

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Libertyville Downtown Historic District

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Multiple Property Listing \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

street & number \_\_\_\_\_  not for publication

city or town Libertyville  vicinity

state Illinois county Lake zip code \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this \_\_\_ nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: \_\_\_ **national** \_\_\_ **statewide** \_\_\_ **local**

Applicable National Register Criteria: \_\_\_ **A** \_\_\_ **B** \_\_\_ **C** \_\_\_ **D**

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date \_\_\_\_\_

Illinois Department of Natural Resources - SHPO  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- \_\_\_ entered in the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ removed from the National Register
- \_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only **one** box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
45	22	buildings
1	0	site
3	0	structure
0	0	object
49	22	<b>Total</b>

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

4

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- Commerce/Trade – business
- Commerce/Trade – financial institution
- Commerce/Trade – professional
- Commerce/Trade – department store
- Commerce/Trade – restaurant
- Commerce/Trade – specialty store
- Domestic – hotel
- Domestic – single dwelling
- Domestic – secondary structure
- Social – meeting hall
- Social - civic
- Recreation and Culture – theater
- Government – city hall
- Government – post office
- Government – fire station
- Education - library
- Religion – religious facility
- Health Care – clinic
- Health Care – medical business/office

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- Commerce/Trade – business
- Commerce/Trade – financial institution
- Commerce/Trade – professional
- Commerce/Trade – restaurant
- Commerce/Trade – specialty store
- Domestic – single dwelling
- Domestic – secondary structure
- Social – meeting hall
- Social - civic
- Government – city hall
- Religion – religious facility
- Education – school
- Education – library
- Landscape – park
- Vacant/Not in Use

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Landscape – park

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian – Queen Anne

Late Victorian – Romanesque

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals – Colonial Revival

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival – Tudor Revival

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival – Gothic

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival – Classical Revival

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements – Commercial Style

Modern Movement

Modern Movement – Art Deco

Other – Vernacular Commercial

Mixed – Tudor Revival, Gothic Revival, Moorish Revival, Plateresque

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Brick, Limestone, Concrete

walls: Brick, Limestone, Wood, Stucco,

Concrete

roof: Rubber membrane, Asphalt shingle

other: Metal

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

#### Summary Paragraph

The Libertyville Downtown Historic District extends over all or parts of ten blocks in the village's central business district. The district chiefly includes buildings constructed along Milwaukee Avenue, the village's primary commercial thoroughfare, but also includes buildings facing Lake Street, Cook Avenue, Church Street, and Brainerd Avenue. The district encompasses a variety of commercial, governmental, recreational, and institutional buildings that together exemplify the village's growth and development from the late 19<sup>th</sup> through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The northern edge of the district is marked by the Libertyville Town Hall, designed by Chicago architect William Boyington and completed in 1894. Boyington also designed the Ansel B. Cook house, which was completed in 1878 and now serves as the visual anchor of the village and the home of the Libertyville Historical Society. One and two-story commercial buildings, most of masonry construction, line both sides of Milwaukee Avenue and historically housed a wide range of businesses, including hotels, banks, groceries and pharmacies, offices, theaters, and various retail establishments. Notable buildings along the south end of the district include the Masonic Temple at 356 North Brainerd Avenue and the Public Services Building at 340-355 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

The district houses a variety of building types and architectural styles from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The most common building types are one-part and two-part commercial blocks, based on the nomenclature set forth by architectural historical Richard Longstreth in *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. However, there are several larger commercial buildings that fall outside of this typical pattern, including the Public Service Building at 340-355 N. Milwaukee Avenue and the Illinois Bell Telephone Company building at 117 East Church Street. The more prominent one- and two-part commercial blocks in the district feature applied detailing in a variety of architectural styles, ranging from Queen Anne to Mid-Century Modern. Many of the larger and free-standing commercial buildings are excellent local examples of the Romanesque Revival, Queen Anne, Classical Revival, Tudor Revival, and Art Deco styles.

As is typical in commercial districts in small and moderate-sized communities, many of the buildings in the Libertyville Downtown Historic District have been modified over the last 75 years, with the most common alterations being replacement or modification of storefronts and replacement of upper-story windows. The facades of several of the buildings along Milwaukee Avenue were more substantially altered or covered with Mid-Century slipcovers in the decades following World War II—most of these post-war facades were again renovated in the late 1990s and early 2000s with partial funding through MainStreet Libertyville, one of the most successful organizations under the Illinois Main Street Program. The contributing buildings within the district retain sufficient integrity to convey their significance as important components in the history and development of Libertyville's commercial center.

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### Narrative Description

The Libertyville Downtown Historic District is located in the Village of Libertyville, which is situated near the center of Lake County, Illinois, approximately six miles west of Lake Michigan and approximately 32 miles northwest of downtown Chicago. Two commercial thoroughfares—Milwaukee Avenue running north-south and Park Avenue running east-west—divide the village into roughly four quadrants. Industrial development is concentrated along the northeast side of the village, close to the railroad and the Des Plaines River. Residential subdivisions of primarily single-family homes occupy most of the remaining space between these commercial and industrial areas.

Milwaukee Avenue serves as the main commercial spine of the Libertyville Historic District, and most of the buildings in the district face this street. The northernmost boundary of the district is at Newberry Avenue and the Libertyville Town Hall. The southernmost boundary of the district, east of Milwaukee Avenue, is Broadway Street. The irregular east and west boundaries of the district are drawn to encompass additional groups of buildings on Church Street, Cook Avenue, and Lake Street that are part of the historic downtown and maintain architectural integrity. The general street pattern



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approximates the standard grid system, with Milwaukee Avenue and the south end of Brainerd Avenue deviating slightly from the pattern. Although Sanborn Fire Insurance maps from 1933 and 1948 shows dedicated alleys on the west side of the 500 block of Milwaukee Avenue that provided rear access to buildings, most of the commercial buildings in the district back onto surface parking lots with curb cuts on east-west running streets. Several buildings in the district contain small parking lots at the rear or side of the properties—in keeping with National Register guidelines for parking lots, these lots are not included as separate resources within the district. Two freestanding public parking lots are located in the district, both of which date from the post-war period. Because these lots were established during the district's period of significance, they are included as contributing structures within the district's resource count.

Milwaukee Avenue, which was widened in 1960 and contains four lanes of traffic, is the widest and busiest street in the district, with parallel parking along both sides of the street north of Broadway Avenue. Most east-west streets that intersect with Milwaukee Avenue, including Lake Street, Cook Avenue, and Church Street, are two-way streets with parallel parking; School Street, near the north edge of the district, is a one-way street that runs east of Milwaukee Avenue. The district's public rights-of-way have been improved with concrete sidewalks, metal benches, lamp posts, and mature trees line the street.

The Libertyville Downtown Historic District contains 71 resources, which include 65 principal buildings, two secondary buildings, three structures (parking lots), and one site (Cook Park). The district is predominantly commercial in character, with most buildings originally constructed primarily for commercial or office functions or repurposed for such uses within the period of significance. A small number of single-family residences are also included within the district—some remain residential in use, while others have been converted to offices. Although some of the commercial blocks that line Milwaukee Avenue house residential spaces on the upper floors, for the purposes of this nomination, these buildings have been categorized as commercial. Several buildings—including the former Town Hall building, former United States Post Office, and Masonic Lodge—were built for governmental or social uses.

Most commercial buildings in the district are of masonry construction, with late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings featuring brick construction and mid-20<sup>th</sup> century structures exhibiting concrete-block construction. A number of wood-frame buildings, many originally constructed as single-family residences, are located along Church Street. Commercial buildings are typically one or two stories in height, although the tallest buildings in the district—the First National Bank building at 536-542 N. Milwaukee Avenue and the recent mixed-use development at the southwest corner of Lake Street and Milwaukee Avenue—are both three stories tall. Commercial buildings typically contain one or two storefronts, although some larger commercial blocks have more.

The oldest building in the district is the Ansel B. Cook House, which was originally constructed in 1878 and remodeled in 1921 to serve as the Cook Memorial Library. The building is now occupied by the Libertyville Historical Society. The most recently constructed property is a large mixed-use commercial and residential development erected in 2007 and located at the southwest corner of N. Milwaukee Avenue and Lake Street near the northern edge of the district. Most commercial buildings in the district date from the 1890s through the 1950s; alterations to existing buildings generally date from the 1950s or 1960s or from the 1990s and 2000s. The majority of the buildings are either one-part commercial blocks or two-part commercial blocks, common commercial building types that were outlined by Richard Longstreth in *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architectures*. Two-part commercial blocks are buildings that are two or more stories tall and visually divided into two “zones” – a lower level that contains storefronts, and an upper level containing floors that historically housed offices, residential apartments, meeting halls or auditoriums. One-part commercial blocks are one-story commercial buildings that include only ground-level storefronts.

Like other historic commercial districts in Illinois and throughout the Midwest, architectural detailing on many buildings in the Libertyville Downtown Historic District is achieved using applied ornament, usually concentrated around window and door openings and at the roofline through decorative lintels or cornices. The manipulation of building materials is also a common method of ornamentation, with lintels, stringcourses, corbelling, and diaper-patterns of various shades and textures of brick and stone reflecting building fashions during the period of construction. Several buildings in the district also exhibit ornamental embossed sheet-metal elements, including cornices, stringcourses, and coverings for projecting window bays. Several of these sheet-metal elements have been identified by the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office

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as “Meskers,”—sheet-metal elements produced by George L. Mesker & Co. of Evansville, Indiana, one of the most prolific and successful ornamental sheet-metal manufacturers in the Midwest.

As a whole, the district presents as a cohesive collection of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-century architecture, with styles ranging from Romanesque Revival and Queen Anne in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and Mid-Century Modern in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Several of the commercial buildings in the district have been classified as Vernacular Commercial—these buildings, which date from the early to the mid-20 century, often lack any definitive stylistic elements and are a common feature of small-town commercial centers.

As Libertyville’s downtown matured and began to compete with car-centered commercial developments outside of the village center in the post-World War II era, many of its 19<sup>th</sup>-century commercial buildings were updated with modern storefronts and Mid-Century Modern slipcovers. Most of these slipcovers have since been removed, largely through the efforts of the village’s Main Street Program. Those alterations from the 1950s, 1960s, and early 1970s that remain are within the district’s period of significance and are considered historic in their own right.

The district’s governmental and institutional buildings are generally in keeping with those found in small towns throughout the Midwest. The Libertyville Town Hall, designed in the Romanesque Revival style by architect William Boyington and completed in 1894, features an imposing center tower that signified its importance as the seat of the township’s government in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, while the simple symmetrical façade and classical entrance of the former Post Office Building constructed on West Church Street in 1935 illustrates the typical form and detailing of early 20<sup>th</sup> century public buildings. The Masonic Temple building, completed in 1931, is a rare example of Art Deco architecture in the district, with a streamlined double-height entrance and stylized copper spandrel panels depicting various masonic symbols. The sole religious building in the district is an English Gothic-style church building constructed for the St. Lawrence Episcopal congregation in 1917; the building has since been expanded, with additions that date from the 1960s and early 2000s.

Of the 71 resources in the district, 49 (69%) contribute to the historic character of the district, and 22 (31%) have been rated non-contributing. Four of the buildings—The Public Services Building at 340-354 N. Milwaukee Avenue, The Ansel B. Cook House/Cook Memorial Library at 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue, the Proctor Building at 516-528 N. Milwaukee Avenue, and Libertyville Town Hall at 715 N. Milwaukee Avenue—are already individually listed in the National Register. Non-contributing properties were constructed after the period of significance or have substantial alterations that date after the end of the period of significance (1975).

Alterations to resources in the Libertyville Downtown Historic District are typical of continuously occupied small-town commercial districts. Typical alterations include storefront reconfigurations and materials changes; replacement windows (in original or altered openings) and infill of window openings; and the removal or replacement of historic cornices. Of the non-contributing buildings in the district, only three were constructed after the end of the period of significance. The remaining non-contributing buildings largely consist of two-story 19<sup>th</sup>-century commercial buildings that had been modernized or slipcovered in the 1950s or 1960s and had again been remodeled with elements that were not in keeping with the original design, or mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century buildings that were historicized to more closely resemble late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century designs. The removal or replacement of these alterations with more historically accurate elements may allow for buildings that are currently rated non-contributing to be determined as contributing to the district. Even with these alterations, the district as a whole retains good historic integrity.

**Resource Catalog**

The following catalog lists resources within the Libertyville Downtown Historic District and contains the following information:

Address	Contributing / non-contributing
Historic building name/important historic tenant	Already listed on National Register?

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Date - actual or estimated

Architect / builder (if known)

Short visual description

Historic information, including a select list of tenants over time

Information about building dates, history and tenants comes from several sources:

- A historic resources survey prepared by Ramsey Historic Consultant in 2016.
- Sanborn fire insurance maps available for 1897, 1907, 1912, 1924, 1933, and 1948.
- Historic photographs and business directories accessible through the Illinois Digital Archives.
- “Libertyville’s Historic North Milwaukee Avenue” virtual tour prepared in the early 2020s for the Libertyville Historical Society and available on the Clio website (<https://theclio.com/tour/1501>).
- Newspaper articles and secondary sources such as town and county histories.

The Libertyville Historical Society and the Cook Memorial Public Library are the best sources for information on the history of Libertyville and its built environment, containing historic newspapers, photographs, telephone directories, and clippings files on local businesses, families, and other topics. The authors of the nomination want to thank the contributors to the virtual walking tour, “Libertyville’s Historic Milwaukee Avenue,” which included in-depth research on many of the buildings in the district that was outside the scope of research for the larger 2016 historic resources survey.

Building addresses are based on those provided in the 2016 historic resources survey. Several street names changed in the early-to-mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, as did building addresses. Current street names and addresses are used throughout the nomination to avoid confusion.

**356 Brainerd Avenue**  
**Libertyville Masonic Temple**  
**1931-1932**  
**Architect: John Scribbings**

**Contributing**

Description: Two-story brick-faced Art Deco-style lodge building. The building is of fireproof construction, is clad in buff face brick, and features a flat roof with stone-capped parapet wall. The front façade of the building features a full-height, slightly projecting center bay flanked by single bays on each side. The main entrance to the building is centered within the center bay and features a set of metal double doors with full glazed panels. The entrance is set within a two-story telescoping stone surround that is topped with a decorative stone panel that reads “Masonic Temple.” Above the entry doors are a series of stacked blind panels; attached to the panels is the masonic compass and square symbol set within a circle on a blue rectangular panel. The main entrance is fronted by a set of concrete steps with low brick knee walls and painted metal handrails. A decorative metal screen is installed around the edge of the stone entrance surround. Each of the bays flanking the center entry bay contains single window openings at the first and second stories; the window openings are set within a recessed vertical channel and separated by copper spandrel panels ornamented with masonic symbols. Windows within these openings are non-historic, single-light casement windows. The side elevations of the building are six bays wide—the two bays at the west end of each elevation are identical to the end bays on the front façade, with first and second-story windows separated by copper spandrel panels. The four east bays on each of the side elevations originally contained large windows set within round-arch openings with stone sills—the original windows have been removed and replaced with aluminum stacked awning windows set within downsized openings. Windows at the basement level on both elevations are filled with glass blocks.

History: Libertyville Masonic Lodge #492 was chartered on October 18, 1866, and many of its members were prominent businessmen and civic leaders in the community. Before the construction of the current building, the lodge rented space in four different buildings on Milwaukee Avenue. In 1910, the lodge formed a search committee to explore the construction of a purpose-built temple; Glencoe architect John Scribbings was commissioned to design the new building, and the

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contract to build the temple was awarded to the Libertyville Construction Corporation in 1931. Construction was completed in 10 months, and the first meeting was held in the temple on July 8, 1932.<sup>1</sup>

**112 E. Church Street  
Dr. Robert E. Sayers Building  
c. 1950**

**Contributing**

Description: The building is a one-story freestanding Mid-Century Modern commercial structure with a flat roof and irregular massing consisting of two rectangular sections that are joined in the center and project out at the front and rear. The building is concrete block, with blond brick cladding on the front (south) façade of the recessed east bay and the front and west elevations of the projecting east bay. A cantilevered aluminum canopy extends from the flat roof at the façade. The building appears to contain two office spaces, each with separate entrances. The first office is located within the projecting bay and features a solid painted door with vertical light at the west end of the south façade and a single-light window at its east end. A small brick stoop with wrought iron railings is located at the entrance. A second single-light window is centered on the west elevation of the projecting bay. The entrance to the second office is located at the west end of the recessed east section of the front façade; a three-part window grouping with single-light center window flanked by 3/1 double hung windows is located east of the entrance, and a brick stoop with wrought iron railing is located in front of the entrance. The west elevation toward the rear of the building, as well as the east elevation, is unpainted concrete block. Alterations to the building are minimal and include aluminum cladding on the cantilevered canopy and replacement doors.

History: Based on information from the Libertyville-Mundelein Historical Society and Sanborn fire insurance maps, the building was constructed c. 1950. The building housed Liberty Insurance through 1956, and the office of local optometrist Dr. Robert E. Sayers until his death in 1961. Dan the Key Man occupied the building after 1970.<sup>2</sup>

**117-125 E. Church Street  
Illinois Bell Building  
1943; 1956 and 1968 (additions)**

**Contributing**

Description: The Illinois Bell Building is a two-story Mid-century Modern office building with a roughly rectangular massing and flat roof with stone-capped parapet. The exterior of the building is covered with dark red brick cladding with limestone detailing. The front (north) elevation of the building features a slight projection along the second-story that ends near the west end of the elevation. Below the projection is the main entrance, located at the east end of the elevation. A row of four paired metal casement windows separated by wide stone-clad piers, extends west along the façade, and the wall below the windows is clad with stone panels. On the second story of the elevation, a horizontal row of five aluminum windows is centered along the projecting section of the elevation. The west elevation is regularly fenestrated with historic metal windows set within punched openings. Windows at the north half of the elevation are visually connected by a simple stone frame that adds horizontal emphasis. Stone frames also connect the pairs of first and second-story windows at the south end of the elevation. The west also features original metal windows that are regularly spaced along the north end of the elevation. A two-story brick addition (1968) projects from the center of the elevation.

The original 1943 building was a smaller one-story structure—a second story was added in 1956, and a two-story east addition was constructed in 1968. Later alterations include the replacement windows on the second story of the front façade, and the filling in of a small display window located east of the main entrance.

History: Before the construction of this building, the Illinois Bell Company operated out of a rented building located directly east of the current site. The new office building was erected in anticipation of increased demand for telephone services after World War II. By 1956, there were 164 Bell employees working in the village, and the company added a second story to the building to accommodate its office workers.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "About Our Lodge," Libertyville Lodge #492 website, accessed September 15, 2024 at <https://www.libertyvillemasons.com/about-our-lodge/>.

<sup>2</sup> Laura Hickey, Arlene Lane, and Sonia Schoenfeld, *Libertyville: Then and Now* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2010), 75.

<sup>3</sup> "The New Bell Telephone Company Building," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 12, 2024 at

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**122 E. Church Street  
1925; c. 1950 (addition)**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 122 E. Church Street is a two-story vernacular commercial building with substantial historic alterations dating between 1933 and 1955. The building exhibits a rectangular massing and flat roof with parapet. Research indicates that the original building was a one-story concrete block commercial structure that was built in 1925; a second story and two-story rear addition were added sometime between 1933 and 1948, and the two-story porch were added between 1948 and 1955. The exterior walls are covered with stucco. The front (south) elevation features a first-story storefront with a center entry flanked by two display windows. Transoms above the windows and entry appear to have been painted over. The second story of the façade is marked by a single window opening at its east end that contains a non-historic vinyl double-hung window. The two-story porch is located on the east elevation; a wall with a segmental-arch opening shields the first level of the porch from public view, and the second story features a shallow asymmetrical flat roof that partially covers the level. The wood railings on the second story of the porch are not historic—historic photographs show that the porch originally featured solid stucco-clad knee walls. East and west side elevations are stuccoed and regularly fenestrated with 1/1 double-hung replacement windows.

History: Sanborn Maps indicate that the building was originally a one-story concrete-block commercial building that housed two narrow storefronts. The building was purchased in 1943 by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bellendorf, and the second-story addition and two-story rear addition were likely made under their ownership. The building was occupied by Charlotte's Beauty Shop in the 1950s, and by the Village Press beginning in the early 2000s.<sup>4</sup>

**124 E. Church Street  
c. 1925  
Wilcox Press/Village Press Building**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 124 E. Church Street is a one-story concrete-block commercial building with a rectangular massing and flat roof. Almost the entire exterior of the building is covered with ivy, but historic photographs show the front façade clad with brick. The storefront configuration and materials are historic, with a center entrance flanked by two large, angled display windows topped by single-light transoms.

History: Sanborn fire insurance maps indicate that the building was constructed sometime between 1924 and 1933. The building was initially occupied by Wilcox Press, a local commercial printer. In 1945, the business was purchased by John and Elizabeth Pyle and renamed the Village Press sometime after. The Village Press still occupies the building.

**130 E. Church Street  
c. 1950**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 130 E. Church Street is a 1.5-story Minimal Traditional-style single-family residence constructed c. 1950. The building features square massing and a cross-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The exterior of the house is covered with aluminum siding. The front (south) façade features a center entrance covered by a small gable-roof canopy. A three-sided, hip-roof window bay is located directly east of the entrance. Although some historic 6/1 wood double-hung windows remain on the east elevation, the windows on the front and west elevation are 1/1 replacement windows.

History: Sanborn fire insurance maps indicate that the house was constructed sometime after 1948. The building appears to currently be zoned for business use.

**134-136 E. Church Street**

**Contributing**

<http://www.idaillinois.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/cookmemo11/id/2106/rec/9>).

<sup>4</sup> *Independent Register*, December 9, 1943, p. 1; "Charlotte's Beauty Salon," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 14 at <http://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/2113/rec/1>).

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**Weber Brothers Building**

**1955; c. 1965 (addition)**

**Architect: John Conville**

Description: The building at 134-136 E. Church Street was originally constructed as a one-story commercial building in 1955. A second story was added to the building c. 1965. The building is roughly rectangular in massing, with a flat roof. The front façade is covered with irregularly coursed ashlar stone. The first story features a recessed center entrance bay containing two historic doors leading to east and west commercial spaces. Flanking the entrance bay are two large display windows. Above the storefront level, a shallow, flat wood canopy runs across the façade. Two non-historic three-part windows are set within the historic openings on the second story of the facade; the façade between the windows is clad in red brick, and a continuous stone stringcourse (originally the stone cap on the parapet wall of the one-story building) runs below the windows at the sill level. The side elevations of the building are covered with vertical wood siding on the first story and red brick on the second story. Window openings are filled with glass block on the first story, and non-historic windows on the second story. Aluminum awnings have been installed over all second-story windows.

History: The building was originally occupied by Weber Brothers, local heating contractors who installed residential and commercial heating systems from 1946 to 1977. The building is currently occupied by Libertyville Cabinet Supply.

**140 E. Church Street**

**c. 1900**

**Contributing (house)**

**Non-contributing (detached garage)**

Description: The building at 140 E. Church Street is a two-story vernacular single-family residence constructed sometime between 1897 and 1907. The building is rectangular in plan, with a front-facing gable roof and brick foundation. The exterior is clad in aluminum siding that was installed in 1976. The front façade of the house contains a two-story, three-sided projecting bay at its west end, with a mansard roof at the top of the second story of the bay and asphalt siding covering the bay between the first and second stories. A one-story porch is located east of the two-story bay; the porch was enclosed sometime after 1948, and the mansard roof is not original. A square two-story bay with gable roof marks the west elevation, and a gable interrupts the roofline of the east elevation. Although some historic 1/1 wood double hung windows appear to remain toward the rear of the east elevation, most windows are 1/1 double-hung vinyl or aluminum replacement windows. A non-historic detached garage, built in 1976, is located toward the rear of the parcel, and accessed via a driveway that runs east of the house.

History: Sanborn maps show that the house was built sometime between 1897 and 1907.

**144 E. Church Street**

**Pre-1897**

**Contributing**

Description: The house at 144 E. Church Street is a one-story frame vernacular single-family residence that was built sometime before 1897. The building features a rectangular massing and broad front-gable roof. A one-story full-front porch with hipped roof extends across the front façade; the railing and porch deck appear to be later replacements. The entry is fitted with a historic paneled wood door with paired round-arch upper lights; a three-part window marks the front façade west of the entry. East and west elevations are regularly fenestrated with historic 2/1 vertical double-hung windows set within openings framed by simple classical surrounds. A long shed-roof dormer was constructed on the east slope of the roof in 1967, and a small one-story rear porch was built at the northwest corner in 2004.

History: The building appears on the earliest available Sanborn fire insurance company map from 1897, and visual evidence suggests it was likely constructed in the 1880s or 1890s.

**200 E. Church Street**

**Joseph's Flowers**

**1962; 1970 (addition)**

**Architect: Rodney Wright**

**Contributing**



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Description: The building at 200 E. Church Street, built to house Joseph's Flowers and completed in 1962, is a one-story Mid-century Modern freestanding commercial structure. The building features an irregular plan consisting of two offset rectangular forms connected by a shallow butterfly roof. A one-story square-shaped block with a flat roof is located at the northeast corner of the main section of the building, and a one-story garage addition with shed roof was constructed at its northwest corner in 1970. The sharply angled exterior walls of the building are unornamented and largely unfenestrated, except for a single vertical window set within a slightly projecting square bay on the front (south) elevation. The main entrance to the building faces west and is recessed behind the front wall of the building. A steeply pitched skylight in the shape of a triangular prism rises dramatically from the center of the roof; a large pyramidal skylight also tops a storage room at the rear of the building but is not visible from the public way. Alterations to the building appear to be limited to the 1970 garage, where the west-facing garage door opening was replaced with a secondary entrance and window.

History: The building at 200 E. Church Street was built in 1962 to house Joseph's Flowers, a local floral shop owned and operated by Joseph Dugo. Architect Rodney H. Wright designed the building to have a "'chapel-like' feeling," with a central interior courtyard illuminated by a striking prism-shaped skylight, served as the shop's sales and display area.<sup>5</sup> A second pyramidal skylight was installed at the rear storeroom, which was designed for growing orchids. Wright's later career was focused primarily on solar design; as president with the Hawkweed Group, in the late 1970s and early 1980s, Wright designed both passive and active solar houses and developments, including 20 solar-powered buildings in Soldier's Grove, Wisconsin and New Century Town in Vernon Hills, an early solar-powered residential development.<sup>6</sup> Wright also wrote *The Hawkweed Passive Solar House Book* in 1980, which detailed the firm's work with passive and active solar systems.

**107 W. Church Street  
c. 1915**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 107 W. Church Street is a one-story concrete-block commercial building constructed c. 1915. The building is rectangular in massing, with a flat roof. The front (north) façade of the building is clad in red face brick that has recently been painted. The storefront configuration is historic, with an offset entrance at the east end of the façade fitted with a wood door with glazed center panel topped by a single-light transom. A large display window extends across the façade west of the storefront entrance. At the far east end of the façade is a secondary entrance fitted with a wood door with center glazed panel topped by a three-light transom. The façade is topped by a stepped parapet with stone cap, which has also been painted. A large non-historic canopy and signage are located above the storefront. The exposed west elevation facing the alley is rusticated concrete block; regular window openings along the elevation feature soldier-course brick lintels and rowlock brick sills and have been filled with glass block.

History: Sanborn fire insurance maps indicate that the building operated as an auto parts shop through the 1940s. The building was occupied by Lake County Auto Parts from 1950 through the 1970s.<sup>7</sup>

**111-115 W. Church Street/345 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Just Motor Company/Independent Register Building  
1913**

**Non-contributing**

**1945 (115 W. Church St. west addition); 1952 (115 W. Church St. 2<sup>nd</sup> story addition)**

Description: The L-shaped building at 111-115 W. Church Street/345 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1913, and originally consisted of a one-story concrete block commercial/light manufacturing structure with frontage along W. Church Street and a one-story garage facing Milwaukee Avenue that extends east from the south end of the of the Church Street building.

<sup>5</sup> "Windowless Building Houses Florist's Shop," *Chicago Tribune*, November 6, 1967.

<sup>6</sup> "Fantastic. . . if they can get it to work," *Chicago Tribune*, May 2, 1978, 56; "The Solar People," *Chicago Tribune*, April 27, 1980, 180; "New Century Town Ahead of its Time," *Vernon Hills Village Voice*, Summer 2008, 7.

<sup>7</sup> "Lake County Auto Parts," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 14 at <https://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/2040/rec/1>).

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A one-story addition was built on the west side of 111-115 W. Church Street c. 1945, and a second story was added to the north end of the building in 1952. A historic photograph of the building from the mid-1950s shows the second story addition as Mid-Century Modern in style, with a long, horizontal window extending across the façade. The Church Street façade has subsequently been extensively remodeled, with new storefronts, new second-story windows on the second story of the front (north) façade, a cornice at the roofline, and a handicap ramp and steps at the front of the building. All elevations of the Church Street structure have also been painted.

The connected garage structure at 345 N. Milwaukee Avenue is roughly rectangular, with a wood-truss roof system and brick exterior walls. Historic photographs from the 1950s show the front façade with a recessed garage door at its center, flanked by a display window at the south end and a small storefront with entry and window at the north end. The façade above the storefront featured Commercial-style brick and stone detailing typical of the 1910s, with a stone-capped parapet wall. The façade was modified after the *Independent Register* moved into the building in 1960—two new Mid-Century Modern storefronts were installed, and the front parapet wall was raised. A one-story addition was constructed at the west end of the south elevation around this time.

The garage was again remodeled in 2012 when the restaurant Mickey Finn's moved into the building. The front façade was rebuilt with new openings, a metal and glass canopy over the entry, and a tall, stepped parapet; a shed-roof canopy and fence were also installed along the north elevation to accommodate an outdoor seating area.

History: Research by Sonia Schoenfield for the Libertyville Historical Society indicates that the one-story concrete block building at 111-115 W. Church Street and the, connected garage structure at 345 N. Milwaukee Avenue were built for local newspaper publisher Frank Just in 1913, and that Just operated the Just Motor Company out of the building through 1915. City directories from the mid-1920s list Keystone Printing Service as the occupant. In 1930, the local newspaper the *Libertyville Independent* and the *Lake County Register* merged to become the *Independent Register*, and the newspaper moved its operations to 111-115 W. Church Street, where it shared space with Hampton Greeting Cards, a company run by the son-in-law of *Independent Register* publisher Frank Just. The *Independent Register* moved its operations into the garage building in 1960, and the paper ceased publication in 1987.<sup>8</sup>

**121 W. Church Street  
Day-Buttemiller Clinic**

**c. 1910**

**c. 1950 and c. 1970 (alterations)**

**Contributing**

Description: Sanborn fire insurance maps indicate that the house at 121 W. Church Street was originally constructed sometime between 1907 and 1912. The house is a two-story frame structure with a roughly rectangular massing and a side gable roof. Historic photographs and Sanborn maps show that the building was originally clad with stucco; aluminum siding was installed in 1970. The north end of the building contains a one-story hip-roof projecting bay topped by a smaller second-story hip-roof bay—historic photographs show that the second-story bay was originally a sleeping porch, with a continuous row of windows across the front façade and wrapping around the side elevations. A portion of the first-story bay may also have originally been an open front porch that was enclosed before 1948. The current one-story north bay contains the main entrance at the west end of the north façade; the non-historic aluminum and glass door is set within the entrance opening, which features a simple painted wood surround. East of the entrance is a picture window that was installed in the late 1940s or early 1950s. All but the corner windows on the sleeping porch have been removed, and replacement windows installed in the remaining openings. All other windows also appear to have been replaced. These alterations were likely undertaken at the same time the aluminum siding was installed in 1970.

<sup>8</sup> Sonia Schoenfield on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society. "345 N. Milwaukee Avenue." Clío: Your Guide to History. August 29, 2020 (accessed September 27, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/113311>); *Libertyville: Then & Now*, 74.



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History: The house at 121 W. Church Street was in use as a single-family residence until 1940, when it was purchased by local physician Dr. George Buttemiller. Buttemiller converted the first floor of the building to use for his medical practice, and his family resided on the second floor. Although he had planned to build a separate office for his practice next door, Buttemiller instead moved his family out of the house and took over the entire building for use as a clinic. Dr. Buttemiller later expanded the practice, adding Dr. Lawrence C. Day as partner. Buttemiller retired in 1975.<sup>9</sup>

**125 W. Church Street  
St. Lawrence Episcopal Church  
1917 (original building)  
1963 & 2003 (additions)**

**Non-contributing**

Description: The St. Lawrence Episcopal Church is an English Gothic Revival-style church building constructed in 1917. The original building consisted of a brick church building facing north onto West Church Street and an attached one-story brick educational building that extended west from the southwest corner of the church building. The church building is roughly rectangular in shape, with a parapeted front gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The exterior is clad in dark red face brick. Centered on the front (north) façade is a one-story entrance bay with parapeted gable roof; the main entrance to the church is located within a smaller, bay that shallowly projects from the main entrance bay. A set of double-wood doors is fitted in the entrance opening, which features a telescoping brick surround. Small opalescent glass windows mark the east and west sides of the entrance bay; the window openings feature simple stone sills and pointed segmental-arch soldier-course lintels with center keystones. Opalescent glass windows with wood tracery are set within similar openings east and west of the entrance bay, and a larger window sits above the bay. The east elevation of the church features three large pointed segmental-arch window openings filled with opalescent stained-glass windows with wood tracery. The window openings are separated by decorative brick buttresses, and a larger buttress marks the northeast corner of the building. A square projecting bay is located at the south end of the church's east elevation, and features a parapeted gable roof, two small window openings at the approximate height of the other windows along the elevation, and a segmental arch opening near the top of the gable that has been boarded up.

The original 1917 educational building and most of the west elevation of the original church building have been completely obscured by subsequent additions – the historic 1968 addition wraps around the east, south, and west elevations of the original building, and a large addition extending from the west elevation of the church building was constructed in 2003.

History: The St. Lawrence Episcopal Church is located on the former site of the Union Church, which was constructed in 1868. The church building served as a meeting place for several congregations in Libertyville in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, including the St. Lawrence congregation, which was founded in 1908. St. Lawrence purchased the building from the Union Church in 1912. The congregation built the current church building when a fire destroyed the original Union Church structure in early 1917.<sup>10</sup>

**135 W. Church Street  
Libertyville Post Office  
1935**

**Contributing**

Description: The former Libertyville Post Office (now the Libertyville Civic Center) is a one-story Colonial Revival-style brick structure. The building is roughly rectangular, with a flat roof accented by a shallow hipped roof covered with slate shingles at the front (north) façade. The exterior of the building is red face brick with simple limestone detailing. The front façade of the building is symmetrical, with a center entrance flanked by two windows on each side. The entrance is fitted with a non-historic metal and glass door and transom and is encased by a classical surround with square pilasters topped with a wide entablature and broken pediment. The windows on the façade are non-historic 12/12 double-hung windows that match the configuration of the original windows. Window openings are topped with flat brick arches

<sup>9</sup> *Libertyville: Then & Now*, 73.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid*, 30; "St. Lawrence Episcopal Church," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 14 at <http://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/1294/rec/3>).

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marked with a center keystone. A brick soldier-course stringcourse runs across the façade just above the window openings, and a stone panel is centered at each window above the stringcourse. The northernmost bays at the side elevations of the original building feature windows and detailing seen on the façade, while the south sections of the elevations are more simply treated, with smaller 6/6 double-hung windows. A one-story addition was constructed at the rear of the building in 1993 and is in keeping with the design of the original building.

History: The Libertyville Post Office was completed in 1935 and was the first purpose-built post office in the village. Former post offices were operated out of postmasters' homes, and in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the post office was run out of a storefront on the east side of Milwaukee Avenue. The building served as the village post office until 1991, when a larger facility was constructed on Artaius Parkway.<sup>11</sup>

**111-113 E. Cook Avenue  
1956**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 111-113 E. Cook Avenue is a one-story vernacular commercial structure. The building is a one-part commercial block with a flat roof and attached party wall on its west side. The front (north) façade of the building is slightly concave and features two mirror-image storefronts with entrances at the center of the façade and storefront windows extending to its edges. The brick above the storefronts is covered with aluminum siding, but brick piers at the edges of the façade and the brick bulkheads below the storefronts are still visible. The awnings and signage above the storefront are non-historic.

History: The commercial block at 111-113 E. Cook Avenue was constructed in 1956. Early tenants included Scanlan's Paints, and House of Linen.

**112 E. Cook Avenue  
c. 1930**

**Non-contributing**

Description: The building at 112 E. Cook Avenue is a one-story brick commercial block located off Cook Street in the parking lot behind the 100 block of Cook Avenue and the 500 block of N. Milwaukee Avenue. The building is rectangular in plan and features a flat roof with brick parapet. Although comparison with historic photographs indicates that the storefront configuration—with a south-end entry and north-end storefront window that is flush with the façade—is historic, the entire façade at the storefront level has been covered with paneling, and the storefront now features a cornice, a new three-part storefront window with transoms, and a new recessed entry with paneled door and transom.

History: Sanborn fire insurance maps indicate that the building was built sometime between 1924 and 1933. Felix Antonevich opened a tavern in the building, named "the Island" due to its location in the parking lot behind Cook and Milwaukee Avenues, in 1967. The bar was called at various times, The Island Tavern, Island Bar, and Island Tap.<sup>12</sup>

**114 E. Cook Avenue  
c. 1940**

**Non-contributing**

Description: The building at 114 E. Cook Avenue is a one-story brick commercial block constructed c. 1940. The building is rectangular in form, with a flat roof and attached party wall on its east side. The front (south) façade of the building is common brick, with parged corner quoins at the southwest corner. Historic photographs show that the storefront configuration—with a west-end entrance and two display windows separated by a brick pier—is historic. The entrance door is non-historic, and the opening has been extended to accommodate a leaded-glass transom. An elaborate painted

<sup>11</sup> "Libertyville Post Office," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 14 at <http://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/8455/rec/3>).

<sup>12</sup> "Felix's Tavern," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 15 at <https://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/2004/rec/16>).

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cornice was added to the building in 1993, and retractable cloth awnings have been installed over the entry and windows of the storefront. The exposed west elevation is parged.

History: Sanborn fire insurance maps indicate that the building was constructed sometime between 1933 and 1948. The building was occupied by Motor Parts & Machine Company from the 1940s through the late 1960s.<sup>13</sup>

**116-118 E. Cook Avenue  
c. 1890-1895**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 116-118 E. Cook Avenue is a two-story commercial building constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The building is rectangular in form, with a flat roof and attached party walls on its east and west sides. The front façade of the building is painted brick. The storefront configuration dates from the 1950s and features an angled storefront entry and recessed 2<sup>nd</sup> story entry, with a Roman brick bulkhead below the storefront window and Roman brick piers at its east and west ends. The façade above the storefront has been covered with an awning over the storefront window and a painted wood panel above the second-story entry. Above the storefront, the façade is fenestrated with three 1/1 double-hung windows with what are likely stone sills and lintels, which have been painted. The façade is capped with a substantial classical cornice with corner brackets, modillions, and shell ornament in the entablature—the design of the cornice appears to match the cornice in historic photographs of the building but may have been rebuilt at some point. The east and west elevations visible above the part walls are of painted brick and regularly fenestrated with 1/1 double-hung windows set in segmental-arch openings.

History: According to available Sanborn fire insurance maps, the building was constructed sometime before 1897. The building was occupied in the late 1890s by a shoe store (Sanborn, 1897), and in the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by a saloon (Sanborn, 1907 and 1912). From the mid-1950s to the early 1960s, the first-floor storefront was home to The Record Shop, which also operated another location in Waukegan.<sup>14</sup>

**117 E. Cook Avenue  
Pre-1897**

**Contributing**

**1900-1905 (addition); 1956 (alterations)**

Description: The building at 117 E. Cook Avenue is a two-story brick commercial building with a rectangular footprint and flat roof with parapet. The front façade of the building was remodeled in 1958 and features an angled storefront level and second story. The storefront configuration on the first story, with an east-end entry and storefront windows with brick bulkhead, is historic, although the windows and door are more recent replacements. The window wall on the second story is also a historic configuration with replacement windows. A painted signage panel marks the façade above the storefront, and the façade above the second story is clad in aluminum. The exposed east elevation is brick at the two-story section of the building; the one-story addition at the rear (south), dating from 1966, is painted concrete block.

History: Sanborn fire insurance maps indicate that the building was originally a one-story brick structure occupied by a blacksmith's shop; a second story was added to the building sometime between 1897 and 1907. Sanborn maps from 1912, 1924, and 1933 show that the building continuously served as a blacksmith's shop through the early 1930s. The building was converted into an auto body shop sometime between 1933 and 1948. Smitty's Body Shop occupied the building between 1952 and 1959. Alterations to the façade were made in 1958.<sup>15</sup>

**119 E. Cook Avenue  
1955**

**Non-contributing**

<sup>13</sup> "Motor Parts & Machine Company," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 15 at <https://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/1953/rec/1>).

<sup>14</sup> "The Record Shop," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 15, 2024 at <https://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/2052/rec/1>).

<sup>15</sup> "Smitty's Body Shop," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 15, 2024 at <https://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/2045/rec/1>); Libertyville building permits.

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**1994 (alterations); 2003 (addition)**

Description: The building at 121 E. Cook Avenue was originally constructed as a one-story commercial block in 1955. Extensive alterations were made to the building in the 1990s and 2000s—the storefront level was remodeled in 1995 with new configuration including paneling, brackets, and dentiled cornice above the storefront windows; a second story was added to the building in 2003.

History: Permits indicate that the building was originally a concrete-block one-story commercial block.

**120 E. Cook Avenue**

**Non-Contributing**

**Pre-1897**

**1950 (alterations/addition); 1994 (alterations)**

Description: The building at 120 E. Cook Avenue is a one-story commercial structure. The building is rectangular in massing, with a flat roof and an attached party wall on its west side. The front façade of the building is painted brick, with a non-historic Fypon stringcourse above the signage and non-historic Fypon parapet cap that were added in 1994. Although the window and door openings at the storefront level appear to be historic, the classical surrounds were also added in the 1980s or 1990s. The exposed east elevation is painted concrete block.

History: Sanborn maps show a one-story frame structure at this site as early as 1897. Permits indicate that the building was substantially remodeled in 1950, and historic photographs from the mid-1950s show the façade with unpainted brick and with the current storefront window and door openings.

**121 E. Cook Avenue**

**Non-contributing**

**1955; 1994 (alterations)**

Description: The building at 121 E. Cook Street is a one-story concrete-block commercial block that was constructed in 1955 and extensively remodeled in 1994. The building is rectangular in massing, with a flat roof and attached party wall on its west side. The front façade of the building dates to 1994 and includes a storefront with a recessed entry at its west end and non-historic storefront window. The façade is covered in painted Dryvit stucco. The exposed east elevation is painted concrete block, with cloth awnings spaced evening along the top of the elevation.

History: The building was occupied by The Village Restaurant in the late 1950s and 1960s.<sup>16</sup>

**133 E. Cook Avenue**

**Non-contributing**

**Coy Lumber Company**

**c. 1925-30**

Description: The building at 133 E. Cook Avenue is a one-story, brick-clad, frame commercial building constructed sometime between 1924 and 1933. The building is roughly L-shaped, with a large garage addition extending east from the rear (south) of the building that was constructed in the early 2010s. Exterior walls are painted brick. The north end of the building features a side-gable roof with asphalt shingles and aluminum-clad eaves. The eyebrow dormer on the north slope of the roof dates from the early 2010s. The storefront at the front (north) façade of the building features a center entry flanked by two large display windows; the entry door and windows are recent replacements. Originally, the entrance door was recessed within the entrance opening, but the new door has been moved forward to be flush with the façade. The canopy over the storefront entrance was also installed in the early 2010s. The side elevations feature non-historic replacement windows, some of which may be in altered openings.

<sup>16</sup> "Village Restaurant," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 15, 2024 at <https://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/2112/rec/1>).

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History: Sanborn fire insurance maps show that the building is located on the former site of the G. H. Schanck & Son Elevator and Feed Mill, which operated through the 1910s. In the 1920s and 1930s, the site was taken over by Franzen Lumber, and the company built the building at 133 E. Cook Avenue as an office sometime between 1924 and 1933. Sherman Coy opened a lumber business at the building in the 1940s, and continued operation through the early 1960s.<sup>17</sup>

**118 W. Cook Avenue  
Libertyville Fire Station**

**1948**

**1993 (alterations); 2001 (rear tower addition)**

**Contributing**

Description: The former Libertyville Fire Station (now Libertyville Village Hall) is a 2.5-story brick building with Colonial Revival-style detailing constructed in 1948. The building exhibits a roughly rectangular massing and a red brick exterior. The broad front gable main roof features cornice returns and classical trim along the eaves. The corners of the main front-gable block are marked by decorative brick quoins. The front façade of the main block originally contained three garage bays with overhead doors, with three 8/8 double-hung wood windows with flat-arch brick lintels and stone sills centered over each garage bay at the second story. Although the garage doors were removed when the station was converted to the village hall, the original openings were left intact and filled with a series of 9/9 double-hung windows. Windows at the second story were also replaced but have kept the historic configuration. The round window opening near the top of the gable was also retained, but the window was replaced with metal louvers. The east elevation of the building retains the original gable-roof projecting bay located near the rear (north) of the original station—the exterior walls of the elevation are obscured with ivy. The square tower south of the bay was an early addition to the building—the village added the clocks and upper section to the tower in 1993. A gabled roof and new entry doors with transom were added to the entrance bay south of the bell tower in 1993, and a second tower with flat roof was added to the rear (northeast) corner of the building in 2001. Windows on this elevation are replacement but retain the historic configurations. The west elevation of the building has been minimally altered—replacement windows with historically appropriate configurations have been installed within the original window openings, and a single window opening near the center of the second story has been bricked in.

History: The Libertyville Fire Station was built in 1948 and replaced the earlier Village hall building on the site, which contained the village offices, fire station, jail, meeting rooms, and a library. The building was converted into the Village Hall in 1993.<sup>18</sup>

**115-125 Lake Street  
2007**

**Non-contributing**

Description: 115-125 Lake Street (625-633 N. Milwaukee Avenue) is a three-story mixed-use development that was completed in 2007.

**322-334 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Bartholomay Building**

**1924**

**Architects: Anderson & Ticknor, Xavier Vigeant**

**Contributing**

Description: The Bartholomay Building at 322-334 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story commercial structure with classical/Georgian Revival detailing. The building is rectangular in massing, with a flat roof and red-brick exterior walls. The front (west) façade is symmetrical, and composed of a wide, slightly projecting center section flanked by shorter sections at the north and south ends of the building. The center section contains a centered second-story entrance with a handsome classical stone surround that features engaged columns, fluted entablature, and open pediment. The entry door is a non-historic replacement door with center glazed panel and is topped with a historic fanlight transom set with a round-

<sup>17</sup> *Libertyville: Then & Now*, 16.

<sup>18</sup> "Libertyville Fire Station," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 15, 2024 at <https://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/1234/rec/1>).



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arch opening. Above the entry at the second floor are two oval windows. The entry is flanked by paired storefronts. The configuration of these storefronts appears historic, but storefront windows and doors are replacement. The second story above the storefronts at this section of the façade is regularly fenestrated with non-historic 6/6 double-hung windows set within the original openings, which feature flat-arch brick lintels with center keystones. The north and south ends of the elevation each contain a single storefront—configurations in these storefronts appear historic, but materials are replacement. The storefront in the south bay of the building is a corner storefront that contains a corner entry recessed behind a brick pier, and display windows on the west façade and south elevation. A three-sided oriel bay window is centered above the storefront of each end section, and each window bay is flanked by two blind round openings. A stone cornice extends across the entire façade below the parapet wall. The south façade, which faces onto Broadway Street, features a similar treatment to the façade, with the south display window of the corner storefront occupying the west end of the first story. Windows at the second story and the stone cornice are also identical to the façade.

History: The Bartholomay Building was designed by Lake Forest architects Anderson & Ticknor for Frank H. Bartholomay and completed in 1929. Stanley D. Anderson was a prominent North-Shore architect known primarily for his work in Lake Forest. Notable tenants included Joseph C. Reuse, a real estate developer and close associate to Samuel Insull, and Willis Overholser, who served as village attorney for Libertyville and Mundelein.<sup>19</sup>

**336 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
c. 1945**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 336 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story concrete-block commercial structure. The building is roughly rectangular in massing, with a flat roof. The front façade of the building is clad in red face brick and contains a single storefront with north end entry topped by a three-light transom window and three-light display window set flush with the façade. Although the storefront configuration is historic, the door, transom, and display windows are non-historic replacements. The storefront is topped by a retractable cloth awning and painted sign-board, which were added sometime after the mid-1950s.

History: Sanborn maps indicate that the building was constructed sometime between 1933 and 1948. In the 1950s, the building housed Huffman Milk and Grocery, which was established by Edwin Huffman and later managed by his son-in-law Ed Young.<sup>20</sup>

**338 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
c. 1950**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 338 N. Milwaukee Avenue, constructed c. 1950, is a one-story concrete-block commercial structure with rectangular massing and flat roof. The front façade is clad in red face brick and features a single storefront with a south-end entry and flush display window. Although the configuration of the storefront is historic, the materials are replacement. The awning and painted sign-board were installed sometime after the mid-1950s.

History: Sanborn maps and historic photographs of the building indicate that it was built sometime between 1948 and 1956. In the 1950s, the building housed Scottie's Restaurant and the Cardinal Bus Depot.<sup>21</sup>

**339 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Heritage Court  
1980**

**Non-contributing**

**Architect: Marvin Johnson**

<sup>19</sup> Mary Tompson on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society. "322-336 N. Milwaukee Avenue - The Bartholomay Building." Clío: Your Guide to History. September 1, 2020. (Accessed September 27, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/110478>).

<sup>20</sup> *Libertyville: Then & Now*, 52.

<sup>21</sup> "Scottie's Restaurant," Libertyville History Collection, Illinois Digital Archives (accessed September 27, 2024 at <https://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/cookmemo11/id/1229/rec/1>).

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Description: Heritage Court is a Neo-Tudor-style strip mall designed by Marvin Johnson and completed in 1980. The building features an arcaded lower level along its south elevation, which allows easy access to offices from the adjacent parking lot. The building is topped by a mansard roof clad with wood shingles and regularly punctuated by hipped-roof dormer windows.

History: Heritage Court was constructed on the former site of the Libertyville Flower Company, which was operated by Emil and Lydia Mesenbrink at this location from the late 1930s to the late 1950s. The property was later used as a parking lot for various local auto dealerships.<sup>22</sup>

**340-354 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Public Service Building  
1928**

**Architect: Hermann Valentin von Holst**

**Contributing  
National Register Listed (1983)**

Description: The Public Service Building, completed in 1928, is two-story mixed-use commercial, residential and office building designed by prominent German-born Chicago architect Hermann Valentin von Holst. The building is roughly L-shaped, with a flat main roof that is largely hidden from the public way by a narrow gable roof clad in slate shingles that hugs the facades on the west and north sides of the building. The exterior is clad in stucco, with brick and stone detailing at the first story-storefronts and its south-center and northwest corner towers. The building exhibits an eclectic mix of architectural styles, but much of the exterior detailing is a combination of Tudor Revival and Spanish Plateresque. The first story contains seven storefronts along its west and north elevations, with most featuring single-light display windows set within pointed segmental arches with irregularly-edged brick surrounds. The former storefront for Samuel Insull's Libertyville Trust & Savings Bank, located near the north end of the west façade, features an elaborate stone surround with banded pilasters topped with pointed pinnacles. The south-center tower on the west façade originally marked the entrance to a central arcade and rear courtyard that have since been removed. The tower features a curving, four-sided bell-shaped roof, and a center parapet the contains an illuminated clock. The northwest corner tower features a two-story gable-roof bay that projects from its north wall, and a cupola and lantern rise from behind its stepped parapet. Both the center-south and northwest towers feature irregular brick detailing at their window openings and corners.

A restoration on the Public Service Building was undertaken in the early 1980s to address alterations that had been made to the building over time, most notably the replacement of the stone storefront with a modern marble-clad storefront in 1955. Additional work on the interior of the building restored sections of the first floor and the second-floor offices. A drive-up banking window with canopy that was installed on the east elevation in 1975 was retained.<sup>23</sup>

History: The Public Service Building was constructed for utilities magnate Samuel Insull, who had worked with Thomas Edison for over a decade before moving to Chicago in 1892 to serve as president of The Chicago Edison Company. Over the ensuing decades, Insull built an empire that included utility companies, banks, and substantial shares in electric interurban lines. Insull moved to Libertyville in 1907 and built an estate just outside of the city. In the early 1910s, he ran lines from the North Shore Electric station in Lake Bluff to small towns—including Libertyville—as well as to select farms in the area, and soon after formed the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, which oversaw the electrification of rural areas in the northern part of the state.<sup>24</sup>

In 1928, Insull relocated the Public Service Company's headquarters to a new building in downtown Libertyville, a building he hoped would "establish the character and improve the artistic appearance of the business district."<sup>25</sup> Hermann Valentin von Holst, who served as architect for Insull, the Public Service Company, and Commonwealth Edison from

<sup>22</sup> Sonia Schoenfield on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society. "339 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Heritage Court." Clío: Your Guide to History. September 9, 2020 (accessed September 27, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/113962>).

<sup>23</sup> National Register of Historic Places, Public Service Building, Libertyville, Lake County, Illinois, NR reference #83003581, Section 7, Page 2.

<sup>24</sup> Jenny Barry, "One-Man Town," Cook Memorial Public Library District website (accessed September 27, 2024 at <https://www.cooklib.org/one-man-town/>).

<sup>25</sup> National Register of Historic Place, Public Service Building, Section 8, Page 2.

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1907-1932, designed the building in an eclectic style that differentiated it from the typical late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century commercial blocks in Libertyville's downtown, and it remains a singular structure within the Village.<sup>26</sup>

**355-357 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Libertyville Hotel  
1896**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 355-357 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story Queen Anne-style commercial block that was constructed in 1896. The building sits on a prominent corner lot, with principal facades facing east onto N. Milwaukee Avenue and north onto W. Church Street. The exterior walls are red face brick, with stone stringcourses extending across both principal facades at the sill and lintel level of the second-story windows. The roof is flat, with a painted classical cornice with dentil trim running on both principal facades at the top of the building, and a paneled cornice running just below. The building features a five-sided second-story tower topped with a multi-sided conical roof at its northeast corner, and two three-sided oriel bays roughly centered along the west and north facades. Both the tower and bays are ornamented with festooned panels above the windows.

The first story contains two storefronts—a corner storefront wraps around the west and north elevations of the building, and a second storefront is located at the south end of the west façade. The corner storefront retains its historic configuration, with a recessed corner entrance underneath the northeast polygonal tower and large storefront windows on the west and east facades; the configuration of the south-end storefront is also historic, with a recessed center entry flanked by storefront bays. The second-story entrance is located between the storefronts on the west façade. The second-story entrance and storefronts are framed by historic cast-iron pilasters and lintels, and the entrance to the south-end storefront features slender cast-iron columns. The wood storefront windows, transoms, and doors, as well as the paneled wood bulkheads, appear historic, or may be the result of a mid-1990s restoration. A secondary entrance is located at the west end of the north façade.

The second story at the west and north facades is regularly fenestrated with 1/1 double hung replacement windows set within their original openings. The south elevation also features what appear to be replacement windows in original openings.

History: The Queen Anne commercial block at 355-357 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1896 for prominent merchant James Triggs, and for over 20 years (1897-c. 1919) the building housed the Libertyville Hotel. After the hotel closed, the building housed a number of auto-sales companies through the 1930s. Samuel Insull's Libertyville Trust & Savings Bank temporarily occupied the building before the completion of the Public Service Building across the street in 1928, and the Libertyville Chamber of Commerce occupied the south storefront from 1950 to 1959.<sup>27</sup>

**400-404 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
1956  
Architect: Henry Tideman**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 400-404 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story Mid-century Modern commercial block completed in 1956. The building is rectangular in massing, with flat roof with stone-capped parapet and red brick exterior walls on the Church Street (south) and Milwaukee Avenue (west) elevations. The building contains two storefronts—a corner storefront at its south end and a second storefront at its north end. The corner storefront features a recessed corner opening and plate-glass display windows on the west and corner elevations. The corner of the building is cantilevered over the storefront entry. The storefront contains its original aluminum storefront windows, which are set atop a stone-capped, Roman brick bulkhead. The wood storefront door features a center glazed panel and is topped with a single-light

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Laurie Stein on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society. "355-357 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Libertyville Hotel." Clío: Your Guide to History. September 13, 2020 (accessed September 30, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/108999>).



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wood transom—both the door and transom appear to be later replacements. The north storefront is set back slightly—historic photographs show that the south windows of this storefront were originally angled slightly toward the entrance and were reconstructed in their current location sometime in the late 1970s or 1980s—and features an entry with aluminum and glass doors and transom flanked by aluminum display windows set on top of a stone-capped brick bulkhead. A narrow accent wall of Roman brick marks the north end of the building and extends well beyond the parapet height. Non-historic signage is located above the north storefront, and a cloth awning covers the corner storefront. The south elevation of the building east of the corner storefront is unfenestrated.

History: The building at 400-404 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1956 and designed by Henry Tideman. The building's first tenants were Jay's shoes and Julian's Menswear. Julians (later known as Julian-Redman's after proprietor Julian Flegelman partnered with Chicago menswear store Redman's in 1968) remained in the building until the late 1980s. Jay's Shoes, which operated stores in Chicago and Skokie, remained in the building through the 1960s; the storefront was later occupied by Fenwick Shoes, realty company Baird & Warner, and Horoscope Hair Design and Nail Salon. Murphy's Health Food and Juice Bar, which currently occupies the space, opened in the building in 1996.<sup>28</sup>

**406-410 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Kaiser Building  
1904**

**Contributing**

Description: The Kaiser Building is a Queen Anne-style commercial block constructed in 1904 for local businessman Charles H. Kaiser. The building is two stories tall, with a rectangular massing, flat roof, and attached party walls on its north and south sides. The front façade of the building contains a center second-story entrance flanked by two deeply recessed storefronts—historic photographs of the building indicate that the configurations of the storefronts date from before the 1950s (likely 1940s or early 1950s), but the materials are later. The large signboard above the storefronts also dates from the 1940s or 1950s. The façade above the storefront level is a dark honey-colored brick, with rough-faced stone stringcourses that run at the sill and lintel levels of the second-story windows. The north and south ends of the façade are marked by two three-sided oriel bays clad in highly ornamented sheet metal. The cornice at the top of the façade is also sheet metal, with a center panel that reads "C. H. Kaiser." in raised lettering. The Illinois State Historic Preservation Office has identified the bays and cornice as "Meskers," embossed sheet metal components for commercial produced in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century by the Mesker Brothers Iron Works in St. Louis and George L. Mesker Company in Evansville, Indiana.<sup>29</sup> Windows on the second story of the façade are non-historic 1/1 double-hung replacement windows set within original openings.

The exposed second story of the building's south elevation is common brick, and features a narrow, slightly recessed lightwell at its center. Windows in the light well are non-historic 1/1 double hung windows set within original openings.

History: The Kaiser Building was constructed in 1904 for Charles H. Kaiser, who operated a harness shop in the village for over forty years and served as a village trustee in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Early tenants included Young and Lynch Bros Furniture and Undertakers (1908-1911), Ray Furniture and Paint (1911-1923), and a tailoring business run by John Cichy, which later became Libertyville Cleaners and Tailors (1923-1955). In the mid-to-late 1920s, the north storefront was subdivided, and Jordan Shoes operated out of the northern half of the storefront from 1916 to 1958. Tenants in the south storefront included the North Shore Gass Company (c. 1910-1947), Geary and Cooper Electrical Supply (1947-1955), and Parkside Liquor (1956-c.1990), which expanded into all of the building's storefronts in the 1970s.<sup>30</sup>

<sup>28</sup> Heather Johnson on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society. "400 - 404 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Julian's Menswear/Jays Shoes." Clío: Your Guide to History. August 27, 2020 (accessed September 30, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/113074>).

<sup>29</sup> "Sheet-Metal Facades by Mesker Companies," Illinois Historic Preservation Division website (accessed September 30, 2024 at <https://dnrhistorical.illinois.gov/preserve/gotmesker.html>).

<sup>30</sup> Heather M. Johnson on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "406 - 410 N. Milwaukee Avenue - C. H. Kaiser Building," Clío: Your Guide to History. September 14, 2020. (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/114206>).

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**412 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Hanby Building**

**c. 1900**

**Contributing**

Description: The Hanby Building at 412 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story brick commercial block constructed around 1900. The building is L-shaped in form, with a flat roof and brick exterior. The original building consists of the rectangular block built to the lot line at the south end of the parcel; a two-story addition, which wraps around the northeast of the original building and is set far back from the sidewalk, was constructed in 1994. Historic photographs and Sanborn maps show that the building originally had a small, triangular-shaped, one-story section attached to its north side—decorative brickwork at the top of the section's façade indicates that it was likely built at the same time as the two-story block or was an early addition. Historic photographs indicate that this small one-story section was removed to make way for the driveway and driveway canopy for the A & P supermarket at 416 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

The front façade of the original two-story block contains a single storefront. The arrangement of the storefront—which features the second-story entrance at its south end and storefront with south-end entry and flush storefront window—dates from before the 1950s. The materials date from a 1994 remodeling. The façade above the storefront is buff-gray face brick, with decorative brick corbeling above the second-story windows. A three-sided window bay marks the north end of the façade at the second story, and a single window is located at the south end. Windows are 1/1 double-hung aluminum replacement sash set within the original openings. The exposed second story at the north elevation is common brick, with two 1/1 double-hung aluminum windows set within the original segmental-arch openings.

The two-story northwest addition was built in 1994 and is set far back from the public way. The front façade of the addition mimics the design of the original two-story block, with regular window openings at the second story and corbeled brickwork at the cornice level. The one-story, flat-roofed dining area extends from the addition to the sidewalk and also dates from the 1994 remodeling. Although these additions are substantial, they have a minimal impact on the historic appearance of the two-story block to the south.

History: The building at 412 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed around 1900 for Lewis Hanby a New York native who settled in Libertyville in the early 1870s. The building was occupied for over 40 years by the Park View Tavern, which opened in 1933 and closed in the mid-1970s. Flagg's Tavern occupied the building until 1983, and Mickey Finn's operated out of the building from 1993 until 2012.<sup>31</sup>

**413 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Ansel B. Cook House/Cook Memorial Library**

**1878 (original house); 1921 (alterations)**

**1968 (first library addition)**

**2011 (second library addition)**

**Contributing**

**National Register Listed (2001)**

Description: The former Ansel B. Cook House is located at the west end of Cook Park in the center of downtown Libertyville. The house, which was originally constructed in 1878 and remodeled during its conversion to the Cook Memorial Public Library in 1920-1921, is a 2.5-story frame structure with a steeply pitched hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. The exterior walls of the house, which were originally clad in wood siding, were covered in stucco in 1921. The front (east) façade of the house was also remodeled as part of the library conversion—the front porch at the first story removed, and a double-height Neo-Classical portico with a flat roof supported by four round columns was installed. Two original front-facing gable windows, including a large north-end dormer clad in wood shingles and a second, smaller south-end dormer with ornamental scrollwork, were retained, as well as five brick chimneys located on the north and south slopes of the roof and on the ridge of the rear gable. The front entrance is set within a two-story projecting square bay under the porch and contains a set of heavy paneled wood doors topped by a narrow single-light

<sup>31</sup> Heather Johnson on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "412 N. Milwaukee Avenue," Clío: Your Guide to History, July 9, 2022 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/110315>).

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skylight. The south elevation contains a two-story polygonal bay that is roughly centered on the elevation and topped by a multi-sided hipped roof. A secondary entrance is located west of the bay and opens into the dining room. The north elevation also contains a secondary entrance that leads to the basement.

The front (east), north, and south elevations are regularly fenestrated with historic 1/1 double-hung wood windows set within openings that feature classical surrounds with decorative corner blocks and dentiled cornices. The front façade contains several grouped windows that are separated by fluted wood pilasters, and many of the windows on the façade are also topped with single-light wood transom windows. A classical, dentil-topped frieze runs just under the roofline.

In 1968, a one-story Midcentury Modern-style addition was constructed west/northwest of the original house and joined to the house via a discrete one-story connector at its rear elevation. Designed by Cone & Dornbusch, the addition is low and horizontal, with a flat roof and unornamented red brick exterior walls that are punctuated by large expanses of windows on sections of the east and west elevations. The center and northeast sections of the addition rise slightly above the rest of the building, and feature flat cantilevered roofs with narrow clerestory windows directly below. A second library addition, completed in 2011, extends west from the north end of the 1968 addition, and was designed to mimic the original addition's design.

History: The house at 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed for Ansel B. Cook, one of the most prominent citizens of Libertyville in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Cook purchased the land on which the house was built from his father-in-law Dr. Jesse H. Foster in 1870—the property was formerly home to a cabin built by George Vardin in 1835, which was the first permanent non-native dwelling in what would later become Libertyville. Cook began work on his country estate, which included the house, outbuildings, and a formal garden, in the early 1870s, and work was completed on the house in 1878. Cook remained in the house until his death in 1898, and his widow, Emily Barrows Cook, lived there until her death in 1919.<sup>32</sup>

Following her husband's earlier direction, Emily Cook willed the house to the Village of Libertyville for use as a public library and memorial hall. The house was remodeled and opened to the public as the Cook Memorial Library in November 1921. Plans to expand the library were prepared by architect J. E. O. Pridmore in 1939 but were never executed. In 1963, facing severe overcrowding, the library board unveiled plans by architects Cone & Dornbusch for a new library addition that would expand north and west from former Cook house, as well as alterations to the house itself. After a public outcry, revised plans for an addition that was set back from and minimally connected to the house were approved, and the addition was completed in 1968. A second addition extending from the 1968 addition was completed in 2011.<sup>33</sup>

**413 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Cook Park**

**1921**

**Contributing (site)**

Description: Cook Park is a roughly 6.5-acre public park located at the center of Libertyville's downtown. The park consists of a grassy lawn bisected by brick- and concrete-paved walkways and planted with mature deciduous trees that cluster primarily around the edges of the park. Brick- and concrete-paved sidewalks run along the north, south, and east sides of the park, and two diagonal walkways lead from the northeast and southeast corners to a small round plaza that marks the entrance to the former Ansel B. Cook House (now the Libertyville-Mundelein Historical Society). Smaller, curving walkways run north and south from the plaza, connecting it to seating areas and to the modern playground at the southwest corner of the park. Semicircular seating areas and flower beds are also regularly placed along the diagonal walkways. Directly north and south of the center plaza is a rose garden, which was planted by the Men's Garden Club in 1952 and is now maintained by the Gardeners Club of Central Lake County. Painted metal streetlights line the edges of the park, and a flagpole is located south of the plaza. A blue star memorial sign is installed in a flower bed near the southeast corner of the park.

<sup>32</sup> National Register of Historic Places, Cook Memorial Library, Libertyville, Cook County, Illinois, NR reference #01000867, Section 8, Pages 19-21.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid, Section 7, Pages 5-6.

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History: The land that contains Cook Park is the site of the first permanent non-native dwelling in what would later become Libertyville, erected by George Vardin in 1835. The land was purchased by Ansel B. Cook in 1870 and served as the grounds of Cook's house (now home to the Libertyville Historical Society) through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Upon the death of Cook's wife Emily Barrows Cook in 1919, the grounds were left to the Village of Libertyville for use as a public park.<sup>34</sup>

A Civil War canon was installed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the park but was removed during World War II. The park also contained tennis courts in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century that were removed in the early 1950s.<sup>35</sup>

**416 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
A & P Supermarket  
1949**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 416 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story commercial structure completed in 1949. The building features a rectangular massing, with a flat roof and red-brick-clad exterior walls. The building's front (west) façade is outlined by a projecting aluminum-clad frame that houses recessed lighting fixtures along its top edge. A long aluminum storefront with a stacked brick bulkhead occupies the lower section of the façade and includes a shallow flat-roof canopy above the entrance at its south end. Historic photographs show that a second entrance was located at the west end of the building's south elevation, which was originally exposed and opened onto a driveway leading to a rear parking lot. A sign supported by brick piers also extended over the driveway but has since been removed to accommodate the addition to 412 N. Milwaukee Avenue. The façade above the storefront level is unfenestrated and historically contained signage for A & P and for Arden's Furniture Store.

History: The building at 416 N. Milwaukee Avenue was built in 1949 by the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company (also known as A & P), which at the time operated thousands of grocery stores throughout the United States. The Libertyville A & P was one of the largest in Lake County when it opened and remained in the building until 1973. Arden's Furniture and Design purchased the building and remained in operation until 2011.<sup>36</sup>

**426 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Petranek's Pharmacy  
1956; 1993 (alterations)**

**Non-contributing**

Description: The building at 426 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story commercial structure built in 1956 for Petranek Pharmacy. The building is rectangular in massing, with a flat roof and attached party walls on its north and south sides. The front (west) façade of the building retains its original concave Midcentury Modern storefront, with large aluminum display windows and a center entrance with aluminum and glass doors and large single-light transom. An irregularly coursed stone bulkhead marks the storefront below the windows, and a narrow stone end wall is located north of the storefront against the adjacent building. The façade above the storefront originally contained a simple framed space for signage; in 1993, the upper level of the façade was remodeled, and now includes a Dryvit-clad wall with a prominent center pediment that rises above the original roofline, as well as Dryvit-clad piers at either side of the storefront.

History: The building at 426 Milwaukee Avenue was built for pharmacy owner Louis Petranek in 1956, after a fire destroyed the two-story commercial building that had occupied the site since 1882. Informally called Knight's Block, the earlier building had housed a pharmacy begun in 1872 and operated by F. B. Kimball and Fremont C. Knight through the late 1880s and was later purchased by Frank Lovell. F. B. Lovell & Co. operated out of Knight's Block until 1948, when Louis Petranek purchased the business. After a fire in 1954 necessitated the demolition of Knight's Block, Petranek built a

<sup>34</sup> Jenny Barry on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "Cook Park," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 14, 2020, (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/111975>).

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> Heather M Johnson on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society and Jenny Barry, "416 N. Milwaukee Avenue - A & P," Clío: Your Guide to History, November 22, 2023. (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/111304>).

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new modern building, which included a restaurant and soda fountain and a banquet room on the lower level, in 1956. Although Petranek retired in 1960, the pharmacy continues operation in the building under the name Petranek's Pharmacy.<sup>37</sup>

**428-432 N. Milwaukee Avenue/107-109 E. Cook Avenue  
Triggs & Taylor Building  
1896**

**Contributing**

Description: The Triggs & Taylor Building is a two-story Queen Anne-style commercial block that was completed in 1896. The building features a rectangular massing, flat main roof with brick parapet, and an attached party wall on its south side. The west façade originally contained a single storefront, which was divided into two separate storefronts in the early 1950s. The 1950s storefronts have since been reconfigured to more closely resemble the original storefront configuration, with a recessed center entry bay that acts as a point of entry for both storefronts. Elements of the original storefront include the cast iron support at the northwest corner and the cast-iron lintel. The entrance to the second floor is in its original location at the south end of the façade and contains a historically compatible wood door with center glazed panel and a large single-light transom. The façade around the second-floor entrance opening features light red brick quoining and rough-face stone stringcourses.

Above the storefront level, the west façade is highly ornamented, with dark face brick walls accented with pale red decorative brickwork, rough-face stone stringcourses, and a pressed metal entablature and cornice that run just below the parapet wall. The northwest corner of the building is dominated by a second-story polygonal tower clad with ornamental pressed metal and topped with a multi-sided peaked roof. The pressed-metal covering is elaborately ornamented with acanthus leaves, swags, wreaths, and foliate motifs. The north elevation is treated more simply, with a dark red brick exterior wall divided by horizontal rough-cut stone stringcourses and a pale red brick dentil pattern just below the pressed-metal cornice. Although no historic photographs of the complete north elevation were found during research, the presence of a cast-iron lintel and the coloring of the brick below suggests that there may have been a display window on this elevation.

A one-story masonry addition (107-109 E. Cook Avenue) was constructed at the rear of the building facing E. Cook Avenue c. 1900 – this addition was initially used as storage space for Triggs' and Taylor's dry goods store and was converted to a separate commercial space c. 1950. The addition features a flat roof and red-brick façade with a stone stringcourse above the existing storefront level. The two storefronts in the addition date from the 1950s—each storefront features an offset entry fitted with glass and aluminum doors at its east end, and a single aluminum storefront window that is flush with the façade. Transom windows above the entries and storefront windows are filled with painted boards, and an original cast-iron lintel remains above the east storefront of the addition.

Windows on the second story of the building appear to be vinyl 1/1 double-hung replacement windows set within original openings. Several small windows at the first story of the north elevation have also been bricked in.

History: The Triggs & Taylor building was constructed for J. Eli Triggs and Charles W. Taylor, owners of a successful grocery and dry goods store in Libertyville from the early 1890s to the early 1930s. The brothers-in-law and business partners constructed a two-story commercial building for their store at the southeast corner of Milwaukee and Cook Avenues in 1892. The building was destroyed in a fire that damaged a substantial portion of the east side of Milwaukee Avenue on August 31, 1895, and Triggs and Taylor constructed the current building in the same location the following year. In 1914, ownership of the business passed to their sons, Ross Triggs and Ross Taylor; Taylor later sold his share to A. L. Johnson, and Triggs & Johnson continued operating the grocery store until Johnson sold his shares to Triggs. When Triggs Market moved out of the building in 1933, A & P operated out of the storefront until its new purpose-built store was completed in 1949.

<sup>37</sup> Jenny Barry on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "426 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Petranek's," Clio: Your Guide to History, September 11, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/111517>).



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Notable tenants of the upstairs office spaces included Dr. John Taylor, who practiced medicine in the village for 50 years. Taylor also served as Lake County coroner and helped to found Condell Hospital.<sup>38</sup>

**500 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Schanck Building  
c. 1900  
1956/1990s (alterations)**

**Non-contributing**

Description: The Schanck Building at 500 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story masonry commercial building that was constructed between 1897 and 1903. The building is rectangular in form, with a flat roof and attached party wall on its north side. The building features two street facing elevations—the front (west) façade of the building faces N. Milwaukee Avenue, and the south elevation faces E. Cook Avenue. The current appearance of the front façade and the west 15 feet of the south façade date to 1993. In 1956, the façade was cut back from the street five feet to conform to current village codes, and the entire front was remodeled in a modern style, which featured a recessed section at the center of the second story flanked by large aluminum windows on either side. The storefronts on the building were also reconfigured into a single storefront and modernized with new aluminum storefront windows and doors, and the second story windows on the south elevation filled with concrete blocks. In 1993, the building was remodeled again. The aluminum windows on the second story were replaced with more traditional 1/1 double-hung windows with concrete lintels that referenced the original design, and a dentiled fyon cornice was added at the top of the building that referenced the original brick corbeled cornice. A wide entablature and cornice were also added at the storefront level, and historically-appropriate 1/1 windows were installed in the second-story window openings.

History: The building at 500 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed for George H. Schanck, a local businessman, to replace his original hardware store building after the 1895 fire. Schanck's hardware store, which he founded in 1870, was the largest in Lake County. George Schanck's descendants continued operation of the store at 500 N. Milwaukee Avenue through the early 1960s, operating most of that time out of the north storefront. The south storefront was occupied by a variety of menswear stores throughout the early and mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Paul Hesse, who operated an Ace Hardware in Libertyville, purchased Schanck Hardware in the early 1960s, and continued to run the business as an Ace Hardware until he opened a new store outside of the downtown in 1966.<sup>39</sup>

**501-505 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Lake County Bank  
1894**

**Non-contributing**

Description: The former Lake County Bank Building is a two-story masonry commercial block constructed in 1892. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and an attached party wall on its north side. The building features two street-facing elevations, with the principal façade facing west onto N. Milwaukee Avenue and the south façade facing W. Cook Avenue. Originally, the building featured two storefronts separated by a center second-floor entrance on its first story. The second story of the façade contained a three-sided oriel bay with clad with pressed metal and topped with a conical roof at its south end; a three-part window and single double-hung window marked the façade at its north end, and the entire façade was capped with a pressed metal cornice. Sometime between 1956 and 1976, the building was remodeled with new storefronts that featured aluminum windows and doors and stone bulkheads and end walls; the oriel bay at the second story was removed, the second-story windows were reconfigured into a more regular fenestration pattern, and the exterior of the second story was clad in faux half-timbered stucco and a mansard roof. The mansard roof and stucco were removed in 2011 and replaced with brick cladding, and the storefronts were remodeled in a more traditional style.

<sup>38</sup> Mary Andrew on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "428-432 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Triggs & Taylor," Clío: Your Guide to History, May 12, 2021 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/111770>).

<sup>39</sup> Jenny Barry and Melissa Phillips on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "500 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Schanck Building," Clío: Your Guide to History, August 24, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/108974>).

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Name of Property

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County and State

History: The building at 501-505 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1894 to house the Lake County Bank, the first bank in Libertyville. In 1922, the bank constructed a new building next door at 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue and moved from 501-505 N. Milwaukee into its new quarters in early 1923. Titus Brothers Electrical Contractors purchased the building in 1924 and occupied the south storefront (501) through the mid-1970s. The north storefront (505) housed a variety of businesses through, including a barber, cigar factory, and Bielat's five and dime store.<sup>40</sup>

**507 N. Milwaukee Avenue**  
**Lake County National Bank/  
First Lake County National Bank**  
**1923**  
**1969 (alterations)**  
**c. 1985 (restoration)**

**Contributing**

Description: The Lake County National Bank Building at 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story bank building originally constructed in 1923. The building was extensively renovated in the late 1960s and was later restored back to its original appearance in the mid-1980s. As it stands today, the building's front façade is clad in red face brick and features a slightly projecting center entrance portico topped by a substantial pediment with dentil trim. The main entrance is recessed within the portico, and the entrance opening is marked by two oversized fluted cast-stone columns. The metal and glass entry doors are topped by a multi-light transom, and the doorway is encased with a stone-clad surround that extends to a three-part window above. Large 6/6 double-hung windows set within stone surrounds mark the north and south ends of the façade on either side of the portico. A low cast stone stringcourse extends along the entire façade at the sill level of the windows, and a brick stringcourse runs near the top of the façade at its north and south ends. The east end of the exposed north elevation features a similar treatment as the front façade, with red brick cladding and stone and brick stringcourses. The center section of the elevation is painted brick and is regularly fenestrated with aluminum windows protected by cloth awnings. The west end of the north elevation and the rear elevation, which faces onto a parking lot, have been remodeled into a separate public-facing façade; this section of the building features blonde brick, and the rear façade features a decorative cornice and regularly-spaced 1/1 double-hung windows on its second story, and a recessed arcade supported by fluted pillars at its ground-floor level.

History: The Lake County National Bank Building purchased the property at 507 N. Milwaukee from C. H. Kaiser in 1920, and construction of a new fire-proof bank building commenced on the site in 1922. Construction was completed in 1923, and soon after the bank moved from its former headquarters at 501 N. Milwaukee Avenue. The bank survived the Great Depression by merging with the First National Bank of Libertyville in 1933, and continued to operate in the building through 1968, when it moved to a new facility at Cook Avenue and Brainerd Street.

In 1969, the building was purchased by Modine Manufacturing Company, a radiator manufacturer, for use as an office. The company extensively remodeled the building in a contemporary style—photographs of the remodeled structure from the mid-1970s show that, while the overall massing was retained, all of the classical detailing on the building was removed, the exterior clad in what appears to be minimalist stone paneling, and the upper section of the portico was squared off and extended into a cantilevered rectangular block with clerestory openings at its base.

In the mid-1980s, Don and Shirley Mayworm, owners of Mayworm Associates healthcare publishers, bought the building and undertook a restoration, bringing the front façade of the building back to its original appearance. The Mayworms later sold the building to Wintrust, which opened the Libertyville Bank & Trust in the building in the mid-1990s.<sup>41</sup>

**508 N. Milwaukee Avenue**  
**H. B. Eger Building**  
**1896/1906**

**Contributing**

<sup>40</sup> Lisa Marie Smith on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "501 - 505 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Lake County Bank Building," Clio: Your Guide to History. September 14, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/112210>).

<sup>41</sup> Laurie Stein on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "507 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Lake County Bank II," Clio: Your Guide to History, September 14, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/113463>).

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Name of Property

Lake Co., Illinois

County and State

**1963 (alterations); 1994 (rehabilitation)**

Description: The building at 508 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story masonry commercial structure built in 1896, with a rear addition built in 1906. The building is rectangular in massing, with a flat roof and attached party walls at its north and west sides. The front façade of the building features a single storefront with a recessed entrance at its south end and a storefront window with paneled bulkhead at its north end. Materials at the storefront level date from the 1994 rehabilitation of the building. A cloth awning covers the storefront, and a sign reading “Townee Square Restaurant” is located just under the second-story windows. The second story of the façade is divided from the first floor with a stone stringcourse and is regularly fenestrated with three double-hung windows fitted within original openings that feature heavy stone lintels. Windows are non-historic replacements that date from the 1994 rehabilitation and feature a historically compatible 1/1 configuration. A neon blade sign that reads “restaurant” is installed between the center and south windows on the second story. The façade culminates with a substantial cornice with brackets, a Greek key entablature, and a center pediment. The cornice was installed as part of the 1994 rehabilitation and is based on the design of the original cornice.

History: The building at 508 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1896 for Henry Bernard Eger, a prominent Libertyville resident in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Eger ran his hardware store from the building until the early 1920s, when he passed the business on to his son Frank. Frank Eger continued the operation of the business until 1935, when he sold it to Ernie E. Griffis. Griffis retired in 1952 and sold the store to Paul Hesse—Hesse later purchased Schanck Hardware and consolidated the two stores into a single entity that operated out of the Schanck Building at 500 N. Milwaukee Avenue. Since 1966, the building has housed a variety of restaurants, including Independence House (1966-c. 1975) and Miss Alice’s Restaurant (c. 1975-1986).<sup>42</sup>

In 1963, the building was modernized with an aluminum slipcover over its second story, and the storefront reconfigured. Historic photographs indicate that the second-story windows were also bricked in by 1957. The building was rehabilitated in 1994—the slipcover was removed, new windows were installed in the original openings on the second story, a new cornice based on the design of the original cornice was installed, and a new storefront was installed.

**510-512 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Hanby Building/Butler Building  
1896**

**Non-Contributing**

**c. 1960 (remodeling)  
1989 (remodeling)**

**514 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
1896**

**Non-Contributing**

**c. 1960 (remodeling)  
1898 (remodeling)**

Description: The buildings at 510-514 N. Milwaukee Avenue were constructed simultaneously in 1896 with a unified front façade. The combined structure is rectangular in massing, with an attached party wall at the south side connecting it to the building at 508 N. Milwaukee. The façade of the building reflects both the c. 1960 remodeling of the building, as well as a 1989 rehabilitation. The configuration of the two first-story storefronts, which are concave and curve toward the center of the building, date from c. 1960. The entrances to the storefronts are located at the center of the façade, with display windows extending north and south. The second-floor entrance is located at the south end of the façade. Materials on the storefront date to the 1989 remodeling, and feature paneled bulkheads, fluted pilasters, and a substantial cornice supported by scrolled brackets. The second story was clad in Lannon stone as part of the c. 1960 remodeling. A pressed-metal oriel bay that marked the south end of the façade was also removed and replaced with a single window as part of the remodeling, the window openings altered, and the substantial pressed-metal cornice was also removed. The original

<sup>42</sup> Melissa Phillips on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society and Jenny Barry, "508 N. Milwaukee Avenue - H.B. Eger Building," Clio: Your Guide to History, August 19, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/108978>).



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rough-faced stone stringcourse at the level of the window lintels is still visible. A new cornice was added as part of the 1989 rehabilitation, and decorative lintels were also added above the c. 1960 window openings.

History: The buildings at 510-514 N. Milwaukee Avenue were constructed Lewis Hanby (510-512), a local cattle buyer, and by Josiah W. Butler (514), who served as mayor of Libertyville from 1885 to 1886. The buildings were erected simultaneously, and the facades were combined to form a single coherent design. Early tenants in the south building included Jeweler C. R. Sherman, the Enderlin saloon, and J. B. Morse & Company, and Chandler's stationary store operated out of the building in the 1950s and 1960s. Tenants in the north building included Smith & Davis general store and Decker & Bond drugstore. The Alpha Club established a subscription library at the drugstore in 1910, and its collection later became part of the original collection of the Cook Memorial Library. Later tenants included Taylor and Seiler Paint and Hobby.<sup>43</sup>

**515 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Consumer's Building  
1931**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 515 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story commercial building constructed in 1931. The building features a rectangular massing and flat roof with crenelated stone-capped front parapet, and an attached party wall on its north side. The front (east) façade features a single storefront with recessed center entry and flanking storefront windows with slightly angled north and south walls; historic photographs show that they originally contained two separate storefronts, with entrances located towards the center of the façade and a single storefront window at the north and south ends. Materials on the storefront level date from 1997. The façade above the storefront is clad in red face brick and features decorative stone detailing common to small commercial buildings constructed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, including several lines of vertically-arranged stone blocks that are regularly spaced across the façade, and inverted stone triangles that mark the crenelated sections of the parapet wall above. A stone stringcourse runs along the façade above the storefront opening, and the north and south end piers are tipped with inverted stone triangles.

History: The building at 515 N. Milwaukee Avenue was originally constructed in 1931 to house a grocery store operated by the Consumer's Sanitary and Coffee Stores Company. Consumer's remained in the building until 1939, and a Kroger's grocery store occupied the space until 1949. Later tenants included Keswick's Card and Gift Shop, which opened in 1954 and remained in the building until 1972.<sup>44</sup>

**518-528 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Proctor Building  
1903**

**Contributing  
National Register Listed (1998)**

**Architect: William G. Krieg**

Description: The Proctor Building is a two-story brick commercial building that was constructed in 1903. The building is roughly rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and an attached party wall at its north side. The south elevation of the building is exposed and faces a narrow alley connecting N. Milwaukee Avenue to parking areas to the east. The front (west) façade of the building contains five storefronts on its first story—the overall arrangement of storefronts appears to be the same as those in historic photographs, although the materials and elements – including the brick piers separating the storefronts—appear to date from a later rehabilitation. Except for the southwest corner storefront, each storefront features a recessed end entry and single storefront window with paneled bulkhead; doors are wood with center glazed panels and topped with single-light transoms. The corner storefront features an angled corner entrance door topped with single-light transom, flanked by storefront windows that extend along the west and south elevations. The storefront entrance is protected by the projecting corner tower above, which is supported by a single slender column. The entrance to the second floor, which originally contained a hotel, is located north of the corner storefront, and features a single wood door with center glazed

<sup>43</sup> Melissa Phillips on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "510-514 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Hanby & Butler Buildings," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 2, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/112033>).

<sup>44</sup> Marilyn Copeland on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "515 N. Milwaukee Avenue - The Consumer's Building," Clío: Your Guide to History, January 12, 2021 (Accessed October 1, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/111008>).

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panel and a single-light sidelight topped with a transom; the entrance opening is encased within a heavy stone surround with classical trim; the word "HOTEL" is spelled out in the surround above the entrance opening.

The second story of the façade is clad in buff brick and is roughly bilaterally symmetrical, with paired three-sided oriel bays at the center, a three-sided oriel bay at the north end, and a polygonal bay that projects out over the corner storefront at the southwest corner. The bays are clad with ornamental pressed metal, with panels below the windows and festoons above, and a scrolled bracket is located between the two center bays. A pressed metal cornice extends across the façade below the parapet wall, and narrow metal and stone stringcourses define the sill and lintel levels of the windows. The bays and corner tower above the parapet are also clad with decorative pressed metal; the parapet at the center bays features two panels with "PROCTOR" and "BUILDING," and the parapet is topped by a center crest flanked by scrolls. Windows are regularly spaced along second story between the bays, and appear to be replacement sash in original openings; the center window between the south tower and center bays has been bricked in.

The south elevation facing the alley is common brick, with storefront windows and an additional entrance to the corner storefront at its west end, and an additional commercial space at its east end accessed through a round-arch entry. The window openings on the second story feature French doors with Juliet balconies. All windows on the elevation are non-historic replacement windows.

History: The Proctor Building was constructed in 1903 for Robert and Elisha Proctor, who hoped to take advantage of the extension of the Chicago & Milwaukee Railroad (North Shore Line) to Libertyville that year. When it was completed, the *Lake County Independent* proclaimed it "Libertyville's first metropolitan building, the pride of all citizens."<sup>45</sup> The building's New Castle Hotel, which rented rooms on the second floor, was the village's third hotel, and attracted the increasing number of motor tourists passing through Libertyville on Milwaukee Avenue. It remained in operation through the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Proctor Block had many notable local tenants through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, including first National Bank, the Lyric restaurant, and A. Huss Jewelers. The building also attracted a number of national chains, including A&P, Woolworth's, and Jewel Tea Food Store. After a period of decline in the 1970s and 1980s, the building was rehabilitated in the late 1990s by owners David and Sandra Whitmore.<sup>46</sup>

**519 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
1883; c. 1980 (alterations)**

**Non-contributing**

Description: The building at 519 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story brick commercial building completed in 1883. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and attached party walls on the north and south sides. The front façade of the building contains a single storefront with a recessed entrance at its south end and three-part storefront window with paneled wood bulkhead at its north end. Square brick piers mark the ends of the storefront and divide the entry from the storefront window. A narrow ornamental entablature runs along the top of the storefront entry and window. Materials on the storefront are not historic, and date from a 1980s remodeling. The second story of the façade is red brick, with three evenly-spaced window openings. Windows within the openings are non-historic aluminum single-light windows; ornamental blind brick arches were added above the windows in the 1980s. The corbeled brick cornice at the top of the building also dates from the 1980s.

History: The building at 519 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in the mid-1880s, and was occupied by M. C. Colby & Co., a general store, in the 1890s through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The storefront was occupied in the 1930s by Langworthy's Department Store, and by Miller Drugstore in the 1940s. In the mid-1960s, the upper level of the building was covered with an aluminum slipcover, and the storefront level was modernized. A later remodeling in the early 1980s removed the slipcover; at that time the brick corbeled cornice and blind arches above the second-story windows, which were not part of the original design of the façade, were added, and the storefront remodeled in a more traditional style.

**521-523 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Non-contributing**

<sup>45</sup> National Register of Historic Places, Proctor Building, Libertyville, Lake County, Illinois, NR reference #98000064, Section 8, Page 14.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid, 16-18; Arlene Lane on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "516-528 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Proctor Building, New Castle Hotel," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 18, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/111442>).

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Name of Property

Lake Co., Illinois

County and State

## **Heath Building**

**1883**

**c. 1975 (alterations); 1993 (remodeling)**

Description: The building at 521-523 is a two-story brick commercial building constructed in the early 1880s. The building is rectangular in plan, with flat roof and attached party walls on its north and south sides. The front façade of the building contains a single storefront with recessed center entry flanked by storefront windows; although the configuration is historic, the materials—which include heavy fluted trim and a wide entablature and cornice above—date from a 1993 rehabilitation of the building. The second story features three segmental-arch window openings arranged along the façade; windows are non-historic replacements that date from the 1990s. The substantial cornice that tops the façade, which includes a paneled entablature, modillions, and heavy brackets, was also installed in 1993. A narrow two-story at the north side of the building was constructed in 1951, and a two-story rear addition was built in 1994.

History: The building at 521-523 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1883 for Isaac Heath, who had established a furniture and undertaking business around 1880. Heath and his family lived in a house just north of the building at 527 N. Milwaukee until it was demolished in the late 1930s. Heath moved the business out of the building in 1903, and the space was occupied by M. B. Colby & Son dry goods until 1909. Several grocery stores operated out of the building through the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s.<sup>47</sup>

Sometime between 1956 and the mid-1970s, a Neo-Tudor slipcover was installed over the second story. A subsequent project in 1993 removed the slipcover and placed a new cornice on the building.

**525-531 N. Milwaukee Avenue**  
**A&P/Langworthy's Department Store**  
**1940; 1996 (alterations)**

**Non-contributing**

Description: The building at 525-531 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story brick commercial building constructed in 1940 and remodeled in 1996. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and attached party walls on its north and south sides. The building originally contained two storefronts, but the north storefront was later divided. The configurations of the storefronts appear to be historic, and date from before the mid-1950s. The south storefront features two recessed entrances, with a center projecting display window and smaller north and south end display windows; the north storefront retains its original large, recessed center entry and flanking display windows, but the entry now contains two separate entry doors. Both storefront feature replacement aluminum windows and doors. Both storefronts are protected with cloth awnings.

The remainder of the façade was extensively altered in 1996—while the original building featured a streamlined façade with fluted detailing at the piers between the storefronts and along the top of the façade near the roofline, the current façade is covered in what appears to be Dryvit stucco, with paneling and trim at the storefront piers that continues up to the top of the façade. Non historic storefront cornices are centered directly above the storefronts, and a cornice with paneled entablature and scrolled brackets tops the façade. A one-story rear addition to the building was constructed sometime between 1948 and 1961.

History: The building at 525-531 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1940 and housed an A&P grocery store and Langworthy's, a local department store founded by Earl T. Langworthy in 1911. After A & P moved out of the building, Taylor and Seiler Paint and Hobbies moved into the building. In 1957 Taylor and Siler left for another building on Milwaukee Avenue, and Langworthy's took over both storefronts. Langworthy's remained in the building until it closed in 2000.<sup>48</sup>

<sup>47</sup> Laurie Stein on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "521 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Isaac Heath building," Clío: Your Guide to History, August 29, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/111496>)

<sup>48</sup> Marilyn Copeland on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "525-531 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Langworthy's Department Store," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 14, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/109686>).

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Name of Property

Lake Co., Illinois

County and State

**532-534 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Lake County Independent Building  
1905**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 532-534 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story brick commercial block completed in 1905. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and attached party walls on its north and south sides. The building's façade is blonde brick and contains a single storefront at its first story. The storefront configuration and materials are not historic. The storefront consists of recessed entry at its north end and storefront window at the center of the façade. The second-floor entrance is located at the south end of the building. The storefront entry is trimmed with painted wood, and the door is wood with a multi-light glazed panel. The remainder of the façade is currently covered with plywood. The door to the second-floor entrance is identical to that on the storefront. Both the storefront and second-floor entry are covered by a cloth awning, and lights are installed above.

The second story of the building contains two paired windows set within openings topped with classical lintels. The building originally featured three double-hung windows spaced across the façade, but the openings were altered in the 1930s. The wood lintels were added above the openings in the late 1980s. Windows are 1/1 double-hung aluminum replacement windows set within the original openings. Above the windows is what appears to be a pressed metal stringcourse; the façade is topped with a pressed metal cornice and pressed-metal covered parapet.

History: The building at 532-534 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1905 to serve as the offices and printing facilities of the *Lake County Independent*. The building was constructed with a meeting hall on the second floor, and local chapters of various social groups, including the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America, held meetings in the space. When the newspaper moved out of the building in 1914, owner F. H. Just remodeled the storefront into a small movie theater called the Liberty Theatre, which operated out of the building through 1923. Later tenants included the Libertyville Battery and Electric Shop (1924-1929); Mackey Jewelry Shop (1929-1970).<sup>49</sup>

**535-539 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Heath Building  
1903**

**Contributing**

**541 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Walrond Building  
1903**

**Contributing**

Description: The structure at 535-541 N. Milwaukee Avenue contains two buildings—535-539 N. Milwaukee Avenue and 541 N. Milwaukee Avenue—that were constructed simultaneously in 1903 with a single façade design. The combined structure is roughly rectangular, with a flat roof and an attached party wall on its south side. Each building contains a single storefront. The south storefront (535-539) features a flush north-end entry and flush storefront windows topped with single-light transoms and divided by slender fluted piers. The transoms are covered with paneled boards. The second-floor entrance is located at the south end of the building, and also features a large single-light transom. The north storefront is smaller and features a recessed center entry flanked by storefront windows topped with single-light transoms. The secondary entrance is located at the south end of the north building (541) and is flanked by fluted piers. Based on historic photographs of the buildings and visual evidence, the configurations of both storefronts and the fluted piers and metal cornice above appear to be historic, but the storefront windows, doors, and transoms are non-historic replacements.

The second story of the combined structure above the storefronts is painted brick. Three nearly-identical three-sided oriel window bays mark the unified façade—the two south bays are located on the building at 535-539 N. Milwaukee Avenue,

<sup>49</sup> Jenny Barry on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "532 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Mackey Jewlery/Morgan's," Clío: Your Guide to History, August 27, 2020 (accessed October 6, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/113308>).

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Name of Property

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and the north bay is on the building at 541 N. Milwaukee Avenue. All three bays are clad with ornamental pressed metal, with rusticated stone effects at the piers separating the individual windows in the bay, as well as foliate and swag decorations. Windows at the second story of the façade, set within the historic openings, appear to be 1/1 double-hung wood replacement windows at 535-539 N. Milwaukee Avenue, and aluminum or vinyl replacement windows at 541 N. Milwaukee. Rusticated stringcourses extend across the façade at the window lintel and sill levels. The facade is topped by a cornice comprised of two rows of corbeled brickwork.

The exposed north elevation of 541 N. Milwaukee Avenue is common brick and is fenestrated with single and paired replacement double-hung windows.

History: The building at 535-539 N. Milwaukee Avenue was built in 1903 for Warren M. Heath, who took over his father Isaac Heath's furniture and undertaker business around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Heath, who served as village postmaster from 1897-1908, also operated the post office from the building during that time. In 1908, the O.I. Luce & Co. purchased the Heath furniture store, and continued to operate out of the building, adding a bowling alley, billiard room, barbershop, and public baths to the basement. Ray Furniture and Paints moved into the building in 1923 and kept operating the bowling alley and billiards room in the basement. Flegelman's Department Store took over the first-floor storefront and basement of the building in the early 1930s, and later expanded into the second floor, remaining in the building until the mid-1950s. Later tenants included The Music Box, JAMBS discount Pharmacy, and Abby Ames Attic.<sup>50</sup>

The building at 541 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1903 for William Walrond, who operated his grocery store there until 1936. Ray N. Smith, owner of Smith Shoes, then remodeled the storefront and moved into the space. Smith later passed the business onto his sons, who continued to operate the store in the building until 1995.<sup>51</sup>

**536-542 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
First National Bank Building  
1913; 1929 (alterations)**

**Contributing**

Description: The former First National Bank Building at 536-542 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a three-story brick commercial building with Classical Revival and Arts & Crafts detailing that was completed in 1913. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and an attached party wall on its south side. The building features two street-facing facades, with the west façade facing N. Milwaukee Avenue and the north façade facing School Street. Both facades are clad in red face brick, with decorative brick detailing throughout. The first floor of the west elevation contains three storefronts. The two south storefronts (336 and 338) are identical, and feature north-end entrances and south-end flush storefront windows, with a square brick pier separating the entrance and window openings. Materials in both storefronts are recent replacements. The second-floor entrance is located just north of the center storefront and is fitted with non-historic aluminum and glass doors and transom. A flat suspended canopy has been installed above the second-floor entrance and the entrance to the center storefront. The north storefront dates from 1929 and is clad with stone brick panels. Stone low-relief eagles are positioned at the north and south corners of the storefront, and a dentiled frieze runs along its top edge. The storefront entrance is located at the south end of the storefront and features a non-historic aluminum and glass door and sidelight; a single-light transom is located above the door and separated from it by a stone-clad lintel with a sawtooth design. A large display window is located north of the entrance. The second and third stories above the storefronts are regularly fenestrated with non-historic aluminum 6/1 double-hung windows set within original openings—photographs from the years just after the building's completion show that this was the historic configuration. Soldier-course brick stringcourses extend across the façade at the level of the second and third floor window lintels, and a continuous stone stringcourse marks the third story at the level of the windowsills. Above the third-story windows is a decorative brick frieze topped by a simple metal cornice.

The north façade of the building features a treatment similar to that of the west façade, with red brick cladding and details, brick and stone stringcourses, and regular fenestration at the second and third stories at the west end. The first story of the

<sup>50</sup> Jenny Barry on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society and Jenny Barry, "535-541 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Warren M. Heath and Walrond Buildings," Clio: Your Guide to History, August 2, 2024 (accessed October 6, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/112007>).

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.



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north elevation features a series of multi-light aluminum windows similar to the storefront windows on the west elevation. Three large, multi-light windows set within round arch openings spanning the second and third stories indicate the presence of the former theater at the east end of the elevation—these windows have recently been restored to their original size.

**History:** The building at 536-542 N. Milwaukee Avenue was built in 1913 for the First National Bank. The Bank constructed the building to serve as its headquarters and as a commercial retail and office building for the village. Founded in 1903 by Henry G. Gardner, the bank was purchased by G. Carroll Gridley in 1906 and was later colloquially known as the Gridley Bank. The original entrance to the banking hall, which was located at the north end of the building, featured a recessed portico with four imposing columns and a wide metal and glass canopy; the banking hall was remodeled in 1929, and the entrance was shifted slightly north to accommodate a separate storefront at the center of the west façade. The new banking storefront, which remains on the building, was clad with stone panels.<sup>52</sup> First National consolidated with the Lake County Bank and relocated to the Lake County headquarters at 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue in the early 1930s; later the banking hall was occupied by First State Bank (1946-c. 1965). The south storefront was occupied by various bakeries through the years.<sup>53</sup>

The original design for the building also included an auditorium on the upper floors at its northwest corner. The space was first occupied by the Libertyville Auditorium, which hosted plays and other live performances. With the advent of motion pictures, the Libertyville Auditorium began showing silent films, and in 1929 changed its name to LaVilla Theater. The theater closed when the new Liberty Theater opened north of the building in 1937.<sup>54</sup>

**543-545 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Ritter Building  
1905**

**Contributing**

**Description:** The building at 543-545 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story brick commercial building constructed in 1905. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and shared party wall on its north end. The building's front (east) facade contains a single storefront at its first story, with a recessed center entrance flanked by two storefront windows with angled corners. Historic photographs show this configuration in place by the 1950s. Storefront materials—including aluminum door and sidelight, aluminum storefront windows, and brick bulkheads—are non-historic, and appear to be from a recent rehabilitation. The second-floor entrance is located north of the storefront and features a non-historic aluminum door with glazed center panel. A cloth awning covers the storefront and second-floor entry. The building's original cast iron lintel with decorative corner blocks is visible above the awning. The second story of the façade above the storefront is red face brick, with three original window openings spaced evenly across the façade. Non-historic 1/1 aluminum double-hung windows are set within the openings, which feature a simple brick surround and stone sills. The brick parapet wall at the top of the façade was rebuilt sometime before 1955. The north elevation of the building is regularly fenestrated at its second story with non-historic double-hung windows set within the original segmental-arch openings. A two-story rear addition with west-facing storefront was constructed in 1995.

**History:** The building at 543-545 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1905 for John Ritter, who operated a saloon out of the storefront until 1921, when Ritter was charged with the sale of intoxicating beverages and jailed. The judgement against Ritter was relaxed the following year, with the understanding that he would rent out the building to another business. In July of 1922, the Libertyville Department Store opened in the building, and in 1924 the building was occupied by Cash and Carry Meat Market.

<sup>52</sup> "New Banking Quarters of First National Bank to Open May 18," *Independent Register*, May 16, 1929, 1.

<sup>53</sup> Jenny Barry and Lisa Marie Smith on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, and Robert Frank, "536 - 542 N. Milwaukee Avenue - First National (Gridley) Bank Building," *Clio: Your Guide to History*, February 26, 2024 (accessed October 2, 2024). <https://theclio.com/entry/112206>.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid*.

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After the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, John W. Lester opened his eponymous tavern in the building, which operated until his death in 1941. Lester's son-in-law continued to operate Lester's tavern until 1960. Later tenants included the Tap and Tote Tavern and the Village School of Folk Music.<sup>55</sup>

**547-551 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Non-contributing**

**Jochheim Building/Libertyville Bakery**

**1907**

**1950s (storefront alterations); 2003 (remodeling)**

Description: The building at 547-551 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story brick commercial building constructed in 1903. The building is roughly rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and attached party wall on its south side. The façade of the building originally contained two storefronts; in the 1950s, the storefronts were combined and the storefront level extensively altered. The current storefront dates from a 2003 remodeling and features a recessed center entrance flanked by storefront windows with angled sides and a brick bulkhead. The second-floor entrance is located at the south end of the façade and features a non-historic aluminum and glass door and transom windows. The metal lintel above the storefront level appears to be historic.

Above the storefront, the façade is buff face brick, with four historic window openings spaced along the façade. Windows within the openings are non-historic 1/1 aluminum replacement windows installed in 2008; stone lintels and sills were also added to the window openings at that time. Other alterations completed in 2008 to the façade include the brick decorative panels and name/date panel (which reads "MULLER BUILDING 2008") above the second-story windows, and the stringcourse and metal cornice with corbeled brickwork at the top of the façade. Historic photographs of the building show that the parapet wall was rebuilt in the 1950s, and it is possible that the building had a decorative cornice before that time, but no available photographs show the building before the parapet was rebuilt. A two-story rear addition with west-facing storefront was also constructed in 2008—the addition is not visible from Milwaukee Avenue.

History: The building at 547-551 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1907 for Frederick Jochheim, a German-born baker who operated his bakery out of the building until 1951. In the 1930s, Jochheim's son-in-law Frank Huber opened a grocery store in the building, with Jochheim supplying the bread for store. The building was purchased by Carsten and Elsie Reinbach in 1955, and the couple operated Reinbach's Bakery and Delicatessen in the storefront. Later tenants included Hanson Water Conditioning and Heritage Signs.<sup>56</sup>

**602-610 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Contributing**

**Bulkley Building**

**1902**

Description: The Bulkley Building at 602-610 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story brick commercial building with Neo-Classical detailing that was completed in 1902. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and attached party wall on its north side. The building's principal façade faces west onto N. Milwaukee Avenue and contains four storefronts. The south storefront occupies four bays and features a recessed center entry with south corner storefront window and north flush storefront window. The center-south storefront is smaller and features a recessed entry at its south end and north-end storefront window with angled south wall. The two north storefronts have been combined into a single commercial space, with a recessed entry at the south end and two groupings of storefront windows separated by a brick pier. Two second-floor entrances are located on the façade—the first just south of the center-south storefront, and the second at the south end of the original north-end storefront. A pressed metal cornice runs along the top of the storefronts. All storefronts appear to retain their original cast-iron pilasters, although other materials date from recent renovations.

<sup>55</sup> Jenny Barry and Arlene Lane on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "545 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Rittner Building, Lester's Tavern," Clio: Your Guide to History, September 14, 2020 (accessed October 2, 2024, <https://theclio.com/entry/110113>).

<sup>56</sup> Arlene Lane on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "547-551 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Libertyville Bakery, Muller Building," Clio: Your Guide to History, December 15, 2021 (accessed October 2, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/110325>).

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The second story of the façade is red face brick and is regularly fenestrated with non-historic 1/1 double-hung replacement windows set within original openings featuring rough-cut stone lintels and stone sills. The façade is topped by a pressed-metal frieze and cornice marked with foliate and wave-motif ornamentation.

The exposed south elevation of the building is brick and is regularly fenestrated at its second story with replacement windows set within original segmental-arch openings. Windows at the first story have been infilled with brick. A one-story brick rear addition at the south end of the building was constructed sometime between 1948 and 1961.

History: The building at 602-610 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed in 1902 for an unknown member of the Bulkley family. Early tenants in the building included the W. C. Triggs shoe store, Beswick's photography studio, and the North Shore Gas Company. Baker Frederick Jochheim also rented a storefront in the building before constructing his bakery in 1907 (see **547-551 N. Milwaukee Avenue**). Other tenants that occupied the building in the period between 1920 and 1950 included the Spring Café, the IGA Supermarket, and The Sportsman.<sup>57</sup>

**603-605 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
c. 1925; 1998 (renovation)**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 603-605 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story brick commercial building constructed c. 1925, with a two-story rear addition built sometime after 1948. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and attached party wall on its south side. The front (west) façade of the building contains two storefronts with recessed entries toward the center of the façade and storefront windows with angled side walls, transoms, and brick bulkheads. The overall configuration of the storefronts is historic, but materials all date from a 1998 renovation of the building—historic photographs from the 1970s show that the north storefront had been previously renovated with a more modern storefront. The original façade above the storefronts featured three raised brick panels evenly spaced across the façade above the storefronts, with brick drop pendants spaced between the panels. Historic photographs indicate that the parapet wall at the façade had been rebuilt sometime before the mid-1950s. The façade was refaced with new brick in 1998 but recreated the historic patterned brickwork above the storefronts. A stone panel reading "LOVELL BUILDING" was also placed within the center brick panel as part of the 1998 renovation, and the exposed north wall of the building was rebuilt. A two-story rear addition to the building was constructed sometime between 1948 and 1961.

History: The building at 603-605 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed c. 1925. The building's first tenant was the Virginia Café, which opened in October 1926 and remained in the building under various owners through the 1930s. The building was occupied by several meat lockers in the 1950s; Town Meat Market, a meat and fish wholesaler, operated out of the building from the 1970s to the 1990s.<sup>58</sup>

**614-618 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Butler Building  
1912**

**Contributing**

Description: The building at 614-618 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story brick commercial building constructed in 1912. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof and attached party walls on its north and south sides. The front façade of the building contains two storefronts, both of which retain their original configurations. The recessed second-floor entrance is centered on the façade; angled entries to the north and south storefronts flank the second-floor entrance, and flush storefront windows extend north and south from the entrances. Although the windows and doors appear to be replacement, all three entrances retain their historic transom openings, and the historic cast-iron lintel remains above the storefront level. The second story of the façade is dark red brick and features four window openings with heavy stone lintels and stone sills. Windows in the openings are non-historic 1/1 double-hung replacement windows. A corbeled brick cornice with flanged center pediment tops the façade.

<sup>57</sup> Jenny Barry on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "602-610 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Bulkley Building," Clío: Your Guide to History, June 28, 2023 (accessed October 3, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/113388>).

<sup>58</sup> Arlene Lane on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "603-605 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Lovinger Building," Clío: Your Guide to History, November 19, 2020 (accessed October 2, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/111093>).



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History: The building at 614-618 N. Milwaukee Avenue was constructed for Josiah Butler, whose father Horace Butler was one of Libertyville's earliest settlers. Tenants in the north storefront of the building have included the A&P grocery store, Oscar Carleson Painters, several hardware stores, Western Tire Auto Store, and Liberty Smokeshop. The south storefront has been almost extensively used as a barbershop for most of the building's history.<sup>59</sup>

**620-622 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Non-contributing**

**1981**

**2012 (alterations)**

Description/History: In 1981, the c. 1870 Gable Front commercial building at 620 was demolished and replaced with a two-story Neo-Tudor commercial building with multi-shed roofline and faux half-timbered façade. No demolition permit was issued for the neighboring building at 622 N. Milwaukee Avenue, and it is possible that the existing two-story building at that site, which was built in 1952, was retained and incorporated as part of the new construction. The building was again extensively remodeled in 2012 to its current appearance.

**624 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Contributing**

**1927**

**1936 (2<sup>nd</sup> story addition)**

Description: The building at 624 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a two-story brick commercial building. The first story of the building was constructed in 1927, and the second story addition was built in 1936. The building is rectangular in plan, with a flat roof. The front façade contains a single storefront at its first story—based on historic photographs of the building, the current storefront configuration, with flush south-end entry and flush storefront window, dates from the late 1960s. The storefront level appears to have been recently renovated, with a new aluminum and glass door and aluminum windows and transoms. The second story of the building was added in 1936 and featured a brick exterior and two window openings with 3/1 vertical wood windows centered on the façade. The façade was covered with vertical wood siding and the windows replaced with 1/1 aluminum double-hung windows in 1967.

The exposed north and south elevations of the building are covered with stucco and feature non-historic double-hung and fixed windows at the first and second stories.

History: The building at 624 N. Milwaukee Avenue was originally constructed as a one-story brick commercial building in 1927. Finstad Eat Shoppe, which was owned Gyda Finstad, occupied the building through the mid-1930s. Several other restaurants—including the Hansen Restaurant, the Otterness Restaurant, and Lund's Colonial Restaurant—operated out of the building in the 1940s and 1950s. Henry Yee's Restaurant moved into the building in the late 1960s and closed in 2012.<sup>60</sup>

**707-711 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Contributing**

**110-116 Lake Street**

**Contributing**

**Dall Building**

**1929**

**Architect: Walter Huenemoerder**

Description: The Dall Building at 707-711 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story Tudor Revival commercial development completed in 1929. The development consists of two rectangular concrete-block buildings connected along their south elevations with a one-story brick archway that allows access to a narrow driveway between the buildings. The roofs of both buildings are flat, with steeply pitched, narrow side-gable roofs with pedimented ends that extend along the south

<sup>59</sup> Lisa Marie Smith on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "614-618 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Butler Building," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 18, 2020 (accessed October 2, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/114028>).

<sup>60</sup> Mary Andrew on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "624 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Finstad Eat Shoppe," Clío: Your Guide to History, March 1, 2023 (accessed October 3, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/111776>).

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elevations of both buildings and the east elevation of the east building. The east building contains six storefronts that face east onto N. Milwaukee Avenue, and the west building contains five storefronts facing Lake Street. All but the southeast corner and north end storefronts in the east building are arranged with entrances grouped in pairs and recessed within gable-roof entry bays, with storefront windows extending on either side of the entry bays. The north end storefront features a recessed center entry flanked by display windows, while the southeast corner storefront features a corner entry set within a prominent polygonal corner clock tower with peaked roof, with flush storefront windows located on the east and south elevations beyond the tower. A similar arrangement is exhibited on the south-facing storefronts of the east building, with all but the east end storefront featuring entrances recessed within gable-roof entry bays. Storefront configurations are all original, and many of the storefront windows and doors, which are set within Tudor arches, also appear to be historic.

The south and east facades of the complex are heavily ornamented with Tudor Revival detailing, including irregular slate shingles on the side-gable roofs and front facing gables, stucco with decorative half-timbering and eave boards under gables, rustic stone detailing at the brick piers separating the storefronts and around the window and door openings on the southeast clock tower. Aside from signage and glass block infill in windows on secondary elevations, the building is remarkably well-preserved.

History: The Dall Building was constructed in 1929 by Chicago real estate developer Benjamin J. Dall. The charming Tudor-Revival design was the work of Libertyville architect Walter Huenemoerder, who drew inspiration for the buildings from the design of the Public Services Building, which had recently been completed at the south end of Libertyville's downtown. The development was set back farther from Milwaukee Avenue than other commercial buildings downtown, and a landscaped parkway, which has largely been removed by successive street widenings, provided a buffer from the busy street.<sup>61</sup>

Early tenants in the building included Dall's Lake County Country Homes, Inc. and Dall House Studio, operated by his wife Margaret Caldwell Dall.

**708 N. Milwaukee Avenue**  
**Liberty Theatre**  
**1937; 1967-68 (renovation)**  
**Architect: E. P. Rupert**

**Contributing**

Description: The former Liberty Theatre at 708 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a one-story concrete-block theater building that was completed in 1937 and extensively remodeled in 1967-68. The building is roughly rectangular in plan, with a steel-truss roof. The building's front (west) façade, which faces Milwaukee Avenue, is clad in multi-colored buff brick at its base and mitered wood paneling above. The main entrance to the theater is located at the center of the façade and is recessed from the wall of the façade. A projecting marquee sign topped with "Liberty" on its northwest and southwest-facing sides extends from the façade above the entrance. The doors within the recessed entrance bay are boarded up. Fluorescent lights installed above the north and south inset poster cases on either side of the entrance are covered with tall, slender cloth awnings. The westernmost bays of the north and south elevations of the building are also covered in wood paneling; the remaining bays of both elevations are unfenestrated and clad in brick, and each bay is marked by a slightly projecting brick pier.

History: The Liberty Theatre opened on August 27, 1937 to great fanfare in Libertyville. Although the village had other movie theaters in operation through the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Liberty Theatre was the first purpose-built movie theater in the village, and its striking Art Deco design attracted floods of moviegoers through the 1930s, 40s, and 50s. During World War II, the theatre hosted actor James Cagney at a bond rally, and the theater was chosen as the site of the world premiere of *Desperate Journey*, starring Errol Flynn and Ronald Reagan. These two events raised over \$150,000 in war bonds.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>61</sup> Jenny Barry and Lisa Marie Smith on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "707-711 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Dall Building," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 14, 2020 (accessed October 7, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/111444>).

<sup>62</sup> Jenny Barry and Melissa Phillips on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "708 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Liberty Theatre," Clío: Your Guide to

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In the late 1960s, Rhyon Theaters, which owned the Liberty Theatre and other movie theaters in Lake County, undertook an extensive remodeling of the theater, stripping away its enameled façade, removing its neon blade sign, and replacing its streamlined marquee. The interior of the theater was later subdivided in the 1980s. The theater closed in January 2020.

**715 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Libertyville Town Hall  
1894**

**Contributing (town hall building)  
Contributing (garage)**

Description: The former Libertyville Town Hall is a two-story Romanesque Revival-style government building that was completed in 1894. The building is rectangular in plan, with a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles and exterior walls of pale red brick. The front façade of the building is dominated by a square tower that rises through the roofline and culminates in a cupola surrounded by a simple wood railing and topped with a bell-shaped roof. The first story of the tower houses the building's main entry, which features a prominent classical surround with fluted pilasters and triangular pediment that was installed c. 1950. Three narrow, round-arch windows mark the tower above the entrance. Flanking the tower on the façade on the second story are large round-arch window openings with brick lintels and stone sills; window openings at the first story are smaller and rectangular, with heavy stone lintels. Identical window openings mark each bay on the north and south elevations of the building, and each bay is separated by a slender brick pier that rises from the stone stringcourse that runs above the first-story windows. Corbeled brickwork marks the top of each bay above the windows. Smaller replacement windows have been installed in the second-story window openings, with the upper sections of the openings filled with painted panels. Windows in the first-story openings on the north elevation are filled with replacement windows or are boarded, and the first-story windows on the façade have been bricked in. A one-story addition, built in 1950 and clad in brick in 1998, obscures the first-story windows on the south elevation.

A one-story, detached brick and concrete-block garage is located toward the rear of the lot. Sanborn maps indicate that the garage was built sometime between 1924 and 1933.

History: The former Libertyville Town Hall was constructed in 1894 and designed by William W. Boyington. Prior to its erection, Liberty Township government was located in the former Congregational Church building, located on the same lot as the current structure. Plans for the building began when a building committee was elected at Libertyville Township's annual meeting in April of 1894. Committee members Martin Melody, J. E. Holcomb, and Ansel B. Cook selected Boyington to design the new building and Chicago builders William D. and Frank Price to construct the building. The church building was moved to another location, and construction was completed by August of 1894.<sup>63</sup>

American Legion Post 329, which had conducted meetings in the town hall building since its founding, signed several long-term leases to use the building through the early 1970s, and in 1973, the organization purchased the building outright. Township government continued to use the building until 1982.<sup>64</sup>

**111 School Street  
c. 1960-1970; c. 2020 (alterations)**

**Non-contributing**

Description/History: The building at 111 School Street is a one-story concrete-block building that was constructed sometime between 1948 and 1980—the appearance of the building in a 1980 assessor's photo, which shows an unornamented, freestanding building with flat roof and glazed entrance bay at the east end of its front (north) façade, suggests that it was likely built between 1960 and 1970. Post-1980 alterations to the building include: brick cladding, new window and door openings on the front façade; a one-story west side addition that connects the building to the rear

History, September 18, 2020 (accessed October 3, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/108984>).

<sup>63</sup> Jenny Barry on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "715 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Town Hall/American Legion Building," Clio: Your Guide to History, February 8, 2021 (accessed October 3, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/108597>).

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

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elevation of 536-542 N. Milwaukee Avenue and appears to also serve as a rear entrance to that building; a metal front canopy and open patio that extends north to the sidewalk; and metal railings with signage at the roof.

**N. Milwaukee Avenue Parking Lot  
c. 1950-55**

**Contributing (structure)**

This parking lot is located behind the west side of the 500 block of N. Milwaukee Avenue. Aerial photographs indicate that the lot was opened sometime between 1948 and 1961 and was part of the Village of Libertyville's attempt to make the historic central business district attractive to shoppers being lured away from downtown by automobile-oriented shopping centers.

**Lake Street Parking Lot  
c. 1965-70**

**Contributing (structure)**

The Lake Street Parking Lot, located directly west of the Dall Building and the former Libertyville Town Hall at the northwest corner of the district, was established sometime between 1961 and 1974. Sanborn maps and historic aerial maps show that the lot previously contained a single-family residence.

**School Street Public Parking Lot  
117 School Street  
c. 1965-70**

**Contributing (structure)**

The parking lot at 117 School Street opened sometime between 1961 and 1974. Like the Lake Street Parking Lot, this lot had previously contained single-family residential structures that were demolished to make way for additional parking for the commercial district in the post-war period.

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | B removed from its original location.                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | C a birthplace or grave.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | D a cemetery.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | F a commemorative property.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | G less than 50 years old or achieving significance                 |

\_\_\_\_\_ within the past 50 years.

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Commerce

Politics/Government

Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1878-1975

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation** (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

William Boyington

Anderson & Ticknor

Walter Huenemoerder

Rodney H. Wright

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Libertyville Downtown Historic District in Libertyville, Lake County, Illinois is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Government as a physical representation of the village's commercial and governmental development in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The district contains the historic core of commercial activity for Libertyville and is made up of commercial buildings that were constructed during the development of the village's central business district. The district also contains buildings that historically served village and township government, including the Libertyville Town Hall at 715 N. Milwaukee Avenue and the Libertyville Village Hall (formerly the Libertyville Fire Station) at 118 W. Cook Avenue. Also included in the district are the former United States Post Office at 135 W. Church Street; the Masonic Temple at 356 Brainerd Street; Cook Memorial Library and Cook Park at 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue, which were established through gifts of the estate of Ansel B. Cook in the 1920s; and the Liberty Theatre at 708 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

The district is also eligible under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as a collection of commercial, governmental, institutional, and social buildings that represent architectural styles and property types found in small Midwestern towns from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century through the 1970s. Although primarily made up of one- and two-part commercial blocks, the district also includes more prominent, freestanding governmental, recreational, and social buildings. Architectural styles within the district are varied, and include Queen Anne, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Arts & Crafts, Tudor Revival, Art Deco, and Midcentury Modern. A substantial number of historic commercial blocks have also been classified as Vernacular Commercial. The district retains good integrity and remains as a record of the architectural expressions of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The period of significance begins in 1878, marking the construction of the earliest documented building in the district, and ends in 1975, the fifty-year cut off for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Although commercial and governmental activity have expanded well beyond the boundaries of the district as Libertyville has grown through the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, the district continues to serve as the vibrant commercial heart of the village today.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

### History of Libertyville

The Village of Libertyville can trace its origins to George Vardin, an Englishman who built a small cabin on land between the Des Plaines River and Butler Lake in the early 1830s. Vardin's arrival to the area came less than two years after the signing of the Second Treaty of Chicago on September 26, 1833, in which members of Neshnabé (Potawatomi), Ojibwe (Chippewa), and Odawa tribes ceded over five million acres of land in northern Illinois, southern Wisconsin, southwest Michigan, and parts of Indiana to the federal government. This treaty, part of President Andrew Jackson's systematic effort to force native tribes out of existing states and into unsettled territories farther west, was signed 17 years after the first treaty between the Neshnabé and the government, which had been signed in 1816 as part of the Treaty of St. Louis. After the Black Hawk War of 1832, settlers and land speculators began to pour into northern Illinois; eager to take the last of the dwindling native-controlled land in the state, White residents put increasing pressure on the government to force a resettlement of the native population, inundating Illinois Governor John Reynolds' office with unsubstantiated reports of hostility and misconduct from Indian tribes that were relayed to the US War Department.<sup>65</sup> Determining that the removal of the tribes was "indispensable to their welfare, and the safety of our frontier citizens," the Office of Indian Affairs in Washington, DC began to explore the possibility of removing the Neshnabé in the spring of 1833.<sup>66</sup> With the signing of the treaty in September of that year, the Neshnabé lost the last of their lands in Illinois.

Although Vardin had moved on from the area by the end of 1835, "Vardin's Grove" soon attracted other settlers, including William Cooley, Dr. William Crane, attorney Horace Butler, the Reverend Samuel Hurlburt, and Dr. Jesse H.

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<sup>65</sup> Anselm J. Gerwing, "The Chicago Indian Treaty of 1833," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, Vol. 47, No. 2 (Summer 1964), 120.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*, 120-121.



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Foster, the community's first practicing physician.<sup>67</sup> The establishment of a stage coach line along the Milwauky Trace (now Milwaukee Avenue), an early native trading route, cemented Vardin Grove's importance in the early development of Lake County, and on July 4, 1836, the community gathered to erect a flag pole in a small clearing, renaming the settlement Independence Grove. The community erected its first school in the fall of 1836 and applied to the state for a post office in 1837. When it was discovered that another town in Illinois had already been named Independence Grove, local resident Archimedes Wynkoop suggested calling the town Libertyville. Although the town was renamed Burlington when it was chosen as the seat of Lake County in 1839, the name reverted to Libertyville when the county seat was transferred to Waukegan in 1841.<sup>68</sup>

In its early decades, Libertyville remained the small commercial and governmental center of a rural farming community. The population grew slowly through the 1850s, 1860s, and 1870s, reaching around 220 residents by 1880. A history of Lake County compiled by Elijah M. Haines stated that, by the 1850s, the town boasted "two or three stores, a large commodious Hotel, and steam flouring mill and saw mill, and above all, two fine churches."<sup>69</sup> A list of tax-payers and voters for Libertyville Township included in the 1878 history *The Past and Present of Lake County* shows that most residents of the township were farmers living outside of the village limits. Those listed as residents of the village were mostly merchants, including George Schanck, who owned a hardware and farming implements store; James Triggs, who operated a harness shop, and William C. Triggs, a shoemaker. Abram G. Fisher, a native of New York who had come to Lake County in the late 1850s, operated Grove House, the village's first hotel, while Isaac Heath, who had settled in Libertyville in 1852, served as its postmaster.<sup>70</sup>

Among the most successful early residents of Libertyville was Ansel Brainerd Cook, whose house still stands in the district at 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue. Cook was born in Haddam, Connecticut in 1823 and settled in Lake County in 1846, operating a 450-acre farm outside of Libertyville. In 1849, Cook married Helen Maria Fost, the daughter of Libertyville physician Dr. Jesse Foster. After living in Waukegan for several years, the couple moved to Chicago, where Ansel Cook established a successful contracting business. Cook was elected to the Illinois State Legislature in 1863, where he served two consecutive terms. After briefly relocating to Lake County, for his third term in the State Legislature, Cook returned to Chicago after the 1871 Great Fire, where he served as Alderman of the city's 11<sup>th</sup> Ward and President of the Chicago City Council.<sup>71</sup> The move back to Chicago was only temporary, as Cook had purchased a large tract of land in the center of Libertyville from his father-in-law in 1870 with the intention of building a large estate. Work on the house and gardens began in the early 1870s and was completed in 1878. The design of the house is attributed to Chicago architect William W. Boyington, who had worked with Cook on the construction of the Chicago Water Tower in the late 1860s.<sup>72</sup>

Although Libertyville's location along Milwaukee Avenue had brought the town some prosperity, it had been bypassed when the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway first ran rail lines through the county in 1872. In 1878, several determined residents, including George Schanck, Colonel E. B. Messner, and Dr. Sam Galloway, convince railroad officials to run a spur from nearby Rondout to Libertyville. The spur was financed through a company headed by local real estate developer Walter C. Newberry, and George Schanck and Caleb Wright donated land for the depot.<sup>73</sup> The spur opened in May 1880, and a small frame depot (no longer extant) was erected on Sprague Street (now Cook Avenue) east of Milwaukee.<sup>74</sup> Although passenger service was initially limited to one train per day, freight service along the line

<sup>67</sup> *Historic Libertyville-Mundelein from 1835*, published by the Libertyville-Mundelein Historical Society, 1971, 6.

<sup>68</sup> Jim Moran, *Libertyville* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Pub., 2006), 7.

<sup>69</sup> Elijah M. Haines, *Historical and Statistical Sketches of Lake County, State of Illinois: in Two Parts, the First Consisting of General Observations, the Second Gives a Minute Review of Each Township in its Order* (Libertyville, IL: republished by the Illinois-Mundelein Historical Society, 1973, originally published 1852), 89.

<sup>70</sup> *The Past and Present of Lake County, Illinois* (Chicago: William LeBaron, 1877), p. 401-412.

<sup>71</sup> "The Ansel B. Cook House," Libertyville-Mundelein Historical Society website (accessed October 6, 2024 at <http://www.lmhhistory.org/cookhouse.html>).

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>73</sup> Sonia Schoenfield, "Here Comes the Railroad," Cook Memorial Public Library website (accessed October 6, 2024 at <https://www.cooklib.org/here-comes-the-railroad/>).

<sup>74</sup> *Historic Libertyville-Mundelein from 1835*, p. 16-17; Craig L. Pfannkuche, "Libertyville," Encyclopedia of Chicago website (<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/740.html>).

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allowed area farmers to more easily ship goods to urban markets, increasing traffic in Libertyville and leading to the town's first commercial boom. As the town grew through the 1880s, local landholders subdivided property near Libertyville's central business district for residential development, and streets intersecting Milwaukee Avenue were created or extended. Encouraged by the town's development, residents voted to incorporate as a village in April 1882.

Several of the commercial buildings constructed during this initial boom of the 1880s and 1890s remain in the district, including the Lake County Bank Building at 525 N. Milwaukee Avenue; 519 N. Milwaukee Avenue (1883), which housed a dry goods store; and 521 N. Milwaukee Avenue, which was occupied by a furniture and paints store. Industrial development also increased along Sprague (now Cook) and Orchard (now Church) avenues east of the district, including the F. E. Hanley & Company factory, which produced butter and cheese; Wright & Son Lumber Company, established by Caleb Wright on the south side of Cook Avenue directly across from the train depot in the early 1880s; and the Chicago Metal Stamping Company, founded by Fred Bischoff.<sup>75</sup>

In 1894, Libertyville Township's first purpose-built town hall building opened at the north end of Libertyville's business district (now 715 N. Milwaukee Avenue). Designed by Chicago architect William Boyington, who had also designed Ansel B. Cook's mansion in the late 1870s, the building was an imposing Romanesque Revival structure that featured a square center tower clad in imported German sheet steel furnished by Bischoff's Metal Stamping Company.<sup>76</sup> The village also opened its first public park just south of the district around this time, and wooden sidewalks and street lamps were installed along Milwaukee Avenue.<sup>77</sup>

In the early hours of August 31, 1895, a fire began at the rear of George Schanck's hardware store at the northeast corner of Cook and Milwaukee Avenue. With no fire department and no public well, village citizens formed bucket brigades to combat the flames. A telegram requesting assistance was sent to Waukegan but later withdrawn when it was realized that help would not come in time. Business owners desperately rushed to remove items from the buildings closest to the fire, piling their belongings onto the grounds of Ansel B. Cook's house across the street on Milwaukee Avenue.<sup>78</sup> To prevent the fire from spreading farther north, the Commercial Hotel (formerly the Grove Hotel) was dynamited along with another adjacent building. By the time the fire was contained, nearly the entire east side of Milwaukee Avenue directly north and south of Cook Avenue had been destroyed, and other buildings had sustained considerable damage.

Within days of the fire, Libertyville's village board passed an ordinance requiring new buildings in the downtown be constructed of brick, and rebuilding began almost immediately. By the end of the year, a volunteer fire department was organized, and the village purchased its first fire engine.<sup>79</sup> George Schanck rebuilt his hardware store at its original location; the two-story brick building still stands in the district today, although it has since been altered. J. Eli Triggs and C. W. Taylor, who had founded Triggs & Taylor Grocery in the village in 1892, replaced their original wood building at the southeast corner of Milwaukee and Cook Avenue with a handsome Queen Anne-style brick commercial block that remains in the district. Triggs also erected a new two-story hotel building at the southwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Church Street at the south end of the business district around the same time.

In the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Libertyville evolved from a bustling village at the center of a farming community into a residential suburb for prominent Chicago businessmen. This evolution was made possible largely through improved rail transportation through the village. In 1900, a second spur of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway opened at the north end of downtown, providing regular commuter service for the first time in the village's history. Three years later, the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Railroad built a spur from Lake Bluff, further improving access. Substantial investments in infrastructure were also made during this time, with the establishment of water, gas, and sewer systems in

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<sup>75</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Map of Libertyville, Illinois, 1897, Sheet 2; *Libertyville, Illustrated* (Chicago: The Kehm, Fietch & Miller Co., 1897, re-published by the Libertyville-Mundelein Historical Society, 1993), 42.

<sup>76</sup> "Our New Town House," *Lake County Independent*, May 25, 1894, 5.

<sup>77</sup> *Libertyville Illustrated*, p. 29.

<sup>78</sup> Jenny Barry, "The Great Libertyville Fire of 1895," Cook Memorial Public Library website (accessed October 7, 2024 at <https://www.cooklib.org/the-great-libertyville-fire-of-1895/>).

<sup>79</sup> *Ibid.*

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the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Residential development expanded rapidly, and the city's population nearly doubled between 1900 and 1910, from 846 residents to over 1700.<sup>80</sup>

As Libertyville's population increased, commercial development soon followed, and fourteen new buildings were constructed in the village's downtown between 1900 and 1920. Among the first to be completed in the new century was the Proctor Building at 518-528 N. Milwaukee Avenue, an impressive two-story commercial block that contained five storefronts and a hotel. Completed in 1903 and hailed "Libertyville's first metropolitan building," the Proctor Block occupied over half a block of frontage along Milwaukee Avenue. The building was listed in the National Register in 1998 and designated a local landmark in 2016. The First National Bank Building was erected just north of the Proctor Building ten years later. At three stories, the building was the tallest commercial block in the village, and its dark brickwork and subdued detailing reference the popular Arts & Crafts style of the period. First National Bank occupied a large banking hall on the building's first floor, entered through a classical portico supported by stone columns. The banking hall and entrance were remodeled in 1929, and the building remains one of the most prominent early 20<sup>th</sup>-century structures in the district.

The early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century also saw the arrival of the automobile in Libertyville. Libertyville's first auto garage (no longer extant) opened near the northwest corner of Lake and Milwaukee Avenues in 1912, and two years later John Bernard opened a Chevrolet dealership in the building.<sup>81</sup> Other auto-related businesses proliferated in the village in the late 1910s and early 1920s, including a garage built by newspaper publisher Frank Just at 111-115 E. Church Street/345 N. Milwaukee Avenue in 1913, and a small gas station located south of the district along Milwaukee Avenue.

By the late 1910s, Lake County had become home to Chicago's most successful businessmen, many of whom purchased immense tracts of farmland and converted them into vast country estates. Among the first of Libertyville's new "landed gentry" was Samuel Insull, a British-born public utilities magnate and former business partner of Thomas Edison. Insull purchased the 160-acre Barr farm south of the village in 1906 and moved with his family into the existing farmhouse. In 1914, Insull commissioned well-known Chicago architect Benjamin Marshall to design a sprawling Renaissance-Revival mansion on the property, and over the next two decades he expanded his landholdings around the house to over 6,000 acres.<sup>82</sup>

Insull's influence over the development of Libertyville in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was significant. A newspaper article on Insull in the September 1932 edition of the *True Republican* described Libertyville as "a one-man town, and Samuel Insull. . . was that man."<sup>83</sup> At the time Insull moved to Libertyville, the village was supplied limited electricity through a small plant located on E. Cook Avenue and operated by the Insull-owned North Shore Electric Light Company. When Insull first moved to the village, he initially intended to run a single transmission line from the plant to his estate; however, after observing how limited electrical service was throughout much of Lake County, Insull devised a plan to connect all the county's towns and farms through an electrical network. Insull purchased ten existing part-time electrical plants in the county, including the North Shore Electric Light Company in Libertyville, and built a transmission line network that connected 21 of the 22 towns in the area, as well as 125 farms.<sup>84</sup> The success of Insull's experiment provided a template for rural electrification that was used throughout the country, and in 1911 he purchased multiple plants in suburbs around Chicago with the goal of linking them all through a systematized network under a new company called the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois.<sup>85</sup>

In the years following the establishment of the Public Service Company, Insull expanded his influence in Libertyville. In 1916, he purchased the ailing Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee Railway, improving and expanding the line through

<sup>80</sup> Ramsey Historic Consultants, *Architectural Resources in the Downtown Survey Area, Libertyville, Illinois: Summary and Inventory* (prepared for the Village of Libertyville, 2016), 16.

<sup>81</sup> Moran, p. 59.

<sup>82</sup> 2016 Survey Report, 18-19.

<sup>83</sup> "Insull's Department Shocks to Residents of Libertyville, Ill.," *True Republican*, September 10, 1932, 7.

<sup>84</sup> Forrest McDonald, *Insull, the Rise and Fall of a Billionaire Utility Tycoon* (Chicago: University of Chicago, 1962, reprinted by Beard Books, 2004), 137-139.

<sup>85</sup> *Ibid*, 143-144.

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the 1920s. He helped found the Libertyville Trust & Savings Bank in 1925 and in 1923 formed the Lake County Land Association with his son Samuel Insull, Jr. and business partner Joseph C. Reuse to purchase and develop residential subdivisions around the village. Insull also made substantial contributions toward the construction of the Elizabeth Condell Hospital.<sup>86</sup>

Insull's position in Libertyville in the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century is physically represented by the impressive commercial building he constructed for the Public Service Company in 1928, which still stands in the district at 340-354 N. Milwaukee Avenue. When it opened in November 1928, the building was hailed by the *Lake County Register* as "Libertyville's newest and most beautiful commercial building."<sup>87</sup> In addition to Insull's utilities company, the building also housed the Libertyville Trust & Savings Bank. Additional retail space was available on the ground floor of the building, and offices and kitchenette apartments occupied the second floor. An interior arcade provided access to shops and offices and opened onto a lavish courtyard at the rear of the building, which was later removed.

The Public Service Building was just one of several new commercial buildings constructed in downtown Libertyville in the 1920s to serve the growing suburban village. The Dall Building, a one-story Tudor-Revival commercial block built for Chicago real estate developer Benjamin J. Dall and completed in 1929, provided office space for Dall's Lake County Country Homes, Inc., as well as for his wife Margaret Caldwell Dall's art studio.<sup>88</sup> A large two-story commercial block south of the Public Service Building was also erected that year for Frank H. Bartholomay and housed the offices of Insull's business partner Joseph C. Reuse.<sup>89</sup> In 1921, the village converted the former Ansel B. Cook House at 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue into a public library, and the former grounds east of the building were re-purposed as a public park.

The 1920s and 1930s also saw the arrival of several national chain stores in Libertyville, including F. W. Woolworth's, the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, and the Chicago-based National Tea Company. Woolworth's opened in a storefront in the Proctor Building in the 1930s, and the National Tea Company opened in the Public Service Building in 1928. The Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company (A & P), which had established itself in the village several years earlier, moved into a streamlined, one-story purpose-built structure at 525-531 N. Milwaukee Avenue in 1940. Langworthy's, a local department store founded by Earl T. Langworthy in 1911, moved into the south storefront of the building, and took over both storefronts in the late 1950s.<sup>90</sup>

Several governmental, social, and recreational buildings were also added to the downtown in the 1930s. A United States Post Office was constructed at 135 W. Church Street in 1935 and remained in service as the village post office through the early 1990s. After gathering in various meeting spaces within existing commercial buildings for decades, Libertyville's Masonic Lodge #492 built a handsome Art Deco-style masonic temple at 536 Brainerd Avenue in 1931-32. In August of 1937, the Liberty Theater, the village's first purpose-built movie theater, opened to great fanfare. Located at 708 N. Milwaukee Avenue, the theater boasted a 750-seat theater, air conditioning, and a sleek Art Moderne façade with neon-lit banner sign and marquee.

In the years following World War II, Libertyville's historic central business district faced increasing competition from sprawling shopping centers located outside of the village center. Efforts were made in the 1950s and 1960s to make the historic downtown more attractive to shoppers—Milwaukee Road was widened in 1960, and parking lots were established on lots behind the commercial blocks on the road. Business owners modernized storefronts and placed eye-catching slip covers over 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century building facades. Many of these mid-century modernizations were later removed as buildings were again remodeled in the 1990s and early 2000s. Some businesses who chose to remain downtown also constructed new buildings during this period. Louis Petranek, owner of Petranek's Pharmacy, built a new Midcentury

<sup>86</sup> Jenny Barry, "One-Man Town," Cook Memorial Public Library website (accessed October 9, 2024 at <https://www.cooklib.org/one-man-town/>).

<sup>87</sup> "Public Service Building Opens," *The Lake County Register*, November 17, 1928, 1.

<sup>88</sup> Barry, Jenny and Lisa Marie Smith on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "707-711 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Dall Building," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 14, 2020 (accessed October 7, 2024. <https://theclio.com/entry/111444>).

<sup>89</sup> Mary Tompson on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "322-336 N. Milwaukee Avenue - The Bartholomay Building," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 1, 2020. (Accessed September 27, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/110478>).

<sup>90</sup> Marilyn Copeland on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "525-531 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Langworthy's Department Store," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 14, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/109686>).

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Modern one-story building at its original location at 426 N. Milwaukee Avenue in 1956 after a fire destroyed the building that had housed the pharmacy for decades, and Joseph's Flower Shop opened in a striking modern building at 200 E. Church Street in 1962.<sup>91</sup>

While downtown Libertyville did lose its status as a prime commercial center in the 1970s and 1980, concerted efforts made by government officials, business leaders, and residents in the 1990s and early 2000s reinvigorated commercial activity in the district, and today Libertyville's historic downtown serves as the thriving center of the community.

### **Building Types and Architectural Styles in the Libertyville Downtown Historic District**

The Libertyville Downtown Historic District is a cohesive collection of commercial, governmental, social, and recreational buildings that represent building types and architectural styles seen in many small towns and cities throughout the Midwest during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Building types in the district include one-part and two-part commercial blocks and social and government buildings, including the former Libertyville Town Hall (now American Legion Post 329), the former Libertyville Fire Station (now Libertyville Village Hall), and the former United States Post Office (now the Libertyville Civic Center). The district also contains a single religious structure built for the St. Lawrence Episcopal Church in 1917, and a Masonic Temple constructed for Masonic Lodge #492 in 1931-32.

The buildings in the district also reflect architectural styles that were popular during the district's period of development. Many of the district's commercial buildings are Vernacular Commercial structures that feature few stylistic elements, while others exhibit architectural detailing and characteristics of a variety of architectural styles, including Queen Anne, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Art Deco, and Mid-century Modern. Most commercial buildings in the district express architectural style through applied details like cornices, window detailing, and the decorative use of materials like brick, stone, or sheet metal, rather than through form, massing, or roofline.

Relatively little is known about the architects and builders that designed and constructed most of the buildings in the district. Many were likely designed by local builders without direct input from an architect. Most 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial buildings in the district had party walls with only one or two street elevations that could easily be embellished through the use manufactured architectural elements like storefronts and cornices that were available through manufacturers catalogs.

Along with Vernacular Commercial buildings, the district contains a significant number of architect-designed, high-style commercial and governmental buildings, many of which were constructed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and reflect Libertyville's evolution into a wealthy suburban enclave for Chicago businessmen. The Proctor Building (1903), the first large-scale commercial block to be constructed in Libertyville, features a handsome Queen-Anne façade marked by multiple upper-story projecting window bays. The Public Service Building (1928) is arguably the finest commercial building in Libertyville, and its Tudor-Revival design also contains Moorish Revival and Spanish Plateresque elements. The Dall Building, completed one year after the Public Service Building, also features a richly detailed Tudor Revival exterior within a one-story commercial block. A smaller number of significant late-19<sup>th</sup> century high-style buildings, including the Libertyville Town Hall (1894), the Libertyville Hotel (1897), and the Triggs & Taylor Building (1896), are spaced throughout the district. The Ansel B. Cook House (1878), the oldest known building in the district, is the only architecturally-significant building in the district that was originally built as a single-family residence and combines elements of the original 19<sup>th</sup>-century design with a prominent Classical-Revival portico that was added when the house was converted into the Cook Memorial Library in 1921.

In addition to 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century designs, a substantial number of buildings in the district were constructed or remodeled in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, reflecting the continued evolution of Libertyville's historic downtown through the decades following World War II. Most of the existing 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century buildings that were modernized in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s have subsequently been remodeled with more traditional facades, but a small number—including

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<sup>91</sup> Jenny Barry on behalf of Libertyville Historical Society, "426 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Petranek's," Clío: Your Guide to History, September 11, 2020 (accessed October 1, 2024 at <https://theclio.com/entry/111517>).



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the two-story commercial building at 117 E. Cook Avenue, which was remodeled with a stripped-down, angled façade in 1956—retain their mid-century designs. Most buildings constructed in the 1950s and 1960s are one-story commercial blocks or freestanding commercial buildings that feature minimal exterior ornamentation. Among the most notable of these post-war buildings is the Mid-century Modern-style freestanding commercial structure at 200 E. Church Street, designed by local architect Rodney Wright and completed in 1962.

Through their form and details, the buildings in the Libertyville Downtown Historic District exemplify the historic themes that define this area of the village, and the buildings collectively represent the development of Libertyville's historic downtown from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century through the mid-1970s.

*Building Types*

Using the terminology of historic commercial building types outlined by architectural historian Richard Longstreth in his book, *The Buildings of Main Street*, the most common property type in the Libertyville Downtown Historic District is the **two-part commercial block**. Two-part commercial blocks are two-to-three stories buildings that feature first-floor retail establishments marked by storefronts with large expanses of glass. The upper floors of the buildings contain offices, apartments, or meeting halls, and generally feature smaller window openings set within walls clad with brick or stone. The upper level of the two-part commercial block is visually distinct from the storefront level. Examples from the 19<sup>th</sup> century often include ornamental metal cornices or stringcourses; projecting second-story bays were also sometimes clad in metal embossed with various designs. Early 20<sup>th</sup>-century examples often featured ornamental parapet walls of brick or stone.

Approximately one-quarter of the buildings in the Libertyville Downtown Historic District are examples of two-part commercial blocks. Typical examples include 322-334 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 406-410 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 521-523 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 532-534 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 543-545 N. Milwaukee Avenue, and 614-618 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

**One-part commercial blocks** are one-story structures with facades largely taken up by their ground-level storefronts. One-part commercial blocks can also feature embellishments—often decorative parapet walls—above the storefronts. A substantial percentage of one-part commercial blocks in downtown Libertyville were built between 1920 and 1960; typical one-part commercial blocks can be found in the district at 124 E. Church Street, 107 E. Church Street, 336 and 338 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 400-404 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 416 N. Milwaukee Avenue and 515 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

The former Lake County National Bank Building at 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue is the sole example of the **central front with wings** building type, which features a taller center section flanked by shorter wings. The temple-like center portico at the center section of the building features fluted columns and a triangular pediment. The building was extensively altered in the late 1960s, but the front façade was restored in the mid-1980s.

Although most commercial buildings in the district that line N. Milwaukee Avenue are one- or two-part commercial blocks, there are also a small number of **freestanding commercial** structures along W. Cook Avenue and W. Church Street, most dating from the post-war period. Examples of freestanding commercial buildings in the district include 112 E. Church Street, 117-125 E. Church Street, and 200 E. Church Street.

*Architectural Styles*

The **Queen Anne** style is the most common architectural style seen on commercial buildings from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century through the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Based on earlier revivals of late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> century English architecture in England, the Queen Anne style evolved in America to become the favored Victorian-era style in small towns throughout the country. While residential examples of the Queen Anne style often feature complex building forms and a wide variety of architectural materials and detailing, commercial examples are often characterized by their applied detailing and projecting bays and turrets. There are several well-preserved late 19<sup>th</sup>-century examples of the style in the Libertyville Downtown Historic District, including the former Libertyville Hotel at 355-357 N. Milwaukee Avenue, the



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Triggs & Taylor building at 428-432 N. Milwaukee Avenue, and the building at 535-541 N. Milwaukee Avenue. The Proctor Building at 518-528 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a later example of the style from 1903 and features a combination of Queen Anne-style projecting bays with a simple classical metal cornice and classical hotel entrance.

The Libertyville Town Hall at 715 N. Milwaukee Avenue, designed by prominent Chicago architect William Boyington and completed in 1894, is the sole example in the district of the **Romanesque Revival** style, which was used on governmental, institutional, and commercial buildings in the mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Popularized in the United States by architect Henry Hobson Richardson, the style freely incorporates elements of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century European Romanesque designs. The style is most strongly characterized by the use of round arches, rustication, and contrasting materials that were often applied in bands around windows. Romanesque Revival buildings often featured complex massing or prominent towers that were embedded in the walls of the building. Boyington's design for the Town Hall is a relatively restrained example of the style, with large round-arch windows and a square tower that rises from the center of the facade. Painted embossed sheet metal gives the appearance of rustic stonework on the tower walls.

Several early 20<sup>th</sup>-century commercial buildings in the district display elements of the **Classical Revival** style, which gained popularity after the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Based on the enduring architecture of ancient Greece and Rome, the Classical Revival style exhibits classical architectural elements including columns, pilasters, entablatures, pediments, and moldings. The facades of Classical Revival buildings are usually symmetrical, with entrances that are heavily ornamented. An early 20<sup>th</sup>-century example of the style as applied to a two-part commercial block is the Bulkley Building, constructed in 1902 at 602-610 N. Milwaukee Avenue. The Classical Revival style was also a popular choice for bank buildings in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century—the restored Lake County National Bank Building at 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue is a typical example from the early 1920s, with its classical portico with fluted columns and a prominent triangular pediment.

A related style that also employs classical architectural elements in the **Colonial Revival** style, which was based on colonial American houses and governmental buildings and began in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The style surged in popularity in the 1930s and 1940s due to interest in the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg, and remained a popular style for residences, small-scale commercial buildings, churches, banks, and shopping centers through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Colonial Revival buildings typically feature red brick exteriors with white painted trim and classical detailing at entrances and windows. An excellent 1920s commercial example of the style in the district is the Bartholomay Building at 322-334 N. Milwaukee Avenue, which features a symmetrical façade with a classical stone second-floor entrance surround and oval windows above.

The First National Bank Building at 536-542 N. Milwaukee Avenue exhibits elements of the **Arts & Crafts** style, which peaked in popularity between roughly 1905 and 1920. Based on the design philosophies of 19<sup>th</sup>-century art and architecture critics like John Ruskin and William Morris, the Arts & Crafts style is characterized by the “honest” use of building materials that emphasizes the color and texture. Applied detailing on Arts & Crafts-style building is generally kept to a minimum, and visual embellishment is often achieved through geometric designs in contrasting-color bricks or brick and stone, a technique that is utilized on the upper stories of the First National Bank Building.

The **Art Deco** style was used for the design of the Masonic Temple at 356 Brainerd Street in the early 1930s, a period during which the style was rising in popularity in the United States. The Art Deco style gets its name from the Exposition des Art Decoratifs, a world's fair held in Paris in 1925 that emphasized a highly decorative iteration of modernism in architecture and design. Although the stylistic motifs used in Art Deco architecture can vary widely, the style is generally characterized by linear, hard-edged forms and an emphasis on verticality. Ornament is often geometric or features stylized foliate motifs, and is generally restricted to entrances, windows, and parapet walls. The Masonic Temple is an excellent example of the Art Deco style as applied to a social building—the verticality of the building's projecting front bay is emphasized by the double-height surround and vertical channels in which the windows on the façade and west bays of the side elevations are set. Ornamentation is limited to the entry and to the spandrels between the first and second-story windows and features highly stylized iterations of masonic symbols.

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**Mid-century Modernism** is evident in several commercial buildings constructed in the decades immediately following the end of World War II. Small-scale Mid-century Modern commercial buildings like those seen in downtown Libertyville are generally one-part commercial blocks or freestanding commercial buildings that are spare in overall design and lack any applied detailing. Most examples feature aluminum storefronts with large expanses of glass. Walls above the storefront level are generally flat expanses of brick or other masonry. Representative examples in the district include the Illinois Bell Building at 117-125 E. Church Street, 400-404 N. Milwaukee Avenue, and 111-113 E. Cook Avenue. An excellent example of a Mid-century Modern freestanding commercial building is the building that formerly housed Joseph's Flower Shop at 200 E. Church Street. Designed by Rodney Wright and completed in 1962, the building's severe one-story brick-clad form is distinguished by a steeply-pitched Neo-Expressionist skylight that rises from the center of the building. The 1968 addition to the Cook Memorial Library is also a prominent example of Mid-century Modern architecture in the district.

A number of buildings in the district are **Vernacular Commercial** buildings, which lack any definite stylistic influence and feature simple exterior without ornamentation. Some were originally built in this style, while other buildings appear as Vernacular Commercial designs because they have had any identifying stylistic features removed or altered. Examples in the district include 124 E. Church Street, 107-109 E. Cook Avenue, and 543 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

\_\_\_\_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)  
\_\_\_\_ previously listed in the National Register

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
\_\_\_\_ Other State agency  
\_\_\_\_ Federal agency

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previously determined eligible by the National Register  
designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

Local government  
 University  
 Other

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

Name of repository: Chicago History Museum  
Libertyville-Mundelein Historical Society; Cook  
Memorial Public Library

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Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):



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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** 28.2

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>42.290524</u> Latitude	<u>-87.951494</u> Longitude	3	<u>42.285369</u> Latitude	<u>-87.957003</u> Longitude
2	<u>42.290563</u> Latitude	<u>-87.957018</u> Longitude	4	<u>42.285331</u> Latitude	<u>-87.951522</u> Longitude

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the district are as follows; beginning at North Milwaukee Avenue, west along north lines of parcel 1116300164 containing the former Libertyville Town Hall Building; south along the boundary of this parcel to Lake Street, west along Lake Street to the right-of-way directly west of parcel 1116300060, south along the right-of-way and the west lot lines of the parcels containing the N. Milwaukee Avenue public parking lot and Libertyville Village Hall at 118 W. Cook Avenue (tax parcels 1116305005, 1116305006, 1116300165, 1116305012 and 1116305013) to W. Cook Avenue; west along W. Cook Avenue to Brainerd Avenue; south and southwest along Brainerd Avenue to the southwest corner of the parcel containing the Libertyville Masonic Temple at 356 Brainerd Avenue (tax parcel 1116300122); east along the south line of the parcel to the southeast corner of parcel 1116300096; north along the east line of the parcel to the southwest corner of the lot containing the St. Lawrence Episcopal Church at 125 W. Church Street (tax parcel 1116300097); east along the south line of this lot to the southwest corner of parcel 1116300160; south along the west line of this lot to its southwest corner; east along the south line of this lot and continuing east along the south lines of the parcels containing 121 W. Church Street and 111 W. Church Street (tax parcels 1116300161 and 1116300099); south along the west line of the lot containing Heritage Court at 339 N. Milwaukee Avenue (tax parcel 1116300127); south along this lot to North Milwaukee Avenue; south/southeast along North Milwaukee Avenue to Broadway; east/southeast along Broadway to the south line of the lot containing the Bartholomay Building at 322-334 N. Milwaukee Avenue (tax parcel 1116414009) north/northeast along the boundary of the parking lot directly east of the Bartholomay Building to the north line of the parcel (south line of parcel 1116400056); east/southeast along the south lot lines of parcels 1116400056, 1116400057, and 1116414008 to Wright Court; north/northeast along Wright Court to E. Church Street; east along E. Church Street to the southeast corner of the parcel containing the former Joseph's Flowers Building at 200 E. Church Street (tax parcel 1116411022); north along the east line of the parcel and west along the north line of the parcel to the northeast corner of the parcel containing the residential building at 144 E. Church Street (tax parcel 1116411021); west/northwest along the north line of this parcel and the parcels containing the buildings at 140 E. Church Street and 134-136 E. Church Street (tax parcels 1116411020 and 1116411019); west/northwest along the north line of the parcel containing 130 E. Church Street (tax parcel 1116411018) to the southeast corner of the lot containing the former Coy Lumber Company Building at 133 E. Cook Avenue (tax parcel 1116411006); north along the east line of parcel and west along the north line of the parcel to its northwest corner; north across E. Cook Avenue to the southwest corner of parcel 1116405066; north along the east line of this parcel and the east lines of the parcels that contain the parking lots behind the east side of the 500 block of North Milwaukee Avenue (tax parcels 1116405018, 1116400015, and 1116405006) to School Street; west along School Street to the southeast corner of parcel 1116300069, which contains the south half of the Bulkley Building at 602-610 N. Milwaukee; north along the east line of this parcel and parcel containing the north half of the building (tax parcel 1116300148) to the northeast corner of the latter parcel; west along parcel 1116300148 to the southeast corner of parcel 1116300067; north along the east line of this parcel and the east lines of parcels 1116300066,

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1116300178, and 1116404013, which contain the buildings at 614-18, 620-622, and 624 N. Milwaukee Avenue; east from the northeast corner of 1116404013 to the southeast corner of parcel 1116303004; north along the east line of this parcel and parcels 1116303003 and 1116303002 to Newberry Avenue; west along Newberry Avenue to N. Milwaukee Avenue; and north/northwest along Milwaukee Avenue to the point at which the description began.

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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries for the Libertyville Downtown Historic District include the most significant and historically intact concentration of the village's downtown commercial, governmental, recreational, and social buildings. District boundaries were drawn to include major historic and architectural resources, while minimizing the number of non-contributing resources.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Lara Ramsey date October 14, 2024  
organization Ramsey Historic Consultants, Inc. telephone 312-613-1039  
street & number 1105 W. Chicago Avenue, Suite 201 email lara@ramseyhcinc.com  
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60642

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photo Log**

**Name of Property:** Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
**City or Vicinity:** Libertyville  
**County:** Lake **State:** Illinois  
**Photographer:** Lara Ramsey, Ramsey Historic Consultants, Inc.  
**Date Photographed:** August 2024, January 2025

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 32. Bartholomay Building, 322-334 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view southeast.
- Photo 2 of 32. Public Services Building, 340-354 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view southeast.
- Photo 3 of 32. 100 Block of E. Church Street, north side, view east.
- Photo 4 of 32. Former Joseph's Flowers Building, 200 E. Church Street, view north.
- Photo 5 of 32. 100 Block of E. Church Street, south side, view southwest.
- Photo 6 of 32. 100 Block of E. Church Street, view west.
- Photo 7 of 32. View southwest from the intersection of N. Milwaukee Avenue and W. Church Street.
- Photo 8 of 32. View southeast from the intersection of N. Milwaukee Avenue and W. Church Street.
- Photo 9 of 32. 100 Block of W. Church Street, south side, view southeast.
- Photo 10 of 32. Former United States Post Office Building, 135 W. Church Street, view south.
- Photo 11 of 32. Masonic Temple, 356 Brainerd Street, view west.
- Photo 12 of 32. Cook Park, 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view east through park to former Ansel B. Cook House/Cook Memorial Library.
- Photo 13 of 32. Ansel B. Cook House/Cook Memorial Library, 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view east.
- Photo 14 of 32. Cook Memorial Library, 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 1968 addition, south and west elevations, view north.
- Photo 15 of 32. 400 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, east side, view southeast.
- Photo 16 of 32. 400 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, east side, view east.
- Photo 17 of 32. 416 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northeast.

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- Photo 18 of 32. 100 Block of E. Cook Avenue, north side, view north.
- Photo 19 of 32. View west from the intersection of N. Milwaukee Avenue and Cook Avenue.
- Photo 20 of 32. Lake County National Bank Building, 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northwest.
- Photo 21 of 32. 500 Block N. Milwaukee Avenue, east side, view southeast.
- Photo 22 of 32. Proctor Building, 518-528 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northeast.
- Photo 23 of 32. 500 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northeast
- Photo 24 of 32. 523-524 N. Milwaukee Avenue and the First National Bank Building at the southeast corner of N. Milwaukee Avenue and School Street, view northeast.
- Photo 25 of 32. 535-541 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view west.
- Photo 26 of 32. Bulkley Building, 602-610 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view east.
- Photo 27 of 32. 600 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, view southeast.
- Photo 28 of 32. 600 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northwest.
- Photo 29 of 32. 115-125 Lake Street, view southwest.
- Photo 30 of 32. Dall Building, 701-711 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northwest.
- Photo 31 of 32. Liberty Theatre, 708 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northeast.
- Photo 32 of 32. Libertyville Town Hall, 715 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view west.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

**Property name:** Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
**Illinois, County:** Lake

### List of Figures

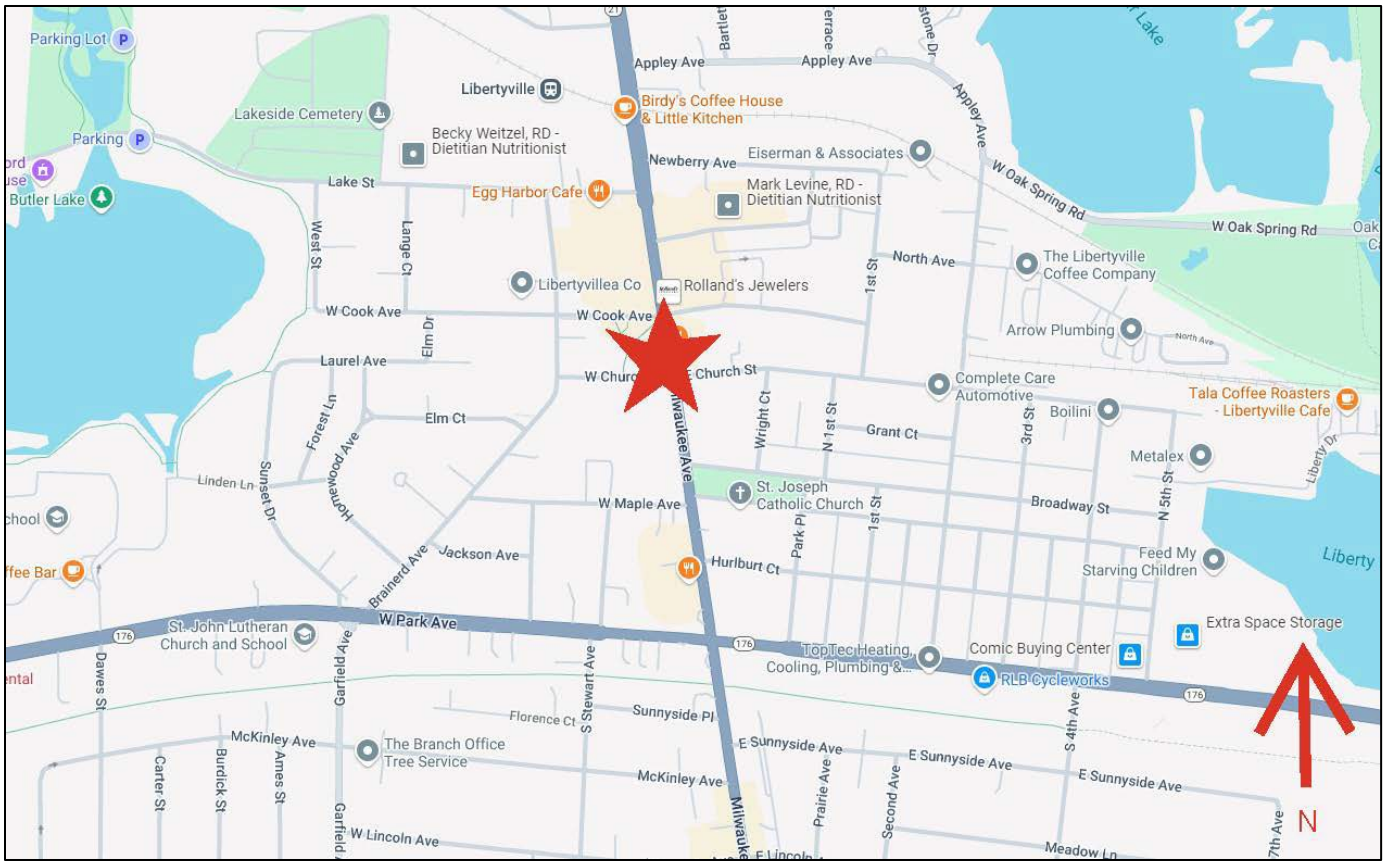
(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

[All historic photographs are taken from the collection of the Libertyville-Mundelein Historical Society]

- Figure 1.** Libertyville Downtown Historic District – Location map
- Figure 2.** Libertyville Downtown Historic District – Coordinates Map (Google Earth)
- Figure 3.** Libertyville Downtown Historic District – Boundary Map (Google Earth)
- Figure 4.** Libertyville Downtown Historic District – Map showing location of non-contributing properties
- Figure 5.** Historic photograph of the east side of Milwaukee Avenue after the Great Libertyville Fire of 1895.
- Figure 6.** Postcard of the 400 block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, east side, c. 1900.
- Figure 7.** 1907 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Map showing the 400, 500, and 600 blocks of N. Milwaukee Avenue.
- Figure 8.** 1920s photograph looking north to the 500 block of N. Milwaukee Avenue.
- Figure 9.** c. 1915 photograph of the Libertyville Hotel at the southwest corner of N. Milwaukee Avenue and W. Church Street.
- Figure 10.** 1909 postcard of the Libertyville Town Hall, 715 N. Milwaukee Avenue.
- Figure 11.** 1920s photograph of the Lake County National Bank, 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue.
- Figure 12.** 1920s photograph of the First National Bank Building, southeast corner of N. Milwaukee Avenue and School Street.
- Figure 13.** c. 1940 photograph of the Liberty Theatre, 708 N. Milwaukee Avenue.
- Figure 14.** c. 1975 photograph of the Liberty Theatre after 1960s remodeling
- Figure 15.** 1952 photograph looking south on N. Milwaukee Avenue from the Libertyville Town Hall.
- Figure 16.** 1950s photograph of Petranek’s Pharmacy (426 N. Milwaukee Avenue) and the Triggs & Taylor Building (428-432 N. Milwaukee Avenue).
- Figure 17.** 1970s assessor’s photo showing mid-century alterations to the Lake County Bank Building (501-505 N. Milwaukee Avenue) and the Lake County National Bank Building (507 N. Milwaukee Avenue).

Property name: Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
Illinois, County: Lake

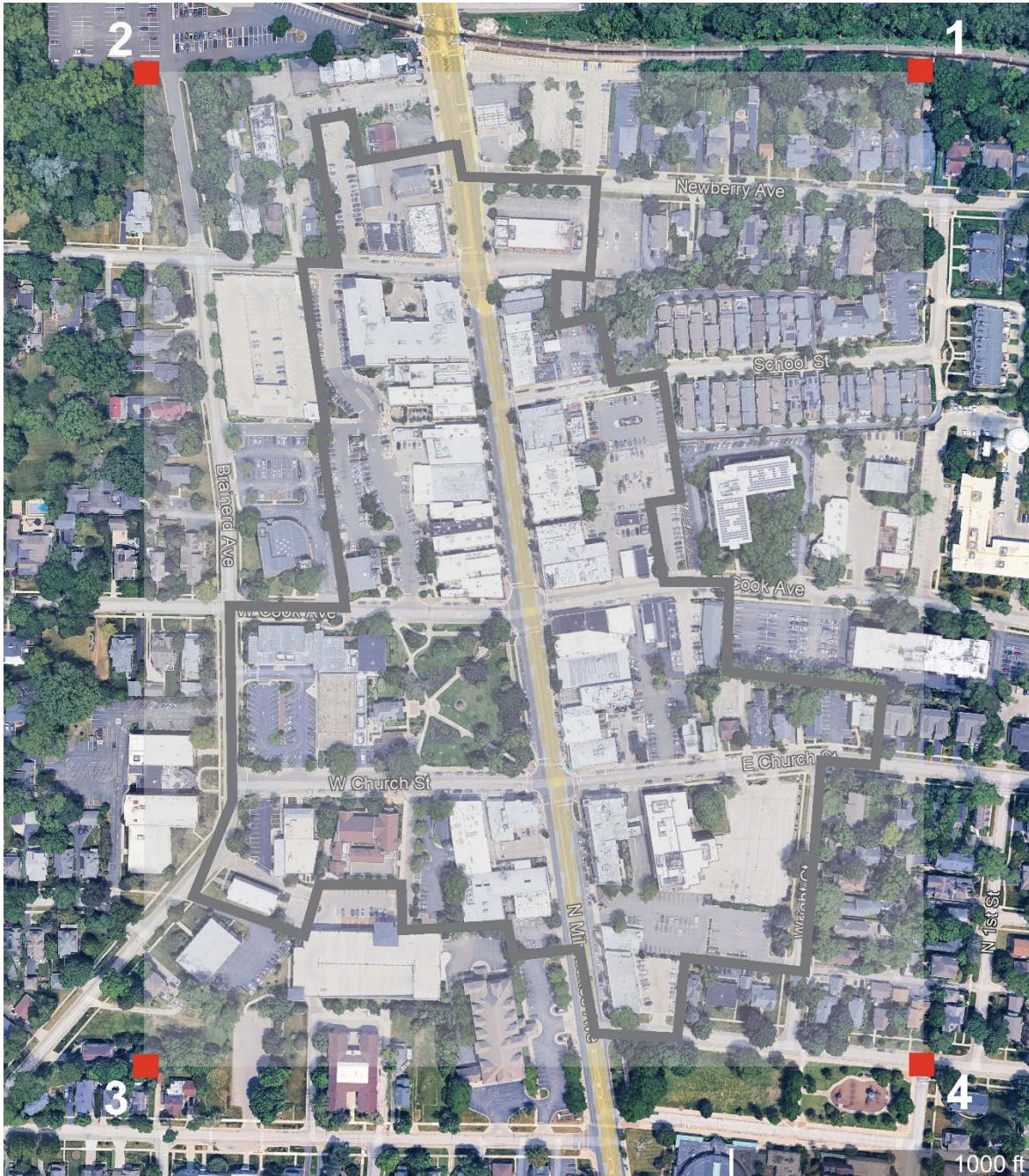
Figure 1. Libertyville Downtown Historic District – Location Map





Property name: Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
Illinois, County: Lake

Figure 2. Libertyville Downtown Historic District – GIS Coordinates Map



Coordinates:

1.	42.290524	-87.951494	3.	42.285369	-87.957003
2.	42.290563	-87.957018	4.	42.285331	-87.951522





Property name: Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
Illinois, County: Lake

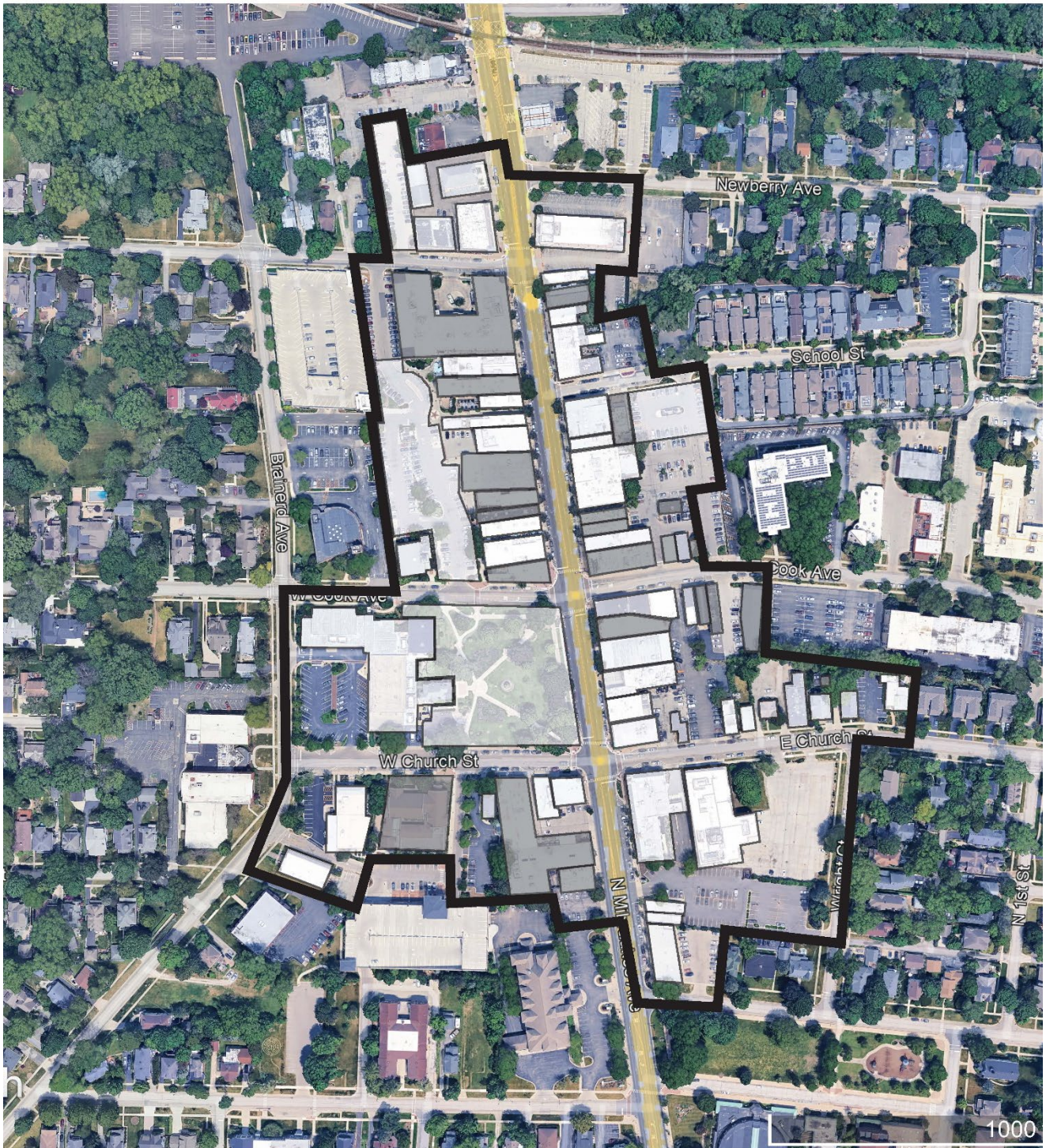
Figure 3. Libertyville Downtown Historic District – Boundary Map





Property name: Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
Illinois, County: Lake

Figure 4. Libertyville Downtown Historic District – Ratings Map





**Property name:** Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
**Illinois, County:** Lake

**Figure 5.** Historic photograph of the east side of Milwaukee Avenue after the Great Libertyville Fire of 1895.



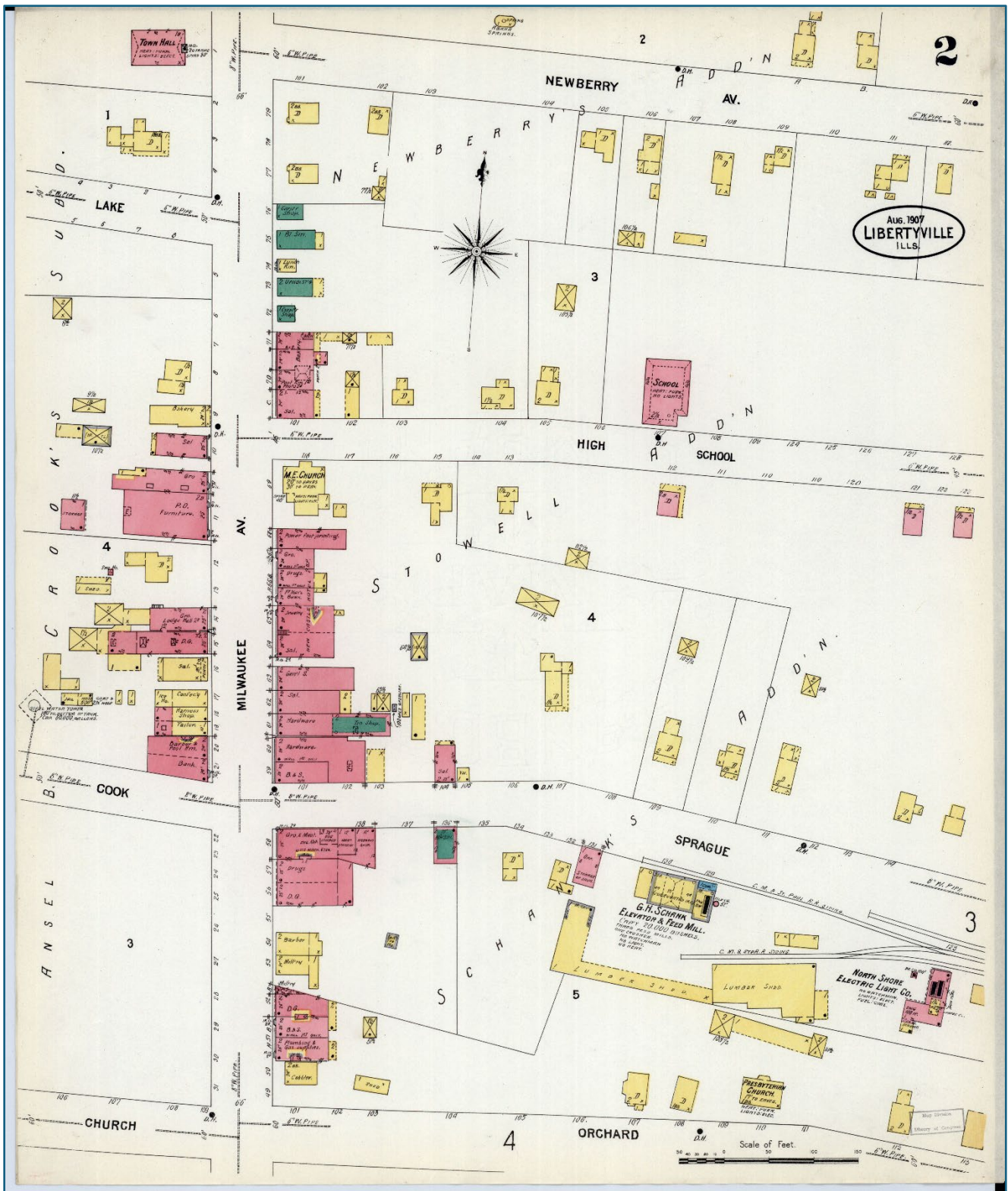
**Figure 6.** Postcard of the 400 block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, east side, c. 1900.





Property name: Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
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Figure 7. 1907 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Map showing the 400, 500, and 600 blocks of N. Milwaukee Avenue.



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**Figure 8.** 1920s photograph looking north to the 500 block of N. Milwaukee Avenue.



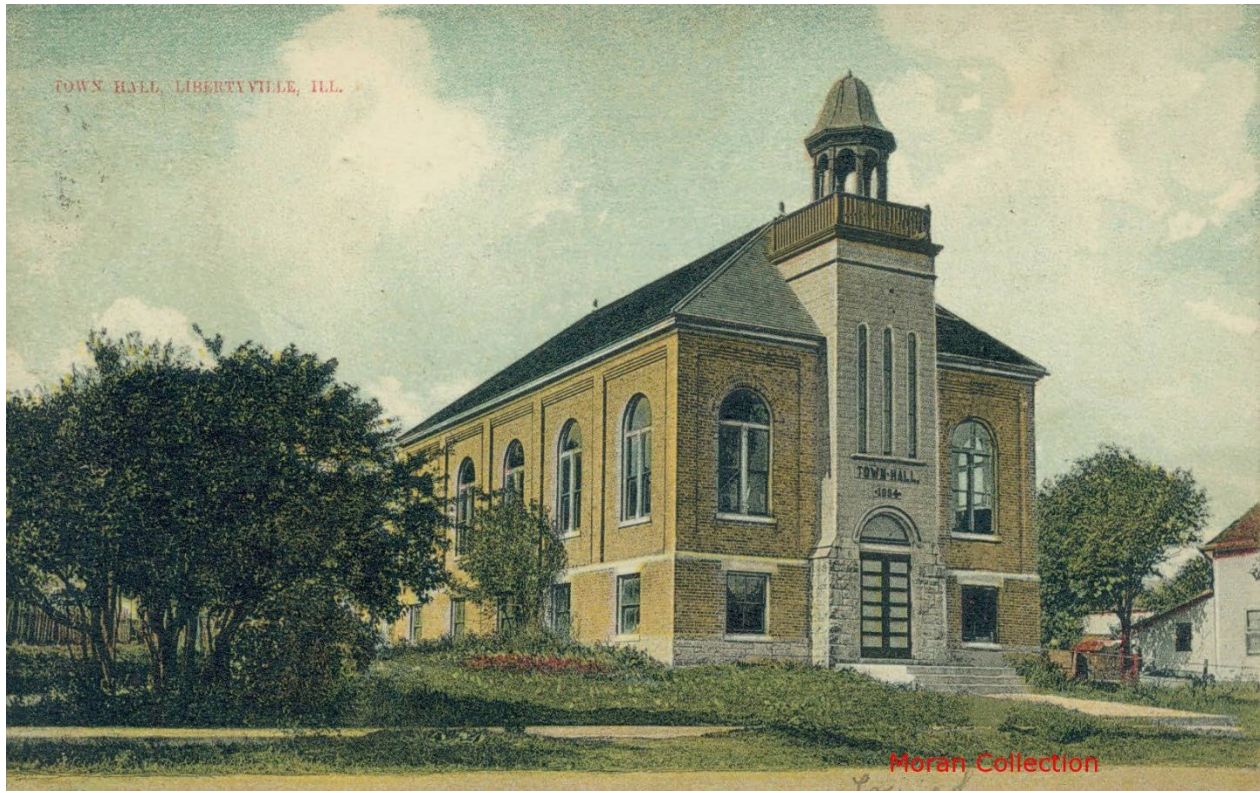
**Figure 9.** c. 1915 photograph of the Libertyville Hotel at the southwest corner of N. Milwaukee Avenue and W. Church Street.





**Property name:** Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
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**Figure 10.** 1909 postcard of the Libertyville Town Hall, 715 N. Milwaukee Avenue (Moran collection)



**Figure 11.** 1920s photograph of the Lake County National Bank, 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue.





**Property name:** Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
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**Figure 12.** 1920s photograph of the First National Bank Building, southeast corner of N. Milwaukee Avenue and School Street.



**Figure 13.** c. 1940 photograph of the Liberty Theatre, 708 N. Milwaukee Avenue.



**Figure 14.** c. 1975 photograph of Liberty Theatre after 1960s remodeling



**Property name:** Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
**Illinois, County:** Lake

**Figure 14.** 1952 photograph looking south on N. Milwaukee Avenue from the Libertyville Town Hall.



**Figure 16.** 1950s photograph of Petranek's Pharmacy (426 N. Milwaukee Avenue) and the Triggs & Taylor Building (428-432 N. Milwaukee Avenue).

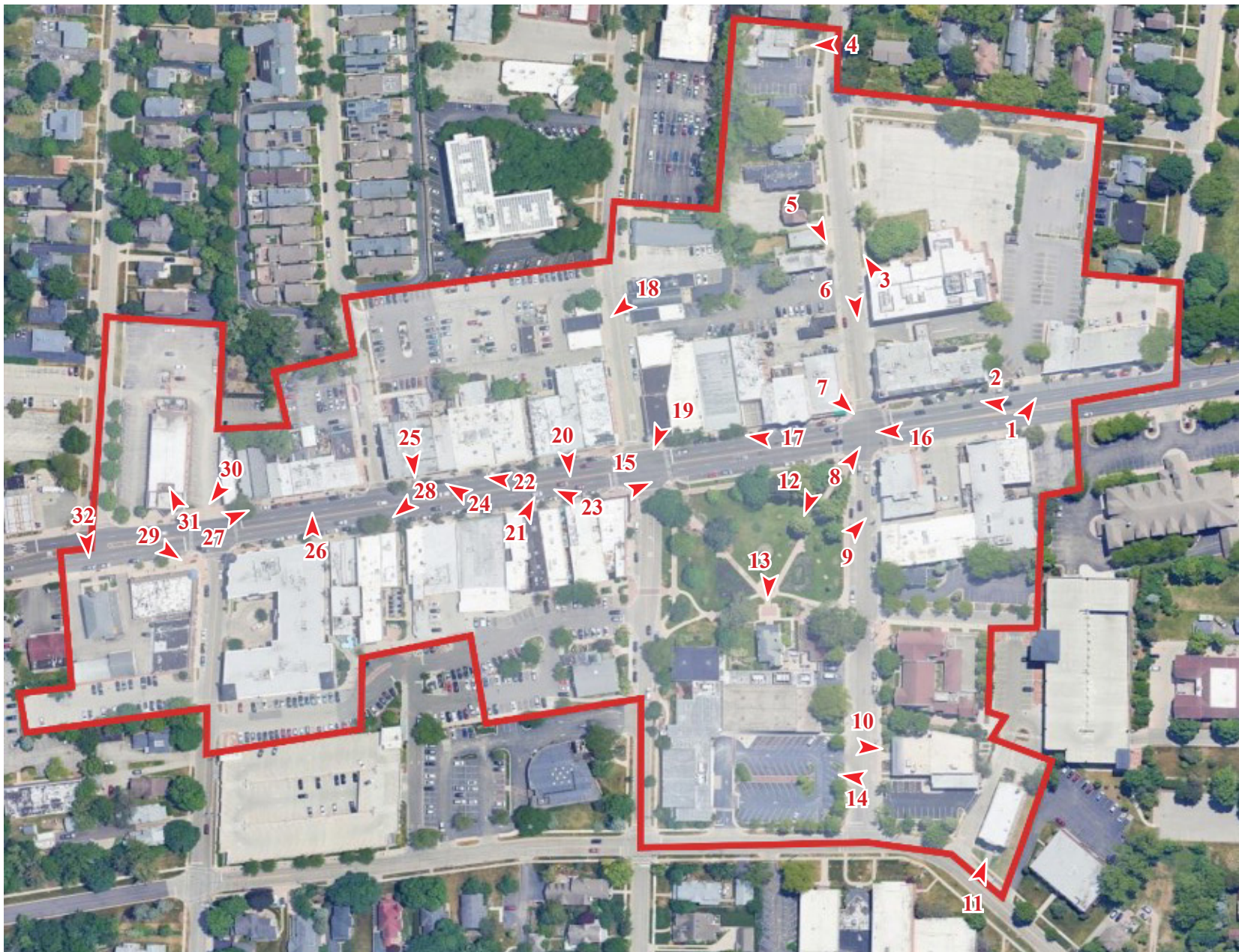




**Property name:** Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
**Illinois, County:** Lake

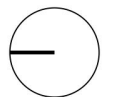
**Figure 17.** 1970s assessor's photo showing mid-century alterations to the Lake County Bank Building (501-505 N. Milwaukee Avenue) and the Lake County National Bank Building (507 N. Milwaukee Avenue).





Libertyville Downtown Historic District  
Libertyville, Lake County, IL

National Register Nomination  
Photo Key





National Register Nomination  
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Libertyville, Lake County, IL



Photo 1: Bartholomay Building, 322-334 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view southeast.



Photo 2: Public Services Building, 340-354 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view southeast.



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Photo 3: 100 Block of E. Church Street, north side, view east.



Photo 4: Former Justin's Flowers Building, 200 E. Church Street, view north



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Photo 5. 100 Block of E. Church Street, south side, view southwest.



Photo 6. 100 Block of E. Church Street, view west.



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Photo 7: View southwest from the intersection of N. Milwaukee Avenue and W. Church Street.



Photo 8: View southeast from the intersection of N. Milwaukee Avenue and W. Church Street.



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Photo 9: 100 Block of W. Church Street, south side, view southeast



Photo 10: Former United States Post Office Building, 135 W. Church Street, view south.



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Photo 11: Masonic Temple, 356 Brainerd Street, view west.



Photo 12: Cook Park, 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view east through park to former Ansel B. Cook House/Cook Memorial Library.



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Photo 13: Ansel B. Cook House/Cook Memorial Library, 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view east.



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Photo 14: Cook Memorial Library, 413 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 1968 addition, south and west elevations, view north.



Photo 15: 400 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, east side, view southeast.



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Photo 16: 400 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, east side, view east.



Photo 17: 416 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northeast.



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Photo 18: 100 Block of E. Cook Avenue, north side, view north.



Photo 19: View west from the intersection of N. Milwaukee Avenue and Cook Avenue.



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Photo 20: Lake County National Bank Building, 507 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northwest.



Photo 21: 500 Block N. Milwaukee Avenue, east side, view southeast.



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Photo 22: Proctor Building, 518-528 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northeast.



Photo 23: 500 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northeast



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Photo 24: 523-524 N. Milwaukee Avenue and the First National Bank Building at the southeast corner of N. Milwaukee Avenue and School Street, view northeast.



Photo 25: 535-541 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view west.



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Photo 26: Bulkley Building, 602-610 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view east.



Photo 27: 600 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, view southeast.



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Photo 28: 600 Block of N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northwest.



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Photo 29: 115-125 Lake Street, view southwest.



Photo 30: Dall Building, 701-711 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northwest



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Photo 31: Liberty Theatre, 708 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view northeast



Photo 32: Libertyville Town Hall, 715 N. Milwaukee Avenue, view west.