same as 357?		On current survey list	
359	622	Alley House/Leonette Duwe House/Klein	Site form		Yes
360	620-620 1/2	Stone house	Site form	New photo, form	
361	623	Lundt House	Site form		
362	631	Schute House	Site form		
363	703	Backhaus House	Site form		
364	(704) 702	Eppens House	Site form		
957	711	Morteo		On current survey list	
365	715	Nieland House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Indiv. Listing
999	718	Frommelt		On current survey list	Yes
998	722	Anderson		On current survey list	
997	726	Eglseder		On current survey list	
996	730	Deb Morman		On current survey list	
993	802	Wes Baier		On current survey list	

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992	811	Noggel		On current survey list	
991	823	Tony Hess		On current survey list	
990	826	Virgil Hyde		On current survey list	
989	831	Kickbush		On current survey list	
988	910	Ice House		On current survey list	Yes
366	1014	Jaeger House	Site form		
559	110 North 2nd	Reth House		On current survey list, photo only	
367	214	Enderes Tool Co.	Site form		Demolished
368	306	Wessell House	Site form		Demolished
369	310	Wm. Behn House/ Hansel House	Site form		
370	(313) 319	Kottke House	Site form		
371	314	Ulrich House			
1008	326	Kuemple			Yes
1009	423	Nanvy McClellan		On current survey list	
1010	531	Gertrude Christen		On current survey list	
1011	614	Blanche Kruse		On current survey list	
1012	722	Howard Hubble		On current survey list	
372	119 S. 2nd	Ulrich House			Demolished
967	207	Loren and Sharon Moser, Old Meth. Parsonage/ Bosckerking House		On current survey list	
969	214	Wilma Berns House		On current survey list	
1031	218	Hefel House		On current survey list	
373	223	Felder House	Site form		
374	302	Roelphe House		Resurvey, altered since 1979	
375	307	L. Gerder House	Site form		
376	402	Horstman House	Site form		Yes
970	410-412	Claude Frommelt		On current survey list	Yes
377	411	Kuempel House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
378	418	Baches House		On current survey list	
971	422	Tim Heller		On current survey list	Yes
972	423	Virginia Saeugling		On current survey list	
402	South Second, Herder	St. Mary's Parish Historic District		On current survey list	Eligible
379	502	Sisters' House, St. Marys Church	Site form		Yes
384	518	St. Mary Cath. Church	Site form		Yes
387	(526-30) 520	St. Mary Cath. Ch. Parsonage	Site form		Yes
[see 975]	[214 Herder]	[St. Mary's Grade-		On current survey list	Yes

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		High School]			
380	503	Berns House	Site form		
382	511	Hess House	Site form		Demolished
383	515	Boge House	Site form		
385	519	Goheen House	Site form		
386	523	Lou Ann Hess House	Site form		
388	527	Orcutt House	Site form		Demolished
389	603	Kann House	Site form		Demolished
390	(621) 623	Kann House	Site form		
977	622	Steve Rausch		On current survey list	Yes
978	703	Glee Kuempel		On current survey list	Yes
979	718	Martin Hefel/ Dennis Peterson House		On current survey list	Yes
391	(804) 802	Mikota House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
392	831	Hacket House	Site form		
393	1015	Parker House	Site form		
394	109 (110?) North 3 rd	Breiman House	Site form		
395	310	Friedlein Hotel	Site form		
	413	Old address for Kann Mfg., see 307 Pryam Street (210 Regent?)			
397	631	Jackie Palmer House			
398	903	Kellerer House			
1013	1003	Jerome Wach owns Cecil Torrey tenant		On current survey list	Yes
399	1030	Alice Althoff House	?		
964	114 South 3rd	Marg. Minger House		On current survey list	
1014	118	John and Kathy Greve		On current survey list	
400	230	Donnan House	Site form		
401	418	Parker House	Site form		
421	500			On current survey list	
402	503-07	St. Mary Cath. Grade School	Site form		Yes
403	(615) 618 S. 3 rd Lane	Matt-Bahls-Nieland House	Site form		Indiv. listing
405	(813) 810 S. 3 rd Lane	Ward-Tielbar House	Site form		
958	930 N 4 th	Moser/Sodawasser		On current survey list, to be demolished	Yes
406	(1214) 1202	Lakeside Pavilion-ballroom	Site form		
976	(514) 1210 S 4th	Helen Troester		On current survey list, bank wants to demolish	
425	[710 N. Bluff] 630 N. 6 th	Saeugling House (duplicate entry)	Site form		

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407	1210	Kaspar House	Site form		Demolished
409	1030 S. Hwy 52	Heck House	Site form	See S. Bluff district below	Eligible as part of district
451	1231	Leighen-Ingles	Site Form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
410	511 Acre	Chas. Patzner Dairy	Site form (one form for all)		
411	511 Acre	Same, house	“		
412	511 Acre	Chas. Patzner Barn	“		
413	511 Acre	Chas. Patzner outbldg.	“		
414	511 Acre	Same, bldg.	“		
415	511 Acre	Same, outbldg.	“		
416	(426) 515 Acre	Dunker’s Winery	Site form		
417	515 Acre	Same, house			
418	515 Acre	Same, shed			
419	314 N Bluff	Dale Tuecke House			
420	302	Harter House	Site form		Demolished
423	318	Elmer Herman House	Site form		
424	602	Berns House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
425	710	Saeugling House	Site form		
426	114 S. Bluff	Fassbinder House	Site form		
427	(120) 118	Benskin-Cunningham House	Site form		
428	(126) 122	White House	Site form		
429	130	Felder House	Site form	New photo	Yes
430	402/410	Jungt Brewery, see small stone house to south, Naser, Patricia Shahrivier	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Yes
431	402	house			“
432	402	Stable house			“
433	402	Granary			“
434	402	Storage shed			“
435	502	Randal House	Site form		
436	602	Schultz House	Site form		
437	606 (no current #)	Michelle Felder House	Site form		
438	614	Steen House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
439	630	DeCooke House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
440	(702) 706	Rodenberg House	Site form		
1034	S. Bluff Res. District	8 houses including two non-contributing	New site form		Eligible as a district

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441	1014	Sadewasser Farmstead	Site form		Eligible as part of district
442	1014	Same, house #1	Site form		Eligible as part of district
443	1014	Same, barn			Eligible as part of district
444	1014	Same, smoke house			Eligible as part of district
445	1014	Same, spring house			Eligible as part of district
446	1016	Same, house #2			Eligible as part of district
448	1022	Pensel House	Site form	On current survey list	Eligible as part of district
1034	1100	Intrusive property			Non-contributing
449	1106	Stoeffler/Gloria Pierce House	Site form	On current survey list	Eligible as part of district
1035	1110	Intrusive property			Non-contributing
447	1114	Geuder/Grewelow House	Site form	On current survey list	Eligible as part of district
409	1030 S. Hwy 52	Heck House (duplicate entry)	Site form		Eligible as part of district
408	1215 S. Bluff	Schrunk House	Site form		
450	1218	Moser House	Site form		
451	1231 S. Hwy. 52	Leitgen-Ingles			Yes
452	222 Garber Road	Lake House	Site form	New photo taken	Yes
453	131 Garber Road	Vanstaden Distillery	Site form		
454	Same	House			
455	Same	Spring house			
456	Same	Shed			
457	231 Garber Rd.	Kregel House	Site form		
458	10 China	Bolsinger House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Yes
459	303	Mueller Holstein Dairy	Site form		
460	303	Same, south barn			
461	303	Same, north barn			
462	--- Goethe	House (probable duplicate of below)			
463	3	Frank Walter Bldg.	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
464	(5) 7	Chicago House/Kann Bldg./Degnan Bldg.	Site form		

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465	(12) 10	Schwaller House/ Kann House	Site form		
466	(12) 10	Same, stone barn	Site form		Indiv. Listing, demolished
467	15	Gutt. State Bank/Security State Bank	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Indiv. Listing
468	106	Scholtz House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Yes
469	110	Kolker House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Indiv. Listing
470	114	Horstman House	Site form		
471	10 Herder	Troester House	Site form		
472	11	Nading Beauty Shop	Site form		
473	(14) 12	Cathi's Salon	Site form		
474	15	Agnes Tap	Site form		
475	107	Briar House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
476	110	Weyant House	Site form		
477	111	The Bee Hive	Site form		
478	115	Mahowald House	Site form		
	210	See St. Mary's School			
973	211			On current survey list	
975	214	St. Mary Middle School	Eligible as part of St. Mary complex	On current survey list	Yes
974	215	C. Urbalejo House		On current survey list	
980	114 Hermann	Randy Hoeger		On current survey list	
479	11 Koerner	Duwe House	Site form		
480	(106) 103 Lessing	Hess House	Site form		
481	210	Nadine Sportsman House/Frommelt House	Site form		
983	Lock & Dam Lane 10	Lock Keeper's House		On current survey list	Eligible
901	110 Lorenz Lane	Century Lodge Motel		On current survey list	
1032	311 Main	Betty Musengo		On current survey list	
482	406 Miners Creek	Pelzer Flour Mill/ Freeman House	Site form		
483	114 Pearl	Aulwes House	Site form		
295	203 Pearl	St. John's American Lutheran Church		Survey of 1949 building	Eligible
966	302	Larry, Monica Turner, file not ret'd		On current survey list	
965	303 (also 126			On current survey list	

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	S. 3 rd)				
484	10 Prince	Buechel House	Site form		
485	11	Junk House	Site form		
396	307 Pryam (Correction from 413 N. 3 rd)	Gutt. Corn Canning Co./ Kann Mfg. Co.	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Indiv. Listing
486	102 N River Park Drive	Rentschler House	Site form		
487	118	Ihm House	Site form	On current survey list	Yes
1015	126	W. Keener		On current survey list	
1016	130	L. Manson		On current survey list	Yes
1017	202	William and Mary Meyer		On current survey list	Yes
1018	222	R. Reinitz		On current survey list	
1019	302	G. Moser		On current survey list	
488	310	Scholz House			
1020	318	Fiddler's Green Robert Chadima		On current survey list	Yes
1021	322	E. Walter		On current survey list	Yes
489	(328) 326	Barnhart-Whisting House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Demolished
1022	410	J. Geuder		On current survey list	Yes
490	518	Nichols House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
1023	522	N. Esslinger		On current survey list	
1030	930 Park Lane	Dr. D. E. Meder		On current survey list	Yes
491	S. River Park Drive	Beuskin Boat House			
492	114	Tangeman House		Resurvey, altered since 1979	
493	130	Dave Bahls			Yes
494, 495	131	Gutt. Public Schools	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
496	(204) 202	Boyce House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	
497	206	Corine's Beauty Shop	Site form		
498	210	Kuemple Plmbg & Heating	Site form		Demolished
003	River Park Drive	Front Street Historic District			
501	(216) 214	Bellamy House/ Jenkins Bldg.	Site form		Front District/c
502	(222) 218	Albertus Bldg.	Site form		Front District/c Indiv. listing
503	(224) 222	Schultz Bldg.	Site form	Resurvey, altered since	Front District/c

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				1979	
504	226	Troester House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
505	230	Cerny House	Site form	On current survey list	Front District/c
507	(300) 302	Dubpernell Store/ Village Green	Site form		Front District/c
508	(302) 304	BAIER BLDG.	Site form		Front District/c Demolished
509	(304) 306	Degan Ins. & Realty	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
510	(306) 308	Ihm Store/Merrick		Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
511	(308) 310	Aulwes Bakery/ Degnan Bldg./Kann	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
512	(310) 312	Giesler’s Millinery/ Schuster House	Site form		Front District/c
513	(312) 314	Gull Jewelry/Books & Soforth	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
514	(314) 316	Webster Bldg.	Site form		Front District/c
516-19	(315) 331	Gutt. Nat. Fish Hatchery & Aquarium	Site form		Front District/c and Gutt. Nat. Fish Hatchery & Aquarium Dist.
516	(315) 331	Same, Aquarium			Same
517	(315) 331	Same, Supt’s Res.		Resurvey, altered since 1979	Same
518	(315) 331	Same, garage			Same
519	(315) 331	Same, pump house			Same
520	(316-18) 318	Mick & Schuster Law Office	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/nc altered
522	(400) 402	Beum’s Drug Store/ Schmidt Bldg.	Site form		Front District/c altered
523	(402) 404	Central Meat Market/ Purple Princess Salon	Site form		Front District/c altered
524	406	Gilbertz House	Site form		Front District/c altered
525	410	Harris House	Site form		Front District/c
526	412	Essers Shoes	Site form		Front District/c Demolished
527	414	Horsch Tailor Shop/ Tujetsch Ins. Agency	Site form		Front District/c Demolished
528	(416) 418	Mr. Roger’s Hair Styling Salon	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
529	(418) 420	Kris and Karins Fashions/Style Shop	Site form		Front District/nc
530	422	IOOF Bldg./Big	Site form	Resurvey, altered since	Front District/c

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		River Marketing		1979	
531	(424) 426	Old Post Office/ Moxies Tavern/ Bakery Company	Site form		Front District/c
532	(426) 428	Cassuth Bldg.	Site form		Front District/c
533	430	Falkenhainer- Kuempel-Lake Bldg.	Site form		Front District/c
534	431	Schmees-Sullivan Warehouse/ Cafe Mississippi	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
535	(500) 502	Esser’s Clothing Store	Site form		Front District/nc
536	504	Earle Bldg./Connie’s Apparel	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/nc
537	(508) 506	Ben Lake Bldg./G& G	Site form		Front District/c
538	(510) 508	Dahlstrom Jewelry Store	Site form	Altered, to be resurveyed	Front District/nc
539	512	Mahowald Bldg.	Site form		Front District/c
540	(514) 514-16	Niemeyer’s Store/ Schroeder Hardware	Site form		Front District/c
541	518	Barnhardt Bldg.	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
542	519	City Fish Market	Site form		Front District/nc
543	(526) 522	Byer Goddard Bldg.	Site form		Front District/c
544	(530) 528	Kann Imports	Site form		Front District/c
545	531	Fleck Warehouse	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c altered
546	600-700	Comm. Fishermens’ Shanties	Site form		Front District/ nc demolished
547	602	Meder’s Dentist Office	Site form		Front District/nc
548	(606) 608	Klein’s Brewery/ Brown’s Ford/ Joe’s Pizza	Site form		Front District/nc
549	607	Chase-Dahm Studio/ Groth House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
550	610	Sadewasser House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c
551	614	Palmer-Ives House/ Kirschbaum House	Site form		Front District/c
552	618	Walter House/ Brown House	Site form		Front District/c
553	622	Mick House	Site form	Resurvey, altered since 1979	Front District/c altered
554	626	Brown House	Site form		Front District/nc
555	630	Dr. Duffin House/	Site form		Front District/c

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		Niemeyer House			
556	703	Weist-Class Bldg./Landing	Site form		Front District/c
557	700	Wiest-Class Warehouse	Site Form missing from book		Front District/c
984	722	Parker House		On current survey list	
558	730	Kann House	Site form		
560	802	David Brown House, file not returned		On current survey list	
561	806	House			
985	810	Finch House		On current survey list	
986	814	Bolsinger		On current survey list	
562	822	Weber Hous/ Freidlein House	Site form		Indiv. listing
563	902	Hoeger/Bob Lake		On current survey list	
564	910	Wehmer House/ Lake House	Site form	On current survey list	Indiv. Listing
987	912				
565	6 Schiller	Niemeyer House	Site form		
566	7	Fleck Store	Site form		Front District/c
567	10	Fleck Warehouse	Site form		
568	11	Klaes-Barnhardt House	Site form		
569	14	Pufahl Electric/ Images By Lisa	Site form		Demolished
570	102	Wallin Garage	Site form		
571	106	Jefferson-Freidlein Hotel/Hefel's Lounge	Site form		Yes
572	115	Orcutt House	Site form		
573	202	Gratace House	Site form		
574	206	Hoeger House	Site form	New photo, form	Yes
994	10 Wieland	Jim Case House		On current survey list	
575	11	Duwe/Thein House		Resurvey, altered since 1979	
995	15	Roger Lowell		On current survey list	

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The History of the Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission

By Jim Kuempel, January 2001

A Certified Local Government (“CLG”) agreement was signed in 1986 by Mayor Karen Merrick. This agreement was between the City of Guttenberg and the State of Iowa Office of Historic Preservation. Guttenberg will now be referred to as a CLG.

An ordinance establishing a Historic Preservation Commission for the city of Guttenberg was signed in 1990 by City Manager Loyce Dumke. The original commission had nine members, but that was lowered to five in 1993 when an ordinance was signed. In 1995 an ordinance took effect saying that one of the five members could be a non-resident, as long as they owned a business located in the City.

Previous to these years a very important Survey of Guttenberg had taken place. In 1979, a field intern, James E. Jacobsen, did an experimental cooperative on-site survey of Guttenberg. It was innovative in terms of its scope, methodology, and attention to historical documentation. This first survey covered the town, but structure-by-structure inventory work was limited to the main part of the city and covered 225 buildings. The survey resulted in having fifty-four properties on Guttenberg’s Front Street (Front Street Historic District) and twelve individual properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1991 the Commission applied for and received a HRDP Grant in the amount of \$15,000 to rehabilitate the facades of two properties in the Historic District and one commercial property which abuts the district and is National Register eligible. The Central Meat Market (Toni’s Hair at 402 S. River Park Drive) and the Beutel House (Roger and Becky Hefel at 11 Schiller) were renovated. The other building, Fleck General Mercantile (Doug’s Steak House at 7 Schiller St.) did not take part in the project of exterior rehabilitation.

In 1991 the Commission began correspondence with the Corps of Engineers, proposing the saving and development of the Lockmaster’s House at Lock and Dam #10. They also began efforts to encourage the nomination of the Guttenberg Fish Hatchery and Acquarium to the National Register of Historic Places. With the help of the State Historical Society of Iowa, the last effort was successful.

In 1992 the Commission applied for, and was granted, a HRDP Grant in the amount of \$3,100 to produce an educational tabloid. The grant was a matching one, and since the City of Guttenberg decided not to budget for this item, the Commission had to decline the grant.

1996 and 1997 saw efforts to obtain permission to use the Fish Hatchery as a Welcome Center. During the year, members attended a meeting in Des Moines at the State Historical Building. Kerry McGrath, CLG Program Coordinator, gave a Basic Training Workshop in Guttenberg and in addition, the local Heritage Society gained a five-year lease from the Army Corps of Engineers for the Lockmaster’s home and has created a museum. The house is furnished as it was when built in 1935 and the walls are covered with pictures of the early days of Guttenberg and also pictures of the construction of Lock and Dam #10.

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The Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission meets on the second Monday of each month in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Throughout the following years, commission members participated in various workshops concerning Historic Preservation. Members continued to work on Building Biographies that are published in the Guttenberg *Press*. As article is written and a picture taken of one of the Historic Buildings in Guttenberg. The articles contain information taken from the 1979 survey. These are on survey sheets kept in a large black book at the Municipal Building. The Building Biographies are published about every other month.

In 1998, the Iowa Preservation Alliance Award for Small Businesses was given to the Mississippi River Mercantile building in Guttenberg. The building had been renovated, according to State standards, from a home to a business place. It is within the Front Street Historic District. Commission members went to Des Moines to accept the award. This year was also the first year that the Commission applied for a CLG Architectural-Historical Survey Evaluation grant. This effort was unsuccessful.

In 1999 two members of the commission carried the purposes and activities of the Historic Preservation Society to the community. They spoke to a high school Housing Class, to a Federated Club, and to Rotary. One member took part in Preservation TrainNet which was an experiment for training commission members via the computer. In August of this year Guttenberg hosted a “How to Survey” workshop conducted by Kerry McGrath. Sixteen members from the community participated in the workshop. The commission again applied for a CLG Architectural-Historical Evaluation Survey Grant, but were unsuccessful. The newly restored Municipal Building was submitted for an award from the Iowa Preservation Alliance, but the building did not qualify because of the addition of the handicapped elevator to a side of the building where it was easily seen. It was added so that it was near the front door, but historic members said that it should have been added to the rear of the building.

The year 2000 brought an award of a CLG Architectural-Historical Evaluation Survey Grant in the amount of \$6,900. A consultant, Jim Jacobsen, was hired. He arrived in Guttenberg and helped organize the project. A drive-through of the town was done and houses to be surveyed were identified. There were ninety-three houses that will be surveyed. Community members and Commission members took part in the training of how to survey. People from the community volunteered to do various jobs such as finding newspaper articles, taking photographs, and getting information on themes. One member was able to go to the County Courthouse and obtain copies of the Assessors’ sheets for each surveyed property. These were put into folders, along with an Owner Questionnaire, and volunteers took these to each house to be surveyed. The consultant, Jim Jacobsen, returned to Guttenberg throughout the project. Members kept in touch with him concerning work to be done, via e-mail. At this time, we are in the middle of the survey and will finish the project by June 30, 2001. Another project that the Commission is working on is to secure matching funds to purchase brass plaques to put on the buildings in the Front Street Historic District.

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