

SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FROM 1849 TO THE PRESENT

The first inhabitants of Marshall County were tribes of Sac and Fox Indians, remnants of the Indian nation presided over by Chief Black Hawk.¹ In 1847, a group of Mormons came through the county on their flight from Nauvoo, Illinois, and camped through the winter in a timber north of Marshalltown now known as Mormon Ridge, many living in holes dug in the hillsides.² They were probably the first white people in the county.



Carl Kurtz

The first permanent white settler in the county, Joseph Davison, came to LeGrand Township in 1847, although actual settlement of the county did not begin until 1848.³ At this time, the nearest town was Newton.

During 1849, there was a marked increase in the population of the county. Henry Bevins, the first settler in Liberty Township, came in 1849.⁴

In 1850, the first census of the county reported 338 inhabitants. By 1875 there were 19,629 inhabitants. The table below shows how the population of the county increased during the first 25 years of settlement.

Population Data, 1851-75⁵

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>
1851	454
1852	710
1854	1,607
1856	4,460
1859	5,713
1863	7,550
1865	8,759
1867	11,513
1869	15,514
1870	17,576
1873	18,272
1875	19,629

Anthony R. Pierce came to Liberty Township in 1851, Perlunzo Clemons in 1853, and Henry Dunn and Robert and Abner Raley in 1854. Jacob Kinzer, James Howard, Samuel Mooney, William Dunn, Patrick Dunn, Thomas Hance, H. H. Smith and others came in 1855. D. L. Teager, David Teager and T. J. Teager arrived in 1856, among others.⁶

ORGANIZATION OF MARSHALL COUNTY

In 1852, the county was subdivided into five townships: Washington, Marietta, Economy, Jefferson and Minerva.⁷ This plan soon proved to be unsatisfactory. It was decided that there were too many townships, so the county was redivided into three townships in 1853: Iowa,

Marietta and Jefferson. In March 1855, it was again subdivided into nine townships.⁸

In 1856, more townships were made by dividing some of the existing nine, and by 1869, there were the 18 townships existing that exist today.⁹

DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWNSHIP

The *History of Marshall County* published in 1867, described Liberty Township as well as Clemons Grove:

Liberty township has a fine body of timber in Illinois Grove, the main portion of which is in Liberty, a few acres only crossing the Hardin line. Coal is found near this grove in abundance. . . . Timber is in close proximity; the fencing is excellent, and the crops are always good. There are fine fields of sorghum and broom corn, as well as all the other staple products of the soil.¹⁰

Near the Liberty line, a point well known since 1856, where the first store was built west of Marietta for a good many miles. Mr. Clemens entered the grove which bears his name, and kept a good hotel, whose gleaming fires welcomed the half frozen traveler in the dreadful winter of 1856-7. The mercury fell on the 18th of December, to thirty-six degrees below zero. There is no store now at the "Corners," we believe. The ladies shop in Bangor, Eldora, and in Marshalltown, or around a peddler's wagon.¹¹

When James R. Howard and his family came to the township in 1855, they were some distance from timber, but near a big slough. Wild geese, ducks and prairie chickens were found and also an occasional hawk or crow. Other birds such as the robin, sparrow, dove, blue jay and woodpecker were not found and they missed them. Mr. Howard set up a pole with a martin box on top of it and martins came and made their home there.¹²



Prairie at sunrise, Liberty Township

Carl Kurtz

Buffalo were gone by the time the first settlers arrived. Bones were all that were found, in northern Liberty Township. A few black bears were found, as well as elk. Deer were common. Many animals were killed for their fur, among them otter, beaver, muskrat, weasel, mink, skunk, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon and opossum.¹³

Rivers meandered through the gently rolling prairies. The prairie was by far the dominant feature, and throughout the spring and summer there were dozens of prairie flowers blooming at various times, keeping the countryside in a continual blaze of color. The back yard of the pioneer was a "flower garden" unequalled in beauty.

Sloughs and potholes were also common in the prairie and were sometimes so extensive that travel had to be



Carl Kurtz

routed around them. Gradually, settlers drained these areas to make more efficient use of the land for agriculture.

As the pioneers settled and made this land their home, they cleared the prairie and plowed parts of it for farming, as well as planting groves of trees, which soon dotted the countryside.

FRUITS OF THE LAND

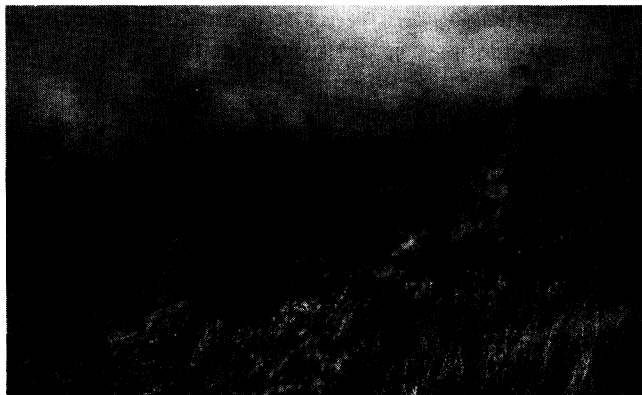
Fruits of the soil were numerous and Indian corn was the staple crop, with 50 to 80 bushels per acre being common.¹⁴ Broom corn was raised, and according to early histories, the quality far excelled that raised in Eastern states.¹⁵

Spring and winter wheat were also introduced, as well as oats, barley, flax and hemp. Beans, onions, tobacco, melons, squash and pumpkins were raised by the acre. Even Chinese sugar cane and African cane were cultivated and made into molasses and sugar. Many people kept bees, so honey was plentiful.¹⁶

Orchards were prolific, growing apples and pears of the "finest quality." Wild fruits such as strawberries,

blackberries, raspberries, plums, crab apples and grapes were abundant. Production was not limited to fruits and vegetables, as hogs, sheep, cattle and horses were also raised in abundance.

Native grasses on ridges were not very tall, but in the sloughs they were much taller, six to eight feet, and like rushes. They made good pasture in the summer. After the first frost, the taller prairie grasses turned brown and ignited easily. Prairie fires in spring and fall were common between 1850 and 1865, but increased plowing of the sod for cultivation reduced this hazard considerably.¹⁷



Prairie fire

Carl Kurtz

In 1862, there were 33,000 acres of timber in the county.¹⁸ There was nearly a half section in Illinois Grove, 100 acres at Bevins Grove, 100 acres at Clemons Grove and nearly 60 acres at Patterson's or French Grove.¹⁹ There were many kinds of trees, including bur oak, linn, hickory, maple, ash and red oak. Hazelnuts, berries, plums and crab apples were also found there.

The timber provided a shelter to protect animals and people from the winds that swept across the open plains. It also furnished the material for building homes, barns



Early rail fence

Karlene Kingery

and other buildings. Sawmills became a necessity and many sprang up in the county. Among those that existed was one in Liberty Township operated by J. McCormick.²⁰ The sawmills were essential in cutting lumber for homes and other buildings, but when the railroad reached the county and spread across it, lumber of a higher quality was shipped in from Clinton and other cities, and the sawmills were no longer needed. The sawmills also cut lumber for fences, but after barbed wire was invented in 1873, the need for wooden fences diminished rapidly.

WILDLIFE

The most numerous game birds were quail and prairie chickens. Although they have nearly disappeared today, a few prairie chickens were re-introduced recently in western Iowa, with the hope of establishing a population in the loess hills.

In the winter of 1864, for example, it was not uncommon to find a farmer with a sled box filled with undressed prairie chickens, for which he got almost \$2 a dozen. One Marshall County man bought and shipped to Chicago three carloads during 1864.²¹



Migrating waterfowl

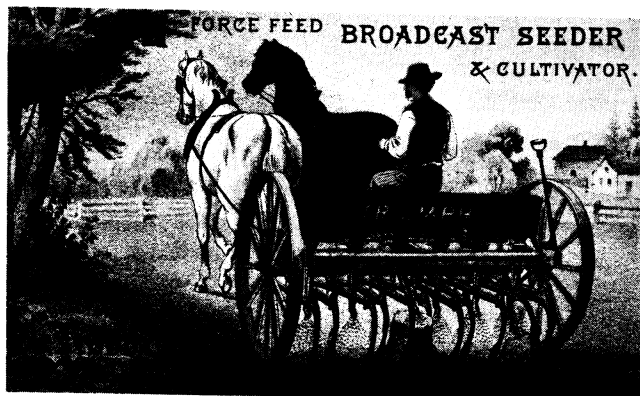
Carl Kurtz

Other birds were also numerous. Sandhill cranes were common and were seen in large flocks, as were wild geese, ducks and pigeons. A few wild turkeys were also found, chiefly in timber areas.²²

AGRICULTURE

During the earliest years of development in Iowa, farming was carried out with simple, primitive implements. Because there were few people to get produce to market, farmers raised food chiefly for the needs of their families, and not to sell in the market place. Most farmers had a horse, a yoke of oxen and several cows.²³

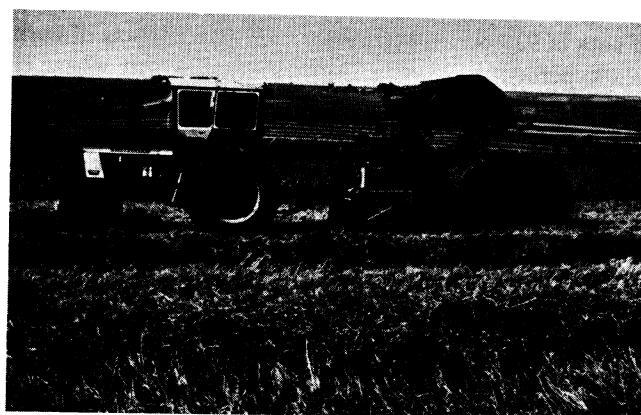
The years 1863-1915 marked the beginning and



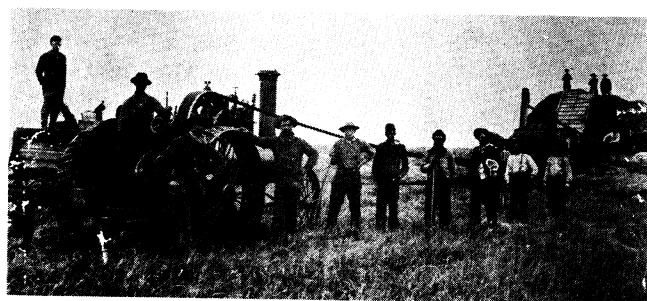
Horse-drawn manure spreader

growth of commercialized agriculture.²⁴ The coming of the railroad made it easier for farmers to get their products to market. Horse-drawn farm machinery was also widely used during this period. Reapers, planters and sulky plows became widely used and they made the farmers' job much easier.

From 1915 to the present, there has been a shift from animal power to mechanical power.²⁵ The introduction of tractors caused the number of horses to decline gradually. Even greater advances were made when corn pickers, combines and hay balers came into use.



Modern farm equipment



Threshing on Ambrose Hell farm

The table below illustrates the trend in the use of tractors, grain combines and corn pickers over the years.

Farm Equipment Trends²⁶

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tractors</i>	<i>Grain combines</i>	<i>Corn pickers</i>
1925	516	-	-
1930	801	-	-
1933	763	-	-
1935	941	-	-
1940	1,621	149	421
1945	2,294	367	706
1950	2,988	788	1,121
1951	3,007	848	1,149

EARLY FARM PRODUCTION

By 1856, there were 15,704 acres of land in Marshall County under improvement. This land yielded 2,515 tons of hay, 10 bushels of grass seed, 19,988 bushels of spring wheat, 406 bushels of winter wheat, 27,170 bushels of oats, 246,028 bushels of corn and 16,795 bushels of potatoes.²⁷

Ten years later, in 1866, there were 368,935 bushels of spring wheat (a 1,745 percent increase), 280,892 bushels of oats (a 933 percent increase), 727,015 bushels of corn (a 196 percent increase), 251 bushels of winter wheat (a 38 percent decrease) and 49,492 bushels of potatoes (a 195 percent increase).

Also raised in 1866 were 855 bushels of rye, 3,770 bushels of barley, 23,852 gallons of sorghum syrup,



Sorghum

Karlene Kingery

1,720 tons of tame hay, 2,851 bushels of onions, 188 bushels of flax seed, 11,102 pounds of honey, 273,254 pounds of butter made, 21,291 pounds of cheese made and 108,451 pounds of wool clipped.²⁸

By 1875, there were 177,303 acres in the county under cultivation, a 1,029 percent increase in just 20 years. In addition to the types of crops listed in 1866, several new ones were added: turnips, beets, peas and beans. Grapes also grew well and, in 1875, 145,897 pounds were gathered.²⁹

Nearly one-half of the surface of the state was under cultivation by 1884, a total of 15 million acres. The corn crop in Iowa was estimated at 259,560,000 bushels and wheat at 35,028,900 bushels.³⁰ In contrast, the corn crop in Iowa for 1981 was estimated at 1.74 billion bushels³¹ or a 570 percent increase over 1884 and a 707,136 percent increase over 1856.

FARM ANIMALS

Animals of various types were raised from the earliest times the settlers arrived in the area. Most of the horses they raised were not large, ranging from 900-1200 pounds. Draft horses were raised, not for use in the field, but to sell for use in cities. Five years of work on city streets for heavy drays was estimated to be about their average work life.³² Percheron, Black Hawk, Morgan, Grey Eagle and Godolphin Arabian were some of the types of draft horses raised in the area.³³

Many mules were also raised for market as well as for use on the farm.³⁴

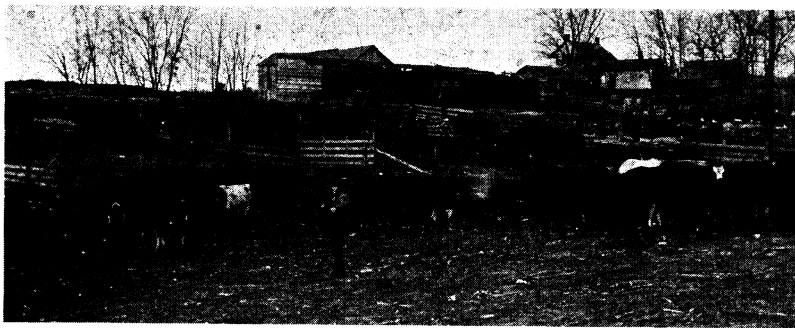
Shorthorns were the common beef cattle, with Herefords introduced later. As dairying increased, Holstein, Jersey and Ayrshire breeds were brought in, with some crossed to increase the quantities of milk produced.³⁵

In 1875, there were 8,135 milk cows reported.³⁶ Dairy and hogs were the chief interests at this period.³⁷

Hogs were also raised by early settlers and in 1866, there were 19,959 hogs of all ages in the county.³⁸ By 1874, the number had reached 41,509.³⁹ By comparison, in 1981 the number of hogs sent to market was 23.3 million,⁴⁰ a 56,032 percent increase over 1874.

Sheep were brought in from the eastern part of the country. The farmers found it advantageous to have a few to help keep down the weeds. After the harvest, the sheep were given range in the cornfields where they would eat grass and weeds. There were 108,451 pounds of wool clipped in 1866.⁴¹ A good profit was realized from sheep, and in 1870 Joseph McKibbin, of the county, claimed that 100 ewes could yield heavy fleeces worth \$800 a year.⁴²

The egg crop from chickens was described as "simply enormous." In 1894, 66 million dozen eggs were shipped out of Iowa. In Marshall County, in 1910, nearly 27 million eggs were shipped out of the state.⁴³



Patrick Dunn farm

EARLY OCCUPATIONS AND BUSINESSES

The 1856 census of Liberty Township, which included the area today known as Minerva Township, listed 348 inhabitants, with men and women nearly equally represented. The occupations were summarized as follows: 61 farmers, 7 laborers, 1 engineer, 1 mason, 1 blacksmith, 4 carpenters, 1 bricklayer, 1 millwright and 1 saddler.⁴⁴

In 1860, several schools existed and five teachers were listed in the census as well as a carpenter, bricklayer, merchant, blacksmith and minister (see appendix for names).⁴⁵

The importance of learning was indicated by the presence of teachers, and a minister indicated early worship services, probably in homes.

Construction of homes and other buildings was also crucial when people first settled in the area, and therefore, carpenters, millwrights, stonemasons and bricklayers were important occupations. In later years, the numbers of these occupations decreased.

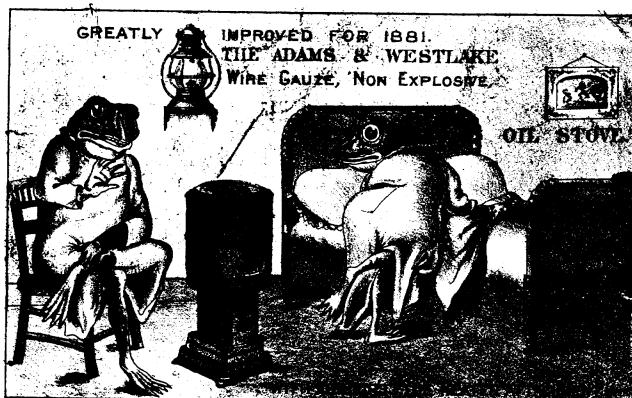
In 1882, the *Iowa State Gazetteer and Business Directory* published by R. L. Polk included the following businesses in Saint Anthony. They were:

Clough, hotel proprietor
A. E. Cram, justice, blacksmith, postmaster
N. P. Ivins, saloon
A. T. Miller, physician
William Mooney, lumber

J. Nelson, blacksmith
A. R. Pierce, live stock and grain
P. Robinson, groceries and restaurant
William Roe, general store
Adam Roudenbush, blacksmith
J. Q. Saint & Co., general store
Oliver Weaver, meat market
G. L. Whitmore, general store



Advertising card



Advertising card, 1881

In 1885, just three years after the official platting, the town was bustling with activity. The 1884-85 *Iowa State Gazetteer and Business Directory* indicated a population of 150 and the following businesses:

A. E. Abbott, carpenter
Bradbury & Rabb, druggists
E. S. Clam, meat market
A. E. Cram, stationery, patent medicine, notary, postmaster
L. Deal, hotel
E. E. Farber, hardware and farm implements
L. O. Farber, live stock
J. Forney, justice of peace
Thomas Houston, railroad and express agent

R. O. Jackson, blacksmith
 J. H. Jones, grain
 LaPlant & Ivins, livery
 John McGrath, physician
 Mooney & Jones, lumber, coal and lime
 A. Mower, carpenter
 J. Nelson, blacksmith
 A. R. Pierce, live stock and grain
 A. B. Robinson, furniture and carpenter
 Mary Robinson, milliner
 P. Robinson, groceries and restaurant
 Adam Roudenbush, blacksmith
 J. Q. Saint & Co., general store
 G. L. Whitmore, general store

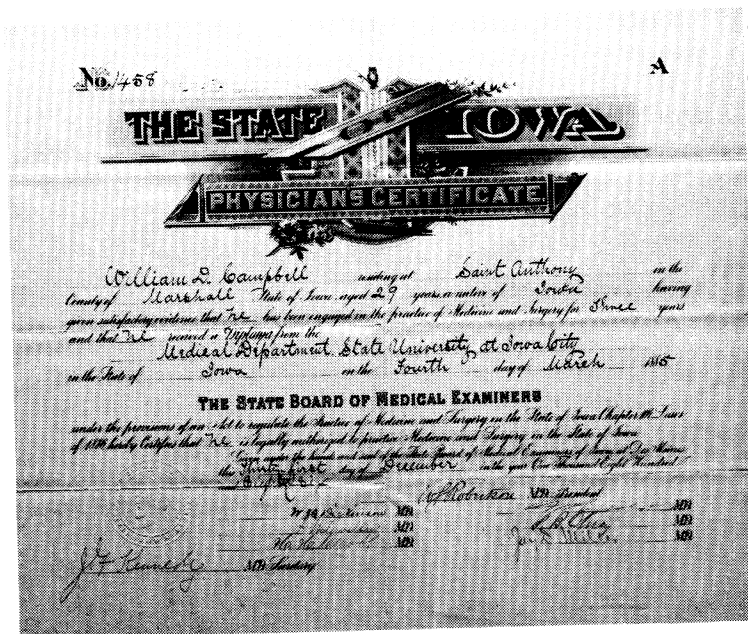
The census of 1885 of Liberty Township lists 441 males and 422 females, with 210 entitled to vote. Seven were foreigners not naturalized, and 342 were between 5 and 21 years of age.⁴⁶ Some businesses found in the *Iowa State Gazetteer and Business Directory* were not found in the census. Listed below are the occupations of all people in Liberty Township, as found in the 1885 census:

Emma C. Abbott, teacher
 Oren J. Abbott, hotel
 William J. Abbott, livery stable
 Chas. W. Alexander, teamster
 Chas. W. Bacon, teacher
 James Bacon, plasterer
 Addison Bigelow, carpenter
 Russell Brace, physician
 George W. Brown, carpenter
 John A. Bryant, insurance
 Geo. Burkhart, painter
 Henry Clark, constable
 Talitha J. Cox, dressmaker
 Wm. H. Cox, sewing machine agent
 Abram E. Cram, postmaster and justice
 James E. Cram, blacksmith
 Fred Damman, druggist
 John Drew, physician
 Everett E. Farber, insurance agent
 Henry Farber, hardware dealer
 Liva O. Farber, stock dealer
 Joseph Forey, bookkeeper
 August Gatge, butcher
 Seth Gause, general merchandise
 Laura M. Hayhurst, teacher
 Andrew Larson, railroad employee
 Anthony Larson, railroad employee
 Chris Larson, railroad employee
 William A. Lent, brickmaker
 William Maple, bricklayer
 Alex Mayer, teacher
 John B. McGrath, physician
 Wm. Mooney, lumber dealer
 Henry Morton, blacksmith

E. Patterson, sewing machine agent
 Charlotte A. Perry, dressmaker
 Earl S. Perry, grocery clerk
 Erastus Perry, blacksmith
 Anthony R. Pierce, banker
 Albert L. Phillips, dry goods merchant
 Amos Phillips, dry goods merchant
 Elizabeth Ridgway, teacher
 Peter Robinson, restaurant
 Mary Ann Rockhill, music teacher
 John Q. Saint, merchant
 Geo. P. Simon, skating rink
 Geo. Teager, minister
 Mary A. Teager, teacher
 James H. Tight, teacher
 G. R. Walter, druggist
 G. L. Whittemore, general merchandise



Dr. John Drew and his wife Ida and family



Farmers were often not indicated by occupation in the census, but they were listed in the *Plat Book of Marshall County* of 1885 (see appendix). By this time, Liberty and Minerva Townships were separate.

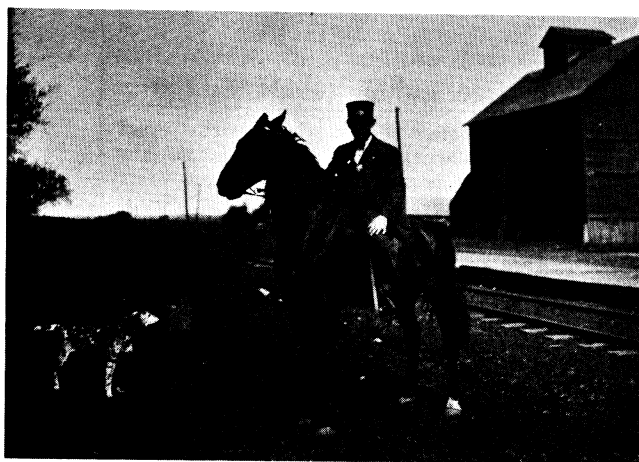
Lists of businesses (see appendix for other years) give an indication of the development of the community and how it changed through the years.

ARRIVAL OF THE RAILROAD

The first train in Iowa arrived in August 1855.⁴⁸ Two future Liberty Township residents, Margaret (Granny) Dunn and her daughter, Bridget, were on the first train that arrived in Iowa City.⁴⁹



Train No. 302 on the Marshalltown-Story City branch of the Iowa Central Railroad. Bob Hoyt, engineer; Hy McFarland, conductor; Sam Ferguson, brakeman. (1905 photo at Story City station)

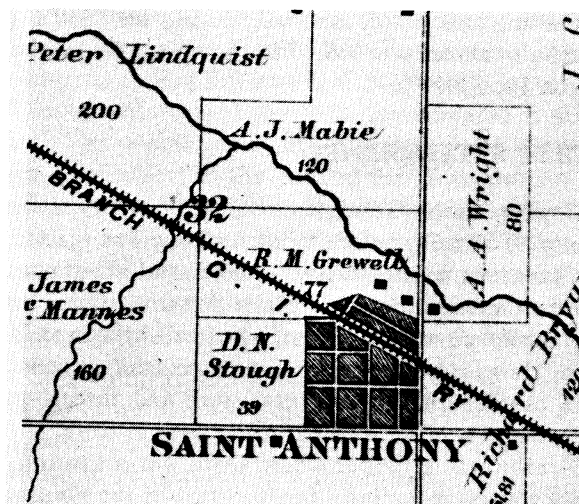


Ralph Tight, station agent

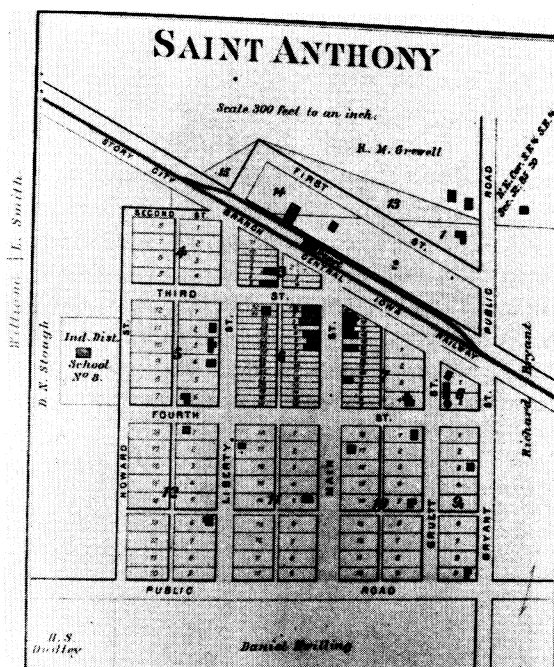
One of the factors that brought prosperity to an area was the coming of the railroad. Abstracts of farms in the Illinois Grove area indicate that the Central Railroad Company of Iowa purchased land passing through property in the vicinity. Originally the railroad was to be built through Illinois Grove, and part of the roadbed had already been graded when plans were changed and it went directly from Saint Anthony to Zearing instead.⁵⁰ Consequently, Illinois Grove, which was a thriving little community, died out entirely (see separate story about Illinois Grove).

PLATTING OF THE TOWN

When the railroad came through the area that was later to be Saint Anthony, impetus for a town increased (see separate story about the railroad). The 1912



1885 map, Plat Book of Marshall County



1885 map of Saint Anthony, Plat Book of Marshall County

History of Marshall County states that Anthony R. Pierce, John Q. Saint and A. J. Mabie platted the town. Probably a number of men helped with this process. Officially, the plat for the town was filed for record in the Marshall County Recorder's office February 22, 1882, by Anthony R. Pierce.

When it came time to name the town, John Q. Saint and Anthony R. Pierce combined their names and officially it became Saint Anthony. Many people shorten it to St. Anthony, perpetuating the image of its being named specifically for Anthony, the saint, which might seem to have been likely in a heavily Catholic area. Even in the official incorporation papers of the town, it is spelled "St. Anthony."

Many land transactions involving lots in the town are recorded in the county recorder's office. Much buying

and selling took place, especially during the 1880's, and John Saint alone recorded 35 transactions, the last being March 19, 1891.⁵¹

OTHER SETTLEMENTS

Besides Illinois Grove, two other settlements existed in Liberty Township before Saint Anthony was platted.

Cramtown, located two miles north and about one and one-half miles east of where Saint Anthony stands today, was named after A. E. Cram, who owned the land in the area. He was also the mayor and postmaster. It consisted of a blacksmith shop, general store and three houses, with the post office located in the general store.

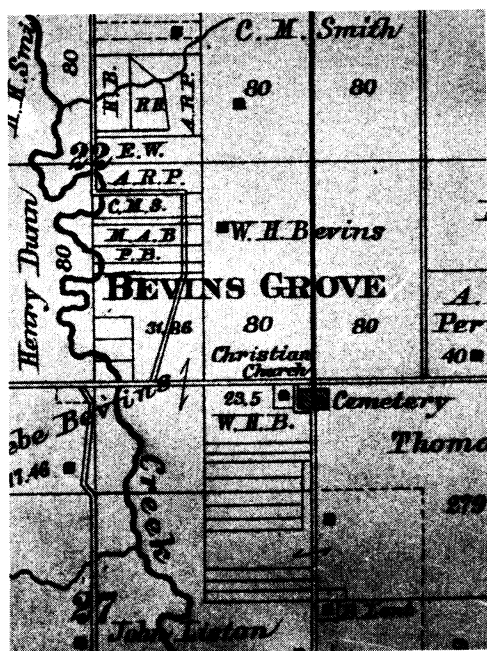
Nearby was a timber where there was a sawmill and more houses, including a home owned by the Flanagans. This settlement was a spinoff from Cramtown.⁵²

To the east a few hundred feet was Bevins Grove,

named after Henry Bevins, who came here in 1851. Maps of the area indicate many lots laid out, but only a few houses. When a cemetery was needed, he gave land, now known as Bevins Grove Cemetery. Later the Bevins Grove Christian Church was built across the road to the west of the cemetery, and it was active until recent years when it was torn down.

FOUNDING OF THE THREE CHURCHES

As early as 1888, the minutes of the Methodist Protestant Church in Saint Anthony list the church as being "yoked" with Grundy and served by a joint pastor, G. W. Pool. The year 1920 is the last time the church is mentioned in the minutes of the annual conference. The membership is presumed to have been so small that it was not feasible to continue (see separate story).



1885 map, Plat Book of Marshall County

CHURCHES.

CATHOLIC CHURCH:—Services every third Sunday at the Dunn Settlement Church at 10.30 o'clock a. m. and services the two successive Sunday's at the St. Anthony church at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

REV. D. LONDON, Pastor.

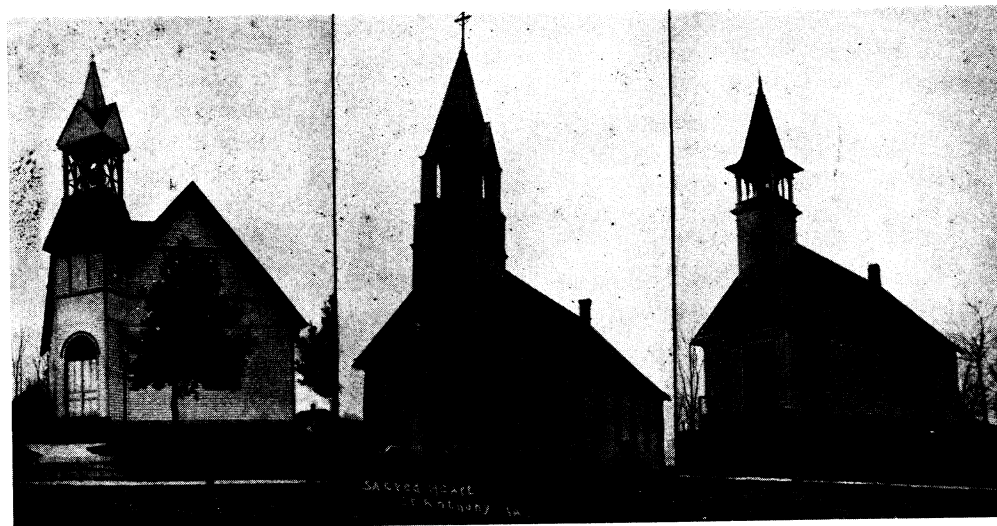
CHRISTIAN CHURCH:—Services every two weeks at 11 o'clock a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 10:00 a. m. Christian Endeavor every Sunday.

REV. EUGENE CURLISS, Pastor.

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH:—Services every Sunday at 11 o'clock a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 10:00 a. m. Prayer meeting every Wednesday night at 7:30 o'clock. Christian Endeavor at 7 o'clock every Sunday evening.

REV. J. M. PICKETT, Pastor.

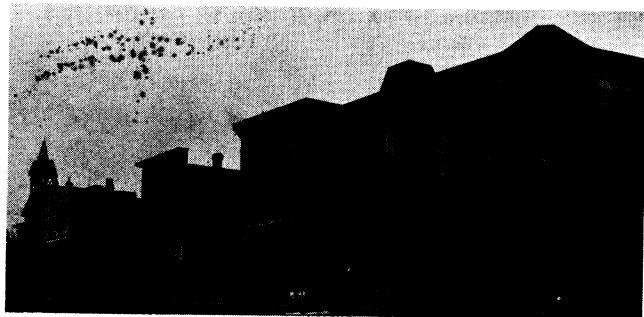
St. Anthony Tribune, March 21, 1902



The Church of Christ met in 1980 to form an organization, although they met in homes for a time, as there was no church available. Ground was broken in 1892 for a church, the one still in use today (see separate story).

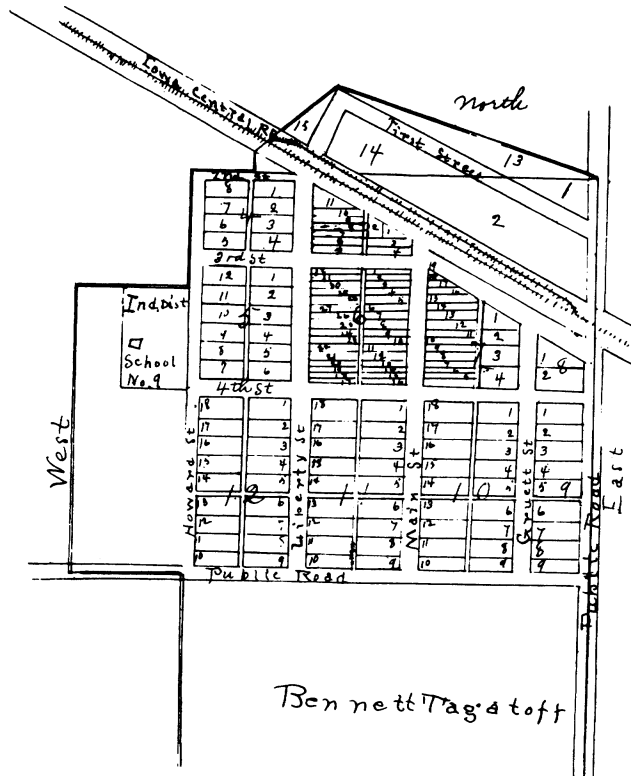
Catholics in the area worshiped at the Dunn Settlement Church northeast of Saint Anthony for a number of years, but when the town sprang up, the need for a church was felt. A church was erected in 1893 on the west side of town on the site where Minnie Pfrang's home now stands. It burned in 1900 and a new church was built two blocks east of the first church. It is still in use (see separate story).

INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN



West side of Main Street, circa 1900

At the September term of District Court of the State of Iowa in 1897, a plat and legal petition was presented asking the court to appoint commissioners to hold an election of qualified voters for or against incorporation of the town.



Plat of area incorporated as shown in articles of incorporation

On September 3, 1897, the commissioners were appointed. They were: E. W. Jay, A. Robertson, P. A. Davenport, S. R. Cleft and L. O. Farber.

The map of the territory to be incorporated is shown below. The population of the area shown was 208.

An amendment to the petition for incorporation was filed by the same people who signed the original petition, changing the boundaries of the town slightly to encompass a smaller area. The amended territory contained 42 fewer residents than the original territory contained.

The property, as amended, is described as follows:

Beginning at the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 32, Liberty Township, Marshall County, Iowa, the limits to be bounded by a line following the north line of St. Anthony as originally platted, to the northwest corner of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 32, thence south 378 feet, thence west 366 feet, thence south 103 88/100 rods; thence east 80 rods; thence north 183 88/100 rods to starting point. The amended territory contains 166 persons.⁵³

The appointed commissioners notified the qualified electors of the election to incorporate that was to be held at the hall above Evans' and Mabies' Stores October 23, 1897, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

The return filed by the commissioners November 6, 1897, showed that the majority of ballots cast were in favor of incorporating. Thirty-three men voted, as women did not have voting rights at that time. They were:

S. N. Meekins	T. H. Farber
J. A. Garrett	Gust Olson
F. L. Farber	M. C. Robertson
Frank Bryant	L. Deal
H. F. Blackburn	C. Oliver
J. C. Evans	D. H. Buck
A. J. Mabie	S. R. Clift
L. O. Farber	Geo. Mabie
C. T. Newman	H. W. Clark
Lawrence Tight	Ed Flanagan
H. T. Clark	L. B. Cunningham
A. Robertson	Tom Gorman
Peter Robinson	W. Buchanan
Dr. Adams	A. D. Lewis
Dr. Jay	John Robertson
Jake Meyer	P. A. Davenport
Harry Bryant	

Twenty-two voted in favor of incorporation and 11 voted against it.

The first election of town officials took place in the town hall November 6, 1897. The names of all people listed on the ballot for each office, with the number of votes each received, was recorded in District court records.

Henry Farber was elected mayor, E. W. Jay, recorder, and L. O. Farber, treasurer. The councilmen were:

This official act set the stage for further development of the town, and in the next 10 years, the little town grew and developed rapidly.

On Sunday, July 26, 1896, nearly every business building in Saint Anthony was either destroyed or badly damaged as the result of a severe windstorm, described in newspaper accounts as “taking on the proportions of a



tornado." The storm struck about 8 p.m. In the countryside, barns were overturned and destroyed, and fruit

ST. ANTHONY TRIBUNE.

SAINT ANTHONY'S ONLY NEWSPAPER

The subscription rates were listed as follows: One year in advance, \$1; six months in advance, 75 cents; and three months in advance, 50 cents.

The initial issue, consisting of eight pages, contained an introduction by the editor, Roy H. Cook, which included the following:

St. Anthony has arrived to that stage of business development as to demand a paper. A paper to represent the allied interest of the community and to use its best efforts in building up the town and adjacent territory. . . . We will have no politics, but it will be our aim to give the people a good, live, up-to-date local paper, and the hearty co-operation of all is earnestly solicited to help make THE TRIBUNE a worthy representative of our little city.

NUMBER 1.

Judge Kinne Reappointed to Board of Control
Des Moines, March 17.—In a sealed communication to the senate Satur-

For Placing Stone on track.

Jewell, March 18.—Lilas Johnson, a young farmer boy living near Lake Colto, was arrested while the Lake Colto reaping machine was on the track, putting rocks and sticks on the track for some time, and would stand off to the side to see the train run over the same. He was seen doing this some time ago, and was doing so he would encourage him to be doing, but he told him that he didn't care if he killed a hundred people. The trainmen have been on the alert for some time in going by that place. On the night of the abuse for which he was arrested he had taken a long nap of time, and placed it on the track.

Senator Molsberry forced to a vote the Lewis motion to reconsider the vote by which the Molsberry bill in aid of the Burlington "merger" was passed Thursday. The motion was tabled by a vote of 30 to 11. The senators seated James E. Bruce, of Atlantic, the seat occupied by J. M. Emmert, the Cass-Shelby district. The vote was 34 to 9. The democrats supported Dr. Emmert and insisted that a deciding precinct vote should be eliminated from the returns, thus disputing the fact that Bruce had a majority of the vote.

House.—The house passed the Vicksburg monument bill without an opposing vote. It appropriated \$150,000 for new monuments on the Vicksburg battlefield. Of this, \$10,000 is to be expended during this biennial period. Representatives E. J. Bowler, Nate E. Kendall and others made eloquent speeches in favor of the measure. Thebes, Jones fire and police commission bill passed the house, after the publication clause had been stricken off so that it cannot become a law without the senate.

Chairman Dunham of the house committee on schools and text books proposed to the house a statement from the State Board of Education, signed by C. C. Barrett, superintendent of public instruction, which report was ordered printed in the journal without reading. The statement is in reference to needed legislation for the common schools and the importance of this as compared with the legislation for other schools. Among other things the statement says:

fought to the close of the war. After the war he taught school in Missouri and studied law, being admitted to the bar in 1868. He was elected state attorney of Andrew county, Missouri, in 1874 and resigned in 1875 to go to Chicago, where he took up the practice of law. He was unsuccessful as a candidate for congress in 1884, but was elected judge of the superior court of Chicago, serving from 1886 to 1891. He was elected governor of Illinois in 1892.

LIFE IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY



West side of Main Street looking north



East side of Main Street looking south



Main Street looking south

The years around the turn of the century were prime years for the town, an entire block on both sides of Main Street being lined with businesses. In the *St. Anthony Tribune*, March 21, 1902, are found many construction projects in progress.

J. D. Plumb commenced work Wednesday morning remodeling the store occupied by H. H. Buck. New shelving is being put in and everything given a fresh coat of paint which will make a greater improvement in Mr. Buck's store.

J. D. Plumb has laid the plans for the erection of two new dwellings which, as soon as completed will be occupied by Lawrence Tight and R. A. Julian.

The painters are making rapid progress on J. M. Plumb's four new dwellings. Three of the houses are located in the north part of town while the fourth is a six room frame located in the central part of town, which will be used as the M. P. parsonage.

A. J. Mabie is building an addition at the rear end of the barber shop, to be used when completed by Mr. Lewis and wife as their living apartments. H. W. Clark is doing the mason work and we understand that Holcomb & Cunningham have the contract for the carpenter work.

O. J. Abbott has purchased the lot just south of the hotel from Mrs. S. E. Farber and will begin at once the erection of a large, brick store building $22\frac{1}{2} \times 60$. We understand that Mr. Abbott will put in an up-to-date line of hardware as soon as the building is completed. Work will commence as soon as the brick can be found and St. Anthony will soon have another hardware.

J. D. Plumb's new seven room frame dwelling in the central part of town is now almost completed, being in the hands of plasterers.

Mrs. C. LaPlant has just finished her new two story frame dwelling two and one half miles north of town and will commence moving at once.

BUSINESS CARDS

J. S. HIXSON

—DEALER IN—

LIVE STOCK

Highest Market Price Paid for Stock.

St. Anthony Tribune, March 21, 1902

A. D. LEWIS
TONSORIAL PARLORS
 Everything first-class

Agent for the Oskaloosa Steam Laundry

J. R. ATKINSON
Plastering & Mason Work
 Neatly Executed

If you need anything in this line let me figure with you.

L. CUNNINGHAM
BARBER SHOP

AGENT FOR
 Meeker's Empire Laundry of Marshalltown. Send every two weeks.

Livery and Feed Stables
 JOHN ATKINSON, Prop.

Livery rigs at all hours of the day or night.
 PRICES REASONABLE.

Telephone and Business Directory, circa 1907

Many postcard views of Saint Anthony printed in the early 1900's have been found. The Atlas of Marshall County, 1907, published short biographical sketches of a number of Liberty Township residents, plus one entire page of pictures of churches, a school, early businesses and many ads (see reprint of page 107).

DRS. ALLEN & ALLEN,
 Physicians and Surgeons,
 R. W. Allen, M. D. - Cora S. Allen, M. D.

Saint Anthony, Iowa, Jan. 8th 1906

Received of Mrs. Thos. Jordan

Nine Dollars

\$ 9.00

R. W. Allen

Receipt issued by Dr. R. W. Allen

R. W. ALLEN, M. D.
 CORA S. ALLEN, M. D.

DRS. ALLEN & ALLEN
Physicians and Surgeons

Telephone 126

Telephone and Business Directory, circa 1907

G. W. MILLS, M. D.

Physician and Surgeon

Phone No. 124

Office Over George's Drug Store

In 1907, the businesses were:

Drs. Allen and Allen, physicians

T. M. Brown, livery and dray line, feed and sale barn

J. A. Bryant and C. W. Rankin, real estate and insurance

H. H. Buck and Co., general merchandise, furniture and undertaking

Ed Flanagan, blacksmith

R. E. George Drug Co.

Lindquist and Son, general merchandise

Mayer Hardware

Schaper and Hixson, stock dealers

J. & W. C. Shull, lumber

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

DR. E. W. JAY

Physician and Surgeon
 St. Anthony, Iowa.

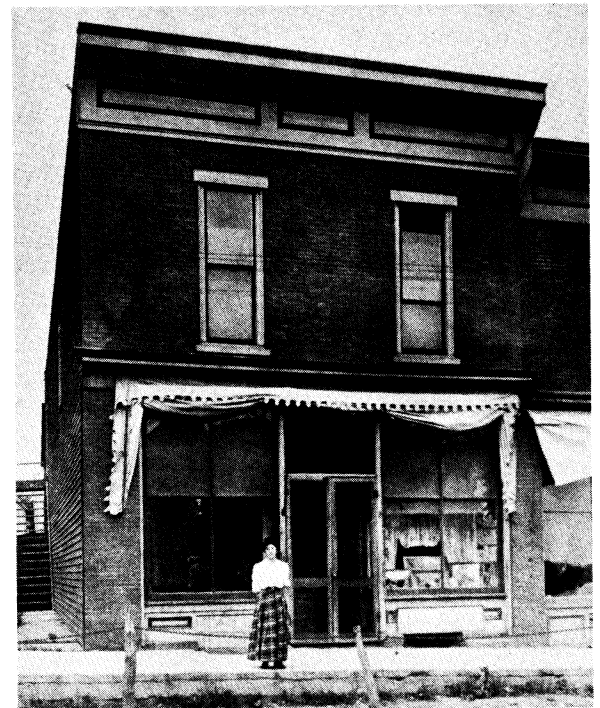
Office over H. H. Buck's General Store

DR. A. J. McCORMACK

DENTIST

Will be in St. Anthony every Tuesday. Office with Dr. Jay.

St. Anthony Tribune, March 21, 1902



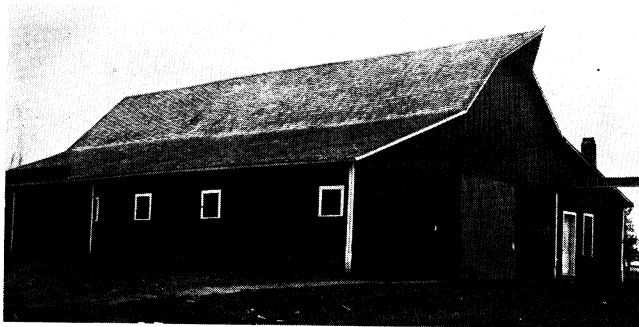
Lindquist & Son, dealers in general merchandise



T. M. Brown Livery and Dray Line. The above photo shows many people clustered around the entrance on a winter day bringing their produce to market to sell. The photo below dates from a different period, because the shed beside it which is visible in the top photo is absent in the bottom photo.



Mrs. S. E. Farber Thake, proprietor of St. Anthony Hotel



FURNACE HEATED RATES \$1.50 PER DAY

The St. Anthony Hotel

St. Anthony, Iowa

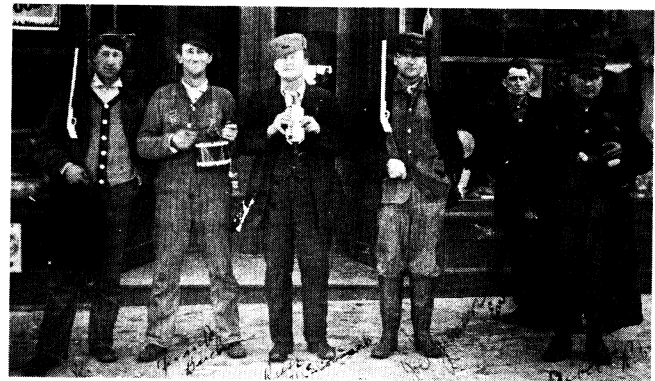
Everything New and First Class MRS. S. E. FARBER.

The Saint Anthony Hotel was a large wooden structure located at the north end of Main Street on the east side. Many rail passengers stopped to eat here, where meals were served from a long table that seated 14 people and cost 50 cents. In its later years of existence, Mamie Beach baked pies and assisted the proprietor, Mrs. S. E. Farber Thake.

St. Anthony Tribune, March 21, 1902



Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Brown. Mr. Brown, proprietor of Livery and Dray Line



Cal Clark, Frank Buchan, Russ McCormack, Joe Gorman and Albert Robertson each holding a toy from R. E. George Drug Co. Earl George is standing behind them.

(1907 businesses, continued)

St. Anthony Hotel, Mrs. S. E. Thake, proprietress
 St. Anthony Remedy Co., R. E. George, manager
 St. Anthony Savings Bank, Dickerson, Stipp and Van Orsdel

Stipp and Harlan
 barbershop
 blacksmith shop
 restaurant⁵⁵



W. N. DICKERSON, President W. H. STIPP, Vice-President
H. C. VAN ORSDER, Cashier

St. Anthony Savings Bank

Capital, \$10,000.00

ST. ANTHONY, IOWA

Stipp & Harlan

DEALERS IN

GRAIN, COAL

Seeds, Salt, Flour and Feed

Exchange Flour for Wheat

ST. ANTHONY, IOWA

J. & W. C. SHULL

DEALERS IN

LUMBER, COAL

—AND—

Building Material

HARD AND SOFT COAL

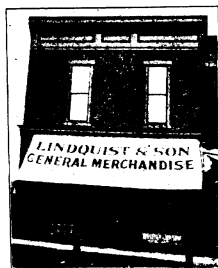
BRICK, TILE, LIME AND CEMENT

P. A. DAVENPORT, Manager

Schaper & Hixson

Stock Dealers

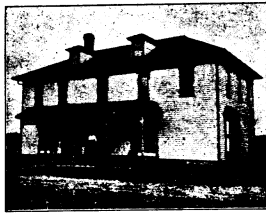
St. Anthony, Iowa...



LINDQUIST & SON
DEALERS IN

General Merchandise

Boots, Shoes, Caps, Dry Goods and Furniture
ST. ANTHONY, IOWA



ST. ANTHONY HOTEL

Furnace Heated Special Attention given to Traveling Men
MRS. S. E. THAKE, Proprietress

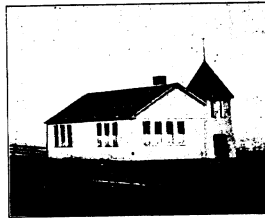
J. A. BRYANT C. W. RANKIN REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

IOWA FARMS A SPECIALTY

Minnesota, South Dakota, South-eastern Kansas and Missouri Lands For Sale
ST. ANTHONY, IOWA



CATHOLIC CHURCH



PUBLIC SCHOOL

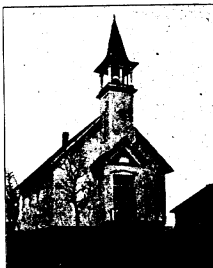
DESCRIPTION OF ST. ANTHONY

St. Anthony is the only town in Liberty Township and is located near the Southeast corner of the township, on the Iowa Central Railroad. The population at the present time, 1907, is about 200.

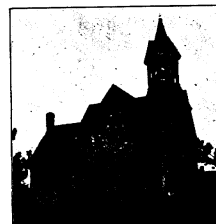
The following church organizations have up-to-date places of worship: Catholic, M. E. and Christian.

The Public School of St. Anthony is larger and more modern than most towns of this size, and the pupils receive the best of attention and instruction.

The following lines of business are represented: A first class Hotel, Livery, Bank, two general Stores, one Furniture, Lumber, two Elevators, Stock Yard, Restaurant, Barber Shop, two Physicians, one Hardware, two Blacksmiths, and in fact, the public can receive as good accommodations as is usually found in towns of twice the population of St. Anthony.



CHRISTIAN CHURCH



M. E. CHURCH

W. D. DREW

PROPRIETOR OF

The Maple Grove Farm

Section 21, Liberty Township

R. F. D. 1, ST. ANTHONY

JAMES McMANNES

PROPRIETOR OF

The Orchard Hill Stock Farm

Section 32, Liberty Township

R. F. D. 1, ST. ANTHONY

L. R. KEOPPLE

PROPRIETOR OF

The Maple Hill Stock Farm

Section 31, Liberty Township

R. F. D. 1, ST. ANTHONY

T. M. BROWN

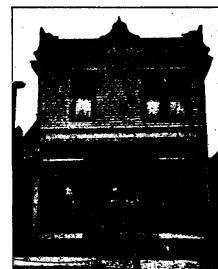
Livery and Dray Line

Feed and Sale Barn

SPECIAL ATTENTION
GIVEN TO COMMERCIAL TRADE

Phone Connection

ST. ANTHONY, IOWA



H. H. BUCK ORA. B. BUCK

H. H. BUCK & CO.

DEALERS IN

General Merchandise

ST. ANTHONY, IOWA

H. H. BUCK ORA. B. BUCK

H. H. BUCK & CO.

Furniture and Undertaking

ST. ANTHONY, IOWA

T. B. TURNER, Jr. Rosedale Stock Farm

Dealer in Thoroughbred

POLAND CHINA HOGS, HIGH GRADE
CATTLE, ROAD AND DRAFT HORSES
PLYMOUTH ROCK CHICKENS A SPECIALTY

JOHN MACKIN

PROPRIETOR OF

The Willow Lawn Stock Farm

Section 19, Liberty Township

R. F. D. 1, ST. ANTHONY

W. J. DUNN

PROPRIETOR OF

The Pine Lawn Stock Farm

Section 17, Liberty Township

R. F. D. 1, ST. ANTHONY, IOWA

George's Dyspepsia Tablets

THE ONLY GUARANTEED
DYSPEPSIA CURE SOLD AT 25 CENTS

If people who are troubled with indigestion will write to the St. Anthony Remedy Company, St. Anthony, Iowa, they will receive free of charge a sample of George's Dyspepsia Tablets, a sure remedy for all disorders of the stomach.

Put up in one size only.
One Package 25c. Five Packages \$1.00.
Sent to any address POSTPAID upon receipt of Price.

ST. ANTHONY REMEDY CO.

R. E. GEORGE, Manager ST. ANTHONY, IOWA



R. E. George Drug Company

Dealers in

Drugs, Wall Paper, Paints and Oils, Varnishes,
Jewelry, Stationery and School Supplies

Manufacturers of

George's Veterinary Remedies, Cholera and Roup
Cure for Poultry, Healing Salve for Cuts and Galls,
Condition Powders for Horses.

Atlas of Marshall County Iowa, 1907

W. C. JULIAN

DEALER IN

*Fresh and
Cured Meats*

Highest Cash Price
paid for butcher
stuff and Hides...

ST. ANTHONY, - IOWA

Telephone and Business Directory, circa 1907

The City Restaurant

Confectionery,
Cigars and
Tobacco

Lunch at all hours of day

TEMPERANCE DRINKS

Pies, Cakes.
etc. always on
Sale

A. ROBERTSON & Son
PROPRIETORS.

St. Anthony Tribune, March 21, 1902



Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Buck. Mr. Buck, dealer in
general merchandise



Jim Meekins and Ed Flanagan in their blacksmith shop

H. H. BUCK

ORA B. BUCK

H. H. Buck & Co.

DEALERS IN

Dry Goods, Groceries, Clothing

Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps

Carpets, Rugs, Oil Cloth, Linoleums

Also handle a complete line of

Furniture and Undertaking

Always glad to order anything for you that we
do not carry in stock.

Highest market price paid for poultry and pro-
duce.

Call and See us

Phone No. 1

Telephone and Business Directory, circa 1907

**GENERAL BLACKSMITHING
AND WOOD REPAIRING**

Now is the time to bring those plows in for repairs. We will put you on a
new lay or point, sharpen or repair them and will guarantee
them to be as good as the best.

21 St. Anthony, Mo.

MEEKINS & FLANAGAN

RURAL BANKING AND THE ECONOMY

Banking in Iowa in early days reflected the state of agriculture in Iowa during that time. From the time the first pioneers settled in Iowa, agriculture expanded at a steady rate, along with the population, and surplus agricultural commodities were disposed of in foreign markets.

In the early 1900's, many banks opened in Iowa, and even towns of only a few hundred people might have had two or three banks.

The *St. Anthony Tribune* of March 21, 1902, carried a news item about a proposed bank in town:

H. A. Church and son of Marshalltown who has been contemplating on a bank here for some time, last week purchased the lot of Chas. T. Newman and as soon as brick can be bought they will commence the erection of a fine brick bank building 22½ x 40 with fire proof walls to be built on the east side of Main street.

It will be a state bank and the incorporation papers have arrived and are in the possession of Dr. E. W. Jay.

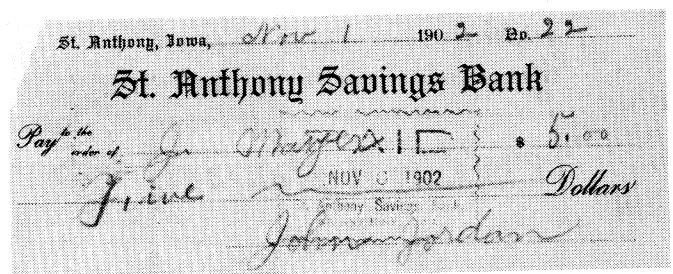
Clyde Church will be the cashier and will own a part of the capital stock but will be backed by his father.

We understand that Mr. Church as recently gone to Chicago to purchase the fixtures and the bank will be modern in every aspect with a fire and burglar proof vault and with one of the best safe's that can be bought. The furniture and fixtures will be all oak finish.

The people of this vicinity will look forward to the first of May when St. Anthony will have in operation a state bank under the name of "Farmer's State Bank!"



Bank building



On April 23, 1902, the St. Anthony Savings Bank opened with a capital of \$10,000 and deposits of \$30,000. The officers were: H. A. Church, Marshalltown,

COMPLIMENTS OF

...ST. ANTHONY SAVINGS BANK...

St. Anthony Iowa

ESTABLISHED 1902

CAPITAL - - - \$10,000.

H. A. CHURCH, President
DR. E. W. JAY, Vice President
C. M. CHURCH, Cashier

BE PROTECTED
Prepare for a "Rainy Day."

OPEN AN ACCOUNT WITH
US AND YOU WILL

HAVE SOMETHING
SUBSTANTIAL
BACK OF YOU

AND FIND YOUR SLEEP
MORE PEACEFUL.

"SAVE YOUR MONEY"
AND DEPOSIT IT IN THE

ST. ANTHONY SAVINGS BANK

ST. ANTHONY IOWA

We take any amount large or small and extend the same courtesy to all our depositors.

Remember that in selecting a place to deposit your savings SECURITY and not a high rate of interest should be your first consideration.

Advertising card, 1904

St. Anthony Savings Bank

"THE BANK OF PERSONAL SERVICE"

IT IS NOT WHAT YOU MAKE BUT WHAT YOU SAVE THAT COUNTS. This bank is an institution established to aid you in saving and facilitate the transaction of your business. Our object is to serve the public in an honest and efficient way, to take care of our customers in a disacual way, and to be a means for the progress of individuals and the community. Our enviable growth proves that we are giving our customers the best of service and that to be a customer of this bank is, in itself, an asset. Come in and talk over your financial matters and let us co-operate with you.

We also write tornado, fire, lightning, hail insurance and do all kinds of Notary Public work.

DO YOUR BUSINESS WITH A GROWING BANK

H. G. VAN ORSDEL, President

E. E. COOPER, Cashier.

Ad from *Tri-County News*, July 27, 1917

president; E. W. Jay, Saint Anthony, vice-president, and C. M. Church, Saint Anthony, cashier. The directors were: H. A. Church, E. W. Jay, Charles T. Newman, O. J. Abbott and J. W. Lacey.

World War I brought about a greatly increased demand for American agricultural products, resulting in artificially high prices, which resulted in a tremendous increase in the amount of land devoted to farming. By the end of the war, the great demand for agricultural products abroad disappeared because countries previously buying goods increased their production and became more self sufficient.⁵⁶

Agriculture in Iowa, as well as in the rest of the country, did not adjust to this decline in demand for products. The war created inflationary prices for products, as well as inflationary prices for farm land. Bankers were reluctant to loan money to anyone but farmers because they believed that the land offered great security.

When farmers defaulted on loans, they helped cause, to a great extent, a crisis in Iowa banking. Between 1920 and 1930 over 40,000 farmers lost ownership of their land, and thousands more sank deeper into debt.⁵⁷ The low level of farm prices made it impossible for the farmers to pay off their loans.

Between March 20, 1923, and July 15, 1929, 298 state banks closed; of these, eight were reopened and 42 reorganized, leaving 248 to go through receivership. In all over 500 banks closed during the 1920's.⁵⁸

An address delivered at the 27th Annual Convention of Western Grain Dealers Association in Des Moines in 1927 gives an idea of the problems involved. It reads as if it could have been written in 1982.

The farmer is long on crops, and short on cash; he visualized a feast, but winds up a famine. Somehow, his calculations have sprung a leak. He just can't draw out at the spigot as much as he put in at the bung. There isn't enough in the season's barrel to make the rounds with his thirsty creditors, let alone the wherewithal to wet his own family whistle.

Failure is epidemic throughout the rural communities of the world's basically wealthiest 300 to

400 mile area of crop land. Many Iowa farmers, dispossessed of their means of livelihood, are literally at the bread line. It surely is an anomalous situation—one that calls for not only sympathetic consideration and constructive suggestion, but for downright heroic remedy as well.

Many of the banks in Iowa in early days were small, and were usually operated by one or more members of one family who usually were the owners of the bank. Such was the case of the St. Anthony Savings Bank for a number of years. Often they did not have sufficient earnings to pay a competent non-owner manager. In the case of the Saint Anthony bank, there were no undivided profits from 1923 until it closed.

The annual *Report of the Superintendent of Banking* gives statistics which include the amount of loans, securities, capital, credits and officers of all banks in Iowa. During 1918-19, H. G. Van Orsdel was president and E. E. Cooper cashier of the St. Anthony Savings Bank. From 1922-25, E. E. Cooper was president and G. E. Allbee was cashier. In 1926, John Mackin was president and G. E. Allbee was cashier.

During 1926, 134 banks in Iowa closed, resulting in the addition a section to the Iowa code which prohibited branch banks, since it was believed that branch banks were the cause of Iowa becoming "over-banked."

The St. Anthony Savings Bank closed July 17, 1926. It had opened in 1902 with \$10,000 and closed with \$20,000 capital. The return paid to the depositors was about 10 percent.⁵⁹ Even "one of the best safe's that can be bought" was not enough to protect the bank from the forces of the times.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

In 1907, a picnic was held at the Marshall County Home and the entire county was invited. Raymond Drew recalls that the Drews and McLaughlins went together in a surrey and a buggy. The picnic was an annual event and they had stands and rides just like those at a fair.

Mary Bryant Ehlers recalls that every summer "medicine men" came to town with their one-man band



Lucy Tagatoff, Maria Dunn, Bridget Dunn and Cecelia Tagatoff wearing hats typical of the era



Horse Shoe Bend



St. Anthony Concert Band giving a concert at the edge of town

and "cure-all" medicine, and they always drew a big crowd.

Circuses, Chautauqua, street dances, ice cream socials and many other events were part of the town's life.

Horse Shoe Bend was a favorite gathering place along

the creek, since there was no other recreational area close by. In the summer kids went skinny dipping, and in winter fires were built to keep skaters warm. A road led to this area, but it was closer to walk down the railroad tracks. At the end of the year, school picnics were held



County 4-H picnic at park in Marshalltown (late 1920's photo)

St. Anthony Concert Band. Front row: (?) McGee, Wendell Dunn, Orley Cox, Thomas Dunn. Second row: Louis LaPlant, Ben Dunn, Verle Bryant, Carroll Dunn. Third row: Father Frien, John Drew, George Lane, Bill Lyons, Bill Drew, Fred Meekins, George Allbee

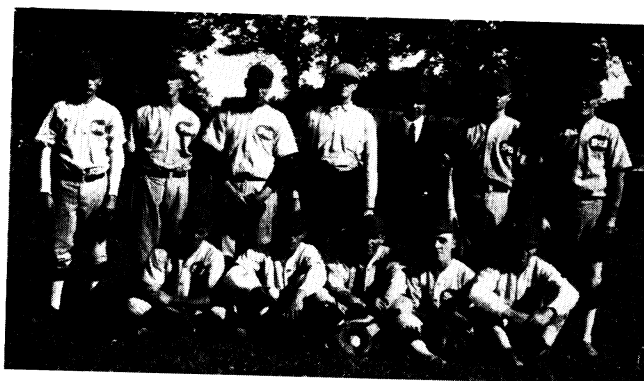


here and students were taken to the area in horse-drawn buses.

When Father Frien came in 1920, he was an energetic young man, and worked hard to expand and improve community activities. Under his guidance, the Saint Anthony Band was formed which existed for some years. Concerts were given in the summer, and uniforms were an important visible sign of this group.

Baseball was a major event in small towns and Saint Anthony was no exception. Before 1900, threshing rings had ball teams. Later, towns sponsored the teams, which played each other throughout the season. Saint Anthony fielded a team for many years, playing in a league that included Union, Whitten, Liscomb, Albion, Zearing, State Center and LaMoille. The ball diamond was located at several sites in the north part of town over the years. Father Frien coached the team when he came as well as being pitcher.

Tragedy occurred in June 1907 when Saint Anthony was playing Clemons. Nine players on the Saint Anthony



Saint Anthony baseball team. Front row: Ralph Jay, Raymond Drew, Rusty Melmann, Orley Cox, Tom Thatcher. Back row: (?) , Hugh Grandy, Father Frien, George Lane, Peter Meyers, John Drew, Nellie Hollingsworth

team were knocked down by a bolt of lightning that hit the playing field, and one of the players, Albert LaPlant, died. The other players were: John Dolan, John Flanagan, Bert Herman, Roy Keoppel, John Rick, George Waldy, John Bryant and Frank Buchan.



Saint Anthony baseball team. Front row: Earl Elliott, Buford Morgan, Frank Luvkasky, Father Frien. Back row: E. E. Cooper, Ralph Jay, (?) , (?) , George Willigrod, Wayne Morgan, Frank Buchan, George Shore



Not a "surrey with fringe on top," but an elegant conveyance before the advent of automobiles

Excitement arose when J. C. (Sunny Jim) Dunn, a native of this area, purchased the Cleveland Indians in 1916. In 1920, the Indians won the World Series and Dunn sent the team to Marshalltown to play an exhibition game, although he was not able to accompany the team (see separate story about "Sunny Jim").

In 1930, the team joined the Marshall County league and won the league championship several times during the period 1930-40. The team members in 1930 were: Albert Dunn, Merle Drew, Lester Meimann, Larry Mills, Red Curley, Maurice Kingsbury, George Hannusch, Pat Dunn and Bill Moody.

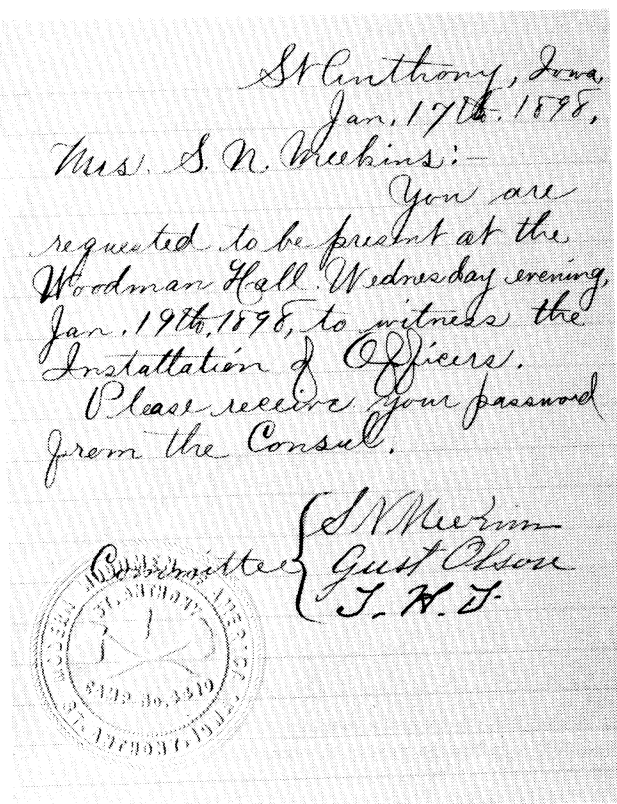
In 1949, Gerald Mehlich, son of Elmer and Eva Mehlich, signed a contract with the Cleveland Indians and played on the team for about five years.

When World War II came, some of the small teams vanished, including Saint Anthony's. Merle Drew and Bill Moody were the only ones who went to State Center to play. After World War II, semi-pro baseball was replaced by softball.

CIVIC SOCIETIES

Several civic societies have existed through the years. Little evidence has been found indicating the time span each existed, but both the *St. Anthony Tribune* and biographical sketches in county histories confirm their existence.

The Modern Woodmen of America, the I.O.O.F. and the Rebecca's had a listing in the *Tribune* of March 21, 1902.



Modern Woodmen of America

ST. ANTHONY CAMP 4410

W. H. MILLER, Consul H. G. VAN ORSDEL, Banker
J. H. BATSON, Worthy Advisor R. W. ALLEN, Clerk & Camp Physician

Meets on second and fourth Wednesdays



THE Modern Woodman society offers you the cheapest and soundest life insurance on the market today—cheapest, because the society's loss rate per \$1,000 insurance is lowest; soundest, because every Benefit certificate is backed by over 710,000 members **now** and number of backers is constantly increasing.

TABLE OF RATES				
Age Nearest Birthday	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
18 to 25 yrs., inc.	.25	.50	\$1.00	\$1.50
26 to 27	.30	.55	1.10	1.65
28 to 29	.30	.60	1.20	1.80
30 to 31	.35	.65	1.30	1.95
32 to 33	.35	.70	1.40	2.10
34 to 35	.40	.75	1.50	2.25
36 to 37	.40	.80	1.60	2.40
38 to 39	.45	.85	1.70	2.55
40 to 41	.45	.90	1.80	2.70
42 to 43	.50	.95	1.90	2.85
44 to 45	.50	1.00	2.00	3.00

COST OF \$1,000
INSURANCE LAST YEAR
Age 20 - - - **\$4.50**
Age 30 - - - **\$5.85**
Age 40 - - - **\$8.10**

Compare this with the cost of other insurance

Reliable Cheap Insurance

Every man with a wife and family, with a dependent father or mother, sister or brother, must take deep interest in this question of insurance protection. He needs insurance—he cannot wisely get along without it. He must have reliable insurance, and at the same time he may properly demand that it be sold to him at a fair price.

We invite you—*you*, to compare the rates of assessment of the Modern Woodmen society, at your age, with the rates of other societies or life insurance companies, referring at the same time to the number of assessments collected each year and our record of *prompt payment of losses*, and *then*—well, we leave it to you. You'll have to admit that you want Woodmen protection for those who depend upon you.

For Further Information, Inquire of Any Member

Manilla Rebekah

Lodge, No. 411



I. O. O. F.

Constitution and By-Laws

Located at . . . St. Anthony, Iowa

A full page ad for the Modern Woodmen of America, which advertised reliable and cheap insurance, was found in the Saint Anthony Telephone Directory, circa 1907. A letter of January 17, 1898, received by Mrs. S. N. Meekins, invited her to witness the installation of officers.

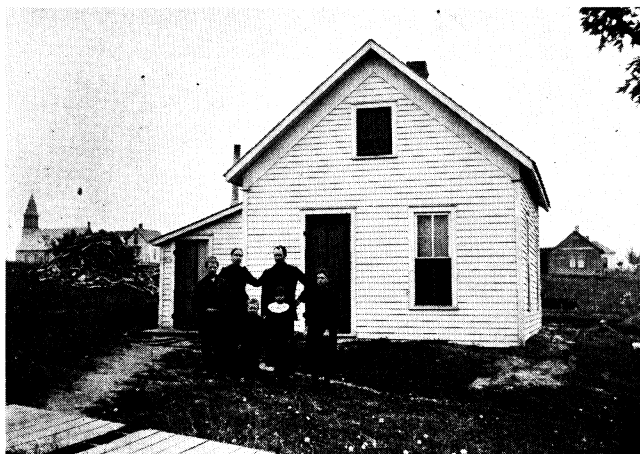
The Manilla Rebekah Lodge, No. 411, I.O.O.F., met the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. In 1905, the fee for admission into the lodge was \$1 and dues were 60 cents a year. The constitution and by-laws belonging to Carrie LaPlant indicate she "went in" March 27, 1906.

The I.O.O.F. met weekly in their hall over J. C. Evans' store. In John A. Bryant's biography in the 1912 *History of Marshall County*, he is listed as belonging to the Tornado Lodge, No. 637, I.O.O.F. It also indicated in this biography that he was a member of the Pacific Lodge, No. 469, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Fights and scuffles were not foreign to the town. A newspaper account (source and date unknown) related a fight at Peters Restaurant, operated by Fred Peters. About 1 a.m. two local men accompanied by a woman, stopped at the restaurant after attending a dance west of town. "Moonshine" was involved, according to the account. A battle ensued which lasted for over an hour, tipping over the counter, smashing showcases, overturning stoves and in general, wrecking the place. Butcher knives, a hammer and a hatchet were held as evidence by the sheriff.

"Movie fights faded into insignificance compared with the battle in the little restaurant, judging from the appearance of the bruised and beaten battlers," according to the account.



Sam Meekins home with family in front yard

S. N. MEEKINS,
Justice of the Peace.
St. Anthony, Iowa.

The last paragraph reads: "The Peters Restaurant was closed Wednesday pending repairs of the place and its owner."

Samuel Norton Meekins was the justice of the peace in Saint Anthony most of the years from the late 1880's through the 1930's.

He had "read law," as it was called in early days, when he studied and lived in Dakota Territory. He and his wife, Em, and two children, Maude and Jim, went to Ree Heights, Dakota Territory, now South Dakota, around 1880. Em and the children lived on the homestead outside of town while Sam worked and studied in town.

He was elected to the school board in Ree Heights, had a real estate office with other men, and was a notary public. However, Indian massacres, hard life and loss of a new baby were too much for his wife, and they were homesick for friends and relatives, so they returned to Iowa in early 1887 with an addition to the family, 6 month old Carrie.

Since Saint Anthony had already been platted in 1882, his return came at an opportune time. He built his home here and helped plan and make the laws of the growing town. At one time, Sam had triple duties of justice of the peace, township assessor and mayor (there was evidently no law against it at the time). His son, Fred, also served as town marshall.

Saint Anthony was not a quiet town to try to govern, and he was called upon day and night to straighten out fights. He was a tall, strong man and had no trouble enforcing the law.

In a letter written in 1910, he indicated that he was tired that particular day. The night before, three Irishmen had become drunk and had begun to fight. Sam and others had tried to put them in the town jail, but two of them got away. Sam went home, only to learn that the two had returned and kicked in the jail door, freed their partner, and then set fire to the building. Sam caught them and set their court appearance for his home that afternoon. It had been a long night for him.

One of the duties of his office was to officiate at marriages. Each year, Frank Buchan brought him a cigar in honor of his officiating at his and Pearl's wedding.

Sam was also a blacksmith and had a shop across the street to the northeast of his house, which he later sold to Ed Flanagan. The jail was east of the blacksmith shop, so his home, business and jail were within steps of each other.

He held court whenever it was convenient for all parties, often in his home. He also held court in the schoolhouse, in the furnace room. When the case involved a large group, he held court in the hall over Mayer Hardware Store. He kept his own notes and transferred them to the legal book in a slow, steady manner until his hands began to bother him and then his granddaughter, Hollis LaPlant, helped him.⁶⁰

WARS AND LOCAL INVOLVEMENT



Children on Ed Bartine's porch. Note star in window from World War I (1920 photo)



Sign erected during World War II

When World War I came, many boys from the town and surrounding area left to defend their country.

Saint Anthony celebrated the end of the war—a year later on November 11, 1919. Between the blacksmith shop and the hardware store they built a bower and played basketball during the afternoon. They had planned to have a dance in the evening, but it was too cold, so they moved the heavy piano up the outside stairway and danced in the hall over the hardware store.⁶¹

Every week, a group of school girls met for an afternoon to roll bandages and make other items needed by the Red Cross. The group, along with their teacher, even had their pictures taken in the uniforms they wore while working on their projects.

During World War II a sign was erected downtown listing the boys that were serving their country at that



Sign erected after World War II listing names of people who served during the war

time. After the war, an even larger sign was erected. Both signs are now gone.

FIRES SWEEP MAIN STREET

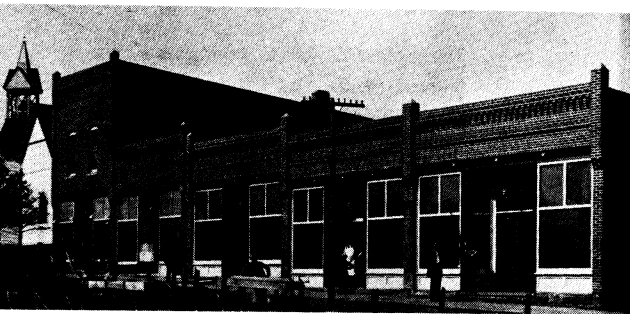
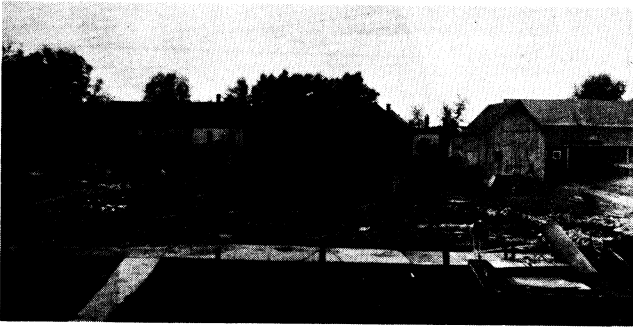


Above and top of page 29: Views of north end of Main Street after 1909 fire

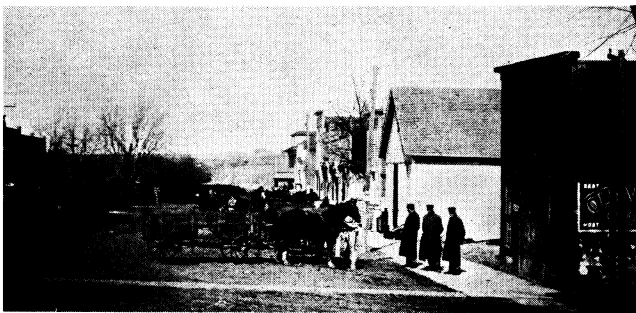
Fires were devastating to the town, and over the years a number of them occurred. Probably the most serious



Main Street looking north. Dirigible superimposed in photo (post 1911 photo)



New buildings constructed after the fire. From left: Mayer Hardware; Berge Bros. & Co.; J. A. Bryant, Notary Public, Real Estate & Insurance; Post Office; H. Hannusch City Meat Market; Restaurant



Main Street looking north (1911 photo)

one gutted the entire block on the west side of Main Street from the Christian Church north to the corner on October 2, 1909. Numerous post cards have been found showing the devastation the fire caused. It was a great blow to the town and pointed out the need for a town water system to fight fires. Such a system was not established for over half a century, however.



After this fire, the area was rebuilt, but not as extensively as it had been before the fire.

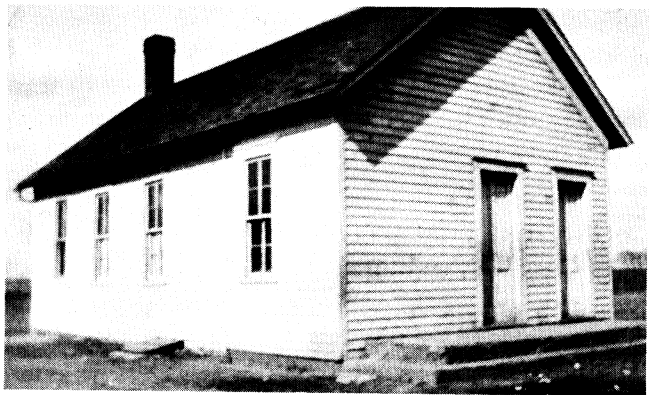
A fire in the 1920's also destroyed several buildings. It started in the McKay Harness Shop, owned by George McKay, and spread to the Lauren Maltby garage on the west side of the building, as well as to the Mackin and Harlan flour and feed store. It was discovered by Mrs. Anson Tight, who lived across the street from the building.

Destroyed in the fire were six automobiles as well as automobile accessories, a complete harness stock and part of the contents of the feed and flour store. The cars that burned were a Ford sedan owned by Ralph Tight, a Hupmobile owned by Merle McCormack, a Star owned by Will Maltby, a Ford touring car owned by Charles Schryver and a Ford coupe owned by the bank.

The building, owned by the St. Anthony Savings Bank, was completely destroyed. The loss to the bank was \$1,500 for the building, \$1,500 to Maltby garage, \$2,300 to McKay Harness Shop and \$300 to Mackin and Harlan.⁶²

In 1924, another fire destroyed two business buildings. The restaurant was owned by Mrs. C. L. Keoppel and the meat market and grocery by Henry Hannusch. The restaurant was valued at \$1,000 and the meat market and grocery at \$2,000. The total loss was estimated at \$5,000-6,000, including the buildings.⁶³

EDUCATION IN THE AREA



Rural school in Liberty Township

An early biography of Samuel Mooney indicated that when he came in August of 1855 there was no school-

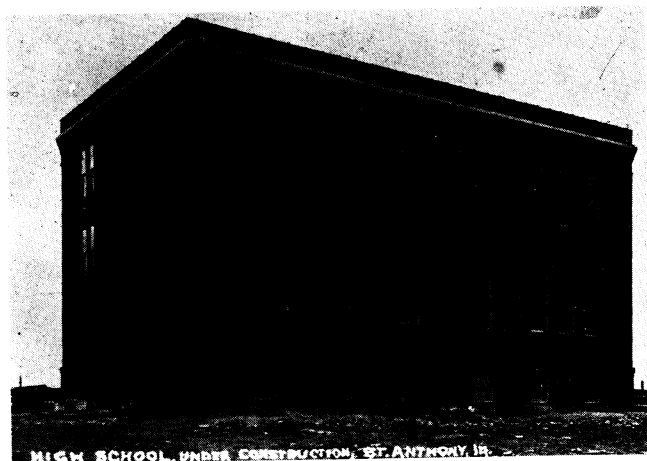
house in the township, but in the fall of 1855 a log one was built. No teachers are listed in the 1856 census, but the 1860 census lists E. W. Evans, Mary A. Kinzer, Sarah J. Kinzer and Sarah Pattison.

County records are incomplete concerning the listing of land transactions involving rural schools, but the first one known dates back to 1860. In Section 8, Ann Raley sold property for a school for \$10.⁶⁴

Land records concerning the area where Saint Anthony is located today indicate land deeded for a school in 1884. Minutes of meetings of the directors of the school from 1903-11 list teachers as well as official transactions.

The small wooden school west of the present grain office closed and was torn down after the brick school was built, and lumber for it was used to build several homes in town, among them the one owned today by Mildred Beach.

The residents of the town were proud of their new brick school, constructed in 1912-13. It had four classrooms and, for the first time, offered a high school program. The first class graduated in 1917 and the last in 1949. There were eighth grade graduations until 1955.



Brick school under construction (1913 photo)

Two years later the school closed, and the building was torn down in the 1960's. At this time, students went to Clemons, State Center or Zearing.

The absence of a school gradually resulted in fewer people moving into the town. Currently, many Saint Anthony residents work in Marshalltown, Nevada or Ames.

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS

Shortly after the turn of the century, telephone service was available to the town and surrounding area. In one instance, there were 23 people on the same line, although some had as few as 13 on one line.

The phone system was located in the Sam Meekins home and it remained at this location until the dial

G. W. MILLS, M. D.

Physician and Surgeon

Phone No. 124

Office Over George's Drug Store

Line No. 1.

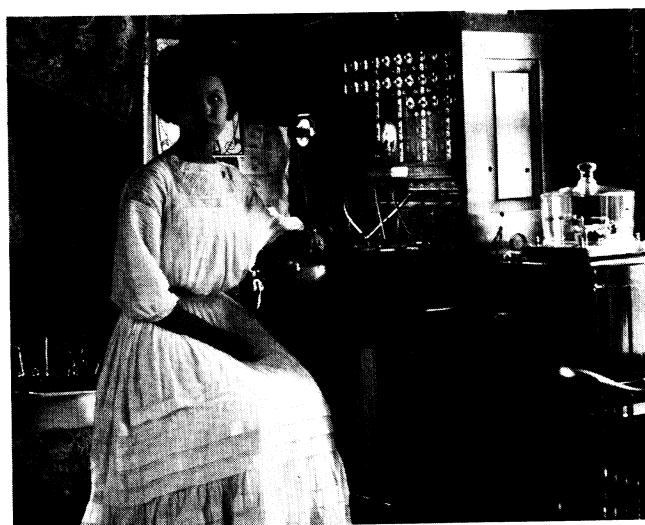
1	Buck H H (Adv)	.....
2	Bryant J A (Adv)	.....
3	Buck D H	.....
4	Brown N O	.....
5	Brown Bros. Livery Barn (Adv)	.....
6	Davenport P A (Adv)	.....
7	Keoppel Chas	.....
8	McMannas J	.....
9	Keoppel Ray	.....
10	Harlan W H	.....
11	Catholic Parsonage	.....
12	Blackburn D	.....
13	Spence A	.....
14	Tagetoff F	.....
15		.....
16		.....
17		.....

MILLINERY

The Latest Styles in Spring and
Summer Hats for Women and
Children

MISS MEDORA DEAL

Page from Telephone and Business Directory, St. Anthony, Iowa, circa 1907



Carrie Meekins at telephone switchboard located in the Sam Meekins home

system was introduced and a switchboard was no longer needed.

In 1938, the St. Anthony Co-operative Telephone As-

sociation was formed, and in 1957, the Minerva Valley Telephone Company brought dial service to the Clemons, Saint Anthony and Zearing areas. The need no longer existed for a local operator, as all business was handled through the central office in Zearing.

In 1961, some of the streets were sealcoated, which was a welcome improvement.

A city water system had been needed for years, and in 1969 the system was installed supplying the needs of the town, financed through the sale of bonds.

The city hall was constructed in 1973 with colunteer labor and funds raised locally.

St. Anthony Telephone Co.

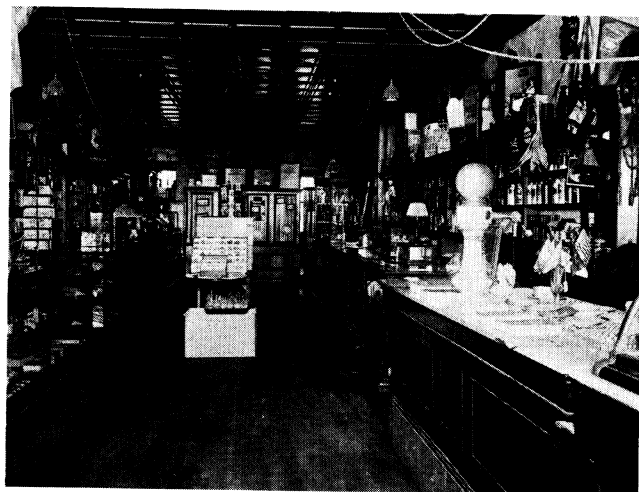
Time... *2 35 P.M.* June 9, 19*14*
 Charge to... *118*
 Party calling... *Mrs. Wolfgang*
 Called... *589*
 Place... *M. Town*
 O. K. *yes* If not, why?.....

 Operator *Q.H.*
 Toll... *1.0*
 Mess.....
 Total.....

1914 bill for toll call from Saint Anthony to Marshalltown



View of Berge Bros. & Co., general merchandise



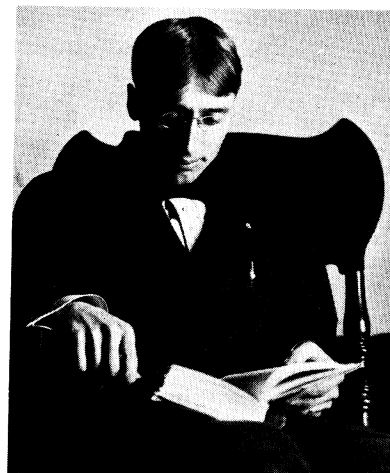
LaPlant and Son Drug Store



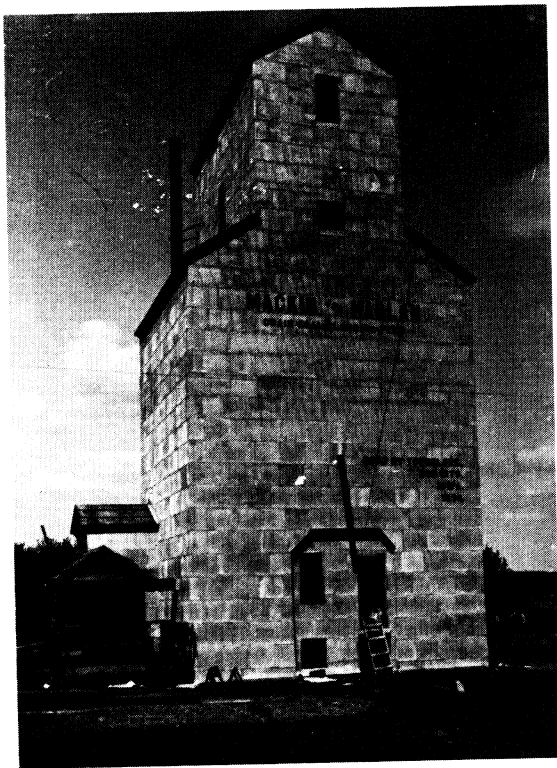
Louie LaPlant mixing drugs in his pharmacy



Louie LaPlant's wireless at back of his store



Louie LaPlant reading his pharmacy book



Grain elevator located northwest of depot and grain office

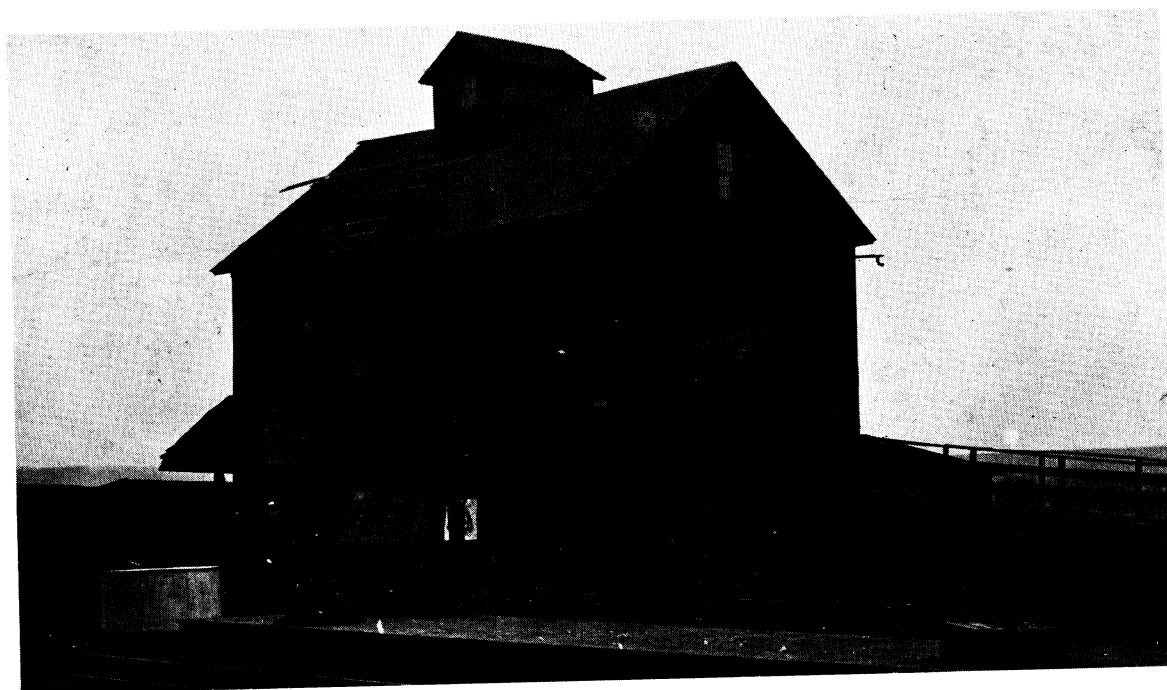
The Mackin Grain Co. is the oldest established business in Saint Anthony. Over the years it has been known by several names and has sold various products.

The *Iowa State Gazetteer and Business Directory* for 1901-02 lists Stipp and Robinson, grain elevator. William H. Stipp and W. H. Harlan later operated the business as Stipp and Harlan for a number of years.

In 1914, John Mackin bought Stipp's share in the business and it was known as Mackin and Harlan until Harlan died in the 1940's. John was the owner until 1958 when his son, John Jr. (Junior) became the owner. Today, Jack Mackin works in partnership with his father, Junior.



John Mackin



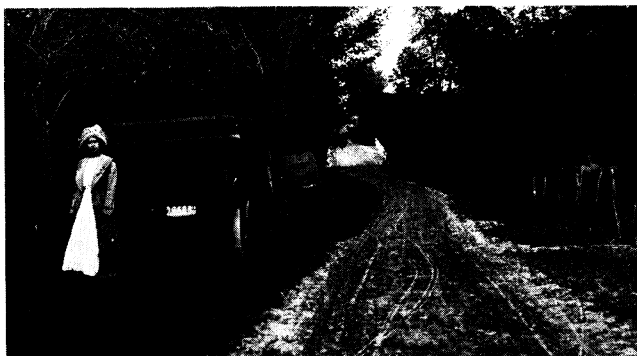
Elevator located east of depot on north side of tracks



Henry Hannusch Meat Market. From left: Henry Hannusch, owner; Ben Pepper, salesman; Deg Wilkinson, Saint Anthony resident



Easton Grocery. From left: Charles Schryver, Myrta McCormack, John Easton, circa 1930



Typical county road, 1912. Carrie Meekins standing beside Louie LaPlant's car

Official certificate of election to office of town assessor, 1908

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION.		(Sec. 1138, Code of 1897.)
STATE OF IOWA, } <i>Marshall</i> County, } ss.		
At an election holden in <i>St Anthony</i> in said County, on the <i>30</i> day of <i>March</i> A. D. 1908, <i>Ed Flanigan</i> was elected to the office of <i>Assessor</i> within and for <i>The Town of St Anthony</i> in the said County, for the term of <i>Two</i> years from the <i>6th</i> day of <i>April</i> A. D. 1908.		
and until his successor is elected and qualified.		
Witness: <i>Wm. Schaefer</i> Clerk of Election.	<i>J. Bryant</i> <i>Wm. Schaefer</i> Judges of Election.	
*If elected to fill a vacancy, modify above and insert: "for the residue of the term ending on the _____ day of _____ A. D. 19__"		

SPECIAL SALE

Starts Sat. July 28
and Ends Sat. Aug 4

Now is the time to lay in your supplies of
GROCERIES AT CUT PRICES

Sugar at per 100 lbs.	\$8.85
"Eaco" Flour-best on market	\$3.39
Lemons per doz.	25c
"Gold Bond" Coffee, regular 35c grade	39c
Cider Vinegar per gal.	27c
White Vinegar, per gal.	22c
Tea, 50c grade, now	39c
Chicken Feed per lb.	3½c

FRANK SCHNASE

ST. ANTHONY ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ IOWA

Ads from Tri-County News, July 27, 1917

New Paige Six Owners

Lawrence Brecht
O. P. Abbey
Frank Saliger
Byron Borton
James Borton
David Bryant
Victor Nelson

Phone or call on us for our new Service Proposition on
"Paige", "Saxon" or "Chevrolet" Cars.

St. Anthony Motor Company



Taking it easy on Main Street

LaPlant Bros. Automobile Filling Station





Share of stock in telephone association, 1938



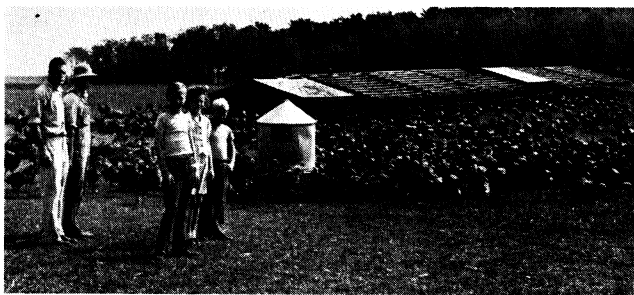
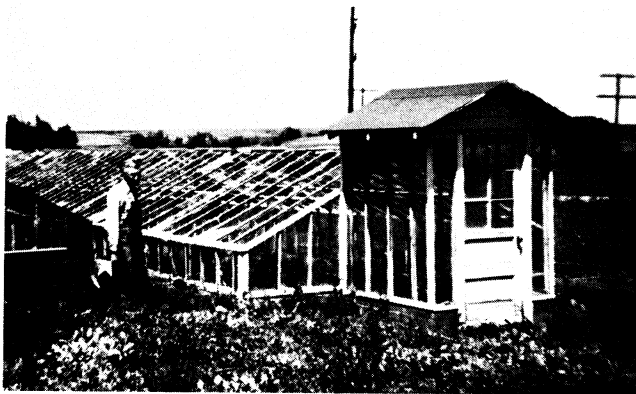
Easton Grocery Store (1961 photo)



LaPlant Greenhouse, Louie LaPlant, owner (1960's photos)



Lamont Wengert, trucker in Saint Anthony area for many years (1940's photo)



Easton Turkey Farm, John Easton family



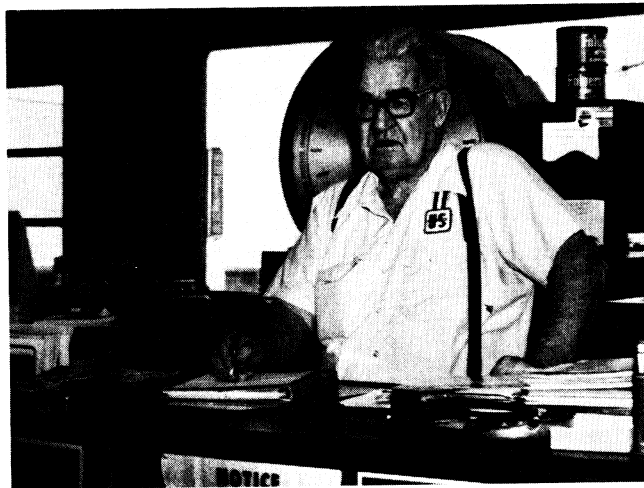
Earl Beach, service station owner (1955 photo)



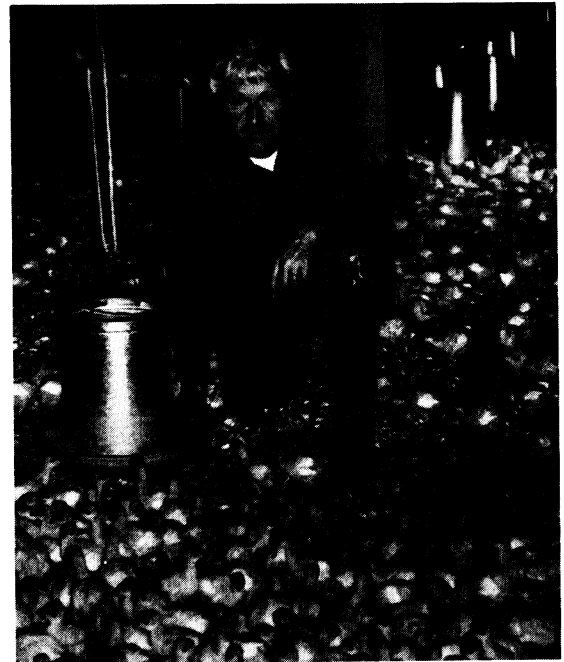
Mrs. Blanche Burmeister, tavern owner (1955 photo)



Saint Anthony in 1950



John Mackin, Mackin Grain Co.



Bob Easton, Easton Turkey Farm

1982 Businesses

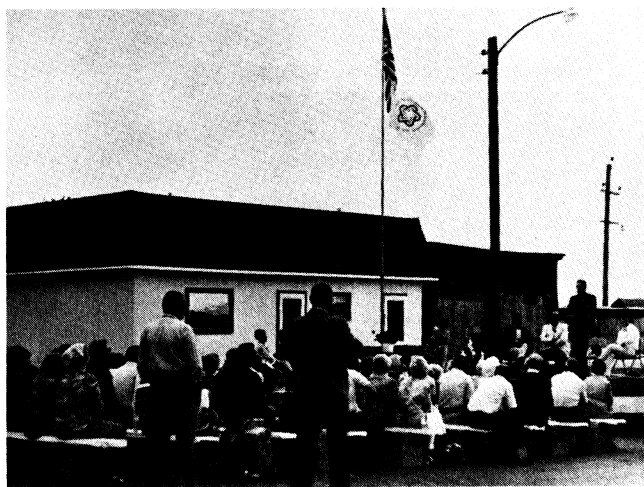
Bryant Standard Station, Duane Bryant, owner
 Easton Turkey Farm, Bob Easton, owner
 Larry & Ginny's Cafe & Tavern, Larry & Ginny Karns, owners
 Larry Clark, carpenter
 Lola's Beauty Boutique, Lola Burg, owner
 Mackin Grain Co., John Mackin, owner
 Post Office, Clarice Davis, postmaster
 St. Anthony Market, Phil & Sandy McBride, owners

Lola Burg, standing, Lola's Beauty Boutique



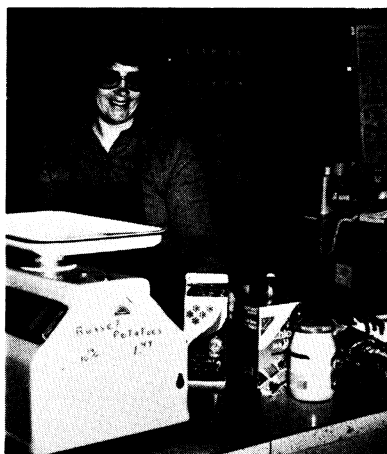


Larry & Ginny's Cafe & Tavern

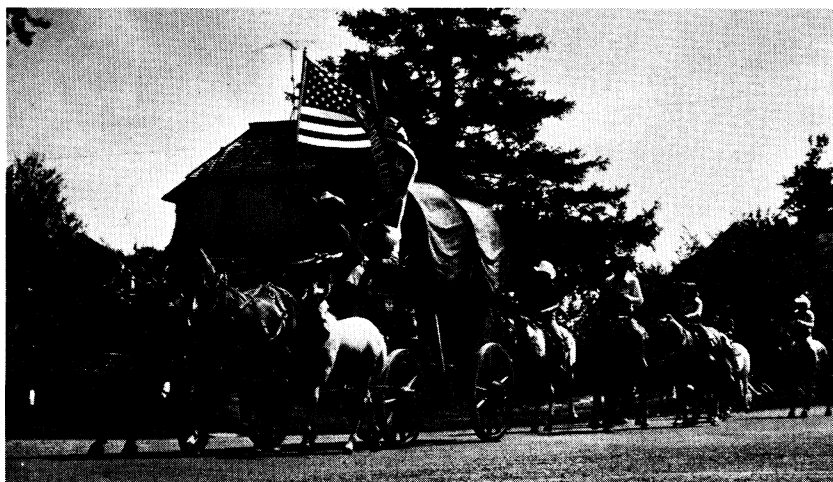


Reprinted from *Tri-County News*

Dedication ceremony for the new community building July 4, 1976. Rev. John Schmitz is shown at the microphone. Seated on the platform are: Larry Clark, mayor; Wendell Benson, chairman of the Marshall County Bicentennial Committee; and Rev. Doris Kinton.



Sandy McBride, St. Anthony Market

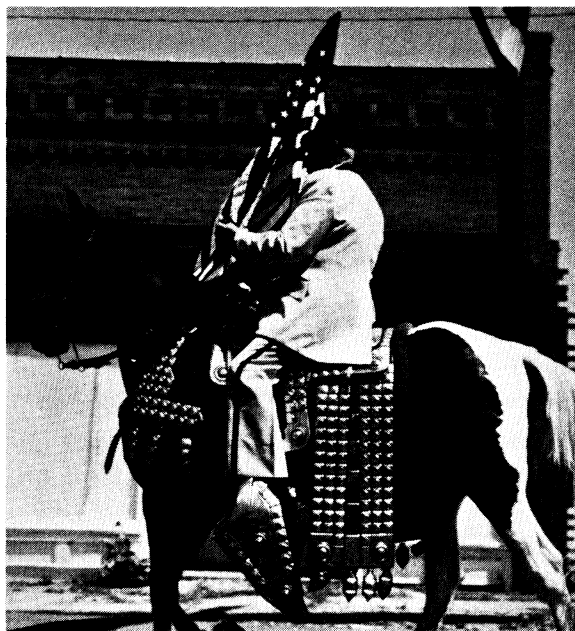


Bryant Standard Station

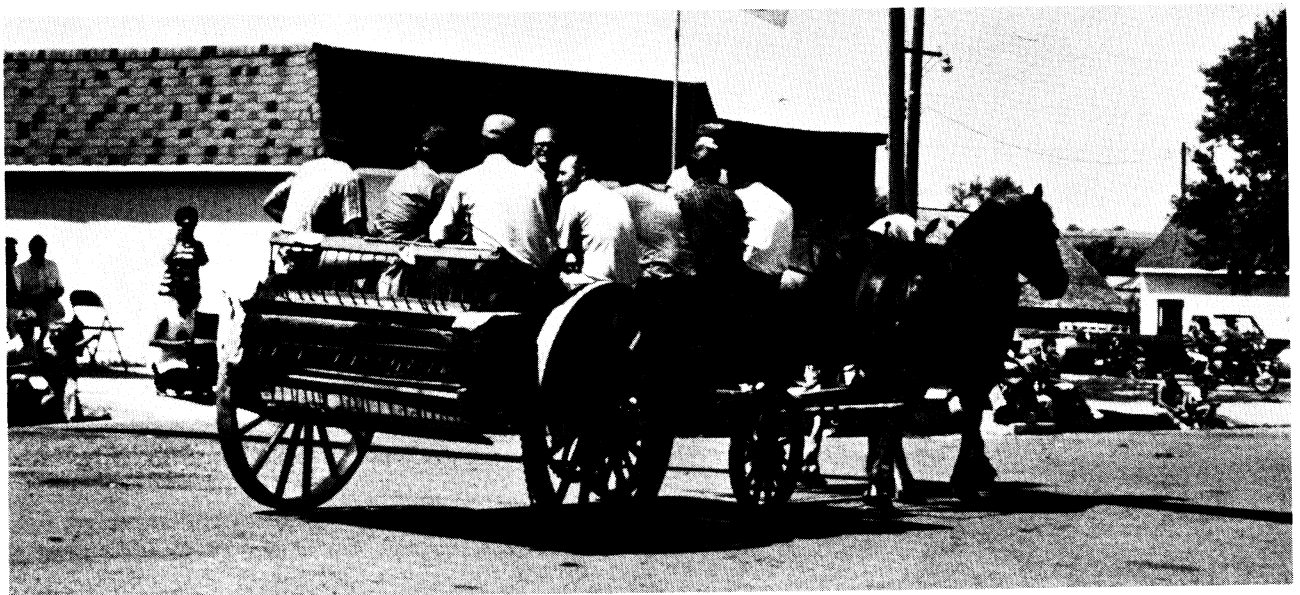
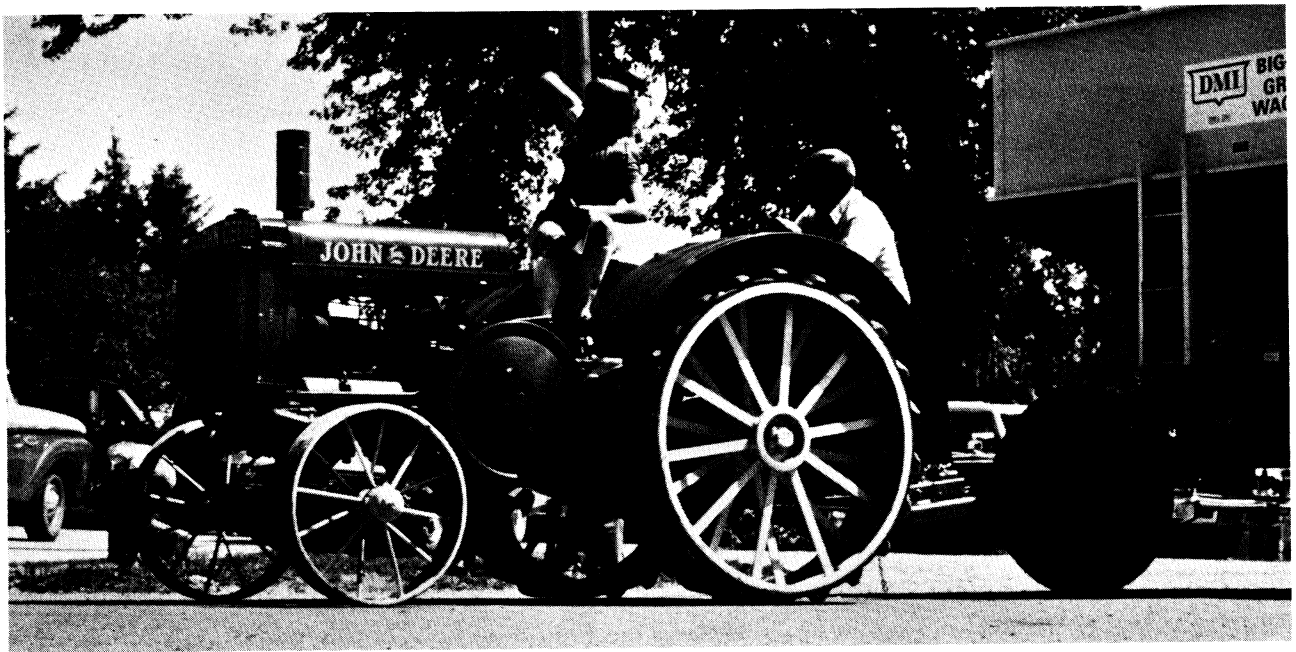
BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The most memorable event in Saint Anthony in many years was the bicentennial celebration on July 4, 1976. A parade consisting of floats, antique cars, tractors and other farm equipment, horses and a covered wagon highlighted the morning festivities.

A community potluck at noon on the grounds of the Christian Church was followed in the afternoon by the



Above and next page: Saint Anthony Bicentennial parade





July 4, 1976, community picnic on Christian Church grounds

dedication of the town hall and post office, which had already been in use for several years.

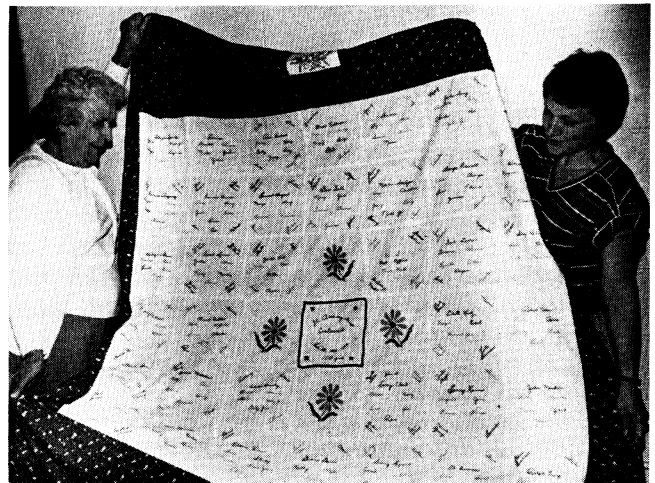
The town was decorated with banners across Main Street, there was a dance, and also a historical exhibit.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



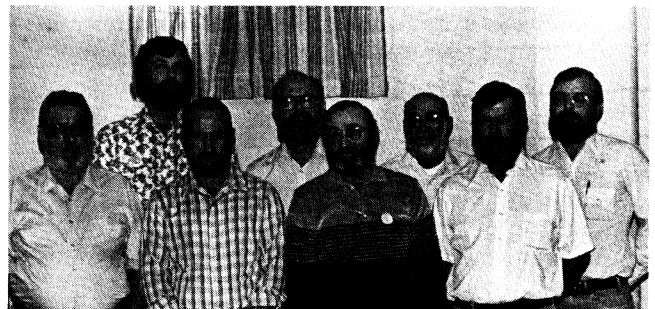
Sonny Lyons, chairman of centennial celebration, with his wife Carol and daughter Laura (1981 photo)

A community club has existed since 1976 and is busy making preparations for the centennial celebration August 7-8, 1982. The festivities will begin with a banquet for all former students and teachers on the evening of August 6, followed by a dance at Lincoln Valley Golf Club, State Center.



Reprinted from *Melbourne Record*

Mrs. Archie Skaggs (left) and Mrs. Larry Clark shown with the quilt they made which will be raffled off as part of the centennial celebration. Each square represents a family in the community. (1982 photo)



Reprinted from *State Center Enterprise*

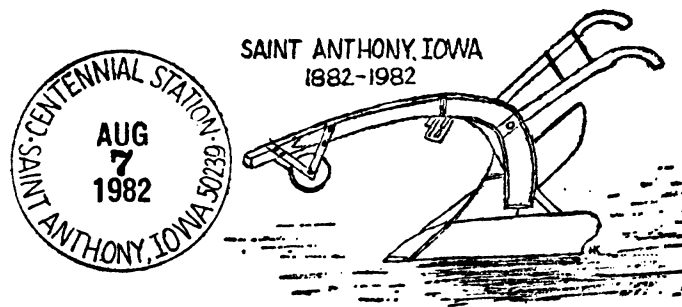
These men are among the entrants in the centennial beard contest. Front row: Archie Skaggs, Art Duncan, Sonny Lyons, Larry Clark. Back row: Sid Hotopp, Mel Stalzer, Bill Shenkle, Cal Woosley. (1982 photo)

On August 7, the day begins with a parade followed by a horseshoe pitching contest in the afternoon and a hog roast in the evening. Other evening festivities include a coin auction, drawing for the quilt, talent show and judging of beards and dresses.

During the day there will also be a flea market, bingo, historical displays and an old gas engine exhibit. Pork and beef organizations will be serving food all day and the Buckskinners from Eldora will have musket-loading demonstrations, a hatchet and knife throw, plus games for kids.

Sunday's schedule includes an ecumenical service in the morning followed by a potluck picnic at noon. In the afternoon a tractor and truck pull is scheduled. The flea market, bingo, games and historical displays will also be continued on Sunday afternoon.

As the celebration comes to a close and people return to their homes, memories of past and present events linger—for those whose roots began or will end here, as well as for those who passed through at one time or another.



NOTES

1. Mrs. N. Sanford, *History of Marshall County, Iowa* (Clinton, Iowa: Leslie McAllaster & Co., 1867), p. 18.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. Judge William Battin and F. A. Moscrip, *Past and Present of Marshall County, Iowa* (Indianapolis, Indiana: B. F. Bowen and Company, 1912), p. 163.
5. *The History of Marshall County, Iowa* (Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1878), p. 353.
6. Battin and Moscrip, *Past and Present*, p. 163.
7. *The History of Marshall County*, p. 337.
8. Ibid., p. 338, 341.
9. Ibid.
10. Mrs. N. Sanford, *History of Marshall County*, p. 145.
11. Ibid., p. 125.
12. Battin and Moscrip, *Past and Present*, p. 60.
13. Ibid., p. 109.
14. *Description and History of Marshall County, Iowa* (Marshalltown: Taylor and Barnhart, 1862), p. 4.
15. Ibid., p. 5.
16. Ibid.
17. Battin and Moscrip, *Past and Present*, p. 108.
18. *Description and History*, p. 4.
19. Battin and Moscrip, *Past and Present*, p. 44.
20. Ibid., p. 45.
21. Ibid., p. 110.
22. Ibid.
23. Gerald Schultz, *History of Marshall County Iowa* (Marshalltown: Marshall Printing Company, 1955), p. 46.
24. Ibid., p. 45.
25. Ibid.
26. Ibid.
27. *The History of Marshall County*, p. 353.
28. Ibid.
29. Ibid.
30. C. A. White, *Manual of Physical Geography and Institutions of the State of Iowa*, 16th Ed. Revised (Davenport: Egbert, Fidler and Chambers, 1887), p. 67.
31. *Iowa Farm Outlook*, 1982.
32. Battin and Moscrip, *Past and Present*, p. 271.
33. Ibid.
34. Mrs. N. Sanford, *History of Marshall County*, p. 6.
35. Battin and Moscrip, *Past and Present*, p. 270.
36. *The History of Marshall County*, p. 353.
37. Ibid., p. 354.
38. Ibid., p. 445.
39. Ibid., p. 353.
40. Iowa Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, *Agri-News*, January 21, 1982.
41. *The History of Marshall County*, p. 353.
42. Battin and Moscrip, *Past and Present*, p. 269.
43. Ibid., p. 272.
44. 1856 Census of Liberty Township, vol. 58, pp. 244-263.
45. 1860 Census of Liberty Township, vol. 92, p. 411ff.
46. 1885 Census of Liberty Township, vol. 231, p. 251ff.
47. Ibid.
48. C. A. White, *Manual of Physical Geography*, p. 67.
49. Newspaper account, date unknown.
50. Roxanne Mehlich, personal communication.
51. Marshall County Recorder's Office, official records.
52. Louis E. Ford, personal communication.
53. Articles of incorporation, town of St. Anthony.
54. Ibid.
55. *St. Anthony School Annual*, p. 26.
56. H. Mac Bohlman *Iowa Banking During 1920's* (Des Moines: Iowa Banker's Association, 1977), p. 1.
57. Ibid., p. 4.
58. Ibid.
59. Report of the Superintendent of Banking, 1926.
60. Sam Meekins biography, related by Hollis LaPlant Lathrop.
61. Correspondence from Hollis LaPlant Lathrop.
62. Newspaper account, date unknown.
63. Newspaper account, date unknown.
64. Land record, Marshall County Recorder's Office.