

# **Downtown Clare Historic District Survey**

Clare, Michigan

Clare County

Completed May 2011

Sponsoring Agency:

Clare Downtown Development Authority



Written by:

Kenneth Lingaur

313 East Seventh Street

Clare, Michigan 48617

989-802-0393

[klingaur@emich.edu](mailto:klingaur@emich.edu)

*Cover Photo:*  
*1884 Clare, Michigan Birds-eye View*  
*O. H. Bailey & Co. Publishers Boston*  
*Courtesy of the Forest Meek Collection*  
*Mid Michigan Community College Library*

# **Downtown Clare Historic District Survey**

Clare, Michigan

Clare County

Completed May 2011

Sponsoring Agency:

Clare Downtown Development Authority

Written by:

Kenneth Lingaur

313 East Seventh Street

Clare, Michigan 48617

989-802-0393

klinaur@emich.edu

This page intentionally left blank.

# *Section One*

Funding Credit  
Executive Summary  
Table of Contents  
Credits and Credentials  
Project Objectives and Methodology  
Data Location  
Evaluation Results  
Planning Needs and Recommendations  
Survey Maps



*East 500 Block of McEwan Street looking southeast, circa 1911  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp Private Collection*

# Funding Credit

This report was funded with money paid through the Clare Downtown Development Authority. No state or federal funds were used.

## Executive Summary

This survey was conducted as a preliminary study for a future National Register of Historic Places nomination. The survey focused on the downtown commercial area of Clare, Michigan which is contained completely within the municipality of the City of Clare. The survey area comprises sixteen and one quarter acres. An intensive level survey was conducted on fifty-one buildings. Twenty-four buildings were surveyed at a reconnaissance level. The goal of the survey was to produce a document that would be used as a starting point for a National Register nomination, provide a history of the existing buildings in downtown Clare, and provide the property owners with information on the historic appearance of their buildings for future façade renovation. The research and writing of this survey was conducted based on the format established in the *Manual for Historic and Architectural Surveys in Michigan*, which was developed by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office.

The surveyed area is being recommended for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. A description and significance statement of the proposed district is located in the Evaluation Results section on page 6.

The Planning Needs and Recommendations section, on page 7, gives recommendations for establishing a historic district, façade renovation, and a publication to be printed.

For an overview of the history of Clare see the Historical Overview on page 22. To read about how significant buildings within the survey area fit in the context of Clare's history see the Thematic Narratives Section starting on page 25. All the buildings within the survey area were categorized within one of twelve themes and sub themes. The themes were established by the United States Secretary of the Interior, while the sub themes were created by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office.

The bulk of the report contains detailed narratives of the fifty-two buildings and structures located within the proposed district. These narratives contain a current photograph of the building or structure, an architectural description, a narrative describing how the exterior of the building has changed through out its history, and a narrative describing the history of the building. The historical narrative will list the building owners, what the building was used for, and which businesses used the building. Historical photographs were also included if space allowed. This listing begins on page 44.

Concluding the report, on page 149, are photographs of Clare's streetscape as it appears today. Also included is a summary of Clare's streetscape project which was started in 1989.

## Table of Contents

Credits and Credentials.....	page 5
Project Objectives and Methodology.....	page 5
Data Location.....	page 6
Evaluation Results.....	page 6
Planning Needs and Recommendations.....	page 7
Survey Maps.....	page 8
Descriptive Overview.....	page 21
Historical Overview.....	page 22
Thematic Narratives.....	page 25

List of Sources.....	page 40
Index of Surveyed Properties.....	page 44
Streetscape Photographs.....	page 149

## Credits and Credentials

The entirety of this project was prepared by Kenneth Lingaur, a resident of Clare and a Master’s Degree Student in the Historic Preservation Program at Eastern Michigan University. The report was reviewed by Dr. Theodore Ligibel, Director of the Historic Preservation Program at Eastern Michigan University, and member of the Michigan State Historic Preservation Review Board. Dr. Ligibel meets Federal 36 CFR 61 qualifications for architectural historians.

## Project Objectives and Methodology

This survey was undertaken for the main purpose of laying the ground work for a future National Register of Historic Places nomination. Other goals of the survey were to determine the history and historic appearance of each building in the survey area in order to assist building owners in façade renovation, to educate the community on the history and significance of the downtown area, and provide a survey that will eventually lead to the establishment of a historic district.

The recommendation to conduct this survey was made in 2004 by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office when Clare became a Main Street community. Since then both members of the community and local city officials have seen the value of conducting this survey in order to preserve its heritage and history. The city however did not have the knowledge or the manpower to perform the research needed to produce the survey. In the summer of 2008 Kenneth Lingaur, a student at Eastern Michigan University, proposed to conduct the survey for internship credit for his Masters Degree in Historic Preservation. The survey began in January 2009 with a projected completion date of December 2010. However, the project was not completed until May 2011. The work averaged eight hours per week over the two-year period of January 2009 to December 2010.

The survey area covered in this report is completely within the Original Plat of the Town of Clare. The survey area begins at the northwest corner of lot 9 block 17, then proceeds east to the southwest corner of the east half of lot 5 block 16, then north to the northwest corner of the south quarter of the east half of lot 5 block 16, then east to the center of McEwan Street, then north to the north line of block 15, then east to the center of Pine Street, then south to the south line of lot 7 block 22, then west to the southeast corner of the west quarter of lot 3 block 22, then south to the center of Third Street, then west to the center of McEwan Street, then south to the northeast corner of block 39, then west to the northwest corner of the east half of lot 5 block 39, then north 50 feet, then east 55 feet, then north to the center of Fourth Street, then west to the southwest corner of the east eight feet of lot 11 block 21, then north to the south line of lot 4 block 21, then west to the southwest corner of lot 4 block 21, then north to the center of Fifth Street, then west to the southwest corner of lot 9 block 17, then north to the point of beginning.

The work program that was set up divided the project into two sections which include research and writing. The research started with the tax assessment review of each building in the survey area at the Clare County Treasurer’s Office in Harrison, Michigan. The purpose of researching tax assessments was to get a general idea of who owned the properties and when, and also to see when property taxes increased significantly. A large increase in property taxes usually indicates some improvements were made to the property. Following this was the deed research of each building in the survey area at the Clare County Register of Deeds Office in Harrison, Michigan. The research portion of the project was concluded with newspaper research. The newspaper research was conducted at the Pere Marquette District Library in Clare, Michigan, and at the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. The majority of the newspaper

research was a review of the *Clare Sentinel* newspaper microfilm. The *Clare Courier* newspaper microfilm at the Clarke Historical Library was also reviewed, but to a lesser degree because of missing issues. Building permits from the 1970's to the present were obtained from the City of Clare Building Inspector's Office in Clare, Michigan. Historic photographs were also acquired from the Forest Meek Collection at the Mid Michigan Community College Library in Harrison, Michigan, the private collections Katheleen Jackson of Clare, Michigan, Robert Knapp of Berkley, California, and various local Clare residents. Additional information and photographs were obtained from the advertising sections of the Clare High School yearbooks (1950 to the present) on file at the Pere Marquette District Library in Clare, Michigan. In addition Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Clare from 1893, 1894, 1899, 1906, 1910, 1923, and 1928-1934 were obtained from the electronic library collection of the Halle Library at Eastern Michigan University. Fire insurance maps provide visual details of a building's size, construction materials, and use. When compared over a period of time they give an accurate view of a building's physical evolution.

The research and writing of this survey was conducted based on the format established in the *Manual for Historic and Architectural Surveys in Michigan*, which was developed by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office. The writing portion of the project was begun in January 2010. Section Three of this report, with all the survey forms, was written first. The historic overview and thematic narratives of Section Two were written next followed by the text of Section One. The first draft of the report was finished in September 2010. It was then submitted to Dr. Theodore Ligibel of the Eastern Michigan University Historic Preservation Department, and Lori Schuh, Clare Main Street Manager, for review. Additional newspaper research was conducted between September 2010 and December 2010. The final five months of the project was spent making final additions and corrections.

## **Data Location**

Copies of this survey report are held at the Clare City Hall, the Pere Marquette District Library, in Clare, Michigan, and the Historic Preservation Department of Eastern Michigan University, in Ypsilanti, Michigan. An additional copy of the survey along with a CD of all current and historic photos that are included in this report is located at the Clare Main Street Office in Clare, Michigan.

## **Evaluation Results**

The proposed Downtown Clare Historic District is being recommended for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Two other buildings within the City of Clare, the Clare Middle School Building and the A. J. Doherty I residence, may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register, but are not part of the survey area. The Clare Congregational Church of Christ located at 110 West Fifth Street is already listed in the National Register.

The Downtown Clare Historic District makes up the core of Clare's commercial district. The district is located along North McEwan Street from approximately the Little Tobacco Drain in the south to about one block north of Fifth Street in the north. It also comprises Fifth Street between Beech Street and Pine Street and two half block sections of Fourth Street on the east and west sides of North McEwan Street. The district is located entirely within the Original Plat of the Village of Clare. Most of the buildings located in the district were historically used for commercial businesses. Three of the buildings were once used as residences and later converted to commercial use. One house located within the district continues to be used as a residence. Four of the eleven buildings that pre-date the turn of the twentieth century are wood framed. The remainder of the buildings are constructed of brick except for one stucco building which was built in 2000. About one third of the buildings would be classified as Commercial Brick with some classic elements incorporated in their design. Half the buildings cannot be categorized as having a specific style. The remainders are a mixture of buildings that have some modern influence.



**Significance:** When Clare was platted by William and John McEwan in 1870 it was the first village created out of the pine forest in Clare County. Clare also had the smallest population of any city in Michigan when the Legislature approved its charter in 1891. This was a title that it held for one year until Harrison to the north was chartered in 1892. When the forests were lumbered off in the late 1880's the economic base slowly shifted to agriculture. The shift to agriculture was slow because few people outside of Clare believed the ground was any good for growing crops. By the early 1900's Clare was promoting itself as a "Market City." By the late 1920's Clare was positioned to become a major stop in the automobile tourism industry. With US-10 and US-27 paved and running through Clare, all vacationers destined for northern Michigan from south and southeastern Michigan traveled through Clare. In addition, the 1920's and 1930's saw the start of an oil boom that would insulate Clare from the effects of the Great Depression.

**Boundary Description:** The district boundary begins at the NW corner of lot 9 block 17; thence E along the North line of lots 9 and 8 block 17, and lots 11 to 14 block 16; th E to the SW corner of the E½ of lot 5 block 16; th N to the NW corner of the S¼ of the E½ of lot 5 block 16; th E along the North line of the S½ of lot 7 block 16 to the center of North McEwan Street; th N to the North line of block 15; th East along the North line of block 15 to the center of Pine Street; th S along the East line of Block 15 and lot 7 block 22; th W along the South line of lots 7 to 4 block 22; th W to the SE corner of the W¼ of lot 3 block 22; th S along the East line of the W¼ of lot 12 block 22, and lots 3 and 12 block 27 to the center of East Third Street; th W to the center of North McEwan Street; th S to the North line of block 39; th W along the North line of lot 6 block 39; th W to the NW corner of the E½ of lot 5 block 39; th N 50 feet; th E 55 feet, th N along the West line of lots 9 to 6 block 28 to the center of West Fourth Street; th W along the South line of lot 10 block 21 and the East 8 feet of lot 11 block 21; th N to the South line of lot 4 block 21; th W to the SW corner of lot 4 block 21; th N along the West line of lot 4 block 21 to the center of West Fifth Street; th W along the South line of lots 12 to 14 block 16 and lots 8 and 9 block 17; th N to the Point of Beginning. See the map on page 8 for a visual depiction of the district boundaries.

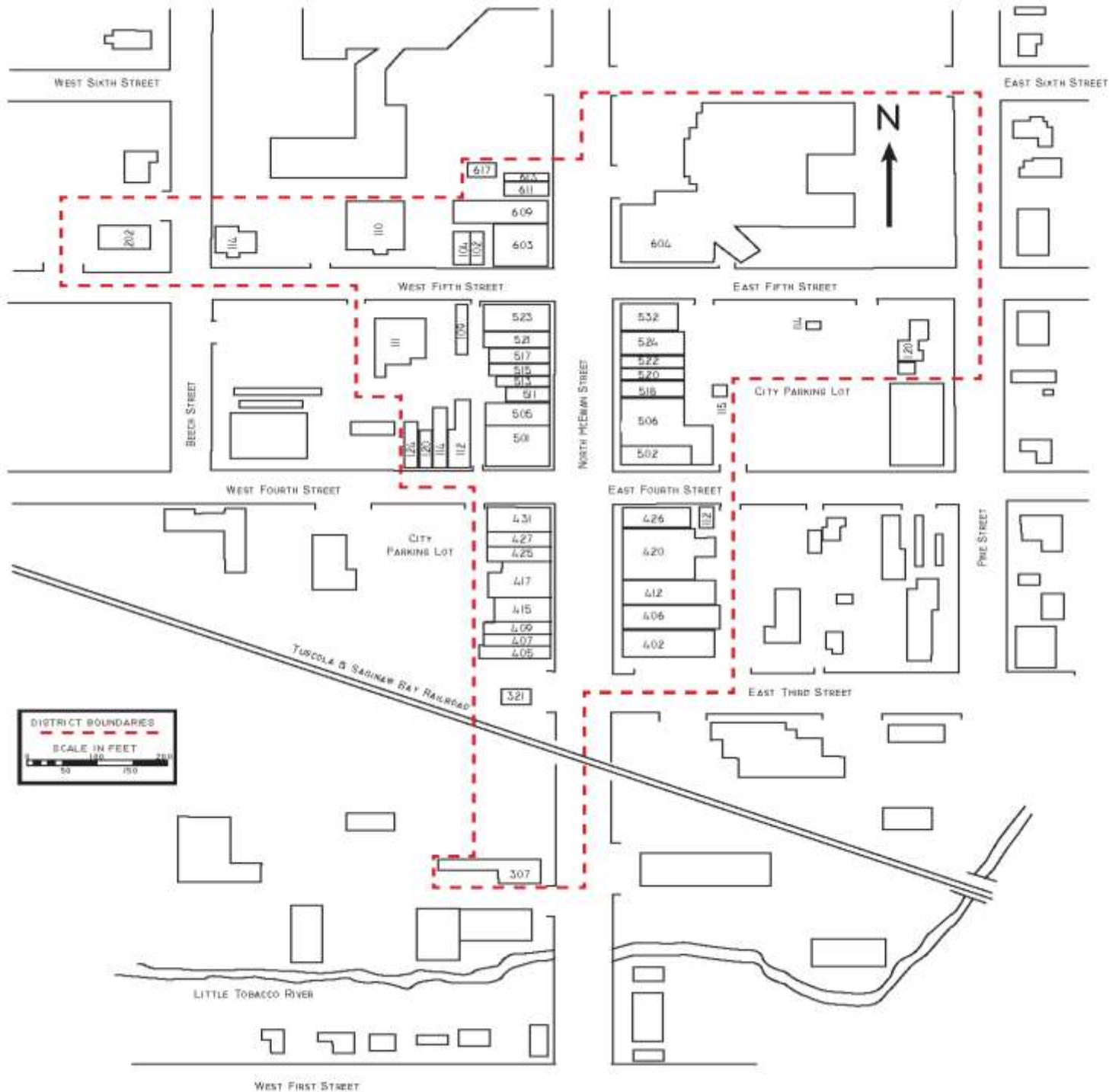
**Boundary Rationale:** The boundary was drawn to encompass the area of downtown Clare that includes the highest concentration of historically and architecturally significant commercial buildings. One residential house, located at 617 North McEwan, is in such close proximity to the northern border of the district that it was deemed necessary to be included. All other residential and non-historic buildings were excluded from the district.

## **Planning Needs and Recommendations**

The following recommendations are being made as a result of this survey.

- The first would be the creation of the Downtown Clare Historic District. This district would be created after being listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and would be created in conjunction with more restrictive design ordinances than what are in place at present. The district would have the same boundaries as the National Register District.
- Façade renovation is also recommended for some of the buildings within the survey area. Most of the renovations would include only the first story of the building. It would be desirable to have the façades returned to their original appearance. At a minimum uncovering of the transom windows on the building's first floors would be recommended. Some buildings which have installed panels to cover second story brickwork would have more extensive renovations to perform. Because of Clare's Main Street designation, design services can be provided at no charge through the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office.
- A brochure or small booklet that depicts historic architectural elements of Clare's downtown buildings is also being proposed. This publication can be used to educate the public to the history of its downtown, and generate interest in façade renovation. This brochure can also be altered to serve as an aide to conducting self guided tours of Clare's downtown.

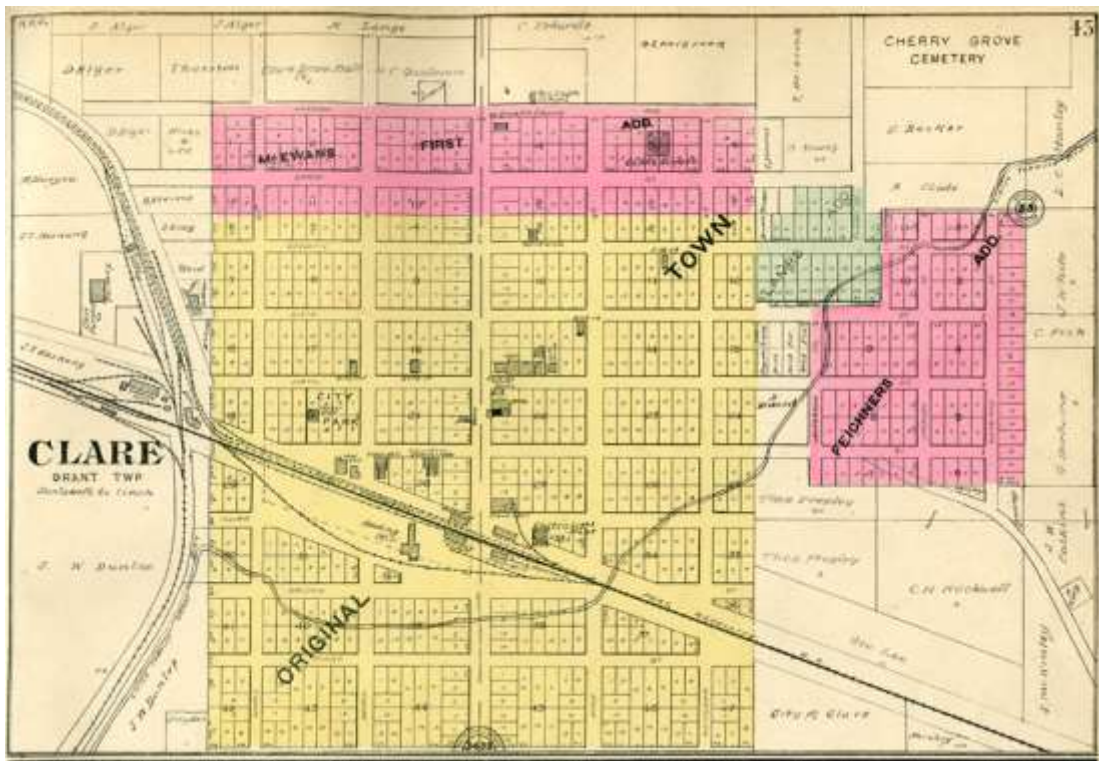
# Survey Maps



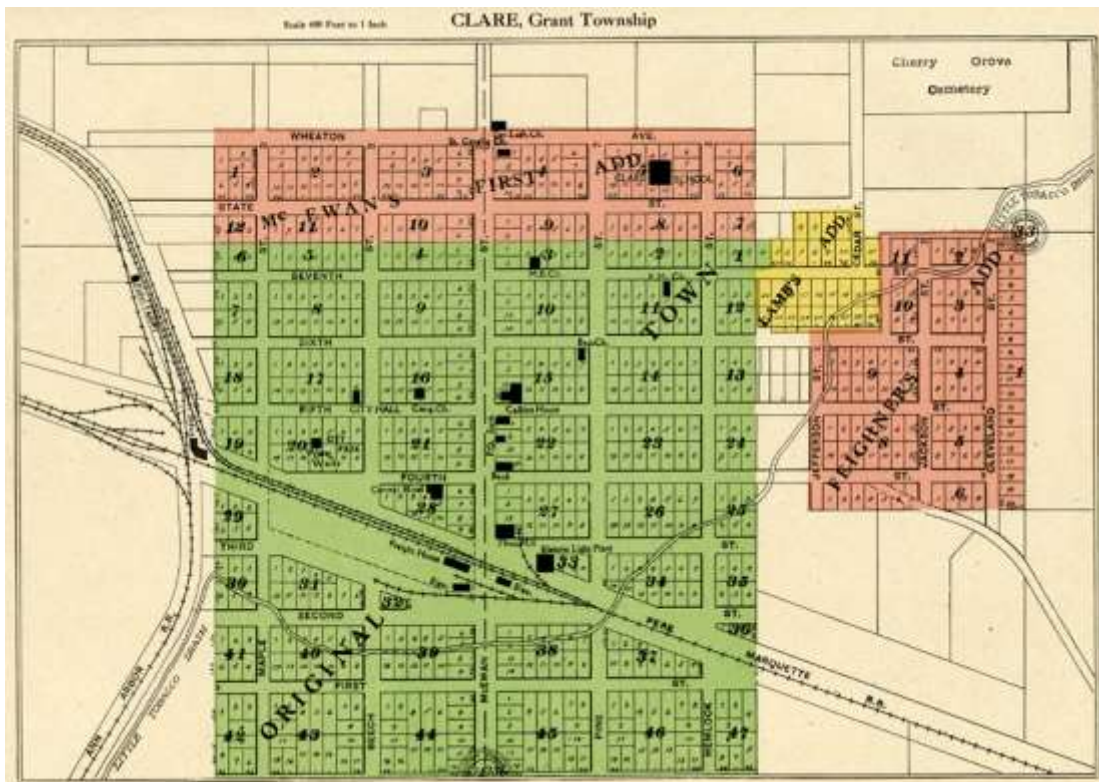
*Map of Proposed Downtown Clare Historic District, Clare Michigan*  
 Map Design Courtesy of Jeanne Rouston



Clare, Michigan, Original Plat Map, December 30, 1870  
[http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/platmaps/dt\\_image.asp?BCC\\_SUBINDEX=12366](http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/platmaps/dt_image.asp?BCC_SUBINDEX=12366)

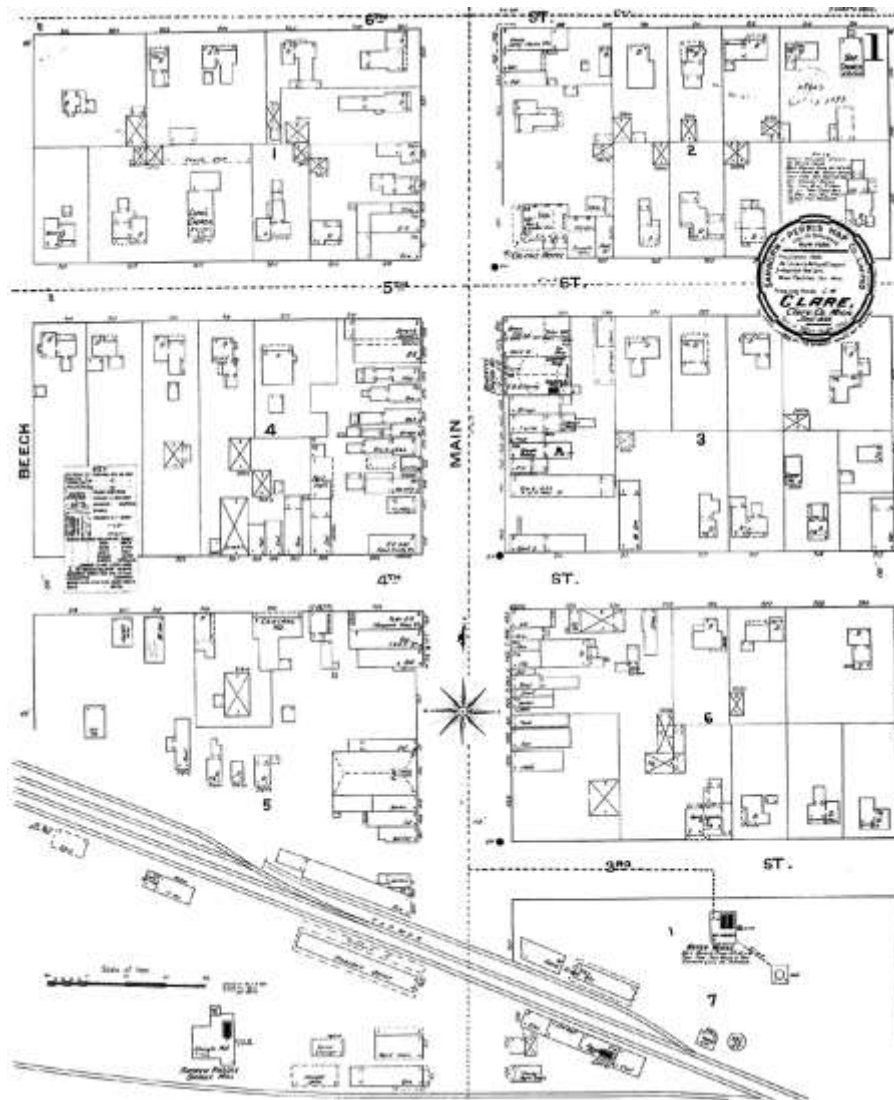


*Clare, Michigan, Plat Map, 1906  
Standard Atlas of Clare County Michigan  
Geo. A. Ogle, Chicago*

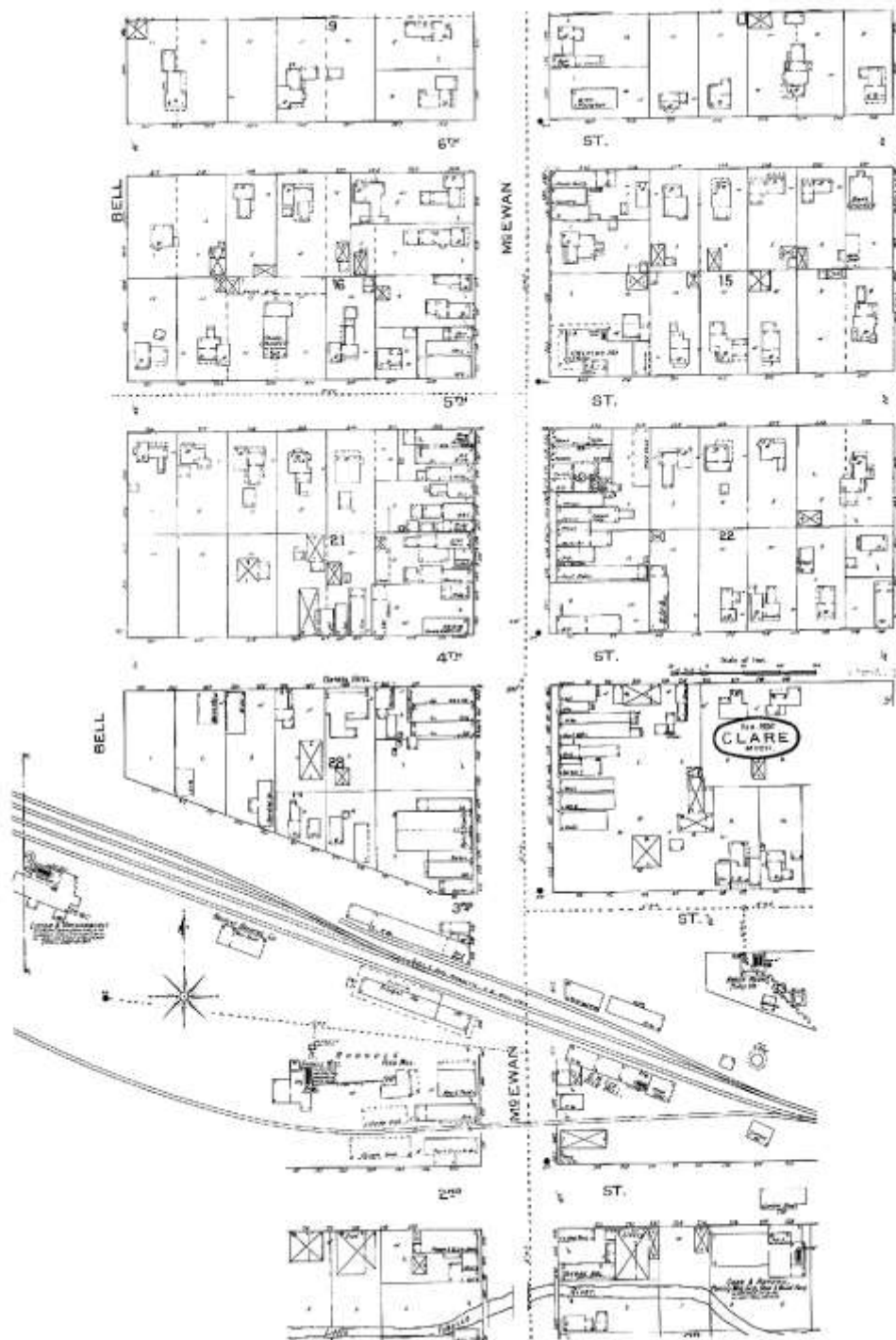


*Clare, Michigan, Plat Map, 1916  
Atlas and Plat Book of Clare County Michigan  
Clare Sentinel, Clare, Michigan*

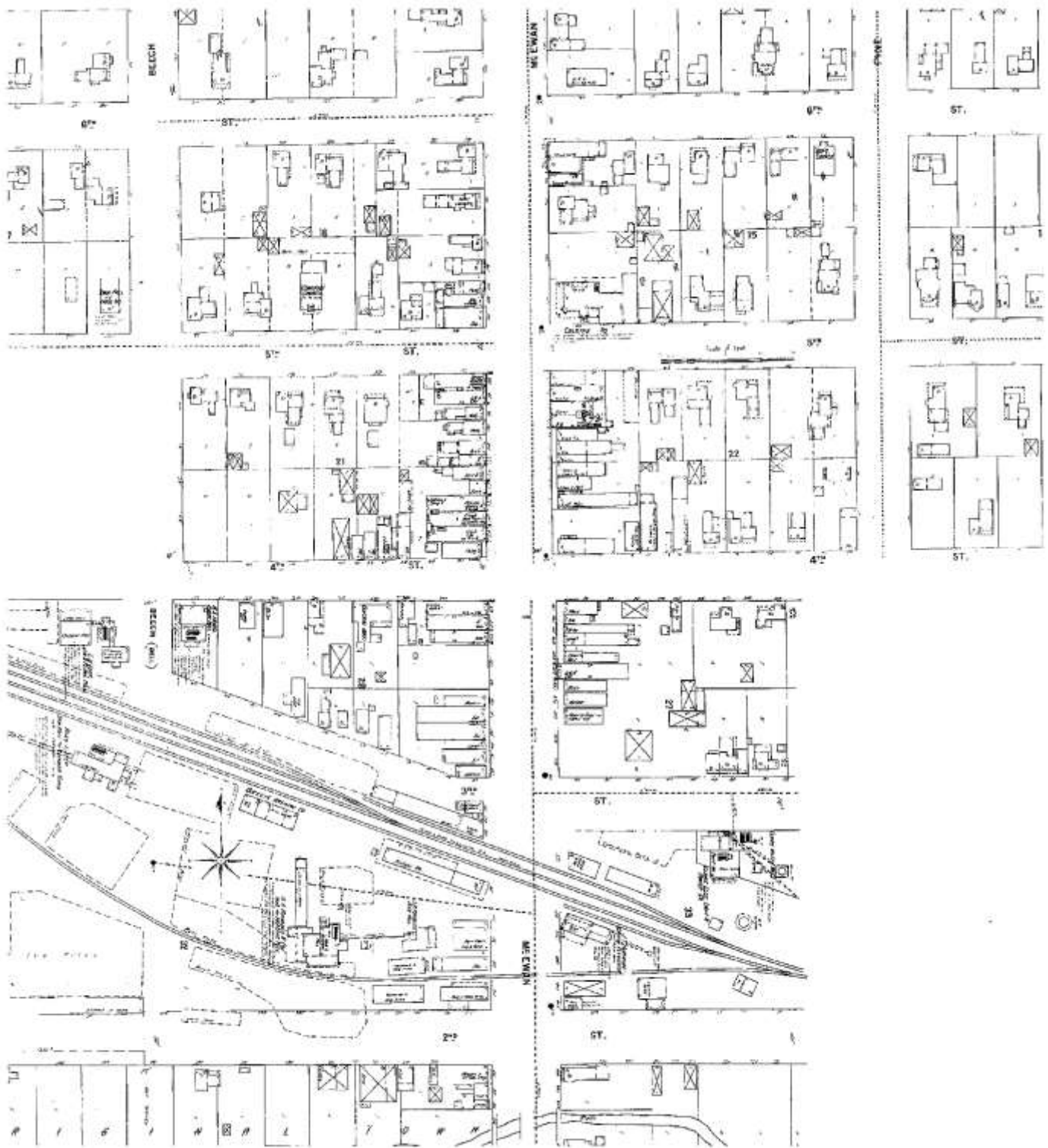




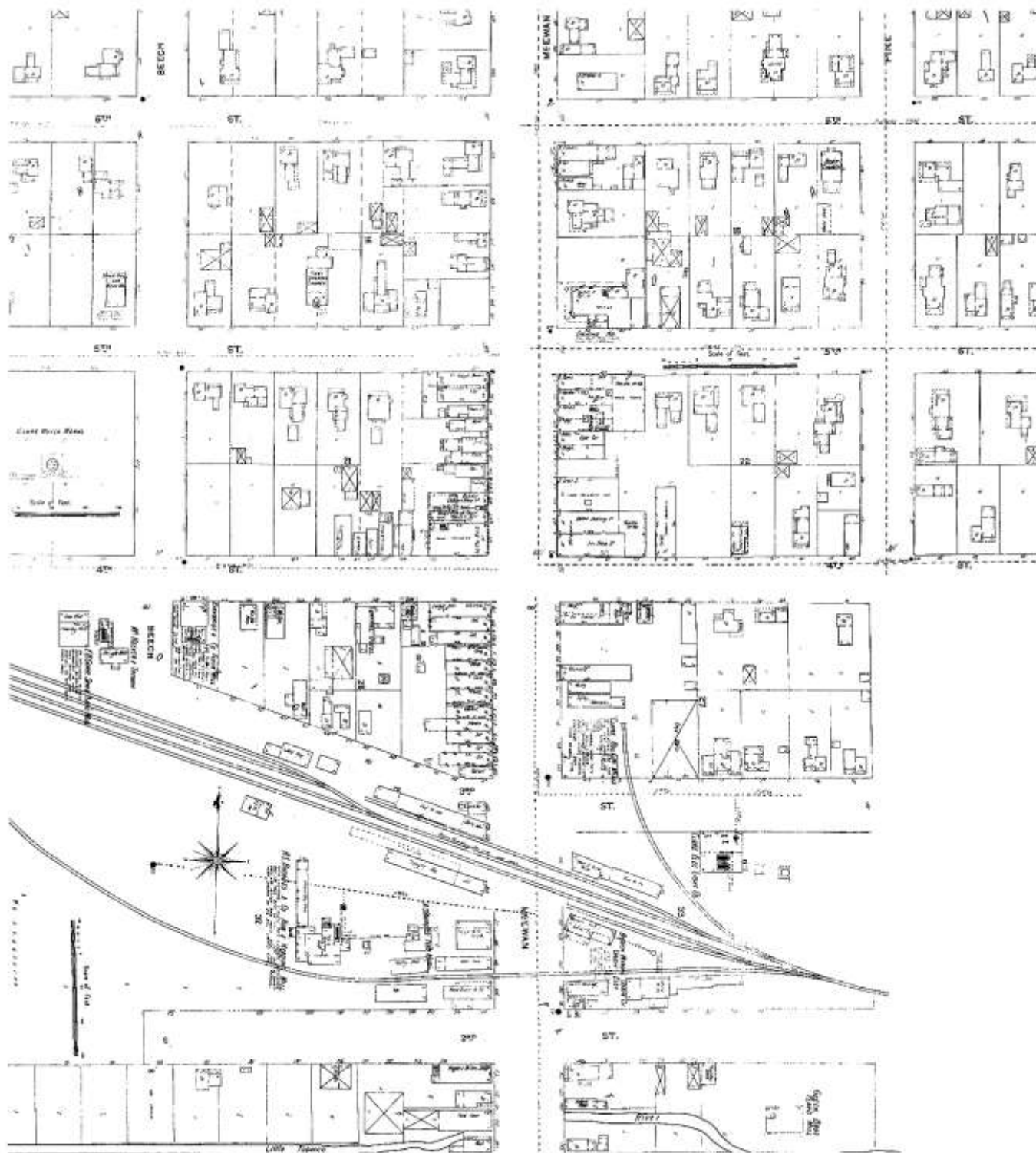
*Clare, Michigan, Sanborn Map, 1893  
 Sanborn Company, Pelham, New York  
 Proquest L.L.C. 2009*



*Clare, Michigan, Sanborn Map, 1894*  
*Sanborn Company, Pelham, New York*  
*Proquest L.L.C. 2009*

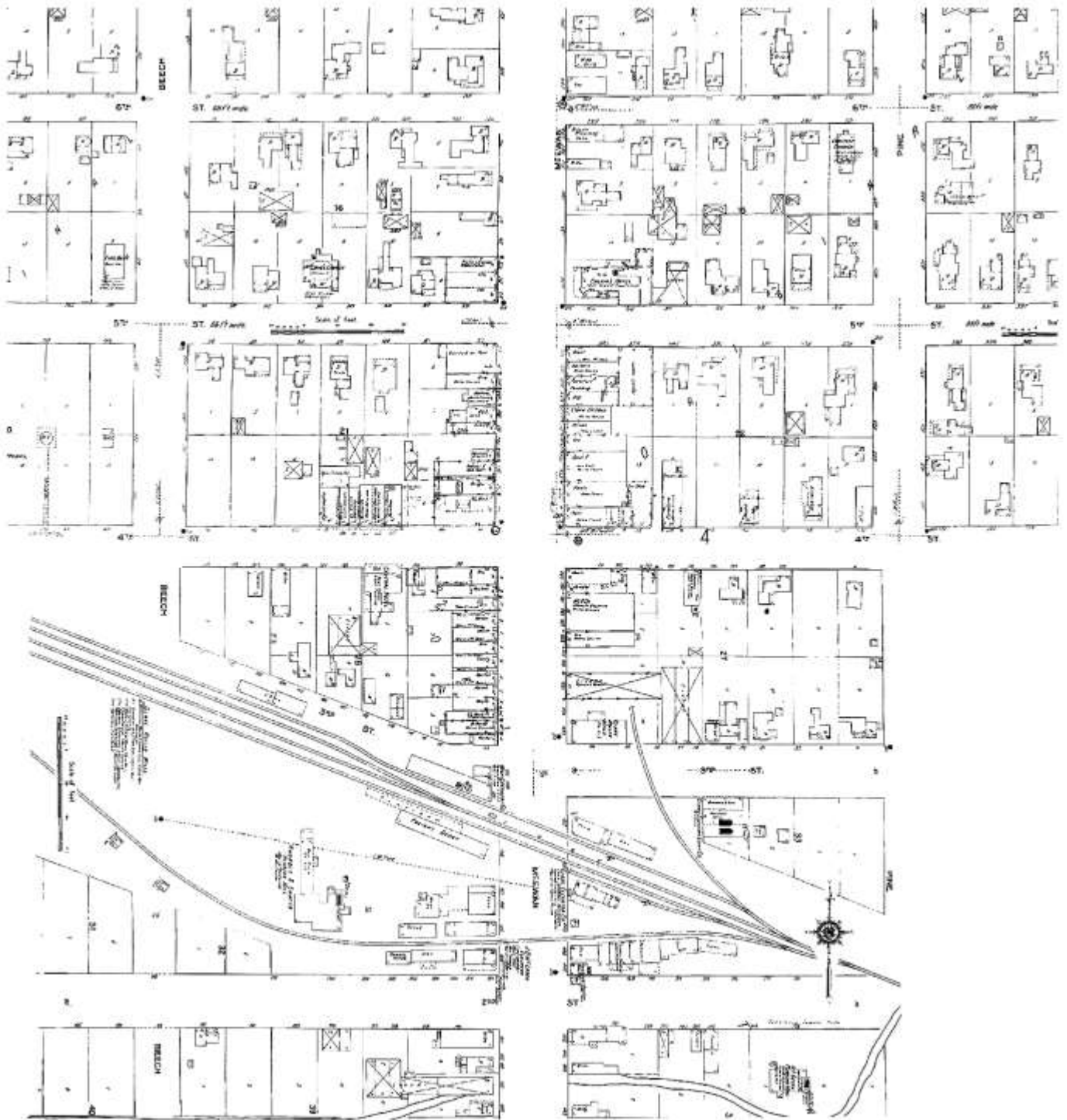


Clare, Michigan, Sanborn Map, 1899  
 Sanborn Company, Pelham, New York  
 Proquest L.L.C. 2009

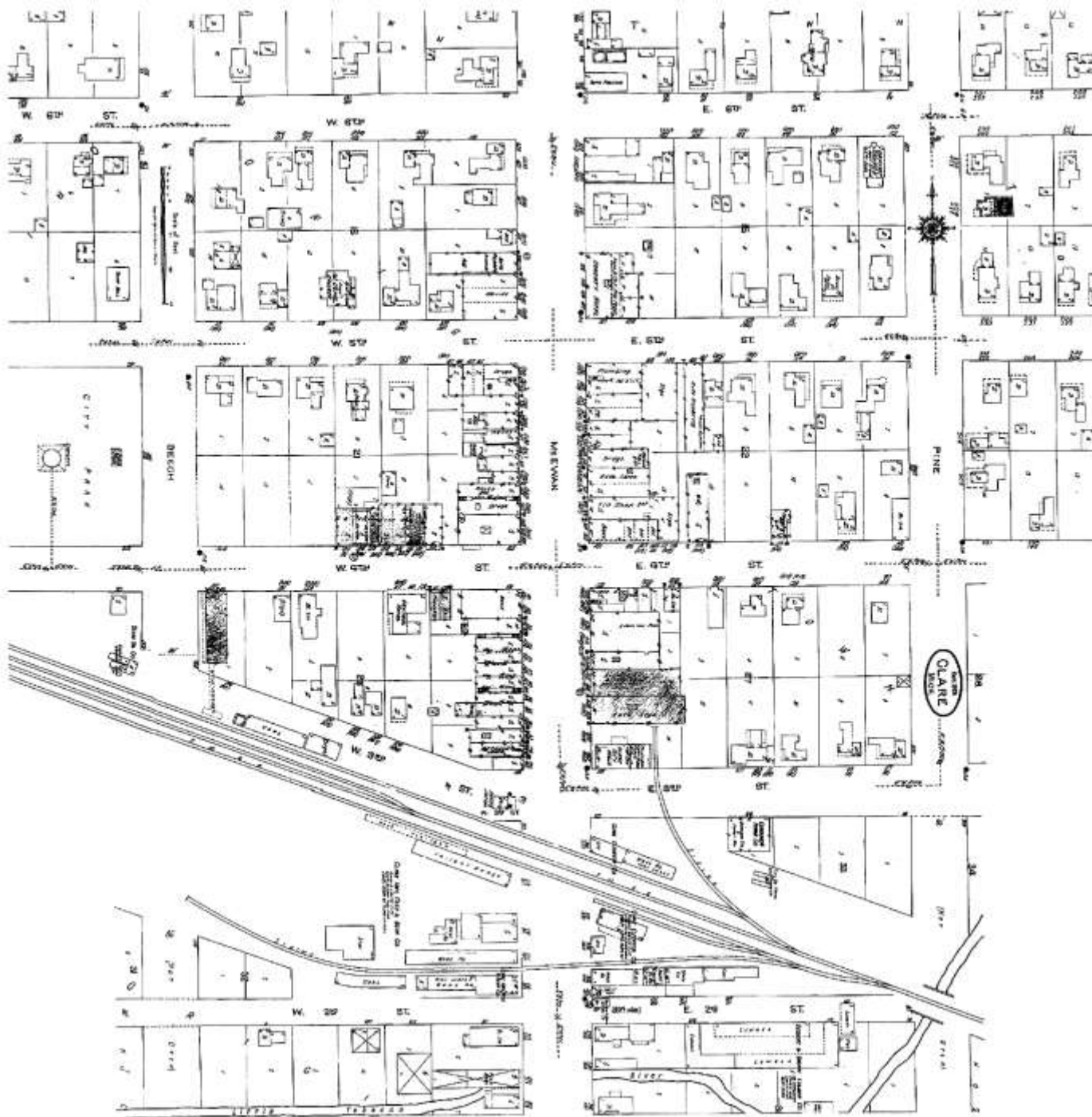


Clare, Michigan, Sanborn Map, 1906  
 Sanborn Company, Pelham, New York  
 Proquest L.L.C. 2009

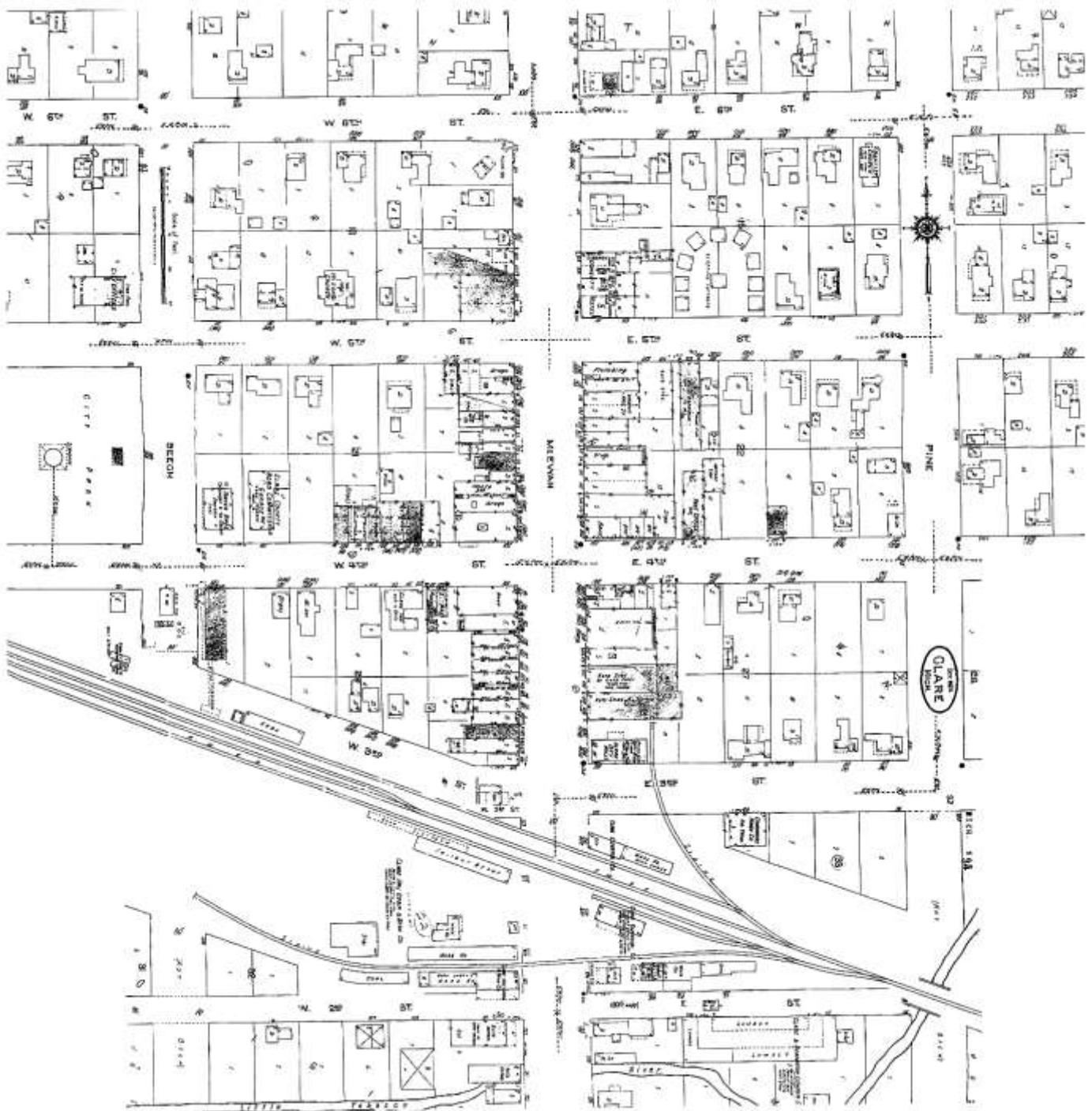




Clare, Michigan, Sanborn Map, 1910  
 Sanborn Company, Pelham, New York  
 Proquest L.L.C. 2009



Clare, Michigan, Sanborn Map, 1923  
 Sanborn Company, Pelham, New York  
 Proquest L.L.C. 2009



*Clare, Michigan, Sanborn Map, 1928-1934  
 Sanborn Company, Pelham, New York  
 Proquest L.L.C. 2009*

This page intentionally left blank.

# *Section Two*

Descriptive Overview  
Historical Overview  
Thematic Narratives



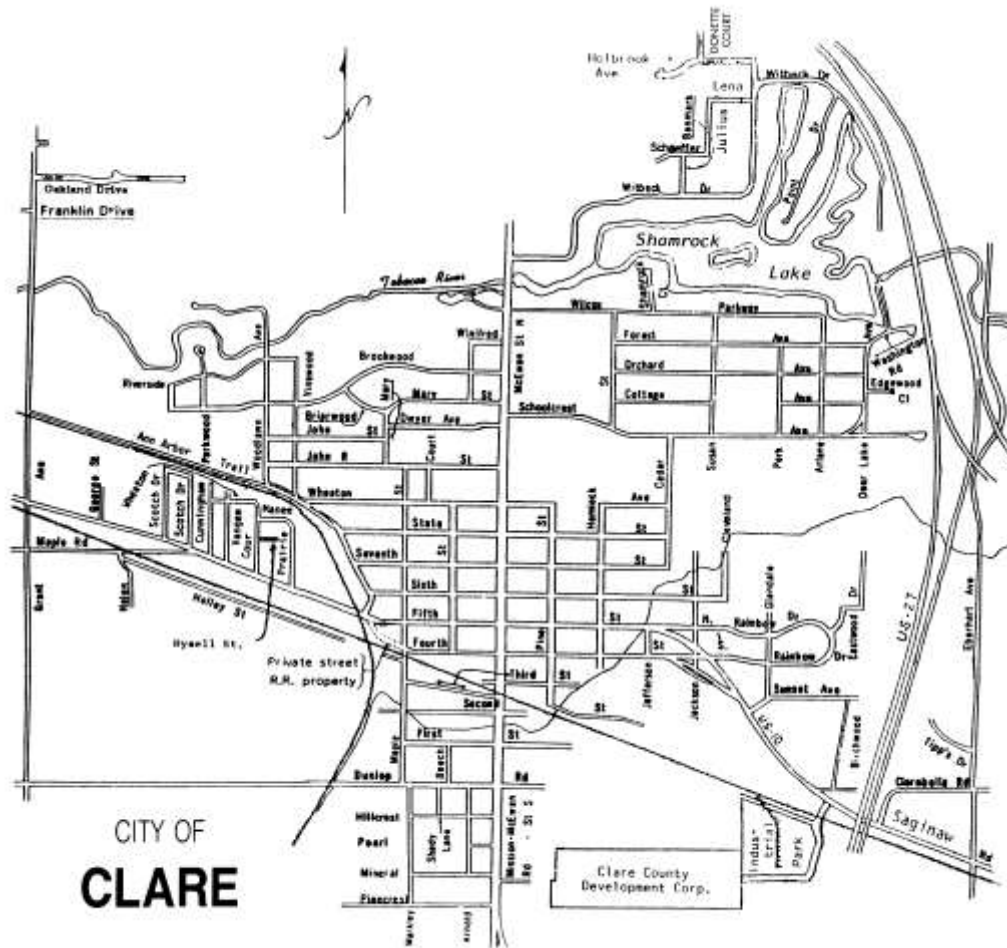
*West 500 Block of McEwan Street looking southwest, circa 1940  
Courtesy of Katheleen Jackson Private Collection*

## Section Two Index

	Page
<b>Descriptive Overview.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Historical Overview.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Thematic Narratives.....</b>	<b>25</b>
Architecture.....	25
Commerce/Banking.....	27
Commerce/Grain Handling and Storage.....	28
Commerce/Retail.....	29
Communications/Newspaper Communications.....	31
Education/Libraries.....	32
Entertainment/Recreation/Automobile Tourism.....	33
Entertainment/Recreation/Entertainment.....	34
Health/Medicine/Local and County Health Care.....	35
Politics/Government/Local Government.....	36
Politics/Government/Federal Government.....	38
Religion/Congregationalism.....	39
<b>List of Sources.....</b>	<b>40</b>

# Descriptive Overview

Clare is a city located in the center of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. It is located at the southern end of Clare County, where US-10 and US-127 (formerly US-27) intersect. The 2000 census recorded Clare as having a population of 3,173. Clare is located at the extreme southern boundary of Clare County, with part of the city limits being in northern Isabella County. Clare is known as the Gateway to the North, and this is true geographically. The land to the south of Clare is predominately flat and the land to the north is hilly. The area surrounding Clare is mostly used for agriculture. Most of the City of Clare is situated within a valley. Vernon



*Map of Clare, Michigan, 1994*  
*Land Atlas · Plat Book · Sportsman's Guide, Clare County Michigan 14<sup>th</sup> Edition*  
*Rockford Map Publishers, Inc. Rockford, Illinois*

Hill is located to the south and the hill known as Hamburger Hill by the locals is to the north. The land between the two hills is flat with a low spot at the bottom of Vernon Hill, and then a gradual increase in height over the Little Tobacco River to the north at about State Street. After passing State Street heading north the land along McEwan Street slopes down toward the Tobacco River at the bottom of Hamburger Hill. The land to the east and west of McEwan Street stays fairly level until it reaches the base of Hamburger Hill. After cresting Hamburger Hill the land slopes down again until it meets US-127 and US-10. The main north and south street through Clare is McEwan Street which also functions as Business Route 127, while the main east and west street is Fifth Street which also functions as Business Route 10. Clare's commercial district is predominately located along McEwan Street and Fifth Street. Although the industrial area was historically located only along

the railroad tracks it has now been expanded to include the south part of town between Business Routes 127 and 10. Residential areas are located on the west side of McEwan to the south of the downtown area, east, west, and north of the downtown area, and the area surrounding Lake Shamrock in the northeast section of the city. The residential area surrounding the downtown area has the oldest homes. Most of these are Upright and Wing, Bungalow, and Vernacular styles. The homes farther away from the downtown along with the houses surrounding Lake Shamrock are newer Ranch and Split-Level styles.

## Historical Overview

The Huron, Ojibwe, and Ottawa Indians were the first people in what is now Clare, Michigan. Although they never settled here they did use this and the surrounding area for hunting. When the Isabella County Indian Reservation was created in 1855 near what is now Mount Pleasant, the Isabella-Houghton Lake Indian Trail was also carved out. The trail was used to travel from the Chippewa River in Isabella County to Houghton Lake in northern Michigan. This trail would eventually become what is known today as Old US-27, and traveled through the future downtown Clare.

The first survey to be conducted in the area was begun in December 1837 by Henry Nicholson, and approved in January 1839. The area was resurveyed by William A. Burt beginning in June 1850, with approval of that survey being granted in September 1851. The first survey proved to be a real detriment to the area. It was reported that the land was full of lakes, swamps, and sandy soil. This report turned away settlers who eventually found land in Missouri and Illinois.

The truth was the Clare area was filled with large stands of White Pine forests, and this drew the attention of people in the 1860's. Ammi Wright of Flint was the first of the lumber barons to purchase land in what is now Clare. On September 1, 1863 he purchased the land which is on the east side of the present day McEwan Street. Five months later on February 10, 1864 William McEwan of Bay City purchased two tracts of land which are on the west side of the present day McEwan Street. Ammi Wright purchased his land from the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad Company, while McEwan purchased his using military warrants which he bought from Private Admiral Bumpus and Sergeant William Rand, two veterans from the War of 1812. On September 13, 1864 William McEwan purchased Ammi Wright's tract of land. William McEwan began the construction of his lumber camp which was located to the south of the present downtown Clare in 1868, and the land which makes up Clare was cleared in 1868 and 1869.



*McEwan Lumber Camp  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*

As mentioned earlier Ammi Wright purchased his land from the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad Company. The Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad Company was organized in 1857 and was granted land by the United States government for the purpose of constructing a railroad from Flint, Michigan to Ludington, Michigan. The railroad was scheduled to cross the Isabella-Houghton Lake Indian Trail, which was later called the Isabella-Tobacco River State Road, near the McEwan lumber camp some time by the end of 1870.

With the railroad so near the lumber camp and the State Road intersecting it, McEwan believed this would be an excellent location for a new town. He hired Peter Callam and John W. Calkins to survey an



area of eighty acres on both sides of the railroad track for the new town. The survey was completed and Clare became the first registered village in Clare County on December 30, 1870.

Prior to McEwan platting the village of Clare he authorized the construction of four boarding houses within the surveyed area. Those four boarding houses, two stores owned by Peter Callam and Henry Trevidick, McEwan's lumber camp, two saw mills, and a handful of houses were all that made up the town of Clare at the end of 1870. In 1871 thirty more buildings were added. By 1884 the town had grown modestly, extending from Sixth Street in the north to the base of Vernon Hill to the south, Maple Street in the west, and to just beyond Hemlock Street to the east.

In its early days Clare was the main stop for freight destined for Mount Pleasant. The Coleman-Mount Pleasant Railroad was not constructed until 1879. Until then all freight headed to Mount Pleasant was unloaded from the train in Clare and hauled by wagon south.

Throughout its history Clare's commercial district has always been centered around McEwan Street, the industrial businesses located close to the railroad tracks and the residential homes built outside of these areas.

The 1870's was a time of rapid growth for the town of Clare, and with growth came the need for a better infrastructure. Seven years had passed before the residents of Clare could put enough pressure on William McEwan and the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad Company, who combined owned sixty percent of the town, to incorporate. Governor Winan signed the charter to incorporate the village of Clare in 1879. In 1891 Clare changed its form of government by petitioning the state legislature to accept a new charter incorporating it into a city. At the time Clare with a population of 1,174 citizens was the least populated city in the State of Michigan. They held this title until the next year when Harrison became incorporated.

Clare continued to grow in the later part of the nineteenth century. A second railroad, the Toledo and Ann Arbor, made Clare a stop along its line in 1887. In that same year a new Union Depot was constructed at the intersection of the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad and the Toledo and Ann Arbor Railroad. However, whether this growth could be sustained was beginning to come into question. By the late 1880's the lumber industry, which dominated the economy, was coming to an end. By the turn of the century many of the pioneer families were leaving for western United States. But as fate would have it Clare was not about to die. Men like Fred Lister, Charles O'Donald, William and Peter Callam, Nathan Bicknell, J. W. and C. W. Calkins, John O'Callaghan, L. E. Davy, and Alfred J. Doherty began to invest heavily in Clare at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Of particular note among these men was Alfred J. Doherty. He came to Clare from Belfast, New York in 1878. From 1880 to 1883 he taught at the Dover School north of town. Doherty opened an insurance office in 1883 and worked at that until he opened his hardware business in 1885. He built Clare's second Opera House in 1891. Doherty was elected to the State Senate in 1903 and re-elected in 1905. He served as the Senate Republican Whip for both of his terms. He later served on the State Board of Agriculture and was eventually appointed as the Director of the Michigan State Fair. He served as one of the first statewide elected members of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees, serving from 1907 to 1919. He was responsible for the construction of eight buildings in the downtown area, the Doherty Hotel being the most famous, and numerous residences. At one time before the turn of the twentieth century he owned the Clare Water Works, and the Clare Electrical Light Company, and the Clare Telephone Company. He was also was part owner of the electric power plant on Mackinac Island. He served as mayor of Clare before and after his time in the State Senate. In the later days of his life he served as a lobbyist for the Pullman Railroad Car Company.



*Alfred J. Doherty, 1900  
Courtesy of Clare Sentinel*

With the death of the lumber industry came the birth of the agricultural age of Clare. This was a slow transition at first. Most people thought that the ground that sustained white pine forests for so long would be no good for agriculture. This may be true for some of Clare County, but the southeast portion of the county where

Clare is the leading city, was excellent for growing. The first attempts at agriculture came in the form of raising livestock. Sheep were the most popular in the earlier days, but that eventually transitioned to raising dairy cattle. Crops, particularly hay and beans, were also popular with the local farmers. Clare's agricultural economy was taking off so much that the town was marketing itself as the "Market City."

As Clare's economy continued to grow, so did the number of new buildings being constructed in the commercial district. 1904 and 1907 were years when a considerable amount of construction took place. Some of the construction was due to reconstruction after fires that occurred in those years, but a considerable amount was also planned because of economic growth. Of the present buildings located in the downtown about twenty-five percent were built in those two years.

The early 1920's was also a big construction time in the history of Clare. With the building of the Doherty Hotel, the new high school, a new bank and various other buildings, a January 1922 issue of *The Detroit Free Press* named Clare "The Biggest Booming Little Town in the State."

The 1920's was also the start of two promising industries that were to bring prosperity to Clare for many years. The first was Automobile Tourism and the second was the Oil Industry. The two main roads going through Clare in the early 1920's were M-14 running north and south and M-20 running east and west. In 1926 M-20 was changed to US-10, and M-14 was changed to US-27. As a result Clare was at the intersection of two major federal highways. US-27 was paved in 1932 and US-10 was paved shortly thereafter. All tourist traffic from the southeast part of the state that was heading north had to go through Clare.

1929 saw the start of the oil boom in Clare. The McKay-Mercier well in Grant Township was the well that started everything in Clare County. Clare and Clare County had an active oil industry for many years. It was this industry more than the automobile tourism industry that helped to insulate Clare from the effects of the Great Depression.

Clare continued on and would not see any major changes until the 1960's and early 1970's. 1961 was when the US-27 bypass was constructed, and the early 1975 was when the US-10 bypass was added. Both of these bypasses had a negative impact on the city, but more disastrous than these was the creation of Interstate 75. Where US-27 and US-10 skirted the city I-75 bypassed Clare entirely. As a result ten to twelve gasoline service stations located along McEwen and Fifth Streets closed. One by one the restaurants in the downtown area also began to close. The only growth at this time was in the area around the US-127 and US-10 exit ramps. This area is known today as Hamburger Hill, because it is located on the hill north of town and is populated with restaurants, stores, and two motels.

The negative effects of the highway expansions were only temporary. Clare combated this with the creation of its Downtown Development Authority in 1989. It had previously begun to diversify its economy by creating an industrial park on the south end of town as early as 1961. Clare was named a Main Street Community and a Cool City in 2004.

With a name like Clare and the town associated with the Doherty Hotel, Clare is known today as an Irish community. It has celebrated its Irish Festival on the weekend closest to Saint Patrick's Day since 1975.

# Thematic Narratives

## Architecture

The first structures erected in the Clare area were the log buildings constructed by the McEwan Land Company. William McEwan purchased the land which is now downtown Clare in the mid 1860's, and began constructing his lumber camp to the south of where the present downtown is located. With the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad coming through in 1870, McEwan saw the potential for a town to the north of his lumber camp. In December of that year the platting of the town was completed. Prior to the town of Clare being platted there were four boarding houses, McEwan's lumber camp, two stores, a couple of saw mills, and a few private homes.

With the town of Clare now platted people began to settle the area in greater numbers. In 1871 local sawmills provided the lumber for thirty wood framed one and two story buildings. In 1871 and 1872 the town's eight carpenters were working full time to keep up with the demand for construction in this booming town.

By 1884 the town had grown modestly, extending from Sixth Street in the north to the base of Vernon Hill to the south, and Maple Street to the west to just beyond Hemlock Street to the east. The buildings along McEwan Street were mainly for commercial use, the industrial buildings were located on the south side of the railroad tracks, and the residential buildings were on the outskirts. All the buildings were wood framed, and of simple design. The tallest building was the three-story Husted Opera House.

1885 saw the construction of Clare's first brick building. The building was known as Dunlop's Medical Hall. It was built for Dr. John Dunlop and was located on the southwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets. It was a Clare landmark until it was destroyed by fire in 1970.



*Third Location of Clare County Savings Bank  
1922*

*431 North McEwan*

*Courtesy of Katheleen Jackson Private  
Collection*



*Clare Hardware Store, circa 1904*

*506 North McEwan*

*Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*

After 1885 Clare saw a gradual increase in the number of brick buildings being constructed. It was not until the fire of 1904 when most of the wood framed buildings and none of the brick buildings in Block 22 were burned did the citizens of Clare realize the value of brick construction. After this fire all the commercial buildings in Clare were constructed of brick.

In the early days of Clare most of the significant buildings were designed by architects from Saginaw. Fred Hollister designed the second Clare County Savings Bank (1887), the Doherty Opera House (1890), and the Union School (1891). The firm of Haug and Schurman designed the Clare Hardware Store (1902). An architect with the last name of Bogart designed the Bicknell Department Store (1907). W. T. Cooper was the architect for the Congregational Church (1909). The third Clare County Savings Bank (1922) was designed by Clarence Cowles and George Mutscheller around 1915. Clarence Cowles also

designed the Doherty Hotel (1924).

Two local architects E. B. Gorr and O. M. Sutherland also designed some of Clare's early buildings. E. B. Gorr designed the Dunwoodie Building (1907) and the Rhoades Building (1908). O. M. Sutherland worked on the McKinnon Blacksmith Shop, the Tatman Building, and the W. P. Lewis Cigar Store all in 1904.

The most famous architect to design a building in Clare was Louis A. Simon. He designed the United States Post Office (1936-1937) on West Fifth Street. He was the head of the Office of the Supervising Architect for the United States from 1933 to 1939, and the last person to hold that position.

As in all communities the style of architecture in Clare has changed through its history. As stated earlier the first buildings located in the Clare area were the log structures of the McEwan Land Company. Prior to the construction of the Dunlop Medical Hall all the buildings in Clare were of a vernacular design. The early brick buildings were mostly of a commercial brick fashion that did not fit into any real design. Some of these would include The Dunlop Medical Hall, the first Clare County Savings Bank, the Doherty Opera House, the Davy/Mussell/Elden building, and the Bicknell Department Store.

The earlier portion of the 1900's saw the addition of more classical architectural elements being incorporated in the design of buildings. The Tatman and the Doherty Buildings on the east side of the 500 block of McEwan Street, and the third Clare County Savings Bank can all be considered Neo-Classical Revival. Other brick buildings that include elements of classical design would include the Davy and Rhoades Buildings.

The only buildings that have any Italianate influence would be the Davis Building and the remodeled Hampton Building both on the east side of the 400 block of McEwan Street. Both buildings have segmented arched windows and bracketed cornices.



*Alfred J. Doherty Residence, circa 1904  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp Collection*

The late 1920's and 1930's saw some Art Deco and Modern influence arriving in Clare. In 1929 the Citizen's State Bank remodeled the exterior of their building with a Art Deco appearance. The United States Post Office in Clare was built in 1936-37 and has a Modernistic Style. Even as late as 1947 the face of the Vogue Dress Shop on the west side of the 500 Block of McEwan Street was remodeled with a Modern design.

The more recent buildings constructed in Clare's downtown are typical of buildings designed in the recent past. The elements that mostly appear are brick veneers, false mansard roofs, and stucco accents. These buildings would include the

remodeled Allen Agency (1980), Her Place (1985), the remodeled Garfield Memorial Library (1988), the McEwan Professional Building (1997), and the Subway Building (2000).

Of the residential buildings in Clare the oldest are located on the outskirts of the downtown area. Most of these are of a vernacular design, with a high number of Upright and Wings, and Bungalows. Clare does have a few residential buildings that would be considered Queen Anne style, but most of these higher style homes have been lost. Tudor Revival was another popular design in the early 1900's. A number of these are located in the older residential areas to the northeast of downtown. Among them is the A. J. Doherty I residence which was built in 1904. The farther from the downtown a home is located the more likely it will be a ranch or spit level home. Many of these are located in the area south of Shamrock Lake and in the Rainbow Drive area.



## Commerce/Banking

The first known bank in Clare was established by Wheaton and Perry and was operating as early as 1879. The Clare County Savings Bank, which opened in 1885, was started by William Wolsky, Clark Sutherland, C. W. Perry, and Louis Weisman. It was originally located in a small building on the northwest corner of the lot where the Raymond James building is now located. In 1887 A. J. Doherty built a new building for his hardware business on the southeast corner of McEwan and Fifth Street. Doherty occupied the south half of the building and the bank leased the north half. The original building was sold to Albert VanBrunt who moved it three years later to the present site of the Clare Party Store just north of the railroad tracks.



*Second Location of Clare County Savings Bank  
circa 1914*

*532 North McEwan*

*Courtesy of Robert Knapp Collection*

Two additional banks opened in July 1903.

One was opened by Dr J. W. Dunlop in his Medical Hall building. It is unknown how long this bank was open, but it does not appear to have had much success. The other bank to open was the Citizens Bank. It was opened by Fred Lister, George Benner and Charles H. O'Donald, with ten thousand dollars. It was originally located at 515 North McEwan, but in 1907 the bank moved to the building on the northeast corner on McEwan and Fourth Street. By 1908 the bank had doubled its capital and received its state charter, and was renamed the Citizens State Bank. About the same time Fred Lister, the bank president, died of cancer. William Haley became the new bank president. During William Haley's tenure as president, Dr. A. E. Mulder, J. W. Calkins, Mrs. A. E. Mussell, W. H. Virtue, and N. A. Bloom all served on the Board of Directors. Mr. Haley eventually sold his interest in the bank to A. E. Sleeper who was the acting State Treasurer, and became one of the bank's directors. In 1911 James S. Bicknell became the bank's cashier, and two years later the bank president. In 1911 The United States Post Office opened a Postal Savings Bank.

The Clare County Savings Bank and the Citizens State Bank were prospering and doing well. Business was so good that in 1912 E. Burt Jenney decided to open a small bank in the McKinnon building on the east side of the 500 block of McEwan Street. This bank, however, was short lived and closed in 1915.

The Clare County Savings Bank was getting a reputation in the state for being a well managed bank. Even though it was a small bank it became a repository for state funds. Clark Sutherland was serving as the bank's cashier when the Federal Reserve System was introduced to the county in 1914. In fact Mr. Sutherland was a member of "Group Five" of the Michigan Banker's Association. This organization was responsible for implementing the Federal Reserve System.

The Clare County Savings Bank was also prospering enough to make plans for constructing their own building. In March 1913 the lot on the southwest corner of McEwan and Fourth Street was purchased. By 1916 the plans had been drawn up, but the increase in building material cost and a demand of an extra \$10,000 by the contractor forced the bank to delay its plans. The building was eventually constructed in 1922.

Despite the bank's history of prosperity and excellent management, the Clare County Savings Bank suspended business on May 21, 1932. A committee of local business men was organized to investigate the condition of the bank, and local lawyer and Judge A. J. Lacey was hired to create a reorganization plan. By late September 1932, under much pressure from local civic leaders and the *Clare Sentinel* newspaper, 85% of the over 700 depositors agreed to the reorganization plan, but the bank did not reopen.

A one man grand jury was appointed in 1933 to investigate the closing of the bank. Three weeks of investigation brought the indictment of James A. McKay, a contractor from Detroit and local oilman, along with

bank officials S. M. Callihan, Clark Sutherland, Fred McGuire, Elmer A. Anderson, and Homer Douglas. The only bank official not indicted was James McConnell. The trial began in September 1933 with Judge Ray Hart presiding. By October all the defendants were acquitted.

The investigation showed that at the time of the bank's closing the Clare County Savings Bank held \$40,000 in assets in the building, \$140,000 in mortgages, \$528,000 in bonds, but only \$32,000 in cash reserves. The cash reserves were well below state law requirements. The investigation also exposed that the bank officials had been conned by a traveling bond salesman who promised big returns on oil investments, but the bonds were actually worthless.

In contrast to the Clare County Savings Bank, the Citizens State Bank did very well financially. They purchased the building they were leasing on the northeast corner of McEwan and Fourth Street in 1917. In 1929 the building was completely renovated and given a white stone Art Deco façade. Due to its investments in the oil industry the bank was stable through the 1930's. The bank sold the building in 1961 and relocated to a modern new building on the west side of the 800 block of McEwan Street. The Citizens State Bank would operate in Clare until 1979 when it was purchased by Chemical Bank.

April 1948 saw the opening of the Clare Federal Credit Union that was chartered for the employees of the Clare Manufacturing Company. The charter was amended in 1963 to include the employees of the Holly Carburetor Co., Aircraft Division. The present Central Michigan Community Federal Credit Union, located at the west end of the city, was created when the charter was changed to a community charter in 1971. The Credit Union, which is headquartered in Clare, now services Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola Counties, and Warren Township of Midland County.

Since the 1960's Clare has seen a small increase in the number of banking institutions in the area. The Clare Loan Company was operating out of the building located at 104 West Fifth Street in the 1960's. At the same time The First Savings and Loan Bank (headquartered in Bay City) opened a branch office in their new building on the east side of the 800 block of McEwan Street, across from the Citizens Bank in 1971. This bank would eventually become Great Lakes Federal Savings, and was purchased by Firstbank in 1992. Firstbank started in Clare the previous year in a building located at the north end of town.



*Citizens State Bank after 1929 renovation  
502 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*

## **Commerce/Grain Handling and Storage**

Most of the grain handling facilities located in Clare have historically been located near the railroad tracks. There were two exceptions to this. First, a flour mill was built on the Tobacco River in 1879. This mill was destroyed in 1886 by a heavy downpour of rain which washed out crops, railroad grades, bridges, mills, logs, and roads. Then in 1892 Mr. Varney built a flour mill on the Tobacco River at about the same location as the present Shamrock Lake Dam. The mill eventually went out of business and was removed from the site. What remained of the site washed out in the second decade of the 1900's.

In 1876 T. P. Horning and Reist built Clare's first grist mill, but it was destroyed by fire the next year. The Horning-Schaeffer flour and grist mill was located north of the Pere Marquette railroad tracks on West Fourth Street, and was built in 1879. This was eventually destroyed and replaced by the W. E. Hubel flour mill

sometime between 1894 and 1899. The flour mill was sold and the name changed to the Kirkbride & Co. Flour Mill in 1903. By 1910 the building no longer existed.

By 1893 Andrew Rhoades was operating a feed mill in the same location as his shingle mill. The complex consisted of the two one-story mills along with two one-story shingle sheds, a one-story hay and feed warehouse, a one-story hay and grain warehouse, and the Rhoades Grocery Store. The operation was located on the land southwest of where the Pere Marquette Railroad Tracks intersect McEwan Street. By 1899 the shingle Mill was expanded and converted into a hub and heading mill, but the feed mill was never enlarged. The feed mill was discontinued sometime between 1906 and 1910. In 1910 the complex had only one feed warehouse.

On the other side of McEwan Street in 1893 was the G. W. Lee Feed Mill. This was another one-story mill with an attached one and a half-story warehouse. An additional one and a half-story hay and feed warehouse was located on the north side of the railroad tracks.

By 1899 the G. W. Lee Feed Mill was replaced by Clare's first grain elevator, which was operated by J. T. Horning. This was a three-story structure which was sold to Burch and Wyman in 1905. They immediately made modifications to the building to include field bean handling and coal retail. They also purchased the F. B. Doherty lime, cement, and coal business. By 1910 the elevator was being operated as the Clare Elevator Company. The grain elevator was torn down in the 1970's.

The Clare Roller Mill was built in 1903 by William Callam. The mill was operated by an electrical turbine water wheel at the dam on the Tobacco River. By 1923 it was being operated as the Clare City Mills, and producing 20 tons of feed per day. The building was torn down in 1937 to make room for a Gulf Gas Company gas station.



*Johnston Elevator, circa 1970  
307 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*

Clare's second grain elevator was erected in 1905. This elevator was built by J. D. McLaren just south of the A. S. Rhoades mill complex. It was a two and a half-story structure with warehouses for hay and barrel heads. The elevator was purchased by Chatterton and Son in 1917, and renamed The Clare Hay Grain & Bean Company. The following year the original elevator was torn down and replaced with the present three and a half-story elevator. In the same year the warehouse just to the north of the elevator was expanded. The elevator was sold to Ed G. Johnston in 1926. The name of the business was retained at the time of the purchase but was eventually changed to the Johnston Hay Grain and Bean Company in 1940, and has since been changed to the "Johnston Elevator." Ed Johnston's son Joe took over the business in 1952, and sold it to the Cutler Dickerson Company in 1987.

## Commerce/Retail

Retail commerce in Clare started in the area before the town was platted in December 1870. In 1870 Peter Callam opened the first general store and Henry Trevidick opened the first drug store. As more people moved to Clare more and more businesses were opened. In 1871 Lewis Randolph started a blacksmith shop, George Atkins started a furniture store in addition to his planing mill, and Wallace Cooley opened his harness shop. All these businesses and more were supplying goods to the people working in the lumber industry.



All the merchandise for Clare's retail businesses was brought in by the railroad. In fact until 1879 all the goods for Mount Pleasant's retail businesses were shipped to Clare and taken by wagons to Mount Pleasant on a daily basis. This ended in 1879 when the Coleman – Mount Pleasant Railroad was constructed.

Most all of the retail business in Clare was conducted along McEwan Street between Sixth Street on the north and just past First Street on the south. The heaviest concentration was within the two blocks between Third and Fifth Streets. Some businesses were also located on the side streets within one block of McEwan. In 1878 the *Clare County Press* had the following to say about the business climate in Clare; "Clare village has some seven hundred inhabitants, and is increasing. The business places comprise about a dozen dealers in dry goods and groceries, three hotels, three saloons, two drug stores, two millinery stores, a jewelry store, a clothing store, a picture frame store and undertaking establishment, and hardware and furniture store, two boot and shoe shops, a harness shop, a blacksmith shop, a carriage shop, ..."

Between 1878 and 1900 some of Clare's major retail businesses were established. Nathan Bicknell started his general store business in 1878. William Elden started his jewelry business in 1879. Thomas Boge began doing shoe repair in 1880. Robert Mussell opened his drug store in 1883. A. J. Doherty founded his hardware business in 1885. In 1893 the Davy and Company began their clothing store operation.

As the turn of the century came so did a change in the business climate of Clare. The end of the 1800's marked the end of the lumber industry in Clare County and the start of the agricultural era. Most of the agricultural activity that involved the city of Clare took place in the southeast corner of Clare County, along with northern Isabella and Midland counties. At first most of the farming in the area dealt with livestock but eventually transitioned to crop raising. It was at this time that farm implement stores begin to appear. In 1907 William Elden established his implement business on West Fourth Street, and in 1914 the Clare Hardware and Implement Company purchased the Calkins Hardware Company on the east side of the 500 block of McEwan. Some of the local automobile dealerships like Ike Hampton's Ford dealership also began to sell tractors.



*Davy & Company building, 1904  
501 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*



*Ike Hampton's Ford Dealership  
circa 1924  
406 and 412 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Tom Seller's Private  
Collection*

The years 1904 and 1907 were major years for fires in the downtown area. Some businesses decided to rebuild, while some new businesses came in and built on the locations of old burnt out buildings. The new buildings in 1904 included the McKinnon blacksmith shop, the Davy and Company Store, the Tatman Building, the McKinnon Building, and the W. P. Lewis Cigar Store. The 1907 construction included the Bicknell Department Store, the Dunwoodie Building, the Clare Sentinel Building, the M. E. Whitney's Building, the Wallace T Weir Building, the O'Callaghan Livery Barn, and the Foss Bakery. Not all of these buildings were built as a result of the previously mentioned fires, but some were.

By 1906 mail order catalogs were a particular problem to the local merchants. So much so that the *Clare Sentinel* printed an extensive article in their December 7, 1906 issue addressing the consequences of buying merchandise from catalogs instead of local merchants. What the response was to this article is unknown but it seems that most businesses adjusted and survived this crisis.

Another battle merchants were forced to fight was the battle of the chain stores. The 1920's and 1930's saw the introduction of chain stores in downtown Clare. E. A. Anderson converted his drug



store business to a Rexall Drug Store in the early 1920's. September 24, 1936 was the day Murl Houghton opened his Walgreen's store, which was previously called The Clare Drug Company. The A&P Tea Company occupied one of the units in the building located at the northwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets. The building on the southwest corner of Fourth and McEwan became a Kroger Grocery and Bakery in 1939, and then an IGA Store in 1948. The Gambles business occupied several buildings in Clare starting in 1934.

The struggles that Clare merchants have had through history were nothing compared to what they experienced in the 1960's and 1970's. The US-27 and US-10 by-passes had the most detrimental effect on the commerce of Clare than anything in memory. The by-pass resulted in the closing of all the gasoline service stations and most of the restaurants in the downtown area, and the eventual creation of Hamburger Hill area of the city. Hamburger Hill is the hill located on the north end of the city near the US-27 and US-10 exit ramp, where restaurant and hotel franchises have opened to service the traveling public. The creation of this resulted in business losses in the downtown area.



*Bicknell's Department Store, 1923  
420 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*

Today the major amount of retail business is still conducted along McEwan Street, but now it extends from the top of Vernon Hill in the south all the way to Hamburger Hill in the north. It also extends east and west along Fifth Street to the city limits on both sides.

## Communications/Newspaper Communications

The *Clare County Press*, Clare's first newspaper, began printing in 1878. Prior to this, if the citizens of Clare wanted a newspaper they had to buy a copy of the *Farwell Register*, which had been published since 1871. The *Clare County Press* was started by Alvarado F. Goodenough. Dennis E. Alward became editor of the paper in 1880, and purchased it in the same year. Dennis Alward owned the paper for eight years. Sometime before the paper was sold Alward wanted to disassociate himself with the northern half of the county and changed the name of the paper to the *Clare Press*. Marvin D. Eaton started the *News-Argus* in December 1884, which was changed to the *Clare Democrat* in 1886. The *Clare Democrat* eventually merged with the *Clare Press*, and was changed to the *Clare Democrat and Press*.

E. D. Palmer and R. G. Jefferies started the *Clare Sentinel* in 1892, and later purchased the *Clare Democrat and Press*. The *Clare Sentinel* was known as a Republican paper and had no Democrat opposition until 1895. That was the year A. Ray Canfield moved to Clare from Harrison and started the Democrat leaning *Clare Courier*. It was located on the second floor of the building located at 505 North McEwan Street. In the battle of newspapers the *Clare Sentinel* won out, and published long after the *Clare Courier*, which changed its name to *The Clare County News* in 1922, before it went out of business.

E. D. Palmer eventually sold his interest in the *Clare Sentinel* to R. G. Jefferies, and Jefferies eventually sold the paper to Edgar G. Welch and Philip A. Bennett. Welch and Bennett were operating the paper from a building located on the east 600 block of North McEwan Street. In 1907 they constructed a new building at 114 West Fourth Street and moved the printing operations there.

Welch and Bennett sold the paper to Erastus Palmer and Enoch Andrus in 1910. The next year Mr. Palmer sold his interest in the paper to Enoch Andrus, who retained ownership of the paper until 1921. John P. Jones and Malcolm Feighner purchased the paper next. Two years later Benjamin Parish purchased John P. Jones interest in the paper. Benjamin Parish died on June 27, 1934, but his wife Florence retained his interest in the newspaper.

The paper and printing business of Malcolm Feighner and Florence Parish continued to grow and necessitated a move to a larger building. This move took place in 1938 when the business was relocated to 112 West Fourth Street. This is the building immediately to the east of their previous location.

Another newspaper came to Clare in 1989. The *Clare County Review* was started in Farwell in 1947 by Joseph Grim. His son Buck Grim and grandson Gary Grim also owned the paper later. Michael Wilcox of Wilcox Enterprises purchased the newspaper in 1988, and moved it the following year to the building on the southwest corner of Fourth and McEwan Streets. Pat Maurer purchased the paper in 1991, and sold it back to Michael Wilcox in 2009. In 2005 while Pat Maurer owned the *Clare County Review* the newspaper was moved to a building west of Clare at 2141 East Ludington Drive.

The *Clare Sentinel* was published by Feighner and Parish until 1950 when it was taken over by William Elden. He continued as editor and publisher of the paper after Northern Communications, Inc. purchased it in 1967. Alfred Bransdorfer assumed the publisher position of the paper in October 1969 after William Elden's retirement earlier in the year. Clare Publishers purchased the *Clare Sentinel* in 2005 from Alfred Bransdorfer. The business was moved for a short time to the building located at the southeast corner of Fourth and McEwan Streets, before it moved to its present location at the northeast corner of Pine and Fifth Streets.



*Clare Sentinel, circa 1950  
112 West Fourth  
Courtesy of Katheleen Jackson Collection*

## Education/Libraries

Clare has had a library association which was active prior to 1900. By that time the association had collected almost 300 books and organized a lending library which was housed in the Willoughby photography gallery. The library would later be relocated in the Union School on State Street. The school along with the library was destroyed by fire in 1921.

On April 22, 1922 the Clare Library Association was organized by the women of the Clare Study Club. A. J. Doherty had graciously allotted a space in the northwest corner of his new hotel's first floor for the purpose of a community library. The library was opened on October 11, 1924 after the construction of the hotel was completed.

The library served the Clare area from the Doherty hotel building until 1950. The Doherty Hotel asked the library that year to move so the space could be converted to a dining room. The library found a location across the street in the basement of the building located on the northwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Street.

While located in this building the library ceased to be administered by the Clare Library Association. The library became an entity of the city government, and was supported by city property taxes and the Michigan State Library Fund.

The library moved yet again in 1961. In that year the Citizens State Bank building on the northeast corner of Fourth and McEwan Street was being sold to The Mammoth Oil Company. The oil company was to use the second floor of the building and did not need additional space on the first floor. Mammoth Oil offered the use of the first floor of the building and part of the basement to the city for its library. The terms of the agreement stated that the city would be responsible for paying the property taxes and a portion of the utilities.

An additional agreement was to change the name of the library to the Garfield Memorial Library in honor of the wife of Sam Garfield, Mammoth Oil Company's local representative.

Mammoth Oil sold the building to the City of Clare in the late 1970's. The library then expanded to the second floor of the building.

In an effort to increase their funding base the Garfield Memorial Library and other libraries outside the city formed what is now known as the Pere Marquette District Library. This was done in conjunction with the construction of a new library building in 2007. That was the year that the library was moved for a third time to its present location on the corner of Fourth and Pine Streets.

## Entertainment/Recreation/Automobile Tourism

After the Calkins House burned in 1920, Clare was without a first class hotel. A. J. Doherty began construction of the Doherty Hotel on the site of the burned Calkins House in 1922 and it was completed in 1924. At that time the major roads coming through Clare were State Highway M-14 which traveled north and south and State Highway M-20 which traveled east and west. Both were dirt roads at the time of the Doherty Hotel's construction. The key to drawing automobile traffic from the south to the northern vacation areas was the paving of these two roads.

In the mid 1920's there was much competition between communities for state funding to pave roads. In addition there was talk that M-14 would be rerouted and bypass Clare altogether. In 1925 Clare natives Dennis Alward, A. Ray Canfield, and A. J. Doherty began lobbying Washington D. C. to have M-14 designated as a military road between Lansing and Camp Grayling, which would make it eligible for federal funding for concrete paving. With the help of Congressman Roy Woodruff they were successful, but it was not until 1932 that the pavement actually reached Clare. In 1926 M-20 was changed to US-10, and M-14 was changed to US-27, and Clare was at the intersection of two major federal highways heading north.

When the Doherty Hotel was first constructed it was predicted that the small local population would not be able to sustain a hotel of its size for very long. By September of the same year Doherty found that the state wide patronage he was enjoying was growing so rapidly that it was necessary to expand his kitchen facilities to

keep pace. In 1930 the Hotel built ten stand alone cottages toward the east on Fifth Street. These cottages proved to be very popular and always sold out before the hotel did. They were popular because people could park their automobile within a few feet of their rooms. They were particularly popular with honeymooners.

The Depression caused some slow down in business for the Doherty Hotel, but things picked up after the end of World War II. In 1960 the cottages were torn down and a two-story motel, which was separate from the Hotel, was constructed with an outdoor pool in between.

The construction of the US-27 bypass in 1961 and the opening of Interstate I-75 in 1975 have presented the greatest recent challenges for the Doherty Hotel. The construction of I-75 was



*Doherty Hotel, 1924  
604 North McEwan*

*Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*



*Doherty Hotel Cottages  
109 East Fifth*

*Courtesy of Robert Knapp Collection*



the greater challenge because it totally diverted traffic from the south away from Clare, but this set back was only temporary.

The US-27 bypass did make possible the development of what the locals call Hamburger Hill. This is the area on the hill north of the city which is located near the exit and on ramps of what is now US-127. This area of development is known for its retail stores, motels, and restaurants.

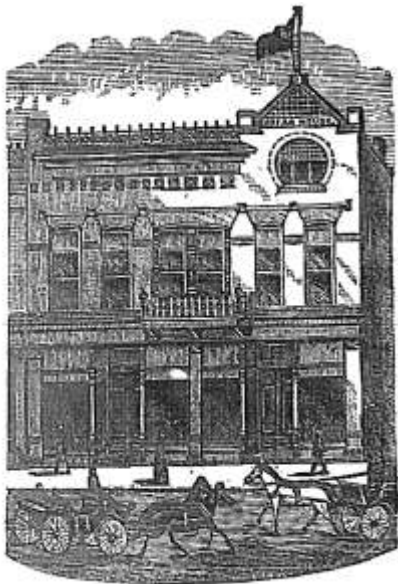
## Entertainment/Recreation/Entertainment

Even though the village of Clare was platted in 1870, and had seen rapid growth it was not until 1881 that the village saw the opening of its first Opera House. The Husted Opera House was constructed in 1881 on the site of what is now 415 North McEwan. It was a three story building with the opera house located on the third floor. The building was prone to fires. The first one started on the third floor during the first act of a minstrel show in 1887. A year later a fire which damaged nearly the entire block of buildings served as the demise of the Husted Opera House. With the loss of the Opera House, Clare was without a place of entertainment. The G. A. R. Hall filled some of the void, but it was not equipped for the needs of the Clare citizens. For several years the citizens and leaders were calling for someone, anyone, to construct a new Opera House. Coming to the rescue in 1890 was A. J. Doherty. He proposed the construction of the Doherty Opera House at 524 North McEwan, adjacent to his hardware store. The construction was completed in 1891, with the opera house located on the second floor of the building.



*Husted Opera House  
415 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp Collection*

Repertory troupes who came to the Doherty Opera House traveled a circuit which included Farwell and Harrison. The Doherty also had local drama talent. The Clare Dramatic Club consisted of Floyd Doherty, Alberta Long, Julia Harris, Sarah Malcolm, Mrs. Robert Mussell, Frank Colburn, T. S. Dorsey, C. H. O'Donald, R. G. Jefferies, Grant Defoe, and Frank Louch. Music was provided by the Kirkbride orchestra. Some of the productions put on by the Clare Dramatic Club were "The Dutch Recruit", "Among the Breakers", "A False Marriage", and "Imogene or the Wicked Witch."



*Doherty Opera House, 1895  
524 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Clare Sentinel*

Probably the most unusual production put on at the Opera House was by Professor D. M. Bristol in 1893. His "Equescurriculum" included thirty horses.

After the opening of the Doherty Opera House the G.A.R. Hall continued to hold productions. In fact at one time in 1890 and 1891 a traveling troupe held shows of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in both the G. A. R. Hall and the Doherty Opera House within sixty days of each other. However, the Doherty Opera House began acquiring the better shows and the G. A. R. Hall was converted to a gymnasium for the local citizens.

Business was booming for the Doherty Opera House at the turn of the twentieth century. The interior was completely redecorated in 1901. In 1903 the Opera House tried its hand at motion pictures. The Colonial Motion Picture Company scheduled a showing of the "The Great Train Robbery" movie. The movie and projector were, however, destroyed in a fire in Alma prior to the movie's showing in Clare.

The motion picture industry continued to be bad news for the Doherty Opera House. The mid 1900's and early 1910's saw the opening

of several motion picture theaters in the City of Clare. The Star Theatre was the first to open in 1906 on West Fourth Street. It was owned by Whitney and Sutton, and showed one and two-reel movies. The theater had a large white sheet on one end of the room and benches for patrons to sit on.

In 1907 Dr. Dunlop opened the Oriental Theatre on the vacant second floor of his Medical Hall on the southwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets. The name of the theater was changed to the Vaudette, and was sold to E. N. Whitney in 1910. He operated a one-reel nickel theater in the second floor of the Dunlop Medical Hall.

The Star Theatre was purchased in 1908 from George W. Lee and the name changed to the Temple Theatre. It was sold again to Fred Northquist who changed the name to the Palace Theatre in 1911.

On July 4, 1912, the first full time theater was opened in Clare. The Princess Theatre was owned by the Princess Photo Company and located in the center unit of the Dunwoodie building on the northwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets. The theater showed three-reel movies and illustrated songs daily.

The Doherty Opera House could not compete with this new industry. In March 1913 the Opera House sold the remainder of its seats and work began to convert it to a public meeting room. In 1931 it was being leased to the local Masons for their Masonic Lodge.

By 1930 Clare was in need of a bigger theater that could serve a larger population. In that year John Asline the current owner of the Princess Theater constructed the Ideal Theater. This building is located at 609 North McEwan. The new modern theater was able to seat five hundred people, and was equipped with the most up to date projectors. This theater still serves Clare to this day.

## **Health/Medicine/Local and County Health Care**

Although some men claimed to be doctors in the early days of Clare's history, most had little training if any. The first real doctor, Dr. Sawtell, arrived in Clare about 1870. The following year, Dr. Maynard, an ex-Civil War orderly began his Clare medical practice which lasted for fifty-two years.

In 1883 Dr. Robert Mussell opened his drug store and medical practice out of the building he purchased at 515 North McEwan. Twelve years later Dr. Mussell built his new drug store at 505 North McEwan. After his death in the early 1900's Dr. Mussell's wife Anna, who was a trained druggist, ran the business until 1936.

Another well known doctor, Dr. John Dunlop, built the first brick building in Clare in 1885. Dr. Dunlop's Medical Hall was located at the southwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets. Another physician in Clare was Dr. F. C. Sanford, who began his practice in 1891, eventually moved to the second story of the Mussell/Elden building at 505 North McEwan. Other general practice doctors included Dr. Robert Gray (1893), Dr. J. A. Reeder (1899), and Dr. William Clute.

1912 saw the doctors and druggists in Clare, Dr. William Clute especially, in trouble over writing prescriptions for medicinal alcohol during a period of local prohibition. Dr. Clute was arrested for filling a prescription for a man by the name of Pearl Calkins. Dr. Clute diagnosed Mr. Calkins with a weak palpitating heart and needed a drink of alcohol now and then to strengthen it. On December 20, 1912 Mr. Calkins drank a large quantity of his prescription and fell under the wheels of a freight car as he was taking a train to Farwell. Dr Clute was eventually released and the charges against him were dropped. The issue was finally resolved by the doctors agreeing to issue no more prescriptions except at the bedside of a sick person, or due to some equally extreme case of necessity. The druggists agreed to not furnish any liquor to people except those who have a valid prescription as stated before.

Clare also had its share of specialists in its early days. Surgeons included Dr. Ash (1881) and Dr. Todd (1882). Women's doctors were Dr. E. P. Thomas (1894) and Dr. Goodman (1895). Druggists were Dr. Carpenter (1881) and Drs. Tooley and Keeler (1881). Dentists included Dr. Lossing (1881), Dr W. A. Lampman, Dr. J. B. Roe, Dr. W. H. Waller, and Dr. A. E. Mulder (1894).

Dr. A. E. Mulder began his dental practice in the Dunlop building and practiced there until moving to the Tatman building, 506 North McEwan, in 1910. In 1942 he moved his practice to the second story of the

Citizens State Bank building on the northeast corner of Fourth and McEwan Streets. He was also known for his involvement in the community. He was elected to the Clare Board of Education in 1905, and served for over twenty-six years as the board's president. Dr. Mulder was also elected as Clare's mayor from 1910 to 1912. He was also one of the original directors and founders of the Citizens State Bank in 1909.

Another dentist, Dr. Frank McKnight started his practice in the second story of the 505 North McEwan building. He moved to the building to the north, which he owned, and practiced there until 1964. Other dentists located in the downtown area were doctors C. B. Neff and James Haines. They both occupied the building located on the northeast corner of Fifth and Beech Streets. Dr. Neff started using the building for his practice in 1953 and Dr. Haines in 1998.

There were many more doctors that practiced in Clare's more recent history. Drs. Keyes and Ballard shared an office in 1957 at 114 West Fourth Street. Dr. Kuno Hammerburg had an office for a long time on McEwan street north of the Doherty Hotel.

Plans for Clare's first hospital began in the late 1920's. At the time, with the exception of one, the closest hospitals to Clare were located 35 miles to the south, 50 miles to the west, 50 miles to the east, and 60 miles to the north. The first hospital to serve the Clare area was started by Dr. Cornelius Bennett Wood in 1936. This original hospital was located in a frame building opposite the city park on West Fifth Street. The building was soon found to be insufficient in size and another one was constructed on the site of the present hospital. This hospital was known as the Clare County General Hospital. It had twenty beds, an X-ray room, an operating room, an obstetrics unit, and a kitchen. The hospital was renamed Clare Hospital and Clinic in 1942. In 1952 it would become an osteopathic hospital and would change its name to the Clare General Hospital. Mid-Michigan Health Care Systems, headquartered in Midland, would take over the operation of the hospital 1982. The name of the hospital was changed in 1983 to Clare Community Hospital, Mid-Michigan Regional Medical Center-Clare in 1990, and MidMichigan Medical Center-Clare in 2002.

## Politics/Government/Local Government

Although Clare was platted in 1870 it was not until 1879 that a local government was established. On January 13, 1879 the Michigan Legislature passed a petition incorporating Clare as a village. Elections were held in June of that year, and Jacob D. Newth was elected as the village's first president. At the same time Alfred Louch, Tobias P. Horning and George W. Lee were elected to two-year terms as trustees on the Common Council. John Pash, Peter Callam, and William Ross were elected to one-year terms on the Common Council. Floyd Pash was elected as Clerk, Wallace S. Cooley – Treasurer, Alfred J. Doherty – Assessor, George F. Holbrook – Street Commissioner, and William Parrish – Constable. At the first Common Council meeting Andrew E. Mack was voted in as Village Marshall.

The village's business was first conducted on the second floor of the building located on the southeast corner of McEwan and Fourth Streets. The town hall and hose house would later be located at the corner of Second and McEwan Streets.

The next change in government came in 1891 when Clare was incorporated as a city. With this incorporation Clare was divided into three wards. Each ward would have a Supervisor, along with two people from each ward elected to serve as Alderman on the City Council, and one person elected as Constable. In addition the citizens as a whole would elect a Mayor, City Clerk, Treasurer, and two Justices of the Peace. C. W. Perry was elected as the city's Mayor, John W. Calkins – Treasurer, C. L. Bigley – Clerk, and A. W. McIntyre and Joseph H. Carpenter as the Justices of the Peace.

As Clare grew so did the need to have a larger building to service its citizens. And since the city was growing in a northerly direction it made sense to move it farther north. In 1894 Clare had built a new brick



*Clare City Hall, circa 1900  
202 West Fifth  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp  
Collection*

Union School. This left the former white clapboard school building on the northwest corner of Beech and Fifth Streets vacant. The city moved its offices and fire department there. The move to the new building was completed on April 8, 1895.

The early political climate of Clare was breeding ground for advancement in both the Republican and Democratic parties on a state and national level. The earliest of these was Dennis Alward, who was one time owner of the *Clare County Press* and mayor of Clare, he would go on to become clerk of the State Railroad Commission, personal assistant to Lew Miller (Secretary of the Senate), Clerk of the Michigan Senate, Head of the State Republican party starting in 1894, Superintendent of the House Document Room in Washington D.C. in 1896, and organizer of national Republican elections in 1910.



*Clare City Hall and Memorial Building, 1934  
202 West Fifth  
Courtesy of Katheleen Jackson Collection*

A. Ray Canfield would take a path to prominence similar to that which Dennis Alward had taken. Starting as owner of the *Clare Courier*, and although not a local office holder, by virtue of his newspaper he was still very influential in the local Democratic Party. He would go on to serve as Michigan Democratic Party Secretary, State Democratic Campaign Chair in 1904, and alternated with Dennis Alward as Secretary of the Senate and Reading Clerk in Washington D.C. in the years 1896 and 1912.

A. J. Doherty held several local offices starting with village assessor in 1879 and worked his way up to mayor. Doherty was elected to the State Senate in 1903 and re-elected in 1905 where he

served as the Republican party Whip for both terms. He later served on the State Board of Agriculture and was eventually appointed as the Director of the Michigan State Fair. He served as one of the first statewide elected members of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees, serving from 1907 to 1919. In the later days of his life he served as a lobbyist for the Pullman Company.

A. J. Lacey was elected as Clare's mayor in 1902. At the age of 21 he was the youngest person to serve as a city mayor in the State of Michigan. He would lose his bid for re-election in 1906, but his political career was far from over. He would eventually move to the Detroit area, where he became a very prominent lawyer and judge. In 1934 he won the Democratic nomination for Michigan's governor, but lost to Republican Frank Fitzgerald in the general election.

In the early 1930's Clare was once again looking to expand its government office space. The former school building which the city had occupied for almost forty years was not adequate for the city's needs. On December 14, 1933 a group of Clare citizens met with officials from the Civilian Works Administration office in Lansing. The C. W. A. approved the construction of the City Hall and Memorial Building on the same site as the sixty-year old "Old White School House". The new building was completed in November 1934.

The present form of government that the city is governed by was instituted through a change in the city's charter in 1948. The charter was changed to provide for the commission-manager form of government. This new government would have five elected members to the City Commission, one of whom would serve as Mayor. The city commission would be responsible to appoint a City Manager for an indefinite period of time. The City Manager would serve as the chief administrative officer of the city. Other positions appointed by the City Commission include; City Clerk, City Treasurer, City Attorney, City Assessor, City Health Officer, City Engineer, Chief of Police, Chief of Fire, and other administrative officers as the City Commission deems necessary.



## Politics/Government/Federal Government

The history of the federal government in Clare is the history of the Post Office. And this history started in the fall of 1870. Peter Callam came to Clare as part of the surveying crew which platted the Village of Clare. He was originally from Saginaw but moved to Clare permanently, built a general store and became the first Postmaster for the village. Prior to the railroad delivering the mail to Clare, Peter Callam made the twenty-six mile trip to Averill, Michigan in Midland County to pick up Clare's mail.

In 1873 Peter Callam sold his store to John Giberson, who then assumed the duties of the Postmaster. In the late 1870's John D. Rockafellow was appointed Postmaster and moved the Post Office to his store on the northwest corner of Fourth and McEwan Streets. The next Postmaster was William Giberson, who moved the post office to a small building which was located just north of the Rockafellow Building. In 1883 the Post Office was moved across the street when Dr. Thomas Maynard was appointed Postmaster.

The Post Office was next moved in 1898. At this time S.C. Kirkbride was the Postmaster and the Post Office was moved to the south unit of the first floor of the Doherty Opera House Building. The lease which Alfred J. Doherty made with the U. S. Government to house the Post Office in his building was renewed in 1910 and 1920. Both leases were for ten years. During S. C. Kirkbride's leadership Clare began its rural route deliveries in September 1903.

John A. Jackson served as postmaster for eight years and seven months starting in 1914. On July 1, 1915 the Clare Post Office was upgraded from a *third class* to a *second class* classification. In April of the following year legislation was introduced by Congressman George A. Loud representing Michigan's Tenth District, to construct a Post Office building in Clare. Although the citizens of Clare welcomed the new building, they also objected to the use of "pork barrel" money to fund the project. For unknown reasons, the Post Office was never built.

Postmaster John A. Jackson was replaced by S.C. Kirkbride who was reappointed in 1922. Postmaster Kirkbride served until his death on August 13, 1931. During his tenure the amount of mail the Clare post office was handling increased to the point that larger facilities were needed. The Post Office was moved once more in July 1931 to the Mater Building on the north side of 100 block of East Fourth Street.

After the death of S. C. Kirkbride assistant Postmaster Earl Tupper became acting Postmaster and served until February 1, 1932. On that day L. E. Davy was appointed Postmaster and served until Francis (Frank) Jackson was appointed on April 21, 1936. Frank Jackson was the son of John A. Jackson who served as postmaster from 1914 to 1922.

The present Post Office building on West Fifth Street was constructed during the winter of 1936-1937 and opened on May 17, 1937. The number of Post Office employees had risen from one in the Peter Callam days to 21 at the time of the new Post Office construction. They included the postmaster and assistant postmaster, two clerks, one substitute clerk, two city carriers, one substitute city carrier, five rural carriers, four substitute rural carriers, two janitors, one mail messenger, and one star carrier (star carriers delivered mail to areas not covered by a regular mail routes).

In October 1951 a curb side mailbox was installed in front of the post office on West Fifth Street for the convenience of postal patrons. In 1952 the post office was upgraded from a *second class* to a *first class* classification.

After reaching the maximum retirement age of seventy Frank Jackson retired as the Clare Postmaster on May 31, 1961. His nephew, Laurence Jackson Jr., became the acting postmaster upon Frank Jackson's retirement. He was officially appointed postmaster on September 4, 1962. For the next fifteen years Laurence



*United States Post Office, Clare, Michigan, 1937  
111 West Fifth  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*



Jackson Jr. served as the Clare postmaster. He was succeeded by Richard Miller on July 1, 1978. Richard Metcalf was the next postmaster who assumed his duties on April 4, 1982. Following a string of successive Postmasters, the present Postmaster, and Clare's first female Postmaster, Wendy Shephard-Griffin, was appointed on August, 29, 2009.

## Religion/Congregationalism

On September 8, 1872 Rev. Austin Hull Norris, and State Superintendent of Congregational Churches, Rev. Leroy Warren arrived in Clare to consider the village as a site for organizing a new church. The following Sunday evening Rev. Norris held his first worship service in a small building on the south part of town that was being built for a school building. Of the congregation that was in attendance that evening only one person, Mr. William Waldo was of the Congregationalists denomination. The church was officially recognized by council on December 22, 1872. The church record book recorded the following nine people as its first members; Mr. M. L. Converse, Mrs. Jennie Converse, Mrs. Carrie G. Brewer, Mr. Dwight J. Brewer, Mrs. Laura A. Ross, Mr. Albert A. Shaver, Mrs. Ella A. Shaver, Mr. Wallace Cooley, and Mrs. Harriet Cooley.

At the time the members were content with meeting at the school building, but Rev. Norris was determined to have a proper church building. He found out that William and John McEwan had set aside lots number eleven and twelve in block sixteen, on West Fifth Street, in trust for the Presbyterian Society. The Presbyterians relinquished their claim on the property, and that gave the go ahead for Rev. Norris to clear the lots and begin construction.

Construction of the first church building in Clare began in July, 1873. The panic of 1873 caused the money for the project to come in slowly, and as a result the building was not finished until the summer of 1874.

Rev. Norris served both the Clare and Farwell communities until 1876. During this time he made his residence in Farwell. In 1876 he moved to Clare to serve only the Clare church. He was in Clare until 1880 when he was transferred to Ada, Michigan.

In 1907 the decision was made while Rev. W. S. Frost was pastor to construct a new building. C. H. Sutherland, L. E. Davy, A. S. Rhoades, W. H. Elden, and J. S. Bicknell served on the building committee. The wood church was moved to the Herbert Allen property on Sixth Street in 1908. The church bell was sold to the St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church on McEwan Street. The stained glass windows were removed from the wood framed building before it was moved and used in the new brick structure. The new building was completed in 1909 at a cost of \$8,000.

A new addition of Sunday school rooms, minister's study, and dining room was constructed in 1958. In 1965 the parsonage adjacent to the church was torn down and replaced with a parking lot.

On January 14, 1961 the First Congregational Church of Clare voted to merge with the United Church of Christ. The merger was not official however until May 1963 when the Michigan Congregational Conference voted to merge with the Michigan-Indiana Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to form the Michigan Conference of the United Church of Christ, which the Clare church became a part of. This merger took place while Rev. Fletcher Van Gordon Parker was serving as pastor.



*Clare Congregational Church, circa 1874  
110 West Fifth*

*Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection*



*Artist's drawing of  
Clare Congregational Church,  
1907*

*110 West Fifth  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp  
Collection*

# List of Sources

Bicknell, John. Personal Interview. 4 August 2010.

Central Michigan Community Federal Credit Union. Retrieved 2 April 2010. From <http://www.cmcfcu.com/profile.html>.

Clare Area Centennial Committee. Clare Remembered. Mount Pleasant, Michigan: Enterprise Printers. 1979.

Clare, City of. City Charter. Clare, Michigan. 1948.

Clare County Press. 1878 - 1886. Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Review. 1972 - present. Clare and Farwell, Michigan.

Clare Courier. 1895 - 1922. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Democrat. 1886 - 1889. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Democrat and Press. 1890 – 1892. Clare, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Books. 1950 - 2006. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Press. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 1892 - present. Clare, Michigan.

Jackson, Katheleen. Private Photograph Collection.

Knapp, Robert C. A History of Downtown Clare, 1868-1958. Manuscript. 2009.

---. Private Photograph Collection.

Meek, Forrest. The Doherty Hotel. Preliminary Draft. 1991.

---. Michigan's Heartland 1900 – 1918. Clare, Michigan: Edgewood Press. 1979.

---. Michigan's Timber Battleground. Clare, Michigan: Clare County Bicentennial Historical Committee. 1976.

---. Photography Collection, Mid Michigan Community College. Harrison, Michigan.

---. Time Line History of Clare, Michigan. Manuscript in Pere Marquette District Library. Clare, Michigan. 1991.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. 1893, Sheet 1. Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

---. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. 1894, Sheets 2 and 3. Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

- . *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. 1899, Sheets 3, 4, and 5. Proquest L.L.C. 2009.
  - . *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. 1906, Sheets 2, 3, and 4. Proquest L.L.C. 2009.
  - . *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. 1910, Sheets 2, 3, and 4. Proquest L.L.C. 2009.
  - . *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. 1923, Sheets 2 and 4. Proquest L.L.C. 2009.
  - . *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. 1928-1934, Sheets 2 and 4. Proquest L.L.C. 2009.
- Schuh, Lori. Main Street Manager. Clare Michigan Main Street Office. Personal Interview. 12 May 2010.
- Shurlow, Maryann. Owner. Herrick House. Personal Interview. 5 May 2010
- . Private Photograph Collection.

This page intentionally left blank.

# *Section Three*

Index List of Surveyed Properties  
Survey Forms  
Streetscape Photographs



*McEwan Street looking northeast, 1957  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp Private Collection*

# Index of Surveyed Properties

<b>Property</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>Page</b>
114 East Fifth	45	425 North McEwan	97
120 East Fifth	47	426 North McEwan	99
102 West Fifth	49	427 North McEwan	101
104 West Fifth	51	431 North McEwan	103
109 West Fifth	53	501 North McEwan	105
110 West Fifth	55	502 North McEwan	107
111 West Fifth	57	505 North McEwan	109
114 West Fifth	59	506 North McEwan	111
202 West Fifth	61	511 North McEwan	113
112 East Fourth	63	513 North McEwan	115
115 East Fourth	65	515 North McEwan	117
112 West Fourth	67	517 North McEwan	119
114 West Fourth	69	518 North McEwan	121
120 West Fourth	71	520 North McEwan	123
124 West Fourth	73	521 North McEwan	125
307 North McEwan	75	522 North McEwan	127
321 North McEwan	77	523 North McEwan	129
402 North McEwan	79	524 North McEwan	131
405 North McEwan	81	525 North McEwan	133
406 North McEwan	83	532 North McEwan	135
407 North McEwan	85	603 North McEwan	137
409 North McEwan	87	604 North McEwan	139
412 North McEwan	89	609 North McEwan	141
415 North McEwan	91	611 North McEwan	143
417 North McEwan	93	613 North McEwan	145
420 North McEwan	95	617 North McEwan	147



## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 114    Direction: East    Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Fifth Street Parking Lot Horse Shelter  
Common Name: Fifth Street Parking Lot Horse Shelter

### DATE

Date Built: 2005    Source of Date: Pat McGuirk Interview

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Shed  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Wood  
Roof: Asphalt Shingle

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

This structure was built by Terry Scheringer of Mount Pleasant, Michigan as part of the Fifth Street Parking Lot Project in 2005. The Fifth Street Parking Lot Project was awarded to Pat McGuirk Excavating in March 2005.

This building is a single-story wood framed structure with an asphalt shingled shed roof. The building has three sides with the open end facing the north. The siding is made up of vertical tongue and groove wood which is also exposed on the interior. The roof is highest on the north side and slopes down to the south. Horizontal planks are nailed to the lower four feet of the interior framing. The building has no windows. The building contains an aluminum trash can for the storage of solid horse waste.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This structure is located on the north side of the Fifth Street Parking Lot which is owned by the City of Clare. The parking lot is located between East Fifth Street and East Fourth Street on the east side of the buildings which front McEwan Street. The structure faces north.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This structure was constructed by the City of Clare as part of its Fifth Street Parking Lot Project. Its sole purpose is to provide a shelter for horses which pull Amish carriages. The shed is large enough to shelter two horses which are harnessed to separate carriages. Most Amish carriages are pulled by a single horse.



File Name: 114 E Fifth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Schmidt, Diane. "Re: internship questions." Message to the author email. 5 May, 2011.

McGuirk, Pat. Owner. Pat McGuirk Excavating. Personal Interview. 12 May, 2011.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 120      Direction: East      Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Goodman House  
Common Name: Herrick House



File Name: 120 E Fifth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### DATE

Date Built: 1882      Source of Date: Clare County Press

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: House/Store  
Style: None

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Stone, Concrete Block  
Walls: Clapboard, Vinyl Siding  
Roof: Asphalt Shingle

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and the builder for this building are unknown.

This building is a gabled front and wing structure. The main portion of the building is two stories with a gabled roof facing the north. The wing is also a two-story structure facing east, but the peak of the side gable is shorter than the peak of the front gable. There is a one-story inset between the front gable and the wing covered with a hipped roof. This inset is flush with the north and east sides of the building. A porch with a lean-to roof extends across the entire façade of the structure. On the second story of the front gable are three wood framed windows with decorative pediments above the windows. Above the windows is a round decorative attic vent. On the first floor of the gabled front section on the east side is a wood framed bay window with the same decorative pediments as the second story windows. The aluminum framed glass door on the façade is located between two wood framed picture windows on the first floor. With the exception of the area under the porch, which has diagonal tongue and groove siding, the rest of this section of the structure is clapboard sided.

Located on the west side of the building and to the south of the gabled front portion is another two-story gabled wing which faces the west. South of this is a larger one-story gabled section which faces south. Immediately to the south of this gabled section is a deck with an open trussed roof. This portion of the building is clapboard sided. In fact most of the building retains its original clapboard siding and wood windows. The newer addition on the entire south side of the structure contains vinyl siding and vinyl windows.

The main portion of the building has changed little since it was first constructed. The bay window on the west side of the gabled front section was added in 1894. It is unknown what the original porch to the building looked like, but sometime between 1899 and 1906 a gazebo was added to its northeast corner.

Throughout the history of the building additions have been added and removed. Between 1899 and 1906 there was a small one-story addition to the south side of the building. In 1918 Grant Terwilliger did some remodeling on the building. It was most likely a one-story attached garage on the south side of the building

which shows on the 1923 Sanborn map. By 1983 the porch with the gazebo had been removed and a modest entryway with an A-framed roof had replaced it. The current porch was constructed sometime between 1995 and 2004 with the entryway being removed. In 1988 some of the south side of the building was removed to make room for a larger addition. The present deck located on the south side of the building was constructed in 2006.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a mixed commercial and residential area of the city. It is located on the southwest corner of East Fifth Street and Pine Street, and faces to the north. No other buildings are located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed by William Goodman in the spring of 1882. The property was deeded to William Goodman's wife Kittie in November 1898. She sold the property to Charles O'Donald in July 1901. The property was deeded to his wife Ann in April 1905. William and Mary Cole bought the property from Ann O'Donald Kidder in December 1907. Grant and Loretta Terwilliger purchased the property from the Coles in March 1912. The property was deeded to Loretta in January 1919. Loretta owned the property until August 1925, when she sold it to Lewis and Frances Thompson. The Thompson's sold the building to Hazel Oden, who owned the building until November 1983. Hazel Oden was the last person to own the building and use it as a primary residence. She sold the building to John and Delphine Gibson who opened "Grandma's House" gift shop. The Gibson's sold the building to Glen and Stephanie Mogg in November 1995, who continued the gift shop business. The current owners Dr. Elmer and Mary Ann Shurlow purchased the building in May 2004 and opened the Herrick House gift shop.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare County Press. 27 August, 1881. Clare, Michigan

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1893, 1894, 1910, 1923).

Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Thompson Residence, circa 1930  
120 East Fifth Street  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp collection



Grandma's House gift shop  
Circa 1985  
Courtesy of Mary Ann Shurlow

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 102    Direction: West    Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Norwood Building  
Common Name: Desired Skin Building

### DATE

Date Built: 1939    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 102 W Fifth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick, Concrete Block, Vinyl Siding  
Roof:

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building is unknown. Frank Roberts was the building contractor.

This is a one-part commercial block building, with an aluminum framed glass door in the southeast corner of the façade. The aluminum framed fixed sash window to the west of the door takes up the middle half of the building. The brick work on the parapet and around the window is in a stacked bond pattern. There is a small wood framed awning over the door and window that runs the width of the façade. Masonry blocks cap the top of the parapet. The east side of the building is covered with vinyl siding over cement blocks. There are three vinyl windows and one steel framed door on the east side of the building.

Except for the east side of the building, the structure has remained unchanged throughout its history. The window openings on the east side used to be larger. The new windows and the vinyl siding were both added in 2009.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the north side of the 100 block of West Fifth Street, one building to the west of North McEwan Street, and faces to the south. An alley runs perpendicular to West Fifth Street on the east side of the building and dead ends at the Ideal Theater to the north. No other buildings are located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commercial/Retail



## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed by James Norwood in 1939. It was actually a remodel of an open structure that was located here prior to James Norwood owning the property. It is unknown when the structure was built or what it looked like, but it was owned by Fred Busche for Busche Motor Sales. The structure does not show up on the 1934 Sanborn Map. John Asline, Peter Crueger, and Fred Busche were the owners of the property from 1934 to 1939.

James Norwood used the building for his "Fix-it Shop", and owned it until Fred Busche bought the building in January 1946. Genevieve Pearson opened the Pearson Dress Shoppe in July 1946. The building caught fire in April 1948. Later that month Mrs. Pearson was arrested on arson charges. By August of the same year the building was remodeled and The Children's Center apparel store was leasing it. Fred Busche sold the building to Harmon Ballard in September 1949. Mr. and Mrs. Joe W. Weible sold The Children's Center store in March 1950 to Leslie Karr, who owned and operated The New Yorker children's clothing store in Mount Pleasant. Harmon Ballard owned the building until January 1952 when he sold it to Arthur Skeets. The Clare Office Supply Co. was using the building in 1953. Arthur Skeets sold the building to George Scheer in April 1962. In 1963 the Clare Business Service was occupying the building. In February 1966 Leo Stevens bought the building from George Scheer, and sold it back to Scheer in 1974. The Clare Factory Outlet was using the building in the late 1980's. The present owner, Carolyn Murphy bought the building from Patricia Jones in March 1994. It is unknown when Patricia Jones purchased the building. In the early 2000's the building was being used by the Image Quest Active Wear business. Then the building was known as the Meeting Place. The Desired Skin tattoo shop was opened in 2009.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1953, 1963. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 21 April, 1939. 28 June, 1946. 9 April, 1948. 23 April, 1948. 20 August, 1948. 30 March, 1950. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 104    Direction: West    Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Creguer Building  
Common Name: Mid Michigan Big Brothers/Big Sisters Building

### DATE

Date Built: 1937    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 104 W Fifth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store/Bank/Office Building  
Style: Commercial Brick

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick, Cement Block  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder for this building are unknown.

This is a one-part commercial block building with double aluminum framed fixed sash windows that take up two-thirds of the façade's street level. The inset steel framed door with glass window is located on the southeast corner of the façade, and is topped with a fixed sash aluminum framed window. The main windows are immediately to the west of the door. The façade is covered with brick, with a raised brick frame in the center of the parapet. The west side of the building is constructed of cement blocks with two window openings to the north end of the west side of the building. Masonry blocks cap the top of the parapet, while clay tiles cap the top of the west side.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the north side of the 100 block of West Fifth Street, and faces to the south. No other buildings are located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Banking, Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed by Peter Creguer in 1937 for use as a harness shop. By 1962 the Clare Loan Company was using the building. Peter Creguer sold the building to Robert Campbell in December 1964. Diane Sadler-Demo purchased the building in April 1990, and sold it to Roger and Emily Chase in March 1992.

The Chases owned the building until November 1998 when they sold it to Michael and Michele Rengert. The Rengerts sold the building to the present owner Mid Michigan Big Brothers/Big Sisters in September 2000.

#### SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 29 October, 1937. 24 December, 1937. 25 January, 1962. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 109    Direction: West    Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Holbrook/Mair Building  
Common Name: American Dry Cleaners

### DATE

Date Built: 1941    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 109 W Fifth.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Commercial Office Building  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Concrete Block, Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building is unknown. David Mair was the builder.

This is a two-part commercial block building. The façade is made up of two inset doors located at the northeast and northwest corners of the building, with two fixed sash aluminum framed plate glass windows located in between. The door on the northeast corner accesses the stairway to the office suites located on the second floor. The door on the northwest corner opens to the retail space on the street level. Both doors are made of wood with glass windows. On the second story of the façade are two double hung vinyl windows with a canvas awning located between the windows of the second story and street level. Two attic vents are located above the second story windows.

The building is constructed of brick on the north and west sides and cement block on the east and south sides. All the windows except for the plate glass windows on the façade's street level are vinyl and not original to the building. On the south side of the building is a one story addition with an unknown construction date. Clay tiles cap the top of the entire building.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the south side of the 100 block of West Fifth Street, one building to the west of North McEwan Street, and faces to the north. An alley runs perpendicular to West Fifth Street on the east side of the building and leads to West Fourth Street. No other buildings are located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed jointly by Donald Holbrook and Robert Mair in 1941. The street level retail space was originally occupied by Robert Mair's Band Box Cleaners business. Donald Holbrook, who at the time was Clare County's Prosecuting Attorney, had his law offices on the second floor. In addition Freeman Oil Company and Higelmire & Associates had offices on the second floor. In 1947 the Gibraltar Insulation Company from Pontiac opened an office here that was formerly occupied by the Freeman Oil Company.

In 1972 Donald Holbrook purchased Robert Mair's interest in the building. Holbrook retained ownership of the building until 1984, when he sold to Norell and Barbara Mahon. Barbara Mahon owned the building until 1998 when she sold it to the present owner, The Seven R's Company. The American Dry Cleaners business has been located here at least since 1976.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1976. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 11 July, 1941. 27 June, 1947. Clare, Michigan

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 110      Direction: West      Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Clare Congregational Church  
Common Name: Congregational Church of Christ

### DATE

Date Built: 1909      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 110 W Fifth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Church  
Style: Commercial Brick

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Stone/Concrete Block  
Walls: Brick/Concrete Block  
Roof: Asphalt Shingle, Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

W. T. Cooper of Saginaw was the architect for this building. House, Oles, and Bailey were the builders.

This building has a cross gabled Greek cross-form with an octagonal dome. The east, south, and west sides of the building are nearly identical except in regards to the 1958 addition on the east and south sides. The central portion of each side contains three stained glass windows, side by side, with rounded heads. The windows are bordered with double bands of raised header bricks, with a larger double band of header bricks arching over all three windows. The brickwork between the window borders and the larger arch forms a herringbone pattern. On either side of the stained glass windows are brick columns capped with carved limestone. Three small recessed crosses are located in the brickwork on either side of carved limestone. The roof gables have a small cornice return that meets with the recessed brick work. Below the windows is a limestone belt cornice that separates the basement from the main story. The brickwork below the belt course has alternating horizontal bands of raised bricks. Three small windows in this section with raised arched header bricks correspond to the stained glass windows above. At the center of the cross gables is the low octagonal dome. On each side of the dome is a round head dormer with stained glass in the center. On each corner of the building is vertical rectangular stained glass window below its corresponding dormer. The north side of the building is bricked with no ornamentation.

The main portion of the building has seen very little change since its construction in 1909. The top of the dome originally contained a balustrade and the entire roof was covered with wood shingles. The balustrade was removed in 1950. In 1958 a major addition was added to the east and south of the building, along with changes to the entryway on the southeast corner of the building. This addition was constructed with concrete blocks and had a flat roof. It was built low so as not to interfere with the appearance of the original structure. The designer of this addition was William W. Harper, principal of Clare High School. An entryway was added on the west side of the addition. An open gabled roof covering this entryway was added at an unknown time. A handicap



entrance was added to the southwest corner of the building in 1994. In 1994 an extensive restoration of the building's sanctuary was accomplished.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the north side of the 100 block of West Fifth Street, and faces to the south. No other buildings are located on the property.

The stained glass windows of this church were originally used in the church building that this one replaced. That building was built in 1874.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Religion/Congregationalism

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building is significant for its architect, W. T. Cooper, and as an example of a central-plan auditorium style church of the early twentieth century. It has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1995.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Christensen, Robert. 17 March, 1994. National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form. Bureau of History. Michigan Department of State.

Clare Sentinel. 21 August, 1908. Clare, Michigan



Clare Congregational Church, circa 1950  
110 West Fifth Street  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection



Clare Congregational Church  
Historical Marker  
110 West Fifth Street  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 111    Direction: West    Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: United States Post Office  
Common Name: United States Post Office

### DATE

Date Built: 1936-1937    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 111 W Fifth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Post Office  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Poured Concrete  
Walls: Brick, Poured Concrete  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

Louis A. Simon was the architect of this building and the Spence Brothers of Saginaw were the builders.

The façade of this building follows a symmetrical pattern. The double steel framed glass doors are located in the center of the façade with a triple light fixed sash steel framed window above. Located to the east and west of the door are horizontal steel framed fixed sash windows. The windows have two large lights located in the center, with smaller lights to the side. These windows are bordered by plain concrete pilasters on their east and west and concrete panels below. Between these windows and the northeast and northwest corners of the building are another set of fixed sash steel framed windows. These windows have a concrete lintel with a winged propeller motif, and a concrete panel below. The whole building rests on an exposed concrete base and has a concrete belt cornice above the windows. Granite steps and handicap ramp to the west lead to the doors.

The east and west sides of the building are similar. On the north and south ends of the building are fixed sash steel framed windows with concrete panels above and below. A set of three fixed sash steel framed windows are located in between. The concrete belt cornice on the façade is continued on the east and west sides above the windows. The brick work on the west side of the building extends farther south and forms the west wall of the load dock, which is located on the southwest corner of the building.

This building has changed little since its construction in 1937. A handicap ramp was constructed on the façade of the building in 1989. The wall that provides a wind block to the loading dock on the southwest corner of the building was constructed in 1998. The windows have all been changed within the last decade.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the south side of the 100 block of West Fifth Street, and faces to the north. An asphalt drive runs perpendicular to West Fifth Street on the east

side of the building, and leads to the loading dock on the south side of the building. No other buildings are located on the property. A flag pole is located on the northeast corner of the property in its historic location.

The interior of the building features an Allan Thomas mural. The mural measures four and one-half foot by twelve and one-half foot. The mural was placed in the post office lobby in October 1937, and was obtained from the Painting and Sculpture section of the United States Department of Treasury. The mural depicts a mail carrier from the early logging days of Clare.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Politics/Government/Federal Government

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building is significant for its architect, Louis A. Simon. Louis A. Simon was the Head of the Office of the Supervising Architect for the United States from 1933 to 1939. He was the last person to hold this office, and already has a number of buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. For most of his career he designed in the Colonial Revival Style. By the time he designed the Clare Post Office he was well into the process of transitioning to a Modernistic style. The Modernistic Style characteristics the Clare Post Office possesses are the symmetrical four window façade, stonework surrounding the façade doorway and window accents, and a stone belt cornice below the parapet. It also contains decorative stone motifs, but ornamentation is kept to a minimum. By the end of his time as the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, Simon was mostly using his Classical Modernistic Style. The Clare Post Office houses a mural painted by artist Allan Thomas. The painting is titled "The Mail Arrives in Clare - 1871", and depicts a postal worker delivering mail to a lumber camp in the late nineteenth century. It measures four and one-half feet high by twelve and one-half feet wide and is located at the west end of the lobby. Allan Thomas studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art from 1923 to 1927. From 1925 to 1927 he received scholarships to travel and study in Europe. After his formal education he worked as an assistant to Philadelphia mural painter George Harding. Thomas's works had been featured in such magazines as *Cosmopolitan*, *Harpers Bazaar*, *Colliers*, and *Pictorial Review*. The Clare Post Office mural was completed in 1937. Mr. Thomas received his inspiration for the mural after reading a copy of the *Clare Sentinel's* Clare Centennial Edition.

The construction of the building began in 1936 and completed in May 1937. The postal operations moved from a building which was located just to the east of 502 North McEwan, but no longer exists. The building has always been owned by the United States government, and used for a post office.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare Sentinel. 7 August, 1936. 21 May, 1937. 8 October, 1937. 15 October, 1937. Clare, Michigan.

Langsam, Walter E. *Biographical Dictionary of Cincinnati Architects, 1788-1940*. Cincinnati:

Architectural Society of Cincinnati, 2008. Web. 13 March, 2011.



Allan Thomas Mural  
*The Mail Arrives in Clare – 1871*  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 114    Direction: West    Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Holridge House  
Common Name: James Haines D.D.S. Building



File Name: 114 W Fifth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### DATE

Date Built: 1873    Source of Date: Tax Assessment

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: House/Boarding House/Funeral Home/Medical Building  
Style: Gabled Ell

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Stone/Concrete  
Walls: Aluminum Siding/Wood Siding/Brick  
Roof: Asphalt Shingled

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this structure are unknown.

This Gabled Ell has the main gable on the northwest corner of the building facing west with the Ell extending to the south. The majority of the building is covered with aluminum siding except for the bricked south entrance, and the diagonal tongue and groove wood siding covers the northwest entrance.

The windows on the second story are double hung wood framed with three vertical lights over one light. The windows on the first story are double hung aluminum framed.

Across the entire west end of the building is a one-story addition with a hipped roof. The wing on the east side end of the building is a one-story structure with a shed dormer over the entire south side of the wing. The entryway on the south gable of the Ell is sided with brick and has a wood framed door between a set of glass block windows. The pediment above the door contains a carved wood sunbeam.

The house was originally constructed as an Upright and Wing, but subsequent additions have changed it to a Gabled Ell. The original Upright is the present gabled section of the Gabled Ell. The wing was the present east section of the building. An open porch extended over the south side of the east wing. By 1899 a one-story addition was built on the north side of the house in the inset of the Upright and Wing. Between 1906 and 1910 a one-story structure was added to the northwest corner of the building. By 1923 an addition was added to the northeast corner of the building. This addition was even with the east end of the east wing and the north side of the 1899 addition. At the same time the east wing porch on the south side of the house was enclosed and came flush with the south end of the Upright. In 1926 Charles Thurston converted the house to a funeral home. The west end of the house was used for the business while the east wing was for his residence. It was at this time that he built a stone porch on the west end of the building for the main entrance to the funeral home, and a porch on the east end of the building to serve as the entrance to his residence. He also extended the second story over the 1923 addition on the northwest corner of the building in 1931.

Since 1934 two other additions have occurred to the building, both of unknown dates. The first addition was the south entryway. The other was the one story addition to the existing porch on the southwest corner of the building. An exit was constructed on the Beech Street side of the building in 1948 to eliminate the inconvenience and danger of entering US-10. Another remodeling to the building's front was completed in April 1949. At different periods of time, sheds, barns and/or automobile garages have been located at the north end of the lot.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the northeast corner of West Fifth and Beech Streets, and faces to the west. No other buildings are located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Health/Medicine/Local and County Health Care

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was built by Henry Holridge in 1873, for use as his primary residence. In September 1886 Amanda Ross purchased the building and opened it as a boarding house. Albert Thurston purchased the house from Amanda Ross in February 1895. Jennie Fall purchased the building from Albert Thurston in March 1903. She sold it to Charles Thurston in December 1911. Charles Thurston used the house exclusively as his primary residence until 1926 when he moved his funeral business into the building. This was the first funeral home located in Clare. The west side of the building was used for the funeral home, while the east wing was used for his residence. When Charles Thurston's wife Nellie died in 1944 the building was deeded to her two sons Albert and Russell. Russell Thurston, who continued the family funeral home business, purchased Albert's interest in the building in 1945. An explosion of unknown origin created extensive damage to the building in February 1951. The damage was so extensive that the Thurston's needed to relocate their business and place of residence. In February 1952 Russell Thurston had already moved his business and residence and sold this building to Ralph and Helen Heather (not married). By August of the same year the building had been repaired and Dr. E. J. Gushon opened an eight-room medical clinic. In 1953 Dr. C. B. Neff began using the building for his dental office. Helen Heather sold the building in June 1972 to Dr. Thomas and Gail Neff, who continued his father's dental practice. Gail Neff sold the building to its present owner, Dr. James Haines, in October 1998, who continues to use the building as a dental office.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 22 February, 1895. 23 July, 1926. 8 October, 1926. 20 August, 1948. 23 April, 1949.

2 February, 1951. 23 February, 1951. 8 August, 1952. 20 March, 1953. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1893, 1899, 1906, 1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 202    Direction: West    Street: Fifth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Clare City Hall and Memorial Building  
Common Name: Clare City Hall

### DATE

Date Built: 1934    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 202 W Fifth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: City Hall  
Style: Enframed Window Wall

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Cement  
Walls: Brick/Steel Panels  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building was R. V. Gay of St. Johns. The construction of the building was performed by local labor provided through the Civilian Works Administration. The construction was first supervised by Herb Randall. Mr. Randall resigned on May 22, 1934, and was replaced by D. W. Osborn.

This is a two-story, enframed window wall building with some Art Deco influences. The façade is entered through an elevated vestibule in the center of the building's east side. Two double-hung six over six windows are located in recessed brick areas on the north and south sides of the façade. Similar windows are located on the second story and correspond with the windows on the first floor. The north and south sides of the building have projected areas of brick that are predominate on the east and west corners of the building. In between these projected areas is a recessed area of brick work with windows on the first and second story. The north side of the building contains similar windows as the façade. The south side has sections of fixed sash widows with steel panels on the top and bottom and louvered vents in between. These sections are framed with aluminum. A brick belt course with a shallow parapet is located above the window sections. Art Deco motifs are located within the parapet on the projected areas of the building's corners.

This building originally faced south. The south side contained the main entrance to the building and was located on the southeast corner of the building. Another doorway was located on the north corner of the building's east side. A major remodeling of the building was conducted in 1964. The main entryway to the building was changed to its present location on the east of the building at this time, and was enclosed in aluminum framed glass. The colored panels and louvered sections on the building's south side were added in 1971.



## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a mixed residential/commercial area of the city. It is located on the northwest corner of West Fifth and Beech Streets. No other buildings are located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Politics/Government/Local Government

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1934 to replace the city hall building which had been occupied for about forty years. The building was constructed on the same site as the old city hall building and was to be used not only as the city hall, but also as a meeting hall for the American Legion. The building was dedicated to the veterans of the World War I and the American Legion. The building has always been owned by the City of Clare, and used as its city hall.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare Sentinel. 15 December, 1933. 23 March, 1934. 9 November, 1934. 16 November 1934.  
20 February, 1964. 6 January, 1971. Clare, Michigan.



Clare City Hall and Memorial Building, 1934  
202 West Fifth Street  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 112      Direction: East      Street: Fourth  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: McKinnon Blacksmith Shop  
Common Name: Allen Agency



### DATE

Date Built: 1904      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

File Name: 112 W Fourth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Blacksmith Shop/Auto Repair Garage/Service Station/Office Building  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick and Corrugated Steel  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building was O. M. Sutherland. The name of the builder is unknown.

The form of this building is a one-part commercial block. It has a faux Mansard roof. The façade of the building is covered with brown brick, which continues to the northern one-third of the east and west sides. The remainder of the structure is sided with vertical corrugated steel.

There are four aluminum framed, single light, fixed sash windows on the façade of the building, with an aluminum framed glass door in the center. Two windows of the same style are located within the bricked area of the east side.

The original appearance of the building is unknown. The interior of the building was remodeled in 1946, but it is unclear how much work was done on the exterior. The remodeling was performed by John Robert Mester. The present appearance of the building is due to the remodeling work that took place in 1980. Prior to that the building had no Mansard roof, no corrugated steel siding, and was covered with red brick. The façade had two eight-paned, fixed sash windows with an inset door in between. To the east and west of the door within the inset were two four-paned fixed sash windows. The windows on the east side of the building were installed in 1980.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a mixed residential/commercial area of the city. It is located on the south side of the 100 block of East Fourth Street, one building to the east of North McEwan Street, and faces to the north. No other buildings are located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

The building was built in 1904 by Archie J. McKinnon for his blacksmith shop. He owned it until December 1923 when his son Roy McKinnon purchased the building. Roy McKinnon operated an automotive repair shop in the building. At one point he had a gas pump on the property. In May 1946 Roy McKinnon sold the property to Ethel Allen and Estelle Artibee. They leased the building to H. Rexford Allen in July 1946 for his insurance business. Estelle Artibee sold her interest in the building to H. Rexford Allen in November 1952, and Ethel Allen sold her interest to him in April 1959. James Allen purchased the building in October 1979. One year later in October 1980, Robert Allen purchased the building and continued the insurance business that his father H. Rexford Allen started.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Allen, Robert. Allen Insurance Agency, Owner. Personal Interview. 19 August, 2009.

Clare County Register of Deeds Office. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 16 June, 1904. 2 December, 1904. 5 July, 1946. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1906, 1923, 1928-1934).

Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Allen Insurance, circa 1979  
112 East Fourth Street  
Courtesy of Robert Allen Private Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 115      Direction: East      Street: Fourth  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Fifth Street Parking Lot Dumpster Enclosure  
Common Name: Fifth Street Parking Lot Dumpster Enclosure



### DATE

Date Built: 2005      Source of Date: Pat McGuirk Interview

File Name: 115 E Fourth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Shed  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Concrete

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

This structure was built by Straus Masonry of Weidman, Michigan as part of the Fifth Street Parking Lot Project in 2005. The Fifth Street Parking Lot Project was awarded to Pat McGuirk Excavating in March 2005.

This is a three sided rock-faced concrete block structure constructed for the purpose enclosing garbage dumpsters. Concrete blocks are placed on the west, north, and east sides of the surround. The west half of the south side is closed off with wood slats mounted to a steel frame, while the east half is open.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This structure is located on the west end of the Fifth Street Parking Lot which is owned by the City of Clare. The parking lot is located between East Fifth Street and East Fourth Street on the east side of the buildings which front McEwan Street. The structure faces south.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This structure was constructed by the City of Clare in 2005 as part of its Fifth Street Parking Lot Project. It was constructed for the purpose of providing an enclosure for the dumpster which serves as a garbage collection location for the buildings surrounding the parking lot.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Schmidt, Diane. "Re: internship questions." Message to the author email. 5 May, 2011.

McGuirk, Pat. Owner. Pat McGuirk Excavating. Personal Interview. 12 May, 2011.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 112    Direction: West    Street: Fourth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: McCambly Building  
Common Name: Patty Ann's Quilts

### DATE

Date Built: 1911    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 112 W Fourth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store/Office Building  
Style: Commercial Brick

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building is unknown. The builder's name is E. E. Buckner.

This is a one-part commercial block building. The most distinctive feature on the building is the brick work on the façade's parapet. The bricks form a raised framed area surrounding a recessed bricked area. At the top of the area inside the frame, raised bricks form decorative brackets. A modest cornice was constructed above the framed area.

Large plate glass windows cover the entire façade. Below the windows are panels of masonry blocks framed with light colored masonry to give a rusticated stone appearance. The same stone appearance is continued on the east and west sides of the windows and wraps around the building where it frames a window on the south end of the east side. There is an aluminum door with a glass window inset in the center of the façade. Plate glass windows border the door on both sides within the inset. Smaller square windows are located on the east side of the building. The most southern of the square windows has been removed and the hole bricked over.

An asphalt shingled awning runs the entire width of the façade above the windows and door. Clay tiles cap the top of the parapet.

Except for the panels and framing around the windows of the façade, which were finished recently, this building has seen very little change. The only notable change was an addition to the northeast corner of the building which happened sometime after 1934.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the north side of the 100 block of West Fourth Street, one building to the west of North McEwan Street, and faces to the south. An alley runs



perpendicular to West Fourth Street on the east side of the building and leads to West Fifth Street. No other buildings are located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Communications/Newspaper Communications, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed by John McCambly in 1911 for his harness shop. In January 1912 Grant Terwilliger purchased the building and continued the harness shop business. George Easler became the new owner in April 1920, and only owned it for four months before selling it to George Dawson in July 1920. Upon the death of George Dawson in 1922 ownership of the building was transferred to his two sons Ora and Theron. Ora immediately sold his interest in the building to his brother Theron who used the building for a cigar factory. In January 1923 Ora purchased the business from his brother and moved it to the building on the southeast corner of McEwan and Fifth Streets. Theron retained ownership of the building until May 1925 when he sold it to Sheral M. Callihan. Callihan used the building for a lunch room. Roy Joslin leased the building from Callihan in December 1925 for the same use. Sheral Callihan retained ownership of the building until 1930 when he sold it to Malcom D. Feighner and Florence Parish.

Feighner and Parish also owned the building immediately to the west where they printed the Clare Sentinel newspaper. That building proved to be too small so they moved the Clare Sentinel business to this building in April 1938. It continued to be printed here until 2003. Feighner and Parish published the paper from this building until July 1950 when William Elden became the new publisher. Feighner and Parish sold the building to William Elden in September 1960. Elden placed the ownership of the building in the name of the Clare Sentinel Inc. in January 1961. Northern Communications purchased the Clare Sentinel business and the building in August 1967. William Elden continued as publisher until his retirement in May 1969. Alfred Bransdorfer took over the publishing duties October 1969, and purchased the building in 1976. Alfred Bransdorfer sold the Clare Sentinel to Clare Publishers in 2005, and sold the building to the current owners, G & G Investments, in 2006. Patty Ann's Quilts is the current occupant of the building.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds Office. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 26 May, 1911. 19 January, 1912. 22 April, 1920. 5 January, 1923. 5 June, 1925. 4 December, 1925. 22 April, 1938. 28 July, 1950. 30 August, 1967. 14 May, 1969. 22 October 1969. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Clare Sentinel, circa 1950  
112 West Fourth Street  
Courtesy of Forrest Meek Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 114    Direction: West    Street: Fourth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Clare Sentinel  
Common Name: Bob's Lounge

### DATE

Date Built: 1907    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 114 W Fourth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Office Building/Medical Building/Bar  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Cement  
Walls: Brick, Vinyl Siding  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building is unknown. The builders were H. W. Pierce & Sons.

The façade of this one-part commercial block building is made of brick on the lower level and vinyl siding on the parapet. Two narrow horizontal fixed sash windows are located on the east and west sides of the façade. The window on the west side is wood framed, while the window on the east is steel framed. An inset steel framed glass door is located between the two windows.

The appearance of the building has changed since its construction in 1907. The façade was originally covered in concrete block. The street level consisted of plate glass windows with inset doors across the entire façade. A glass transom was located above the windows and door. The parapet was made of concrete block and capped with a bracketed cornice. The building was divided into two units. The larger unit was located on the east half of the building. The west unit only made up one quarter of the original building and was located in the southwest corner.

It is unknown when the present façade was constructed, but it most likely happened after 1971 when Warren Keiser united both units of the building. When the original façade was changed, the brick was added, and there was only one window. The door was located where the east window is located now. The vinyl siding on the parapet was not added until later. An addition to the north side of the building was constructed in 2000.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the north side of the 100 block of West Fourth Street, and faces to the south. No other buildings are located on the property.

The iconic rooster located on the sidewalk to the south of the building has been there for about 10 years. The neon sign located above the east window has been located there since the early 1960's, with only the owners name above the word "BAR" being changed.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Communications/Newspaper Communications, Health/Medicine/Local and County Health Care, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was originally constructed to house the newspaper office and press room for the Clare Sentinel, and the jewelry store of Edward White. The newspaper portion of the building was located in the larger unit of the building and was owned by Edgar G. Welch and Philip A. Bennett. They built this building in 1907 after a fire swept through this part of the city earlier in the year. This portion of the building was sold to Erastus Palmer and Enoch Andrus in June of 1910. Erastus Palmer sold his interest in November 1911. John Paul Jones and Malcolm Feighner purchased the building in July 1921. John Paul Jones sold his interest in the building back to Enoch Andrus in September 1922. In February 1923 Enoch Andrus sold to Benjamin Parish. The newspaper was operated out of this location until 1938, when it is relocated to the building immediately to the east. In September 1945 the building was sold. By this time Benjamin Parish was deceased. Malcolm Feighner along with Florence Parish sold the building to James McKinnon. In 1949 James McKinnon was leasing the building to Feller's Cut Rate Store. The following year an archway was constructed in the west wall and Feller's expanded to the building to the west. In 1957 Dr. Keyes D.O. and Dr Ballard D.O. were using the building for their medical practice. James McKinnon owned the building until September 1959 when he sold to Manuel Sutton. Manuel Sutton operated a bar in this building under the name "Manny's". The building was sold in July 1962 to Warren Keiser. Keiser continued the bar business under the "Manny's Bar" name, and sold to Robert Ruby in August 1990, who opened Bob's Lounge. Bob's Lounge bar operates in this location to the present.

The smaller of the two units of this building was originally owned by Edward White, and was used for a jewelry store. In March 1912 Mrs. A. Beemer began renting the building from Edward White for an unknown use. White sold to Adelpha Kump in April 1912, who operated a barber shop out of the building. Homer Douglas began renting the unit for a barber shop in 1932 and eventually bought the building in April 1935. Vere Kinsey began leasing the barber shop from Homer Douglas in 1957. Homer Douglas sold the unit to Warren Keiser in May 1971.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 25 October, 1907. 27 December, 1907. 29 March, 1912. 25 September, 1953. 27 January, 1957. 30 August, 1962. 3 November, 1950. Clare, Michigan.

Ruby, Robert. Bob's Lounge, Owner. Personal Interview. 22 April, 2009.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Ed White Jewelry Store, 1907  
Courtesy of Clare Sentinel

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 120    Direction: West    Street: Fourth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: M. E. Whitney Building  
Common Name: Stitches for Britches

### DATE

Date Built: 1907    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 120 W Fourth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Motion Picture Theater/Diner/Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Cement  
Walls: Vinyl Siding  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building is unknown. The builder was Walter Petit.

This is a one-part commercial block building with two aluminum framed fixed sash windows located on the east and west sides of an aluminum framed glass door. The door is inset and centered on the façade of the building. The windows are angled back from the east and west corners of the building and meet the door in the middle. The areas below the windows and above the door and windows are covered with vinyl siding.

The original appearance of the building is unknown. However, it is known that it was constructed with cement blocks. It is also known that the surface behind the siding below the windows on the façade is brick.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the north side of the 100 block of West Fourth Street, and faces to the south. No other buildings are located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

The original owner of this building was Melanthon E. Whitney. He built this building in 1907 after a fire swept through this part of the city earlier in the year. The original use was for a five cent theatre, which he named the Palace Theatre. In May 1912 Wallace Wier, who owned the building to the west, rented the building to sell his new and second hand goods. Whitney rented the building in February 1913 to George Valley, who

operated the Valley Restaurant. The Valley Restaurant was sold to Thomas Groves in July 1915. In August 1920 Whitney rented the building to the Ohio Dairy Company to operate a cream station.

Whitney sold the building to Harry Hubel in November 1921. Hubel owned the building seven years and sold it to Everett Sanborn in November 1929. Clarence Tucker bought the building from Sanborn in May 1945. In 1950 Feller's Cut Rate Store which was located in the building to the east expanded to this building by constructing an archway which opened the two buildings. The Helping Hand Shop was leasing the building in 1959. Clarence Tucker owned the building until December 1965 when he sold it to Manuel Sutton. After the death of her husband, Violet Sutton sold the building to Warren Keiser in November 1970. Keiser retained ownership of the building until April 1996 when he sold it to Edward, Ramona, and Linda Prichkaitis. The Prichkaitis' sold the building to the current owner Stephanie Mercer in May 2000. She operates the Stitches for Britches embroidery business from this location.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 5 July, 1907. 10 May, 1912. 28 February, 1913. 23 July, 1915. 26 August, 1920. 3 November, 1950. 7 July, 1959. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1910). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 124    Direction: West    Street: Fourth  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Wallace T. Weir Building  
Common Name: Drapery Boutique

### DATE

Date Built: 1907    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 124 W Fourth.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Diner/Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Cement  
Walls: Vinyl Siding, Stucco  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and the builder for this building are unknown.

This is a one-part commercial block building with two wood framed fixed sash windows located on the east and west sides of a steel framed glass windowed door. The door is centered on the façade. The door and windows are inset from the façade of the building. Flower boxes are located in the inset areas below the windows. The areas below the windows and above the door and windows are covered with vinyl siding. The concrete blocks on the west side of the building were covered with stucco in 2009, after the adjacent building was torn down. Clay tiles cap the top of the building's west side.

The original appearance of the building is unknown. The façade was altered in 1946 when Corky's Diner began operations. The change to the façade was a "new green and white front with French type windows and yellow columns" (Sentinel 6/14/1946). The façade was again altered in 1953 when Feller's Cut Rate Store opened, but it is unknown how the appearance was changed other than it was painted red. The current façade was constructed in 1985 when the vinyl siding was added and the current windows and door were installed.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the north side of the 100 block of West Fourth Street, and faces to the south. No other buildings are located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail



## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was originally owned by Wallace Weir. He built it in 1907 after a fire swept through this part of the city earlier in the year. Wallace Weir purchased the pool room outfit of Jay Smith and moved to this building. Weir ran originally a second hand store from the basement, and operated a pool and billiard hall on the first floor. In November 1912 Elmer Ford began to lease the basement of the building, and continued the second hand store. The pool hall was leased in May 1915 to Charles Adams, and then in late 1916 to W. J. Stephenson. Wallace Weir sold the building to George Dawson for his cigar factory in March 1917. Mr. Dawson owned the building until September 1922, and then sold to Iva Holcomb. She sold the building in May 1924 to Lewis H. Thompson, who owned a farm implement store in the building to the west. Everett Samborn bought the building from Lewis Thompson in June 1944, and owned it until May 1945 when Clarence Tucker purchased it. William Dunlop owned the building from February 1946 until August 1973. In June 1946 William Dunlop and his wife opened Corky's Diner in this building. In April 1947 Guy Mercer and Nick Kreiner purchased the diner business from the Dunlops. Mr. and Mrs. Oakley Sirrine purchased Corky's Diner in May 1950, and Harold Pugaley purchased it in November 1951. In October of the following year Corky's Diner relocated to a building on the opposite side of Fourth Street. Feller's Cut Rate Store expanded for the second time in its history in early 1953, and was joined with the two buildings immediately to the east which were already occupied. Warren Keiser purchased the building from William Dunlop in August 1973. It is unknown how long he owned the building. In September 1994 the current owners Edward, Ramona and Linda Prichkaitis purchased the building from Dianne R. (Flinn) McCarthy. They now operate the Drapery Boutique business.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 2 August, 1907. 6 March, 1907. 15 November, 1912. 21 May, 1915. 7 December, 1916.

1 March, 1917. 14 June, 1946. 15 April, 1949. 5 May, 1950. 2 November, 1951. 31 October, 1952.

14 January, 1953. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1910). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 307    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Clare Hay Grain & Bean Company  
Common Name: Johnston Elevator

### DATE

Date Built: 1918    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 307 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Storage Elevator  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Poured Concrete  
Walls: Corrugated Steel  
Roof: Corrugated Steel

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder for this building are unknown.

This is a four-story gabled roof structure. The main mass of the building is three stories high, and covered with a gabled roof. A smaller one-story gabled roof section rests above the roof of three-story section. A slightly lower gabled roof is located to the west of the three-story mass. To the west of this section is a one-story gabled roof section. Two broad shed roofs extend the length of the building's south side. The larger one covers the loading dock on the southeast corner of the building. The smaller one covers a set of double doors on the southwest corner of the building. Two boxed structures with roof vents are located above the roofed area over the east and west ends of the loading dock. A row of four wood framed windows are located just under the eaves on the north and south sides of the three-story mass. Two wood framed windows are located on the east side of the building at the same height as the previously mentioned windows. One window on the first floor of the northeast side corresponds to the window located above. A wood framed door with a hood roof is located to the south of the lower window, and is accessed by a set of steel steps. The corresponding window to the south of the door has been boarded over. Steel tanks are located above the one story gabled section on the south side of the building. A frame work of steel ducts is located on the south side of the building and extends to a height that is higher than the fourth-story roof.

The building has changed very little through its history. However, the shingled roof was replaced with a steel roof in 2002.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 300 block of North McEwan Street on the south side of the Saginaw & Tuscola Railroad tracks. It is perpendicular to the

street and faces to the south. There are other buildings located on the property, but none are located within the district.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Grain Handling and Storage

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This structure was built in 1918 by Chatterton & Son, and replaced a two and a half story grain elevator located on the same site. The name of this business was the Clare Hay Grain & Bean Company. Chatterton & Son owned the elevator until E. G. Johnston purchased it in 1926 and operated the business under the same name. In 1939 or 1940 the name of the business was changed to the Johnston Hay Grain & Bean Company. The name of the business was eventually changed to the Johnston Elevator sometime before 1953. Ed Johnston's son Joe took over the business in 1952, and sold it to the Cutler Dickerson Company in 1987.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Building Inspector's Office. Building Permit, 14 August, 2002. City of Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 8 August, 1918. 7 May, 1926. 5 June 1953. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1910, 1923, 1928-1934).

Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 321    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Michigan Creamery Company Office  
Common Name: Clare Party Store

### DATE

Date Built: 1885    Source of Date: Clare County Press



File Name: 321 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Bank/Store/Warehouse/Service Station  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Vinyl Siding  
Roof: Asphalt Shingles

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building is unknown. The builder of the original portion of this building was A. W. McIntyre.

This one-part commercial block building is made up of north and south halves. The parapet of the south half is slightly higher than the parapet of the north half. The door on the façade is located on the north side of the south half, with a window to the south of the door. A lighted vinyl awning extends across the entire façade of the building. The building has a variety of roof lines which reflect the additions made to the building. The roof peaks at the center of the building and slopes to the south on the south half of the building, and slopes to the west on the north half. The north side of the building shows an eave of an older roof that extended over half of the east side. This older roof peaks in the center of the building and sloped to the north, but then slopes up and then down to the west. A larger addition is covered with a lean-to roof that slopes to the west.

This building originally only consisted of its present south half. It was located where 524 North McEwan is located now. It was a small building with a gabled roof and a bracketed cornice that capped the parapet. It was moved to this location in 1890. To the south of this building was a warehouse and the two buildings were joined by a breezeway. This building was situated in an east to west direction, the warehouse was situated in a southeast to northwest direction. The warehouse was torn down after a fire 1917 and the building stood alone once again. An addition to the north part of the building was made between 1923 and 1934. A red face brick front was added in 1951 along with a plate glass window on the east side and glass block windows on the south side. By the 1960's the north part of the building was expanded again. The west addition of the north half was constructed at an unknown date.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 300 block of North McEwan Street on the north side of the Saginaw & Tuscola Railroad tracks, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Banking, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

The south portion of this building was constructed in 1885 by bank owners Perry, Sutherland & Wolsky for use as the Clare County Savings Bank and was located where 524 North McEwan is located now. The building was sold to Albert VanBrunt in February 1887 when the bank moved to its new location immediately to the north. VanBrunt operated a grocery store out of this building for three years. In 1890 A. J. Doherty purchased the lot from VanBrunt in order to build his new opera house. The building was then moved to its present location.

After this it is unclear who owned the building and when. Sometime before 1893 the building was connected to a warehouse to the south. In 1893 and 1894 the building was used as a harness shop. In 1899 the building was used as an electrical supply store. 1906 saw the building functioning as a bean warehouse. In 1909 the Michigan Creamery Company bought this building and the connecting warehouse. This portion of the building was used as the company's office. The building was used as a gasoline filling station in 1923 and continued into the 1950's. The building was used by Merritt Oil Company in 1951. The Clare Party Store was opened in 1964 by Mrs. Ruth Nivison. The present owners Jon and Vicki Warren purchased the building from the Tuscola & Saginaw Bay Railway Company in 1994.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Press. 26 September, 1884. 6 March, 1885. Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Democrat. 4 March, 1887. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Democrat & Press. 4 April, 1890. Clare, Michigan

Clare High School Year Book 1966. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 22 January, 1909. 28 August, 1917. 5 June, 1951. 21 May, 1964. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1893, 1894, 1899, 1906, 1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Clare County Savings Bank, circa 1885  
Prior to being moved to 321 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp Collection



Cities Service Filling Station, circa 1955  
321 North McEwan  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp Collection



Clare Party Store, 1965  
Courtesy of 1965  
Clare High School Yearbook

## **Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form**

### **ADDRESS**

Number: 402    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### **SURVEY INFO**

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### **NAME**

Historic Name: Subway Building  
Common Name: Subway Building

### **DATE**

Date Built: 2000    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### **PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE**

Property Type: Commercial Office Building  
Style: Arcaded Block

### **MATERIALS**

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Stucco/Brick  
Roof: Flat

### **DESCRIPTIVE NOTES**

The architect and builder for this building are unknown.

This is a one-story arcaded block building. The building has two sides with windows and doorways. On the west side of the building is a double steel framed glass door in the center with two sets of windows on the north and south sides of the door. The single steel framed glass doorways on the east half of the building's south side alternate with windows. The west half of the south side has a set of five windows. All the windows on the building are fixed sash steel framed glass with rounded stucco arches above. A brick veneer is located below the windows. At the corners of the building and above the brick veneer are stucco quoins. The quoins end at a simulated triple band belt course at the top of the building.

### **OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES**

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the northeast corner of the North McEwan and Third Street intersection. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### **THEMES/SUB THEMES**

Commercial/ Retail

### **HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE**

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 2000 by T. S. R. Development for use as a retail mini mall. The northwest unit of the building is being leased by the Schumacher Insurance Agency. Prior to the Schumacher



File Name: 402 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur



Agency the unit was leased by IBT Title-Clare County. The unit on the southwest corner is leased by Subway restaurant. The unit to the east of the Subway Restaurant is leased by the Russell Winter Insurance Agency. The unit on the east end of the building is leased by Brenda's Hair and Tanning Salon.

#### SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Clare County Treasurer's Office. Harrison Michigan.  
Clare Sentinel. 16 May, 2000. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 405    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Beemer Building  
Common Name: Ruckles Pier (South)

### DATE

Date Built: 1900    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 405 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Bar/Diner/Factory  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Cement  
Walls: Metal/Steel and Wood over Brick  
Roof: Flat/Asphalt shingled

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This two-story building is covered with vertical steel siding on the second story, and a combination of horizontal, vertical, and diagonal tongue and groove siding on the street level. The façade of the building is combined with the façade of the adjacent building to the north. The inset door on the façade is located on the building's northeast corner. Two round fixed sash windows are located immediately south of the door. The main entrance to the building is located in the middle of the building's south side. A lighted vinyl awning covers the south side door. Two double hung windows are located on the west end of the south side with a steel covered chimney between them. The west end of the building has a one-story addition with steel siding and a lean-to roof. Clay tiles cap the top of the building everywhere except the one story addition.

The building is constructed with brick that was covered with the present steel and wood sometime in the late 1980's. The door on the façade was originally inset and centered with two fixed sash windows on either side of it. The present steel siding on the second story is covering two windows on the south side and two windows on the façade. A cornice once separated the second story windows from the street level door and windows. Brick work above the windows form three recessed horizontal rectangles with two recessed circles in between them. A dentiled cornice once capped the façade of the building. The one-story addition to the west side of the building was first added between 1923 and 1934, but has since been remodeled.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. The building's interior and façade are joined to the one-story building immediately to the north. Historically there was a small barbershop abutting this building to the south. This building was torn down sometime in the 1970's. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed by Oliver Beemer in 1900 for his saloon business. Oliver Beemer sold the building to George Benner in January 1911. During the early days of Prohibition the building was used as a billiards room. Benner sold the building to Floyd Shoup in August 1920, and he converted the building into an ice cream and butter creamery under the name Clare Creamery Company. In the fall of 1925 the Clare Creamery Company relocated to a new building on the corner of Fourth and Beech Streets, and Fred Shoup sold the building to John Dionesse in February 1927 and he opened a restaurant. In 1935 after Prohibition had ended John Dionesse converted his building from a restaurant back to a bar. Since then this building has always been used as a bar. John Dionesse deeded his building in September 1938 to Virginia Dionesse. In November 1986 Virginia Hartzler (formerly Virginia Dionesse) sold the building to Wilbur and Betty Adams. Gary and Cheryl Ruckles purchased the building in April 1987. And the present owners RPYC Investments have owned the building since September 2000.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 10 August, 1900. 7 December, 1900. 16 September, 1920. 11 September, 1925. 18 March, 1927. 5 July 1935. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1906, 1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



405 North McEwan, circa 1960  
Courtesy of Robert Knapp Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 406    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: O'Callaghan Building  
Common Name: Campbell Printing

### DATE

Date Built: 1907    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 406 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store/Auto Showroom/Office Building  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Cement  
Walls: Cement/Brick/Steel/Wood  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building is unknown. The builders were H. W. Pierce and Son.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial block building. The building has some Italianate influence. The wood framed glass door is centered on the facade and is bordered by two wood framed frosted glass side lights. The door is surrounded by an area of tongue and groove wood siding. On the north and south sides of the door are two fixed sash wood framed windows. The windows are surrounded by brickwork with tongue and groove wood siding below. Above the windows and door is a wood framed asphalt shingled shed roof awning. Above the awning are four boarded over window openings. The top of the openings form a segmented archway with three courses of header bricks. Between the center two windows and a little above is a name and date cement plate. A wood bracketed cornice extends over this and the adjoining building to the north. Clay tiles cap the top of the building. The second story of the building's south side is exposed and covered with steel siding.

The original façade of the building was constructed with pressed metal concrete blocks. In 1924 the concrete blocks were removed and brick was laid. The new façade was constructed to match the façade of the building immediately to the north. In fact they were made to look like one façade. The façade had a large garage door opening in the center of the building. Two brick pilasters located on the north and south sides of the door extended to the bottom of the second floor. On either side of the pilasters were large plate glass windows. Above the windows and door was a set of decorative transom windows. Above the transom windows was a recessed area of dentil brickwork. At one point a gasoline pump was located at the edge of the street. The second story was intended to be remodeled for use as a lodge room or dance hall. Instead a utility elevator was installed at the rear of the building and the second story was used for automobile storage. It is unknown when the street level of the present façade was altered. The steel siding on the south side of the building was added in 1982.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the east side of the 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the west. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1907 by John O'Callaghan for use as his livery and feed barn. In March 1923 Isaac Hampton purchased the building from the O'Callaghan Estate. Isaac Hampton already owned the building immediately to the north, and needed the extra building to expand his Ford automobile and tractor dealership. In February 1946 the Hampton Estate sold the building to Floyd and Clarence McGuire and Eugene Campbell. The next month they opened the McGuire & Campbell Firestone Home and Auto Supply store. In January 1947 Warren McGuire purchased the interest of Eugene Campbell in the building and business. The business name was changed to McGuire Brothers Firestone Store. Two gentlemen named Woodcock and Walters were operating an auto repair garage in the rear of the building prior to the sale and were allowed to continue their business after the building's sale. Floyd McGuire sold his interest in the building in April 1950. Arthur Ulrich began leasing the building in mid 1955 and opened a Pontiac car dealership. Ulrich purchased the building in May 1958. In the late 1950s or early 1960s Feller's Shoe Store was leasing the building. Larry Campbell purchased the building from Mr. Ulrich in January 1976, and opened Campbell Printing. Linda Lou Campbell was deeded the property in September 1992. The present owner Riverview Leasing purchased the property in 1998, and continued the Campbell Printing business.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Building Inspector's Office. Building Permit, 11 November 1982. City of Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Courier. 4 October, 1907.

Clare Sentinel. 12 April, 1907. 16 March, 1923. 11 April, 1924. 15 March, 1946. 10 January, 1947. 20 January, 1955. Clare, Michigan.



O'Callaghan Feed Barn, 1907  
Courtesy of Clare Courier



406 North McEwan on right, along with 412  
North McEwan on left  
Circa 1930

Courtesy of Tom Seller's Private Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 407    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Ramey Building  
Common Name: Ruckles Pier (North)

### DATE

Date Built: 1926    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Bar/Diner  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Wood  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This one-part commercial block building is similar in appearance to the building immediately to the south. The interiors are open to one another and the façade has been made to look like the two buildings are one. The door on the façade is located toward the north side, and there is one fixed sash round window to the south of the door. The façade is covered with a combination of horizontal, vertical and diagonal tongue and groove wood siding.

The original appearance of the building has changed a few times since its construction. A photo from the early 1930s shows a brick building with an inset door on the north corner of the façade. A large fixed sash window makes up the remainder of the façade's street level. By the 1970s the door had been moved closer to the center and flush with the façade of the building. A smaller window was located to the south of the door. The present façade was changed in the late 1980s.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. The building's interior and façade are joined to the two-story building immediately to the south. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.



File Name: 407 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur



This building was built by Earnest Ramey in 1926 to replace the diner that was destroyed by a fire in the same year. Ramey sold the building in April of the next year to Roy Joslin, who continued the restaurant business. Burton J. Sanford purchased the building in July 1936. The building was next sold to Mary Atwood in December 1977. She owned it until November 1979 when Elizabeth Berrant purchased it. Dani Fuson purchased the building in October 1986, but was leasing the building prior to that for her Downtown Dani's Restaurant. The use of the building was changed to a bar in 1986 when Gary and Cheryl Ruckle began leasing the building, and joined it with the building to the south. The Ruckles purchased the building in March 1999, and the present owners, RPYC Investments, purchased the building in September 2000.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 2 April, 1926. 11 June, 1926. 8 April, 1927. 3 July, 1936. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 409    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Western Auto Store Building  
Common Name: Clare Print & Pulp

### DATE

Date Built: 1957    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 409 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Stone  
Walls: Brick/Concrete Block  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder for this building are unknown.

This one-part commercial block building is faced with red brick. The inset aluminum framed door is centered on the façade with two aluminum framed plate glass windows located on either side and angled out to the corners of the building. Above the door and windows is a wood framed asphalt shingled shed roof awning. Above the awning is a low brick parapet. Within the parapet is an electric lighted sign.

Other than the awning this building has not had its appearance altered. The original awning was flat. The building was built on the foundation of the structure that previously occupied this location.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

Ella Autry built this building in 1957 to replace the building she lost to a fire on the same property in January of the same year. She continued her Western Auto Store business in this location. By the early 1970's Mrs. Autry was leasing the building to Louis Montini, who opened the Clare Print and Pulp store. Ella Autry sold the building to Elvin Autry in September 1978. Louis Montini eventually bought the building in February

1980. He owned it until Peter Montini purchased it in September 1993. The Clare Print and Pulp store continues to operate to the present.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 15 August, 1957. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 412    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Davis Building  
Common Name: Clare Family Fitness Building

### DATE

Date Built: 1915    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 412 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Auto Repair Garage/Store  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick/wood  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder for this building are unknown.

This building is a two-story, two-part commercial block building. The building has some Italianate influence. The two inset wood framed glass doors are centered on the façade. The doors are not positioned together but are separated by several feet. The fixed sash aluminum framed glass windows located on the north and south sides of the building angle out from the doors to the corners of the building's façade. The area between the doors and below the windows is covered with tongue and groove wood siding. The transom lights above the door and windows are covered with diagonal tongue and groove wood siding. Above this section are four boarded over window openings. The windows have concrete sills with wood lattice over the boards. The top of the openings form a segmented archway with three courses of header bricks. Between the center two windows and a little above is a name and date cement plate. A wood bracketed cornice extends over this and the adjoining building to the south.

The street level of the façade has been altered since its original construction. The building had a garage door located on the center of the façade. Two brick pilasters on the north and south sides of the door extend to the bottom of the second floor. On either side of the pilasters were large plate glass windows. Unlike the present façade, the street level was flush with the second floor. Above the windows and door was a set decorative transom windows. Above the transom windows was a recessed area of dentil brickwork. In 1916 Isaac Hampton built a 32 foot addition on the east end of the building.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the east side of the 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the west. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed by J. M. Davis for use as his automobile repair garage. Mr. Davis owned his building for less than a year when he sold the building to Isaac Hampton. Isaac Hampton relocated his automobile repair garage here and eventually opened a Ford automobile dealership in the building. The building was used as an automobile garage and show room until at least 1934. The A & P Company opened a grocery store in this building beginning in August 1941. Lewis Siegel purchased the building from Isaac Hampton's wife Nellie in January 1946 with the intention of partnering with Elmer J. Atkinson and converting the building to a hardware store. The A & P store closed in the summer of 1946, and by November of the same year the Northland Hardware store opened. Lewis Siegel sold the hardware business in May 1952 to Northland Hardware, a firm comprised of Ivan F. Belknap of Detroit and Roy A. Warner of Saginaw. Northland Hardware operated into the 1960s. Lewis Siegel owned the building until January 1973 when he sold it to Richard Redick. In January 1979 the building changed ownership to Donald Applegreen. Mr. Applegreen sold the building to Larry Campbell in January 1985. The building was deeded to Linda Lou Campbell in September 1992. The current owner, Riverview Leasing, purchased the building in September 1998. Clare Family Fitness is the current business using the building.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 27 August, 1915. 27 April, 1916. 15 June, 1916. 1 August, 1941. 19 July, 1946. 30 August, 1946. 1 November, 1946. 2 May, 1952. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



412 North McEwan on left, along with  
406 North McEwan on right  
Circa 1930

Courtesy of Tom Seller's Private Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 415    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: 415 Building  
Common Name: Downtown Clare Professional Building

### DATE

Date Built: 1972    Source of Date: Tax Assessment



File Name: 415 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Office Building  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick/Vinyl  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown

This is a two-story, one-part commercial block building. The aluminum framed double doors are centered on the façade, with a large fixed sash plate glass window located in a framed area above the door, and a flat vinyl sided awning in between. Surrounding the window is faux shake style vinyl siding. The door and window section is located between two plain brick pilasters that extend from the ground to the top of the building. The north and south halves of the building are mirror images of each other. In the centers of these halves are two sets of plain brick pilasters that are similar to the pilaster previously mentioned. Between the pilasters are sections of glass blocks and brick. The glass blocks on the first floor have two columns of four rows stacked vertical and are located at ground level. The blocks for the second story consist of two columns of seven rows also stacked vertically. An area of brick is located between the two glass block sections and above the second story glass block section. On either side of these pilasters are bricked areas with no ornamentation.

This building has changed very little since its original construction. The only change to the façade is the addition of the window and awning above the door. The window and awning were added at an undetermined time and replaced a plain unornamented panel.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail



## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed by the 415 Corporation in 1972 for use as an office building. It replaced a building that was burned in a fire in January 1957. In between 1957 and 1972 the property was used as a parking lot for the Groves Brothers Five and Ten Store immediately to the north. The 415 Corporation owned the building until March 1993 when Barbara Young purchased it. She owned it until September 2005 when the present owners, the Four Fifteen North McEwan Company, purchased it.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 417    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Groves Brothers Five and Ten Store  
Common Name: Continental Home Center

### DATE

Date Built: 1957    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 417 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick/Concrete Block  
Roof: Flat:

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building is unknown, while Sanford Mott was the builder.

This one-part commercial block building is divided into two parts. One part consists of the south two-thirds of the building, while the second part is the north one-third of the building. The north part of the building is an addition to the original south section. The entrance to the building is located through two inset aluminum framed glass doors located in the north corner of the south section's façade. Between the two doors is an aluminum framed fixed sash window that is the same height as the doors. To the south of the doors are four sections of aluminum framed fixed sash windows that extend to the southern corner of the building. To the north of the doors is a recessed section of three aluminum framed fixed sash glass windows that extend to the north corner of the building. Above the windows and doors is a shed style asphalt shingled awning with a brick parapet above the awning. All the brick is in a stacked bond pattern. The polychrome brickwork on the parapet has a light yellow brick surrounded by a dark red brick frame. The lower part of the brick frame is covered by the top of the awning. The light yellow brick is also located on the street level surrounding the windows.

The original appearance of the building has been altered very little since its construction. The north one-third of the building was added in late 1963 at the same time that the building immediately to the north was constructed. Prior to this the lot where the addition was located served as a parking lot for the surrounding buildings. Archways were located between the addition and the adjacent building to the north. It is unknown when these openings were removed. The original awning was flat and showed all the polychrome brick work on the parapet. The present awning was constructed at an undetermined time. The signage for the Grove Brothers store was located within the framed area of the parapet, and consisted of individual letters. The present electric lighted sign was installed in 2003.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1957 by James Groves to replace the building that burned on the same location in January of the same year. The building was used to house the Groves Brothers Five and Ten Store. James Groves built the north addition to the building in late 1963. By late 1977 George and Betty Graham were leasing the building for their furniture store. In March 1978, James's wife Arlene sold the building to the Grahams. Betty Graham transferred ownership of the building to David and Virgil Graham in December 2007. The Continental Home Center has been operating out of this building since 2003.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Building Inspector's Office. Building Permit, 7 March, 2003. City of Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1960, 1964. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 25 April, 1957. 31 October, 1963. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 420    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Bicknell's Department Store  
Common Name: Willow Classic Women's Apparel Store



File Name: 420 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### DATE

Date Built: 1907    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick/Vinyl siding  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

A man from Saginaw with the last name of Bogart was the architect of this building. The name of the builder is unknown.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building. The building is made up of two parts. The north two-thirds of the building is the original building constructed in 1907. The south one-third is a 1923 addition. The entire building has a uniform appearance. There are two entrances to the building. A single door is located in the center of the south addition, while a set of double doors separated with a fixed sash window is located toward the center of the original structure. On either side of the entryways is a set of fixed sash wood framed windows. On the north end of the building is a glassed area separated by a brick pilaster. Above the windows and doors are sheets of vertically grooved wood paneling that cover the transom windows. The brickwork above the transom windows is recessed and then becomes gradually built out. The brickwork on the parapet has eleven square recessed areas of brickwork evenly spaced across the façade. The parapet is capped with a dentil cornice with brackets that extend down and are positioned between the square recessed brickwork. The north and east sides of the building are covered with vinyl siding.

The building has changed very little over time. As noted earlier the south one-third of the building was added in 1923. The brickwork on the parapet originally had a polychrome appearance. The building was constructed with a dark brown colored brick. The square recessed areas on the parapet were a lighter colored brick. Also at the corners of the recessed areas were smaller light colored brick squares. The transom which is now covered is made of prism glass.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the east side of 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commercial/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

Nathan Bicknell owned and operated a dry goods and clothing store where the present 1923 addition is located. In an effort to increase his business he built this building in 1907. He attached this building to his original one and opened them so one could have access to both buildings from the interior. Nathan's son William took over the operation of the store in 1913. William Bicknell added Bert Greer and Clyde M. Hays as partners in April 1915. In November 1915 William and James Bicknell, Nathan's sons, were deeded the property after the death of their father. In December 1932 Dr. C. A. Withey, a chiropodist (foot specialist), leased a portion of the building for an unknown period of time. It is unknown when James sold his interest in the building, but William retained ownership of the building and ran the Bicknell Department store until his death in 1966. The next year Nick and Norma Allen purchased the building and opened Allen and Bells Department Store in 1968. The building changed hands in January 1976 when John Bicknell purchased it. Mr. Bicknell sold the building to John and Jane Seibt. Allen and Bells Department Store operated in the building until John and Jane Seibt sold the building to John and Lynn Blik in August 2003. Black Bear and Broadcloth Department Store was opened in 2003. The Willow Classic Women's Apparel Store operates out of the building at present.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 19 July, 1907. 10 January, 1913. 9 April, 1915. 26 October, 1923. 29 December, 1966.

1 August, 1968. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1910, 1923, 1928-1934).

Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Bicknell's Department Store  
Circa 1930  
Courtesy of Katherine Jackson Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 425    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Gambles Store  
Common Name: Vacant

### DATE

Date Built: 1963    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 425 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building. The inset aluminum framed glass door is located in the center of the façade, with an aluminum framed window above. Two fixed sash aluminum framed windows are located on both sides of the door and are angled out to the face of the façade. Two aluminum framed fixed sash windows are located on the face of the north and south sides of the façade. Brickwork frames the windows in the north and south corners and at the ground level of the building. A large log style awning forms the parapet of the building. The building's signage is located in the center of the awning.

The building has had some changes since its original construction. The façade of the building was originally constructed with no entryway. The original entrance was gained through the building which it adjoined to the north. The façade consisted of only the windows and brickwork at the ground level, and the parapet above. The parapet was a continuation of the middle section of the adjacent building to the north. The original awning was flat and extended across the façade of this building and the building to the north. The awning matched the awning of the building to the north. In the original construction there were interior openings to the buildings to the north and south.

The present entryway was added in 1984. Also in that year this building and the building to the north were divided with a firewall. It is unknown when the opening to the building to the south was closed. The present awning was constructed in 2007.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.



## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1963 by Roy N. Beltnick at the same time as the addition to the building to the south. It replaced the building that burned in the same location in 1957. The property was used as a parking lot for surrounding businesses between 1957 and 1963. Roy N. Beltnick's wife Marion transferred ownership of the building to her sons James, Roy J., and Charles Beltnick in March 1969. James and Charles sold their interest in the building to Roy J. Beltnick at an unknown date. Roy J. Beltnick sold the building to Emerson Hampton in June 1980. By the mid 1980s Charles and Martha Stuckert were operating a furniture store out of this building. Emerson's wife Eileen Hampton sold the building to Charles and Martha Stuckert in August 1984. The Stuckerts sold the building to Roger and Emily Chase in July 1996. The Chases owned the building until September 1996, when they sold it to William and Pamela Wilson. The Wilson's opened Wilson Decorating Center. The property was deeded to Pamela Loar Wilson and by December 2003 Joe Perras and Pamela Loar-Perras owned the building. The present owners, Red Hook Properties, purchased the building from Joe Perras in September 2007. It was at this time that the Artistic Engraving and Marketing business was opened.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Building Inspector's Office. Building Permits. 29 August, 1984. 17 September, 1984. 5 November, 2007. City of Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 31, October, 1963. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 426      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: McEwan Professional Building  
Common Name: Edward Jones Building

### DATE

Date Built: 1997      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 426 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Office Building  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick  
Roof: Asphalt Shingle/Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder for this building are unknown.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building. The building is divided into three units. The main unit is located on the west side of the building. The entrance to this unit is located on the northwest corner of the building. The steel framed door with nine light glass window and three light side lights is located on the angled section of the façade which faces northwest. On the north side of the building is a large steel framed fixed sash window. The second unit is located in the center of the building and the third is located on the east end of the building. These two units are accessed through steel framed doors with nine light glass windows on the north side of the building. Six steel framed vertical fixed sash windows are located on the north side of the building. Two are located to the west of the second unit doorway, while the other four are located between the two doors. The door to the third unit is located on the north side of the building's east end. A faux Mansard roof was constructed above the windows and doors.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the southeast corner of the East Fourth and North McEwan Streets intersection. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1997 by Mark Koch owner of G.L.S. Investments for use as an office building. Caroline Murphy purchased the building in 2004. The west and middle units are currently occupied by Edward Jones Investments, and the east unit is leased to Solutions Psychotherapy L.L.C...

#### SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 3 June, 1997. 14 October, 1997. Clare, Michigan

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 427    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Dawson Building  
Common Name: Vacant

### DATE

Date Built: 1890    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Bar/Store/Dance Hall  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block



File Name: 427 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick/Steel  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial block building. The inset door is located on the north corner of the façade. Immediately to the south of the door is a fixed sash aluminum framed window that is angled out to the face of the façade. Two aluminum-framed fixed sash windows on the face of the façade are located to the south of the angled window. Above and below the windows are sections of brickwork. The section of brick work above the windows extends to a sill course of rock faced stone. Above the sill course are two double hung windows and an area covered with steel siding. This siding was added in 2002. Two vertical columns of alternating rough cut stone and brick are located on the north and south corners of the building.

The present configuration of the door and plate glass windows was the result of the remodeling work done by Roy Beltinck in 1947. However, much of the present appearance of the building is a result of repairs made to the building due to damages sustained in the 1957 fire. The fire destroyed the adjacent building to the south. An earlier fire in 1912 caused interior damage to the building, but did not damage the façade. The most noticeable change to the building has occurred to the façade's second story. Below the present sill course was a string course of unknown material. The brick work above each window was rounded and capped with keystones. Also, even with the tops of the windows was a rough cut stone string course. The façade was capped with an ornate cornice. A horizontal black strip located above the door and windows indicates the location of the awning that was constructed in 1963. The partition walls on the second story were removed in 1896, and the entire floor was converted to a hall.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 400 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was built by George Dawson in 1890 for his saloon business. The building was sold to William Wolsey in February 1897. As of May 1899 the building was being used for a grocery store. In September 1899 James Duncan purchased the building and continued the grocery store business. At some unknown date James Duncan opened the second story of the building (Duncan Hall) for dancing and social gatherings. Some time prior to 1906 Mr. Duncan closed the grocery store and converted the building to a saloon. With the start of Prohibition Mr. Duncan was forced to close his saloon, and in 1909 converted the building back to a grocery store. In May 1912 A. W. Thorpe leased the building and purchased James Duncan's grocery stock. Earl Foss leased the building beginning in 1930, and opened a bakery. This was the third bakery opened in the city at that time. The building was sold to Emery McLaughlin by the James Duncan Estate in July 1941. Emery McLaughlin sold the building to Roy N. Beltinck in February 1944 to use for his Gambles appliance store. The building was deeded to James, Roy J., and Charles Beltinck by Marion Beltinck in February 1969. James and Charles sold their interest in the building to Roy J. Beltinck at an unknown date. Roy J. Beltinck sold the building to Emerson Hampton in June 1980. By the mid 1980s Charles and Martha Stuckert were operating a furniture store out of this building. Emerson's wife Eileen Hampton sold the building to Charles and Martha Stuckert in June 1996. The Stuckerts sold the building to Roger and Emily Chase in July 1996. The Chases owned the building until November 2003 when they sold it to Bradley and Brittney Humphrey. The present owners, McEwan Street Real Estate, purchased the building from the Humphreys in October 2007.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Courier. 25 September, 1896. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Democrat & Press. 11 April, 1890. 2 September, 1890. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 14 May, 1909. 10 May, 1912. 25 April, 1930. 28 March, 1947. 25 April, 1957. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1893, 1894. 1899, 1906, 1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



427 North McEwan  
Circa 1945

Courtesy of Robert Knapp Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 431    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Clare County Savings Bank  
Common Name: F.A.C.E. Building/Clare Chamber of Commerce

### DATE

Date Built: 1922    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 431 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Bank/Store/Bowling Alley/Office Building  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick/Stucco  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

Clarence Cowles and George Mutscheller of Saginaw were the architects for this building. W. J. Morris of Midland was the contractor.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial block building. An inset steel door with modern cut glass design is centered on the façade. On either side of the doorway are a set of vinyl windows. The windows and doors are located within an area of stucco siding with a cornice above. Above the cornice and within a recessed area of brickwork is a set of four vinyl windows. Above the windows is a terra cotta belt course with cornice that extends around to the north side. The building is capped with a terra cotta cornice. Centered on the façade at the top of the cornice is a scroll decoration on either side of a center plate. The north side of the building is divided into three sections. The northeast and northwest corners and a recessed center section. The first story of the recessed section contains four vinyl windows and a steel framed glass door on the west side. Above these windows and door are corresponding vinyl windows with decorative terra cotta leaf motif panels above. Between each set of windows is a brick pilaster capped with a terra cotta leaf motif frieze and an egg and dart motif cornice. The northeast and northwest corners have window openings on the street level, but the northwest section's window has been bricked over. Above these are corresponding vinyl windows with decorative leaf motif terra cotta panels above. Within the parapet above these windows are decorative terra cotta rosettes.

This building was originally designed for use as a bank and had a vault form. The façade door is still in its historic location, but two fluted Ionic columns were located on either side of the doorway and extended to the second story cornice. The second story windows on the recessed section of the north side were twice as tall as the present windows. A four sided clock was added to the northeast corner of the building in 1929 and taken down at an unknown date. The set of four windows on the second story façade were added when the building was remodeled in 1939. At the same time the windows on the north side were shortened and the two columns on the façade were removed. During this remodeling the street level was altered to include plate glass windows



across the entire façade of the building with a door in the center. All the windows on the façade and north side were replaced with the present vinyl windows in 1993. The stucco on the street level façade was added in 2006. The large plate glass windows on the façade had been removed prior to this at an unknown date.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the southwest corner of the West Fourth and North McEwan Streets intersection. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Banking, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was built by the Clare County Savings Bank in 1922 to house their bank business. The property was purchased in 1913 and the bank planned to start construction 1915, but the rising cost of building materials caused the delay in plans. The architectural plans for the building were made at this time. The bank eventually fell into receivership and was deeded to the Receiver, Allen Graham, in 1932. In December 1937 Isaiah Leebove, chairman of the board of the Mammoth Producing and Refining Corporation, purchased the building from Graham. Leebove was murdered at the Doherty Hotel in May 1938 and the deed was transferred to the Mammoth Producing and Refining Corporation in September of the same year. Two months later Cornelius Wood purchased the building and after remodeling leased it to the Kroger Company for their grocery store. In 1948 the building was leased to Marvin Witbeck for his Witbeck IGA grocery store. Marvin Witbeck leased the building for about ten years. A bowling alley was operating at this time in the building's second floor. Witbeck's IGA Store moved out of the building in 1961 to a larger new building on the north end of Clare. Fellers Department Store leased the building at some point in its history. In 1966 Michigan Bell Telephone Company moved their offices and began leasing the entire first floor. Prior to Michigan Bell the building was leased by The Butcher Shop, Worldtronic used it for an occupational training school, and it also sat vacant for a while. After the death of Mr. Wood the property was deeded to his son Cornelius Wood in July 1977. Ronald and Barbara Kunse purchased the building in September 1990. In September 2004 the current owners, F.A.C.E., purchased the property from the Kuneses, and occupy the north unit of the building. The Clare Chamber of Commerce is located in the building's south unit.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 14 March, 1913. 20 August, 1915. 4 May, 1916. 28 October, 1921. 28 July, 1922. 10 December, 1937. 9 December, 1938. 2 June, 1939. 23 June, 1939. 7 May, 1948. 7 December, 1961. 28 April, 1966. Clare, Michigan.

Witbeck, Gerry. Witbeck Family Foods, Owner. Personal Interview. 11 November, 2009.

Meek, Forrest. Time Line History of Clare, Michigan. Clare, Michigan.



Clare County Savings Bank, 1922  
Courtesy of Kathellen Jackson Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 501    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Davy & Company Store  
Common Name: Mill End Store

### DATE

Date Built: 1904    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 501 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building is unknown. George Barrus of Loomis laid the foundation, and Bovey and Wood of Mt. Pleasant did the brick work. It is unknown who did the carpentry work.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial block building with some Classical Revival influences. The ten foot deep inset doors are centered on the façade. Two large wood framed fixed sash windows are located on either side of the doorway in the inset, which meet up with the two fixed sash wood framed windows flush with the façade. Above the window and door is a small wood shingled awning. Above the awning are decorative wood panels covering the transom windows. A belt cornice wraps around the façade and south side. Two bay windows framed with Corinthian capital posts and corniced lintels dominate the façade's second story. Brick pilasters with plain capitals are located between the windows and at the corners of the building. Windows are also located at the east end of the building's south side. The second story window is framed with Corinthian capital posts and corniced lintels similar to the bay windows on the façade. The remainder of the south side second story windows are bricked over. The plain brick parapet is capped with a bracketed cornice on the east and south sides. Evidence of header bricks to basement windows are located on the building's south side.

This building still retains much of its original appearance, although some changes have occurred. The inset door was altered to 10 feet deep after a 1926 fire. The transom windows were covered some time in late 1960s or early 1970s. The windows on the south side of the building were bricked over in the 1960s. The display case on the south side of the building was added in 1914.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the northwest corner of the West Fourth Street and North McEwan Street intersection, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1904 by Lew E. and Vernal R. Davy for their Davy & Company dry goods and clothing business. The wood building on the corner of West Fourth and McEwan was torn down and the south one third of the building immediately to the north made up the north half of the new building. Lew E. Davy was the manager of the Clare Davy & Company, while his brother Vernal managed the Reed City location. In 1910 Davy & Company merged with John H. Wilson and formed the Wilson and Davy Company, selling the same line of goods as previous. In 1924 Lew and Vernal Davy purchased the stock of the Wilson and Davy Company and changed the name to Davy's. At the same time F. L. Fleming purchased the shoe department of the Wilson and Davy Company and started the Fleming Shoe Company in the basement of Davy's building. Fleming's Shoe Store operated in this building until it closed in 1962. Vernal Davy sold his interest in the building to his brother Lew in January 1925. A fire in 1926 gutted the interior of the building but no damage was done to the exterior. Except for changes to the entrance the newly remodeled building was almost exactly like the old. Glen C. Folkert purchased the building and business from the Davy Estate in October 1963 and opened the Clare location of his Mill End Stores. The building and business were deeded to Folkert's three daughters, Deirdre and Rainey Folkert and Jacklyn Fairbairn, in December 1989. The Mill End Store business closed in 2009. The building is now vacant.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 24 December, 1903. 26 May, 1904. 2 December, 1904. 19 November, 1909. 11 February, 1910. 21 August, 1914. 22 September, 1922. 8 January, 1926. 12 March, 1926. 3 February, 1939. 22 November, 1962. 12 September, 1963. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1899, 1906, 1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Davy & Company Store, 1904  
Courtesy of Kathellen Jackson Collection

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 502    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Clare Hardware Company  
Common Name: Curves

### DATE

Date Built: 1902    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 502 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store/Bank/Commercial Office Building/Library  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The original architects of the building were Haug and Schurman of Saginaw. The name of the builder is unknown.

This is a two-story, one-part commercial block building. The main entrance to the building is a steel framed glass door centered on the façade. Two vinyl windows are located on either side of the door. The entrance to the second story is located on the northwest corner of the building. The four second story vinyl windows correspond to the windows and doors on the first floor. The window above the stairway door is smaller than the other three. There are two doors located on the south side. One is located at the center, the other at the east end of the south side. A set of windows is located on either side of the two doors with an additional window located on the west end of the south side. The second story of the south side has twelve double hung windows grouped in threes, twos, and singly. The corners of the building have raised brick quoins. The window and door posts and lintels along with the cornice that caps the building are finished with stucco.

This building has changed twice since its original construction in 1902. The original building had more of a Romanesque appearance. The second story center window and the southwest window on the south side were arched. A belt course of limestone on the façade's second story was an added feature. The parapet and cornice extended the height of the building to the same height as the building adjacent to it on the north side. In 1929 the building was remodeled and given an Art Deco appearance. The entire surface of the building was covered with white cast stone. More windows were added to the building's first floor south side and the present arrangement of windows and doors on the building's façade was created. The work was performed by the Bond and Hubbard Company of Chicago, which specialized in remodeling banks. The current look of the building was obtained as a result of the remodeling performed in 1988. The vinyl windows along with the stucco were added in 2007.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the northeast corner of the East Fourth Street and North McEwan Street intersection, and faces west. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail, Commerce/Banking, Education/Libraries

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1902 by William Callam for the Clare Hardware Company. The hardware store was located on the first floor facing McEwan Street, a harness store was located at the east end of the first floor, the second floor consisted of two private offices, a telephone office, and a tin shop on the east end. After the fire of 1904 William Callam along with James Tatman, constructed the brick building to the north. The Clare Hardware Company expanded to include the south unit of this building, with the interior of the two buildings open to one another. In 1907 the hardware store moved completely to the building to the north and the first floor of this building was used for the Citizens Bank. In late 1907 the second story of the building which to this point was unfinished, was being converted into apartments for two families. The first floor east unit housed the S. H. Morse & Son harness shop. In 1908 Catherine Callam was deeded the building after the death of William Callam. By 1910 the first floor was shared by the bank, Paul Greiser's tailor shop in a middle unit and a restaurant in the east unit. George Benner opened a real estate agency in the building in December 1911. In June 1912 the tailor shop was replaced with a cigar and tobacco store operated by Herschel Halsted. The Citizens State Bank took over ownership of the building from Catherine Callam in January 1917. In 1923 Joseph Bowler opened his law office in this building in the unit formerly occupied by Jones & Ross, on the building's first floor. Also on the first floor, Grant Terwilliger had a harness shop that he operated until March 1923. In 1926 the Vogue Shoppe was operating in one of the units of the building. December 1926 saw the A. L. Rogers and Forest Shumway barber and beauty shop opening in the first floor's middle unit. In February 1930 William S. Teeter opened his real estate and oil lease exchange business in the building. The Mammoth Producing and Refining Company began leasing the entire second floor in April 1937. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mowbray opened the Mowbray Insurance Agency in October 1941. Dr. A. E. Mulder moved his dental practice to the second floor of this building in October 1942. Dr. Richard Siberneck opened an optometry office in late 1950 in the office which Dr. Mulder vacated after his retirement. Maurice Studios located to the second floor of the building in April 1953. The building was purchased by the Mammoth Oil Company from the Citizens State Bank in 1961. At the same time Mammoth Oil allowed the Clare City Library to relocate to the building's first floor. The library was allowed to occupy the space rent free in return for renaming itself the Garfield Memorial Library, in honor of the wife of Sam Garfield, Mammoth Oil's local representative. Mammoth Oil sold the building to the City of Clare sometime in the late 1970s. The library then occupied both floors of the building. The city sold the building to North Ten L.L.C. in July 2007 after relocating the library to 185 East Fourth Street. At present the North Ten offices are located on the second floor of the building, and Curves is leasing the first floor.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Courier. 9 August, 1907. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 17 July, 1902. 11 January, 1907. 1 February, 1907. 8 February, 1907. 8 December, 1911. 21 June, 1912. 13 April, 1923. 3 April, 1925. 23 April, 1926. 24 December, 1926. 12 June, 1929. 16 April, 1937. 3 October, 1941. 3 November, 1944. 15 September, 1950. 17 April, 1953. 31 August, 1961. 5 July, 1988. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 505    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Davy/Mussell/Elden Building  
Common Name: Coffee Talk 505/Spider Submissions

### DATE

Date Built: 1895    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Stone  
Walls: Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The name of the architect for this building is unknown, but it is known that he was from Saginaw. The name of the builder is also unknown.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial block building. The building is divided into two units and both units are different in appearance. The south unit has an inset door with glass windows on either side of the door in the inset and windows flush with the façade. A row of transom windows are located above the door and windows. On the north and south ends of the south unit are decorative plain capital pilasters. The second story contains an oriel window with cornice between two double hung windows. The windows are located above a dentil cornice. The same cornice that extends over the building immediately to the south. The north unit has an inset door on the north end of the building with plate glass windows flush to the façade and extending to the south. A plain awning and wood paneled area is located above the door and windows. A large picture window located between two double hung windows is located on the second story. A ribbon style belt course and bracketed cornice is located above the second story windows on both units.

Although both units have seen a change in their appearance through their history the south unit seems to have retained most of its original appearance. The only difference is the trim work on the present unit seems to be a more decorative than the original construction. . Much of this decoration was added in 2008 when the south unit underwent a major remodeling. Another difference is the missing balustrade above the oriel window on the second floor. The north unit street level façade was altered in 1957 when it obtained its present appearance. Prior to that it looked very similar to the present appearance of the south unit. In 1957 the second story oriel window on the north unit was removed for safety reasons. An outside stairway leading to the basement on McEwan Street was removed in 1920.



File Name: 505 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur



## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

The building was constructed in 1895 as a joint effort between Lew Davy, Robert Mussell, and William Elden. The building originally was made up of three units, but the southern unit owned by Lew Davy was used for the construction of his new building in 1904. Another unit to the north was planned by Ed White but never came to be. The building was originally intended to be three stories. The present south unit was built by Robert Mussell for use as his drug store, which he relocated from three buildings to the north. Robert's wife Anna operated the drug store for many years after Robert's death in 1902. By 1912 Forest Shumway was operating a barber shop in the basement of this unit. After about 33 years of business which started at 515 North McEwan, Mrs. Anna Mussell sold the drug store business in 1916 to Floyd Kirkpatrick. The arrangement must not have lasted long because Mrs. Mussell regained the business and sold it again in 1936. A fire in March 1917 gutted the interior of this unit of the building, but was remodeled and in use before the summer of the same year. Anna Mussell sold her drug store business to E. H. Wright in April 1936. In May 1946 Roy Cimmerer purchased the drug store business from Mr. Wright and the unit from Anna Mussell and opened his Economy Drug Store. Robert Roy Cimmerer was deeded the unit in 1983 after his mother's death. The Mill End Store used the building from 1985 to the 2000's. Folkerts Coffee Creations purchased the unit in December 2007. Coffee Talk 505 opened in 2009.

The north unit was constructed at the same time as the other two units by William Elden for his bazaar store. The fire of 1917 in the Mussell unit burned the roof of this unit and as a result suffered extensive water damage. Thomas Holbrook leased this unit for his bazaar business prior to the fire and continued after. In 1921 Morgan Grocery began operating in the unit of the building. William Elden continued to own the north unit until June 1934 when he sold it to his son Norris Elden. Elden sold the unit in November 1947 to Frances Ellen Hall, Mary Morgan and Anne Marie Danielson. Morgan Grocery closed its doors in September 1948, and in October of the same year Household Appliance Company was leasing the unit. It is unknown when Anne Marie Danielson and Mary Morgan sold their interest in the unit, but Frances Ellen Hall and her husband John sold the unit in 1953 to A. J. and Helen Doherty II. A. J. Doherty III inherited the unit from Helen in March 1957. Doherty owned it until the present owner Deirdre Folkert purchased it in June 2008. Spider Submissions Gym, began leasing the building in 2009, but vacated it the year after.

The photographer L. C. Hulbert in May 1914 took over the photography studio of M. W. Cartwright, but it is unknown which part of the building they occupied. Some time in the early history of the building Thurston Undertaking was located on the second floor of the north unit and Courier printing was located on the second story of the south unit. When Thurston Undertaking moved out in 1907, the dentist Dr. H. E. Neeland occupied their old office. Later Dr. Sanford and Dr. McKnight also had offices in the second story.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Building Inspector's Office. Building Permit. 20 February, 1985. City of Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 22 February, 1895. 15 March, 1895. 23 August, 1895. 30 August. 1895. 15 November, 1907. 16 August, 1912. 8, May, 1914. 20 June, 1916. 22 March, 1917. 24 May, 1917. 19 July, 1917. 26 August, 1920. 1 May, 1936. 28 May, 1937. 17, September, 1948. 11 April 1957. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 506      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Tatman Building  
Common Name: Clare Hardware Store

### DATE

Date Built: 1904      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick/Wood  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building was O. M. Sutherland and W. H. Pierce was the builder

This is a two-story, two-part commercial block building, with Neo-Classical Revival influences. The inset double aluminum framed glass doors of this building are located in the center of the building's south half. The rest of the building's street level façade is covered with aluminum framed fixed sash glass windows. Tongue and groove wood siding is located below the second story windows covering the brickwork and the transom windows. The second story windows are positioned in groups of two except for the lone windows on the north and south ends of the building. Between each set of windows is a brick pilaster with a masonry Ionic capital. The brick parapet is capped with a dentil cornice. The majority of the building is two-story except for a one-story section on the east side of the building's south half that wraps around the building to the south.

Besides the street level of the façade this building has changed very little through its history. When the building was originally constructed it was divided into two units. The south unit was entered through a doorway on the building's southwest corner. The doorway for the north unit was located in the center of the north unit. The present glass windows on the street level were added in 1985. The shutters on the second story windows were added at the same time. An awning which extends across the building's façade was also added in 1985 but has since been updated.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the east side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the west. The building extends around the east side of the building immediately to the south, and has a portion that fronts on East Fourth Street. There are no other buildings located on the property.



File Name: 506 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1904 by James Tatman and William Callam. James Tatman had the north half built for his grocery and shoe business, while William Callam built the south half which was added to Clare Hardware Company which was located immediately to the south. In April of the following year John and Mary Calkins purchased the south half of the building. The second story of the south half was used for roller skating in 1906 and by 1910 it was used by the hardware store. In early 1907 The Clare Hardware Company vacated the building to the south, and only occupied the south half of this building. The move was necessitated by the Citizen's Bank relocating to the building to the south. In March 1914 W. B. Webb and Mortimer Gallagher began leasing the south half for their Clare Hardware and Implement Company. They purchased the south half in January 1916. By 1923 the second story of the south half was used for a tin shop. The name of the hardware business was changed in 1928 to the Clare Hardware and Furniture Company. At an unknown date W. B. Webb sold his interest in the business and by 1935 Ben Mercer was co-owner with Mortimer Gallagher, who were at the time beginning to sell Dodge and Plymouth vehicles. Stanley Burdo purchased the south half in February 1936 and retained the Clare Hardware and Furniture Company name. The building was combined with the north unit in 1943 when Stanley Burdo purchased it from the James Tatman Estate.

As stated earlier the north half of the building was owned by James Tatman for his grocery and shoe business. The second story had three suites of offices and a lodge room. In mid 1905 James Tatman sold half of his interest in his business and building to George McKeever. Joseph Bowler started his law practice here in 1908 by leasing a portion of the Tatman & McKeever building. In December 1914 James Tatman divided the first floor of the north unit into two units, leased the north unit to L. G. Fox, jeweler and optometrist, and ran his grocery business out of the south unit. In January 1919 the north unit was leased to D. E. Mater for his furniture business. In January 1930 the National Grocer Company opened the R. Chain grocery store in the south unit. This business was managed by E. W. Brown who purchased the business in September of that same year. E. W. Brown ran the grocery store for an unknown period of time. Attorney A. E. Wylie moved his law firm to the second floor of the building in November 1932. Prior to this Mr. Wylie's office was used by the Clare County Credit Bureau, and also by Mr. Tatman as his private office after his retirement from the grocery business. In 1938 one of the units in the building's north half was leased to the Clare Restaurant. In 1943 Stanley Burdo purchased the north half of the building from the James Tatman Estate, combining it with the south half of the building which he purchased in 1936. Stanley's son Ben inherited the building and the business in January 1947. April 1968 Clare Hardware and Furniture Company became two separate businesses again. Ben Burdo owned and managed the Clare Hardware Company, while Dan and Bill Burdo owned and managed the Clare Furniture Company. Ben Burdo retained ownership until 2006 when the building was deeded to his daughter Elaine Demasi. Vincent and Elaine Demasi sold the building in October 2006 to the present owner's Dennis and Kathy Sian.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Building Inspector's Office. Building Permit. 10 July, 1985. City of Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 2 December, 1904. 9 June, 1905. 11 January, 1907. 19 June, 1908. 6 March, 1914.

4 December, 1914. 30 January, 1919. 25 November, 1932. 1 February, 1935. 6 March, 1936. 15 July, 1938. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1906, 1910). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 511    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: White Building  
Common Name: Radio Shack

### DATE

Date Built: 1887    Source of Date: The Clare Democrat



File Name: 511 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick/Wood  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building. It has an inset wood door with glass window on the north corner of the building. The remainder of the façade's street level is a single wood framed plate glass window. The window and door are surrounded by brick. Above the window and door is a wood shingled awning with a shed style roof. A wood shingled pediment is centered on the awning, and has a scalped fascia. The awning extends over the entire façade. The parapet above the awning is sided with imbricated wood shingles. In the center of the parapet is a raised rectangular box frame surrounding recessed wood slats.

The original appearance of this building is unknown. The building was built in a manner that a second story could eventually be constructed. Plans for the building to be joined with the Davy/Mussell/Elden building to the south and an addition of a second story were planned in 1895. The plan was not acted upon, but instead a 10 foot addition was built on the west end of the building in the same year. Another narrow one-story addition was constructed between 1910 and 1923 to the building's west side. That addition was extended to the north some time after 1934. The present awning and pediment were constructed in 1965.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was built in 1887 by Ed White to house his jewelry business. Mr. White sold his jewelry business to M. D. Ellis in April 1905, and then bought it back from M. D. Ellis in July of the next year. Ed's son Carl joined him in the jewelry business in December 1913, and the business name was changed to White and Son. In August 1916 Ed White had sold his jewelry business to Cyrus Mummon, who signed a five year lease on the building. The building was sold to Frank and Margaret McKnight in September 1925. Gamble's Store began leasing the building in February 1938. Prior to that Johnson Electric Shop was leasing the building. In May 1941 Dr. Frank McKnight moved his dental practice to this building from the second story of the building immediately to the south. The building was remodeled after the death of Dr. McKnight and in March 1965 Barb Krell opened Barb's Infant and Gift Shop. Margaret McKnight sold the building to Barb and Robert Krell in July 1966. Robert Krell had some financial problems in the late 1960s, and by 1972 the property had been foreclosed on. Kenneth and Patricia Jones purchased the building in October 1973. Cloze N-Stuff Women's Apparel operated in the building from the mid 1970s to the early 1990s. The Joneses owned the building until August 1994 when they sold it to Sandra Bailey. Edward, Ramona, and Linda Prichkaitis purchased the building in April 1996 and operated their Drapery Boutique business. The Prichkaitis' owned it until it was sold to its present owners, Lawrence and Linda Witbeck, in November 2007. Radio Shack is the business now using the building.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Democrat. 11 March, 1887. Clare, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1967, 1975, 1989-1991. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 22 February, 1895. 14 June, 1895. 21 April, 1905. 6 July, 1906. 26 December, 1913. 1 June, 1916. 25 February, 1938. 9 May, 1941. 11 March, 1965. 10 June, 1965. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1893, 1894, 1899, 1906, 1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Barb's Infant and Gift Shop  
After the 1965 remodeling  
Photo courtesy of Clare Sentinel

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 513    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Bogardus Building  
Common Name: Hick's Jewelers



File Name: 513 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### DATE

Date Built: circa 1916    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick/stone  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building. The entrance to the building is through an inset aluminum framed glass door in the northeast corner of the building. Four small display windows are located to the south of the door. One is located in the inset and angled out to the façade. The other three are flush with the face of the façade. The area around the windows is sided with stone laid in a random horizontal manner. Above the window and door a large canvas awning conceals a wood framed asphalt shingled hipped roof awning. Also concealed by the canvas awning is the concrete lettering "S BOGARDUS" in the center of the dark brick parapet.

Besides the area around the display windows, the building has changed little throughout its history. The door is still located in its historic location. The façade to the south of the door had been all plate glass windows on the street level. The stone work and the display windows on the façade were added around 1965.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.



This building was constructed in 1916 by Simon Bogardus for his grocery store business. Simon Bogardus operated his store until an unknown date, and then his son-in-law N. L. Tibbils operated a jewelry store until 1941. In August 1941 Consumers Power Company began leasing the building. Eva Bogardus deeded the building to her daughter Hilda Tibbils in August 1945. Howard Evert began leasing the building for his jewelry business in November 1957, after the Consumers Power Company relocated. Howard Evert purchased the building from Hilda Tibbils in December 1965. Lawrence Evert was deeded the property in August 1974, and continued as the Everts Jewelry business. The present owner Rodger Hicks, who continues the jewelry business, purchased the building in November 1987, but was leasing the building as early as 1984.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1964, 1975, 1980, 1984. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 1 June, 1916. 28 July, 1916. 1 August, 1941. 28 November, 1957. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1910, 1923, 1928-1934).

Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Everts Jewelers, 1958  
Courtesy of 1958  
Clare High School Yearbook

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 515      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: C. B. Wood Building  
Common Name: 515 Gallery

### DATE

Date Built: 1942      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 515 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store/Bank  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building. The inset aluminum framed glass door is located in the northeast corner of the building. The inset angles out toward the south twice before it meets with the face of the façade. The area from the door to the southeast corner of the building consists of plate glass windows with a brick base below. There are no transom windows above the windows and door. The parapet consists of a recessed undecorated brick area in the center a brick frame. Toward the top of the parapet the recessed area begins to step out to meet the brick frame. The parapet is capped with masonry blocks.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail, Commerce/Banking

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in the spring of 1942. Mammoth Producing Corporation was the first business to lease the building. They had been located in the Citizens State Bank building since 1937. Russ's Record Shop was operating in the building in the late 1960s, and early 1970s. The property was deeded to

Winston and Neil Wood in September 1990. The Woods sold the building to Rose Coon in August 1993. The building was deeded to Robert Coon and Patricia Tyler in September 1996. The building was sold to Kenneth Plonski and Brenda Harshman in October 1996. The building was deeded back to Robert Coon and Patricia Tyler in November 2001. Mary Faith Lund bought the building in February 2002 and sold it to James Grawey in August 2005. In August 2005 Debra Gadberry purchased the building. In the mid 2000s the building was being used by Rustic Creations, and prior to that Fantastique' Bridal and Formal Wear store was operating here. The present owners, Thomas and Kim Kleinhardt, purchased the building in May 2009. The Kleinhardts opened the 515 Gallery in late 2010.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.  
Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.  
Clare High School Year Book. 1972. Clare, Michigan.  
Clare Sentinel. 3 July, 1942. 25 May, 1967. 22 May, 1970. Clare, Michigan  
Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1893, 1894, 1906, 1910, 1923).  
Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 517    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Lossing Building  
Common Name: Panda Chinese Restaurant



### DATE

Date Built: circa 1886    Source of Date: Tax Assessment

File Name: 517 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: Art Deco

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Metal/Steel  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block, Art Deco building. The inset doorway is in the north half of the building. On either side of the doorway are plate glass windows which angle out to the buildings façade. One section of window is located on the north and two window sections are located on the south of the angled inset windows. The façade of the building is sided with porcelain enamel panels. The plates below the windows are a brownish red color, while the plates on the side and above the windows are a yellow color. The plates above the windows extend to the top of the parapet and are decorated with an L-shaped double line pattern.

The original building on this site was two stories. In 1886 the two-story building was moved back to the west and a one-story addition was added to the east and fronted on McEwan Street. This façade had a similar appearance to the building immediately to the south at that time. It had an inset center doorway with angled glass windows extending out on both sides of the door. Two windows were located at the north and south sides of the façade. Transom windows were located above the door and windows, and a dentil cornice was located above the transom windows. Sometime between 1906 and 1910 the two-story section of the building was either lowered to one-story or replaced by a one-story structure. A basement was added to the building in June 1920. The present façade of the building was constructed sometime in late 1947 and early 1948.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

The original building on this site could have been built as early as 1871. It was a two-story building that was later moved to the west and the present one-story structure was added to it in 1886. This one-story section was added while Dorothy Lossing owned the building. Ed White leased the building for his jewelry business in 1886, and then moved to his new building three doors to the south the next year. Mrs. Lossing owned the building until February 1888 when she sold it to Martha Mason. In July 1889 Martha Mason sold the building to Theo Boge for his shoe and boot repair business. Theo Boge left Clare in October 1891, but did not sell the building until Edward Waller purchased it in February 1894. Between 1891 and 1905 the building was used for shoe repair, but it is unknown by who. A gentleman by the name of D. Crouse leased the building in 1905 and 1906 for a shoe and boot repair business. Edward Waller sold the building to Allen E. Mulder in August 1905. William Lange purchased the business from Mr. Crouse and took over the lease in February 1907. William Lange operated the shoe repair business until 1914. Thomas Lynch purchased the building from Mulder in May 1914 and owned it until May 1916 when he sold to Arthur Dorney. Arthur Dorney sold the building to James Bicknell in August 1919. Bicknell owned the building for 8 months when he sold it to Jonathan Jones in April 1920. Mr. Jones sold the building twenty days later to Thomas Holbrook. Prior to Thomas Holbrook's purchase W. F. Broderick was leasing the building. Mr. Holbrook moved his bazaar business here from the Elden Building four doors to the south. In 1947 two gentlemen by the name of Bliss and Fisher opened The Vogue Dress Shop in the east end of the building, while the American Beauty Shop operated in the west end of the building. Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Rosier bought The Vogue Dress Shop in July 1949. This business was sold in July 1953 to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Spenny who continued the ladies apparel business. In 1955 Jean's Dress Shop, owned by Jean Makin was operating in the building. Thomas Holbrook's wife Cora sold the building in January 1958 to Donald and Octavia Jones. By April of the same year Jones Floor Covering was operating out the building. Jackson Mair purchased the building in December 1982 and owned it until April 1992 when it was purchased by John Seibt. At the same time ownership of the building transferred to Millard Bell. Karen's Bridal Gallery and Boutique was leasing the building from the late 1980s to the early 1990s. Two years later in May 1994 Willard Bell transferred ownership back to John Seibt. The next month Victor and Patty Lemm purchased the building. Aaron Lund bought the building in March 2001, and sold it to the present owners in October 2003. The present owners Meng Mei Wong and Ling Li Wong operate the Panda Chinese Restaurant.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Democrat. 31 December, 1886.

Clare Democrat and Press. 2 October, 1891. Clare, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1960, 1971, 1989, 1993. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Press. 29 April, 1887. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 22 February, 1907. 10 January, 1913. 27 February, 1914. 3 June, 1920. 24 June, 1920.

10 October, 1947. 20 February, 1948. 8 July, 1949. 10 July, 1953. 2 June, 1955. 18 July, 1957.

3 April, 1958. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1893, 1894, 1899, 1906, 1910). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 518    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Doherty Building  
Common Name: Mood Makers

### DATE

Date Built: 1910-1911    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block



File Name: 518 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Wood/Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial block building with Neo-classical revival elements. The entrance to the first story is located through an inset door in the north third of the building's façade. The door to the second story is located on the building's southwest corner. Between the two doors and to the north of the first story door are sections of plate glass windows. The area surrounding the windows and doors is covered with tongue and groove wood siding. A canvas awning above the windows and doors is covering a wood framed wood shingled awning. Four Ionic capital pilasters border three recessed brick areas. The larger middle section contains two double-hung windows with a large splayed lintel with keystone. Two smaller sections contain one double-hung window each with smaller keystone shaped lintels. The top of each recessed area contains dentil brick work. A dentil belt course extends across the façade above the recessed sections. The building is capped with a dentil and bracketed cornice.

The present street level façade was constructed in 1950. The building was constructed with a balustrade and pediment above the cornice that was removed sometime after 1940. The second story façade has not changed since its original construction.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the east side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the west. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commercial/Retail.



## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

Construction of this building began in 1904 after a fire in July of that year destroyed the building previously located here. By the end of 1904 only the foundation was completed. Construction did not begin again until 1910, and was completed in 1911. The building was constructed by A. J. Doherty. Upon completion of the building Mr. Doherty leased the first story of the building to Elmer Anderson for his drug store business. The second story was leased to the John Q. Lodge of the Masons. The Masons leased the second story of the building until 1931 when they moved to the old Doherty Opera House three buildings to the north. Elmer Anderson purchased the building from Doherty in April 1921. Elmer Anderson ran the drug store business until his death in 1941. His daughter, Mrs. Jean Allen, assumed management of the business until 1947 while her brother was in school and serving in the military. Elmer's son, Elmer "Bud" Anderson, took over the operation of the store in 1948 from his mother Josephine Anderson. The building was deeded to the Anderson children in 1957. George Panches began managing Anderson's drug store in 1965 and purchased the business and the building in 1975. The building was deeded to the current owner, Margaret Panches, in December 1998. Mood Makers beauty shop is the current business leasing the building.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 2 December 1904. 14 October, 1910. 28 October, 1910. 7 July, 1911. 13 January, 1911. 28 April, 1921. 20 October, 1950. 5 May, 1955. 12 February, 1975. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1906, 1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 520    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: McKinnon Building  
Common Name: Apple Tree Lane (South)

### DATE

Date Built: 1904    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Bank/Office Building/Store  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick/Vinyl  
Roof: Asphalt Shingles/Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building was O.M. Sutherland. The builder of this building is unknown.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building. It has been joined with the building immediately to the north. It has no door but does have a window with vinyl shutters in the center of the facade's street level. The entire facade is covered with vinyl siding, except for the north and south corners of the building's street level facade which have the stack bond brickwork exposed.

It is unknown what the original appearance of the facade was like. . The exterior stairway to the basement was removed and cemented over in 1917. In the 1960s the building was remodeled to have an inset door with plate glass windows on both sides. The remodeling included brick work below the windows and on the north and south ends of the building in a stacked bond pattern. Above the windows and doors was a broad flat awning that extended across the entire facade. The building's parapet was covered with undecorated paneling. The current facade was constructed sometime after 2004.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the east side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the west. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Banking, Commerce/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.



File Name: 520 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

This building was constructed by Archie J. McKinnon in 1904. It replaced an existing wood building that was destroyed by fire in July of the same year. The building was originally leased to Elmer Anderson for his drug store business. He operated in the building until 1910 when he moved into the newly constructed Doherty building immediately to the south. From late 1912 to early 1915, E. Burt Jenney leased the building for his banking business. In October 1915 the building was converted to house the Oil & Drum Co. office. The next month C. W. Calkins both opened and closed his store business. In December of the same year M. C. Fife opened a restaurant in the building. Two years later in 1917, two gentlemen by the names of Allen and Manee opened a meat market. Two gentlemen by the names Harris and Hirt moved their hardware store to this building in May 1928. In April 1936 the building was deeded to Archie McKinnon's son, Kyle McKinnon. The property was acquired by Margaret McKinnon in January 1948. By 1945 Kenneth and Jay Hendrie began using the building for their Hendrie Brothers Market. The partnership was dissolved in 1950 with Kenneth Hendrie retaining ownership of the business. William Lewis purchased the business from Kenneth Hendrie in 1952, and continued the meat market and grocery business under the Bill Lewis Market name. In 1953 the property was deeded to John and Martha Murphy (Martha Murphy was formerly Martha McKinnon), who owned it until September 1954 when they sold to Alfred J. Doherty II. Robert Fielder opened Fielder's Shoe Store in October 1955. Marlin and Betty Alexander took over the shoe business from the Fielders in 1956, and renamed the business Alexander Shoes. Alfred J. Doherty II's wife Helen sold the building to Herschel Jewett in September 1979. James Mester purchased the building in July 1983. In the 1980s Jan-Dor Fashions was leasing the building. Keith Benmark was the next owner of the building. He purchased the building at an unknown date, and owned the building until March 1989 when he sold to Christopher Miller. Mr. Miller owned the building until April 2004 when he sold to the present owners, Diane Demo-Sadler and Vivian Demo.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1950, 1961, 1982, 1987. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 4 August, 1904. 2 December, 1904. 11 October, 1912. 8 October, 1915. 17 November, 1915. 10 December, 1915. 6 September, 1917. 4 October, 1917. 28 April, 1921. 2 June, 1950. 20 June, 1952. 1 November, 1956. 24 March, 1960. 16 May, 1968. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1906, 1910, 1923). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



Hendrie Market, 1950  
Courtesy of 1950  
Clare High School Yearbook



Alexander Shoe Store, 1961  
Courtesy of 1961  
Clare High School Yearbook

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 521      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Foss Bakery  
Common Name: Cops and Doughnuts Bakery

### DATE

Date Built: 1907      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 521 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: Commercial Brick

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick/Wood  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building is unknown; the builders were Clark & Son.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial block, Commercial Brick building. The inset glass doorway is in the center of the façade. A doorway to the second story is located within the inset, to the south of the first floor door and faces north. On either side of the first floor door are plate glass windows that extend to the pavement. To the north of these windows is another window within the inset that extends to the façade, with another window on the north side of the façade. The brickwork on the street level façade is in a newer stacked bond pattern. Above the windows and door is a section of vertical tongue and groove wood siding. The second story of the building has two sets of two double-hung windows, with brick pilasters on either side of the windows. The lintels of the windows are made of raised and recessed alternating brickwork. A dentil belt course was constructed above the windows and pilasters. Another dentil belt course is located at the top of the parapet just below a bracketed cornice.

The building's second story still appears as it did when it was originally constructed. In 1922 a 25 x 35 addition was constructed on the west end of the building. It is unknown what the original street level façade looked like. The present street level façade was constructed in 1961. In 2009 an opening was created between the north wall and the building immediately to the north.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1907 by J. E. Foss for his bakery business. This building has always been used as a bakery. In March 1941 the sons of Jennie Foss (J. E. Foss's wife), Earl and Ernest Foss, took over the operation of the business and ownership of the building. Earl sold his interest in building in December 1959. Charles Palshan purchased the business from Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Foss in March 1965. Ernest Foss had been involved in the operations of the bakery since 1916. Charles Palshan and his wife Maxine leased the building from 1965 until August 1986 when they purchased it. They owned the building until April 1991 when they sold it to Kenneth Mackenzie. Mitzi Mitchell purchased the building from Mackenzie in May 2001 and owned it until March 2006 when it was purchased by Antoinette Jablonski. Antoinette Jablonski began leasing the building to a group of nine Clare City police officers in July 2009, who changed the name from Clare City Bakery (which it had been called since at least the late 1940s) to Cops and Doughnuts Bakery. The Cops and Doughnuts Bakery purchased the building in August 2010.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 30 August, 1907. 1 November, 1907. 6 December, 1907. 27 October, 1922. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1910, 1923). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 522    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: W. P. Lewis Cigar Factory  
Common Name: Apple Tree Lane (North)

### DATE

Date Built: 1904    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 522 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: Commercial Brick

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick: Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building was O. M. Sutherland, and the builder was D. J. Fox.

This is a one-story, one part commercial block, Commercial Brick building. The inset door is located in the center of the façade's street level. The glass windows on either side of the door within the inset, angle out to meet the glass windows on the north and south sides of the façade. The dark brown brick below the windows contrasts with the white brick on the remainder of the building. Above the windows and door is a recessed area framed with brickwork and a canvas awning. The parapet is constructed with brick and is capped with a dentil cornice.

The street level of the façade has been altered since its original construction. The doorway was located on the south side of the façade. One large plate glass window was located to the north of the door, and extended across the front of the building. One transom window was located above the door, while two transom windows were located above the large window. The current appearance of the façade has been in existence since at least 1950. A twenty foot by twenty-two foot addition was added to the east end of the building in 1952.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the east side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the west. There are no other buildings located on the property. A time capsule was placed in the cornerstone of the building in August 1904.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail



## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1904 by William P. Lewis for the purpose of housing his cigar store business. It replaced a wood frame building that was destroyed in a fire in July of the same year. After the death of William Lewis in January 1913, Bill Adams purchased the cigar store business. In February of the same year the east end of the building was leased to Shumway and Rogers for their barber shop. Jay J. Green began leasing the building in January 1927, and opened the Jay Green Clothing Store for men. William P. Lewis's wife Alpha Lewis sold the building to Clyde Harris in March 1934. Mr. Harris sold the building to Jay J. Green in June 1951, and the name was changed to the J. J. Green Clothing Shop. The building was deeded to Jay J. Green's son Jay. in 1962. He eventually changed the name of the business to Green's Clothing & Shoe. By the late 1980's the business was called Green's Shoes. The early 1990s saw the building being leased to Diane Sadler for her Apple Tree Lane gift shop business. Diane Sadler purchased the building from Maxine Green in December 1998.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1950, 1957, 1964, 1966, 1987, 1988, 1993. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 14 July, 1904. 11 August, 1904. 2 December, 1904. 3 January, 1913. 7 February, 1913.

21 January, 1927. 22 August, 1952. Clare, Michigan.



Jay Green's Clothing Store, 1950

Courtesy of 1950

Clare High School Year Book

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 523      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Rhoades Building  
Common Name: Cops and Doughnuts Apparel Store

### DATE

Date Built: 1908      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: Commercial Brick

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building was E. B. Gorr. The mason work was done by William Holbrook, while the interior construction was performed by the Geek Brothers.

This is a one-part commercial block, commercial brick building. It is only a single story, even though it is just as tall as the two-story building immediately to the south. The inset doorway is located in the center of the building's south half. The windows on either side of the door angle out to meet the glass windows on the façade. Diagonal tongue and groove wood siding covers the base below the windows. Prism glass transom windows are located above the windows and door. Brick quoin pilasters with Ionic capitals are located on the north and south corners of the building's façade. These pilasters along with the building's parapet form a frame around the center of the façade. In this framed center section are alternating raised and recessed brickwork surrounding a masonry block which reads "RHOADES BLOCK." A masonry keystone is positioned at the top of the framed section. The building is capped with a bracketed cornice. Above the cornice is a framed brick section with a masonry block reading "1908."

This building appears almost exactly as it did when it was originally constructed. The only difference is the diagonal tongue and groove wood siding below the windows which replaced paneled wood sections. These were added in 1983. A balustrade was also located to the north and south of the "1908" masonry block on the top of the building. This was taken down some time in the late 1930s or early 1940s. A twenty by twenty-four foot addition was constructed on the west end of the building in 1949. The north side of the building was bricked over after the Dunlop building to the north burned in the late 1970s. In 2009 an opening was created between the walls of this building and the building immediately to the south.



File Name: 523 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1908 by Andrew Rhoades for the purpose of housing his grocery store business. It replaced a wood frame building that was destroyed by fire in 1907. Mr. Rhoades operated his grocery store until December 1917, when he closed his business. The following month B. H. Demarest began to lease the building for his Demarest Cash Bargain Store. In December 1920 Andrew Rhoades sold the building to William Bicknell who owned it until 1968. From 1931 to 1939 Chaffee Grocery was operating in the building. In June 1939 Lyle Smith began leasing the building for his Modern Food Market business. Murl Houghton began leasing the building in April 1941 for his Houghton Drug Store. In July 1965 Charles Clark began leasing the building for his Clark Drugs business. William Bicknell sold the building to Edward Hardy in April 1968 and he owned it until November 1976. At that time Charles Clark purchased the building. In 1982 Downtown Drugs was leasing the building and operated well into the 1990s. William Barz purchased the building in December 1984. In April 2008 Kevin Stevens purchased the building for his Kevin's Carpet business. This business closed the same year and the building was deeded back to William Barz. In August 2009 the Cops and Doughnuts business, which is located in the building immediately to the south, purchased the building to sell its line of apparel and gifts.

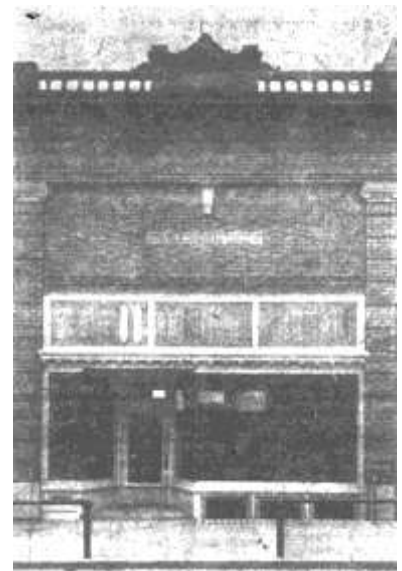
## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1958, 1964, 1967, 1982, 1989, 1996. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 9 October, 1908. 13 December, 1917. 10 January, 1918. 24 January, 1918.

13 November, 1931. 2 June, 1939. 4 April, 1941. 23 April, 1949. 15 July 1965. Clare, Michigan



Rhoades Grocery Store, 1908  
Courtesy of Clare Sentinel

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 524    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Doherty Opera House  
Common Name: Raymond James Building

### DATE

Date Built: 1891    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 524 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store/Opera House/Post Office/Fraternal Hall  
Style: Commercial Brick

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick/Stucco  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building was Fred Hollister of Saginaw. The builder is unknown.

This is a two-story, two part commercial block, Commercial Brick building. The doorway is located in the center of the façade. Two sets of double hung windows are equally spaced on both the north and south sides of the door. Below the windows are four courses of rock faced cement blocks. A section of stucco siding separates the first floor from the second floor. Above the stucco and below the second story windows is a dentil cornice. The street level facade of this building and the one immediately to the north are similar in appearance. Above the cornice is a string course of rock faced stone. Above that are five sets of windows. The center windows consist of two sets of double hung wood windows. Two sets of double hung windows are equally spaced on both the north and south sides of the center windows. Transom windows are located above each of the second story windows. The brickwork above each window forms a segmented arch of header bricks which terminate at a decorative string course on the parapet. Within the parapet are twenty-three recessed squares extended across the width of the façade. The building is capped with a dentil brick cornice.

The section of the façade which contains the second story windows is the only portion of the building which has not changed since its original construction. Some changes have occurred above and below this section of windows. Originally a balconet was located below the center second story windows. The original parapet had a brick pediment with a flag pole at its peak on the south end with a dentil cornice extending to the north. The present recessed squares on the parapet were only located below the cornice. A balustrade was built on top of the cornice. Below the pediment was a recessed circle with three small square windows. The pediment was removed and the present look of the parapet was constructed sometime in the 1920s. The street level of the façade was divided into a north and south half. The doors for both were located in the center of their respective halves with plate glass windows located on either side of the doors. By 1910 the door to the south unit was located on the south side of the façade. In 1960 the façade of the building was altered with the

construction of a continuous marquee that overhung the entire façade of the building and continued to the south unit of the building immediately to the north. By the 1970's the façade had a single door in the center with large plate glass windows on either side of it. The present street level façade was constructed in 2007. Historically the interior of the second story was accessed through the stairway located in the center of the building immediately to the north.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the east side of the 500 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the west. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Retail, Politics/Government/Federal Government

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1891 by Alfred J. Doherty I. It was built with the intention of leasing two first floor units to businesses while the entire second story would be used as an opera house. The north unit of the first floor was leased to S. C. Kirkbride for his furniture business, while the south unit was leased to the United States government for the Post Office. By 1911 M. B. Gallagher was using the north unit for his hardware and farm implement business. By 1914 J. E. Doherty was using the north unit for his hardware and furniture business. The Post Office stayed in the south unit until 1931 when it was moved to a larger building on East Fourth Street. The process of converting the Opera House to a public meeting place was begun in 1912 and finished in 1914. In January 1931 the Alfred J. Doherty Estate deeded the building to his son Alfred J. Doherty Jr. At the same time the Masons began using the former Opera House for their Masonic Temple. The Kroger Grocery and Bakery Company began leasing the south unit of the building in 1935, and continued until 1939. Sometime after that Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cox moved their Clarified Bakery into the south unit. The Cox's sold the Bakery to Lon M. Galloway in June 1946, and bought it back in August 1947. In July 1957 Helen Doherty, Alfred J. Doherty Jr.'s wife, sold the building. The second story was sold to the Clare Masonic Building Association, and the first floor was sold to Gay's 5 & 10 store and Kenneth and Gertrude Cox. Gay's 5 & 10 store had been leasing the building prior to their ownership. Gay's 5 & 10 Store purchased the second story of the building from the Masons in October of 1979. Part of the agreement was to lease the second story of the building to the Masons for ten years. The Cox interest in the building was sold in August 1983. The name of the business was changed to D & C Stores in the 1980s and continued in business until the 1990's. James and Evelyn Gay and Richard Gay sold the building to Equity Investment Corporation in June 1992. Equity Investment Corp sold the building to Isabella Bank and Trust, the building's present owner, in December 1992. In the early 2000s the Stone Soup gift shop leased the building. In 2007 the Corporate Title business, which is owned by Isabella Bank, was using the building, until it moved to Mount Pleasant in 2008. The office was vacant for a number of months before the Raymond James Financial Services began using the building in 2009.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1950, 1978, 1989, 1990. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 18 April, 1890. 5 July 1895. 28 January, 1910. 15, April, 1910. 7 May, 1913.

9 January, 1914. 17 May, 1935. 31 May, 1935. 19 August, 1938. 7 June, 1946. 2 August, 1946. 8 August, 1947. 14 July, 1960. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 525      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Her Place  
Common Name: Her Place

### DATE

Date Built: 1985      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 525 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Store  
Style: One part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick/Vinyl  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a one-story, one part commercial block building. The inset double steel framed glass doors to this building are located in the center of the façade. Plate glass windows on either side of the doors angle out to the face of the façade. An additional window is located on the north and south sides of the façade. The inset is deep enough that the size of the windows on the façade and in the inset are the same. The parapet on the façade contains a hipped roof asphalt shingled awning. The north side of the building contains one steel framed glass door and one adjoining steel framed fixed sash window. The remainder of the north side is all brick with a vinyl parapet.

The building has not seen any change to its appearance since its original construction.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the southwest corner of the West Fifth Street and North McEwan Street intersection, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commercial/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1985 by Willard Koch to house Her Place women's clothing store. Willard Koch continues to own the building, and his son Tom Koch and his wife operate the business.

#### SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 31 July, 1985. Clare, Michigan



## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 532    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Clare County Savings Bank  
Common Name: Isabella Bank

### DATE

Date Built: 1887    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 532 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Bank/Commercial Office Building  
Style: Two-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Stone  
Walls: Brick/Stucco/Cement Block  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building was Fred Hollister of Saginaw, and the builder was A. A. Shaver.

This is a two-story, two part commercial block building with some Italianate influences. The entryway to the building is located on the northwest corner of the building. The steel framed glass doors are angled to face northwest and are under an overhang which is supported by a column on the building's northwest corner. The street level of the building's façade has four double hung windows with brickwork in between and rock faced cement blocks below. Above the windows is an entablature. The architrave is formed with stucco and has segmented arches above the windows and doorway. The frieze has the bank name located within it, with a dentil cornice above. The second story has three sets of two double hung windows with header bricks forming segmented arches above. A string course of rock faced stone is located at the base of the windows and at the tops of the windows. At the top of the building is an Italianate style bracketed cornice with a faux metal roof. The north side of the building features double hung windows on the first and second story. All the windows on the north side have rock faced stone sills and header bricks which form segmented arches. The first floor windows on the north side have transom windows above.

The only area that has changed since its original construction is the first story of the façade. The structure originally had a balustrade at the top of the building's north and west sides. The original entryway was located in the center of the building's façade. This entryway served both the north and south unit of the building and led to a stairway to the second floor. To the south of the entryway was a large plate glass window. To the north of the entryway was a large circular window with turned spindles and polychrome header bricks and raised stone work framing the window. After the 1920s when the bank relocated to 431 North McEwan this window was removed and replaced with a plate glass window which matched the window on the south unit. The present façade was constructed in 1993 after Isabella Bank and Trust purchased the building.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the southeast corner of the East Fifth Street and North McEwan Street intersection, and faces to the west. There are no other buildings located on the property. The clock located on the building's northwest corner was added in 1995. The lights located on the second story which light the entablature were added in 1993. The Clare County Savings Bank safe, which was installed in 1915, is located in the northwest corner of the building's interior.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Commerce/Banking, Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1887 by Alfred J. Doherty. The building was designed to house the Clare County Savings Bank in the north unit of the building's first floor, offices to the east side of the bank on the first floor, the Doherty Hardware business in the south unit of the first floor, and offices on the second floor. When Doherty built the Opera House building immediately to the south, access to the Opera House on the building's second floor was gained through the stairway in this building. The unit on the east side of the bank was used as a tailor shop in 1893 and 1894. By 1899 the unit was used as an office. Also in 1893 and 1894 the rear of the hardware store was used for a tin shop. The tin shop was relocated to the second floor above the hardware store before 1899 and continued there until at least 1906. Alfred Doherty sold his interest in the hardware business in 1903 to Frank and Floyd Doherty. Floyd sold his interest to Frank in 1904. In 1907 the bank expanded its office space to include the whole north half of the building's first floor. Prior to 1909 Arthur Lacey's law office was located in this building. In 1909 a law partnership was created between Arthur Lacey and Joseph Bowler. Mr. Bowler would use Arthur Lacey's office and Mr. Lacey would represent the business in the Detroit area. By 1910 the Doherty hardware store was replaced by a harness shop, and in 1914 was replaced by the Roy Joslin Lunchroom. In the winter of 1916, Mr. Joslin operated a seasonal bowling alley in his lunch room. In 1917 the Lunchroom was sold to Ralph Stevens. After the bank moved out in the early 1920s, J. E. Doherty opened his plumbing and undertaking business in the north unit of the first floor, and purchased the building the following year. Ora Dawson moved his cigar factory to the second floor above J. E. Doherty in January 1923. Two months later a fire caused some damage to the building. The Vogue Dress Shop began occupying the west end of the plumbing store in 1927. The undertaking business was moved to the east end of the building and the plumbing supplies moved to the basement. Sometime before the late 1920s J. E. Doherty was co-owner of the building with Alfred J. Doherty I. After Alfred Doherty's death J. E. Doherty became the sole owner in the early 1930s. He eventually sold to Fred Doherty. By the 1950s Clarified Bakery was leasing the first floor south unit. In the late 1950s the building went into foreclosure, and was eventually purchased by Alfred J Doherty III in 1960. Sometime in the 1980's, D & C Variety store was using the first floor south unit, and Lenny's Hair Design was in the north unit. The second story has been vacant since the late 1980s. The building was sold the Isabella Bank and Trust in March 1993 and they occupy the entire first floor.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Building Inspector's Office. Building Permit. 23 July, 1993. 6 January, 1995. City of Clare, Michigan.  
Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Democrat. 1 April, 1887.

Clare Sentinel. 16 July, 1903. 2 June, 1904. 2 July, 1904. 31 May, 1907. 25 June 1909.

13 November, 1914. 19 February, 1915. 28 January, 1916. 21 March, 1916. 8 March, 1917.

31 March, 1921. 7 October, 1921. 5 January, 1923. 16 March, 1923. 11 April, 1927. 17 May, 1935.

Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 603      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Dunwoodie Building  
Common Name: Maxwell Flowers/Dr. Alan Scott Office

### DATE

Date Built: 1907      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Commercial Office Building  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation:  
Walls: Brick, Wood/Weatherboard  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building was E. B. Gorr, and the builders were Barris and Linsea.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building. The building is divided into three units, and all three front on McEwan Street. The south and middle units are joined and the façade of this section is sided with vertical tongue and groove wood siding, and also includes aluminum framed glass doors and windows. Above the doors and windows is a canvas awning. The area above the awning along with the upper part of the building's south side is covered with vertical tongue and groove siding. The street level section of the building's south side is covered with brick. The north unit is sided with brick above the aluminum framed glass windows and door. Cut stone on the north unit, which was constructed in 1954, forms a base for the windows in the north unit. The whole building is capped with a dentil cornice. The base of the building's south side has segmented arched header blocks for basement windows that have been bricked over.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the northwest corner of the West Fifth Street and North McEwan Street intersection, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commercial/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.



File Name: 603 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

This building was constructed in 1907 by James Dunwoodie as a multi-unit retail building. The center unit was originally leased to J. Gardner for a music store, and the north unit was leased to Mr. Thurston for his picture framing, undertaking, and cabinet business. By 1910 the center unit was used for a clothing store. By 1916 the Princess Theater was operating out of the center unit. In April 1909 Frank Ballinger began to lease the south unit for his grocery store business. In August of the same year, William Ryan purchased the grocery business of Frank Ballinger. The south unit was vacant in 1910, prior to 1916 Simon Bogardus was leasing the unit. The Consolidated Light and Power Co., run by F. B. Doherty, moved into either the south or center unit in April 1912. F. E. Doherty had a vulcanizing business in the basement of this building that he relocated to another building in July 1913. The building was sold to William Caple after the death of Mr. Dunwoodie in 1916. From 1916 to 1922 William Caple began selling the three units.

The south unit was the first to sell. This unit was sold to Norris J. Brown, five days after Caple purchased the building. Norris Brown deeded the property to his son, Wells Brown, in September 1920. He sold this unit to Murl Houghton in June 1937. Murl Houghton used the unit for his Clare Drug Company business. Prior to this, the unit housed the A & P Tea Co. store. In September 1945 Mr. Houghton began leasing the unit to Miss Louise Loeffler for her Louise's Flower and Gift Shop. Prior to her leasing the unit it was used by James Hoskins owner of Jim's Recreation. William and Dorothy Maxwell purchased this unit in October 1971, but were leasing the unit as early as 1958 for their Maxwell Flower's business, which is operating to the present. They sold to Ronald & Barbara Kunse in April 1992. The present owner, Carolyn Murphy, purchased this unit in January 1997.

The center unit was sold in April 1922 to John Asline. John Asline continued the Princess Theater business here until he opened his newly constructed Ideal Theater immediately to the north in 1930. Mr. Asline owned the unit until August 1936, when he sold it to Roy Cimmerer, who opened a tavern. Wild Bill's Pub was using the unit in 1974. Roy's wife Minerva sold the unit to William & Carol Carlton in April 1978. The Carlton's sold to William & Dorothy Maxwell in June 1978, but they were using the building as early as 1975 and also for a time in the 1950's. Maxwell Flowers has been operating out of the south and center units ever since. They sold to Ronald & Barbara Kunse in April 1992. The present owner, Carolyn Murphy, purchased this unit in January 1997.

The north unit was sold to William Reardon in August 1919. Prior to this in April 1919 the Thurston Undertaking business was moving out to a larger location and Charles Gould of Gould Undertaking Co. began leasing this unit. William Reardon sold the unit to Levi Cimmerer in July 1921. In November 1921 Gould Undertaking Co. changed its name to Friz Undertaking Co. Andrew Friz of Friz Undertaking purchased the unit in March 1926. At the same time he also purchased the stock and undertaking business of Charles Gould. Andrew Friz began leasing the unit to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ramey owners of the Ramey 5¢ to \$5.00 Store in December 1941. Andrew Friz owned the unit until August 1945 when he sold it to Carl Schmitt. In November 1949, Ernie Bryant and Neilan Cradit's The Sports Shop began operating out of this unit. The unit began to be leased to the Moyer's Store in December 1951. In April 1954 Carl Schmitt sold the unit to Dr. John White, who used it for his optometry practice. Dr. White owned the unit until April 1971 when he sold it to its present owner Dr. Alan Scott.

The basement of the building under the Maxwell Flowers shop contained the Clare Public Library from November 1950 until 1961. The Yarn Mart began to lease the former library space in November 1962, and then was leased by Bob Chapman for his copying business in October 1966.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare Courier. 14 June, 1907.

Clare High School Year Book. 1950, 1951, 1958, 1974, 1985. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 7 May, 1907. 26 July, 1907. 1 November, 1907. 16 April, 1909. 27 August, 1909.

19 April, 1912. 18 July, 1913. 20 January, 1916. 17, April, 1919. 28 April, 1921.

14 November, 1921. 26 March, 1937. 12 December 1941. 31 August, 1945. 28 September, 1945.

11 November, 1949. 10 November, 1950. 14 December, 1951. 16 July, 1954. 31 August, 1961.

15 November. 1962. 20 October. 1966. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 604    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Doherty Hotel  
Common Name: Doherty Hotel

### DATE

Date Built: 1922 - 1924    Source of Date: Clare Sentinel



File Name: 604 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Hotel/Library  
Style: Two-part Vertical Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick/Stucco  
Roof: Flat

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building was Clarence Cowles of Saginaw. The construction of the building was begun by the William J. Morris Company of Midland, but when they could not finish the building on time they were replaced by the O.W. Jenkins Company, who completed the remainder of the construction.

This a four-story, two-part vertical block building. The entryway to the building is just to the south of the center of the building's façade. The entryway is through a steel framed glass vestibule which extends out of the façade toward the west. The street level of the façade and the building's south side contain brick pilasters with plain masonry capitals. Between the pilasters are vinyl windows with stucco siding below. The windows are covered with canvas awnings and a vinyl awning covers the sidewalk from the entryway to the street. A masonry belt cornice caps the first floor of the façade. Above the entryway on the second story is a masonry balconet. The second story to fourth story contains vertical sections of aluminum framed windows. A brickwork belt course is located between the third and fourth story and above the fourth story. A large masonry cornice caps the building.

The building has seen considerable change since its original construction. The areas between the first floor pilasters had large plate glass windows, with transom windows above. By the 1940s the transom windows were covered and by the 1960s the present window openings were changed. The second story windows originally had arched tops and were separate from the third and fourth story windows which were also separate. These were changed in 1965 to their present vertical metal appearance. The middle bank of windows on the building's south side shows the window openings as they originally appeared.

Additions have also been made to the building. The first was a sixteen by twenty-four foot addition on the building's east end and was started at the end of 1924. In 1947 a thirty-five by thirty foot addition to the building's banquet room, known as the Wedgewood Room, was constructed on the building's east end. In 1960 an unattached hotel annex building was constructed to the northeast of the original hotel. In 1990 this building

was joined with the original hotel by means of an indoor pool and 33 additional rooms. An additional 60 rooms were added in 2001 on the west side of the existing pool and on the east side of the hotel additions.

## OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the northeast corner of the East Fifth Street and North McEwan Street intersection, and faces to the west. There are no other buildings located on the property. The large lighted sign that sits on the roof of the building was erected in 1948. The building has a variety of other attached signs which are of unknown dates. The large marquee sign on McEwan Street was installed in 1960.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Education/Libraries, Entertainment/Recreation/Automobile Tourism

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was significant to the automobile tourism business in Michigan from 1924 to the early 1960's. It was a major stopping point for tourism traffic traveling from the south and southeast portion of the state to northern Michigan. It is located at the intersection of two major historic highways in Michigan's history, US-10 and US-27 (currently US-127).

This building was constructed between 1922 and 1924 by A. J. Doherty for the purpose of providing Clare with a high class hotel that would replace the Calkins Hotel which burned in 1920. Mr. Doherty served as the hotel's president from 1924 to 1928. The hotel became incorporated in 1925. His son Alfred Doherty II became president in 1928 and served in that capacity until 1956. Under his ownership the lunch room which was located in the southwest corner of the building was converted to a cocktail lounge in 1942. The banquet room was enlarged and renamed the Wedgewood Room in 1947. The present neon sign located on the top of the building was installed in 1948. The cocktail lounge was remodeled in 1950 and renamed the Emerald Room. The City Library, which had been located in the northwest corner of the building since the hotels opening, was asked to find a new location in 1950. The space was remodeled and became the Early American Room, the hotel's main dining room in 1951. Willard Bicknell served as president from 1956 to 1969. During his leadership the hotel was expanded to include an unattached annex located to the northeast of the main hotel, along with an outdoor pool. A. J. Doherty III was president from 1969 to 2006. In 1990 he constructed an addition which joined the annex to the rest of the hotel, and added an indoor pool. His sons, Richard and James, are the present co-presidents and have been in their positions since 2006. Their addition of 60 rooms on the east and west ends of the building complete the present look of the hotel.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 30 December, 1921. 13 January, 1922. 11 April, 1924. 26 September, 1924.

30 January, 1942. 20 June 1947. 2 April, 1948. 24 March, 1950. 25 August, 1950.

16 February, 1951. 15 October, 1959. 16 June, 1960. July, 1960. 8 July, 1965. Clare, Michigan

Doherty, Alfred J. III. Doherty Hotel, Past President. Personal Interview. 30 September, 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 609      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Ideal Theater  
Common Name: Ideal Theater



File Name: 609 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### DATE

Date Built: 1930      Source of Date: Clare Sentinel

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Motion Picture Theater  
Style: Enframed Window Wall

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick/Stone/Steel  
Roof: Flat/Wood Shingle

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect of this building was R. V. Gay of St. Johns. The builder was Roeske Wobig of Saginaw.

This is a two-story, Enframed Window Wall building. The building is divided into two units. The north unit makes up about one-eighth of the building, and is located in the northeast corner. The other unit is the remainder of the building, which is used by the theater. The theater entrance is centered on the building's south half. It includes three inset aluminum framed glass doors with a side light to the north. The area surrounding the doors is sided with steel and framed displays for movie posters. Above the doors is a bulb and neon lighted marquee. The north unit inset door is located on the south side of the unit. An angled plate glass window extends from the door and meets another plate glass window on the façade. The street level of the north unit façade is sided with rubble stonework, and has had that appearance since at least 1961. A wood shingled shed roof awning overhangs the north unit's street level façade. The second story of the north and south units consist of sections of recessed windows framed with brickwork. The window sections contain three window openings, each with brickwork between the windows. Above the windows is decorative dentil brickwork in two courses which are graduated out to meet the brickwork of the parapet. On the cap of the south unit is a three-step pyramid of shallow masonry blocks.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 600 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property. The marquee on this building was added in 1937.



## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture, Entertainment/Recreation/Entertainment

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1930 by John Asline. Mr. Asline already owned the Princess Theater in the center unit of the building immediately to the south, but was looking for a larger building to house his movie theater business. Continuing the theater business, James Olson began leasing the building in November 1933. John Asline owned the building until December 1938 when he sold it to James Olson. In 1961 Russ' Record Shop was leasing the north unit, and was located here until the mid 1960s. In July 1969 Arthur Damoth moved his real estate agency into the north unit. The theater was closed for approximately one year prior to October 1968. At that time three men, mayor and service station owner Willard Koch, Carl Stephenson owner of Stephenson Funeral Home, and E. C. Shurlow osteopathic physician and operator of Clare Nursing Home, purchased and reopened the Ideal Theater. Stephenson and Shurlow eventually sold their interest in the theater. Willard Koch retains ownership of the theater to the present, and the operations are directed by his son Tom Koch.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare High School Year Book. 1961. Clare, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 21 March, 1930. 30 May, 1930. 30 July, 1937. 30 July, 1930. 1 October, 1964. 23 October, 1968. Clare, Michigan.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 611      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: R. J. Whitney House  
Common Name: Former Leprechaun Shop

### DATE

Date Built: 1873      Source of Date: Tax Assessment



File Name: 611 N McEwan.jpg

Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: House/Office Building/Store  
Style: Front-gabled House

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Stone, Poured Concrete  
Walls: Vinyl, Wood/Weatherboard  
Roof: Asphalt, Wood/Shingle

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a two-story, front gabled structure. The building has an entryway located in the center of the façade which is accessed by a set of three steps. The bottom two steps are semi-circular while the top step is straight. Two sets of windows are located on the north and south sides of the door. The north window is flush with the façade. The south window is a three-section bay window with pilasters between each section that extends from the ground to the tops of the window and has three leaf clover motifs. A hipped roof awning is located above the windows and door and extends across the entire facade. The moderately pitched front gable is centered on the façade and extends across the center two-thirds of the building. The north and south sides of the gabled ends contain double-hung windows on the second story. A large one-story addition is located on the west side of the building.

This building has seen a considerable amount of change over its history but its basic character has been retained. The predominate feature of the building is its center gable and that has been retained since its original construction. The original structure was the gabled section. A smaller one-story section was located on the west end of the house. It is unknown if this was original, but it is shown in the 1884 birds-eye view. In 1905 a stone foundation was placed under the house. Other than the removal and addition of a porch on the façade, the building did not change until 1953. At that time the porch was removed and larger windows installed on the façade. The present appearance of the building was due to a major renovation of the building in 1995. That is when the street level of the façade was constructed, and the one story addition on the west end was expanded.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 600 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. There are no other buildings located on the property.

## THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commerce/Retail

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city. This is the first house that A. J. Doherty owned after he moved to Clare from Belfast, New York.

This building was constructed in 1873 by R. J. Whitney. It was built to be used as a house, but it is unclear if this was Whitney's primary residence. The property was sold to George Bellnap in June 1873. Mr. Bellnap sold the building to Peter Callam in November 1878. A. J. and Alice Doherty purchased the building in May 1879. The Dohertys lived in the house until May 1883, when they began renting to William Goodman. A. J. and Alice Doherty owned the house until August 1883 when they sold it to Elizabeth Phinisey. Mrs. Phinisey died in approximately 1888 and left the house to her daughter Ova Phinisey. Ova married Floyd Kane in 1904 and they sold the house to Thomas Holbrook in May 1905. Isaac Hampton purchased the house in March 1916 and sold it to William Caple in January 1917. Up until this point the building was used as a residence. When William Caple purchased the building he used it for his insurance and real estate business. In September 1921 Mr. Caple sold his business to the Clare Insurance and Realty Company, which purchased the building in December of the same year. The building was next purchased by Mabel Lockwood in June 1928. Dr. Burton Sanford purchased the building in April 1931 and along with Dr. F. C. Sanford moved his medical practice here in February 1934. In December 1952 W. James Olson purchased the building and the next month began leasing it to Arthur Damoth for his real estate and insurance business. The Damoth Agency was purchased in 1958 by Bernard Wyman of the Mount Pleasant Agency in January 1958, and the name was eventually changed to the United Agency in 1960. Arthur Damoth purchased the building in November 1963 along with Donald Holbrook and Anne Irene Olson. James Sykora purchased the building in March 1971. The Central Michigan Travel Agency owned by Joe Cascarelli began leasing the building in August 1973 and eventually purchased it in November 1985. Julia Cascarelli bought the building in December 1986 and she sold it to Edward Kosciuszko in December 1988. The building was foreclosed on in February 1989. The present owner Steven and Kristi Gollish purchased the building in January 1990. The Leprechaun Shop gift shop which was owned by the Gollishes, operated out of the building in the 1990's and early 2000's. After the Leprechaun Shop closed, the building was leased to Gates Computer and Gaming which operated for a short time in the mid 2000's.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 28 October, 1904. 26 May, 1905. 27 May, 1883. 18 January, 1917. 30 September 1921. 2 January, 1953. 16 January 1958. 7 July, 1960. 22 August, 1973. Clare, Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1893, 1894, 1910, 1923, 1928-1934). Proquest L.L.C. 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 613      Direction: North      Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare      Township: Grant      County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011      Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: White House Restaurant  
Common Name: White House Restaurant

### DATE

Date Built: 1935      Source of Date: Tax Assessment



File Name: 613 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: Diner  
Style: One-part Commercial Block

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Wood/Weatherboard  
Roof: Metal/Steel

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect for this building is unknown. The builders were the Kern Brothers.

This is a one-story, one-part commercial block building with a gabled end. The entryway to the building is located through a doorway on the north corner of the façade. To the south of the door is a plate glass window with a hood roof above and flower box below. The north side of the building has a set of three double hung windows with wood shutters. The building is covered by wood board and batten siding.

Other than the two additions to the west end of the building the structure has changed little since its original construction. The first eight by ten foot addition which is immediately to the west of the main section was constructed in 1937. A small addition for restrooms was added after 1937 at an unknown date.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 600 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. It shares a lot with house located to the northwest.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Commercial/Retail

### HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed in 1935 on property owned by Thomas Holbrook. The diner was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schultz. From 1935 to the present this building and the adjacent house to the northwest have been sold together as a unit. Holbrook owned the property until September 1939 when he sold it to Curtis

and Dolores Hearnese. The property was deeded to Dolores Hearnese in June 1952. Dolores Hearnese eventually remarried and became Dolores Kuhlman. Benjamin & Joan Harrell purchased the property from Dolores Kuhlman in November 1991. They sold to William and Monica Baranski in September 1995. The present owner, Denise Jenks, purchased the property from the Baranskis in October 2003.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 17 September, 1937. Clare, Michigan.

Jenks, Denise. White House Restaurant, Owner. Personal Interview. 19 August, 2009.

## Downtown Clare Historic District Survey Form

### ADDRESS

Number: 617    Direction: North    Street: McEwan  
City/Village: Clare    Township: Grant    County: Clare

### SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: May 2011    Surveyor: Kenneth Lingaur

### NAME

Historic Name: Whitney House  
Common Name: Jenks House

### DATE

Date Built: circa 1873    Source of Date: Tax Assessment

### PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Property Type: House  
Style: American Four Square



File Name: 617 N McEwan.jpg  
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

### MATERIALS

Foundation: Concrete Block  
Walls: Asbestos  
Roof: Asphalt

### DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The architect and builder of this building are unknown.

This is a two-story, wood framed building. The entryway is through a door on the north side of the building's façade. Two double hung windows are located on the south half of the façade's first floor. A brick porch with a hip roof extends across the building's façade. Two double hung windows are located on the structure's second-story façade, and correspond with the door and southern most window below. All the windows are accompanied with shutters. The house is covered with a hipped roof. The south end of the house has a single story wing.

This building was first located on the east end of the lot close to McEwan Street. It is unknown what the original appearance was like, but it is known that it had a two-story section on the east end followed by a one and a half story section to the west and a one-story section to the west of that. Thomas Holbrook did an extensive remodel on the building in late 1912, and was finished by mid 1913. This remodeling included moving the building to the west to allow for a yard and lawn between the house and McEwan Street. The one-story section was reduced considerably, and the one and a half story section was remodeled to appear as part of the full second story. Thomas Holbrook moved the building to its present location in 1938.

### OTHER BUILDINGS/FEATURES

This building is located in a commercial area of the city. It is located on the west side of the 600 block of North McEwan Street, and faces to the east. It shares a lot with building located to the southeast, and is located on the west end of the lot.

### THEMES/SUB THEMES

Architecture

## HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE

This property is significant to Clare's architectural and/or historical record, and represents an important element in the physical and/or cultural development of the city.

This building was constructed by William Whitney in 1873. In September 1873 the building was sold to Elijah Wheaton and the next month to Tobias Horning. Mr. Horning sold the building to Richard Balmer and Amoretta Chatterton in March 1889. Richard Balmer sold his interest in the property to Amoretta Chatterton in October 1889. Minnie Chatterton purchased an interest in the property in November 1900. Minnie and Amoretta Chatterton sold the building to Thomas Holbrook in December 1911. Mr. Holbrook used the building as a rental property, but at some time prior to 1938 this was Holbrook's primary residence. 1938 was the year Mr. Holbrook sold the north thirty-three feet of his property to the Standard Oil Service station to the north. At the same time he moved his house, which was located in the center of the north half of the lot, to the west end of the south half of the lot. From 1935 to the present this house and the White House Restaurant to the southeast have been sold together as a unit. Holbrook owned the property until September 1939 when he sold it to Curtis and Dolores Hearn. The property was deeded to Dolores Hearn in June 1952. Dolores Hearn eventually remarried and became Dolores Kuhlman. Benjamin & Joan Harrell purchased the property from Dolores Kuhlman in November 1991. They sold to William and Monica Baranski in September 1995. The present owner, Denise Jenks, purchased the property from the Baranskis in October 2003.

## SOURCES UTILIZED

Clare County Register of Deeds. Harrison, Michigan.

Clare Sentinel. 4 March 1938. Clare, Michigan.

Clare County Treasurer's Office. Clare County Tax Assessment Books. Harrison Michigan.

Sanborn Company. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. Pelham, New York. (1910, 1923, 1928-1934).

Proquest L.L.C. 2009.



## Streetscape Photos



North 100 Block of West Fourth Street  
Looking northwest  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



North 100 Block of West Fifth Street  
Looking northwest  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



South 100 Block of West Fifth Street  
Looking southwest  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



West 300 Block of North McEwan Street  
Looking southwest  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



East 400 Block of North McEwan Street  
Looking southeast  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



West 400 Block of North McEwan Street  
Looking southwest  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



East 500 Block of North McEwan Street  
Looking northeast  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



West 500 Block of North McEwan Street  
Looking southwest  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



East 600 Block of North McEwan Street  
Looking southwest  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur

## **Downtown Clare Streetscape Project**

The Downtown Clare Streetscape Project is an ongoing project to improve and unify the appearance and function of the downtown area through the construction of brick and concrete sidewalks, lampposts, tree planting, park benches, and bicycle racks.

The project was started in 1989, and continues to the present with its extension to the northeast corner of the West Fourth Street and Beech Street intersection. It also included the Fifth Street and Fourth Street parking lot developments.



Typical Lamp Post  
Downtown Clare Michigan  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



Typical Bench  
Downtown Clare Michigan  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



Typical Bicycle Rack  
Downtown Clare Michigan  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



View Showing Sidewalk Brick Pattern  
Downtown Clare Michigan  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



Typical Trash Can  
Downtown Clare Michigan  
Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur



Monument dedicated to Dr. Kuno Hammerberg  
 Located at 622 North McEwan Street  
 Courtesy of Kenneth Lingaur

The monument shown above was placed at the site of the office of Dr. Kuno Hammerberg. The monument is located on the sidewalk at 622 North McEwan Street, which is located at the north end of the Doherty Hotel property.

Dr. Kuno Hammerberg was a much loved family practitioner, who practiced medicine in the Clare area for close to fifty years. Kuno Hammerberg was born on July 10, 1901 in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. He came to Clare in 1934 after graduating from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago. He started his Clare practice in the building shown on the right.

This wood framed building was constructed prior to 1893. It was originally a dwelling. By 1899 it housed the Clare Sentinel newspaper business. In 1910 it was used for a millinery business, and by 1923 it was a store. When Dr. Hammerberg moved in the building was used for a plumbing store.

Dr. Hammerberg practiced medicine in this building until the 1970s. The building was torn down in 1978.



Dr. Kuno Hammerberg Office, circa 1970  
 622 North McEwan Street  
 Courtesy of Mary Ann Shurlow