

Walking Tours of Historic Cameron



Featuring 21 Homes
and the Downtown District



Researched and Compiled by Clela Fuller
and Members of the Cameron Historical Society
Sponsored by The Sesquicentennial Committee
July 1 - 4, 2005

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2



SOUTH CAMERON WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC HOMES

(The walk is 1.0 mile long))

BEGIN AT THE PARKING LOT OF THE RECREATION PARK ON SEMINARY ST.
WALK EAST ON SEMINARY ST. TO S. CHESTNUT ST. AND LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD.

621 S Chestnut:

ARCHITECTURE: This is a good example of the Queen Anne Victorian style which dominated home building from about 1880-1900. The steeply pitched roof is of intricate design with iron cresting around a small flat deck on the hipped roof of four sloping surfaces. Some techniques used to avoid a smooth-walled appearance in a Queen Anne style house are demonstrated here. Gables (a triangular wall enclosed by the sloping ends of the roof), porches, dormer windows (units set in a structure that resembles a miniature house with their own walls, roof, and windows), bay windows, and porches. The porte-cochere (a drive-through covered entrance) on the north side has been removed. The variety of ornamentation is typical: "spindlework" detailing (fancy little spools hanging under the porch roof, adds to what is called "gingerbread" that lends style to Victorian houses); a second story porch; the creative use of bay windows; overhangs and various projections; and the front windows of the 3rd story have 16-pane windows. **HISTORY:** This home was built by a local builder and lumber yard owner, J. B. Russell. Starting in 1890, it took two years to build. There are four fireplaces and 52 doors. William D. Coberly, farmer, stock breeder, and president of First National Bank of Cameron, paid \$15,000 for it. The second owner was Ethan Hale, Clinton Co. Judge., who had 12 children so the six bedrooms were well filled. Elta Dix Stoner bought and made it her home in 1923, and rented out apartments. Elta Stoner's daughter, Bessie Sanders and husband Ted, moved into the house in 1930. During WWII many service men who married just before going overseas made it their first home. Ted Sanders was very active in County, State and National Democratic politics, and was the first W. P. A. Director for Clinton County. As a result of his efforts, many improvements were made in the area, including building of the Cameron Swimming Pool. Harry Truman was a personal friend. The home is now owned by Mrs. Stoner's granddaughter, Dixie S. Pollard and family. The interior of the house remains essentially unchanged with impressive oak woodwork finished with the same varnish used in the Pullman



(PICTURE: AS HOUSE APPEARED IN 1909.)

Railroad cars and it has never been refinished. (A decorative ornament depicting this house is available from the Cameron Historical Society). **NOTE:** The houses between the Tour Houses have many of the same features as those described and identified on this Tour.



Walk north (left) to Ford St. and turn east (right) one block to the intersection of Ford and Walnut Streets. On the NE corner is 529 S. Walnut.



2

529 S Walnut:

ARCHITECTURE:

Many characteristics of the Queen Anne Victorian style of architecture are seen here - the steep and irregular roof with iron cresting, the patterned brick work trim, the north dormer window, the red circular windows in the 3rd story of the tower, and the 2nd story balcony to name a few.

HISTORY:

E. Frank and Ella Darby purchased this property from Clifford J. and Nellie Stevens in 1887 with \$2800 in gold coins, part of Ella's inheritance from her uncle, Walter Newberry, the Chicago millionaire, philanthropist and member of Congress. The property consisted of a small two story brick house on 3-1/2 acres of farmland. The Darbys moved into the little brick house, and in 1889 enlisted the services of Oliver P. Hogg, a Kansas City architect, to remodel and enlarge it. The exterior of this Queen Anne Victorian style home remains essentially unchanged. Darby was a breeder of fine horses, a partner in Ford & Darby harness and saddlery business, the drum major in the town band, and mayor. His wife Ella, was the granddaughter of Samuel McCorkle, founder of Cameron. Their son, Walter Darby was a successful business man, started the W. N. Darby Motor Company in Cameron in 1927 selling Model T Fords, and was mayor for two terms. It is said that Mrs. Darby planned the tower with windows in the parlor as a setting for the weddings of her two daughters. Helen remained single, and Cornelia eloped with William Collins. After Mrs. Darby died in 1947, Cornelia, her husband, and Helen opened the Collins Tea Room that was well known until 1964. The home was in the Darby family for eighty years. The next owners, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Robinson, operated a rest home in the house until 1971. Walter Darby passed away in that rest home, the same home where he had been reared.

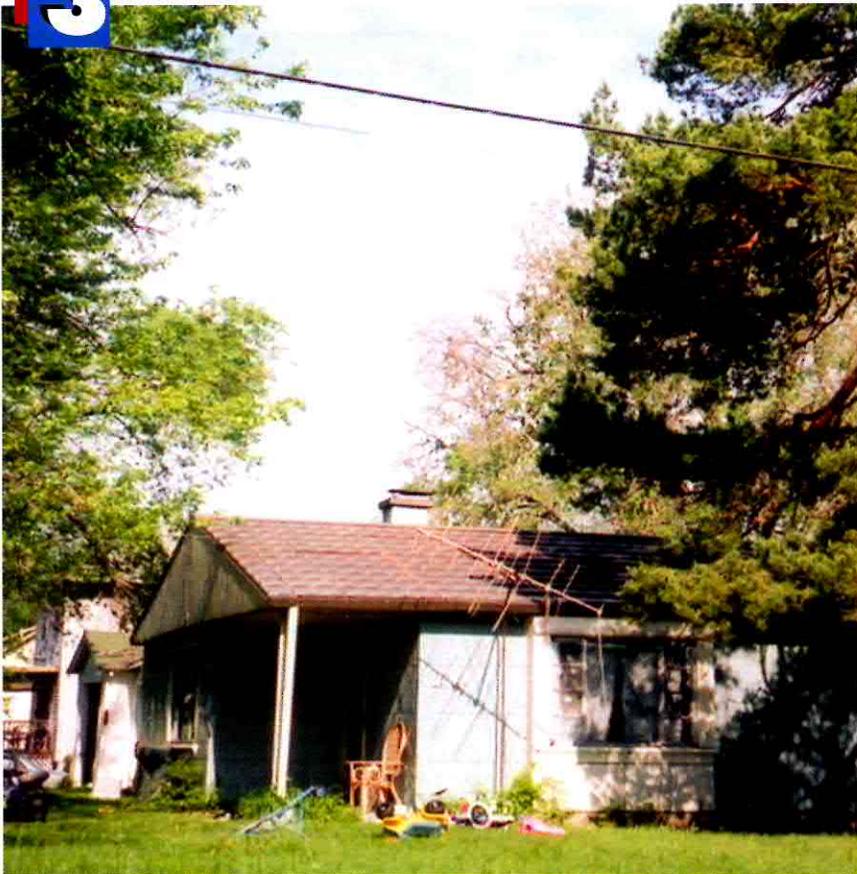
4

On the NW corner is 530 S. Walnut.

530 S Walnut with its shiny surface, is a prefabricated Lustron Home. It has enameled steel panels on the exterior and interior walls and roof, steel windows and door jambs, built-in dressers, closets, cabinets and appliances--without a stick of wood in it. The unique dishwasher/clothes-washer was supplied by the Thor Corp. Pictures are hung with magnets, and remodeling is virtually impossible. It was shipped from the factory in several big vans, and assembled on the spot by trained builders using screw drivers and rubber hammers. Lustron Homes were meant to relieve the housing shortage after World War II. Lustron received the largest financial commitment ever made to a housing firm by the Federal Government up to that time. The manufacturer promised to build 2700 houses a month at a cost of only \$6000 each. However, manufacturing and distribution problems caused the company to declare bankruptcy after three years with less than 2,000 finished, and the cost had escalated to \$11,000 each, even though the government subsidized the project to the tune of \$37.5 million. Of the 97 Lustron Homes built in Missouri, two are in Cameron. Charles Groom became interested in the Lustron home because of his

daughter's severe dust allergy since the house could be completely washed inside and out, and the radiant heating system did not circulate air and dust. The Charles Groom family lived in the other one at 409 W 3rd St. for 45 years.

3



Return one block west the way you came to the corner of Chestnut & Ford; turn north (right) and continue north on Chestnut.

5

545 S Chestnut.

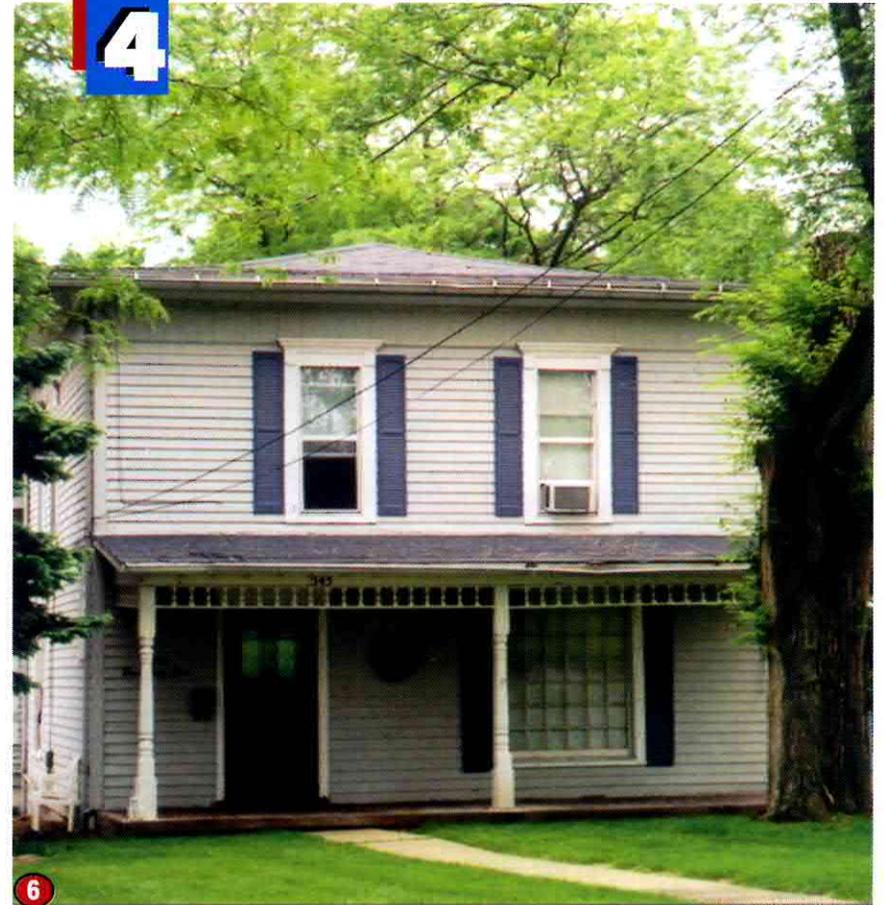
ARCHITECTURE:

This is a small Folk Victorian house which is defined by decorative detailing similar to that on grander Queen Anne styles. The "spindlework" frieze along the porch roof, and the decorative posts on the front porch are typical. The growth of the railroads made wood-working machinery widely accessible at local trade centers, where craftsmen produced inexpensive Victorian detailing. The railroads also provided local lumber yards with abundant supplies of pre-cut detailing to use on both large and small homes.

HISTORY:

This house was built by Calvin and Rachel Clayton, 1890-91. A newspaper clipping describes a birthday party for Mrs. Clayton's daughter in this "elegant" home. All the guests "wended their way" to the Missouri Wesleyan College dining room across the street for refreshments. D. M. & Mary Skidmore lived here from 1959 to 1987.

4



6

525 S. Chestnut.

ARCHITECTURE:

This Victorian style has a strong front gable and south facing wing gable. The wide front porch has classic Doric columns with plain tops or capitals. Notice the asymmetrical appearance of the front because of the large gable and the smaller porch gable, and the matching windows in the front and south facing gables.

HISTORY:

E. L. and Nannie Dildine lived in this house from 1895 until 1911. The Dildine family, composed of John and his sons, Ernest Leslie Dildine and James Chauncey Dildine dominated the bridge building business in this area from the early 1890s until 1920. Before the company moved to Hannibal in 1911, the Dildine Bridge & Iron Works were turning out 300 tons of steel a month, as well as building bridges and doing other cement work. In 1998, there were still 35 Dildine bridges in use in Clinton, DeKalb and Davies Counties, and another 37 probably built by them. In 1918, Herman and Anna Dietzschold left the farm where they had lived for 35 years and bought this home from Dildines. The Dietzscholds celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary here in 1944, and it was in the family until 1947.



Notice the grassy area across the street, the high school ball park. It is the site of the Cameron Institute planned by nine residents of Cameron which opened in 1887 using the former mansion of C. I. and Martha Ford. Turned over to the Methodist church in 1889, it was the forerunner of the Missouri Wesleyan College which operated at this site until 1930 when financial difficulties caused it to close. The Liberal Arts building was remodeled, and Cameron High School classes met here from 1947 to 1963. The other buildings were razed except Rice Hall (See # 7 on this tour.) An old school bell commemorates the site with a plaque that reads, "Margarite Cornish Overstreet in memory of her husband Millard E. Overstreet and her parents, Herbert D. and Minnie M. Cornish and all former students. Missouri Wesleyan College Arts Building, April 13, 1905".

7

513 S. Chestnut.

ARCHITECTURE:

It resembles the Greek Revival style sometimes seen in the Victorian homes, with a full length front porch, and Ionic columns (with scroll-like capitals) supporting the roof beside the stone pillars. In the front and on both sides are dormer windows - a window set upright in a structure projecting from the sloping roof resembling a miniature house with its own wall, roof, and windows. The dormer windows in this house are duplicated in the former carriage house. The transom and small panes of glass (lights) surrounding the front door are French leaded, beveled glass as in the large front window. When the sun shines through the beveled glass it makes rainbows of color on the floor or carpet.

HISTORY:

The house was built in 1883 for George C. Howenstein, co-owner of the first furniture store in Cameron in 1869, and a furniture factory in 1880. Samuel Amasa Newberry, grandson of Cameron's founder Samuel McCorkle, lived here from 1889-1891 when Dr. James Franklin, M. D. purchased it. He was a highly respected doctor who saw patients in an office on the second story of the home. His father, Benjamin Franklin, was also a physician in Cameron and they often worked together on surgical cases. Dr. Benjamin also lived here toward the end of his life. Dr. James's first son was born in 1892 in this house, but his wife, Loula, died two days later. Franklin later married Loula's sister, Mary Elizabeth. They had a son, Erskine, and then a daughter named Loula in memory of his first wife. The Franklins occupied the house from 1891-1952. Others who lived here were the Dr. G. F. Nethertons, and Thomas and Agnes McAllen. McAllens, who were in the newspaper business, moved into the house in 1965. Five years later, Mr. McAllen passed away, and Agnes lived as a widow in the house for eighteen years rearing two sons.

6



8

506 S. Chestnut.

Rice Hall (across the street) was built in the fall of 1921 for the girl's dormitory of the Missouri Wesleyan College, and is the only remaining building of that institution. The City sold Rice Hall to Dr. G. W. Sherman who remodeled it into apartments as it is now (2005).



Thank you for visiting Cameron and we hope you will return again, very soon.

9

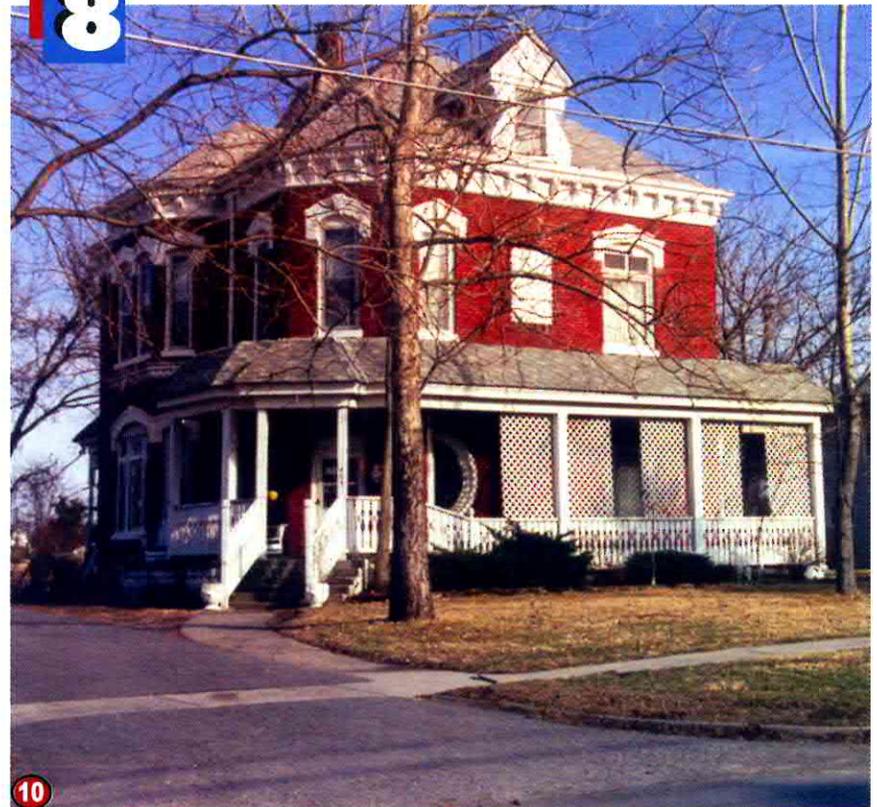
403 S. Chestnut.

ARCHITECTURE:

The Italianate style as seen here is characterized by the low-pitched roof and wide brackets along the cornice (a wide trim band) just under the roof line. The decorative brackets under the eaves are set in the wide trim band which also has toothlike dentils above. The tall, narrow windows have elaborately arched crowns above them. Of special interest are the ornate pewter trim surrounding the dormer in front and on both sides; several red glass windows containing flecks of gold; stained glass in the half-round window; and a decorative panel of pewter between the windows of the second story. This house had gas and water piped all over the house more than a hundred and ten years ago.

HISTORY:

It has been occupied by some prominent Cameron citizens. The first was W. H. Bohart, president of the Bank of Cameron in 1889. R. N. Williams, a druggist, lived here 1893-1909. Williams had a drug store in town as early as 1876, and his wife Alice, as a leader in the Women's Christian Temperance Union, traveled widely speaking to large audiences on "Social Purity." In 1923 it was a "Board & Room House" run by C. E. Millsap. John and Cora Ann Pearson bought the home for \$10,000 in 1925, and celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary, Dec. 10, 1955. Thomas and Betty Price moved into the house in 1959, and lived here for more than forty years. Mr. Price taught music for many years in Cameron schools and at Missouri Western State College. He was voted into the Missouri Hall of Fame by other bandmasters. Betty Price, also an outstanding musician, was the first woman mayor of Cameron, and served several terms on the Cameron City Council.



10

316 S. Chestnut (on the west side of the street.)

ARCHITECTURE:

This house is an example of the Prairie style home that originated in Chicago, but spread through out the mid-western states, and then the country by pattern books published in the Midwest. One of the few indigenous American styles, it grew, flourished, and declined in the years between 1900 and 1920. Here side gables replace the more usual hipped roof with a front gable over the porch. The massive stone and wood piers supporting the porch roof are almost a universal feature of the Prairie home. The pitch of the porch gable edge is flattened to give a pagoda-like effect.

HISTORY:

Built in 1910 by Perry Froman who also built the house next door at 318 S. Chestnut, and the one around the corner, 114 E. Prairie St. He built one garage, for the use of the three houses; two cars enter from the east, and one from the south. The fireplace is made of small dark fieldstones with a balance scale mounted over the opening. It might suggest he was a pharmacist or a jeweler. It is believed that Marcus Roberts, who bought the house in 1919, put the double barreled shot gun in the cement of the sidewalk above the front steps. After Roberts died, his wife, Alcinda, lived here alone for 20 years until John and Alice Clark bought it in 1968. John Clark barbered in Cameron for more than 65 years. At one time, Clark's Barber Shop had as many as five barbers and two of them were his brothers.



313 S. Chestnut (on the east side of the street)

ARCHITECTURE:

This house has some characteristics of a Craftsman home - the typical porch railing with square, fluted columns rising out of the railing; a rather wide roof overhang; and the central, low-pitched gables. The Craftsman style originated in California, but was given extensive publicity in magazines like Good Housekeeping and Ladies Home Journal. A flood of pattern books appeared, offering plans for Craftsman bungalows, some even offered completely pre-cut packages of lumber and detailing to be assembled by local builders. The single-story "bungalow" was most common especially in the west. Popular from about 1910, it rapidly faded from favor after the mid-1920s.

HISTORY:

Built in 1922, the first occupant was Tom W. Klepper, and his wife Virginia. Born in Lathrop in 1886, Tom was a lifelong resident of Clinton county, and an active and progressive newspaper man. A graduate of Missouri Wesleyan College, in 1909 he founded the Lathrop Optimist with eight pages, all home printed. In 1922, he came to Cameron, and founded a weekly paper, The Cameron Progress. He retired in 1958 after almost 50 years in the newspaper business.



303 S. Chestnut

ARCHITECTURE:

Many features of the Queen Anne style are demonstrated here, the intricate roof design includes two roof gables; one in front, and a cross gable to the north with a pyramidal hipped roof behind; a small gable over the porch entrance; a dormer window in front, and a second story bay window. However, it apparently never had the typical "gingerbread" for a picture taken in 1909 shows the house very much as it is today. Notice the decorative detail in the porch gable.

HISTORY:

This house was built in the mid 1890s by Percy and Sarah Houghton who occupied it until 1904. Joe Howard Emory and wife, Lizzie, purchased it in 1906. George H. Emory, who lived here with his son, J. H., ran a harness shop at 212 E. 3rd St. The home was owned by Emorys until the family left for California in 1919. Dr. A. O. Gilliland, a highly respected physician, and his wife, Louise, moved into the house in 1922. Dr. Gilliland kept horses in the building that is now a garage.

11



Continue north on west side of S. Chestnut.

13

216 S. Chestnut:

ARCHITECTURE: (Notice the picture circa 1895)

The shingled wall under the front gable is a reminder of the time when the porch supports, railing, and porch entrance gable were beautifully decorated with spindlework "gingerbread" as in this 1895 picture. The varied exterior colors on Queen Anne Victorian homes like this one, caused them to be called "Painted Ladies". Notice that shingles were used in the large front gable to achieve the differing wall textures which are a hallmark of Queen Anne houses.

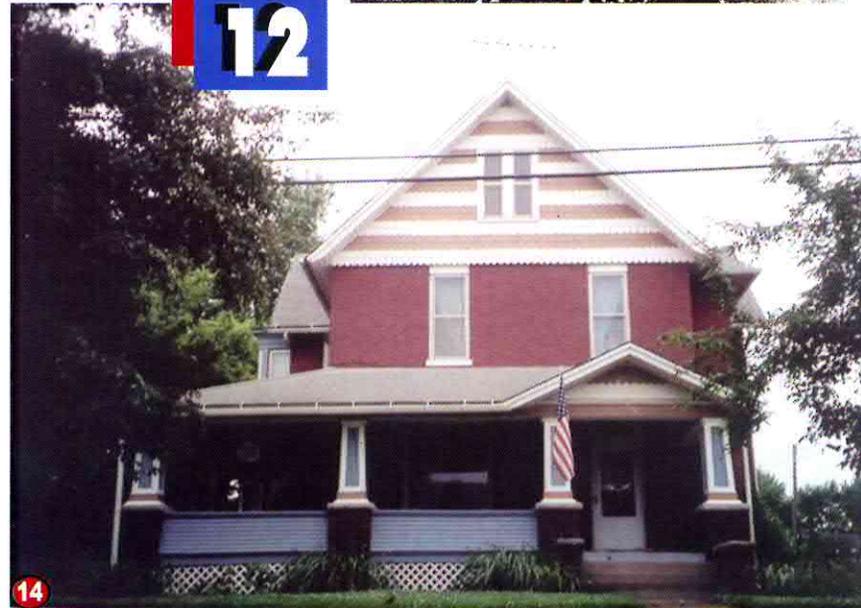
HISTORY:

Built about 1892-93 by William Green Alexander and his son, Robert N. who were druggists. In 1889, business was booming at The R. H. Alexander Drug Store, "largely attributed to their giving away so many free trial bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption". They also sold wall paper, curtains and fixtures, toilet articles, and notions - a variety of items that all drug stores stocked. Mahlon and Susan Bonham purchased the home in 1902 when there were just two houses on Chestnut between Prospect and Cornhill - the cottage on the corner at 202 S. Chestnut (Tour house #13) and this one. When Mrs. Bonham died in 1920, their daughter, Etta and husband, Claude S. Kemper, moved from the small house on the corner to live with Mr. Bonham for five years until his death. Claude Kemper with his brother, George, operated the Kemper Brothers Shoe Company. Claude was a highly respected citizen and farmer who supported and worked toward highway and road improvement in Missouri for more than 25 years. Claude and Etta had no children of their own, but the neighborhood children were allowed to play in the vacant land between the two houses, and at Easter, the Kempers hid colored eggs for them.

216 S. Chestnut
Circa 1890



12



14

202 S. Chestnut

ARCHITECTURE:

This small gem of a house is in the Queen Anne style. There are interior pocket doors, carved woodwork and fretwork around the doors similar to the house next door at 216 S. Chestnut, but here there is also a beautifully sculpted front door with beveled glass. The windows in the two front rooms also have beveled glass. Though small it has the irregular roof structure, and much of the original "spindlework gingerbread" as in the more ornate Queen Anne style homes. As you go around the corner, notice the unique design around the side window.

HISTORY:

Mahlon and Susan Bonham built this honeymoon cottage in 1899 for their daughter, Etta, who married Claude S. Kemper. The newspaper reported a reception in this "cozy cottage" when Mrs. Kemper "an accomplished and gracious hostess" entertained 60 of her lady friends one afternoon. Perhaps the guests spilled out to the porch or the yard since there was an orchestra furnishing "mellow and inspiring music", potted plants, ferns, and flowers in profusion in the tiny house. Claude and Etta lived here 20 years before moving into the larger house to the south (Tour House # 12) when Etta's mother died.

13



At the corner, turn west (left) onto W. Prospect.

112 W. Prospect

ARCHITECTURE:

The simple, box style exterior of this house is matched with unpretentious woodwork inside. The builder seemed to choose usefulness over beauty or other consideration. The small front dormer is for ventilation. Originally there was a square front porch on the southeast corner which has been incorporated into the living room.

HISTORY:

It was built circa 1900 by Bert B. Witt, a long-time printer and newspaper publisher. He was first introduced to printer's ink when he carried papers for Cameron's first daily paper. Witt started the Daily News in 1905 after running a job printing office for eight years. He put out a City Directory in 1923, the first to be published since 1910. After being editor/publisher of a daily paper for 50 years, and of the weekly Cameron Sun for 10 years, he sold both papers in 1955. He was also a strong supporter of Cameron, serving as mayor, city clerk, a school board member, and was on the City Council for 12 years. He was also charter member and president of the Rotary Club. He reared eight children and some grandchildren in this house.

14



15

Northeast corner of Prospect and Cherry.

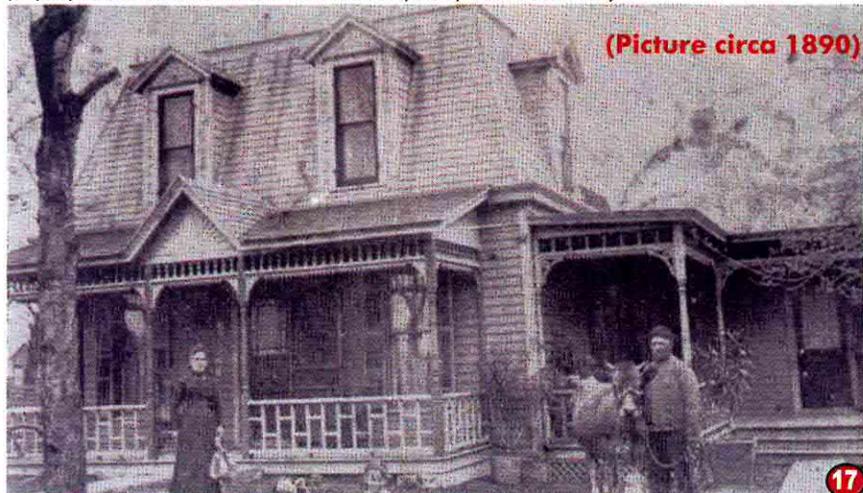


ARCHITECTURE:

There is little left to indicate the original beauty of this Victorian house built in the Second Empire style so called because it imitated the latest French building fashions. The distinctive Mansard roof was named for the 17th-century French architect, Francois Mansart. Its use was revived in France during the reign of Napoleon III (1852-70), France's Second Empire from which the style takes its name. The style spread to England and then to America where it was a dominate style between 1860-1880s although there were some as late as the 1890s as this one. The boxy Mansard roof is a distinguishing characteristic with the roof functioning as an extension of the walls. That roof with the dormers projecting from the front and west sides are all that hint of its French influence. Gone are the elaborately decorated porch rail, and the "spindework frieze" (a horizontal band with designs or carvings) along the porch roof.

HISTORY:

The parents of Mrs. B. B. Witt (of Tour House # 14), Emma and Thomas I. Washburn, built on this corner in the early 1890s. It was purchased by William H. and Anna Kimes in 1906. and was their home for 50 years. Kimes was a merchant in business with J. N. Ellis for 19 years, then Kimes continued on his own selling hardware and furniture. He served two years on the Board of Aldermen. Albert Hamlet purchased the property and remodeled the house. It is still occupied by the Hamlet family.



(Picture circa 1890)

17

203 W Prospect (the southwest corner of Prospect and Cherry Sts.)

ARCHITECTURE:

This historic house was almost lost after an arson fire in 1989 gutted the interior. It is one of the oldest in Cameron, and the exterior remains much the same as it was more than 130 years ago. Notice the steep-pitched gable in front, and a side-gabled wing at right angles to the front. The side gable has been clipped short on the end giving a distinctive appearance, almost like a cap over the window. The fireplace is original as are the picture window of leaded glass facing Prospect, and the etched glass in the front door.

HISTORY: James G. Encell, a minister of the gospel, and wife Harriet, bought the lot from C. I. Ford for \$80 in 1867 while Ford was developing Ford's First Addition south of downtown Cameron. After the house was built, Encells sold it for \$1,000 in 1870. The third owner had financial difficulties that required the property to be sold on the courthouse steps, so William Hollington paid only \$800 for it in 1881. At one time it was a boarding house for railroad workers, with a bar in the room behind the living room. The best known occupant was Attorney John Abbot Clark who began reading law at age 19, was admitted to the Bar three years later and set up practice in Cameron in 1901. Attorney Clark and his wife, Emma purchased the home in 1909. He was a popular speaker for political campaigns, and active in the Democratic Party. He held the positions of City Clerk and City Attorney, and died in 1919 at age 41. His wife lived in the house until her death at age 75, when the property passed on to John, Jr. It was in the Clark family for 50 years. The wraparound front and side porches were added sometime before 1913, perhaps by the Clarks. After the arson fire it stood empty and neglected for about five years. In 1989, when the City was about to condemn it, David Eaton, a general contractor, recognized it as one of the oldest homes in Cameron, and the City allowed him to buy it for restoration. In 1999, the owner Wayne Pinkerton made an unexpected discovery while planting a shrub in the yard. He found a cache of old bottles evenly set, bottoms up, about 8-10" below the surface. Bottles were sometimes buried this way

so that the flat bottom ends made a path that kept feet out of the mud or dust. There were a variety of beer and wine bottles that were once sealed with corks. Some of the glass was tinted by age, some were hand blown, and some were from the Fuelling Bottling Works in St. Joseph.

16**18**

Walk south on the east side of Cherry St.

404 S Cherry.

ARCHITECTURE:

This house, built around 1890, is notable because of its association with Charles N. Stucker of The Stucker Clothing Co. Typical of homes built in that era are the steep front gable, a smaller gable over the porch entrance, the bay windows, and the dormers on the sides. However, the dormers on the north and south with one very small and the other large is a little unusual.

HISTORY:

Stucker and Xantha Miller were married here in the home of her parents in April of 1898. The young couple acquired the home soon thereafter, and lived here for more than 30 years. Mrs. Miller lived here with them until she passed away in 1930. Stucker started in the clothing business with James Muenker, but bought him out and moved to 110 E. 3rd St. The Stucker Clothing Co. carried everything for a gentleman's wardrobe, and men of all sizes could be fitted up to size 56 coat and 52 waist. Martin O'Neal started clerking at Stuckers in 1919, and purchased the business when Stucker retired in 1931. O'Neal is

remembered for the quality of service provided to men from a wide area of Northwest Missouri. The business continued in the hands of Martin and Jack O'Neal until 1980 when new owners took over the Stucker Store.

17



Walk to the corner and turn west (right) on Dodge. Walk to the corner of Dodge and Pine Sts.



224 Dodge

ARCHITECTURE: (Notice the picture below, circa 1890) The decorative brackets under the overhanging eaves, and the tall, narrow windows with wooden crowns above them are characteristics of the Italianate style of Victorian home. There are two front entrances--one into the living room and one into the dining room.

HISTORY: Built in 1886 by Henry E. Ford, son of C. I. Ford an early developer of Cameron. Henry was a saddler and harness maker in partnership with E. Frank Darby (Tour Home # 2). In 1889 they constructed a building downtown at 212 E 3rd where "Ford and Darby" can be seen in brick work near the top of building. Ford's daughter, Elma Burkett and her husband moved into this house in 1912, and sometime later the second story bay window was added. Their daughter, Clara Jane, grew up in the house and she, with her husband, Jay Marquis, moved back when her father died in 1958. Mrs. Marquis lived there until 1996 when failing health prevented her from living alone. The downstairs bedroom was the "borning and dying room" where Clara Marquis' grandmother and grandfather Burkett died, as did her parents, Henry E. and Mary Jane Cline Ford, and also an aunt, and Clara's husband. Clara's sister, Nelle, was born there as was her brother, Lawrence, who died in the room at the age of three. The family used the pump which is still behind the house until the early 1920s. Elma Burkett always kept a Boston fern in the parlor bay window and Mrs. Marquis carried on the tradition until 1996.

18



Across Dodge St. are two houses built by Henry Ford's son, C. Everett Ford--223 & 225 Dodge, circa 1912-1914.

From the corner of Dodge and Pine Sts., look to the north (right).

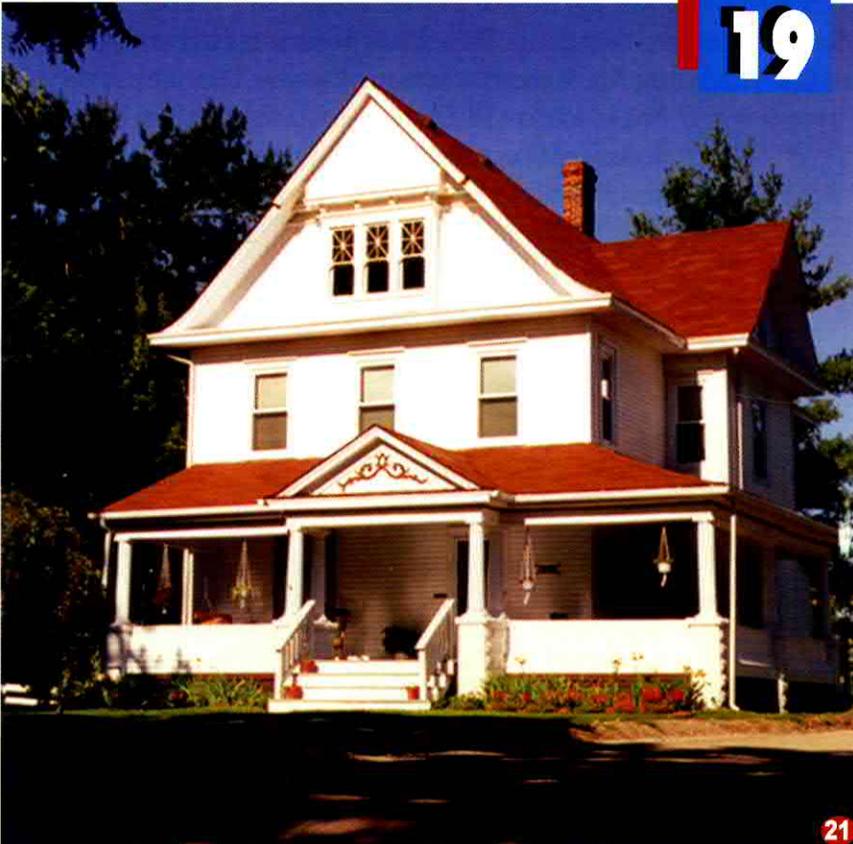
416 S. Pine:

ARCHITECTURE:

A version of Queen Anne Victorian. This style avoids flat wall surfaces by the use of overhangs, bay windows, and gables. Notice: the bay window in the front gable with three windows, each with a single lower sash and an upper sash with many panes; columns (rather than delicately turned supports) on the wrap around porch; the decorative pattern in the porch gable; the wide cornice band with dentils; and the wide front porch steps.

HISTORY:

This house was built by Henry B. Cooper in 1909 for his bride, Bertha. He was assistant cashier for Farmer's Bank for 33 years, taking only one week of vacation in all those years. A. L. (Dink) Chapman came from Ireland arriving in Cameron on his eighth birthday in 1918. Dink worked with his father in the Cameron Dairy for eight years before starting the first appliance store in Cameron, and was the only refrigeration engineer for many years. He established the Chapman's Refrigeration Services which he owned and operated for 26 years. Dink and wife Teresa occupied the house from 1950-1970.



Look south, (left). 510 S. Pine

ARCHITECTURE:

his house, though smaller, is a Queen Anne similar to Tour House # 21 with classic columns on a wrap around porch; and the wide front steps. The large front gable and the porch gable are asymmetrical.

HISTORY:

James Cicero McComb came to Cameron with his parents in 1869. In 1870, he married Grace O'Neal who died of a ruptured appendix in 1909 after 25 years of marriage and no surviving children. He built this house for his second wife, Minnie Ford McComb whom he married in 1912. Her sister, Vera Ford Gonsor, was also married here in 1912. They were the daughters of Henry E. Ford, builder of the house across the corner at 224 Dodge where Minnie lived from age fourteen until her marriage to J. C. McComb at age 22. About three years after the marriage, McComb built the house at the SE corner of Prospect and Cherry Sts. because Minnie wanted to be nearer downtown. Other occupants of 510 S.

Pine were Marion (M. E.) and Letitia (Lettie) Place from 1938 to 1984. Marion and Ollus opened the Place Brothers Grocery in 1919 across from McCorkle Park, and were in business for nearly fifty years.



Walk south on Pine to the first corner, and turn right, walking west on High St. As you pass 524 S. Pine (on the corner) notice the spindlework around the porch entrance on this Folk Victorian house. Turn south (left) onto Kelsey Ave.

Notice the charming little park between Kelsey Ave. and Park St. which is named in honor of Herbert and Addie Kelsey of Tour home # 21. During the years of the Chautauquas held at the Recreation Park to the south, there was a long line of hitching posts in this park. The gazebo was constructed and donated by the inmates of the Western Missouri Correctional Center. There is a low monument on the south side of the gazebo that says, "DEDICATED TO CRIME VICTIMS, APRIL 30, 1999."

621 Kelsey

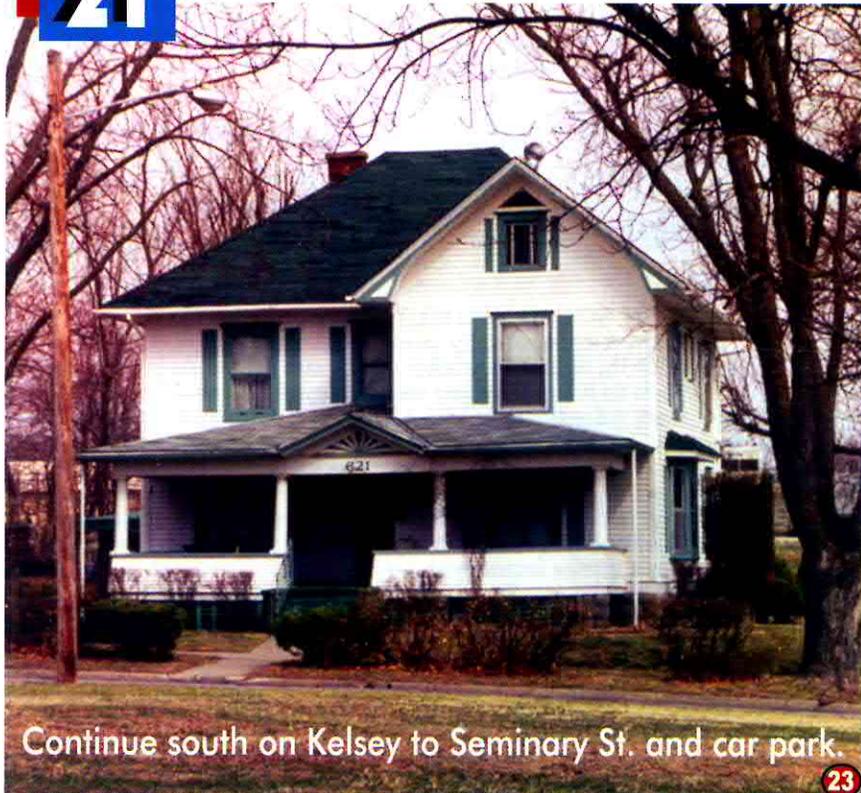
ARCHITECTURE:

Although not as ornate as some Queen Anne style homes built in the 1890s, Ionic columns support the porch, and there is artistic decorative detailing in the porch gable. A bay window faces south. The roof is hipped (four sloping sides) with only a front gable.

HISTORY:

George W. Morley built this house about 1896-98. Herbert and Addie Kelsey, musicians, bought the house in 1910. Herbert Kelsey, was a teacher of voice and chorus at the Missouri Wesleyan College as early as 1904, and by 1925 was Dean of the Conservatory of Music. By 1909 the chorus was presenting oratorios and operettas for commencements and May Day Festivals. After Mr. Kelsey's death in 1927, his wife, Addie, continued playing and teaching piano and organ for almost 30 years, staying here until 1977.

21



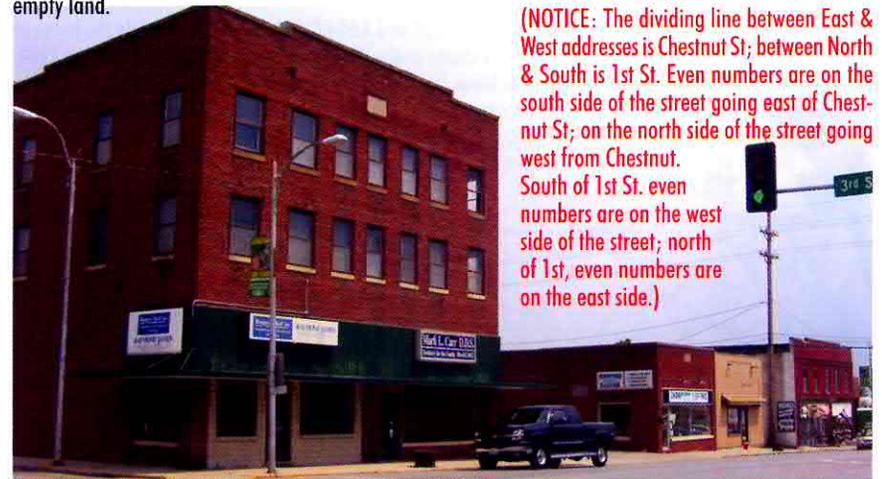
Continue south on Kelsey to Seminary St. and car park

23

WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN CAMERON

A Brief History: The site of Cameron was chosen because it would be accessible to the proposed Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad. Samuel D. McCorkle, Edward M. Samuels, and other men of vision arranged for the three buildings in Somerville to be moved 1 1/2 miles west by ox cart to the present site of Cameron. The town was laid out in the fall of 1855. From the time the Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad was completed through Cameron in 1858, the railroad was the business and social center of the town. Abraham Lincoln traveled by train from Hannibal to St. Joseph in 1859, and John Wilkes Booth was once stranded in Cameron for several days because of a snow storm. Later the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, and Burlington lines contributed to the rapid growth of Cameron as building materials were brought in, and produce and cattle could be shipped to Kansas City and Chicago. The tracks ran between 1st and 2nd streets, and along the tracks were coal yards, grain elevators, water towers and livestock being loaded and unloaded. In 1880 the Cameron Junction was built 3/4 of a mile west of the present Cameron Depot Museum. The Junction included a roundhouse with a turntable, and a popular eating place which served train passengers, workmen and all who appreciated good food. More than 60 trains a day ran through Cameron during the peak of the railroad activity in the 1920s. Train service was discontinued in the 1960s. Years later, most of the tracks were removed and most of the railroad structures demolished leaving only the contours on a wide swath of empty land.

(NOTICE: The dividing line between East & West addresses is Chestnut St; between North & South is 1st St. Even numbers are on the south side of the street going east of Chestnut St; on the north side of the street going west from Chestnut. South of 1st St. even numbers are on the west side of the street; north of 1st, even numbers are on the east side.)



WALK BEGINS ON SOUTH WALNUT AT SECOND STREET However, one can begin at any point.

CAMERON DEPOT MUSEUM The tracks of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, the first across Missouri from the Mississippi River to the Missouri River, were completed through Cameron in 1858. The first businesses were on Walnut north and south of the railroad. A fire destroyed most of the downtown buildings in 1871, and the businesses were rebuilt along Third St. west of Walnut St. The original depot was on the south side of the tracks. This one built in 1898 was restored by the Cameron Historical Society. It is a museum displaying railroad and other Cameron memorabilia. On the SW corner of the property, is the horse watering trough that was in the middle of the intersection of 3rd & Chestnut Sts. Donated by the Humane Society sometime before 1911, it had a globe light mounted in the middle which was replaced by a traffic signal as horse transportation decreased.

212 N Walnut: FURNITURE DEPOT (2004).

Site of STAMPERS POULTRY BUSINESS, (210-212) during the 1940's. Chickens collected from the farms in the area were processed here and shipped out by railroad via a rail spur beside the platform south of the building.

222 N Walnut: MARK CARR, DDS (2004)

Site of OCEAN-TO-OCEAN CAFÉ that moved to the Cameron House Hotel after it was burned out from the NW corner of this intersection Feb. 1, 1945. In 1931, a T-bone steak, with french fries, gravy, salad, hot biscuits, coffee or milk was 25 cents.

24

224 N Walnut: (SE corner of 3rd and Walnut.) ROGER McCOY INVESTMENTS (2004)

Site of one of the buildings moved by ox cart from Somerville in 1855. THE CAMERON HOUSE HOTEL was built on this site in 1872 for the convenience of train passengers, and was the first jail in Cameron. Marshall Henry C. Culver was shot Nov. 29, 1879 by Jerome Johnson and Aaron Harpster who were held here overnight. The Sheriff arranged a special train to transport them to Plattsburg at 6 a.m. to thwart a mob threatening to lynch them. The name of Cameron Public Safety Building honors Culver. That first hotel was replaced by the New Hotel Cameron built by Guy Beatty in 1936. The hotel lobby was around the corner on 3rd St. and was the Trailways and Jefferson bus stop for many years.



302 N Walnut: (302-304) ANGEL WINGS and WESTERN AUTO (2004). THE OLD YMCA BUILDING on the NE corner.

It is the site of the store brought from Somerville, operated by Major A. T. Baubie. Present building was erected in 1907 by C. I. Ford to house the YMCA that organized in 1897. Upper floor contained a gym, club and game rooms, and a library. Lower floor was rented to businesses to defray expenses of the YMCA, which operated until early 1990s. **HOLLYWOOD MAXWELL BRA FACTORY** was here for 12 years prior to 1955.



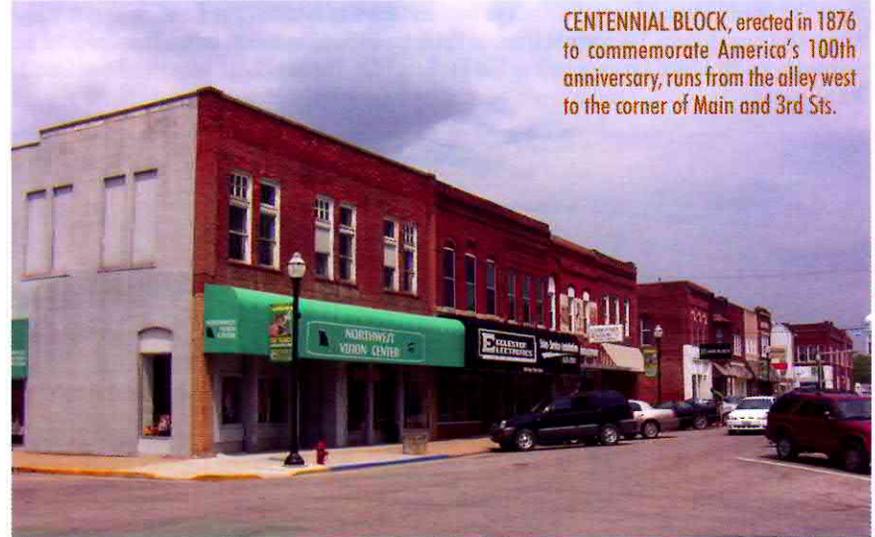
225 E 3rd: (NW corner) BREADEAUX PIZZA (2004).

During the Civil War, this was the site of the United States recruiting station. Later it was the site of OCEAN-TO-OCEAN CAFÉ so named because 3rd St. was also Hwy 36 that had connections from coast to coast. The Café owned by O. B. Mullis was a popular eating place. When the Café burned, it relocated to 222 N Walnut to become the dining room of Hotel Cameron on the SE corner. Guy Beatty built the present building, and William and Agnes Silver opened the SILVER MOVIE THEATER in 1948. It was a favorite entertainment spot from late 1940s to the mid-1970s. Notice the small window in the projection room on the second floor.

25

223 E 3rd: AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE (2004).

OLD CITY HALL, built about 1929 and used until 1962. Notice "City Hall" in brick work above. A lending library, started by the A. B. C. Federated Club, was upstairs, and later moved downstairs where city employees supervised the lending of books.



CENTENNIAL BLOCK, erected in 1876 to commemorate America's 100th anniversary, runs from the alley west to the corner of Main and 3rd Sts.

209 E 3rd: LEIBRANDT JEWELRY

Opened in 1873 across the street by Charles A. Leibrandt, Jr., and moved to this location in 1876. Operated by Steven Leibrandt, the fourth generation of jewelers at this location, it is the oldest business in Cameron run continuously by the same family. Just inside the door on the right is a grandfather clock purchased around 1890 by which the citizens and trainmen set their timepieces, and it still keeps time (2004). At one time the city furnished a light in the window of the store all night because of the clocks value to the community. The pictures of musical instruments on the store front were painted in early 1890s when organs, pianos and other instruments were sold at Leibrandt's. Paintings were restored in 1982 by Robert Bloss of Plattsburg

205 E 3rd: EGGLESTON ELECTRONICS (2004)

BURKETS TV & RADIO REPAIR, one of the first to install and repair televisions in Cameron. Dean Burkett and his brother James were in business some 40 years, from 1954 until he sold the business in 1994 to the present owner.

201 E 3rd: NORTHWEST VISION CENTER (2004)

Former site of CLAWSON DRUGS followed by ERICKSON DRUGS in the corner store. At one time A. H. GEHA DRY GOODS sold Red Goose Shoes, and had someone walk a goose up and down the street on Saturdays.

FROM THE CORNER OF 3RD AND MAIN, WALK NORTH ON EAST SIDE OF MAIN.

312 N Main: CAMERON MEDICAL CLINIC (2003)

The office of DR. E. RICHARD SCHMIDT, D. O. from 1969 to early 2004; THE U.S. POST OFFICE was in the building on the alley from 1925 until the new one was built at Main & 4th Sts. in 1936. In January of 2005, a new Post Office is being built at 112 E Grand.

26

LOOK ACROSS TO THE WEST SIDE OF MAIN ST.

309 N Main: HOWENSTEIN & ASSOCIATES (2004)

Erected in 1917 for the CAMERON TELEPHONE COMPANY. Edgar C. Baker organized the Company in 1896 with 80 telephones in Cameron. Dr. Snyder had the first telephone, a private line from his office over the Farmers Bank to his acreage on Prospect. Baker's brother-in-law, Silas D. Thompson, soon joined him, and became the president of the company. The name was changed to the Cameron Telephone Exchange in 1898. The first telephone directory was printed in 1899 by CTE, Baker and Thompson Proprietors, with three digit numbers. In 1899, CTE had connections in over 50 towns in MO and KS. By 1923 there were 17 employees and 1,500 telephones within a 14 mile radius of Cameron, and the crank telephone was gone. In 1921, the long distance telephone office was on the second floor at 208 E. 3rd St. The Middle States Utility Co. of Missouri bought CTE in 1927, and it kept that name until 1957 when it became General Telephone Company. The office moved from 309 N. Main to 312 N. Chestnut in 1961, and seven digit numbers were started. In 1982, the Cameron district GTE consolidated with the Columbia Missouri district and operation offices moved to Columbia. It became CenturyTel in 2000.



311 N Main: THE RITZ THEATER

Opened in 1916 by Frances and Averill Jarboe, had a seating capacity of 500 including the gallery. They later increased the capacity to 700, and ran it until 1973. Walter and Carol West operated it until 1994. It closed August 31, 2000. Notice the original marquee.

321-323 N. Main: DOUGLAS A. WYCKOFF, DDS (2004).

DENTAL OFFICE built by L. F. GRAHAM, DDS, 1944-45.

RETURN TO 3rd ST. AND CONTINUE WEST.

BAUBIE BLOCK, from the corner of Main west to the alley, was built in 1872 by Major Baubie. He is often called the Father of Cameron because he was the first mayor, first freight and ticket agent, first insurance agent, an entrepreneur and a strong supporter of early Cameron. A large hall upstairs over 119 and 121 E 3rd, had a stage with curtains, dressing rooms, and a seating capacity of 500 that was used for community and political meetings as well as entertainment.

123 E. 3rd: NW Corner 3rd and Main: PLATTE VALLEY TITLE CO. & LAW OFFICES (2004).

Site of THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK chartered in 1890 with W. D. Coberly, president. C. C. DeShon was president from 1921 until it was liquidated in 1947, purchased by Farmers State Bank. National currency was issued by this bank in 1929, signed by DeShon, and Sherman J. Sloan. THE U.S. POST OFFICE was also in this building in 1891. CAMERON SAVINGS AND LOAN, organized in 1887 upstairs at this site, included Mercer Insurance. In 1947, it expanded into the ground floor, and later into the store on the west.

27

121 E. 3rd: KENNY & HARTZELL INSURANCE AGENCY (2004)

Bought the Insurance Agency of Harold Poynter in 1947, and moved to this location in 1952. Miss Hartzell is still in business in 2004---52 years later. The ceiling is the original metal from 1872. Formerly the site of B. B. WITT of the CAMERON SUN NEWSPAPER before 1955; and LUCE PHOTOGRAPHER, 1923.

119 E. 3rd: CHRISTOPHER FINK LAW OFFICE (2004).

Notice the stained glass "Drugs" sign under the awning. It was once the location of the MURRAY DRUG STORE and CAMPBELL DRUGS;

117 E. 3rd: EDWARD JONES (2004).

Former site of THE DAILY NEWS OBSERVER by B. B. WITT & OTHER NEWSPAPERS.

ACROSS THE ALLEY IS A CITY PARKING LOT. A BUILDING WAS RAZED ABOUT 2000.

It housed a jewelry store, and dental offices among other businesses, and had apartments above.

107 E. 3rd: KROGER GROCERY was at this site for many years

J. C. PENNEY, 1953-59. Andy Drinnin came to Cameron in 1956 to manage the J. C. Penney Store, and later operated DRINNINS SHOES at this site, 1959-2001.

105 E. 3rd: MARI'S DANCE STUDIO (2004)

A. S. BROWN PHOTOGRAPHY; FRANK TAYLOR PHOTOGRAPHY; DEAN CONRAD PHOTOGRAPHY, 1971-1993.

103 E. 3rd

Site of AMES JEWELRY STORE in the 1940s-1960s.



101 E. 3rd: PARK BANK

Started in 1881 in this building, and was sold to the FIRST NATIONAL BANK about 1900. Originally this building was ornate both inside and out, with a balcony above the front door where Dr. Brown, DDS, and his family often sat to listen to the band concerts in the park.

McCORKLE PARK BETWEEN CHESTNUT & CHERRY, AND 3RD & 4TH STREETS

This block was donated to the City by Samuel McCorkle, one of the founders of Cameron, when the town was platted in 1855. Mr. McCorkle was given the privilege of naming the new town in 1856. It became "Cameron" in honor of his wife, Malinda Cameron McCorkle. On the Southeast corner of McCorkle Park is a marker donated and placed by Sloan Monument Works in honor of Mr. McCorkle. The first trees were planted by the Traveling Men's Commercial Club of Cameron in 1909. Many traveling salesmen made their home in Cameron because of the railroads, which as early as 1888 had two direct lines to Chicago and the East, and four lines to the West and South. The club members were strong boosters of the growing city, called "The Queen City."

28

WALK NORTH ON CHESTNUT TO THE INTERSECTION OF 4TH & CHESTNUT.

312 N Chestnut: CAMERON PUBLIC LIBRARY (2004).

The site of the first successful well in Cameron. Built as a car dealership and garage, this building was sold to NW ELECTRIC in 1950. When they moved to a new building on Grand Ave. in 1961, it was sold to MIDDLE STATES UTILITY. (See history of telephone company at 309 N Main.) The Library moved here in 1989.

314-320 N. Chestnut: J. B. RUSSELL LUMBER YARD

Which covered three lots was the first known business at this site. SE corner of 4th & Chestnut: Former site of the FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 1881-1957. More recently, it was the Masonic and Eastern Star Hall until 1998. It was demolished in 2004.

NE corner of 4th & Chestnut: 103 E 4th St.: SOL MUSSER MANSION.

Started in 1881 when Musser was Mayor, it took 5 years to build. Architectural style is Second Empire with mansard roof. It has a spiral walnut stairway to the five-story tower. Musser, who fathered 13 children, was a farmer, a Director of Farmers Bank, and was involved in a variety of business ventures. The Knights of Pythias built an addition on the north side in 1913, and used two top floors until 1974. The first floor of the addition was The Students Army Training Corp during WWI, a soup kitchen during the depression, and has been a church, glove factory, hat factory, Platt Wood's skating rink (1929), Hackett's Furniture (1955) and Cameron Children's Development Center (1980-2004). Now a private residence.

LOOK NORTH TO GOODRICH AUDITORIUM (ON WEST SIDE OF CHESTNUT IN THE NEXT BLOCK) was erected in 1924 as a primary school with eight primary classrooms. The name honors N. S. Goodrich, banker and senior member of the Board of Education, who served on the Board for fifty years. In 2004, used for school classes, and for events requiring an auditorium with a large stage.

CROSS THE STREET WEST, AND WALK WEST, ON NORTH SIDE OF McCORKLE PARK.

TOM PRICE MEMORIAL BAND SHELL honors Tom Price who led the Cameron High School Band to remarkable achievements, and led the Municipal Band for more than 25 years. The first city band was the Cameron Cornet Band in 1867, and the first band shell was built in McCorkle park in 1879. Later, as the Cameron Military Band, it received top honors in National Encampment Competitions, and was paid for performances in Kansas City, Chicago, Washington, D.C. and other places. Since 1929 it has been known as the Cameron Municipal Band and has been one of only four city bands supported by tax funds. Some Cameron citizens played with the group for more than 50 years. Present members travel quite a distance to perform here each Thursday evening during the summer when small children freely run, play and dance to the music while their elders visit, eat ice cream and cake and generally enjoy an evening in the park.

LOOK ACROSS FOURTH ST. TO THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING erected in 1914 to house elementary and high school students. It replaced an imposing structure erected in 1872-73 which housed 300 students from north of the tracks, in all grades, before it became inadequate. At a cost of \$50,000, this building was equipped with the modern conveniences of steam heat, drinking fountains, electric lights, toilets, and a gym. It was used for grades seven through twelve until September of 1947 when the high school classes were moved to the Missouri Wesleyan College site on S. Walnut St. When plans were made to raze the building in 1993, the Cameron Preservation Society, under the direction of Dr. E. Richard Schmidt and others, took it over to preserve and maintain it as an important historic landmark, and a valuable community center. In 1997, Carolyn Pickett donated to the Historical Preservation Society, an advertising quilt stitched by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church of Cameron in 1889. The quilt is preserved and displayed in a Walnut frame in the Old School. Thirty seven Cameron High School class pictures from 1907-1964 are displayed in the first floor hall.

CONTINUE WEST ON 4TH ST. AND TURN SOUTH (LEFT) ON CHERRY ST.

MORE IN McCORKLE PARK: CONCRETE LETTERS spelling "Cameron" were placed for the benefit of passengers of the Rock Island Railroad whose trains ran along the west side of Cherry St. The St. Patrick Day Parades (begun in 1981) always end here at the "Blarney Stone" that is set on a green shamrock in memory of the many Irish people who helped to settle Cameron.

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. is honored in the circular building erected in 1971-72 on the south side of the park. The old 1928 Studebaker fire truck housed here is used in parades, and in antique fire fighting contests. The building was recently remodeled to include public restrooms.

THE FOUNTAIN. About 1909, The Traveling Mens Commercial Club put in the walks and a fountain with a statue. The remains of the fountain (just north of the fire truck) was refurbished as a memorial to Col. Gene Pemberton, a Cameron native. He was shot down in 1966 over Hanoi during the Vietnam War.

LOOK ACROSS CHERRY STREET TO THE WEST.

311 N. Cherry: SLOAN MONUMENT WORKS

the small brick building in the middle of the block, was opened at this site by W. G. Sloan in 1872, and operated by the family for three generations. Many monuments in cemeteries in Cameron and the surrounding areas were made by Sloans. The most outstanding are the Tuggle Monuments in Packard Cemetery on E. Evergreen St. near I-35.

CONTINUE ONE BLOCK WEST ON THIRD TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH CEDAR STREET.

ST. MUNCHIN CATHOLIC CHURCH. Some of the first Catholic families in Cameron came from Limerick, Ireland, where St. Munchin was Patron Saint. This is the only church in North America named for the 7th-century Irish St. Munchin. A frame church was erected in 1866, and this brick one was built in 1893. The large window on the west side of the church is in memory of A. T. Baubie.

402 W. 3rd St. ST. RITA'S ACADEMY

Opened in 1924, and operated as a school at this site from 1950 to 1973. It is now used for church and community functions.

401 W. 3rd:

Site of a **NUNNERY** for the Catholic nuns teaching at St. Rita's. (Now a Private Residence)

409 W. 3rd:

The second house west of the Nunnery, is a prefabricated LUSTRON HOME with its shiny surface. It has enameled steel panels on the exterior and interior walls, roof, steel windows and door jambs, built-in dressers, closets, cabinets and appliances--without a stick of wood in it. Pictures are hung with magnets and remodeling is virtually impossible. It was shipped from the factory in several big vans, and assembled on the spot by trained builders. Lustron Homes were meant to relieve the housing shortage after World War II. The manufacturer promised to build 2700 houses a month at a cost of only \$6000 to the home owner. However, manufacturing and distribution problems caused the company to declare bankruptcy after three years with less than 2000 finished, and the cost had escalated to \$11,000 each, even though the government subsidized the project to the tune of \$37.5 million. Of the 97 Lustron Homes built in Missouri, two are in Cameron, built for Charles Groom, Insurance Agent. He lived here with his family. The other Lustron Home is on the NW corner of Ford and S. Walnut Sts. (Both are Private residences)

CROSS 3RD ST. AND WALK EAST ON THE SOUTH SIDE, STOPPING AT PINE ST. TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING:

NE CORNER: 222 W. 3rd: POLAND THOMPSON FUNERAL HOME.

J. W. Poland first had a Furniture and Undertaking business in 1905. In 1909 his son Foster joined him and later grandson Robert, the third generation in the business. In 1943, the Poland Funeral Home moved into this historic home of John N. Munsell, Mayor, Justice of the Peace, and for 13 years Director of the Cameron Savings and Loan. In 1968, Jim and Peggy Thompson became sole owners, and it was passed on to their two sons, Kent and Kurt. The building was expanded in 1988, and the front remodeled with columns.

NW CORNER: UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Organized in 1865 as the Methodist Episcopal Church. This present building with its priceless windows of cathedral stained glass was erected in 1898. The windows were re-lead and rebuilt in 1986. The bell is from the German Methodist Church in the German settlement Southwest of town.

SW CORNER: SITE OF OLD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

A church was built on this site in 1873 for \$5000, and replaced with another brick one in 1908. The church was dissolved 1984, and the building demolished in 2002.

SE CORNER:

Location of various early hotels. Combs House Hotel, 1870-1881, was the eating place for east bound passengers on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific RR until the Union Station was built; Tremont Hotel, 1885; Merchants Hotel, 1906; a rooming house, 1913; Midlands Hotel, 1925. Guy Beatty converted it into an apartment building which was later removed to make room for Funeral Home parking. Near this corner, stood the first public school that opened in 1859, and later was moved to 210 N. Main St., present site of State Farm Insurance Co.

207 W. 3rd: IRON HORSE ANTIQUES, ETC. (2004)

THE CAMERON OBSERVER NEWSPAPER under Agnes McAllen was in this building.

SW corner of 3rd & Cherry, THE DEPOT OF ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC RAILROAD

which was completed through Cameron in 1871. On the west side of the building can be seen part of the original brick train platform. The tracks ran north on Cherry St. through the residential area until the early 1940s. A bronze plaque near the large sycamore tree on the corner, commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Rock Island Lines in 1922, and explains that the tree was planted in memory of John T. Walker who helped develop that railroad. When no longer used as a depot, the property was purchased by the American Legion; later a restaurant; and Delmar Communication.

CONTINUE EAST ON 3RD ST.



123 W. 3rd: CAMERON ACCOUNTING & FINANCIAL (2004).

Former site of CAMERON MUTUAL TORNADO INSURANCE CO. that organized in 1902. It occupied this building from 1920 until it moved north of town in 1965, and is now Cameron Insurance Companies. The Cameron Library occupied the second floor of this building from 1975 until 1978 when tax support allowed it to expand to the whole building. In 1989, the library moved to the present location, 312 N Chestnut.

121 W. 3rd: JUDE T. GILLIHAN, DDS (2004)

THE BLUE BIRD THEATER was on the 2nd floor in the early 1900s.

117-115 W. 3rd; (Known as the Jarboe Building)

The government wanted H. G. Thomson to make crystals for telephones and radios in Kansas City, but he opened The Motor Radio Company in Hamilton. The scarcity of employees there, caused the company to open in Cameron at this site, 1943-1945. An important WWII factory, at the peak of its production, there were 59 employees, and it was the second largest producer of crystal holders in the world.

111-109 W. 3rd east to the corner:

THE MUSSER BLOCK was originally built by Sol Musser in 1875 at a cost of \$25,000, and consisted of four stores. On the second floor of the corner stores, was a public hall 62' x 51' excluding the stage, called Musser's Opera House. That same year, an addition extending fifty feet to the west afforded two more stores and a hall on the upper stories used by the Masons. A disastrous fire in 1904 destroyed the Musser Block, so nothing of the original building remains. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, chartered in 1868, used the 2nd & 3rd floors from 1903 to 1996 when the organization disbanded. Hooks Drug Store and later Metro gas had a corner entrance on the west end until a fire in 1978 destroyed the top floor of the first two stores. An arch and visible floor tile reveal the exact location of the corner door. Kimes Hardware & Furniture was here for 30 years and then Eagans Furniture.



(CROSSING CHESTNUT, 3RD ST. CHANGES FROM WEST TO EAST, AND NUMBERS FROM UNEVEN TO EVEN)

104-102 E 3rd: THE CORN BUILDING.

When it was built, BURR & CORN HARDWARE & HOME APPLIANCES had four floors with an elevator that took wagons to the top floor. The CAMERON NUTRITION CENTER was at this site from July of 1983 through 1999. The Nutrition Center started Meals on Wheels in 1972 at the hospital. In 1974 meals prepared at the hospital were served at Meadow Acres Community Room located on N. Harris St. in the Housing Area.



106-110 E. 3rd: LITTLE BLESSINGS (Originally was 106-108 E. 3rd)
Organized by A. J. Althouse in 1905, the CAMERON TRUST CO. erected this building in 1923. It originally had an impressive entrance with four tall columns, and appeared to be one of the most solid banks in town. However, it never reopened after the Bank Holiday in 1933 causing financial loss to many investors. The bank vault is still in the basement.

110 E. 3rd STUCKER CLOTHING COMPANY

Established by Charles N. Stucker, served gentlemen of Northwest Missouri with every kind of menswear (except shoes) at this site from 1923 until 1987. The store was stocked with quality merchandise which fitted men up to size 56 coat and 52 waist. Martin O'Neal who started clerking for Stucker in 1919 took over the store in 1931, and is responsible to a great extent for the reputation of courteous service. Martin's brothers, Jack and Charles were later associated with the store which kept the Stucker name. Rose Hamer opened **LITTLE BLESSINGS** in February, 1998 as a tea room, gift and craft shop, and expanded into 106 E 3rd in 2002. She has preserved some memorabilia from Stuckers Clothing Co., and has created some of the ambience of early downtown Cameron.

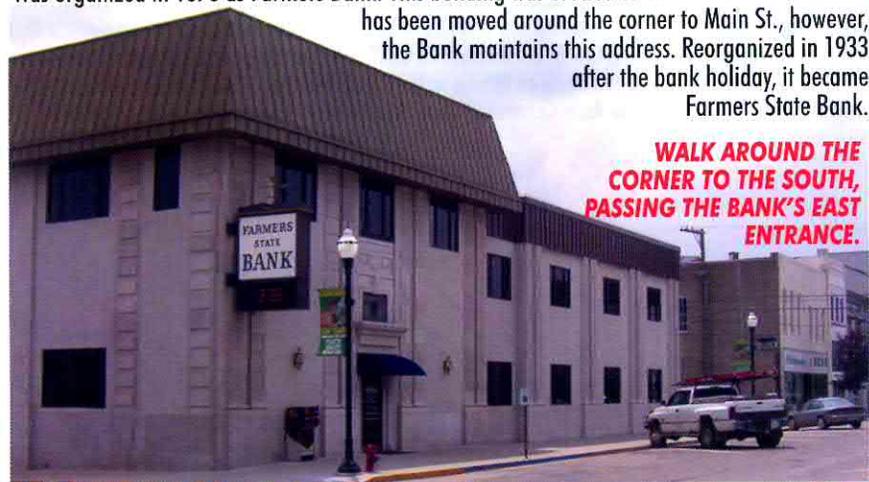
112-114 E. 3rd: DEAN'S STUDIO (2004) WESTERN AUTO here from 1944-88.

116-118 E. 3rd: A parking lot in 2004, it was once DILLENER & COTTEY CLOTHING (1910); MATTINGLY BROS. VARIETY STORE; and MODE-O-DAY which were destroyed by an arson fire, Nov. 8, 1976, the same time as HETRO GAS.

33

124 E. 3rd: THE FARMERS STATE BANK

Was organized in 1878 as Farmers Bank. This building was erected in 1919. The main entrance has been moved around the corner to Main St., however, the Bank maintains this address. Reorganized in 1933 after the bank holiday, it became Farmers State Bank.



205 N. Main: CAMERON CITY HALL

Erected in 2001 on the site of the former City Hall. Cameron's first fire bell, now displayed in the City Hall, was manufactured in 1888 and weighs 300 pounds. It hung in the alley that runs from 3rd to 4th between Chestnut and Main and was used until the turn of the century, when a steam whistle was installed on top of the old light plant building. The steam whistle was discontinued in 1934 when the Light Plant was moved to 8th St. and an electrical siren installed in its place. This fire bell was used in parades to promote the sale of Liberty Bonds during WWI. In 1934, it was loaned to Osborn, MO and returned in 1971. The brick building across from City Hall served as the fire station garage for many years. When Cameron was a factory town, a whistle blew at 7 a.m., 12, 1 and 6 p.m. to signal the beginning and ending of the working day. A siren still blows at those hours and is now part of the emergency warning system.

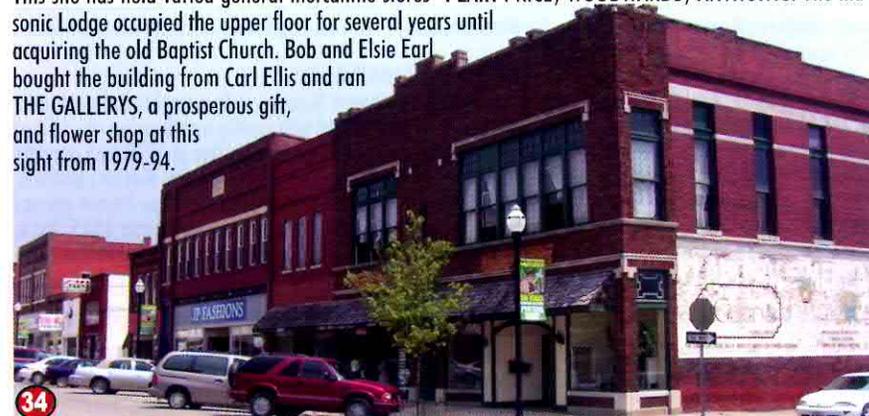
210 N. Main: STATE FARM INSURANCE CO. (2004)

The first public school built by public subscription near the SE corner of 3rd & Pine Sts. opened in the fall of 1859 with Mr. Thomas Harris as teacher. In the mid-1900s, the one story frame structure was moved to this site, and later demolished. The present building was erected by Ken Baker in July of 1979.

RETURN TO 3RD STREET AND CONTINUE EAST.

203 E. 3rd: FIRST IMPRESSION SALON & SPA (2004)

This site has held varied general mercantile stores--PLAIN PRICE; WOODWARDS; ANTHONYS. The Masonic Lodge occupied the upper floor for several years until acquiring the old Baptist Church. Bob and Elsie Earl bought the building from Carl Ellis and ran THE GALLERYS, a prosperous gift, and flower shop at this sight from 1979-94.



34

206 E. 3rd:

During World War II, men signed up for the Draft in this store that belonged to Lloyd Harris who was on the Draft Board.

208 E. 3rd: (Was 208-210) JP FASHIONS (2004).

Notice "**FORD & DARBY**" in the brickwork at the top of the building. Henry E. Ford operated a harness shop before 1871, and in 1886 E. Frank Darby became a partner. This building was erected in 1898. J. C. Penney occupied it until 1953 when Gene and Virginia Blackwood established the **BLACKWOODS DEPARTMENT STORE** in 1954, and later added a shoe store on the alley (212 E 3rd) until sold in 1976. **EMORY'S** and then **SKINNERS HARNES SHOPS** were also at this location.

214 E. 3rd: R & R PAWN SHOP (2004)

Dink Chapman had an appliance store at this site. Notice "Beatty 1945" in the brickwork at the top of the building. In that year, Guy Beatty repaired the building after a fire, put on a second floor, and a new front for **GAMBLES HARDWARE**.

220 E. 3rd: CAMERON LICENSE BUREAU (2004)

CLARK'S BARBER SHOP (1942-46)

222 E. 3rd: HIS & HER SPORT GALLERY (2004)

Opened by Dale Akey June of 2000; **CONNELL HARDWARE** (220-222) was established by Owen E. Connell at this site in 1917. After O. E. Connell, C. K. Connell owned the building. U. E. Ritchey was a partner with C. K. and his son, Jack Connell in the business. Richey married Jack's sister, Dorothy. The stores expanded into the building to the west, (220 E. 3rd), and the old pressed metal ceilings can still be se.

