

Story City Century Homes & Buildings 1913 - 2013

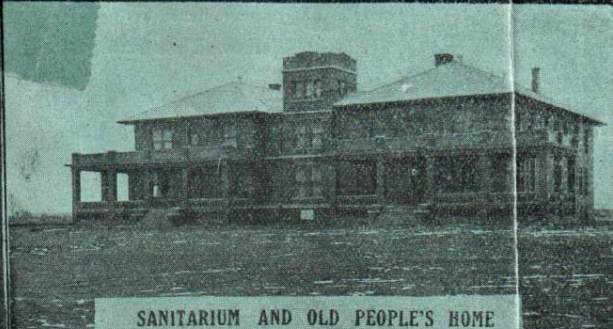
The year of **1913** was a prosperous year for Story City's architectural footprint. During this year several historic homes and commercial structures were constructed. To celebrate this significant achievement within Story City, an advertisement was publicized by the Story City Commercial Club depicting the **25** homes and the **4** major commercial buildings that were erected. The advertisement was a pictorial display of the buildings and homes and listed the original owners of the properties.

An original copy of this advertisement still exists after a century's time, as do many of the homes and buildings that were built in **1913**. Just as the advertisement celebrated the accomplishment of one year's worth of construction, the Historical Society wanted to celebrate the architectural accomplishments that continue to be prevalent 100 years later.

This packet is a special project produced by the Story City Historical Society to retell the original story of the homes and buildings built in **1913**. Because no addresses were provided on the original advertisement and many of the homes have been renovated or modified over the years, it was a challenge to see how many of these homes and buildings still existed. Much of the information was gathered by researching archived editions of the **1913 Herald** newspapers. This packet contains a copy of the original advertisement, a corresponding map of the current locations of the homes/buildings, pictures of the current homes/buildings, and any information found in the **1913 Herald**s.

This packet can be used as a road map for a walking or driving tour to view the exterior architecture of the **1913** homes and buildings.

Story City Historical Society
619 Grand Ave, Story City, IA 50248
515-460-1749



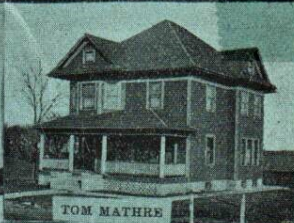
SANITARIUM AND OLD PEOPLE'S HOME



O. S. WIERSON



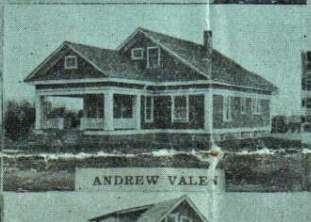
MRS. ANNA ERSLAND



TOM MATHRE



MARTIN JENSEN



ANDREW VALE



T. L. OLSON



O. A. OLSON



L. L. DALE



O. G. HENDRICKSON



GUDMOND AMLUND



RILEY STEVENS



EVEN AMLUND



HOGEN FRETTE



PETER BOYD



J. H. JACOBSON



ANDREW LANGLAND



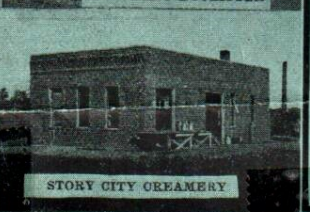
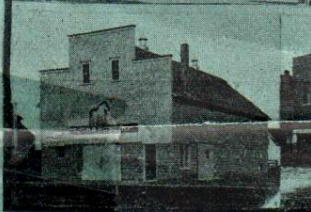
MRS. BERTHA JOHNSON



MRS. LARS THORSON



MRS. MARY DOOLITTLE



STORY CITY NATIONAL BANK

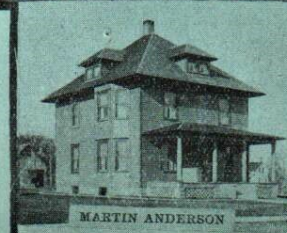
STORY CITY CREAMERY



M. G. BOYD



FRED CORNELIUSSEN



MARTIN ANDERSON



OLE EGESNES



TOM MASON



CHRIS DALE

THESE BUILDINGS
WERE ALL ERECTED
IN STORY CITY, IOWA
== IN 1913 ==

A Quarter of a Million
Dollars Worth of Con-
struction in ONE YEAR

STORY CITY COMMERCIAL CLUB DIRECTORS

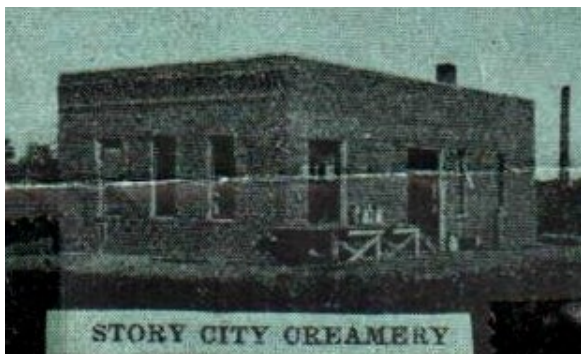
A. M. HENDERSON. PRES.; P. A. OLSON. SEC'Y;
C. ALSAGER, J. DONHOWE, E. L. ERICSON, H. O.
HANSON, T. T. HENRYSON, ALEX HENDERSON, H.
HOVLAND, B. T. HOLM, D. JOHNSON, GEO. LAR-
SON, M. O. MARVICK, TOM MASON, O. A. OLSON,
L. J. TJERNAGEL, E. G. WIGGINS, A. WILLIAMSON

WRITE ANY ONE OF THE ABOVE FOR INFORMATION.



OPERA HOUSE AND HOTEL

1. Story City Creamery (Was located east in the alley in the 500 block of Grand Ave)



April 10th, 1913—The material is being hauled into place for the new creamery, for which Sampson Grotness has the contract. The building will be made of brick and thoroughly up to date in every particular.

Sept. 25th, 1913—The creamery is now located in new building. The old building is being torn down this week, the material having been sold to various parties. In the new building the local creamery company are finally equipped for turning out good, wholesome butter in the most economical manner.

According to the 1931 *Story City Golden Jubilee Book*, the creamery was doing \$150,000 worth of business a year.

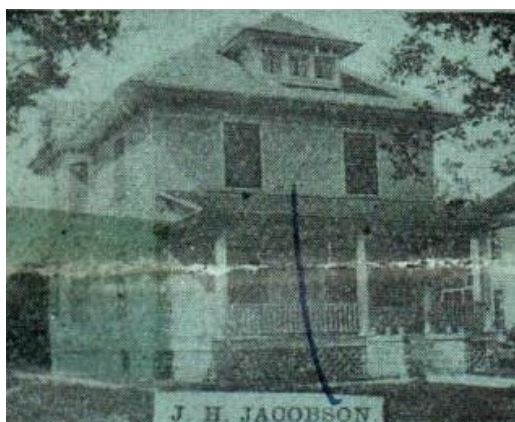
2. Tom Mason Home (903 Washington St)



April 10th, 1913—Tom Mason has started construction of his new residence on the lot he recently purchased from Ben Holm, on the corner south of the creamery.

July 31st, 1913—Tom Mason moved into new residence south of the creamery last week.

3. J.H. Jacobson Home (503 Lafayette Ave)



J.H. Jacobson

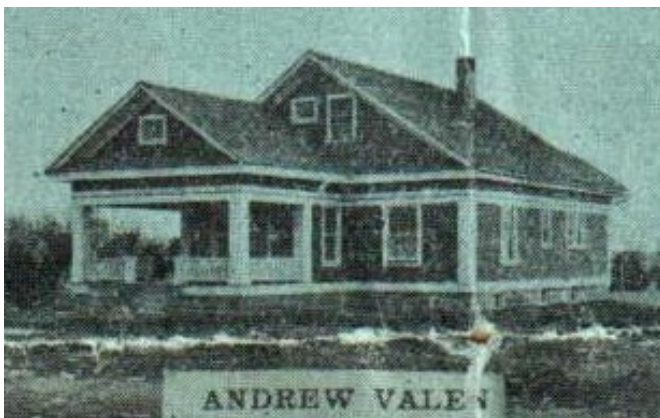


April 10th, 1913—J.H. Jacobson has let contract to Andrew Langland for his residence which he will build on the corner south of his present place. The latter he has sold to Herman Jorgenson.

Nov. 20th, 1913—Minnie Jacobson, young daughter of J.H. Jacobson, underwent operation for appendicitis at their home Tuesday. The operation was entirely successful and at the present writing she is getting along quite satisfactorily.

J.H. Jacobson was a member of the County Board of Supervisors and a mayor of Story City.

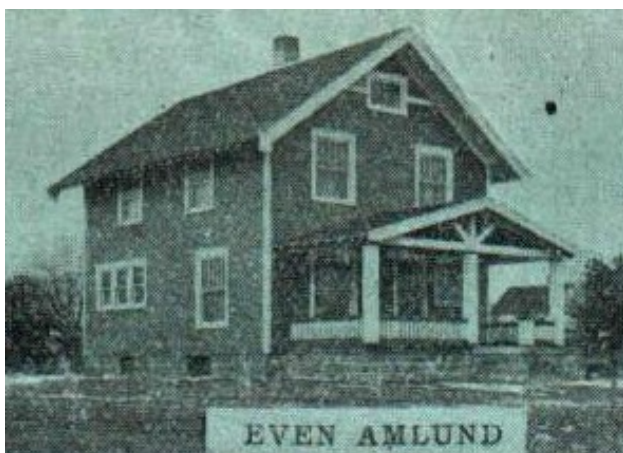
4. Andrew Valen Home (340 Lafayette Ave)



Sept. 4th, 1913—A.O. Valen has home almost finished in sanitarium addition. Contractor Grotness has been getting 3 homes in great shape the last couple of weeks (both Dales and Valen).

Dec 18th, 1913—Two more homes have been occupied in the sanitarium addition. L.L. Dale and A.O. Valen took possession of their homes last week.

5. Even Amlund Home (335 Lafayette Ave)



Even Amlund



April 10th, 1913—Even Amlund has let the contract for new residence, to be built in sanitarium addition. Mr. Hays has the contract, we understand.

Sept. 4th, 1913—Even Amlund moved into his new house last week, being the first one to get his dwelling ready in the new sanitarium addition.

Even Amlund was the foreman of the Visergutten Norwegian newspaper in Story City.

6. Mrs. Anna Ersland Home (328 Lafayette Ave)



Anna Ersland

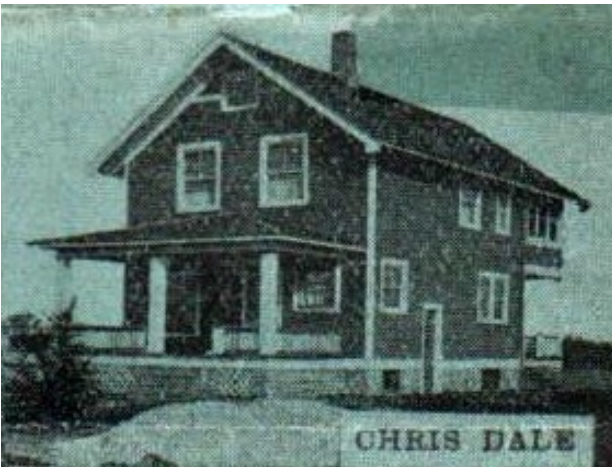


April 10th, 1913—Mrs. Ersland has let the contract to a Roland contractor for her fine new residence, to be built in the sanitarium addition.

Sept. 4th, 1913—Mrs. Ersland has home almost finished in sanitarium addition.

Sept. 25th, 1913—Mrs. Ersland moved into new home. This is the second dwelling to be completed in sanitarium addition.

7. Chris Dale Home (316 Lafayette Ave)



July 17th, 1913—The basements for two new houses have been dug in sanitarium addition. They are for L.L. Dale of Ihlen, Minn. and Chris Dale of Gilbert, both of whom will move back to their old hometown the coming fall.

Sept. 4th, 1913—Chris Dale home is well under way. Contractor Grotness has been getting 3 homes in great shape the last couple of weeks (both Dales and Valen).

Nov 27th, 1913—Dale and family moved into new home in sanitarium addition last week moving here from near Gilbert. This family represents the “back to Story City” movement, having lived here for a number of years before going on the farm, and they have a host of friends who bid them welcome to our midst.

8. Gudmond Amlund Home (319 Lafayette Ave)



Sept. 18th, 1913—Gudmond Amlund has the excavation done for his new residence in sanitarium addition. This will be the 6th house in the addition.

Dec 4th, 1913—born to Mr. & Mrs. Gudmond Amlund, Monday, a boy.

Gudmond Amlund was a wagon maker.

9. L.L. Dale Home (310 Lafayette Ave)



Mr. & Mrs. Lars L. Dale



July 17th, 1913—The basements for two new houses have been dug in sanitarium addition. They are for L.L. Dale of Ihlen, Minn. and Chris Dale of Gilbert, both of whom will move back to their old hometown the coming fall.

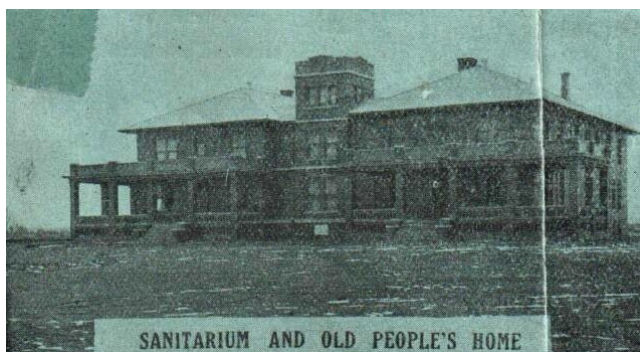
Sept. 4th, 1913—L.L. Dale home is well under way. Contractor Grotness has been getting 3 homes in great shape the last couple of weeks (both Dales and Valen).

Sept. 25th, 1913—Mr. & Mrs. Dale have moved here from Ihlen, MN. They are making their home with Mrs. H.L. Dale while new house is being completed. The Dales are old time Story Citians and need no introduction to our people. They are extended a cordial welcome back to our midst.

Dec 18th, 1913—Two more homes have been occupied in the sanitarium addition. L.L. Dale and A.O. Valen took possession of their homes last week.

Mr. Dale is the only one of the men who voted at the election for the incorporation of the town in 1881 now living in Story City. -1931 *Story City Golden Jubilee Book*

10. Sanitarium and Old People's Home (Was located where Bethany Manor is currently.)



May 1st, 1913—Story City was full of contractors from all over the state on Tuesday bidding on the construction of the sanitarium, hotel, and auditorium. Contract for the sanitarium was let to C.F. Reimer & Co. of Marshalltown, who offered to put up the building without heating and plumbing for \$19,493.

May 8th, 1913—The total sum subscribed to date is \$27,500, donated by about 550 people, making an average subscription of \$50. A considerable part of this amount is not yet available, as many of the subscriptions were made on the two, three, or four year payment plan. It should be stated that not one cent of subscriptions has been spent in hiring solicitors. Subscribers can be sure that every dollar they contribute goes directly into the building of the sanitarium and home. Two-thirds of the money so far subscribed has been given by people in or near Story City and five acres of land have been donated to the institution by local people.

May 22nd, 1913—The contract for plumbing and heating awarded to T.T. Holm. His bid was lowest, being \$4,800.

June 5th, 1913—Mr. Cole of Ames has been given the contract to build sanitarium. The Marshalltown contractor got cold feet and forfeited his deposit of \$500 rather than go ahead with it. N.M. Nelson has contract for excavation.

Oct 23rd, 1913—Corner stone to be laid next week. Friday, October 31, is the day selected for the laying of the cornerstone of the sanitarium. The building is now under cover and being plastered. The rough work is all done. It remains only for the finishing touches to be made. The ceremony will begin at 1:30 in the afternoon with the program outlined as follows: music, Story City Band; opening remarks, President O.S. Boyd; addresses by Rev. T.T. Heimarek, Rev. H. Solum; address and cornerstone laying by Prof. J.N. Kildahl.

Nov 6th, 1913—Cornerstone laid Friday, large crowd witnesses impressive ceremonies at sanitarium and home.

Dec 18th, 1913—The structure is nearing completion, some interior finishing is yet to be done.



Mr. & Mrs. Adolph C. Molstre
Superintendent and Matron of Sanitarium

11. Ole Egenes Home (308 Pennsylvania Ave)

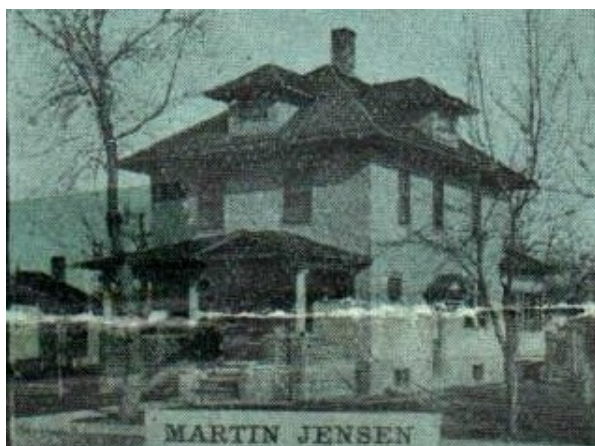


April 10th, 1913—The residence building which Ole Egenes is erecting on his lot on south Pennsylvania avenue is all enclosed and will soon receive the finishing touches.

July 24th, 1913—Born to Mr. & Mrs. Ole Egenes, July 17, a boy.

Ole Egenes was a mason.

12. Martin Jensen Home (406 Pennsylvania Ave)



Mr. & Mrs.
Martin Jensen



December 12th, 1912—Martin Jensen has started to build a new residence on his lot near the M. & St. L. track.

April 17th, 1913—Martin Jensen has new house finished and moved his family in this week. This residence was built during the winter just past and is one of the most finely finished in town.

July 24th, 1913—Martin Jensen has sold his old house to his brother-in-law, Fred Williams, and it has been moved to the south end of Pennsylvania Ave.

July 31st, 1913—Martin Jensen has had his house painted.

Martin Jensen was a mason contractor. He owned Jensen's Cement Block Factory. Martin and his men made cement blocks and a variety of cement products for buildings, garden and lawn.

13. Story City National Bank (529 Broad St)

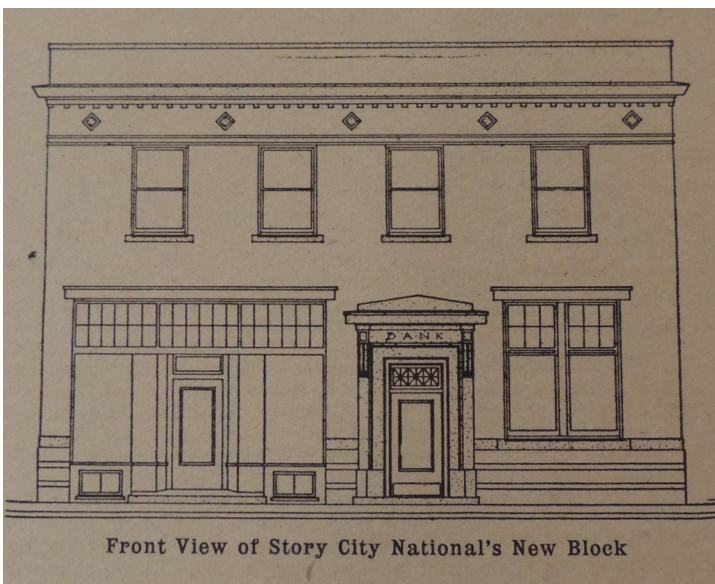


April 10th, 1913—The Story City National Bank has let the contract to the Krell Construction Co. of Hampton. The old building will be moved out into the street on the east during the building of the new structure, after the completion of which it will be moved to the back of the lot, facing east on Penn Ave. The agreement with the contractors calls for the vacating of the lot by April 15.

May 1st, 1913—Work on the new Story City National Bank building has started with a rush. A dozen men and several teams have just about finished excavating as we go to press.

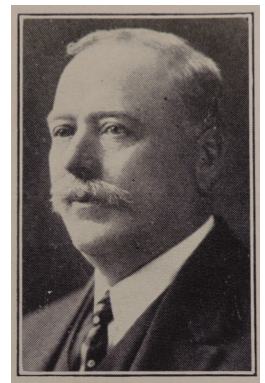
Nov 20th, 1913—Tom Knutson moved into basement of new bank building this week. Having been equipped for a first class barber shop. He will have bath tub facilities too.

Dec 18th, 1913—The building has a frontage of 44 feet and a depth of 85 feet. The corner will be occupied by the bank. The balance of the first floor (extending from the front and around the back of the bank, in the shape of an L) is occupied by the Ladies Fashion Shop which O.O. Donhowe opened several weeks ago. Under the bank is a finely finished room, which Tom Knutson has fitted up for a barber shop with bathroom facilities. Dr. Gilbertson and Dr. Frandson have suites of room in the second story front, and the rear end of the building contains a handsomely finished five-room apartment, which is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. O.O. Donhowe. The building is built of a light yellow pressed brick, trimmed with white granite— a combination which is very pleasing to the eye. No expense has been spared to make it first class in every particular, and certainly the builders have succeeded in making an improvement on their corner which does a great deal towards toning up our business street.



Front View of Story City National's New Block

Dec 18th, 1913—The old Story City National bank building will be sold at auction next Tuesday at 1pm, Dec 23. H.N. Donhowe, Auct.



Joseph Marvick
Owner

14. Opera House & Hotel (512 Broad St)



April 10th, 1913—The site is being cleared for the auditorium and hotel. The old butcher shop buildings have been torn down and the moving picture building will be moved into the street west of the hotel pending the building of the auditorium. The contract for the auditorium and hotel have not been let yet. The architect has been somewhat slow in getting his specifications ready, but it is expected they will be in hand in a few days.

June 5th, 1913—The contract for the hotel and auditorium has been awarded to Mr. Cole of Ames, and work of construction is starting this week. Will Tolbertson has the job of excavating.

July 24th, 1913—Masonry work has started on the auditorium and hotel building.

Sep 25th, 1913—The auditorium and hotel structure has progressed so far that even the most unimaginative can get a fair idea of its impressive proportions. The brick work is up to the second story. It is by far the largest building ever constructed in Story City. Indeed, its giant proportions would do credit to a city ten times our size!

Oct. 9th, 1913—They're getting ready to lay the cement sidewalk in front of auditorium and hotel building. Jondall & Henderson and A.L. Munsen are also tearing out the old walk in front of their buildings and will construct a new one at the same time, thus making a solid stretch of 250 feet of new 14-foot cement sidewalk.

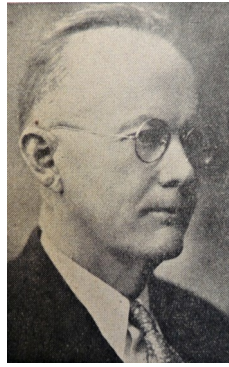
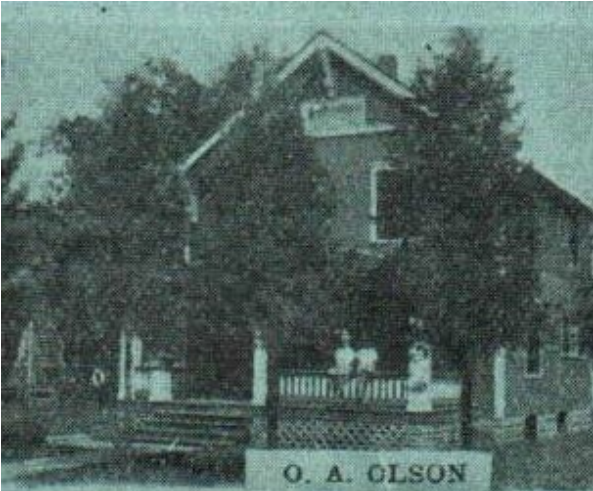
Nov 6th, 1913—The hotel and auditorium buildings have all been rented. Iver Egenes contracted some time ago to take the auditorium. Mr. and Mrs. A.S. Maxfield of Charles City have rented the hotel. The store building which is being built next to the auditorium on the east has been rented by Heggen & Stenson, who will move their grocery store into it as soon as it is ready. The building is larger than they will need so Jondall & Henderson Furniture will take a fourth of the space. The small store room to the east of the hotel will be occupied by Visergutten—the first floor by its offices and the basement by its presses.

Dec 4th, 1913—The new opera house will be formally opened on the evening of Dec. 18. The opening play will be the well known drama, "The Two Orphans". Tickets are being sold for the opening night at three dollars each. The opera house is near completion. Next week the interior decorators will get to work, and with the seats in place, everything will be in shape for the opening performance. The new opera house will be known as the "Grand Opera House." The word "Grand" appears in the entrance, inlaid on the tile floor.

Dec 18th, 1913—The magnificent row of buildings was designed by Jas. S. Cox of Estherville. Cole Bros., the Ames contractors have had charge of the construction and have kept the work moving with rapidity and precision from the very start.

Dec 25th, 1913—The opening performance in the new opera house last Thursday evening proved to be an unqualified success. The place was almost filled to the last seat and the play presented was of an exceptionally high order.

15. O.A. Olson Home (407 Broad St)



O.A. Olson



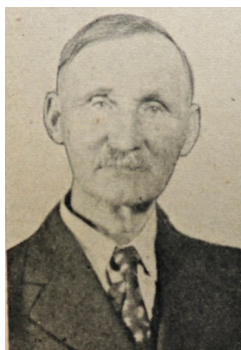
September 26, 1912—Sampson Grotness is starting to build a new residence for O.A. Olson on the lot which he recently purchased on Broad street, west of Ben Stevens' place.

October 17th, 1912 - O.A. Olson expects to move into his new house, now building, sometime in November.

April 20th, 1950—The O.A. Olson house was sold to Lars Kalvik of Jewell Monday for \$8,200.

O.A. Olson was a station agent.

16. O.S. Wierson Home (105 Broad St)



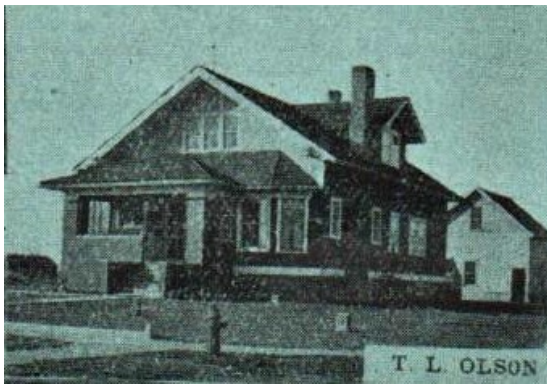
O.S. Wierson



While researching in the 1913 Heralds, we did not find any information about the Wierson home being built. Fortunately, descendants of Ole and Carrie Wierson have published several family cookbooks which also included history on the Wierson family and an extensive family tree. The following is information taken from those cookbooks.

In 1905 they purchased a farm on the west side of Story City. During this time, Carrie was a seamstress and she taught dress making in their home. A new home was built in 1912. Their daughter Jeanette married Miles Thorson at Ole and Carrie's new home on December 31, 1912. The farm was sold in 1919. Ole and Carrie moved to Kenyon, MN for a few years. After which they returned to Iowa and lived in or near Roland.

17. T.L. Olson Home (527 Marvick Ave)



September 26, 1912—T.L. Olson of Gilbert has bought two lots of M.O. Marvick; price \$800.

November 14th, 1912—T.L. Olson has started his new house in the Marvick addition, west of the Northwestern track.

Nov 27th, 1913—Mrs. W.C. Krum and Mrs. W.R. Hamman of Eagle Grove came here last Friday for the purpose of inspecting TL Olson's new home. Mr. Hamman expects to erect a house on the bungalow order next year and will probably make it like Olson's, the ladies having been very much pleased with the design and finish.

18. Fred Corneliussen Home (411 Washington St)



April 10th, 1913—Fred Corneliussen has plans ready for his new residence which he will build on the lots west of the S.R. Corneliussen place, and has some of the material already in place.

Sept. 18th, 1913—The Fred Corneliussen family has moved in to their new house.

In 1915 the home was sold to C.E. Christiansen for \$4,000. The home remained in the Christiansen family for several years until Lewis and Ruby Brattebo began renting it in 1934 and eventually purchased the home in 1944 for \$3,600.—Don Brattebo

19. O.G. Hendrickson Home (819 Pennsylvania Ave)

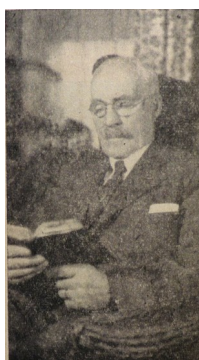
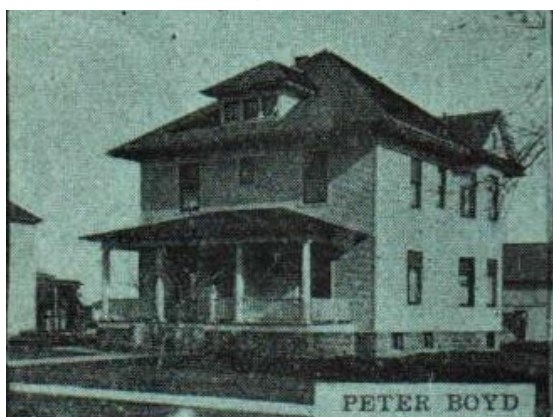


April 10th, 1913—O.G. Hendrickson will erect a fine residence building on his lot just north of Jas. Jacobsen's place on North Pennsylvania Ave. A Roland contractor has the job, we understand.

July 10th, 1913—O.G. Hendrickson and P.P. Boyd have their two residences on North Pennsylvania well underway.

Oct 16th, 1913—O.G. Hendrickson moved into his fine new residence, just completed on north Pennsylvania avenue. The house he vacates will be occupied by H.A. Anderson, the implement man.

20. Peter Boyd Home (826 Pennsylvania Ave)



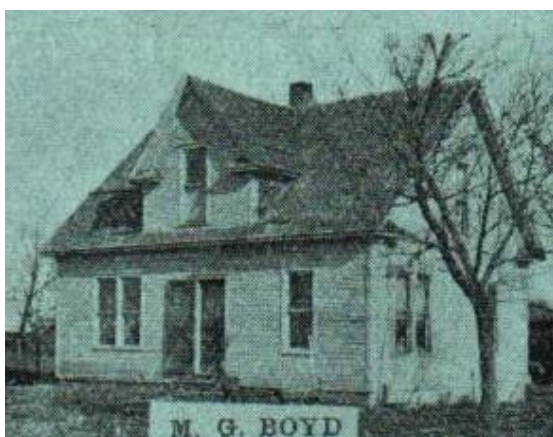
Peter Boyd



April 10th, 1913—Peter Boyd has some of the material on hand for the handsome new residence he will build on his lot on North Pennsylvania avenue, just north of Mrs. Dale.

July 10th, 1913—O.G. Hendrickson and P.P. Boyd have their two residences on North Pennsylvania well underway.

21. M.G. Boyd Home (1104 Elm Ave)



Location of M.G. Boyd's home discovered in the Dec. 18th, 1913 Herald under public notice from the County Auditor for assessed benefits in drainage district.

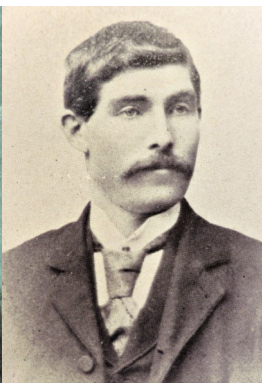
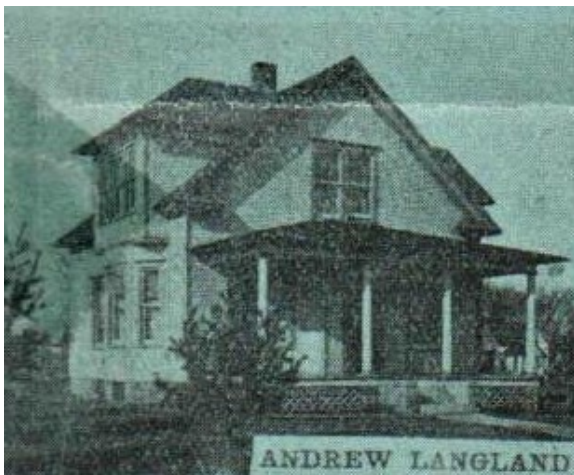
22. Martin Anderson Home (917 Elm Ave)



September 26, 1912—Andrew Langland has started a new residence building in the north part of town for his brother-in-law Mr. Anderson.

Location of Martin Anderson's home was originally discovered in the Dec. 18th, 1913 Herald under public notice from the County Auditor for assessed benefits in drainage district.

23. Andrew Langland Home (911 Elm Ave)



Andrew Langland



December 5th, 1912—Andrew Langland has laid the foundation for his new residence in the north part of town.

Location of Andrew Langland's home was originally discovered in the Dec. 18th, 1913 Herald under public notice from the County Auditor for assessed benefits in drainage district.

Andrew Langland was a contracting carpenter. He was the carpenter on at least three of the homes built in 1913 including the J.H. Jacobson home, the Martin Anderson home, and the Mrs. Bertha Johnson home.

24. Mrs. Lars Thorson (815 Elm Ave)



Oct 16th, 1913—Mrs. Lars Thorson has sold her interest in the farm east of town to her step-children, Tom and Wier Thorson, and will move into town. She has bought a lot in Tjernagel's Home Addition and is getting ready to build a residence thereon. Her lot is the first north of Anders Mathre's place.

Home Addition

Oct. 9th, 1913—In this issue is a plat of L.J. Tjernagel's newly laid out lots. He calls it the "Home Addition" and considering the location of the lots the name is well chosen. The addition is within a thousand feet of the churches and the schoolhouses.



25. Mrs. Bertha Johnson Home (713 Elm Ave or 703 Penn Ave, more research required)



June 5th, 1913—Having decided to build a new residence I will sell my old dwelling house, located one block north of main street at public auction at 1:30 pm, Saturday June 21. Will also sell some furniture and household goods. John Donhowe auctioneer.

Mrs. Bertha Johnson and family moved into rooms over Heggen & Stenson's store while the work of putting up new residence is going on.

June 26th, 1913—M.O. Marvick bought Johnson residence at sale last Saturday. He will move it to one of his lots and fit it up in the best way possible and either sell it or rent it.

July 24th, 1913—M.O. Marvick sold house to Amond Knutsen. The house was moved to one of the Marvick lots west of the M. & St. L turntable and will be fitted up for residence purposes.

Sept. 4th, 1913—Mrs. Bertha Johnson's new house is beginning to show. Contractor Langland having got the frame work all up this week.

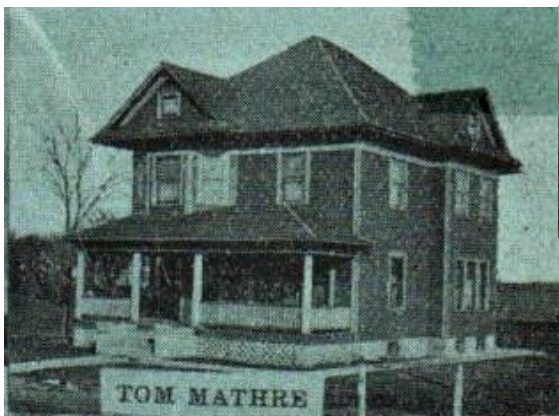
26. Hogen Frette Home (723 Grand Ave)



April 10th, 1913—Hogen Frette is preparing to move the old house from his lot on East St (now Grand Ave) to the lot he purchased over near the Central track, southeast of the creamery. Then he will go ahead with the erection of his new home on the vacated lot.

Sept. 25th, 1913—Haaken Frette and family have moved from their farm to their new fine residence.

27. Tom Mathre Home (736 Hillcrest Dr)



Mr. & Mrs, Tom L. Mathre



April 10th, 1913—Tom Mathre has let the contract to J.H. Johnson for the erection of his modern residence which he will build on the lot of which his present house stands. He will move the latter on the lots south of the corner.

May 8th, 1913—T.L. Mathre moved his house the latter part of last week, placing it on the lot south of old location, and is getting ready to put up his new building on corner.

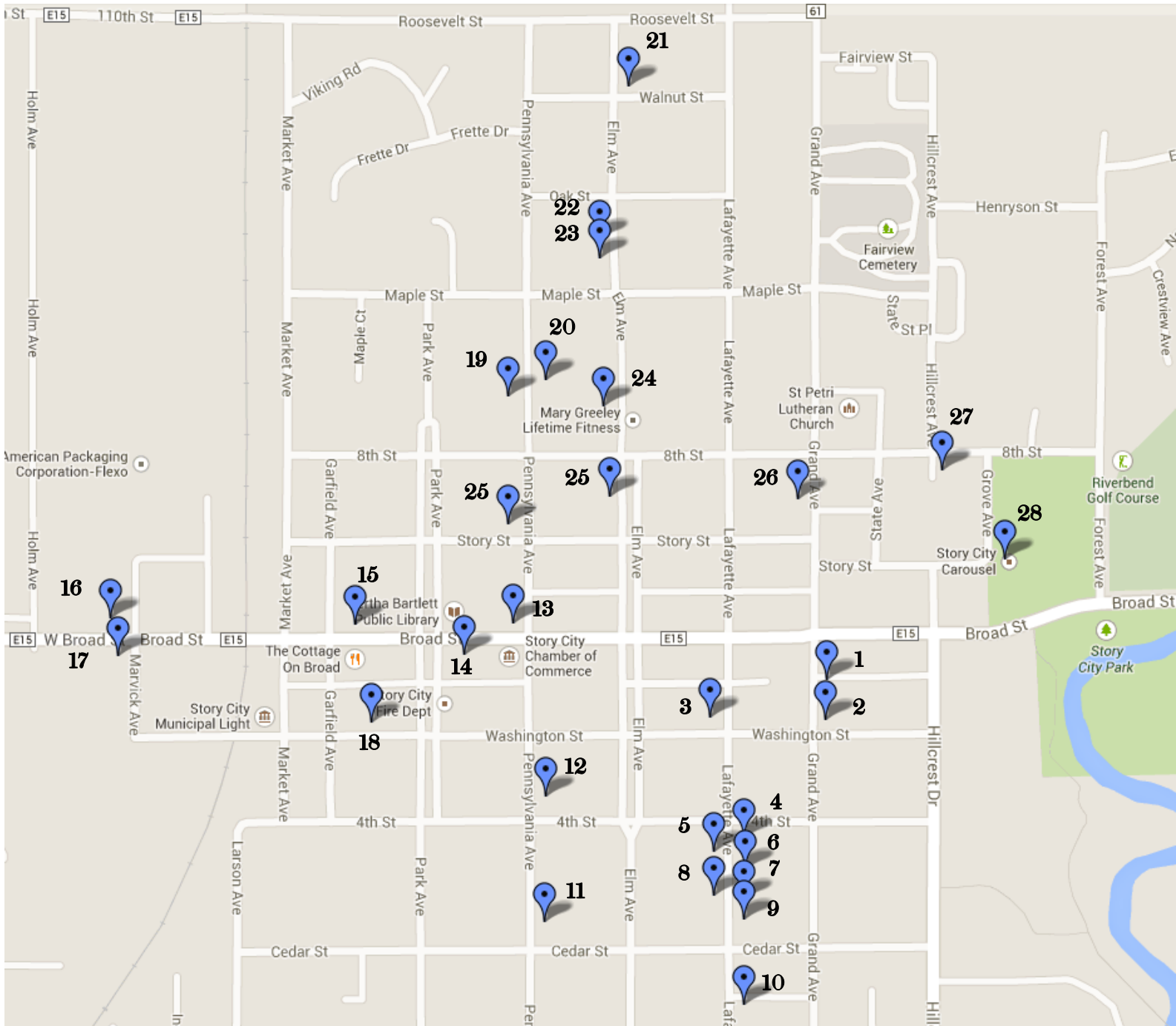
Nov 27th, 1913—T.L. Mathre moved into new residence last week.

28. Story City Antique Carousel (North Park)



This carousel was built in 1913 by the Herschell-Spillman Company of Tonowanda, New York. It was originally owned by TP Gifford of Grundy Center, Iowa. Gifford traveled the Iowa countryside taking the carousel to county fairs and town celebrations, including Story City's Independence Day celebrations. The carousel was purchased from Gifford in 1938 by the Story City Greater Community Congress. Eventually, time and wear took their toll, and the carousel was forced into temporary retirement in 1977. In 1980, interest in the carousel was resurrected and restoration began. In 1982, the Story City Historical Society was established to assist with fundraising to cover the cost of the restoration. A special structure was built to house the carousel. On June 4, 1982, a dedication ceremony was held to mark its reopening. The Story City Antique Carousel is open from May– September.

Map of 1913 Homes & Buildings



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|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Was in 500 block of Grand Ave | 11. 308 Pennsylvania Ave | 21. 1104 Elm Ave |
| 2. 903 Washington St | 12. 406 Pennsylvania Ave | 22. 917 Elm Ave |
| 3. 503 Lafayette Ave | 13. 529 Broad St | 23. 911 Elm Ave |
| 4. 340 Lafayette Ave | 14. 512 Broad St | 24. 815 Elm Ave |
| 5. 335 Lafayette Ave | 15. 407 Broad St | 25. 713 Elm Ave or 703 Penn Ave |
| 6. 328 Lafayette Ave | 16. 105 Broad St | 26. 723 Grand Ave |
| 7. 316 Lafayette Ave | 17. 527 Marvick Ave | 27. 736 Hillcrest Dr |
| 8. 319 Lafayette Ave | 18. 411 Washington St | 28. Antique Carousel (North Park) |
| 9. 310 Lafayette Ave | 19. 819 Pennsylvania Ave | |
| 10. Was near 212 Lafayette Ave | 20. 826 Pennsylvania Ave | |