



TIMELESS TREASURES

WINTERSET SQUARE

WALKING TOUR



1869 Bird's Eye View Map of Winterset

Madison County, Iowa



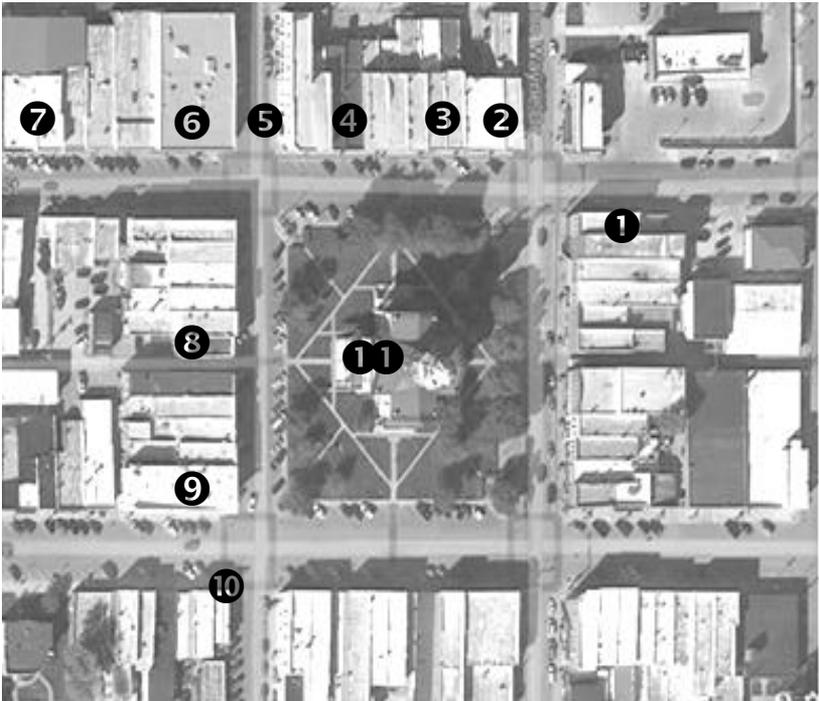
Winterset's Timeless Treasures

Introduction

As you stand in the Winterset Square, imagine that you are in the midst of an outdoor art gallery. The Courthouse is a priceless work of art nestled in the center. The buildings in all four directions are each a unique monument to history, created by an artist with a vision that has become a timeless treasure.

Our walking tour will introduce you to a few of these gems and the artists who crafted them, providing you with a passport to the past.

Start your tour at the northeast corner of the square. There you will find the Timeless Treasures tent and an Information Booth in the shape of a covered bridge.



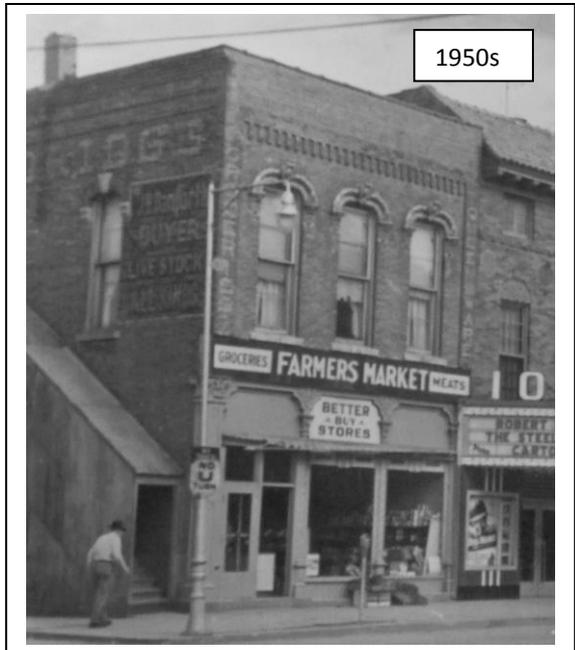
❶ Dr. Jesse Smith, Physician to the Stars



Jesse Veluria Stauffer Smith (1866~1879) graduated from medical college in 1892, while caring for three step-children and an infant. She and her husband, Mathias, befriended Clyde and Molly Morrison. Dr. Smith delivered the Morrison's son, Marion Robert, better known as John Wayne. Her office was on the second floor of the building just north of the Iowa Theater.

This building was built in 1873 soon after the railroad reached Winterset bringing building materials such as the original iron pillars that are still visible. The outside staircase is the last one remaining around the square but these were once a

common feature on the end of buildings and in the alleys. After being a drug store for 15 years, the storefront was painted a bright yellow and it became a grocery and kitchen goods store. Groceries were sold here for the next 60 years. The second floor was used for professional offices of lawyers and doctors, including Dr. Jesse Smith.



② Andrew Crawford and Son, Andrew Walker Crawford

Andrew Crawford (1818~1879) was born in Ireland. He arrived in New York as a teenager, learned the mercantile trade in Ohio, and located to Winterset in 1856. He commissioned this building in 1873 and was one of the pioneer grocers in Winterset. Andrew was

described as “a thorough businessman, indomitable will and energy, impressing all with whom he had business relations of his standard of honor and honesty... his life was characterized by many acts of charitable deeds that never came to the notice of the public.”

A.W. Crawford (1849~1918) is Andrew’s son. After two years in a New York business college, A.W. took over the active management of his father's business, at that time called “A. Crawford and Son.” Other businesses in this building through the years included milliners, dressmakers, tailors, lawyers, dentists, and doctors.

ICE CREAM SALOON
AND
GROCERY STORE !

A. Crawford will keep constantly on hand at his Store on the northeast corner of the Public Square, a full stock of

GROCERIES, CONFECTIONERIES & PROVISIONS.

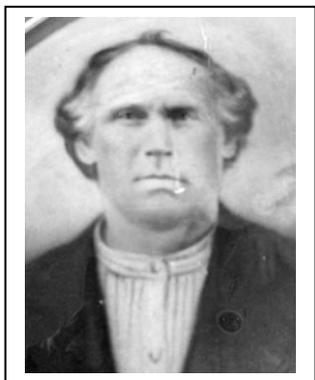
He now has an ICE CREAM SALOON in full operation, and the best Ice Cream can be had at all hours of the day and evening. Private Families and parties supplied on short notice.

ANDREW CRAWFORD.
WINTERSSET, MADISON CO., IOWA.

1869 Advertisement



③ Eli Cox, Builder of Bridges and Buildings



Eli Cox (1835~1885) moved to Winterset about 1857 from Ohio. He was known as a "bridge builder" and was a man of honest industry. "Blest with a strong constitution, as few men could have endured so much hard labor." By profession he was a carpenter and often chosen to build numerous covered bridges, schoolhouses, barns and houses all over this county. Among the buildings he erected are the Presbyterian Church in

Winterset, the Opera House block, and the first brick building for the *Winterset Madisonian* newspaper, which is part of this tour.

Todd Hagen, who currently serves as Madison County's Engineer, is a descendant of Eli Cox.

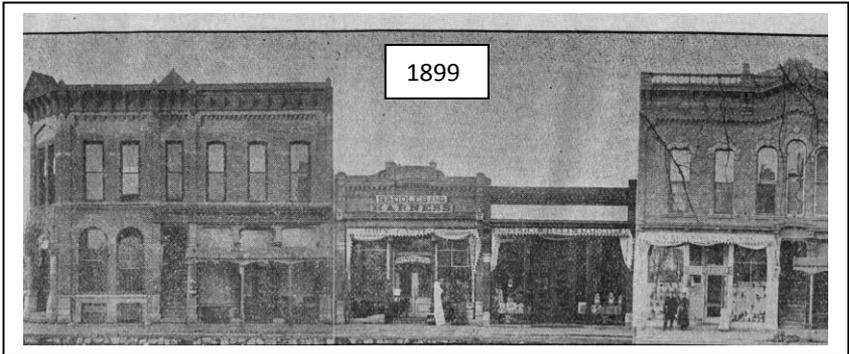
This building, known at one time as the "Opera House," was built in 1875 with Eli Cox as the general contractor. Late in the design of the project, the decision was made to include the building on the east side

of the City Hall Block as part of this project so that the second floor hall could seamlessly expand to all three bays. The second floor space between this hallway and the south windows that looks over the Courthouse was divided

into small offices. The north side of the hallway, at the back of the second story of the three buildings, was occupied by the opera house that could seat over 400. The most lasting first floor tenants were a shoe store that occupied the west bay for over 80 years and various east bay restaurants that have operated since 1899.



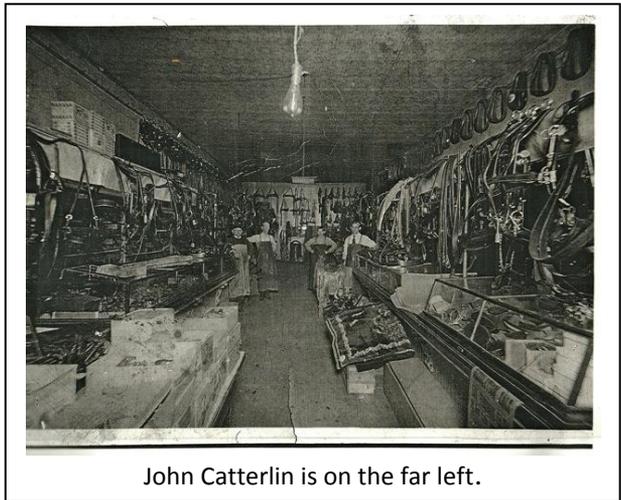
④ John Catterlin, Harness Maker



The third building from the left in the picture above, this structure was built in 1881 and replaced one of the last wooden buildings on the square. In 1893 John Catterlin's harness shop occupied the building and continued there until 1918. Catterlin improved his shop by adding an upper story workroom and stairs to the interior of the building. Since that time, other long-time businesses here have included a clothing store and insurance office.

John Catterlin (1841~1919) was born in Indiana and apprenticed in the harness trade there.

He served in the Civil War and fought at the Battle of Shiloh. His obituary gives us a glimpse into his character, "His old fashioned directness of



John Catterlin is on the far left.

speech, his honest and straightforward methods in business, his unflinching cheerfulness and kindheartedness... were traits that endeared him to a wide circle of friends."

5 Joseph E. Hamilton, Banker and Businessman

Joseph E. Hamilton (1864~1941) was active in farming, real estate, and banking. He was educated in Madison County's rural school system. He dealt in land sales and was at the helm of the Citizens National Bank when this building was built. "J.E. Hamilton and Sons" can be seen at the top of the building.

GOING SOME!

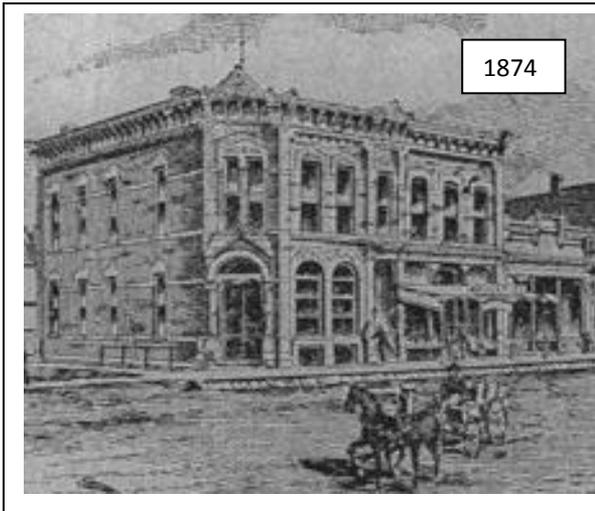
Thirteen Farms and Three City Properties Sold in May.

Get Your Farm in My List if you Want it Sold.

J. E. HAMILTON,

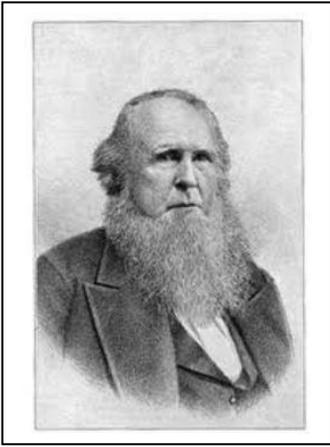
Northeast Cor. Square. Successor to HAMILTON BROS. Winterset, Iowa.

The Citizen's National Bank and the Duer & Beerbower (D&B Grocery) building was built in 1880 as a joint project between the two enterprises. In 1918 the bank moved to a new building across the street. Since that time the building, still with the vault intact, has housed various stores and offices including a book store and now a



jewelry design boutique. The second floor has housed law and doctor offices, while activities in the basement included a barber shop and a pool hall, accessed by the stairs, whose railing is shown to the left of the building in this drawing.

⑥ Judge John A. Pitzer, Pioneer Entrepreneur



Judge Pitzer (1813~1876) was one of the first settlers of Madison County, arriving in 1849. He opened the first dry goods store in Winterset and from that meager beginning his entrepreneurial spirit and drive allowed him to amass a fortune. Judge Pitzer was three times elected County Judge and served as a Union Army paymaster during the Civil War. He was enterprising and public spirited.

One of Judge Pitzer's many buildings was the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Built in 1856, it was considered the finest hotel in southwestern Iowa. Erected at a cost of \$12,000 from native limestone, it was imposing and became the central point of many events. The St. Nicholas hotel became famed for its entertainment and hospitality.



On New Year's Day, 1918, the property became the possession of the Citizen's National Bank so that a thoroughly equipped modern building could be built. To the old timers of Madison County this proposed razing of the historic St.

Nicholas brought many recollections of earlier days.

The Citizens' National Bank closed in the 1930's and the Farmers & Merchants Bank took up residence.

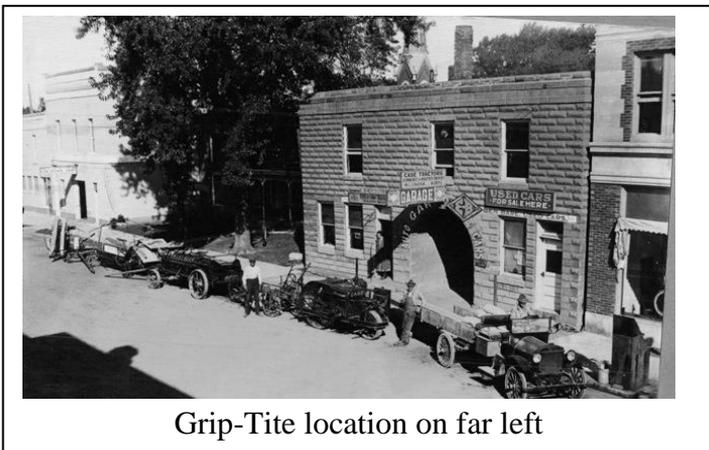


7 Clarence Johnson, Inventor

Clarence Johnson (1922~2000) was born in Madison County, the great-grandson of Caleb and Ruth Clark, well-known early pioneers. He was a 1939 graduate of Winterset High School, a 1941 graduate of Kemper Military Academy in Boonville, Mo., and a 1943 graduate of the University of Iowa. A lifetime resident of Winterset, he was an inventor who held 2 patents and chairman of the board of Grip-Tite Manufacturing which creates specialized earth anchors that are sold world-wide. He was named Outstanding Citizen of the year in 1983, was instrumental in establishing the Dr. George Washington Carver Park in Winterset, and was a local icon that excelled at community involvement.



Built about 1907 as a livery, the building held four-footed transportation and was known as the “Hotel de Horse.” But by 1926, the mode of transportation had changed and the building housed a service station and an auto dealership. It was quipped at the time as the “Hotel de Ford.” From the mid- to late 20th century it housed a Chevrolet dealer.



Grip-Tite location on far left

⑧ Col. Henry Johnson Broadhead Cummings

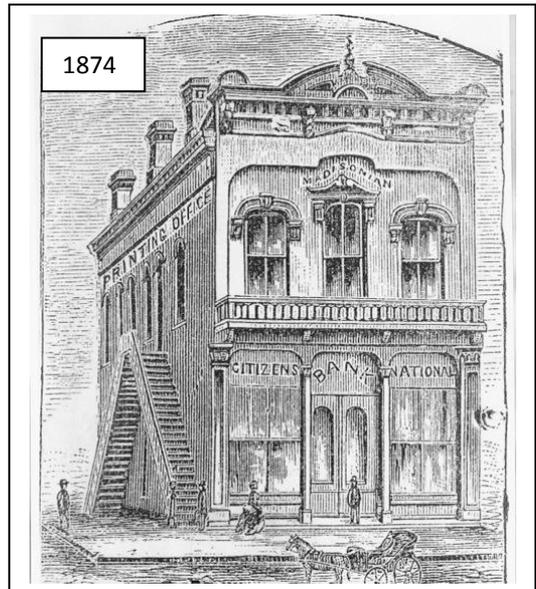


Col. Cummings (1831~1909) came to Winterset as a young man after studying law and editing a local newspaper in Pennsylvania. He crossed the Mississippi River over ice on New Year's Day 1856 and put both professions to good use in his new home. He was instrumental in organizing the Republican Party in Madison County and was elected prosecuting attorney one

term, was elected to congress in 1876, was mayor of Winterset two terms and city attorney for several years.

In 1861, at the start of the Civil war, Cumming organized the first military group in the county. Later, when asked by the governor, he became colonel of Iowa's 39th Infantry that was largely made up of

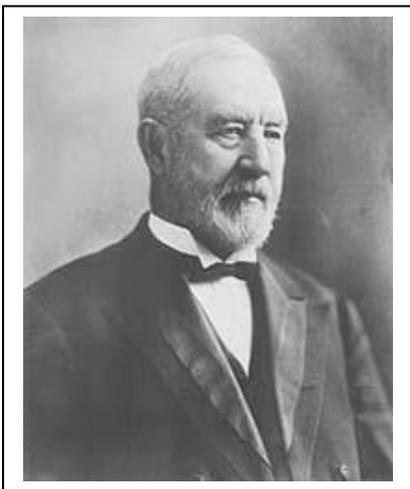
Madison county volunteers. After the war, in 1869, he partnered in the *Winterset Madisonian* newspaper and served as its long-time editor. He built this building in 1872 to house his newspaper upstairs and his newly formed bank, the Citizens' National Bank, on the first floor. The building still appears much as it did in this 1874 rendition. Eli Cox was the general contractor.



⑧ Henry Wallace, Agriculturalist

Henry Wallace (1836~1916) was born on his father's farm in Pennsylvania, trained in the ministry in Illinois, and moved to Iowa for his health in 1877.

His views were too socially liberal for the Presbyterian Church so he found his outlet by persuading Col. HJB Cummings to employ him as agricultural editor of the *Madisonian* where he wrote a weekly column. In that space he advocated for modern agricultural methods. When the column became too political, Cummings parted ways with Wallace.

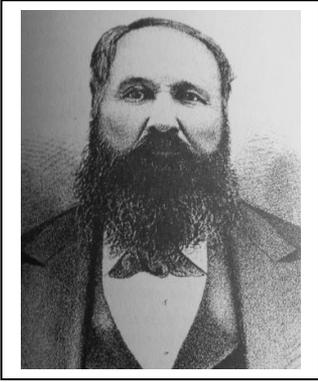


Within a few weeks Wallace bought half-interest in the *Winterset Chronicle* and continued his columns. Under his direction the newspaper's circulation quickly rose from 400 to 1,400. Then he bought the other half interest in the *Chronicle* and proceeded to push circulation above that of the *Madisonian*. A few years later, the two papers merged and the new *Madisonian* provided a platform for Wallace to continue his advocacy for improving agriculture.

He later disposed of his newspaper interests here and for a number of years contributed to *The Iowa Homestead*. His success as publisher of the *Wallaces' Farmer* and his prominence as a lecturer on farming techniques brought him national renown. He served with distinction on President Theodore Roosevelt's Country Life Commission.



9 Charles D Bevington, Investor

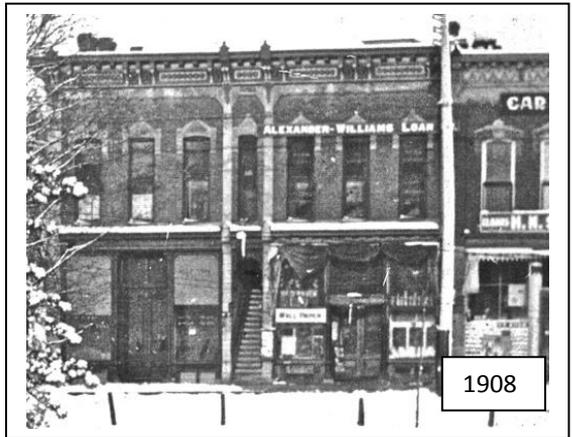


Charles D. (Doc) Bevington (1826~1903) was at one time the richest man in Madison County. His business interests included cattle, angora sheep, draft horses, a brick plant, limestone quarries, walnut woods, and farming. He shipped livestock all over the United States and owned large parcels of land in Missouri and on the west coast. His brick mansion is now part of the Madison County Historical Society's 18-acres complex in the south

part of Winterset. The house, its limestone barn and the privy (outhouse) are each on the National Register of Historic Places.

This building was built in 1882 to house his bank, the First National Bank, on the corner plus room for a business to wrap around the bank with entrances on Court Avenue and facing the Courthouse. Along

Court there are additional rooms to hold two more businesses. Groceries, dry goods, drug stores, lawyers, photographers, cleaners, clothing stores, jewelers, doctors, milliners dentists, barbers, and post masters have made use of the spaces within this building. Mayme,



Doc's only daughter, lost her fortune in the 1930s. She and her husband, along with her grand piano, moved into the apartment on the second floor. Their balcony is can still be seen in the alley behind the building. Her piano has made its way back to Doc's mansion on the hill south of town.

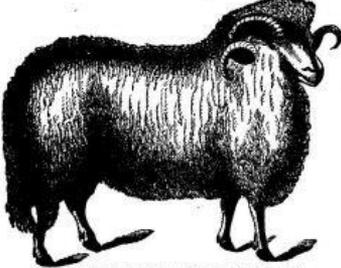
⑩ White and Munger, Millers of Wool

Nelson W. Munger (1834~1910) and John T. White (1839~1879) both arrived in Winterset in 1854. At the end of the Civil War, White and Munger formed a partnership and built the Madison Woolen Mills one mile west of town. In 1868, Madison County farmers produced 55 tons of wool and the Mill turned out 30,000 yards of cloth, tweed, jeans, cashmere, flannel, satin, waterproofs, and blankets. To sell their goods, White and Munger opened a retail store on the southwest corner of the square. There, A.D. Taylor, known as the “Knight of the Shears,” suited many a Madison County gentlemen.

ADVERTISEMENTS. 9

WHITE, MUNGER & CO.,
PROPRIETORS

MADISON WOOLEN MILLS,
WINTERSET, IOWA.

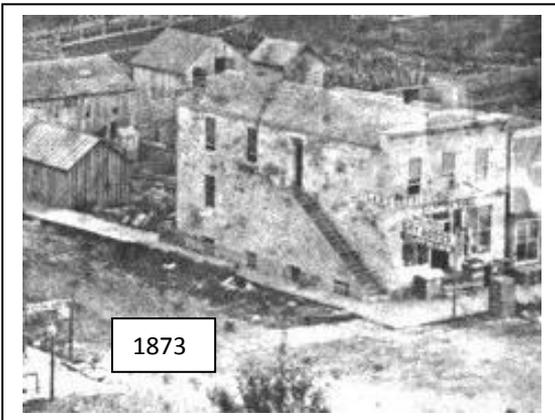


MANUFACTURE ALL KINDS OF
Cloths, Jeans, Tweeds, Yarns, Casimeres, Flannels, Water Proofs,
Holls, Satinets, Blankets, Beavers, &c., &c.,
Which may at all times be found on sale at their
STORE IN WINTERSET.
For durability, warmth and beauty of finish, these goods are unsurpassed in
the State.

Custom Carding, Spinning, Fulling,
Dyeing and Finishing,
DONE WITH NEATNESS AND DISPATCH.
TERMS REASONABLE. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
THE HIGHEST MARKET PRICE PAID FOR WOOL GREASE.

A good stock of
Imported Cloths, Cassimeres, Russia's Trimmings, and Suits' Parakeing Goods,
Always on Hand.

MR. A. D. TAYLOR, "Knight of the Shears," dispenses "Fur" to those in
want of "Suits."
CUSTOM CUTTING done on short notice.
J. T. WHITE,
W. LITTLE,
N. W. MUNGER,
MILLERS.

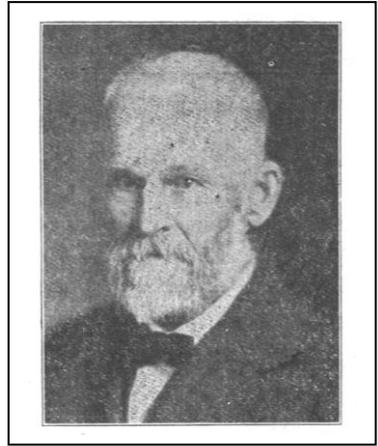


Built in 1861, this limestone structure was one of the early non-frame buildings around the square. It has held a print shop, meat markets, harness makers, implement dealers, and dressmakers. In 1987, it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

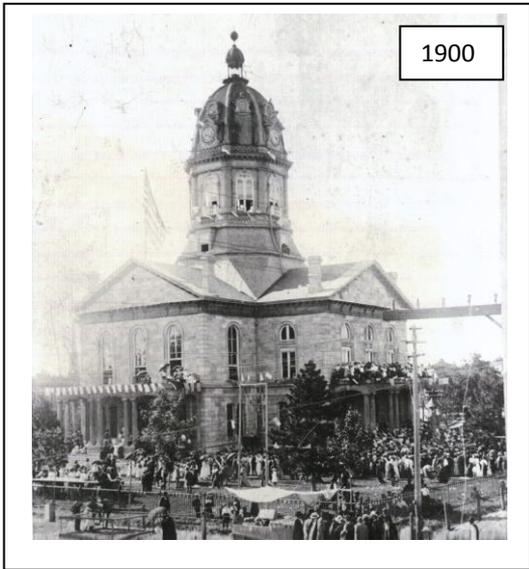
11 Judge Lewis, Talented and Gifted

William Henry Lewis (1840~1928) was a man of many talents. Arriving in Winterset during Civil War days, he was gifted as an attorney, a judge, a historian, and a horticulturist, owning the Fairmount nursery west of town.

Judge Lewis directed the building of Madison County's third courthouse. The first was a log cabin one block east of the square at the location of Monumental Park. The second one, very similar to the present, was built in 1869 but burned in 1873, with no insurance. The work of art before you was finished in 1877 for a cost of \$120,000.



Concerning his work on the courthouse, Judge Lewis' 1928 obituary states, "This building was a masterpiece of honest, durable and



beautiful work. Up to the present time, visitors at Winterset speak of the careful and durable work put on this building, especially the windows, stairways and doors which grow more interesting with the passing of time. If Judge Lewis should not have another monument, this marvelous structure may well serve that purpose."

Thank you
for your time in taking this

walking tour
of Winterset's Timeless Treasures.
We hope you have enjoyed learning about
these individuals and
their significance to these buildings
and to Winterset's heritage.

Acknowledgements

Photos – Madison County Historical Society collection

People Profiles – Madison County Genealogical Society

Building Profiles – Madison County Historic Preservation
Commission and volunteers