

Wabasha WALKS

An Historic Tour

Commercial Historic District

Distance: 1/2 mile

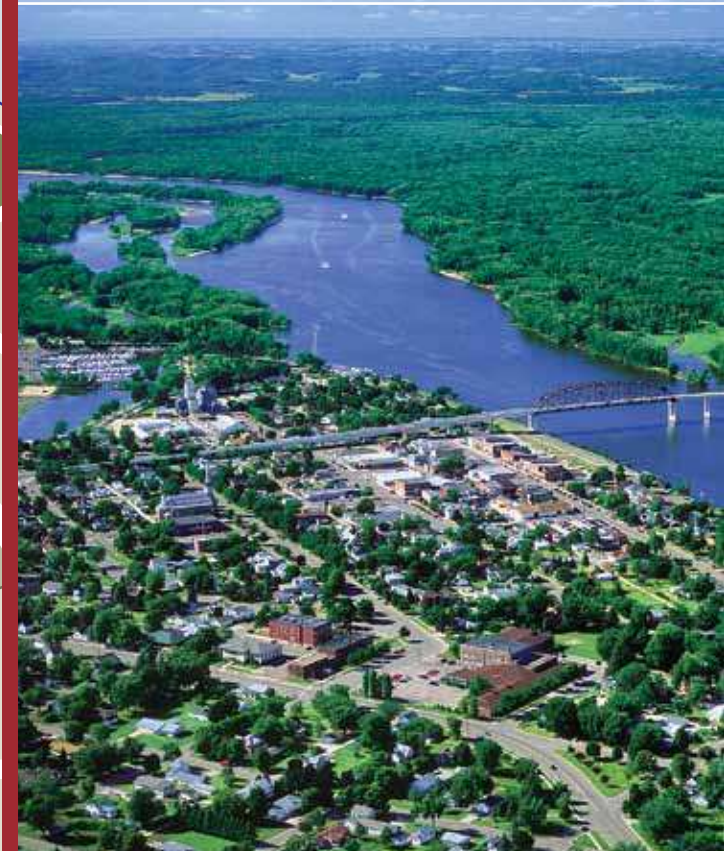
Highlights: Wabasha was platted in 1854 and incorporated as a city in 1858. Between 1850 and 1880 Wabasha experienced great growth. In the early 1860's Main Street was primarily wood frame buildings. By 1868 brick buildings, made from local materials, began to replace the earlier frame buildings. Many of these buildings still stand today.

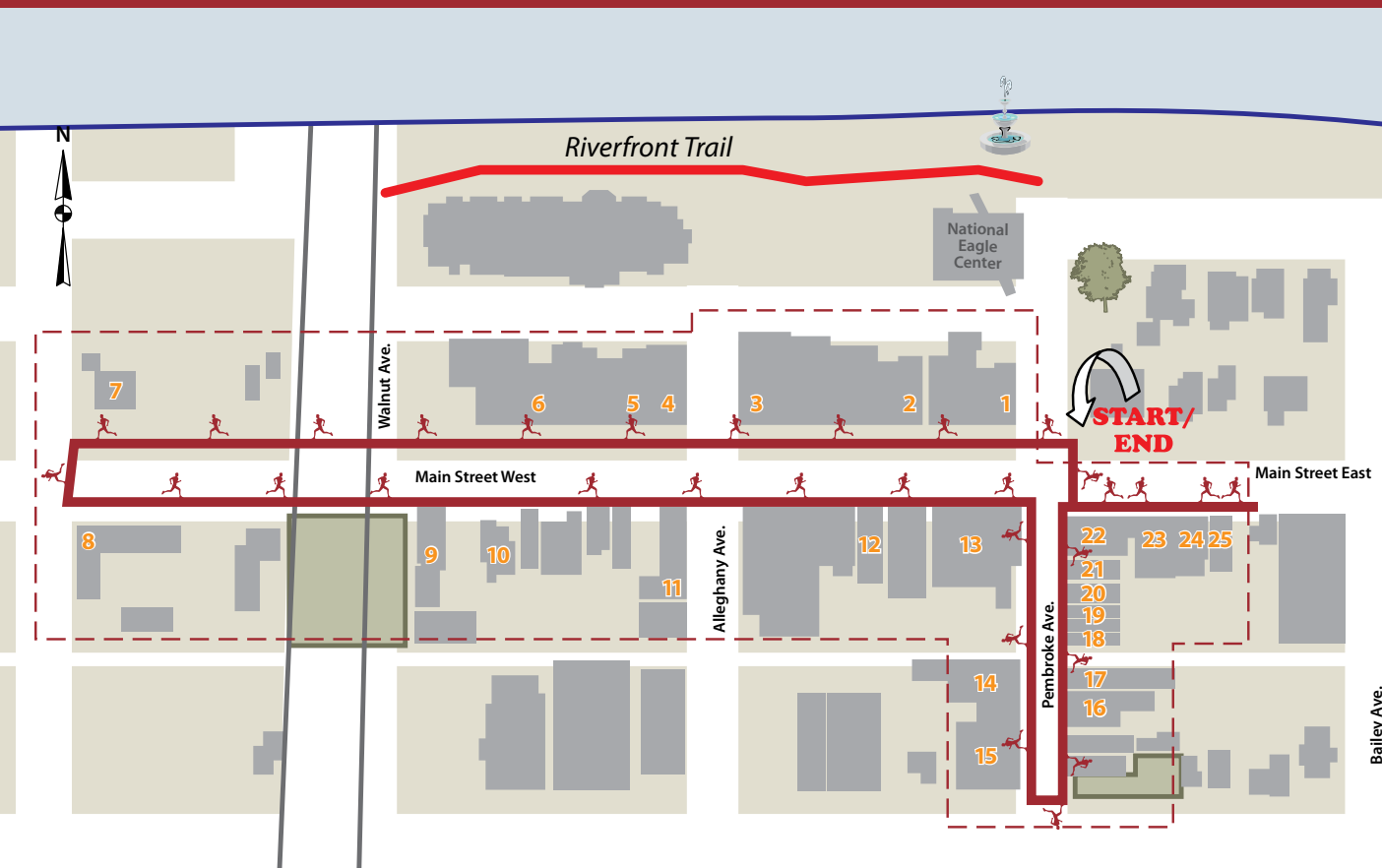


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





Additional funds for this project have been provided by the Ruth Gale and George W. Doffing Charitable Fund.

Information provided by the Wabasha Heritage Preservation Commission with assistance from the Wabasha Public Library and:





Legend

-  Main Street West Route
-  City Parks
-  Buildings
-  Mississippi River
-  River Bridge & Approach
-  Bouquet Fountain
-  Downtown Historic District



H.H. Jewell Building from the Wabasha Herald Annual for 1889



Main Street c. 1883

Start at the corner of Pembroke Avenue and Main Street (Ekstrand Law Office) and walk west along Main Street toward the Bridge

- 1. 100 West Main - People's Bank 1886**
Built as a bank, this building has most recently housed law offices. Note the elaborate wooden cornice with finials and date block. Originally, the corner had a statue of blind justice.
- 2. 128 West Main - I.O.O.F./First National Bank 1821**
The second floor of this building originally housed the *International Order of Odd Fellows and Woodsman Hall*. The first floor was a bank and the original alarm and vault are still present today.
- 3. 180 West Main - Kuehn Block 1868-1874**
Constructed for the dry goods business owned and operated by Lucus Kuehn, the building retains its original second floor arched windows, stone sills, keystones and named date block.

- 10. 251 West Main - F. H. Hurd House 1899**
Originally clad in stone patterned iron siding, this building underwent extensive rehabilitation in 2008 when the pointed turret roof was rebuilt.
- 11. 207 West Main - H.H. Jewell building 1880**
Built as a hardware store, the second story also held the ladies library association. Owners of the hardware business included prominent citizen Julius Schmidt. Later uses included a bowling alley and pharmacy. It was rehabilitated in 1984.
- 12. 143 West Main - Joseph Meyer building 1871**
The east half of the building housed a shoe shop with a workshop in the rear. The west half was the city council room and recorder's office in 1884. This building was Dean's Clothing Store into the late 1900's.
- 13. 111 West Main - Herschy Block 1874**
Location of S. Herschy & Son general store which opened in 1883 along with the upper floors which

and sills at second story level. There is relief brick course between the first and second stories and the storefront has three arched bays (tops with altered infill) with brick surrounds, stone keystones and ornamentation. Iron columns flank the center entry. The south storefront has been altered.

20 through 22 105-119 Pembroke Avenue - Odink Block 1875

This row of buildings was constructed by Joseph Odink between 1875 and 1888. They were used by his son Michael (M.A.) in the operation of his general store. M.A. Odink established his business in 1878 as a partnership first as Legge & Odink and then Toussaint & Odink. By age 31, M.A. was sole proprietor, as a druggist, bookseller, stationer and dealer in paints and oils. At that time, the shop was located two doors south of Main Street. The distinct arch brick relief cornice (at the very top) stretches across all of the buildings.

20. 113-119 Pembroke Avenue - Odink Block 1888

Cross Alleghany Avenue

4. 200 West Main - Masonic Block 1880

The strong patterned brick relief cornice with stepped center crest, name and date block gives this building a strong presence in its prominent corner lot. Previous uses include a furniture store, telephone company and newspaper office. It was originally constructed by the Masons for their use. The building was altered in the 1920's when the second story windows were filled in. The storefront was rehabilitated in 2009.

5. 212 West Main - Moses Smith Block 1884

This three story red brick building soars above its neighbors with the elaborately bracketed cornice and center pediment name and date block quite visible from much of Main Street.

6. 236 West Main - Johnson & Jillison 1888

This two story brick veneer painted building has a detailed metal cornice, door and window hood molds.

Walk across Walnut Avenue and proceed past the bridge

7. 336 West Main - Ida Anderson House 1913

Home of Grandma Anderson whose cooking brought fame to the Anderson House Hotel across the street.

Walk across Main Street and head back toward Pembroke Avenue

8. 333 West Main - Hurd/Anderson House Hotel 1886

Built in 1886, an addition in 1887 added the third floor and wood veranda with detailed wood spindles. This porch was later enclosed. The signature corner tower with onion dome was destroyed by lightning in 1912, rebuilt in the 1980's and reconstructed again in 2008. Known for its excellent restaurant and resident cats, the hotel closed in 2009 after over 150 years of continuous operation.

9. 257 West Main - City Hall/Fire Station 1894

Now used for retail, the complex includes one story brick buildings in the back that contained the water works and storage. In the rear of the main building, a large garage door provided access for the fire truck. A third floor corner bell tower was removed in 1940. Extensive rehabilitation work was done in the 1980's.

housed a public hall with a seating capacity of 500. Known as Herschy Opera House, this upper floor was destroyed by a storm in the 1940's.

14. 148-156 Pembroke Avenue - Burkhart Building 1888

Originally a two story brick building, this was greatly altered after a fire. This was the location of the Pem theater.

15. 164-176 Pembroke Avenue - Whitmore and Tenney Block - 1888

Constructed by two entrepreneurs, Dr. J.L. Whitmore and Mr. Jacob Tenney, for a pharmacy and meat market respectively. Long known as Louie's Meat Market, the site continued to house a grocery store well into the 20th century. The 2nd Street storefront façade has been altered with the removal of a large corner window on the first floor.

Cross Pembroke Avenue and walk back to Main Street

16. 161 Pembroke Avenue - H. Toben Building 1894

Currently (2010) The Book Cliffs, this building also housed Nick Marx's Bar and Art's Bar. Iron columns flank a center entry at the ground floor. The storefront was renovated in the 1990's.

17. 155 Pembroke Avenue - V. Shebat Building 1875 & People's Bank 1892

Currently (2010) the American Legion Post 50, Valentine Shebat opened a store in 1870 which was operated by his son until 1953. Unique trefoil style panels in brick relief are above the three windows of the second story of the Shebat building.

18. 131 Pembroke Avenue - J. B. Finchey Building 1884

This building was built to house a grocery store which had already been in operation in a small wooden building on the site since 1877. Its remembered by locals as the location of McDonald's Butcher Shop and Passe Electric.

19. 125 Pembroke Avenue - William Krull Building 1887

In its early years, it was a harness and leather goods store, in the 1920's an "auto laundry", and currently (2010) Roger Wise Barber Shop. It is a two story red brick building with patterned brick relief cornice, round arch windows (tops with altered infill), stone keystones

The south half of the building is remembered by locals as Saunders Café. The north half has exposed iron columns which are likely original to the structure.

21. 107 Pembroke Avenue - Odink Block 1878

This storefront features arched door and window openings supported by iron columns; the original storefront is essentially intact. The second story arched windows continue along the block of Odink buildings.

22. 105 Pembroke Avenue - Odink Block 1875

This building has served many uses including the M.A. Odink store and currently (2010) Jewson Realty. Of particular note is the second story which features an elliptical arch window flanked by round arch windows. Major facade rehabilitation occurred in 1998.

Turn right on Main Street

23 through 24. 118 -120 East Main Street

In the 1990's the façade of this row of buildings was reconstructed into three individual sections. It is now used as apartments.

23. 118 East Main Street - A.D. Southworth 1879

Built by A.D. Southworth, a businessman involved in banking, real estate, and insurance, it is unknown if this building was used in his business operation or as investment property.

24. 120 East Main Street - F.H. Milligan 1879

This building along with its neighbor to the southeast was constructed by one of the first doctors in town, F.H. Milligan. An 1884 history of the community places his office and consulting rooms on the corner of Main and Pembroke. His home on the west side became the first hospital and is now the site of St. Elizabeth's Medical Center.

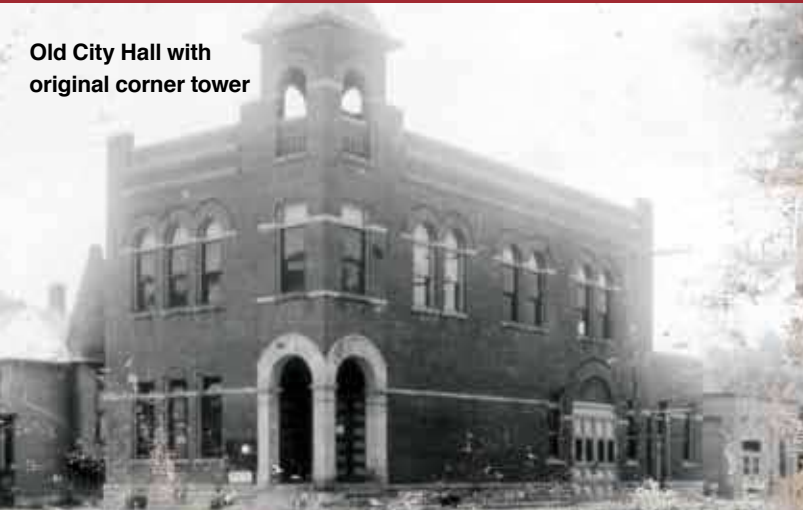
25. 136 East Main Street - F.H. Milligan 1879

Currently (2010) houses the Jarstad Law Office. The façade was completely reconstructed in 2010 when historic window opening was re-established and a handicap ramp was added.

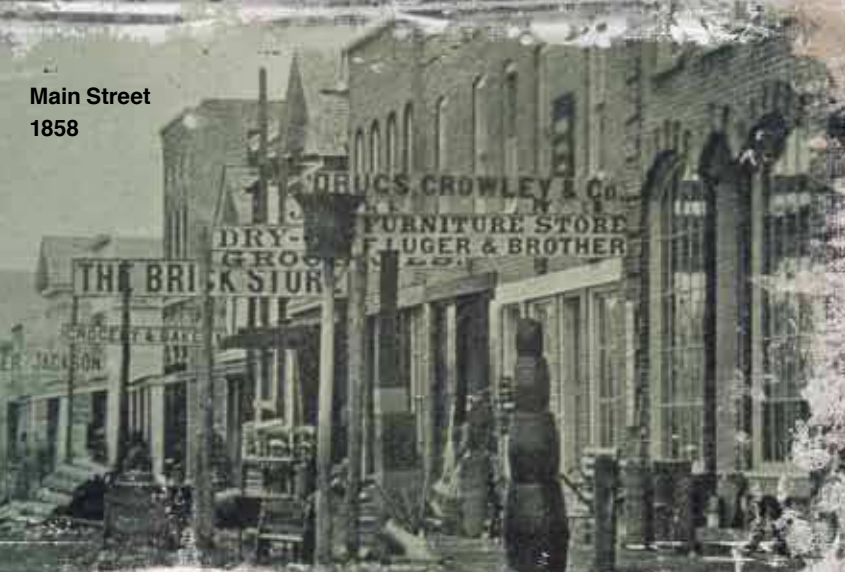
End at Main Street and Pembroke Avenue

Please stay on the public sidewalk, trail, or street, and respect the private homes and the people who live there. Please do not trespass.

Old City Hall with original corner tower



Main Street 1858



Main Street 1986, prior to restorations



M.A. Odink in front of his store *Photo courtesy of Jewson Realty*

Pembroke Avenue c. 1940's

