

**ANKENY: THE FIRST
ONE HUNDRED YEARS**

"ANKENY: THE FIRST ONE HUNDRED YEARS"
was prepared at the direction of the Ankeny Centennial
Commission.

Thanks and congratulations to Marjorie Mehls and to
each one who assisted in preparing this book.

**MAYOR OF ANKENY AND COUNCILMEN
HONORARY MEMBERS**

DR. OLLIE J. WEIGEL, Mayor of Ankeny

EDWARD AUGUSTINE
JAMES BRADSHAW
LARRY CAIRNS
JACK LEINEN
EDGAR SHEPHERD

CENTENNIAL COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

JOSEPH FLATT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

JEAN M. JONES

HISTORIAN

MARJORIE MEHLS

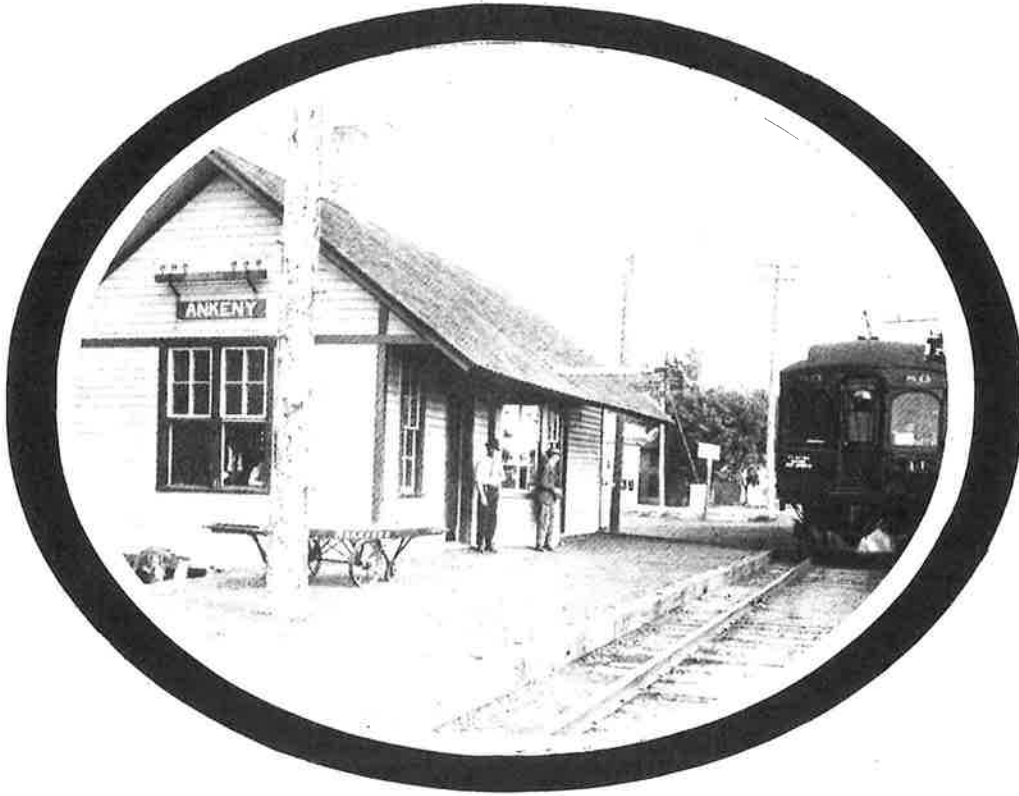
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

EVERETT ALBAUGH
SHARY ALBAUGH
GERALD BALLARD
WAYNE BEGG
RENO BERTOGLI
REV. ERIC BIEDERMANN
NEIL COLWELL
TOM DART
PAT DOVEL
CHARLES FEIGHT
BEVERLY FONTANA
RONALD FONTANA
MARY LOU HERMANN
RICHARD HERMANN

DR. GLENN HIGGINS
DAVID HOOVER
ELDON LEONARD
RICHARD LOGLI
PAUL LOWERY
JAMES MAGGERT
FORREST McCLURE
RICHARD MILLER
EARL OLMSTED
BETTY ROREBECK
DONALD STEFFENSEN
ROGER SPAHR
WAYNE SPAHR

2nd Printing

**Sponsored by
Ankeny Historical Society
May 1993**



Your History Book Committee has endeavored to compile a record of facts - happenings - pictures - and stories covering the past one hundred years in Ankeny. We hope that the things included in this book will be a source of information, satisfaction, and inspiration.

We wish to thank those who have made this book possible by the generous loan of their historical pictures, those who gave time and thought to questions, those who gave many extra hours collecting city happenings and searching the archives for facts and interesting information, and to everyone who has assisted in any way in the preparation of this book.

THE BOOK COMMITTEE

Centennial Historian: Marjorie Mehls
Illustrator: Paul Price
Photographic Editors: Ron Sampson
Everett Albaugh
Committee: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Donaghy
Bernice Schrieber
Elizabeth Craig
Beverly Fontana
Steven Mehls
Enos Logli

PROLOGUE

FORWARD

The history of Ankeny is more than a simple chronicle of events. The history of the town is a history of the people who lived there and who still live there, and how these people interacted with their environment. The history of the town can be divided into three parts or time periods. The first of these three divisions is the early years, roughly from 1840 until 1903. During this period the town was founded and the initial pattern of economic growth was established. The second of these periods was the period of the incorporated town, roughly from 1903 until the end of the second World War. The third period is from the end of the war until the present day. It was in this period that the change from small town to suburb took place. This scheme will help to organize the events and make their relationship to each other and the total picture easier for the reader to understand.



❁ || **TABLE OF CONTENTS** || ❁

PROLOGUE

Forward	2
Table of Contents	3
Introduction	4
Letters	5-7
Indians	8
Historical Resume	9-15

PART I 1875 - 1903 IT ALL BEGAN: THE HEARTBEAT OF ANKENY

Picture	17
Founder - J. F. Ankeny	18
Original Plat	19-20
The Beginning	21-27
Railroad	21,22
Three Early Churches	23-26
Postal Department	27
Main Street	28-35
Early Businesses	28-35
Biographies - Figures of the Frontier	36-44

PART II 1903 - 1975 CITY OF PROGRESS UNLIMITED: TOWN TO SUBURBIA TO CITY

Ankeny Progresses	46,47
Civic Services	48-55
Council	48,49
Fire Department	51-53
Police Department	53
Library	54,55
Education Moves Forward	56-63
Public Schools	56,57
Sports	58,59
Faith Baptist Bible College	60,61
Des Moines Area XI Community College	61,62
Area Educational Agency	63
Medicine	64,65
Doctors	64
Dentists and Veterinarians	64,65
Lawyers	65
Financial Institutions	68-70
Communication	71,72
The Press	71
Telephone	72
Businesses 1903 - 1965	73-80
Power and Light	80
Industries	81-90
Later Churches	91-94
Organizations	95-109
Entertainment	110-114
Catastrophes	115-117

PART III THESE THINGS AND THOSE THINGS: A PEEK INTO THE PAST

INTRODUCTION

The history of Ankeny is a history of not only a small town in Iowa but moreover a history of the way that community grew and interacted with the world around it. The world of most importance to the development of Ankeny is that of the state of Iowa. Iowa was originally the property of the Spanish kings during the golden age of exploration. Spain's title to the interior of the North American continent was quickly challenged by France as her fur traders and Catholic missionaries explored the lands around the Great Lakes. The French did not come to what would become Iowa to settle, but rather to trade furs with the native population. The French retained the title to the land until 1763 and the end of the French and Indian War. At this point actual title was fuzzy. Not until the emperor Napoleon came to power did the politics of Europe have much effect on the future state of Iowa. The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 secured title to the land for the United States. The first record of Americans in Iowa was the year before, when Lewis and Clark lead their famous expedition up the Missouri River. Many other explorers and fur traders would pass through Iowa before the farmer would come to stay and build his home. It was not until the Black Hawk Wars were ended that the farmer came, this was in 1832.

Iowa was, until the 1840's, a land occupied by squatters. These extralegal settlers were in Polk county early and formed organizations to protect their claims when government sales of land were made. These groups were known as the Iowa Claims Clubs. It is quite likely that the land that is present day Ankeny was originally the property of a squatter. Unfortunately, the records on the land are not available until after the land was purchased from the government. It is within this context of individualism and group cooperation that Polk County has its roots. The concept of individualism (specifically toward the ends of self gain) becomes pivotal in the history of Ankeny.





LETTERS



ROBERT D. RAY
GOVERNOR

Office of the Governor
STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

April, 1975

TO THE CITIZENS OF ANKENY:

It has been wisely said that a society ignorant of its own past is doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past. It is equally true that knowledge of the heritage which has been transmitted to us from the past provides us with strength and inspiration to meet the challenges of our own time, just as our forebears came to grips with the different -- but no less formidable -- problems by which they were confronted.

Therefore, all efforts to increase our understanding of the past -- and to put the past to work for the improvement of the present and future -- deserve encouragement.

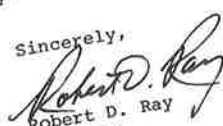
I particularly welcome every effort to bring Iowa's colorful, vigorous history alive for the Iowans of today and for those who visit us from elsewhere. It is a dramatic story which is forever revealing new dimensions and providing fresh illumination of present-day Iowa living.

As we enter a new decade and the final generation of a waning century, we increasingly prize the partnership of land and people which has made Iowa such a good place in which to live. By the same token, we know that continued change will be necessary in the future to preserve the fundamentals of the way of life we prize.

You in Ankeny can take great pride in the efforts which have gone into the rebuilding of your town. In spite of the tremendous problems you have faced, you have built upon the old and you have rebuilt what was lost, and you are looking to the future by celebrating your 100th anniversary this year.

Through deeper understanding of the past, we all shall be better able to take stock of where we are as Iowans and to chart a rewarding course for the ten years -- the thirty years -- that stretch ahead.

Sincerely,


Robert D. Ray
Governor

RDR:EP



NEAL SMITH
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
FOURTH DISTRICT, IOWA
WASHINGTON OFFICE
2373 RAYBURN OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
DISTRICT OFFICE
844 INSURANCE EXCHANGE BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309
PHONE: 254-4634
PAUL MCCONNELL
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION
AND WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEDERAL JUDICIARY
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
F.I.C.I.
U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
U.S. ARMS CONTROL AGENCY
N.L.R.B.
N.R. RETIREMENT BOARD
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH
SOCIAL SECURITY
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
MISCELLANEOUS RELATED AGENCIES
CHAIRMAN
SMALL BUSINESS SUBCOMMITTEE
ON ENERGY AND GRAIN
MARKETING PROBLEMS

Dear Citizens of Ankeny:

Thank you for the message concerning the Ankeny Centennial Celebration. Celebrations such as this provide us with the opportunity to reflect again upon the past - and out of this reflection to perceive more clearly the worthy goals for the future.

A hundred years ago, the site of the town of Ankeny was eighty acres of land owned by John Fletcher Ankeny. Mr. Ankeny with his family settled this land after having lived a full life practicing medicine in Kentucky and Ohio, promoting the growth of business and railroads in Hawaii and Iowa, assisting Abraham Lincoln's 1860 presidential campaign, serving as the first clerk of the California Legislature and as an elected member of the Illinois Legislature and the Des Moines City Council.

From its initial population of one family, it has grown to a population of over 9,000 persons. A town's history and thus its growth, however, is not measured simply by increases in the total number of its citizens but by the richness of their individual and collective lives. In commemorating Ankeny's centennial, then, I join with you in celebrating the fullness of life of its past citizens and pledge to you my continuing efforts to sustain and improve the quality of life of its present and future generations.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

Neal Smith
Neal Smith
Member of Congress



City of Ankeny

408 THIRD STREET
ANKENY, IOWA 50021

PHONE: (515) 964-4988
MAYOR OLLIE J. WEIGEL

From
the
Office
of
the
Mayor

Dear Friends,

It seems most appropriate, that a City, which has just undergone the worst disaster of its one hundred years of existence, should now reflect on the years of prosperity and success, that made it grow into a wonderful place to live.

We look back at the early years of the railroad and its importance in the formation of a new community that blended rural and urban people, and at the settling of the coal miners and the businesses and services that were necessary to their livelihood.

A little later, in the first century of Ankeny's progress, came the Ordnance Plant, and the beginning of three decades of rapid change. This produced the setting for great industrial and residential growth.

Our City has long had the benefit of youthful, aggressive leadership, in our churches, schools, city government, social & fraternal organizations, and in our homes. This has made ours a unique City, which is delightful to live in. Now it is time for a Centennial Celebration, in which we can reflect on these things, celebrate our good fortune, and share our existence with friends and neighbors.

We shall profit in many ways from the years we have completed and apply the lessons learned in the past to the years of opportunity that lies ahead.

Sincerely yours,

Ollie J. Weigel
Ollie J. Weigel, Mayor
City of Ankeny

ANKENY ... IOWA'S MOST PROGRESSIVE CITY

INDIANS

At the time of the Louisiana Purchase, several Indian tribes lived along the Iowa's rivers: the Sac and Fox along the Mississippi; the Ioway along the Des Moines; the Otoe, Omaha, and Pottawattamie along the Missouri; and the mighty Sioux in the Northwest.

Until the white man came, the Indian life was communal. His wickiups stood on common ground in a pattern determined by its owner's rank in the tribal organization. The tribes' hunting grounds were used in common. Within these limits the men fished and hunted as they chose. If another tribe intruded within their domain they were driven out. In turn, the tribe boldly raided its neighbors' preserves.

To the Indian mind that vast untouched prairie spreading to the horizon was his. In his thinking there was no other way of life except that of his tribal ancestors. Within his tribal boundaries marked by a river, a ridge, a grove of trees, he lived, hunted, and fought. To go beyond these boundaries meant war and bloodshed.

Each tribe was self-sufficient.

In the summer the women planted corn; long before the white man, Indian women were building terraces along the rivers to keep the rich lowlands from overflowing. The men were the hunters and the women prepared the game they brought in and tended the corn and beans in the field. They gathered the berries and herbs to be used as medicine. Nothing was wasted. Wild game was the Indian's storehouse of food, his saving account against want. To the Indian the destruction of the wild game by the white man was as horrible as the bombing of cities to modern man.

As the white settlers destroyed the game and broke up the Indian's hunting ground with the plow, the Indian tribe watched, helpless to prevent this incomprehensible destruction of their way of life. Black Hawk undertook to challenge this invader but lost. Other chiefs, wiser and less devoted to their way of life, realized the white men were far too many and too powerful to resist and urged conciliation though it meant their moving further west.

The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 set in motion the events that brought white settlers flooding into the Mississippi Valley. In 1804, Governor Harrison of Indiana was authorized by President Jefferson to purchase land from the Sac and Fox Indians for white settlement.

Most of the land lay in Illinois, Wisconsin and Missouri. This meant removal of the Sac and Fox into the Iowa Territory. Few Indians understood the economic cause underlying their difficulties. They only knew they were being driven from the homes of their

fathers, their hunting grounds, and the corn fields which they had planted.

This then became the land of the Sac and Fox who were peaceful tribes. They were pushed west from their homes along the Rock River in Illinois by the westward movement of early settlers. Two other smaller and also peaceful tribes were here when they arrived, the Ioway and the Pottawattamie. There were adequate hunting, fishing, and agricultural grounds for all the tribes and no wars occurred. However, this was not true of the Sioux tribe who lived north of these tribes. They were warlike.

Keokuk, Chief of the Sacs, was considered to be one of the most intelligent chiefs of all tribes in America. He spoke before the U.S. House of Representatives; and although his speech had to be interpreted, many representatives placed his oratory on a par with Webster, Calhoun, and Clay.

His last village in Iowa was located four miles south of Fort Des Moines. In 1845 he led his tribe from Iowa to the Kansas Reservation. He died about three years after leaving Iowa.

Poweshiek, Chief of the Fox, last lived in a village on the Skunk River northeast of Des Moines. Unlike Keokuk, he was tall, heavily built, rough featured, and arrogant.

When he led his tribe from this area he went south and located temporarily near the Missouri border on the Grand River. His village had about forty lodges. The Missourians and Indians had some difficulty but Poweshiek led his tribe west to the Missouri River before bloodshed occurred.

Many Indian Mounds existed along the Des Moines River and its tributaries. Findings in these mounds indicate there were much earlier people in this area than the Indians. Col. Babbitt in his explorations in Boone County found remains of cooking utensils which the Indians were not accustomed to using and other unmistakable evidence of a prehistoric civilization.

By 1842, the Sac and the Fox had sold all their interests in Iowa, receiving the right to occupy that part lying west of the "painted red rocks," a line located through the red rocks on the Des Moines River in Marion County.

The Indians called the Des Moines River the Moingona. When the French later established themselves on the Mississippi River, they adopted the name of Moingona. The French were accustomed to shortening long names and spelling them phonetically. So the river came to be termed "la Riviere des Moines".



HISTORICAL RESUME

Iowa was the first free state carved from the Louisiana Purchase. The early history of the State of Iowa and Polk County is much the same as that of other territories in the Midwestern portion of the United States. A state and county of dignity is not built by roisterers, but families of discipline, ability, and character. The majority of Iowa's pioneers can be placed in this category. From its earliest days, Iowa enjoyed a stability which was reflected in its community life and schools. It continues to be reflected in its children's children, who as men and women, play an important role in Iowa today.

The territory of Iowa and Polk County have experienced various changes of ownership and jurisdiction.

If you had come across the Atlantic with Columbus and traveled to Polk County and lived there since, you would have lived under three different national governments and under six different political sub-divisions.

Taking your nationality from the governments under which you lived, you would have been . . .

twice a Spaniard
twice a Frenchman
once an American

and as an American, you would have been . . .

an Indianian
a Louisianian
a Missourian
a Michigander
a Wisconsinite
an Iowan

In short, you would have lived under nine flags during a period of 4 hundred eighty-three years. Let's briefly review this history.

In 1492, you were a Spaniard because Christopher Columbus was financed by the Spanish government. Under the principle of the Right of Discovery, whatever Columbus found was claimed by Spain.

LaSalle, a French explorer, discovered the mouth of the Mississippi River in 1682 and took possession for his king, Louis XIV, of all that touched the mighty river and "extended westward to the sea." The colors

of France were raised. LaSalle named the vast territory "Louisiana" in honor of his king. Spain protested but France retained possession. At the close of the Seven Years War in 1763, France ceded the Louisiana Territory to Spain. The Territory had been costing France about \$60,000 a year without any income to offset this expense. Possibly France thought that the Louisiana Territory could never be worth what it was costing them.

By 1800 Napoleon was emperor of France and enjoying great power. He regretted the fact that 37 years previously France had given the territory to Spain. On October 1, 1800, by the Treaty of Ildefonso, Spain returned the Louisiana Territory to France.

By a treaty made April 30, 1803, commonly called the Louisiana Purchase, all the above territory was purchased by the United States. Thomas Jefferson, as third president of the new republic, carried out the negotiations and paid \$15,000,000 for the vast Louisiana Territory. Some Americans protested, however, Jefferson calmly defended his actions and accurately predicted "The time will come when every American will know that this act has been replete with blessings for unborn generations". By an Act of Congress on October 1, 1804, what is now Iowa, was placed under the jurisdiction of the territorial government of Indiana, and named "District of Louisiana". In 1805 the "District of Louisiana" was reorganized under the name of "Territory of Louisiana".

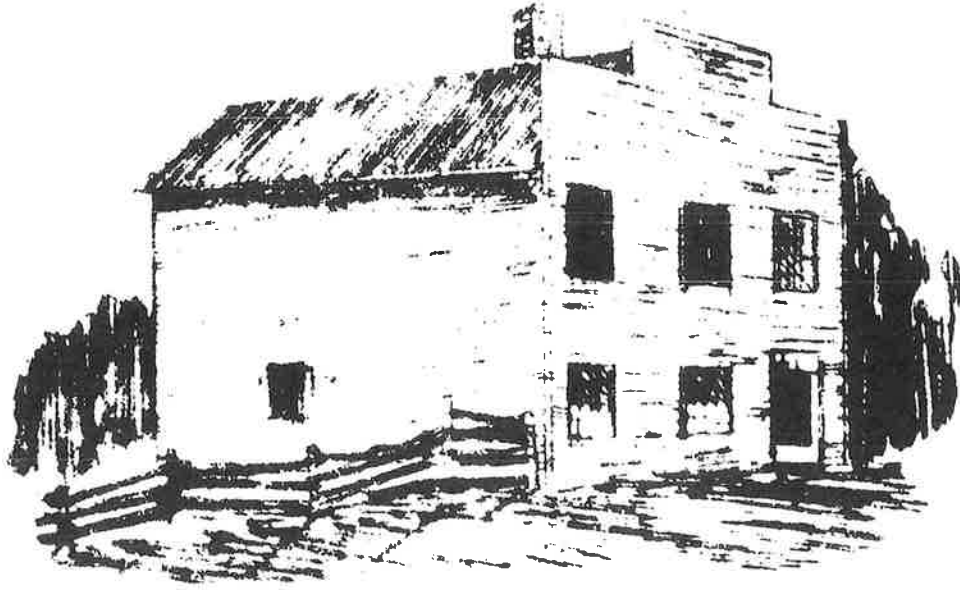
In 1812 Congress again reorganized it under the name "Territory of Missouri". Through an act of Congress on June 28, 1834, it underwent another change; what is now Iowa was made a part of the "Territory of Michigan." Another reorganization on July 3, 1836, placed it under the jurisdiction of the "Territory of Wisconsin".

In 1838 the Territory of Iowa was formed and in March, 1845, provision was made by Congress for admission of Iowa as a state. Various boundaries were proposed by Congress and the people. Finally, lines were agreed upon and on December 26, 1846, Iowa was admitted as the twenty-ninth state of the United States and the Sixteenth admitted under the federal constitution.

in part, taken from Highlights
of Polk County History, 1973.



IOWA'S TERRITORIAL CAPITOL
1836 - 1837
Belmont, Wisconsin



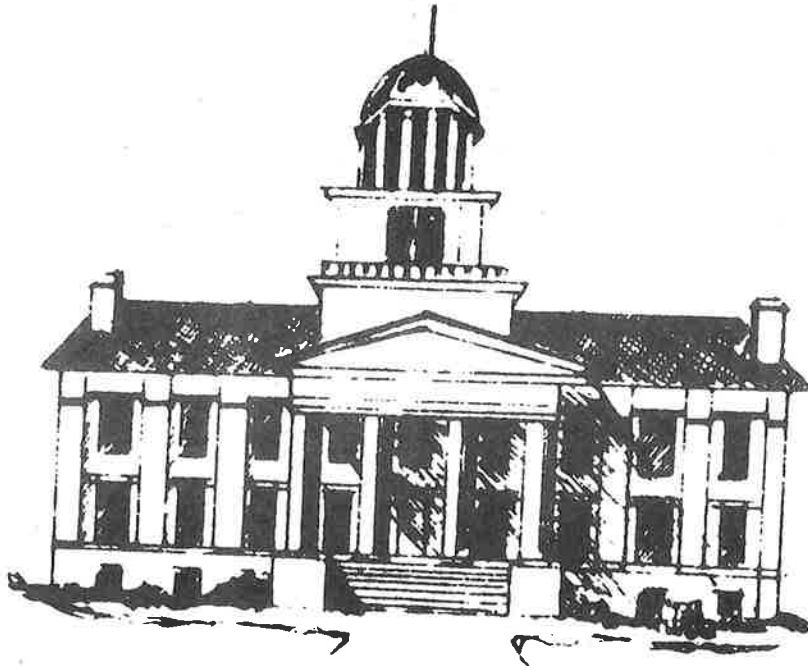
IOWA'S TERRITORIAL CAPITOL
1837 - 1841
Old Zion, Burlington, Iowa



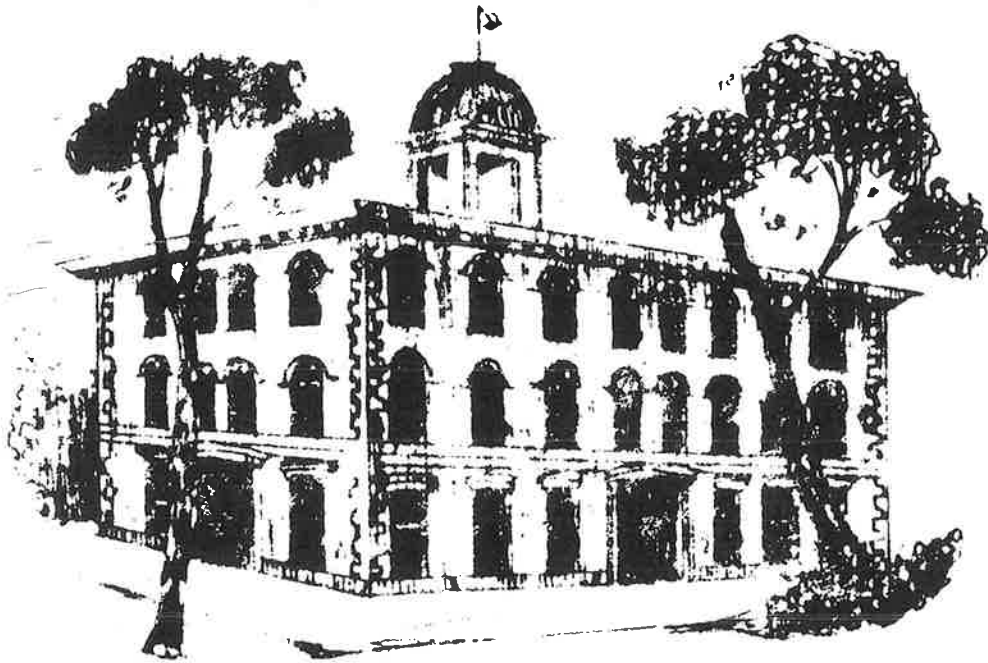
IOWA'S TERRITORIAL CAPITOL
1841 - 1842
Iowa City, Iowa

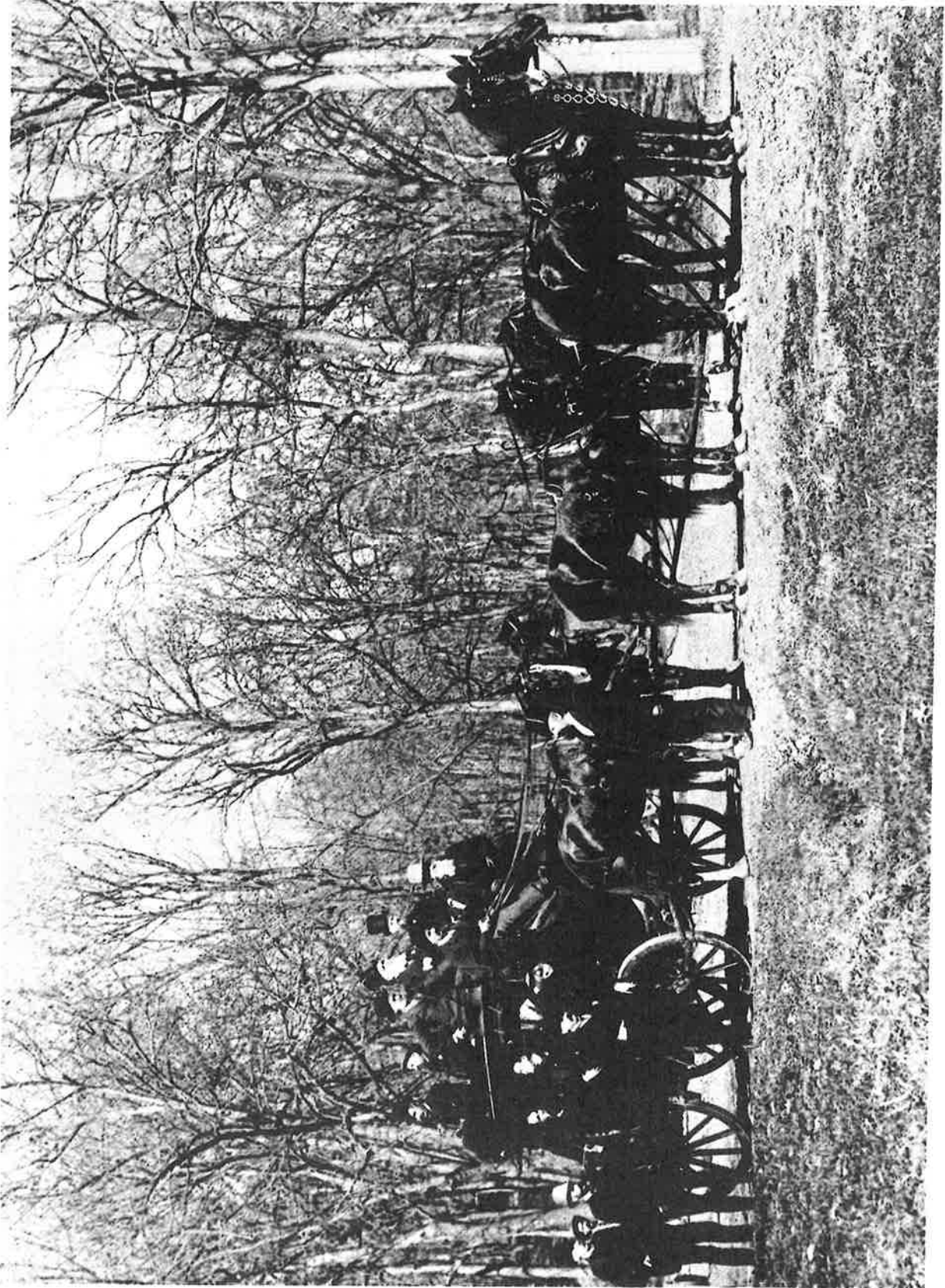


IOWA'S TERRITORIAL AND STATE CAPITOL
1842 - 1857
Iowa City, Iowa



FIRST CAPITOL IN DES MOINES
1857 - 1886
Built on the site of the
present Soldiers and Sailors Monument





This Western Stage Coach with Colonel Hooker at the reins made regular stops at the "Dietz Corner."

POLK COUNTY

Polk County was organized by an Act of the Legislature of the Territory of Iowa approved on January 17, 1846. The county was named for President James K. Polk.

District Judge Joseph Williams appointed Perry L. Crossman, the first District Court clerk. It was the clerk's responsibility to call a special election for officers of the newly formed county. The first court house was built in 1848.

The first census of the United States in which the State of Iowa has a place is that of 1850. The population of Polk County was placed at that time as being 4,513.

Nature was extremely kind to Polk County, coal under the ground, fine timber and prairie land, fertile soil, adequate rainfall, climate suitable for both grain and livestock, abundant water underground for wells, and clay for firing bricks.

As some of the pioneers stated, "We have come a long way, found what we were looking for; this is the end of the line and here we will live."



THE FORMING OF CROCKER TOWNSHIP

The first white settlers were in the area of what would become Ankeny for more than twenty years before the township of Crocker was legally organized.

From 1867 till 1870, the territory now comprising Crocker Township was divided between Saylor and Madison townships. The citizens of Saylor and Madison filed a petition with the County Board of Supervisors requesting a new township be formed from portions of these townships and be called Crocker.

The township was named in honor of General Marcellus M. Crocker, a well known citizen of Polk County and a distinguished general in the Civil War.

The township was formally organized January 9, 1871, at which time the first election was held. The newly elected trustees held their first meeting in the Dietz school house. One item of business was to divide the township into nine school districts and establish the location of a school in each. They also established nine road districts and these were to be maintained by taxation.

The population of Crocker Township was composed of persons engaged in farming and stock raising. They were a thrifty and enterprising people. Historians at this period predicted that the township would sustain a very dense population. At the present time (1975) only ten of the thirty-six sections remain entirely rural.

The first governing trustees were Franklin Nagle, Edward Parmenter, and D. C. Marts.

FRANKLIN NAGLE

Mr. Nagle was born in Belmont County, Ohio September 17, 1804. He came to Iowa locating in Van Buren County in 1842. He traveled on to this area in 1846 and in 1880 was still living on the same farm. He was the justice of peace and married many young couples in the community. On October 31, 1826 he was married to Rebecca Jackson of Washington County, Pennsylvania. Their daughter Adeline married Thomas Saylor, Josephine married Joseph Tiara, Elizabeth married Henry Harvey, Lucina married Hayden Gregg, and Lenora married John M. Cree. Some of these names are familiar to the development of Ankeny.

D.C. MARTS

Mr. Marts is another of the original trustees of Crocker Township. He was a hard shell Baptist and began preaching in cabins in the Saylor settlement. He was an earnest Christian man more noted for the force of his preaching than the elegance of his diction. He was truly a frontiersman, dressed in Kentucky jeans, Bible in hand, his red hair standing pompadour all over his head, he would commence service singing at the top of his voice. He was likely to close his meeting with the declaration "Religion is a mighty good thing - as good as a Fourth-of-July dinner".

He had a turning lathe in Polk City and made chairs with bark seats. He finally drifted into the tavern business, serving meals of corn bread and bacon for 25 cents; but if he served wheat bread and "chicken fixins," it was 50 cents.

EDWARDE. PARMENTER

The Parmenter family has been traced back to William Parmenter born about 1456 at Little Yeldham, County Essex, England.

We are interested in his descendant Edward, who was one of the original trustees of Crocker Township.

Edward was born in Hillsboro, New Hampshire June 2, 1832, the great grandson of John Parmenter who came to this country in the early 1600's. He was a blacksmith by trade and came to Des Moines in 1856 where he practiced the trade. In 1862, he purchased two hundred acres in Crocker Township. He married Anna Porter of Guthrie County the same year. His life ended July 31, 1877 with his death at his farm.

Mr. Parmenter had been very kind and good to the Indians. Some Indians, while fishing on the Skunk River, heard of his death and immediately started their march to his home to attend the funeral and pay final respects.

His daughters were Mrs. Ella Marts, Mrs. Flora Harvey, Mrs. Vinnie McLaughlin and Edith Witmer. His sons were Sabert, John, and Walter.

J. M. Marts was the first elected assessor of the township.

THE FIRST COUNTY ROAD

The first county road was projected by the county commissioners in November, 1847. They appointed Conrad Stutzman, John McLane, and Andrew Groclose commissioners to locate and establish this road. The road was to begin at the fork of the Des Moines River near the house of William H. Meacham. The road was to connect the Meacham saw mill on the east side of the river from the Fort, to mills located to the north. This would also give better travel accommodations to other enterprises.

The Meacham's mill had a circular saw propelled by six horses. He manufactured about 1500 feet of lumber per day. From here the commissioners were to find the nearest and best route to the house of John Saylor, (founder of Saylorville), then to the house of Conrad Stutzman who had a saw mill on Big Creek which was 15 miles up the Des Moines River from Des Moines. His mill had the capacity of 2500 feet of lumber per day. It was located about one mile south and one mile west of the town of Crocker.

From there they were to go to the house of George Beebe, founder of Polk City. Then to the house of from there to the house of Andrew Groclose which was about one and one-half miles north of Polk City. Mr. Groclose had a grist mill with a capacity of grinding 150 bushels of wheat per day. From this point the road was to go in a northwesterly direction toward the rapids of the Des Moines River in Boone County until it reached the county line between Polk and Boone Counties.

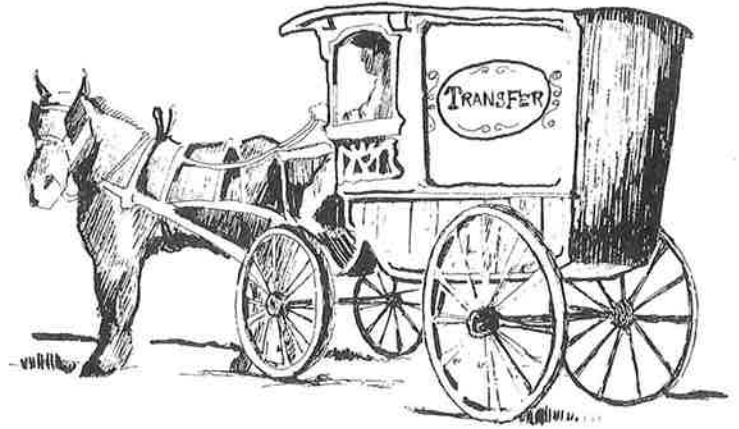
John McLane was to act as surveyor to locate the road.

The commissioners laid out the road in compliance with the law in force. This road ran past the Dietz corner and until the recent change near Polk City, followed very nearly the present Des Moines to Polk City road.



DIETZ'S HOUSE

Stop on Stage Coach run from Des Moines to Boone



OUR STAGE COACH ERA

The railroad was crucial to the development of Ankeny; however, it was not the first public transportation in the area.

In 1854, the Western State Company from the east bought out the first stage company in Des Moines. They established their offices at Fort Des Moines and operated the line in this area from Des Moines to Boone. One stop on the line was the "Dietz Corner" located southwest of Ankeny.

The arrival of the stagecoach at a station was always exciting, both to the passengers and local residents. Sounding a horn to announce their arrival, the driver would halt his four-in-hand. When the stage departed again he would crack his whip with authority.

Prompt delivery of mail was the main objective of every stage trip. Earlier mail delivery was done by horseback. But as the territory was organized, transportation of both mail and passengers were combined in the same trip. Male passengers had to work their way as well as pay for it as late as 1870, five cents a mile and a fence rail. The rails were used to get the stage out if it mired in the Iowa mud. At times when it was impossible for the stage to proceed, the first class mail would be loaded on horseback and rider would take it to its destination. Newspapers were left behind much to the annoyance of editors and publishers.

The first stages ran semi-weekly, then tri-weekly, then daily as more settlers came into the area.

Stagecoach drivers were usually real gentlemen, who as mail carriers had the right-of-way. Most of them were young, between 21 and 25; a few younger and a few older, but not many over 30 years.

The coming of the railroad brought the stagecoach period to an end. The Western Stage Company was dissolved July 1, 1874 and the once handsome coaches, built at a cost of \$1,000 each, were sold for scrap at \$10 a piece.

The Des Moines-Boone line did a business with one years' receipts totaling \$100,000.

-in part, taken from The Iowa,
April-May Issue, 1961

PART I

1875 - 1903

IT ALL BEGAN

- The Heartbeat of Ankeny



The early settlers living in the area were resourceful, self reliant, and ready to make the most of their environment. When sickness came there were no telephones to call a doctor and no automobiles to bring him quickly. Records show that many infants and children as well as young adults died from diseases such as lung fever, consumption, typhoid, smallpox, and diphtheria.

These men and women, while struggling to make a living, were obliged to institute government, build churches, schools, and roads.

During this period the social activities were centered around church socials, spelling bees, medicine shows, musical shows and literary societies. Some lodges were organized. The men took an active interest in township and county politics..

Since the close of the decade of the eighties many transformations and improvements have taken place. The prairies have become the homes of happy and prosperous families. The churches, schools, and many homes mark the progress the area has made. Frontier life has given away to a bustling suburban area.

We owe much to these early settlers and we hope in the following pages we can portray something of their way of life.

FOUNDER - J. F. ANKENY



John F. Ankeny, the founder of Ankeny, was of French Huguenot ancestry: the name originally being spelled Angene. The German name was Eughien. The member of the family that most concerns us is DeWalt Ankeny, who came to America at the age of 18. He left Rotterdam in October of 1746 on the ship Neptune. He first settled near Clear Springs, Maryland. He then married Mary Hane Dorner, and had two sons, Christian and Peter.

Peter was the grandfather of J. F. Ankeny. He and his wife, one Rosina Bonnet, crossed the Alleghenies on the Forbes Road about 1773 and settled in the back country of Pennsylvania. It is interesting to note in passing, that Peter Ankeny's settlement west of the ridge of the Alleghenies was, in 1773, illegal. In the year 1763 the British Crown issued an order, the Proclamation of 1763, that forbade all white settlement West of the Alleghenies. This law is seen by some historians as one of the primary causes of the Revolution.

Peter Ankeny had ten children, one of whom was Joseph, the father of J. F. Ankeny. The family was migrating West. In 1831, Joseph and his wife Harriett one term in the Ohio Legislature from 1834 to 1836. Joseph was a supporter of the Abolitionists, and in 1860 he was one of the electors for Ohio who cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln. His politics made him unpopular in Southern Ohio, so after the war he moved his family to Iowa. During the war Ankeny was made a general in the Ohio militia. In 1867 the Ankenys moved to Iowa and settled on land for which Joseph had previously entered claim to. This claim was entered in 1854.

It is doubtful that Joseph Ankeny ever intended to stay on the land, for in 1871 he established his home in Des Moines. This home was soon known for its culture and hospitality. Joseph Ankeny had eight children, the eldest of which was John Fletcher Ankeny, the founder of Ankeny.



John Fletcher Ankeny was born in 1824 and married a Sally Wolgamot of Millersburg, Ohio in 1856. This union brought four daughters into the world. John Ankeny was doctor by trade and an adventurer by calling. He was the first clerk of the California Legislature, made a trip to Hawaii, was a member of the Illinois Legislature and a campaign worker for Lincoln in 1860. John moved his family to Des Moines in 1869, and in 1872 he was elected to the Des Moines City Council. In 1882 he founded the town of Ankona Heights in Florida. He died in 1886 in Stark, Florida. His body was returned to Des Moines for burial.

The narrow gauge railroad from Des Moines to Ames was the most important thing to happen in the 1870's in north central Polk County. John Ankeny was a promoter and stockholder of this company. The company was primarily a Hubbell concern.

John F. Ankeny bought the land that would become Ankeny on July 1, 1874 for \$1,600. This was nearly one full year before he platted the town of Ankeny. The land was purchased from Will Lewis who had held title to the land since March 1871. Perhaps Ankeny, being one member of the Hubbell circle, had advance notice as to the routing of the rail line and with this knowledge he was able to secure land along the right-of-way. It is common historical knowledge that railroads built towns and that towns were assured of growth if rail connections were made.

The town of Ankeny came into official existence on April 19, 1875 and the plat of the town was filed three days later. On the following page is the first official plat filed in 1875.

ORIGINAL LOT PURCHASERS

On the original plat of Ankeny's, eleven blocks were divided into 71 lots. This was the area from First Street on the north, the east side of Maple on the west, Fifth Street on the south and the west side of Walnut on the east.

The balance of the 80 acres was divided into five Out Lots of various sizes.

The following shows where and to whom John F. Ankeny and his wife Sarah, (after his death in 1886) transferred title to the 71 lots. Purchases could and probably were made at an earlier date. There may be some discrepancies in the dates, as a courthouse fire destroyed some of the old records.

All the houses on the east side of Cherry and the west side of Walnut between First and Second Streets are on lots purchased by Dr. M. B. Cherrie on January 27, 1895; 101 Maple, 105 Maple, 109 Maple and 614 Second Street are on lots purchased by Dr. M. B. Cherrie on January 23, 1895. C. C. Hand purchased the lot at 106 Cherry on April 26, 1888. The 110 Cherry lot was purchased by Charles Waud October 10, 1894. The 602 and 610 Second Street lots were purchased by James Thomas November 12, 1902.

The lots in block three located on the west side of Maple Street between First and Second Streets were owned by David Little in 1892. From the existing records it is not possible to determine whether or not he purchased the lots from Ankeny.

The Methodist Church purchased two lots from Ankeny on April 30, 1887 and January 17, 1891. Their third lot was purchased from Ankeny by Edwin Beals October 8, 1894. The lots from the church south to Third Street were purchased by Matilda Beals December 3, 1881. This land included the north side of Third Street west from Walnut to the alley. Beals operated the first combination hotel, boarding and rooming house which was at this location.



The lot at the northeast corner of Main Street (now Cherry Street) east to the alley was purchased by B. A. Lamason September 28, 1891. The Ankeny State Bank, 520 Third Street is now located on the site.

The lot just north of the Lamason lot (north of the bank) was purchased by William G. Madden April 7, 1887. The three lots north of Madden's lot, 205 - 205½ and 209 on the east side of Cherry and where the IOOF Hall is now located, were purchased by J. E. Waud on March 15, 1892. The three lots south of Second Street facing the railroad tracks and 202 Cherry Street were bought by Dr. M. B. Cherrie March 15, 1892.

The lot located on the northwest corner of Third and Main Streets (now Cherry Street) was purchased by Hannah Waud September 26, 1887. The Ankeny Press Citizen, 602 - 3rd Street is now located there.

The lot on the southwest corner of Third and Main (Cherry) Streets east on the south side of Third to the alley was purchased by Clairborne Madden November 17, 1881, sold to James T. Sheppard December 12, 1881 then to B. A. Lamason November 21, 1885.

The lot on the southwest corner of Walnut and Third Streets and the west side of Walnut was purchased by J. C. Waud February 20, 1888 and sold to E. W. Harris February 4, 1893. The 314 Walnut and 318 Walnut lots were purchased by Sarah McKisson on April 30, 1883. The Dental Building is now (1975) located there.

Nel Nelson purchased nine lots bordering the railroad from Third to Fifth Streets on February 12, 1878. The only house on these lots now is 402 Walnut.

On November 18, 1910, B. A. Lockwood purchased ten lots from Fourth to Fifth Streets with Maple Street on the west and Main (Cherry) on the east. At the time of this writing, the Ankeny Baptist Church has five lots on Maple and houses are on the remaining lots.

It appears that after John F. Ankeny's death in 1886, Mrs. Ankeny was interested in liquidating her holdings in Ankeny. Dr. M. B. Cherrie purchased many of the lots, and time has shown Dr. Cherrie's faith in the growth of Ankeny was well founded.

THE BEGINNING

THE VILLAGE

Ankeny started. From the beginning the town was to serve as a collection point for the farmers of the area to bring their produce to the railroad and as a supply point for these same farmers. John F. Ankeny built the first combination rooming house and hotel on the Northwest corner of Third and Walnut Streets. The hotel was first operated by Mr. and Mrs. J. Beals and sold to them in 1881. Mr. Ankeny also built the first store building in the new town. It was located on the northeast corner of Main (Cherry) and Third Streets. Thusly, J. F. Ankeny did furnish his new town with some business establishments. However, he never did live in his new creation.

RAILROAD

The most crucial development in the northern areas of Polk County to the founding of Ankeny was the completion in 1874 of the narrow gauge railroad.

This little railroad ran between Des Moines and Ames. The road was known as the Des Moines and Minneapolis, and was primarily the work of the Frederick Hubbell interests in Des Moines that financed the construction.

The town of Ankeny was founded on the railroad by one of the railroad promoters so it is only proper that we stop and examine in brief the history of the narrow gauge line from Des Moines to Ames.

In the decade that followed the Civil War, the United States experienced a phenomenal growth in the mileage of rail lines. This growth was primarily in the area of the country west of the Mississippi River. May 10, 1869 saw the completion of the first transcontinental at Promontory Point in the Utah desert. The ribbons of steel were spreading to all localities in the trans-Mississippi West, and Iowa was in the heart of this expansion. The Burlington Route, the Chicago and Northwestern, the Illinois Central, and the Milwaukee Road were all in a race to Council Bluffs and a connection with the Union Pacific. Along with this was the search for an economical way to construct rail lines to connect the outlying areas with the mainlines. The solution to this problem was the use of the narrow gauge for the connecting lines.

Narrow gauge was the answer, and the volume of its construction was nearly equal to that of standard gauge during the decade of the 1870's. Will J. Palmer was a pioneer in the use of narrow gauge. The rationale was that narrow gauge would cost about one half to build and operate in comparison to standard gauge. The idea was proven, and Frederick M. Hubbell of Des Moines decided to build a railroad

north from Des Moines using the cheaper method. This line was to connect Des Moines with the C&NW mainline at Ames. The Des Moines and Minneapolis Railroad was chartered in the State of Iowa in 1870 by F. M. Hubbell and J. S. Polk.

The farmers of northern Polk County saw the need for a rail line and to help finance it they voted \$118,000 in tax subsidies to help defray the cost of the construction. Grading for the line was started in the summer of 1870, but before the road got off the ground, the farmers decided to reudiate their aid and the faltering company went bankrupt. The road was reorganized by the middle of 1873 and actual construction of the track was commenced on the 12 of January, 1874. The construction was started on the southeast side of Des Moines. The ground breaking ceremony was attended by all Iowa dignitaries, including Governor Cyrus Carpenter. Construction was carried on at an amazing rate, and by July of 1874 time that J. F. Ankeny bought the townsite of Ankeny.

The mid 1870's were hard times for railroads, especially new, not well established ones. The Grange movement was at its peak, passing in the Iowa Legislature a rail tariff control bill in 1874.

This law set a maximum that rail lines could charge for freight and passengers. Along with this legislative control came the depression of 1873, the effects of which were being felt in Iowa as early as 1874. With these two major calamities, it was not surprising that the Des Moines and Minneapolis again fell on hard times. The road was built by private subscriptions to finance the \$300,000.00 construction costs. The company was not able to meet its obligations, and went into receivership in 1876 and stayed in receivership until 1878 when the Chicago & Northwestern bought the property. The exact figure that the C & NW paid for the road is not known, but it is doubtful if it was anywhere close to the actual worth of the property. The first project of the new owners of the line was to standard gauge the line. This conversion was done during 1879, and the first passenger train rolled through Ankeny on the 11th of July, 1880.

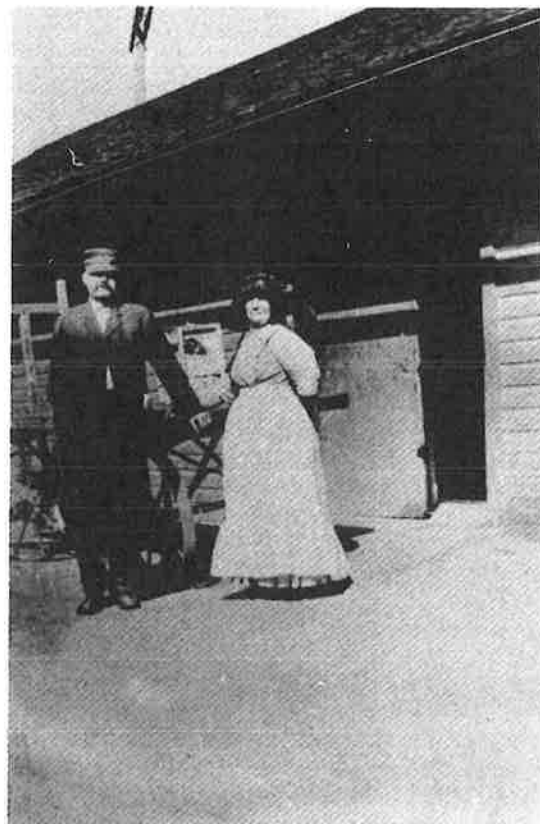
The fare from Ankeny to Des Moines was thirty-three cents, and the C & NW maintained discontinued all passenger service in Iowa. The line is still in operation today (1975) as a freight connection to Ames.





Mr. R. VanHorn was the first station agent in Ankeney. He served in that post until 1881 when S. W. Sheppard was appointed. The pay was relatively good for the time, \$45.00 per month. W. Albert Hall took over the post in 1885 and he served for the next 22 years. Before he took the job he lost an arm working in the cane mills making molasses.

ROUND TRIP TRAIN TICKET. Conductors Punch, Going Conductors Punch, Returning		Fort Dodge, Des Moines & Southern Railroad Co. Conductors—This ticket must be punched before separating it and this half returned to Auditor with reports. If Conductor issuing this ticket carries passenger to destination he must punch all spaces in column at top of ticket headed "Going, Conductors Punch." If issuing Conductor does not carry passenger to destination he will punch in above column (1) only and Conductor taking passenger to destination will punch out balance of spaces, and the same rule will be observed on return trip. C. H. CROOKS, General Passenger Agent.		0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 1 10 1911 1912 1913 1914
MONS FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC	FT. DODGE Shady Oak ROBERTS LUNDGREN CROOKS MCKENNEY ROCKWELL PIPER RIMARD EASLEY DIERRE CHARLEY LAYTON BOYHOL FRASER FRASER BOONE Mary Brown ERIGSON MCKONE MAPPER WELLEY CAMPUS ZUNWALT D. M. Janet HUXLEY ALLEN ALLEMAN WAGNER ANKENY Saylor Ross MANN Des Moines	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 1 10 1911 1912 1913 1914	Dollars 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 Cents 00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50	



MR. and MRS. ALBERT HALL
 Taken in front of Railroad Station - 1915

EARLY CHURCHES

In the words of a familiar hymn, "Crowns and thrones may perish, kingdoms rise and wane, but the Church of Jesus — Constant will remain."

And so it has been through the ages the church has continued; today, it remains firmly established and growing in Ankeny as the focal point of community life and activity. The people of Ankeny on the whole are religious people; their faith is one which finds expression in worship, acts of kindness, Christian education and missions, neighborliness and friendliness, and in numerous other ways.

There are presently 14 churches in Ankeny. These together represent eleven denominational groups - The Methodists, The Lutherans, The United Church of Christ, The Baptists, The Brethern, Catholic, Presbyterian, The Church of Christ, Assembly of God, Nazarene, and Ankeny Open Bible Church.



Des Moines Valley Church of The Brethern
(country church)

THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN

The history of the church of The Brethern is one of pioneering and dedication. The history probably begins in 1868. Elder Henry Flora, one of the early preachers west of the Mississippi did much of the work in this area, which led to the Des Moines Valley Church of the Brethern.

The early history of the church shows the membership divided into different groups, due to travel and lack of a central meeting house. One of these groups lived in the community southwest of Ankeny known as the Rock Creek Territory.

The first meeting house was built in this area. When the decision was made to build, Conrad Dietz was not in favor of selecting this point for the house of worship but was willing to give the ground for it. He gave three acres of land one-half mile east of his residence and across from the Henry Frick home which was one and one-half miles southwest of Ankeny.



S. M. Goughnour

The Des Moines Valley Church was erected by a Congregation of Dunkers during the year of 1876 at a cost of fourteen hundred dollars. This society was organized in 1868. Lumber was shipped to Ankeny on what was then the Narrow Gauge Railroad running from Des Moines by way of Polk City to Ames.

The lumber was hauled by wagon and team to the site of the church to be built. The building was 40 feet by 60 feet with a kitchen built to it and a self supporting roof for the upstairs which was designed for sleeping purposes. In those days the members came by team from a distance, and they needed a place to lodge. The house was built by George Kinney, a minister of the church from Des Moines. When it didn't prove out to be a place the community responded to, the preaching services were discontinued. However, S. M. Goughnour, the first minister continued to keep appointments.

In 1880, they moved to the area where the former Des Moines Valley Church building now stands, one-and one-half miles west and one mile south of Elkhart, or on the corner of 118th and East 29th here in Polk County. The dedication was held in July 1886.

The Des Moines Valley Church was served by the free ministry for many years. It has been by professional ministry since 1918.

In 1920, they moved to Ankeny in what is now the First United Church of Christ. In 1929, they moved back to their former church. In 1932, they sold the Ankeny church to the Congregationals.

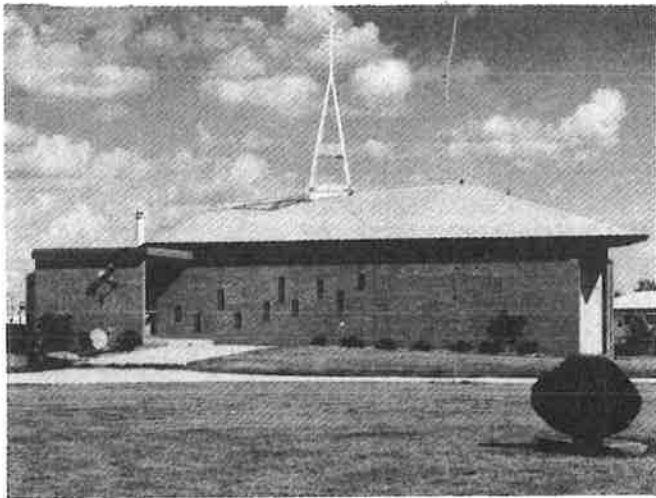
The present brick church building was erected and on November 24, 1968 they moved into the new structure. The new church was dedicated December 8, 1968.

S. M. Goughnour was elected to the ministry in 1873 and served as the first pastor.

In this order these five men served as pastors during the first fifty-one years. They served without pay. S. M. Goughnour, Will West, J. Q. Goughnour, Jeff Mathis, W. W. Folger.

The following pastors were men with preparation for full service in the ministry:

1918-21 John Burton
1921-29 Robert Sink
1929-31 I. D. Leatherman
1931-35 Roy Zook
1935-37 Paul Wingert
1937-39 Ora Garber
1939-43 Glen Baird
1943-48 Ross Noffsinger
1948-54 Gorman Zook
1954-58 Dale Ferris
1958-65 Ethmer Erisman
1965-67 John Thomas
1967-74 David Hykes
1974- Joseph May



Present Church of The Brethern at 417 Grant Street

THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The unknown tract of land called the Iowa Territory was first reorganized officially by the Methodist Church in 1844, when the formation of the Iowa Conference was authorized August 14, 1844.

The Methodists were the first to establish a place of worship in Ankeny in 1881. Their first place of worship was at 315 Walnut Street. They moved to a frame structure constructed on the present site on the corner of Second and Walnut Streets in 1886. The church was erected at a cost of \$1,620. The church building came complete with hitching posts along the east and north sides. Rev. A. B. Shipman was the pastor when they moved into the new church. A bell was added to the frame structure two years later at a cost of \$42.00. J.



1886 Frame Church

In 1902, a larger church was needed so the old frame building was removed to make way for a new and larger brick building. It was built at a cost of \$11,000. Much of the construction was donated by its members. The bell from the old frame church was moved to the new brick church. In the spring of 1903, the new church was dedicated.



1903 Brick Church

In 1956 the education unit was added to the church, followed in 1958 by the addition of the Fellowship Hall and Chapel. In 1967, the old brick church was torn down to make way for the construction of the present church. The old bell that had its beginning in the frame building was moved to the new brick building. Much of the glass in the stained glass window located in the vestibule of the new building came from the old brick church. The cost of the new structure was approximately \$400,000. Consecration services were held in the fall of 1968.

The present United Methodist Church is the result of the merger in 1967 of two churches which were similar in organization and beliefs - the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethern church.

The present (1975) pastor is the Rev. M. E. Weston. Other pastors who have served the church:

1886-87 A. B. Shipman	1915-16 F. Caldwell
1887-88 A. H. Shafer	1916-19 G. W. L. Brown
1888-89 C. C. Todd	1919-22 L. E. Watson
1889-90 S. W. Lauch	1922-27 E. W. McDade
1890-93 C. T. Mabee	1927-28 O. G. Orcutt
1893-94 George McDougal	1928-34 J. E. Habliston
1894-96 Elliott Voorhees	1934-35 B. R. Van Dyke
1896-98 George Winterbourne	1935-39 C. H. Boos
1898-03 A. L. Golden	1939-43 F. L. Shepherd
1903-06 J. L. Boyd	1943-44 C. H. Hiller
1906-07 M. J. Rarick	1944-45 W. A. Morgan
1907-08 F. T. Kelley	1945-48 G. S. Bruland
1908-12 M. R. Talley	1948-52 W. H. Meredith
1912-14 J. C. Pike	1952-56 Earl Josten
1914-15 C. B. Guest	1956-64 Ted Schwartz
	1964- M. E. Weston



Present Church at Second and Walnut Streets



First church - 1898 This church burned in 1932 and the present building at Third and School Streets was purchased from the Brethern Church the same year.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

This is the same church as the Congregational Church which was organized February 15, 1898. The first church was built on the northwest corner of Second and Cherry Streets and dedicated December 27, 1898. The congregation called the Reverend Joseph Steele to serve as its first minister. Other ministers who were called to serve are: Dr. Baughman, Reverend A. C. Lily (1900), Rev. Elliott, Reverend Humphrey, Rev. A. H. Anderson, Rev. C. M. Pierce, Rev. Richmond, Rev. P. E. Schult (1930), Rev. Stevenson (1938), Rev. Elliott (1942), Rev. Pinkham (1948), Rev. John Rolles (1948), Rev. Harold Davenport, (1952), Rev. Paul Syster (1957), Rev. Norman Halliday (1963 to present).

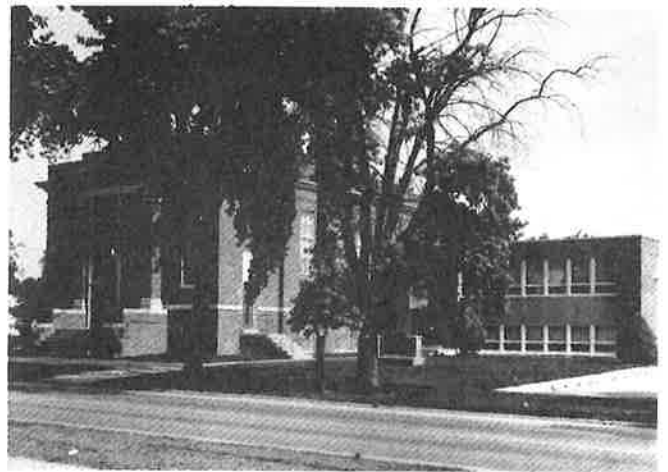
In 1960, a larger church was needed so an educational wing was built at a cost of \$65,000 and dedicated May 13, 1960. The Rev. Paul Syster was pastor at this time.

The name was changed from the First Congregational Church to the United Church of Christ in 1963 when the church merged and united with the United Church of Christ U.S.A.

The present minister, Reverend Norman Halliday, was born in Ireland and educated in Ireland, England, and India.



1932 Brick Church



Present Building at Third and School Streets



The Ankeny Congregational Sunday Class of 1915 - 1916. George Swartfager was the teacher.

Front Row, left to right; Maggie Donaghy, Ada Broneil, Mrs. Elliott, Mae Landecker, Marguerite Shellhart (Johnson), Edith Murray, Mabel Stanfield, Myrtle Butterfield, Barnes, Hazel Sutton, Carrie Brand, Pearl Tait, Grace Daymude, Pauline Flynn, Cecil Murray.

Second Row, left to right; Ethel Swartfager, Gertrude Swartfager, Miss Brown, Ethel Young Spahr, Vonnie Fisher, Lucy Eastly, Mebel McGovern, Juanita Calvin, Mildred , Mary Stanfield, Orrie Parmenter, Hazel Likely (Brewbaker), Edith Mathis, Zoe Beaumont, Anges Eastly, Florence Swartfager, Freeda Daymude, Bertha Burton, Ethel Brobeil, Anna Parmenter, Ethel Johnson (Mathis), Corda Burton.



The Ankeny Methodist Episcopal Sunday School class of 1880

Pictured left to right; Bertha Kauffman, Lydia Eland, Rosanna McDougal, Allie Hildreth, Lou Dunkle, Lena McLain, Margie Shellhart, Cora Wagner, Matilda Hancock, Emma Gross, Julia Betts, Ida Hallowell, Nellie Lewis, Henrietta Parrot, Dot Myers, Lena Kraus, Carrie Brewbaker and Hattie O'Keen.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT



Post Office in Stableton & Lewis store on north side of Third Street

Ankeny has had a post office since it had a location for one which was shortly after Ankeny was founded. In those times very few small towns had a separate post office building; it was being usually in the general store. This was true of Ankeny. The first post office was located in the General Merchandise Store and B.A. Lamason was the first postmaster. C. Madden was postmaster in 1878 and held office one year. He resigned to be deputy postmaster at Greenwood. Mr. Lamason was postmaster again in 1885. (Records are not available as to when he was re-appointed or resigned.



Post Mistress - Lucy Eastly

In 1898 the post office was in the H. E. Wagner General Store. In 1902 the post office was moved to Railroad Avenue around the corner from the Bank of Ankeny. A sub-station was also established in the Woods Lumber Company.

George Thompson was the first rural delivery carrier. He also owned the first automobile in Ankeny; a one cylinder Olds run-a-bout. Will Zimmerman became Uncle Sam between Ankeny and Enterprise. He made the trip every other day. Mail service was also extended to the rural area south of Ankeny in the same year. J. M. Krause was the new carrier. George Coffin carried mail from Ankeny to Tyner and Cambridge.

The first mail delivery to city homes was made in the summer of 1958. Another rural route was started October 17, 1959.

In October 1939, the American Legion purchased the Farmers Saving Bank Building (where Carmen's Florist shop is now located) 516 Third Street and the post office moved there the first week in November 1939. they moved from this location to the one south of Third Street - 315 Walnut Street. The office remained at this location until it was moved to the present building which was built and dedicated September 25, 1967. The cost of the new building was \$100,000.



Present Post Office located at 405 Third Street

The Ankeny Post Office became a first class office in 1963.

Charley McClain and O. W. Swartfager were postmasters for a number of years. At that time the job was political and they were switched back and forth depending on the political party in power.

Mr. Swartfager retired as postmaster October 3, 1957. Mr. G. G. Cory received his permanent appointment September 15, 1961 and served until he retired as postmaster in November 1974.

The post office was motorized in August 1970 with jeeps for each carrier in order that the carrier might deliver both parcels and mail on the route.

In 1975 the post office employed fourteen regular, seven part time flexible employees, and two substitute rural carriers. The annual receipts in 1974 were approximately \$275,000.



North side of Third Street - 1914 - Shows mail carrier's wagon



This view of Ankeny taken in early 1900's looking east on Third Street. On the left is the building where the Ankeny State Bank is located. At the far end of the street on the left was the Ankeny Hotel which was destroyed by fire. Building in the right foreground was a restaurant. It was destroyed by fire in 1922. The American Legion Hall is now on that corner.

The "main" street - officially named Third Street, but not often called that name - has been the focal point ever since its founding.

Early Ankenyites would gather at the general merchandise store and exchange news of the day's events. Up and down "main" street (Third) stores were built with protective porches and benches - wooden sidewalks and hitching posts.

"Main" street in 1887 began to be a busy place. The village boasted a general merchandise store, restaurant, drugstore, lumber yard, harness and furniture maker, hotel, livery stables, barberships, blacksmith shop and railroad depot located at the west end of "main" street.

"Main" street was the stage for rousing band concerts, political speakers, parades on the Fourth-of-July and other processions.

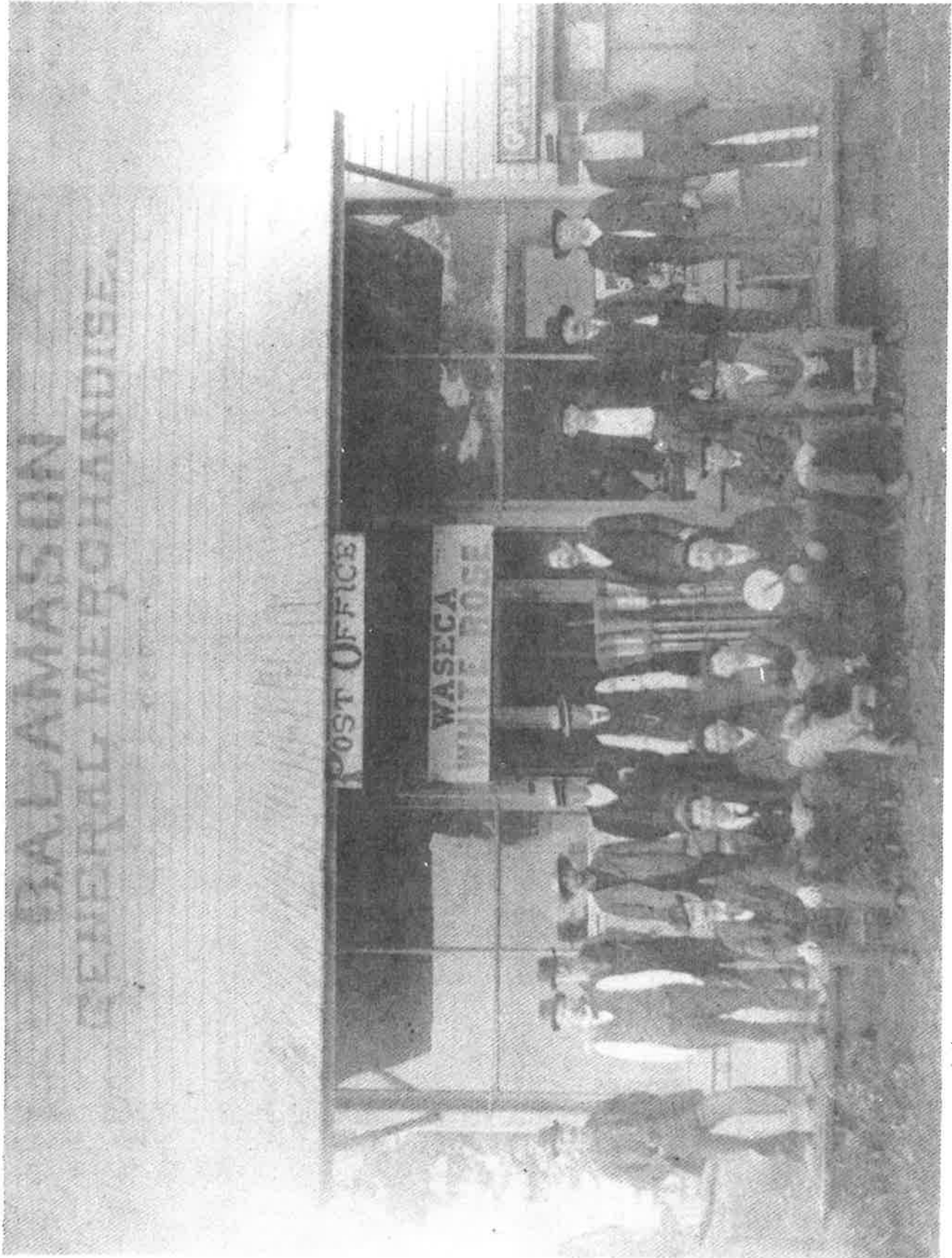
The "Hall" housed many events, colorful medicine shows, touring musical artists, operettas and local talent shows.

Business owners have come and gone. The face of "main" (Third) street has changed over the years. Fires have rearranged the location of some businesses and destroyed others. New buildings have been built. New enterprises have developed including a library and medical centers. The "main" street has grown into shopping centers in all parts of the city.

Ankeny had a street that was officially named Main Street from 1875 to August 7, 1953. That street today is Cherry Street. This change was made by Ordinance No. 85 which also officially changed East 14 Street to Ankeny Boulevard.



Third Street looking east from Main (Cherry) - 1912.



First general store and post office, built by J. F. Ankeny about 1875. Located on N. E. corner of Third and Main [Cherry]. This store burned approximately 1901.

EARLY BUSINESSES

The first store in Ankeny pictured on the preceding page was built by John F. Ankeny on the northeast corner of Third and Main (Cherry) Streets. Henry Hutton was the first storekeeper in Ankeny. Next were Van Horn, Madden, and Wright buying Hutton's stock. Then came George Wane. Then B. A. Lamason who operated it for several years. He sold goods to early settlers and railroad men. He also purchased farm products and had one of the most complete stocks of goods in north Polk County.

H. E. Wagner and Witmer were operating the store when it burned prior to 1902.



B.A. Lamason.



BLACKSMITH SHOPS

Mr. Homer owned and operated the first blacksmith shop in Ankeny prior to 1895. He used horse power to operate the bellows to keep his fires going. In 1885 William Foulk and John Horning also had shops.

In 1895, D. F. Hallowell established his blacksmith shop. "The Village Blacksmith" equipped his shop with all "modern" machinery. He could do plow work on short notice since he had a gasoline engine and other up-to-date equipment. He gave special attention to shoeing horses and caring for their hoofs. He was also noted for his woodwork and guaranteed his work. The shop was located on Second Street between Walnut and Main (Cherry).



D.F. Hallowell - blacksmith in 1895

George Zimmerman, Jr. worked in his shop. Hallowell later established a hardware west of the tracks on the corner of Maple and Third Streets.

In 1903, Bob Donaghy also started a blacksmith on the corner opposite the Bank of Ankeny.



The building in the right of this picture is the original blacksmith shop. Fred Zimmerman pictured.

HARNESS AND WAGON MAKERS

Harness maker in Ankeny was Thomas [unclear] established his business in 1897. Charley [unclear] had a harness business before 1900. Wagons were made and repaired by David Little in 1885. As the community grew another shop was established by H. W. Miller in 1903.

TIN SHOP

The first tin shop was owned and operated by Tom Halverson.



BARBERSHOPS

The first known barbershop came to Ankeny in 1892 when H. C. Thompson started his business here. His shop was located on the north side of Third Street. In September 1902, Jerry Donaghy joined Thompson in his shop. In October 1903, Hugh Thompson left Ankeny to establish a shop in Enterprise.

A second barbershop was started in 1903. The proprietors of the Ankeny Tonsorial Parlor were brothers, Fred and W. A. Tidball. The "up-to-date" shop started with one "air pressure chair" but soon added another along with other modern equipment.

Thompson returned to Ankeny and opened a shop north of the Bank of Ankeny. He moved from that building to one on Third Street. Mr. Frank Betts purchased the shop from him in 1926. Betts moved his shop to the frame building on the north side of Third Street and was there for about eighteen years. He also operated a pool hall in connection with the barbershop. His was the only business in that half block that was not destroyed in the 1940 fire.

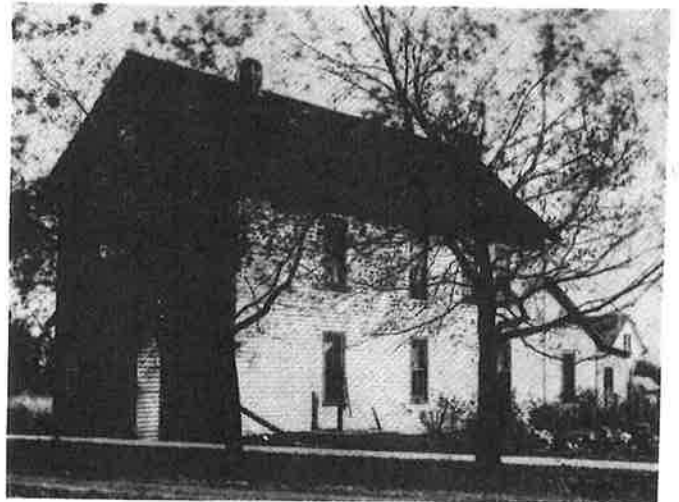
Mr. Betts built the building on the south side of Third Street where the shop is now located in 1946. He is now retired and his son, Lawrence, operates the shop.



Fred Tidball



W.A. Tidball



Boarding and rooming house 315 Walnut Street approximately 1879. This building was also used as a church and school in the late 1800's and early 1900's. It was torn down about 1912.

EARLY HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

The first combination hotel, boarding and rooming house was built by John F. Ankeny on the northwest corner of Third and Walnut Streets. It was operated by Mr. and Mrs. J. Beals.

Silas Allen also had a hotel at 3rd and Walnut at one time.

Florin Allen opened his restaurant in 1890 in connection with the hotel and rooming house pictured above. Allen was also the proprietor of the hotel.

In July 1902, M. S. Fort of Arbor Hill, Iowa came to Ankeny. He cleaned and refitted an old building across the street south of the Bank of Ankeny where he opened his Confectionery Goods and Restaurant. At one time Lash and O'Keene operated a restaurant at the same location.

Silas Allen opened his restaurant in the west room of the Bank of Ankeny building in February 1903 which he sold to Jim Burgess in November of the same year. Burgess stayed in business until January 1904 when Florin Allen became the new proprietor.

A news item in the October 9, 1903 Ankeny Times informed the residents that due to the high cost of potatoes Silas Allen would have to raise the price of his meals to 25 cents.

In 1907, the town council requested the restaurants be closed during church hours 10-12 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sundays and at 10 p.m. on weekdays.

It appears O'Keene was still in business until it was destroyed by the 1932 fire.

Ankeny is unique in that there was only one saloon ever established here and that was in 1882. The opposition by the public was so great that it remained only a very short time.



Florin Allen - proprietor of hotel and restaurant.

LIVERY BARN

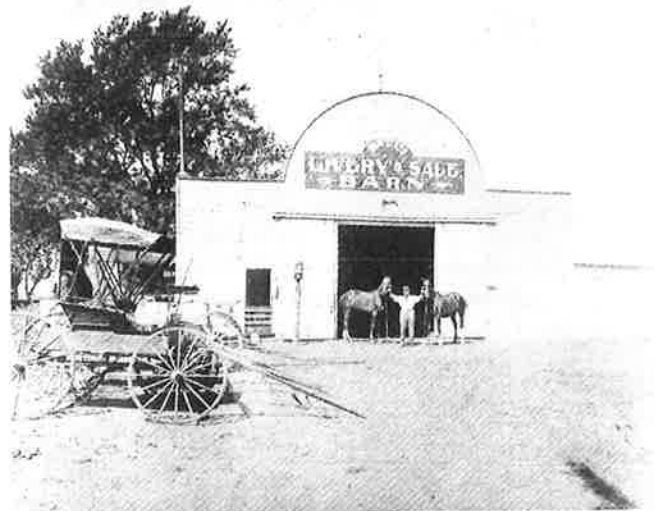
Livery barns were first established in Ankeny in 1897 when E. W. Harris established his business. It was located east of the Depot. He was known for his "good rigs."

In 1902, Perry Verts became the second liveryman in Ankeny. His stable was also located on Main (Cherry) Street. He was known for his congenialty. He sold his business to the Haulman Brothers in 1903 when he moved to South Dakota. Haulman sold the business to Art McClung, and in August 1903 McClung built the Livery and Sale Barn pictured below. It was located west of the tracks on Third

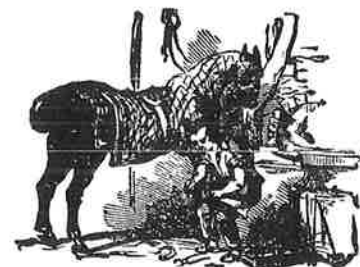


A.A. McClung

Street. In connection with the livery business he operated a feed and sale barn. Transient people found his stable a good place to secure a good team and careful driver to take them around the country. Mr. McClung sold his business to Art Hall. Hall ran the business up to the coming of the Model T in approximately 1915, when he moved to California.



Built in 1903 Jim Donaghy 1910





First lumber yard built by J. H. Woods in 1898, located east of railroad tracks on north side of Third Street. The building fronted on Main Street what is now Cherry Street.



LUMBER BUSINESSES

J. H. Woods was proprietor of a general store until 1898 when he sold that business and established a lumber business. He had lumber yards in Ankeny, Berwick, and Bondurant.

The first lumber yard in Ankeny was built by Woods on the property of the Ft. Dodge, Des Moines and Southern Railroad on the north side of Third Street just east of the tracks. In 1912, the Ft. Dodge, Des Moines, and Southern Railroad relocated their tracks through Ankeny in order to serve the Oralabor and Carney mines. It became necessary to move the lumber yard southwest across the tracks to its present location on the south side of Third Street. Mr. Woods remained owner and manager of the yard for many years. He sold his business to W.O. Sloan Lumber Company. The yard was next sold to Robert Sloan and Howard Pierce, when it became known as the Sloan-Pierce Lumber Company. In May 1941 it was again sold, this time to the present owners, the Denniston and Partridge Company. At this time Alfred J. Radcliffe was appointed manager, and remained manager until Don Hick was appointed.

Don Hick was appointed manager of the yard in 1946 and he is still in the same position. Mr. Hick is also a developer and builder in addition to this position with the company.



Built in 1912 by J.H. Woods when the yard was re-located on the south side of Third Street west of tracks, 603 Third Street.

The building built by Mr. Wood in 1912 burned in an early morning fire on March 18, 1973. The damages were estimated at \$250,000. The construction of the present building at 603 Third Street was begun immediately and completed the same year.

In 1907, Nicholson had a lumber yard located on Walnut.

Pioneer Lumber at 601 Ordnance Road was opened in 1944 and is owned by Robert Hollett.

Pioneer is a distribution yard for bridge lumber and piling, utility and telephone poles. Materials are shipped by rail to the Ankeny yard and then trucked to customers.

EARLY MEAT MARKETS OR BUTCHER SHOPS

The first meat market was owned and operated by Joe Kelly. His business was located on the southeast corner of Main (Cherry) and Third Streets.

George McKellip and Thomas Barr started a meat market located on Third Street in 1903. Thomas Barr soon bought McKellip's half interest in the business which he later sold to Harry Haulman. Barr then bought Haulman's interest when Haulman went west for his health. The market was situated in a desirable place on the main business street between two banks, The Bank of Ankeny and Farmer's Exchange Bank on the north side of Third Street.

Information also shows that McKellip had a market located in the old post office building on Walnut Street as an item in the Ankeny Times of August 8, 1904 mentioned McKellip and Company had installed a meat cooler in their meat market.

LIST OF OTHER BUSINESSES LATE 1880's to 1902

It is difficult to establish the exact date of some of the early businesses but records show the following were in existence in 1902.

Ankeny Times - First newspaper published by N. B. Fulmer on May 19, 1902.

The Wagner Brothers - First agricultural implement store located on the south side of Third Street. It was said to be the largest and have the most complete line in Iowa outside of Des Moines. Began business in 1900. Buggies, wagons, spring wagons, pumps and repairs, McCormick binders, mowers, rakes, Ohio and Dutch Uncle riding cultivators, Avery walking plows, and cream separators.

E. M. Lewis - Grinding and Feed Mill-Grinding Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Haulman and Lewis - General Store - becoming Lewis and Stebelton when Haulman sold his interest - Dry Goods - Boots and Shoes - Hardware - Paints - Oils - Furniture.

L. D. Weinhart - Poultry Buyer - In 1902 purchased \$1,940 worth of poultry.

Henry Wagner and Matt Saxauer - First stock buyers. They would drive through the county to purchase the stock, then it was all brought to Ankeny and shipped on the Northwestern Railway.

Wagner and Son - Dealers in livestock.

Haulman and Son - Contractors and Builders.

Thomas and Allen - Plasterers

O'Keane - Plasterer

I. J. E. Hildreth - Real Estate - Advertising lots in Hildreth Addition.

George F. Coffin - Jeweler and Repair Shop. Watches - Clocks - Jewelry - Silver.

Ellis Meader - Coal Dealer.

Earnest Walters - Furniture and Undertaking.

L. B. Morgan - Furniture and

L. B. Morgan - First Drugstore.

Van Horn and McKisson - First g.

Jimmie Waud - Manager first grain c

B. A. Lockwood and Son - Grain and Feed
in Ankeny - Crocker - Polk City.

Edwin Wagner - Manager of Lockwood Elevator.

Edwin Wagner - Grain and Feed - purchased Lockwood's elevator. He remained owner until it burned in 1936.

J. F. Ringgenberg and Frank Horning, Jr. - Well Drillers.

Wagner and Coffin - General Merchandise. Groceries - Dry Goods - Clothing - Hardware - Paint. Sold the business to George Goughnour June 1, 1902.

Goughnour and Son - General Merchandise Store. Business was in the east half of bank building. Sold his business to Peter Logli in 1908.

SOME NEW HOMES BUILT IN 1902 and 1903

Taken from items in the Ankeny Times -

Abe Stableton is building a house just back of Henry Wagners.

Arthur Wagner is building a new home.

Ed Wagner is building a new house east of 100F Hall.

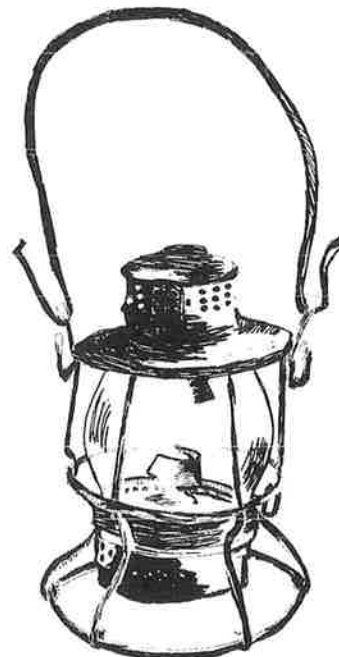
Fred Zimmerman is building a new house.

Harry Haulman Sr. is building a new house.

Mrs. Cherrie moved into her new home the last of August.

Sabe Parmenter is building a new house.

George Goughnour is planning to move into his new house.



word with You.

We have the best of all kinds of Work and Driving Harness. Also Single Harness, Saddles; Whips and everything kept in a first class harness store. Perhaps your old harness "needs fixing." We do

All Kinds of Repairing

and guarantee satisfaction. Prices are just right Too.

Thomas Barr.

**DON'T BE
Humbugged.**

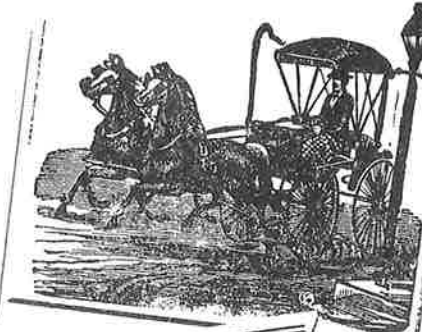
ANKENY HOTEL.

ALBERT HALL, Proprietor.



I
want
Chickens
Highest mar-
ket prices.

L. D. WEINHART.



BEST POSSIBLE SERVICE. PRICES RIGHT.

Perry Verts,

*Fine Livery at any time, Commer-
cial Men's orders given
special attention.*

One Block West of P. O.

GIVE ME A TRIAL.

ANKENY HOTEL.

ALBERT HALL, Proprietor.

ONLY FIRST CLASS HOUSE IN TOWN.

*Good Rooms,
Good Table.*

Your Patronage Solicited.

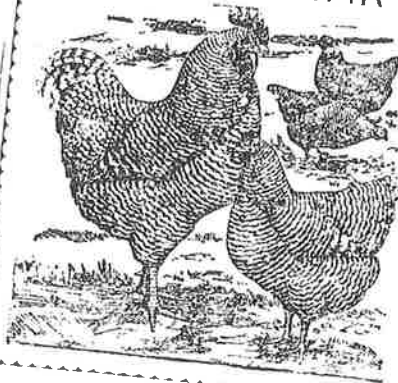


All Kinds of Farm Machinery.

SEE ME BEFORE YOU BUY.

W. L. WAGNER.

L. D. WEINHART, POULTRY BUYER.



*If you have any chickens
to sell and expect to pro-
fit on them you should
hurry, market dropping.
Spring chickens wanted.*

**L. D. Weinhart,
ANKENY, IOWA.**

BIOGRAPHIES -

Figures of the Frontier



**"We count not a man's
years until he has
nothing else to count."
Ralph Waldo Emerson**

The Pioneers or early settlers are divided into three groups: (1) those that settled along Rock Creek referred to as the Rock Creek Area, the upper part of Four Mile Creek, and the lower part of Big Creek (this side of Polk City); (2) the second group were the "plains" settlers who settled in the area north of Ankeny; and (3) those that played a large part in the early development of Ankeny. Due to the number involved only a small amount of space can be allotted to each one of the first two groups. Mention must be made as they contributed greatly to the heritage of Ankeny, however; some to a greater degree than others. Much of this information was obtained from histories written in the nineteenth century, stories written by members of the family and from information furnished by the families.



James and Delilia Hildreth



John Lincoln and Mary Hildreth



The Hildreths have played an important part in Ankeny's past century development.

The known history of this family dates back to 1521 from wills filed in the Probate Office of York, England. This history starts with the three sons of John Parker Hildreth who were born in Jay County, Indiana and moved to the plains area north of Ankeny.

William M. born August 1847 married Samantha Whiteman. They came to this area in March 1873 and settled on a farm her father had obtained from the government.

They had eight children. The oldest was 18 and the youngest 2 years old when William died, December 25, 1884. We have been unable to locate any of his descendants in the Ankeny area.

James E. was born September 12, 1849. When he was 18 he purchased eighty acres from brother William for \$8.00 per acre. A year or so later he came out to see the land and arrived to live here on December 25, 1873. He was active in the development of Ankeny having moved here in 1900. He laid out two additions, Hildreth's first and Hildreth's second. He served on the town council.

James married Delilia Taylor and they had seven children. John W. (operated a meat market in Ankeny for some time) Arthur L., Ida Albaugh, Charles E., Amos W., Minnie Horning, and Pearl Wilson.

John Lincoln was born August 26, 1861 and orphaned when he was three years old. When he was a young man he came to this area and worked for William Fleming and later married his daughter Mary. She died in 1918 and later he married Esther Purdy and moved to Ankeny. There were five children by his first marriage: John W., James S., Essie Howard, Vernon, and Glen L. The last two are still living in Ankeny.



DANIEL JUSTICE

Daniel Justice was born in Bland County, Virginia in 1805. At an early age with no capital except his strong hands he started northwest to find a place where white labor was not dishonorable. He stopped first in Indiana for a short time, then traveled on to Mercer County, Illinois. He married there. In 1848, he and his family came to the Four Mile Creek area and erected a log cabin. His stature and mental attitude were ideal for pioneer life. He was a friend of the Indians and aided other settlers who had not been so successful.

Mr. Justice was in failing health the last ten years of his life.

The Justices had four children, William born in 1838 and died in 1887, James born in 1841 and died in 1905, Lydia Riley, and the fourth is unknown. William

was born in Mercer County, Illinois in the Four Mile Creek area with his parents when he was ten years old. He was postmaster at Greenwood for fifteen years. The Greenwood post office was just east of his house on the northeast corner of 70th Avenue and Berwick Drive.

William married Lucinda Thornton and they had five children, John, George, Eda Barton, Mary Traxler and Roman.

John's son Edwin lives in the house William built out of clay taken from across the road west. This was fired to make the bricks. The land where the house is located was homesteaded by Isaac Thornton October 30, 1848 and is adjacent to the land homesteaded by Daniel Justice on the same date. Prior to 1855 Daniel had acquired four hundred acres of land in Douglas Township from the United States government.



Brick home built by William Justice, located at N.E. 70th and Berwick Drive (Probably built around Civil War period)
Buildings in background - Greenwood postoffice and store.

CLAIRBORNE BRAZELTON

Mr. Brazelton was born May 13, 1815 in Jefferson County, Tennessee. He moved to Vermillion County, Illinois. They had ten children, two of whom tanning and currying which he worked at for eight years.

He and his family came to the Four Mile Creek area and settled just east of Ankeny in 1854. When he arrived here his capital was thirty-five cents.

In 1836, he married Anna Thornton of Vermillion County, Illinois. They had ten children, two of which died at an early age. The eight remaining were, Jacob,

Margaret, Jennie, Mary, Albert, Joseph, Gannie, and Letta.

Mrs. Brazelton was killed in a railroad accident near Columbus, Ohio in 1876.

Mr. Brazelton was the first postmaster at Greenwood and served in that position for seven years. He also served as a township trustee.

Due to his business ability he became quite successful. The meager capital of 1854 was increased to seven hundred acres of land and nine lots in Des Moines by 1880.

He died in 1906 at the age of 91.



Alexander and Sarah Spahr - Children - Bruce, Effie and Clarence.



James E. Spahr, son of John and Exie Hildreth Spahr, was born May 10, 1847. He came to this area in 1873 in an emigrant car with livestock and household goods for his cousin James E. Hildreth. He returned again to this area a few years later and purchased a farm about four miles northeast of Ankeny.

He married Annie Redusecker and they had three children, all girls, Mrs. Exie Sexauer, Mrs. Sarah Howard, and Mrs. Ethel Young.

The Spahrs moved to Ankeny in the early 1900's and lived at the corner of First and Des Moines Streets. At the time he purchased this property it included all the land east to the railroad tracks. Mr. Spahr died in 1911.



James E. Spahr - Mrs. Annie Spahr

Alexander C. Spahr was born Jan. 13, 1849 at Portland, Indiana and came to Iowa about 1870. He bought a farm four miles North of Ankeny and later married Sarah Sullivan to whom three children were born, Effie, Clarence and Bruce.

They were farmers and stockmen. Were active in the Methodist Church and gave a corner of their farm to the Methodist Conference where the Hickory Grove Methodist Church was built about 1888. The Spahr children went to Rabbits Delight Country School.

According to Mrs. Spahr's 1894 diary there was a drought that summer so they cut most of their corn for fodder and sold their hogs for \$4.00 cwt. They churned butter about every other day and took it to Ankeny by horse and buggy once a week. Butter was 19 cents a pound and eggs were 9 cents a dozen. Oats were 28 cents a bushel.

Effie married J. Milton Hall who also was a farmer. They had three children, Ralph, Mable and Claude.

Bruce married Anna Abughl and farmed near the home place. They had two sons, Lester and Olfe.

Clarence married Mable Taylor and located on a farm one mile East of Ankeny. He loved good horses and always showed them at the Ankeny Institute. Their first automobile was a 1914 Umpire. Their three sons, Loren, Hayes and Wayne were all farmers in the Ankeny community.

Alexander passed away in 1918. His wife Sarah later moved to Ankeny and lived there until her death in 1923.





Jacob Sexauer

JACOB AND MATTHEW SEXAUER

Jacob was born in 1823. He and wife, Madeline Dietz Sexauer were both natives of Baden, Germany. They started for America in the fall of 1844 and were married on shipboard during the voyage. They first settled in Erie County Pennsylvania. Matthew was born there September 24, 1845. His mother passed away when he was two and half years old.

Jacob remarried and they came to this area and settled north of Ankeny in 1850, when Matthew was five years old. Jacob died in 1873 when Matthew was 28 years old.

In 1858 wheat was 35 cents and corn 10 cents per bushel. In the fall of 1858 Mr. Sexauer had 40 fat hogs. He butchered two and took the carcasses to Des Moines to sell them. When he was offered 2½ cents per pound he was so irritated he took the meat home, killed the other 38 and smoked the meat so he could wait for a better price. He also stored corn and wheat rather than sell it at the low price. The next year was the massacre at Fort Dodge and prices went up. He sold his smoked pork for 18 and 20 cents per pound, seed corn for \$1.50 per bushel and 500 bushels of wheat for \$1.50 per bushel. This was the turning point for the Sexauer family and prosperity was pretty well assured.

In 1872 Matthew married M. was born in Quincy, Illinois July were natives of Germany.

Five children were born to this marriage (married Rev. George McDougall, a minister at Ankeny M.E. Church), Frederick J. (married McClung), Emily L. (married Clarence Piehenbroch), Hallet M. (married Cora Cornwell), and Roscoe (married Mildred Spencer). Matthew passed away in 1928 and his wife in 1943.



Matthew Sexauer



ER WAGNER

... was a farmer and stock-raiser on the Ankeny locating there in 1867. By 1881 he owned 258 acres. His place was located between Surprise Road and Magazine Road just east of Delaware Avenue. As a youth he had learned the trade of carpentry and followed that trade until he was twenty. He was born in Dearborn County, Indiana on Christmas Day in 1840. His parents brought him to Clayton County, Iowa in 1854. He married Ida E. M. Weyreach while he lived in Clayton County.

Mr. and Mrs. Wagner had six children: Mary Matilda, William, John George, Henry Edward, Clara Josephine, and Edwin Raymond.

John George was the assistant cashier for the Farmers Exchange Bank when it opened in 1902. Edwin and William operated businesses as the Wagner Brothers. They also built in 1909 what was known as the "Wagner Block" located at the corner of Walnut and Third Streets. This building burned in 1940.

BEN WAGNER

Mr. Wagner was born in Germany. When he arrived in Iowa he settled in the Burlington area and some of this Wagner family still there.

Ben came to the Ankeny area and settled north of Ankeny. He married Mary Sexauer and they had two children, Harry and Roy. Mary died young and Ben then married Ida Thompson. They had no children.

Harry Wagner married the daughter of Jasper Harvey whose father was Henry Harvey, one of the early settlers.

Harry and his wife, are still living in Ankeny and are among Ankeny's oldest citizens.

HENRY SEXAUER

Henry Sexauer was born in Germany and settled in this area, one mile north of the present Ankeny city limits.

He and his wife had nine children: Albert married Emma Thiel, Henry Jr. married Dora Miller, Isabel married an Albright, Lille and Lydia (twins) Lillie married a Guthrie, Lydia married a Moeckly, Jacob married Lizzie Kirtz, Robert married Elizabeth Bristol, Ophelia married Will Miller, and Theodore married Exie Spahr. Henry Jr. first lived on the west side of Highway 69 two miles north of Ankeny. In 1910 he built the house where Griffieons now live. (Mrs. Griffieon is his granddaughter)

Theodore was a Professor at Iowa State University in Ames at one time.



Henry Sexauer, Jr.

JAMES F. SHEPPARD

Mr. Sheppard was born in 1829. He and his wife Ruth moved to this community in 1869. They purchased approximately one hundred fifteen acres one mile east and two and half miles north of the northeast corner of Ankeny.

In 1876, he sold the farm and settled on a five acre tract of land along First Street. He operated a grocery store from 1881 to 1889.

Their five children were: Samuel Wesley, Mary Ann (Hall) Luella, Lyde (Nelson), and Clinton.

His son Samuel W. was appointed depot agent in 1881 succeeding Mr. Van Horn. In 1884 he was transferred to Sheldahl where he served nine to ten years. He then farmed east of Ankeny until 1919, when he purchased twelve acres in the southwest part of Ankeny and moved to the town.



Henry Wagner

HENRY WAGNER

Henry Wagner, an active, efficient farmer and community builder, was born in Germany in 1843 and settled on a farm just north of Ankeny in 1869. It was a hundred sixty acre farm and he paid \$10.00 per acre. The barn pictured was built in 1880 at a cost of \$2,000 and was paid for with the profits from two shipments of livestock to Chicago. He was a stock buyer. His interests were varied and apparently quite successful. Banking became his main interest and he was an officer of the Bank of Ankeny, later the Ankeny State Bank. In 1892, he became a director of the Capital City State Bank in Des Moines, Vice President in 1900 and President from 1905 to 1921. He remained chairman of the Board from 1921 until his death in 1929.

The Wagners had seven children, Henry Jr., Rolfe, Arthur, Pearl Haulman, Liddy Kauffman, Cora Trent, and Iowa (Mrs. Edwin Wagner). Edwin Wagner was a son of Peter Wagner, also from Germany but not related. Rolfe succeeded his father as president of the Capital City Bank and served in that capacity for thirty-one years. Rolfe and Mrs. Pearl Haulman now are living in Des Moines.

Henry built the brick bank building at Main (Cherry) and Third Streets in 1902. The Ankeny State Bank is in the same building today.

OSCAR AND MARGARET BACHMAN

Oscar Bachman was born in Jay County, Indiana May 27, 1850 and married Margaret Hildreth (youngest sister of William James and John Lincoln). They came to this area in 1893 and farmed until they retired and moved to Ankeny. They had eight children Clara, West, Perry, Ella Goughnour, Susie Shaw, Howard, Edna Hall, Ethel McKee and Elmer.

His son Perry and Elmer's son LeRoy owned and operated the Bachman Gate Company in Ankeny.



Oscar and Margaret Bachman

OLIVER E. DOUBLEDAY

Mr. Doubleday, the first president of the Bank of Ankeny, (now the Ankeny State Bank) was born in Tippecanoe, County, Indiana February 22, 1832. He was perhaps one of the best educated of the pioneers in this community. He was educated in the public schools and then attended Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana. In 1860, he moved to this area with his wife, Sarah VanMeter, having married her in 1856.

He became a farmer in this area and by 1880 he owned eight hundred acres of some of the most tillable land northeast of Ankeny. He planted large orchards and fine groves on his land.

They had five children all girls: Harriet Hauch, Ruann Keller, Olive Iseminger, Lydia Shaw, and Orpha Doubleday.

Mrs. Dora Eckels' mother was Lydia Shaw. Mr. Doubleday died in 1907.



George Swartfager

FRANK SWARTFAGER GEORGE SWARTFAGER

Frank Swartfager was born in Germany in 1820 and when he came to this country he located in Pennsylvania. He came to this area in the 1860's. He married Annie Near who was born in 1825.

They had seven children, Charley (married Hannah Deitz), George Henry (married Carrie E. Bates from New York), John (married Meggie Hiltzel) Lena (married David McLean), Mary (married William Campbell) Lulu (married William Tait) and Minnie (married a Huser).

We are mainly interested in George Henry who played a much larger part than the others in the history of Ankeny. He was a farmer, stock buyer, had an insurance business, and manufactured fire works. He lived on a well-improved farm which was purchased by the government for the Ordnance Plant. He wanted to move the buildings, but the urgency of the war situation prevented this and they were destroyed by a bulldozer. To see his farm buildings and home destroyed in this manner was a very severe blow to him and his family feel it hastened his death. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1858 and died in 1944. Five children were born to this marriage, Olive Wheeler, Georgia West, Oron postmaster here), Cora Boozel and Fred.

CONRAD DIETZ

Conrad Dietz was born in Heisen, Germany October 9, 1816. In Germany he farmed in the summer and was a weaver in the winter months. He came to the United States in August 1842 and first settled in Cambria County, Pennsylvania.

In 1846 he traveled on to Iowa looking for a permanent location and in 1847 moved to the farm he homesteaded as soon as claims could be filed for land. Mr. Dietz was a religious man and came to this country because of religious persecution. History records him as a leader, having an exceptional ability to forecast future development of the community. This was shown when he willingly deeded land for a church in 1876 although in his opinion the location was wrong for a place of worship. Services were held for four years after the church was built.

It has been stated but not verified, that his home was a station on the Underground Railroad for slaves during the Civil War. It was also a rest stop on the Des Moines and Boone Stage Coach lines.

Mr. Dietz prospered and in 1880 owned four hundred fifty-eight acres of land. Mr. and Mrs. Dietz had ten children. One daughter, Elizabeth married Ed Howard and was still living on the land she inherited from her father until she was displaced by the building of the Ordnance Plant.

Mr. Dietz is buried in Pine Hill Cemetery.

RILEY H. THORNTON

Mr. Thornton was the first legal settler in Douglas Township. He was born November 1, 1824 in Montgomery County, Ohio. He moved to Vermillion County, Illinois when a small boy. He came to the Four Mile Creek Territory in 1845. His first wife was Rachel Hayworth of Vermillion County, Illinois. They were married in 1843 and after her death in 1876 he married Mrs. Mary Reynolds. When he came to Iowa his belongings consisted of one old wagon, two yoke of oxen, one cow and very little money. Besides farming, Mr. Thornton was an itinerant preacher. He gave the land for the Greenwood Church and Cemetery and was a member of the Board of Supervisors for several terms.

STEPHEN, SAMUEL, LYSANDER AND HENRY HARVEY

These four Harveys were among the earliest settlers in this area. They were from Shelby County, Indiana and came to this area in 1848. They were among the first to file claims for government land.

Henry married Arabella Nagle, daughter of Franklin Nagle who was one of the first three trustees of Crocker Township. Henry himself held several offices of trust in Crocker Township. Mrs. Harry Wagner and Doris Moeckley were Harveys.

JACOB WILSON

Mr. Wilson was born in Kentucky December 22, 1805. In 1827 he married Frances Hart. He moved to Montgomery County, Indiana in 1831 and in 1851 came to this area. He entered a claim in 1851 and was living on the same land in 1880. In 1864, he remarried, his second wife was Mary Harvey. They had one son Jacob E.

WILLIAM FLEMING

Mr. Fleming was born in County Derry, Ireland in 1821. He came to this country in 1852 and first lived in Philadelphia. In 1856 he married Nancy Nelson who was also a native of County Derry, Ireland. In 1857, they came to Burlington and then to the area just north of Ankeny in 1865. They came here with very little money but by 1880 he owned four hundred acres of rich land and mainly raised livestock. Their two children were James W. and Mary E. Hildreth.

PETER RINGGENBERG SR.

This gentleman was born in Switzerland February 15, 1815 and came to this country in 1839 settling in Holmer County, Ohio. On May 7, 1844 he married Anna Duttler. Her original home was close to his in their native country.

They came to this area north of Ankeny in 1868. There were fourteen children in the family. One son J. F. was the first Mayor of Ankeny.

JOHN BREWBAKER

Mr. Brewbaker was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania on December 2, 1831. He moved to Henry County, Indiana in 1852 and to Polk County in 1856.

He learned the blacksmith trade from his father. On December 11, 1862 he married Minerva A. Mercer. Edward E., Henrietta, Orris O., Jennie F., Mary E., Nellie Joy, John M., and James R. were their eight children.

JOSEPH TIARA

He was born in Fayette County, Alabama September 8, 1826. He served in the regular army from 1848 to 1853. Mr. Tiara came to this area in 1855 and settled in what is now Tiara Heights southwest of Ankeny.

In 1852, he married Josephine Nagle. They had twelve children: Martha R., Mary M., Joseph, Kate, Alice, William, Nellie, Gertrude, Daisy, Olive, George, and John B. He held various township offices.

J. A. SCHALL

Mr. Schall was born in Wurtemberg, Germany February 17, 1832. He came to the United States in 1848 and settled in Erie County, Pennsylvania. In 1856, he came to this area. On January 14, 1858 he married Miriam Litchty, a native of Ohio. They had nine children: John W., Mary S., A.F., Ricka,

Elizabeth, Francis D., Carol Ernest A.

Mr. Schall was a carpenter by trade of the homes and barns in this town. He owned a well-improved farm with one farm house in the township which he built.

J. M. CREE

Mr. Cree was born in Monroe County, Ohio and moved with his parents to Washington County, Ohio in 1839, later moving to this area in April 1855. He married Lydia J. Howard October 27, 1857. She died January 22, 1871 and he married Leonora Nagle November 23, 1871. There were two children by the first marriage Charles F. and Nellie M. and three by the second marriage Harry C., Minnie, and Raymond.

His son Charles F. operated a brickyard in Section 28, Crocker Township. He burned approximately 400,000 bricks per year in the late 1800's.

JOSEPH HUTTON

Mr. Hutton was born in Fleming County, Kentucky, August 18, 1825 and when a small boy moved with his parents to Indiana. He was raised on a farm and in 1844 came to Iowa settling in Jefferson County. He later moved to Van Buren County, Iowa and came to this area in 1855. He operated a saw mill for about ten years in the area and then he began farming. While in Jefferson county in 1847 he married Martha Goughnour. Following were their children, Henry, Samuel, Etta, Lydia, George and David.

Mr. Hutton held several offices; was County Supervisor, Township Supervisor and member of the school board. While he settled nearer to Elkhart than Ankeny, the Goughnours played an important part in early Ankeny and the Huttons are still here.

JOHN B. SAYLOR

While he was not a resident of Crocker Township (he lived just south of it), he must be mentioned as he played quite a part in the opening of the territory for other settlers.

He was the first settler in Polk County north of Fort Des Moines. Early marriages were held in his cabin, also church services. He started Methodism in this area in 1850.

He secured his permit to settle as a result of furnishing hay for the horses at the fort.

Mr. Saylor was born in Franklin County, Indiana, April 11, 1807. His first wife died about two and one-half years after they were married and he married Mrs. Mary Saylor whose maiden name was Howard. Mr. Saylor died July 26, 1863. He was also the first Probate Judge in Polk County, elected in 1846.

PART II

1903 - 1975

CITY OF PROGRESS UNLIMITED



Town *♪* to Suburbia *♪* to City

❁ || ANKENY PROGRESSES || ❁

1903 was the year that can be seen historically as the key to the development of Ankeny. When incorporated it extended its limits to include one square mile or six hundred forty acres. The new city limits beginning at the northwest corner at the back of lots on North Fourth Street and the intersection of Kline Street, if extended; east one mile to where Sharon Drive would intersect if extended north from First, south one mile to East Ninth Street, west one mile to where Kline Street and Goodwin would intersect if extended south, one mile north to the point of beginning. Incorporation is one key to growth for a town. Incorporation allows a community to set up a legal municipal government and to provide for the needs of its citizens. These needs are so common that they are taken for granted. The first service that the town provided was fire protection.

Another service that came to Ankeny as a benefit of incorporation was a public water supply. Before 1917 the people of Ankeny had to have their own pumps to supply water. In March of 1916 the residents of Ankeny approved the bonds to finance a well and distribution system. This municipal improvement cost the town \$12,000. The distribution system was completed in 1917. At the same time (1917) the town voted the expenditure of \$13,000 for a sewer system. The sewage system was completed the same year.

These are major services that all people take for granted, but before incorporation all these things were individual responsibilities. Another thing that grew directly out of incorporation that was the town of Ankeny now had an official voice. This voice was in the form of a mayor and town council; in other words, a legally constituted government for the town.

The importance of this official voice was realized almost as soon as it was established. Town governments were impowered to grant utility franchises to private companies. The first franchise granted in Ankeny was to the Farmers Telephone Co. of Bondurant, and Repass Co. of Dallas County. This was in 1903. Previous to this, Bell Telephone had installed a few phones independently. The other important franchise that the town council granted before the end of the first decade of the 20th century hinged on two things; the franchise and a group of men from Boston. These men from Boston would get Ankeny into the 20th century by furnishing electricity to the town.

The town of Ankeny was blessed with a second rail line in 1907. This was the Ft. Dodge, Des Moines and Southern. The Ft. Dodge line was an electric interurban conceived by Mr. Homer Loring of Boston. Mr. Loring was a railroad promoter with a special fascination for electric lines. His first experiences were with the Boston Rapid Transit. His rail interests started in Iowa in 1906 with the purchase of the Newton & Northwestern, a steam road running diagonally from Newton, through Boone, to Rockwell City. In 1907, he organized the Ft. Dodge Line. The plans called for extensions to be built on the old Newton line. These extensions were to be north from Hope to Ft. Dodge and south from Midvale to Des Moines. The line was completed in 1908 and with it came electricity. It was at this juncture that the franchise power again became important. The Ft. Dodge line being an interurban, used electrical catenary for power. Loring decided to sell power to towns along the line that would grant him a franchise to do so. The town council did so and the Ft. Dodge line brought electric power to anyone in Ankeny who desired it. In 1908 not even 50% of the towns of Iowa could boast of electric power and so Ankeny through a quirk of fate moved into the electric age.

The Ft. Dodge offered hourly service in the 20's, but as passenger revenue dropped off the line was forced to cut service. In the final days, service was limited to one car each way per day. Passenger service was discontinued on August 31, 1955 and the last car ran through Ankeny at 6:00 p.m. that day marking the end of rail passenger service in Ankeny. The Ft. Dodge line remained as a freight short line until 1969 when it was purchased by the Chicago and Northwestern from the Salzburg interests in New York. Salzburg had purchased the line in 1956. Today parts of the line remain in active service, but the day of the big yellow and green cars is now only a memory like so much of America's rail heritage. The Ft. Dodge line continued the sale of electric power in Ankeny until 1955 when they stopped all electric power.

On June 1, 1956, the Iowa Power and Light was assigned the electric franchise for Ankeny from Fort Dodge, Des Moines and Southern Railroad. The company is still furnishing electricity and gas to Ankeny.

Ankeny through the decades of the 20th century up to the second World War remained a small town; the mass influx of people had not yet started that would change the town into the suburb of the 1970's. The important thing that did happen was that Ankeny set a firm foundation for that growth. This came through incorporation and the municipal improvements that were made. A spirit of town pride developed through the years, and as a suburb this spirit has continued to grow. It was the automobile that allowed Ankeny to move forward after the war.

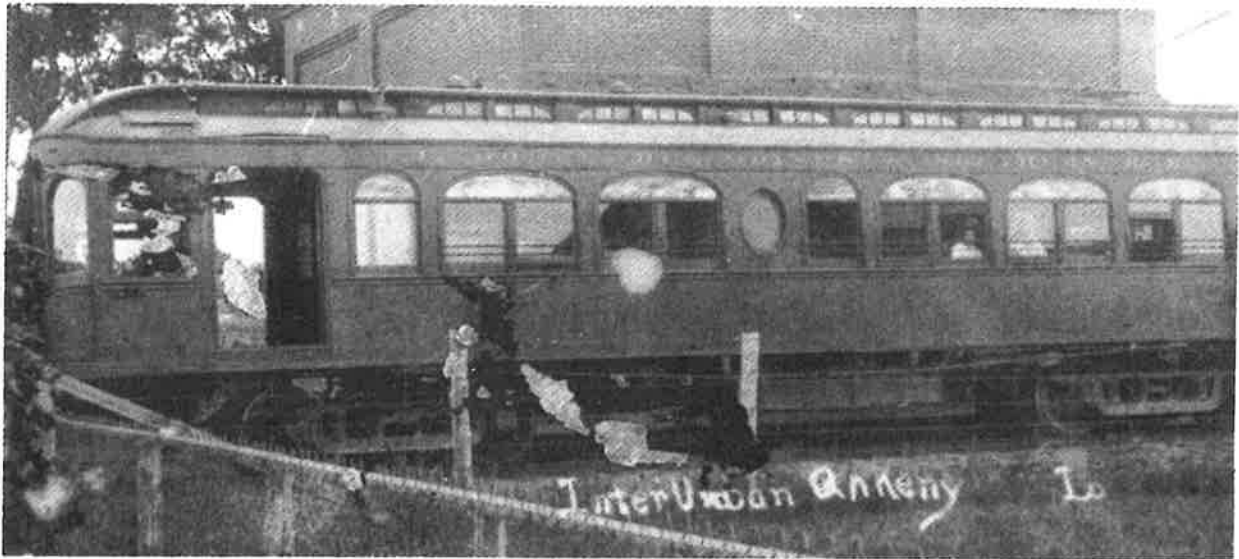
The years that followed the second World War were years of vast change for urban America. These years were ones of rapid suburbanization for America. The process of suburbanization started in the closing decades of the 19th century. The mass production of the auto by Henry Ford made the spread of suburbs more practical. The internal combustion engine meant that people no longer had to depend on the trolley car to get to the central city for work. The perfection of the truck meant that industry no longer had to locate on a railroad. The return of prosperity because of the second World War meant that more Americans would be looking for their own house in the "rustic" environment of the suburbs.

FROM TOWN – TO SUBURBIA – TO CITY

were a period of unparalleled prosperity in America and real estate promoters were busy convincing Americans that they wanted to leave the crowded city behind for the more healthy suburb in which the virtues of both the city and the virtues of the country could be enjoyed. The central cities no longer were the centers of the most rapid growth. Rapid growth was occurring in the towns of 2,500 to 10,000. Most of these towns were located near a large urban area, well within commuting distance of the suburbanite. The 1950's were also the years of the "corporation man". The "corporation man" was the man who did as the company bade, went to all the proper social functions and wanted to get ahead in the company. It was only natural that this individual become a suburbanite. That was "The Thing" to do.

The towns that became suburbs also underwent a change. The small towns began to lose their individual character. No longer was the town going to have a closely knit population. The rapid influx of new people who worked, shopped, were entertained, and had their lives dedicated to the central city had no time for things that had marked the lifestyle of the small town. These people generally saw the suburb as a place to sleep and very little more. Their life was the city. Because of this, the suburb took on more and more of the character of the city and by the end of the 1960's it was hard to differentiate between the city and the suburb. The suburb did not share the problems of the city but it did reap all the benefits of the urban lifestyle.

It was in a climate like this that Ankeny underwent the metamorphosis from small town to suburb. Des Moines has continued to grow since the war, but the growth of Ankeny has been considerably faster. Ankeny did not change to a suburb immediately after the war; but the forces of change were being felt as early as 1950 and by 1960 the population of Ankeny was 2,995. In January, 1961, Ankeny had reached a large enough population to become a city in its own right.



Interurban at Ankeny station 1907. The station is still standing at 719 Southwest Third Street. In 1912 this track was abandoned from Ankeny to Des Moines and a new track was built that ran parallel to the Northwestern tracks through Ankeny. A new station was built in 1912 and burned in 1920's.



Interlocken station just north of First Street was used when the original track crossed the Northwestern tracks.



1912 station located at approximately 602 Third St.

CIVIC SERVICES

THE COUNCIL

Ankeny uses the council-mayor form of government. The government consists of five councilmen and a mayor elected by the residents of Ankeny. The mayor conducts all council meetings and appoints the various councilmen to be in charge of a department in the organization.

The council is the governing body of the city. It enacts local legislation, adopts the city budget, and determines city policies.

When Ankeny was a village it did not have a government of its own. It was under the jurisdiction of the elected officials of Crocker Township. The minutes of early Crocker Township were destroyed by fire in 1930.

This notice appeared on page one of the December 12, 1902 issue of the Ankeny Times:

NOTICE

We as business men and citizens of Ankeny, believe the time is at hand when our town should be incorporated and hereby call a meeting of the citizens generally to meet at the TIMES office tonight (Fri. 12) to talk over the proposition.

--Signed--

Geo. Coffin
A. C. Boyer
John G. Wagner
W. H. Lewis
W. L. Wagner

Thomas Barr
Silas Allen
L. D. Weinhart
H. E. Haulman
Henry Boyne

C. E. Goughnour & Son



It was December 24, 1902 when H. C. Goughnour and others filed a petition for incorporation with the Court. The election for incorporation was held January 24, 1903. The residents voted for incorporation.

The town was legally incorporated by order of the Polk County District Court on January 26, 1903. On February 28, 1903 the municipality was organized by swearing into office the elected officers.

Copy of the first recorded meeting of Town Council, February 28, 1903 taken from the city files.

"Officers of the elect of Ankeny met at Wagner Bros. office to organize. Mayor J. F. Ringgenberg being sworn in by J. G. Wagner ; Notary, he proceeded to swear in the other officers which were - E. M. Lewis - Clerk, J. G. Wagner - Treasurer. Council - S. L. Wagner, Henry Wagner, G. E. Goughnour, W. A. Hall, Lon Wilson and J. H. Horning.

S. M. Lewis, Clerk"

Ernest Barr was elected assessor but not sworn in until a later date.

First complaint to the council was made on April 6, 1903 by Dr. Patterson that hogs were in too close proximity to his dwelling house.

Minutes of the Council from the beginning indicate that those things important to growth, sanitation and proper development were of great concern to the governing body. Examples of this were condemnation of a sidewalk in front of Art Wagner's property on Dec. 7, 1903, committee moved to investigate the condition of the Bank's water closet on May 1, 1905, Town Clerk to write Howard Bachman that when he tied out cow to tie her so she could not get on the sidewalk.

The Town Council met in various locations including Al Stader's Ankeny Times building, Morgan's and O'Keen's Hall, Farmers' Exchange Bank, Dr. Frederick's Office, Press Citizen and Water Plant until approximately 1960. At this point in time the town had grown to the population of a suburban city. The council purchased the municipal building at 715 Third Street (where the Police Dept. is now). The city continued its rapid growth and more office space was needed for city offices. On September 1, 1964 the offices were moved to the present City Hall at 408 Third Street. There is a regular council room in this building.

Following are the mayors in the order in which they served: Fred Riggerberg, S. Allen, C. W. Dodds, L. D. Weinhart, Joe McBride, John Marks, Frank Spiers, L. D. Weinhart, Charles Howard, George Swartfager, Henry Wagner, Jr., George Goughnour, Fred L. Wright, Lewis Nelson, Charles Hildreth, H. M. Fredericks, L. R. Fontanini, D. A. McLean, Harold Zimmer, E. J. Sheppard, John G. Burke, Charles E. Feight, Norris Adams, Eldon Leonard, and Ollie Weigel (present).

A city manager was hired in 1973.



Present City Hall



Marshal Oley Landey



Present Mayor Ollie J. Weigel



Ernest Barr, Assessor



Lou Nelson, Councilman



J.G. Wagner, Treasurer



Henry Wagner, Councilman



Mayor J.F. Ringgenberg



W.L. Wagner, Councilman

E
A
R
L
Y

C
I
T
Y

OFFICIALS



J.H. Horning, Councilman



E.M. Lewis, Town Clerk



B.A. Lamason

WATER WORKS DEPARTMENT

Prior to the time the city council and voters approved a water system the inhabitants obtained their water supply from their own wells.

On August 7, 1911, the council authorized the purchase of eight lots from Lockwood Grain Company for the location of a well and pump. This was the result of five years of planning by the council who first discussed the need for a city well in 1906. The council previous to the vote by the citizens, had purchased a windmill and pump. The plan was defeated by the first vote so the council sold the pump and windmill for sixty dollars cash.

The town's water works were finally approved by the voters on March 27, 1916. Bonds for \$12,000 were voted and a well dug the same year. May 1, 1916 the council approved the purchase of a 50,000 gallon balloon type water tank. Water pipes were installed the same year. S. W. Sheppard was hired as the first pump man.

On September 22, 1936 the council approved a test hole for water to be dug on the A. L. Hitz farm about one mile north of First Street along the right-of-way of the Ft. Dodge-Des Moines and Southern Railway. The test was successful and on February 1, 1937 the council authorized purchase of easement from Cora E. Wagner for the site of the new well for \$500.

In 1937 the council authorized the General Filtering Company of Ames to install the water filtering plant.

Forty-six years after the first water tank was erected, the new city of Ankeny placed into operation a new deep well. The new well which is 2714 feet deep, obtains its water supply from what is called the Jordan Sandstone. This Jordan Sandstone is a large stream that runs across Iowa.

The new well was essential as the old well field could not meet the needs of the rapidly growing city. However, the old well field is being held in reserve for possible emergency use or industrial use.

A second water tank was authorized in 1967, giving the city a total water tower storage of 550,000 gallons.

SANITATION DEPARTMENT

In April 1917, the town council discussed the location for a sewage disposal plant. On July 3, 1917 they accepted the bid of the Empire Construction to build a sewer system and disposal plant.

Today Ankeny has two waste water treatment plants. One on the east side of the city and one on the west. The east side plant is in the process of being engineered to expand its capabilities for treatment.

Just as the water plant is not supported with taxes, the waste water treatment plants are also self supporting. There are several miles of sanitary sewer trunk lines in Ankeny. These lines are designed to provide adequate service to all.

The Sanitation Department is radio equipped to

provide better service to the c.

In these days of concern for pollution, Ankeny are proud that their city provides treatment for solid waste.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

After the war and due to the rapid growth of Ankeny from a town to a city in 1962 the council became aware of the rapidity of its growth and that it would be difficult for the city council to keep up with this growth.

In order that development would proceed in an orderly and systematic manner they deemed it wise for the city to have a planning and zoning commission.

The Planning and Zoning Commission is the most important group to the development of the future of the city. The Commission assists the council in development phase of planning and makes recommendations to the council.

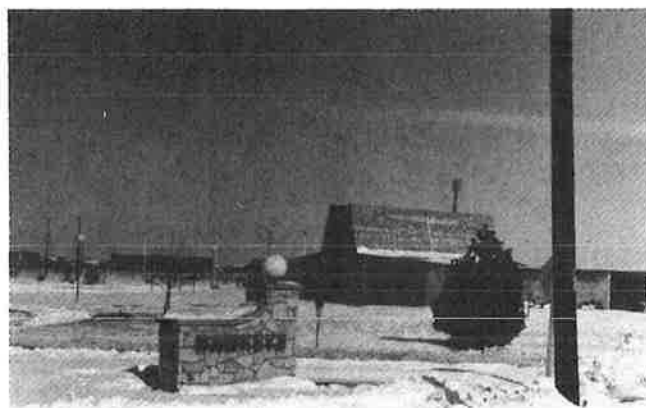
It is an information gathering and advice giving body. It cannot pass legislation, nor can it arbitrarily impose ideas upon the community. Its findings and recommendations have force only by formal action of the city council. The basic function of the commission is to study existing conditions and future development possibilities. They then prepare a plan for guiding future growth in keeping with the long-range interests in the city. In order to get the various branches of government working toward a definite goal it is necessary to have a definite plan for this development.

Before any structure can be erected or altered in any way, the person wishing to do so must first obtain from the building official a building permit.

Prior to the issuance of the permit it is the duty of the zoning administrator to study each application for conformance to the zoning ordinance.

The building official also goes to the building site and inspects it after the foundation has been laid. The inspector sees that the person holding the permit complies to what has been stated on the building permit.

PARKS AND RECREATION



Hawkeye Park

When Ankeny was incorporated in 1903 the town planner provided for parks but it was not until 1910 that the town had a park.

In 1910 Henry Wagner gave 2.5 acres located on First Street to the town to be made into a park. The equipment for the park was donated by the Commercial Club and Ankeny's Women Club. However, it was not until February 20, 1920 the park was officially named "The Henry Wagner Park." Ankeny homecomings and barbecues were held in the park until Mr. Wagner's death in 1929.

The park was also used for leisure hours, children playing and people sitting on the lawn listening to band concerts, Fourth of July Celebrations, Labor Day events and others. As Ankeny grew the Fourth of July Celebration was changed to Fun and Feed Days because many of Ankeny's new suburbanites spent the Fourth of July in their old home towns.

A Shelter House to be used for meetings and other civic activities was built on the park but was destroyed by the June 18, 1974 tornado.

The Wagner Park was the only park here until Ankeny became a city. The population had grown from 445 in 1910 to an estimated 12,000. With this rapid urbanization came the need for recreational facilities. To meet this need the city established a Parks and Recreation Department.

The department has developed a program for year round recreation for the citizens of Ankeny. By 1975 the city had nine parks plus recreational activities in connection with the school facilities.

The parks were acquired either by purchase of the land by the city or gifts from individuals and developers. Haubert Park (.89 acres) located on Street was purchased in 1963 was the first park developed by the city after the Wagner Park gift. Sunrise Park (10.4 acres) located on Peterson Drive was purchased in 1966. Hawkeye Park (17.8 acres) located on First Street including tennis courts and lake was purchased in 1967. One of the unusual features included in the future development of this park is Amphitheater Hill. It is planned to use this area for musical presentations and band concerts. Sunset Park (4.8 acres) located on Third Street was purchased in 1968. A small park, Westside (.33 acres) on Ordinance Road was a gift from Westside Development Corporation (Frank Lint) in 1970. Westside and Haubert Parks are "tot-tots" and are maintained mainly for use by the younger children. In 1973, the city received another gift - Village Park (2.4 acres) located on First Street from the developer of the Scogman Homes Area. Lint Enterprise gave Greentree Park (5.0 acres) to the city in 1974. In 1973, the city purchased 37.4 acres east of the city. It was developed into Heritage Park in 1974.

The parks in general have play areas and equipment, basketball courts, ball diamonds, picnic tables and benches, grills, and shelter houses.

By 1970, the parks system had grown to the point that a full time director and employee were needed so the recreational program will continue to advance in an orderly and progressive fashion.

STREET DEPARTMENT

The streets of Ankeny were first oiled in 1915. In December 1933, as a project under the Civilian Works Authority (CWA). Streets were graveled and in 1944 were resurfaced with a coating of rock and asphalt. Main (Third) Street was paved in 1929 from a point west of the lumber yard east to Highway 69.

The year 1962 saw, for all practical purposes, the last of the dirt and gravel streets in Ankeny. Today (1975), all streets in Ankeny are paved with the exception of First Street and Ordinance Road.

The street department is radio equipped and with the growth of the city it has become necessary to add about an average of two men to the department each year.

The street employees work around the clock during snow storms and also on emergency calls from any other department when needed. Without the efficiency of these trained men all other departments of the city would virtually become immobile.

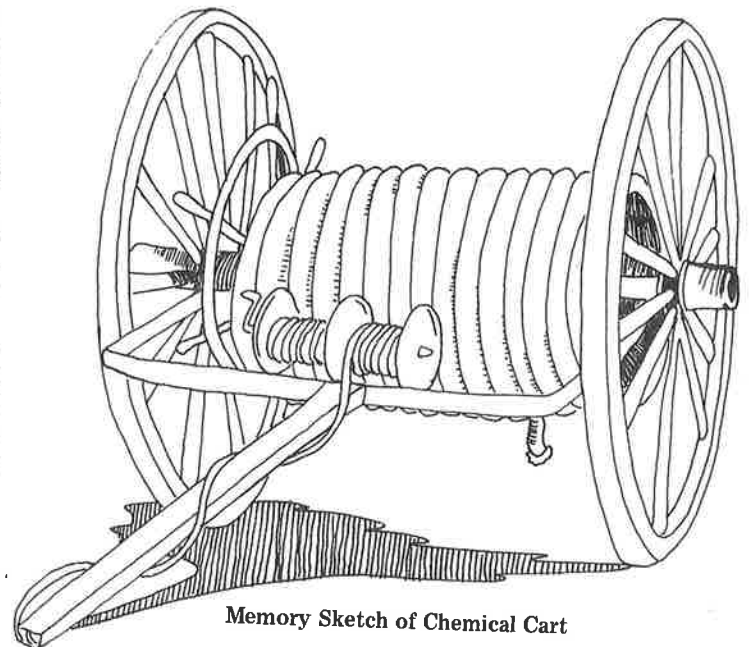
The department is equipped with motor graders, payloaders, street sweeper, snow plows, tractor, trucks, concrete saw, mowers, pressure washer, etc.

The department is financed by general taxation, road use taxes, and miscellaneous income.

For all new street construction the present subdivision regulations require a minimum width of 31 feet and minimum thickness of 6 inch Portland cement concrete with street reinforcement.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ankeny's first fire protection began in 1907 when the town purchased three ladders and twenty galvanized pails. The first Volunteer Fire Department was organized August 24, 1910 with Jacob Abuhl, fire



Memory Sketch of Chemical Cart

chief and Edwin Wagner, captain, nozzlemen were Al Stader and Fred Zimmerman, bucketman, Fred Swartfager, ladderman, Paul Canfield and Rolfe Wagner. At this time the town purchased a man-drawn chemical cart. The cart was housed in the Odd Fellows Building on Walnut Street.

In 1917, a fire team was organized with W. C. Schurke as Chief; foreman, William Wickersham, secretary, O. R. Canfield, treasurer, E. R. Wagner.

The department was allowed sixteen men who were exempt from poll taxes of \$2.00 per year for their services. In addition to the above, B. A. Schurke, William Way, F. M. Tincher, John Smith, Clyde Ritchart, Joe Lawson, Orren Swartfager, Dr. Likely, Will Gose, John Boozel, Fred Swartfager, and E. J. Sheppard were also members.

In 1920, William Way was appointed Chief. In the early twenties the first piece of motorized equipment was purchased which was a Model T.

The citizens of the town received fire protection through taxation and in 1922 when the protection was extended to the country side a charge of \$5.00 was made plus a dollar per mile if over five miles. Today Ankeny and the surrounding area receives fire protection through taxation.

In 1926, E. J. Sheppard was appointed Chief, O. E. Lowe assistant Chief. Other members were Murl Biery, Lorenzo Ward, Harry Stanfield, L. E. Brewbaker, E. R. Wagner, W. H. Way, Clarence Johnson, William Wickersham, E. A. Walters and F. H. Zelle.

In 1931, the department purchased a new Chevrolet truck for a fire truck. At the same time 200 feet of 1½ inch hose, one Siamese coupling, two connecting cutoffs and one plug were purchased from the American LaFrance Company at a cost of \$170.00. This equipment was stored in the Ankeny Star Lodge Building. E. J. Sheppard was still Chief. Additional members, Roy Donaghy, Ray Gilbrech, O. E. Lowe, Fred Swartfager, Harry Wagner, Frank Zelle, Jr.

In 1936, the town furnished telephones for members of the fire team. L. R. Fontanini joined the team this year. Firemen L. Lein, W. Stittsworth, R. Kraft, L. Labus, and D. Whiting joined the team in 1945. Ray Gilbrech was appointed Chief in 1946; his assistant was E. J. Sheppard. New firemen were C. Tompkins, C. Purdy, G. Ballard, and O. Ballard.

As the department and town grew the first siren was purchased and installed in 1941. This is still a familiar sound to the residents today.

In 1950, the first fire truck was purchased; an Army Surplus Pumper mounted on a 1949 Chevrolet truck. In this year L. R. Fontanini was appointed Chief; assistant, O. E. Lowe. New firemen were R. Lowe, E. West, R. Brazelton, B. Bruce. In 1952, P. Kochheiser and A. Berg joined the team.

A rural board was formed in 1953 and the Citizens and Farmers of Ankeny purchased a 1953 International 500 gallon pumper for use in the town and country. It cost \$14,000. Hornberg, and J. DeZori, and C. Wheeler joined the department.

Marvin Frisk and G. Gioffredi became members in

1954. Charles Mynatt was appointed chief in 1960.

Another piece of equipment was added; the Rescue Unit, which was purchased in 1964 through the proceeds from the Firemen's Dances. It is one of the finest up-to-date units in the department. In the same year a 750 G.P.M. fully equipped pumper was purchased. In 1966, another 1,038 gallon tanker was purchased for hauling water to the pumper and fighting fires on the run such as grass fires.

By 1966, the department had outgrown its original station. The residents of Ankeny passed a bond issue for a new fire station. A new fire station No. 1 was erected at 713 Third Street to house all fire equipment and offices of the department. The station cost \$40,000. The firemen moved into the new station in December 1966.

Official dedication was on January 6, 1967. Marvin Frisk was appointed as the first full time fire Chief and Dale Frisk as the assistant. Mike Cherry is Captain.



(Left to Right - Bottom) - Bill Michael, Dean Pierce, Bruce Williams, Dale Frisk, Doug Hamilton, Paul Swartfager.
(Left to Right - Top) - Marv Frisk-Chief, Dale Martin, Dale Herman, John Patterson, Dewayne Doubleday, Bruce Swartfager, Roger Hill, Ron Anderson, Dale Goins, Lynn Pitts, Jerry Lanham, Howard Twidt, Francous Sapp.

This same year the first fire dispatcher, Joyce Lundstrom, was hired. All fire alarms come to the dispatcher and through radio tones the alarm is sent to each member of the volunteer squad who has a receiving radio.

Through this method they receive instruction. Today there are six dispatchers for the fire and police department. Prior to the radio dispatching, alarms were given by telephone. Telephones were placed in various locations around town and all would ring simultaneously. The firemen would respond to the rings for directions.

Due to the rapid growth of the city on both sides of the railroad tracks which intersect it, another station was needed. The citizens voted to purchase a building at First and Northeast 22 Streets to be remodeled for Fire Station No. 2. In October 1974, the second station began operation with a rescue unit and a pumper stationed there at all times.

The firemen have always been active in community affairs. Each year the department has an Annual Firemen's Dance to help purchase needed equipment.

The fire department not only serves Ankeny but provides protection for Ankeny's rural areas. It has received many awards to outstanding service.

The present strength of the department is approximately twenty-seven men. It has five modern

engines and two fully equipped Rescue Units. The firemen are equipped with all modern fire fighting equipment. All the equipment is the property of the city of Ankeny.

Another member must also be mentioned, "MisChief," the department's mascot. She is in her sixth year of service. The dog is kept behind the firehouse and leads the firemen in parades.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The town, and later the city of Ankeny, has always had an efficient law enforcement department.

The law enforcement department became seventy-two years old on March 20, 1975. The department has grown from one marshal in 1903 to a total of one chief, two detectives, one lieutenant, 14 patrolmen, one liaison officer, one policewoman, two dispatchers and three cadet dispatchers.

Art Hall was an early law enforcing officer to serve Ankeny as he was elected township constable in 1885.

After incorporation, Oley Landey was sworn in as the first marshal on March 20, 1903. This was the beginning of our present police department.

Following are other marshalls that have served: Ernest Barr, John Smock, L. M. Lehr, W. H. Way, F. A. Kile, Harry Stanfield, Clarence Johnson, F. A. Allen, L. L. Cunningham, Joe Lawson, O. E. Lowe and Carlton Purdy. Purdy served for about 14 years (1944-1958).

In 1903, the marshal's salary was \$25 per year and in 1911 it was raised to \$50 per year.

Milton Fox was employed as the first motorcycle traffic policeman in July 1924. He received 50 percent and the town 50 percent of the fines.

Other full time and part time police in the late 1950's and early 1960's were Arthur C. Kolls, M. J. Borgstrand, Bill Bruce and Warren Thornton, Earl Olmstead and L. R. Fontanini served as special police. Leo Sprague and Sidney Hildreth were relief

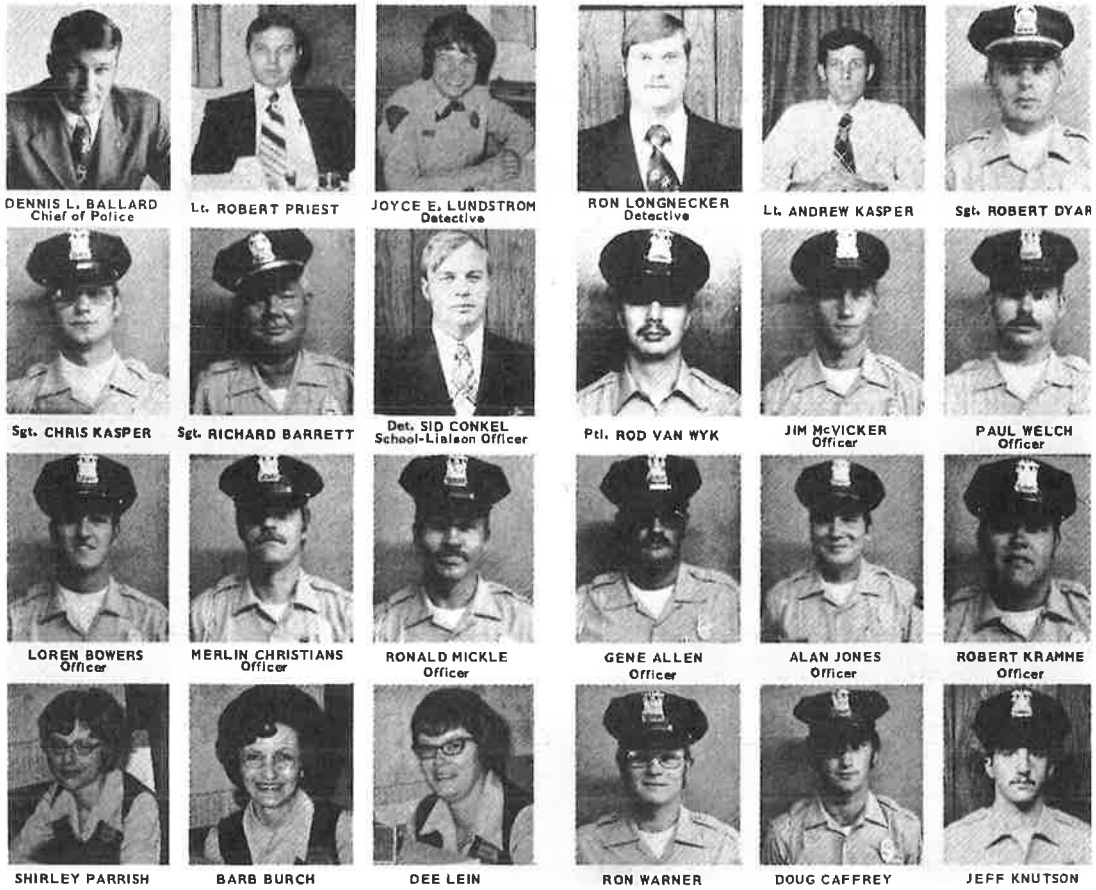
policemen. There were probably others in the last two categories.

After the death of Arthur Knolls in 1958, Earl Hildreth was appointed police chief with Arthur Doubleday as policeman. On December 21, 1961, the force was increased to three with the appointment of Clifford Doubleday. For the first time Ankeny had twenty-four hour police protection, seven days a week. After Hildreth's death, Arthur Doubleday was named police chief in September 1963 which position he held until he retired. Dennis Ballard was then named police chief and still serves in this capacity.

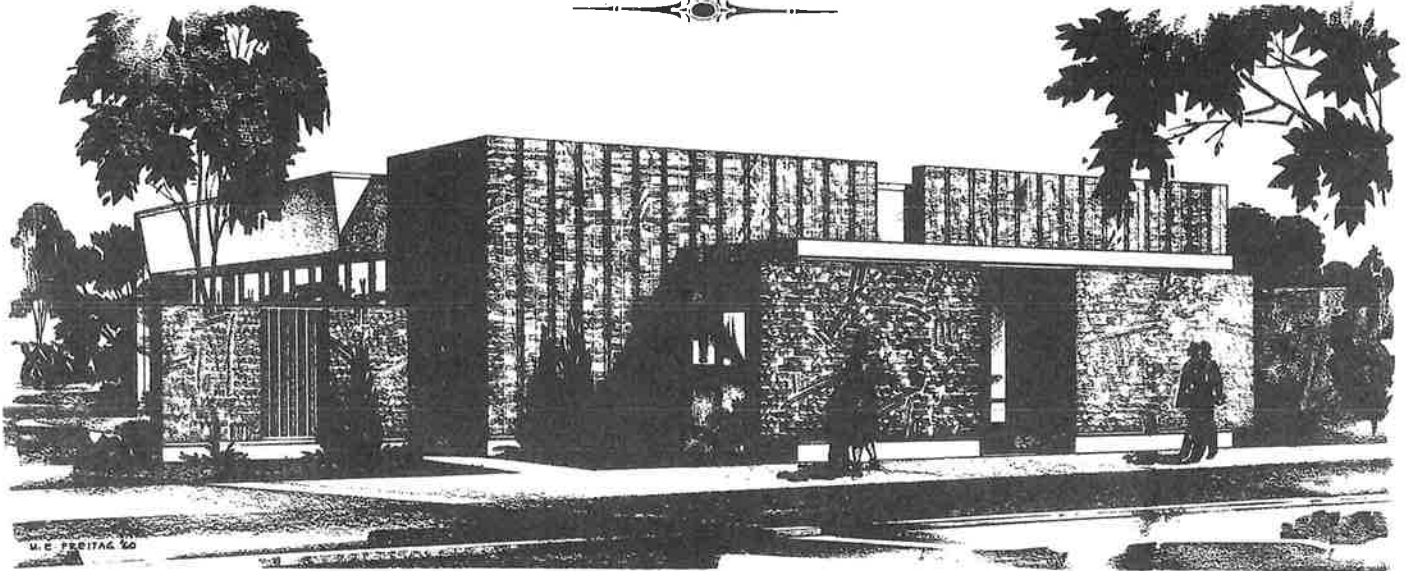
The department is constantly upgrading the quality of its officers. These officers are among the best trained in the state. Most have completed their two year AA Degree in Law Enforcement at the Des Moines Area Community College and other advance courses in a variety of pertinent areas and training seminars conducted by State and Federal Agencies.

The Police Department continues to modernize and up-date all procedures in order to keep up with the city's growth and expansion. All cars are radio equipped and maintain two-way communication with the Polk County Sheriff's Office, State police radio, and local police network.

One of the major functions of the Police Department is the prevention and control of juvenile delinquency. In order that this area be effectively controlled a school liaison system was set up within the framework of the Department in 1974.



Present Police Department



• KIRKENDALL PUBLIC LIBRARY •
ANKENY, IOWA

BROOKS-BORG
ARCHITECTS-ENGINEERS
DES MOINES, IOWA

Kirkendall Public Library 211 Walnut Street

LIBRARY

The Kirkendall Public Library is the result of the philanthropy of Lee and Clarence Kirkendall. The Kirkendalls were farmers who willed a portion of their land to Ankeny to be used for the specific purpose of building a public library. Approximately \$130,000 was given to the library from the estate.

A library board was established in 1959 and on March 10, 1960 the library board announced the purchase of a lot located at 211 Walnut Street for the library from Guy Kline and Dr. Arnold Nielsen.

The building was constructed at a cost of \$50,000 and was one of the newest and most modern in the town when built.

The library was opened to public use after its dedication on March 30, 1961.

The following years saw great strides taken in the overall program of the library. The library now offers close to twenty-three thousand volumes to the public. Other library reading materials and services are also provided, such as, Apeco Superstat copy machine, Bell and Howell slide and film projector, portable cassette players and recorders, and master lens and aids for those who have difficulty reading small print. Dial-A-Story for children any time of the day or night is also provided.

Many good books have been donated for which the library is grateful.

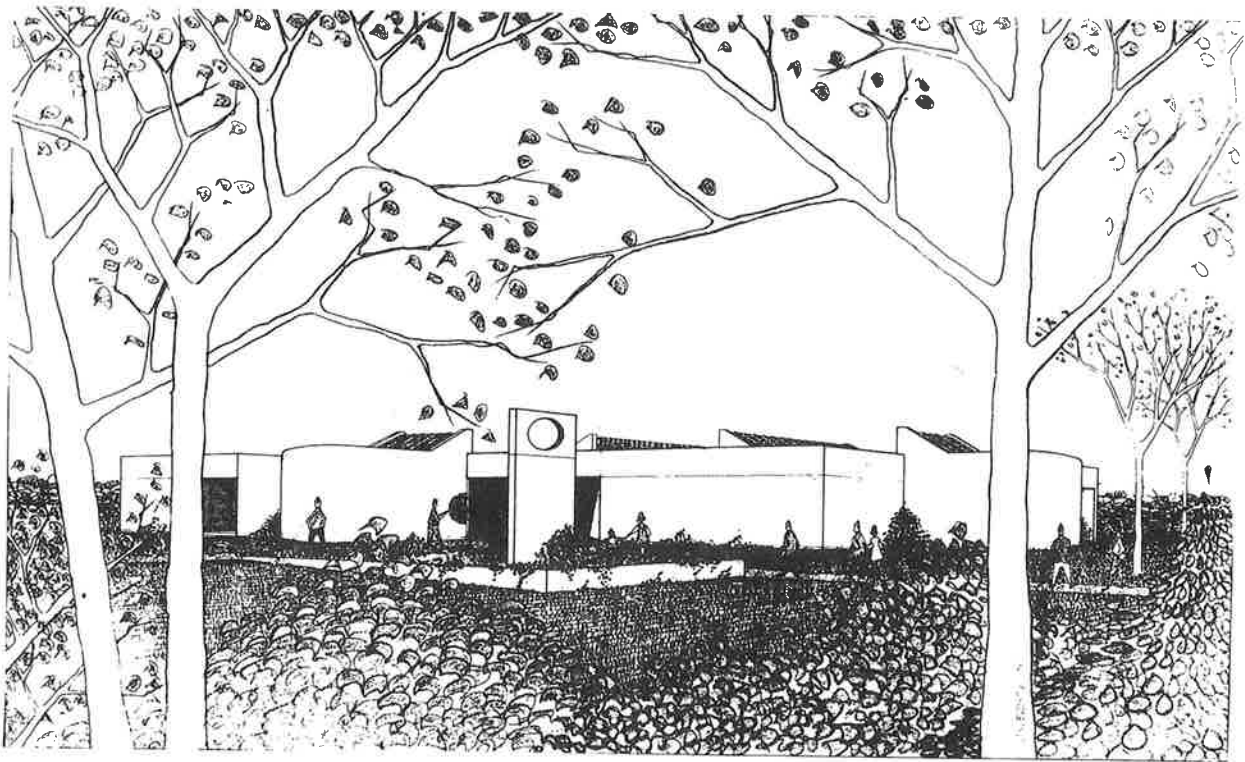
Another feature of the library is that music albums of all kinds may be borrowed from it. The albums and books are supplied by the Iowa Traveling Library. The library has a music listening room.

Operating costs of the library are supported by taxes by the local taxes.

Library cards are free to Ankeny residents and to persons owning property within these boundaries. Non-residents may use the facilities by payment of a small annual fee. Temporary cards are issued to students or persons attending an educational institution in this area.

On May 30, 1974 the voters of Ankeny went to the polls to vote a new library. The Ankeny Industrial Corporation contributed \$100,000 to the library fund, the State Library Commission added \$44,600, and \$100,000 in Federal Revenue Sharing Funds were used, leaving \$140,000 to be raised by taxation.

Ground was broken for the construction of the new facilities on November 4, 1974. Upon completion of the new building the Kirkendall Public Library will be relocated in the Wagner Park at First and Cherry Streets.



robert l. vandeventer aia architect, inc.

west des moines, iowa

Proposed Kirkendall Public Library - Location: Wagner Park, First and Cherry Streets.

EDUCATION MOVES FORWARD

ANKENY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

"What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to the soul."

The keynote of education in Ankeny - past, present, and future - is one of quality and quantity. From the log cabin, built in 1850, twenty years before Crocker Township was organized as a civil township, to a system with an enrollment of 3,973 in 1974-75, education has had top priority in the Ankeny community.

The first school, built of logs, was located on the Woods' farm approximately one mile south of Ankeny where the east entrance of the Iowa State Experimental farm joins Highway 69. Later this school was re-located on the east side of Ankeny Boulevard, just south of First Street.

A third move located the building on the southwest corner of First Street where the DX station is now. A room in the IOOF building served as an over-flow room.



Taken in 1901 of Ankeny's first school after it was moved to Southeast corner of Ankeny Blvd. and First St.

1. Teacher-Grace L. Dorr 2. Charley 3. Hugh Galden 4. Fae Weinhart 5. Anna Tait 6. Edna Lewis 7. Florence Van Slack
8. George Koltionizer 9. Ethel Sparr 10. Nellie Kile 11. Alice Weinhart 12. John Lewis 13. George Harris 14. Jerry Donaghy
15. Fred Swartfager 16. Bessie Tait 17. John Horning 18. Daisy Zimmerman 19. John Thompson 20. Grace Weinhart 21. Mabel
22. Wendel Boyer 23. Fred Hollowell 24. Maggie Kaltenheiser 25. Katie Horning

The fourth site, selected in 1902, was the present school grounds at Third and School Streets. This three-room building was soon inadequate and was torn down. The two-story, 8 room building, erected in 1909 was to serve the community well for over 60 years until the damage of the 1974 tornado necessitated demolition rather than repair.

(Photo at right)

- (Back Row) Walter Weyrauch, ? , Arthur Woods
 (Middle Row) Lizzie Nelson, Georgia Swartfager, Ollie Hall, Iowa Wagner, Anna Kobi, Pearl Wagner, Josie Weinhart, Rolfe Wagner, Ben Gross, Will Weyrauch
 (Front Row Seated) Ossie Nelson, Edna Boyer, Lulu Woods, ? , Orren Swartfager, Ray Sheppard



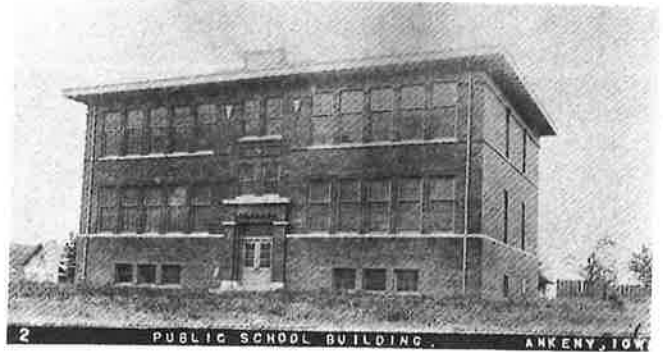
Taken in front of the IOOF Hall where school was held, (south of Ford Garage)

Consolidation came to Ankeny in 1919 at which time the oldest part of the present Neveln Junior High was built. Several country school houses were moved to the grounds to accommodate the increased enrollment.

There was no new construction until 1952 when the original part of the Parkview building was constructed. In 1957, the west wing was added and in 1964 an east wing was completed at which time Parkview became Ankeny High School.

In 1959, an addition consisting of offices, a small gym, and class rooms joined the two buildings on the corner of 3rd and School streets.

As Ankeny grew from a small town to a suburb, the story of education has been one of increased



Old Central



The latest in modern school busses "circa" 1919.

Ankeny Boulevard to house the high school is moving toward completion ready for first occupancy in September, 1975, a challenging beginning to Ankeny's second one hundred years in education.

Records show that a Mr. A. H. Feigenbaum was one of the very early teachers, serving in the early one room schools about 1880. The early roster includes such names as Mrs. Hattie Cornwall, a Miss Benedict, Miss Maude Kennedy, and Mrs. John Wagner as a substitute.

Superintendents serving the Ankeny school have been: 1917 - H. H. Van Bentysuen, 1919 - E. G. Clark, 1921 - Ed Neveln, 1943 - Cliff Evans, Ted Karges, 1951 - Ralph Jorgensen, 1958 - Melvin Anderson, and 1960 - Keith Hopkins.



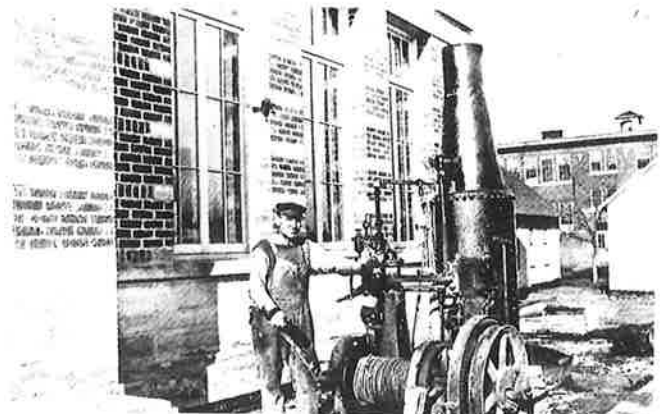
enrollment and continuous building. Four buildings now house the kindergarten through sixth grade students. Northwest Elementary on West 1st Street was the first building after the original Parkview building. It was completed in 1962 with open house held on September 23.

The next grade building was East Elementary, opened in 1963.

The third building, Southeast on South Trilien, was occupied in 1969.

Running out of points of the compass for designations, the fourth building on School street was completed and opened in 1972 as Terrace Elementary.

As Ankeny moves toward its centennial observance, the first phase of a new complex on North



J.R. Colvin running hoisting engine when high school was built in 1920.

SPORTS



1950 IOWA STATE HIGH SCHOOL RUNNER-UP BASKETBALL TEAM

Front row, left to right: Robert Johnson, Harold Hildreth, Merrit Parsons, Barney Alleman, Vernon Herring, Ron Fontana, Ray Fontana. Back row, left to right: Keith Hildreth, Ray Brown, Gail Gibson, Jack Kovacevich, Randall Hirsh, George Alleman.



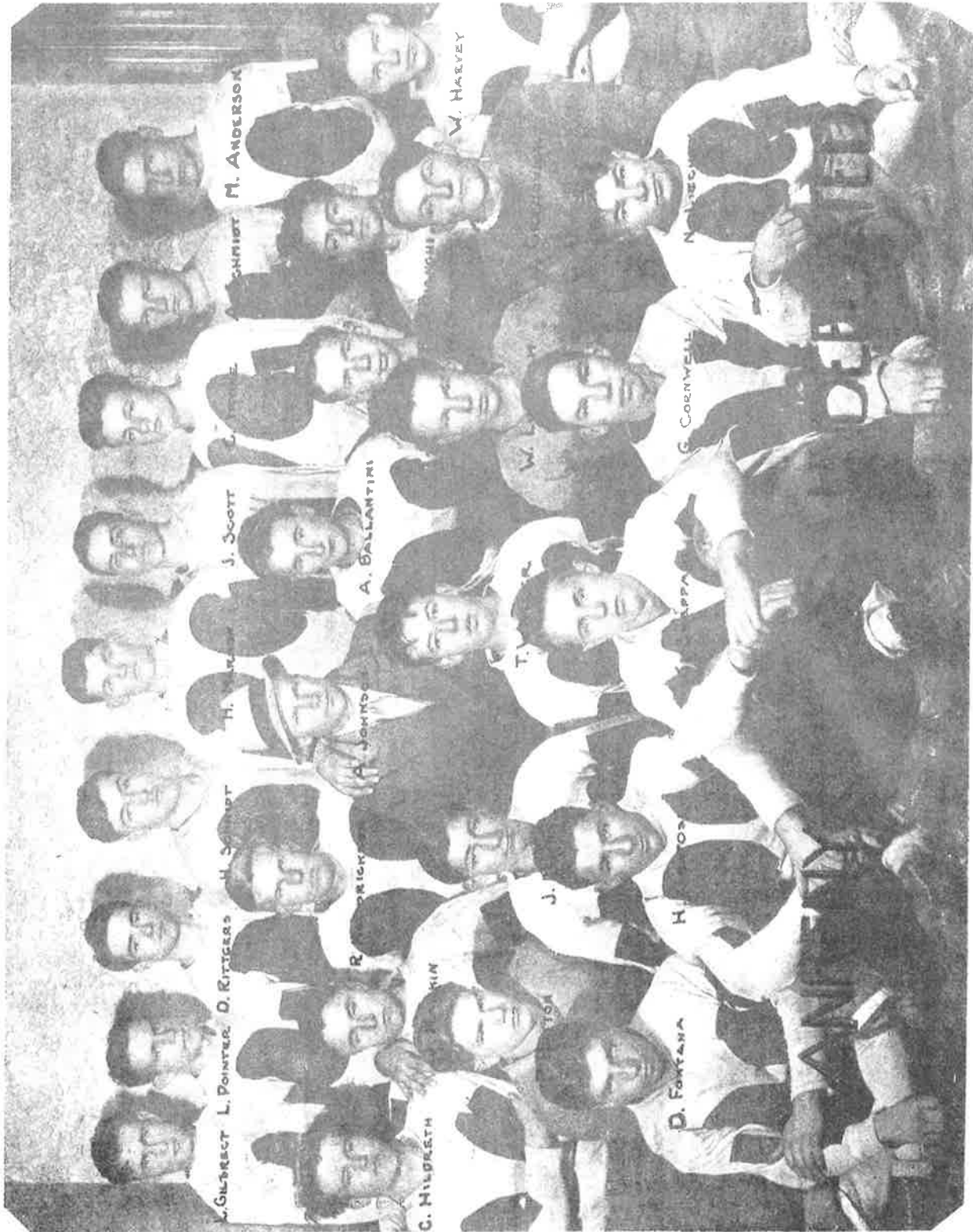
Ankeny boys' basketball teams from 1948 thru 1950 made it to the state tourney three years in a row bringing home 4th place in 1948, and the runner-up trophy in 1950. During these years Ankeny saw Richard Fontana, John Johnston, Ray Fontana, Harold Hildreth and Barney Alleman earn All-State honors. Ray Fontana was also chosen to play in the High School All American Basketball game.



The 1951 Hawks Football team went undefeated with an 8-0 record. Two members of this team, Ron Fontana and Jack Kovacevich were placed on All State teams. Barney Alleman, Gale Gibson, and Ron Fontana of this Ankeny team went on to be lettermen for the Iowa State Cyclones.



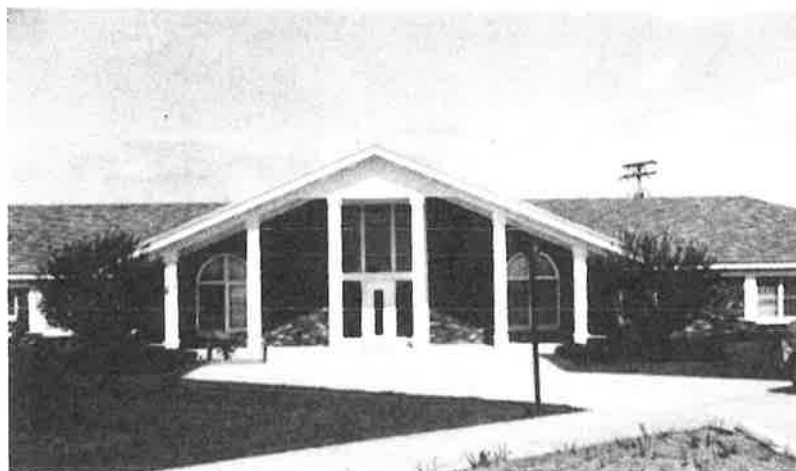
The 1953 Girls Basketball team went to the state tourney losing out in the first round. Delores (Brown) Boyd of this team was selected on the All State team and later inducted in the Iowa Girls High School Basketball Hall of Fame.



It all began in 1932 for Ankeny's record-setting grid team. Coached by Archie Johnson and Paul Rafferty between 1932-38, Ankeny built-up a string of 44 straight wins. That record stood as a state mark until last season when East Waterloo took it over. The record is now at some 47 wins.



FAITH BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE



Gracing the northwest edge of Ankeny is the beautiful and expanding campus of Faith Baptist Bible College. The College has been located here since 1966 following a move from Omaha.

College President Dr. David Nettleton emphasizes the purpose of FBBC: to provide courses of study and training designed to prepare young people to serve as leaders and laymen in various types of Christian service. Undergirding the whole of its life, purpose and growth is the principle of faith in God.

The school has four - and five - year courses leading to B.S., B.A., and Th. B. degrees. Students may major in music, theology, Christian Education; and each of them receives a major in Bible. The school also offers a general education program which includes a course in secretarial sciences begun in 1973. A diploma is granted for a three-year course of study.

Faith had its beginning in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1921, when it was a three-year Bible institute, located in a three-story frame house on Park Avenue. Its name then was the Omaha Bible Institute. In 1952, it became a Baptist school and the name was changed to the Omaha Baptist Bible Institute. In 1960 when the school added a fourth year to its curriculum and started offering the B.A. and B.S. degrees, it changed its name to the Omaha Baptist Bible College.

As president, Dr. John L. Patten guided the growth and development of the school from 1947 to 1965. He resigned his position of leadership due to declining health, but continues as a member of the faculty. Then pastor of the Grandview Park Baptist Church in Des Moines, Dr. David Nettleton accepted an invitation to become president in June of 1965.

During the spring of that notable year, the Board of Directors voted to move the school from its crowded quarters in Omaha to its present site in Ankeny. Ground breaking was held Sunday afternoon, May 22, 1966.

The move took place during the summer of 1967. Classes on the new campus began October 2, 1967. Relocation on the new 36-acre plot necessitated another name change — to the present designation of Faith Baptist Bible College.

Since that small beginning, a number of buildings have been constructed or acquired. The school now has an impressive collection of colonial-styled buildings and has purchased several existing structures. On the campus proper are the Administration Building and the Multipurpose Building, both built in 1966; the John L. Patten Library, added in 1969; the Classroom Building, in 1971; and the most recent construction, the Gymnasium-Convocation Building, completed in 1973.

In addition to these steps in campus development, the College has purchased eight-plex apartment buildings on College Avenue for use as residences for singles. With the total now at ten, six are occupied by single men, one by single women; and three are used by married students.

The large four-plex on North Fourth Street was acquired first for housing single men in 1971; then it was converted in 1973 for use as the Music Building. The duplex across from the Ad Building on Fourth Street was purchased and put into use — half for faculty offices and half for student housing. The latter half became the Christian Education Department offices in the summer of 1974.

The most recent purchases include eighteen lots on the north edge of the original campus which border North Ninth Street, and the Nob Hill apartment complex on North Arlan. These five eight-plex apartments are used for housing single girls.

The College master plan shows other buildings to be constructed in the future: Chapel, Christian

Education/Music Building, Dining Hall and on-campus residences. When completed, the campus will have facilities to handle 600 to 800 students.

As of 1974, the College has invested \$4½ million in the Ankeny campus.

Ankeny's tornado in June of 1974 ripped into town from the northwest — skimming the Bible College campus. The Music Building lost its roof and suffered extensive interior damage. The Gymnasium-Convocation Building lost large roof sections and sustained water damage which ruined the hardwood floor.

Faith Baptist Bible College is an independent, educational institution approved by the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches. It is a member of the American Association of Bible Colleges and has been approved by the Office of Veterans' Education of the Iowa State Department of Education for training under the veterans' programs. The Department of Education has also recommended that acceptable credits may be transferred from the College to any of the state universities. Faith is listed in the official publication of American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers and in the Education Directory, Part III, Higher Education, published by the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The College is financed entirely by student fees and gifts from churches, alumni, individuals and business firms. It is governed by an eighteen-member Board of Directors consisting of pastors, educators and businessmen from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska and Ohio.

This policy-making body meets three times yearly to transact the official business of the College. The College administration is composed of the president, the dean of education, the dean of students, the business manager and the director of development.

Presently there are 28 full-time faculty members compared with 18 in 1967. The first-year-in-Ankeny enrollment of 268 has more than doubled in eight years to 582. In the same period of time, the operating budget has more than doubled to a current figure of over \$1,500,000.

Over 1,400 alumni encircle the globe. About 65 percent of Faith's graduates are engaged in full time ministries of the church or mission field.

Extracurricular activities include drama, athletics, music and missions. Each semester the drama club presents a play on campus. The athletic program offers intercollegiate competition in basketball, cross country, tennis and softball. The College Chorale, Ladies' Chorus and smaller ensembles provide an extension ministry for the College and a means of expression and development for talented students. Prayer groups, missions fellowship organizations and the Missionary Apprenticeship Program enlist many students interested in world evangelism.

The College sponsors numerous events on campus including conferences, concerts, ball games, drama productions, etc., which are open to the public. Friends from the community are always welcome to attend.

In eight years, FBBC has found Ankeny a most delightful home. This is a great place to live, to learn, to grow. The Faith family is happy to be a part of Ankeny's continuing progress.



DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



As the City of Ankeny observes its 100th year of existence, one of its newest and fastest growing industries will be closing in on its 10th anniversary. Des Moines Area Community College, officially established in 1966, has made Ankeny the focal point of the phenomenal Community College movement in the state of Iowa as its enrollment tops the other 14 area schools.

Education is an industry? Yes, as it relates to a city. With some 400 employees, an operating budget of approximately \$10 million and student enrollment on the campus of some 5,000 students, there can be little question that it is an industry — an industry that not only boosts the economy of the city but also its status.

How did it all begin? Ankeny was selected as the main campus for the newly established college shortly after the first Board of Directors was organized on May 23, 1966. Administrative offices were first located in the old Ankeny post office at 315 Walnut and within the year negotiations were completed to purchase 240 acres within the south city limits — a part of the Iowa State University's experimental farm. An option to purchase an additional 80 acres was a part of the agreement.

Ground was broken May 8, 1969 for the first phase of the Master Campus with the Honorable Robert Ray, Governor of Iowa, turning the first spadeful of soil. This marked the beginning of construction of the first five permanent buildings, which were dedicated September 12, 1971.

These buildings housed the industrial manufacturing, health occupations, data processing, accounting and food services programs and the educational media center. Also, included in this phase was a service facility from which utilities were carried underground to serve the complex. Total cost of these buildings was about \$5.5 million. They contain approximately 170,000 square feet.

During the interim — between the era of the grocery store and roller rink in West Des Moines and several churches in Ankeny — seven buildings, containing 104,000 square feet, were erected on the campus site under a lease — purchase arrangement and the temporary facilities were emptied, program by program, as the transition was made to the Ankeny campus.

The campus continued to grow. More buildings were erected — additions to the data processing building to house the secretarial-clerical and drafting programs, and to the health occupations building to allow expansion in the dental programming. The dental addition, housing the new dental hygiene program and the dental assistant program was opened to the public in November, 1974. These additions each added 15,000 square feet to the parent facility.

A public service careers building, containing 50,000 square feet, opened in the fall of 1974 and more movement of programs and personnel took place. Another large educational building and a utility center will be completed during 1975.

As buildings were added, so were students. From the original student body of 28 starting classes in February, 1967, the number grew to 1,400 by the 1969-70 college year and to 3,364 during the next year. Growth continued and by 1974 reached 5,697. It is predicted that by 1980, enrollment will reach or surpass 8,000.

These numbers do not include those served through adult and continuing education, where by 1974 some 40,000 were enrolled in either short courses or adult education courses held at many locations in the district, including the Ankeny Campus.

DMACC is a commuters' college as there are no dormitories or residential facilities on campus. Students either drive back and forth from their homes or find living accommodations in the area. Because 20 per cent of the state's population lives within the college district, which encompasses approximately 11 per cent of the land area of Iowa, it is obvious that the college should remain the largest community college in the state.

A comprehensive two-year post-high school education can be obtained at the college. Some 60 career education programs are now available to students — all of which have been carefully researched as to meet the needs of business and industry. Placement statistics prove that at least 90 per cent of the career program graduates are employed as they complete their study.

Freshman-sophomore college classes add to the comprehensiveness of available education and a merging of the two main areas, career and college transfer curriculum, blend for some 14 para-professional programs which prepare graduates to enter the field in which they have specialized or allow for transferral of credits to a four-year institution.

Des Moines Area Community College has changed the horizon in the southern part of Ankeny, its staff has become a vital part of living in the city and most of its students will, for the most part, be able to say, "I lived in Ankeny for a few years."



SOON A PART OF THE AREA EDUCATIONAL AGENCY POLK-STORY JOINT COUNTY

The educational system in Iowa has been buttressed by a county school unit almost since statehood was achieved. Current editions of the Iowa Code, seeking authority through historical perspective, credit an act of the Sixth General Assembly (1858) — the first Legislature to meet in Des Moines — as giving life to county school units and system to a rather anarchic educational setting.

The county school unit in those days was primarily responsible for supervising the operations of rural schools, and for assisting city schools in their work. The county superintendent, in addition to overseeing and planning educational programs for the rural schools and hiring teachers, had to fight constant political battles; he was an elected official and schools, as America grasped world intellectual and industrial preeminence, became national and local assets. Real estate and industrial developers early cited "good schools" among their reasons why people should choose Polk County, Iowa, as a place to settle. They depended on the county superintendent and his growing staff, in large part, to give credence to their claims.

The county superintendent, who by 1947 was out of the political arena and responsible to a popularly elected board of education, assumed a leadership role in developing educational programs to meet the new demands. As rural schools quickly slid into historical Americana they consumed less and less of the superintendent's time. More and more the superintendent and his still-growing staff were concerned with the development of city and suburban schools; learning and adapting new teaching methods and new subject matter. Indeed, in many ways the changing role of the county superintendent, his office and staff, reflects the changing complexion of public education in Iowa. Through their collective skill and imagination they created many of those changes themselves.

Schools are now complex institutions mirroring society in many ways. Iowa's schools and schools in central Iowa in particular, true to the early developers' claims and the dreams of the settlers they attracted, are generally regarded as among the nation's best. The Polk County School System had a role in that success. Programs and services the System offers in special and general education have achieved national acclaim.

In 1973, under the leadership of Superintendent K. W. Miller, the System merged with the Story County unit and became the Joint County School System of Polk and Story Counties, and began serving 18 local school districts with a combined student population of nearly 75,000. The merger precipitated June, 1974's move from downtown Des Moines to 1932 Southwest Third Street in Ankeny; a location that means accessibility to the System's patrons and that offers a fine pool of local talent on which the System can draw.

On July 1, 1975, quite in time for Ankeny's Centennial Celebration, the System will be replaced by Area Education Agency (AEA) Eleven, which represents still another step in the development of the county intermediate unit in Iowa. The Agency will headquarter in Ankeny and will replace not only the Polk-Story Joint System, but seven other County and Joint County School Systems in an eleven-county central Iowa area; the same area that is served by the Des Moines Area Community College which is also headquartered in Ankeny.

The AEA will offer a broad range of services to the 125,000 students and 7,500 teachers and school administrators in 63-local school districts in Area 11, and eventually employ a professional staff of over 400 persons. The services will include special education support in the areas of psychological, speech and hearing testing and therapy, learning and emotional disability, mental and physical handicaps; instructional support in educational data processing, research and evaluation, and guidance consulting and curriculum and staff development; and an educational media center that will regularly distribute over 80,000 books and 16,000 films, filmstrips, tapes, slides and multi-media kits, in addition to offering special production services.

The Agency has a fine tradition of excellence on which to build. That, coupled with the developmental role it will be asked to play, will make it a hub of educational activity in Iowa.



MEDICINE

DOCTORS

In the years prior to 1888 there was no resident physician in Ankeny, however, the people were served by Dr. Sullivan who lived one mile south of Ankeny.

Dr. Martin B. Cherrie was the first resident physician. He came in 1888 and started his practice. His office was located on the southwest corner of Second and Main (Cherry) Streets. Dr. Cherrie died in 1903, at the early age of 42 and is buried in Oralabor Cemetery.

Ankeny was served by many other doctors during the early period, some of whom very little is presently known. They include, Dr. Butler Cooper, 1888. Dr. C. F. Patterson 1889. He was appointed health officer for Ankeny in 1910. Dr. E. P. Bell, physician and surgeon, 1895. Dr. Homer L. Spaulding, 1898, office over the Ankeny Bank. He was here until 1940. Dr. O. C. Linn, 1910 who also acted as health officer. Dr. Charles H. Morgan, 1914, physician, surgeon, and mortician. Dr. Natalie, 1918. Dr. Ellsworth, 1918. His office was located on Highway 69 or 409 Ankeny Blvd. He was here until 1940.

Dr. Arnold Nielsen opened his practice in 1948. His office was located on Third Street until he completed the present Medical Center Building at 215 Walnut in 1956. Dr. Nielsen is a graduate of Dana College and received his Medical Degree from the University of Nebraska in Omaha. He served on the staff at Broadlawn Hospital and was health officer for Ankeny until the department was abolished. Dr. Donald Schmidt, 1962. Dr. Leon G. Hanke, 1966.

Doctors who are presently practicing in Ankeny:

Dr. Donald Nord opened his practice in 1954. He received his Medical Degree in 1936 from the St. Louis University School of Medicine.

Dr. H. Felix Hach also came to Ankeny in July 1954. He was born in Riga, Latvia and received his degrees from Riga German University and Frederico Alexandrina Erlangensi. He came to the United States in 1952. Dr. Hach completed the Medical Clinic Building at 4th and Maple in 1959.

Dr. Lawrence Gray came to Iowa from Illinois where he received his Medical Degree and training at the University of Illinois. In July 1960, he came to Ankeny and joined Dr. Nielsen. Dr. Gray was named a charter diplomat of the American Board of Family Practice in July 1971. He is active in civic affairs and has served on the Ankeny School Board for several years.

Dr. Rodney Carlson is a native of Iowa. He is a graduate of Buena Vista College and received his Medical Degree from the University of Iowa in 1962. Dr. Carlson came to Ankeny in 1964 and joined Drs. Nielsen and Gray. He was elected Chief of Staff at Broadlawn General Hospital in January 1970. He is a member of the Des Moines Area Community College School Board.

Dr. James Frahm joined Drs. Nielsen, Gray and Carlson in July 1969. He is a graduate of Loma Linda University in California and received his Medical Degree from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Kay E. Check is a native Iowan. He graduated from Iowa State University, Ames in 1962 and received his Medical Degree in 1966 from the University of Iowa. He practiced in both Des Moines and Slater prior to coming to Ankeny in 1973.

OSTEOPATHS

Dr. H. M. Frederichs, 1940, opened his office on the south side of Third Street.

Dr. Keays, 1949.

Dr. Dennis Hopkins, joined Drs. Gray, Carlson and Frahm in 1974. He received his B. S. degree from Northeast Missouri University and his D.O. from Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine.

CHIROPRACTORS

Dr. Stanley M. Fitzgerald opened his office in Ankeny April 13, 1964. He attended Iowa State University and graduated from Logan Chiropractic College in St. Louis, Missouri. He is a member of the Ankeny School Board.

Dr. Leonard Knudtson opened the Ankeny Chiropractic Health Center in 1971. He graduated from Palmer Chiropractic School.

Dr. Daryl Engelan, came to Ankeny in January 1975. He graduated from the Palmer School of Chiropractic.

Dr. Kenneth Brockman graduated from the Palmer School of Chiropractic. He opened his office in Ankeny January 1975.

DENTISTS

Dr. Nott was a dentist in the early 1900's. He practiced in Slater and came to Ankeny only on Mondays.

Ankeny was served by other dentists some of whom very little is presently known. They are: Dr. Likely, 1917. Dr. Carl Ostrem, 1934. Dr. Carl F. Huston, 1940, he was a graduate of Keokuk Dental College, and Dr. R. F. Sampson, 1949.

Dr. Ollie Weigel, opened his Dental Center in Ankeny on July 16, 1951. He received his education at Simpson College and his degree of Dental Surgery from the University of Iowa. His son, Dr. John Weigel, also received his degree of Dental Surgery from the University of Iowa and joined his father in practice July 1961. Dr. Ollie Weigel has served in numerous city offices, including mayor.

Several dentists came here in the 1960's but are no longer in Ankeny, they are: Dr. Bryon Hoffman, 1962, Dr. Stewart M. Sawdey, 1962, Dr. Rodney T. Goltry,

1962, Dr. Dennis C. Denger, 1962 and Dr. Mary Thompson, 1962.

Dr. James McNamee is a native of Iowa. He received his B.S. and D.D.S. degree from the University of Iowa. He came to Ankeny in 1965 and established his practice.

Dr. R. A. Jenkins, a native Iowan, received his degree of Dental Surgery from the University of Iowa. He came to Ankeny in 1968 to practice.

Dr. Jack A. Behren received his degree in Dental Surgery from University of Iowa. He joined Dr. Jenkins in July 1974.

Dr. James W. Collins received his B.A. degree from Northwest Missouri State College and his D.D.S. from the University of Iowa in 1972. He came to Ankeny in the same year and established his practice.

OPTOMETRISTS

As far as can be established Ankeny has had but two optometrists, Drs. R. E. Love, 1947, and Dr. Glenn Higgins who purchased Dr. Love's practice in 1949. Dr. Higgins is a graduate of Illinois College of Optometry.

VETERINARIANS

Records show that Ankeny had a veterinarian in 1903, but no doubt others served the community prior to that date. Information is scarce regarding this service until 1940 when Dr. Foster opened his office in his home on the corner of Walnut and Second. He later moved his office to the northwest corner of Third and Walnut to the block he built after the fire of 1940.

In 1943, Dr. Joseph A. Henderson came to Ankeny and established his veterinary practice. Dr. Henderson was a graduate of Iowa State University, Ames. He served in many positions in the city government and veterinarian organizations. His office burned in the 1940 fire. Dr. Henderson practiced here until his death in 1963.

Dr. R. T. Howard graduated from Ankeny High School and then attended Iowa State University where he received his D.V.M. degree. He joined Dr. Henderson in Ankeny in 1947. He practiced elsewhere for a few years but returned to Ankeny about eight years ago to practice.

Dr. P. K. Dougan established his practice in Ankeny in 1958. His office was located at 221 Ankeny Blvd. He sold his practice to Drs. James Miller and Paul Beard in 1962. Dr. Miller is still practicing at the same location. Dr. Miller received his D.V.M. degree from Iowa State University.

SUNNYVIEW CARE CENTER

The center was built in 1972 by Witt and Juckette Construction Company and had its dedication on September 17, 1972.

The Center has a resident capacity of fifty people.

It is owned by Hal Riggs and Richard Lynch but is managed by Juckette Management Service. Orville



Ballard was the first administrator and served until November 1, 1974 at which time Richard Soule was appointed administrator. They have eleven full time and 32 part time employees.

LAWYERS

As far as can be determined Frances Hall was the first lawyer to serve Ankeny. He started his practice in 1941.

Mose Baker, Ankeny lawyer, received his legal work at Drake University.

He served as Ankeny City Attorney for four years. It was during his term of office that he handled all legal work in connection with the first large annexation of land to Ankeny. This consisted of 800 acres directly east of Ankeny Boulevard.

Later he advised the City Council in the purchase of land and the erection of the Sewage Disposal Plant in east Ankeny. Also the purchase of the two-story building on West 3rd Street, first used as the City Hall, and later by the Ankeny Police Department.

He also defended a suit brought in 1959 by some heirs of Lee Kirkendall to construe the Kirkendall will in such a way the city would be deprived of \$10,000 of the total bequeathed for erection of a public library.

Baker has served as a member of the Ankeny Appeal Board for the last 10 years.

Charles Feight is a native of Garden Grove, Iowa where he graduated from high school. He received his B. A. from Coe College and his law degree from Drake in 1949. Mr. Feight came to Ankeny in 1950 and began his practice. He has served as mayor of Ankeny and in numerous other city positions.

Richard Hermann is a native of Sheldahl, Iowa. He received his B.A. and Law degree from Drake University. Mr. Hermann has served on the Polk County Zoning Board, Ankeny Police, Court Judge and other organizations.

James Maggert is a native of Iowa. He received his degree from Washington University and Law degree from University of Iowa in 1959. Mr. Maggert has served as Iowa Assistant to Gov. Erbe. He has served the Ankeny School Board, and Area College Board, and is active in numerous civic organizations.

Ronald Wagoner received his Law degree from Drake University. He came to Ankeny in 1969 and became an associate with Maggert. He has recently purchased the practice from Maggert and has established his own law office.

Michael McMurray graduated from Drake Law School in 1971. He came to Ankeny and started his practice with Dick Hermann but now he has established his own office. He is a native of Guyman, Oklahoma.





A
N
K
E
N
Y
T
O
D
A
Y

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Banks

The history of banking in Ankeny covers seventy-three years with two banks being established in 1902.

The Farmers' Exchange Bank was organized and began business February 7, 1902. The bank was located between Walnut and Main (Cherry) Streets. The old building is still standing: 516 Third Street.

Andrew Nelson was the first president. He was considered a wealthy man at that time. A. C. Miller was vice president and H. M. Whinery, cashier. The directors were: H. E. Teachout, G. W. Harvison, and P. Boulies. The directors were all business and professional men from Des Moines.

The bank was in existence thirty-six years, closing May 20, 1938 due to low volume of business. It was liquid at the time of closing as assets were \$190,000 and liabilities \$165,000.



Farmers' Exchange Bank - 1902-1938

Bank of Ankeny. On February 20, 1902, four residents of the Ankeny Community met to organize the Bank of Ankeny for the purpose stated in Article I, original minutes book 1902:

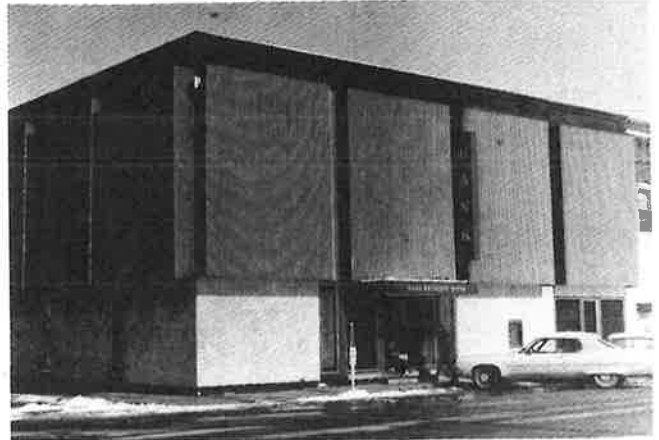
"Article I: The purpose and objective of this association and the business to be transacted shall be to establish, own, conduct and carry on at the town of Ankeny, Iowa, a general banking business, to buy and sell exchange, receive deposits, discount notes and bills and generally to transact any and all such business as is indicant to the banking business".

The original association operated as a private banking institution until 1933 when it was reorganized as a State Chartered Bank. This is the present bank at Third and Cherry Streets.

When organized in 1902 the officers of the Bank of Ankeny were: Oliver E. Doubleday, President, Henry Wagner, Vice-President and B. A. Lamason, Cashier. The directors were: Fred Ringgenberg, John Riley, James Fleming, W. E. West, James Brazelton, and R. H. Gormley.

A State Charter was signed by D. W. Bates Superintendent of Bank on July 3, 1933 reorganizing the bank as a State Chartered Bank. The following were approved as the first Board of Directors for the Ankeny State Bank: O. R. Canfield, W. J. Leichty, H. E. Wagner, Charles Howard, E. R. Wagner, J. L. Hildreth, George W. Ritcher, B. T. Haulman, W. E. F. Randolph, and Rolfe C. Wagner.

The bank opened a drive-in branch in the Frontier Shopping Center on West First Street on November 13, 1973.



Present Ankeny State Bank located at 520 Third Street



Ankeny National Bank located at Third and Ankeny Blvd.

Ankeny National Bank. During 1960 several business men began the process of organizing a second bank for the rapidly growing city of Ankeny. Their

Application for a National Bank charter was successful and Ankeny National Bank opened for business on October 21, 1961. The organizers and original board of directors were: James P. Elwell, Charles E. Feight, Carl C. Henderson (President) Victor V. Johnson, Everett D. Lewis, C. Earl Olmstead, Kenneth L. Scholes, Vernon W. Smith, Wayne R. Spahr, Charles R. Triplett (Vice President), and Edward W. Zingler.

The first report of condition dated December 30, 1961 reflected capital and reserves of \$236,962.14 and total assets of \$462,942.21. The report as of October 15, 1974 reveals capital and reserves of \$553,357.77 and total assets of \$9,290,546.30.

The Security Loan Company started in business at 324 Fifth Street, West Des Moines on October 1, 1958 with Larry Katz as president and owner.

On June 1, 1972 the Ankeny Branch office located at 110 North Trilein Drive was opened under the managership of Darlene Rose. The present manager is Delores Anderson.

American Federal Savings and Loan Association was organized in May, 1936 and was first known as Home Savings and Loan Association, but later converted to a Federal Charter in 1939, and the name was changed to Home Federal Savings and Loan Association of Des Moines.

The first offices were located at 904 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, and its main office is now located at Sixth and Grand. It now operates in eight locations one of which is in Ankeny.

The founder was C. B. Fletcher, and founding directors Arthur S. Kirk, and Joseph N. Chamberlain are still active members of its board of directors.

The purpose of the association was to provide a safe place for people to save money and these funds in turn were used to finance homes. To this date, these remain the underlying purposes of the business.

On July 1, 1974, the name of the association was changed to American Federal Savings and Loan Association of Central Iowa.

The American Federal office in Ankeny is situated at First and North Trilein, and was opened March 1, 1974. This was in recognition of the interested volume of savers residing in the Ankeny area, the expanding market population, and the desire of many people to own homes in the Ankeny area.

O. E. DOUBLEDAY, Pres.	HENRY WAGNER, Vice-Pres.
B. A. LAMASON, Cashier.	E. R. WAGNER, Asst. Cashier
BANK OF ANKENY,	
ANKENY, IOWA,	
Individual Responsibility \$1,000,000.	
Prompt Attention Given to Collections. Your Patronage Solicited.	
O. E. DOUBLEDAY.	JOHN J. RILEY.
HENRY WAGNER.	W. E. WEST.
B. A. LAMASON.	JAMES FLEMING.
J. F. RINGGENBERG.	R. H. GORMLEY.
JAMES BRAZELTON.	

FARMERS' EXCHANGE BANK.

Individual Responsibility, \$500,000.

LOCK BOXES FOR RENT.

DIRECTORS AND OWNERS:

H. E. TEACHOUT.	F. A. BAYLIES,
A. C. MILLER,	ANDREW NELSON,
W. G. HARRISON,	H. M. WHINERY.

J. G. WAGNER, Asst. Cashier.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

ANKENY, IOWA.

A little over a century ago a group of people left their native Scandinavia and came to America - to Iowa - seeking new opportunities. They were a fun loving but hard working and thrifty people. They needed a safe place for the money they saved and a place where they could borrow to build their homes.

So on April 8, 1873 twenty-one young Scandinavians met at the home of J. A. Swenson, located at the corner of East Second and Grand Avenue in Des Moines and formed the "Swedish Laboring Society". In 1874, they changed the name to "Swedish Economical Society". The name was changed again in 1878 when it became "Society Scandia" and the organization was incorporated. They had a rule that only people of Scandinavian descent could save there.

In 1882, they erected a two story building at 428 East Locust in Des Moines. This building was known as "Scandia Hall". It was erected at the cost of \$5,000.

The Society quit recording the minutes in Swedish in 1899. By the time of their twenty-fifth anniversary the membership had grown to seven hundred eighty-two.

Membership rules were relaxed in 1944 to accept those who were married to persons of Scandinavian descent and soon thereafter all nationality restrictions were abolished. The first woman admitted to membership was Miss Ella Ryden.

On their seventy-fifth anniversary they had 1250 members.

In 1951, Scandia received its charter as a Building and Loan Association and became a member of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation 1957.

They became a part of our community when they established a branch office at 409 Ankeny Boulevard. The grand opening was held October 1, 1963. Since that time they have expanded and improved their office.



Wayne Rowland (right), assistant cashier of the Ankeny State bank, stands by door of vault in which bandit locked him after robbing the bank of \$25,720 early Friday morning. At left is L. E. Brewbaker, vice-president and cashier, who arrived at the bank about 12 minutes after the robbery and released Rowland. Mr. Brewbaker is standing by door leading from basement.

BANK ROBBERY

Early Friday morning, August 1, 1952, Wayne Rowland, assistant cashier at the Ankeny State Bank made his way to the bank in his usual manner. It was a rainy morning and he unlocked the door at a little after seven a.m. It is difficult to imagine his reactions when he was accosted by a lone robber armed with two revolvers who was in the bank awaiting his arrival. Apparently, the bandit had forced his way in through a rear door sometime during the evening or night. He was a large man about 35 to 40 years old. He compelled Wayne to open the bank vault, which held more cash than usual to provide for the first-of-the-month John Deere pay day. The robber had a 50 pound flour sack and stuffed the \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100 bills plus \$20 in silver in the sack, totaling \$25,720. He then

locked Mr. Rowland in the vault. Rowland described the robber as having a pock marked face, wearing extra large sunglasses, old felt hat covered with cob webs and a dirty light colored shirt.

Rowland was in the vault until 7:22 which gave the robber about 12 minutes start. This would be a morning Brewbaker arrived a few minutes late.

The Iowa Bankers Association said the loss was the largest in Iowa since March 13, 1934 when John Dillinger and his gang robbed the First National Bank of Mason City of \$51,600.

One Ankeny resident, Mrs. Rosa Thompson, saw the robber going through an alley with the sack but thought it was probably a sack of apples. She also saw him get into a light colored car either gray or green.

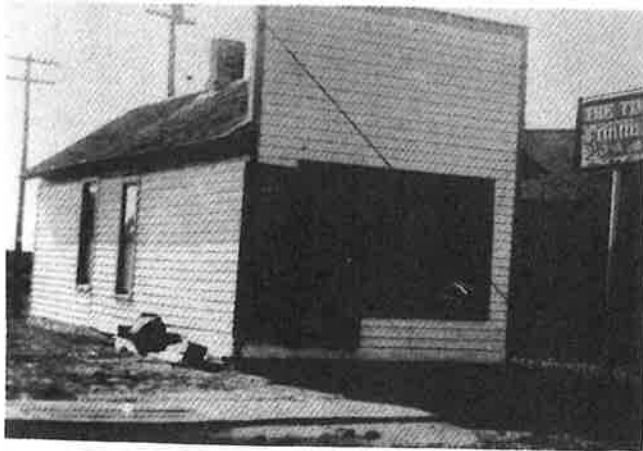
COMMUNICATION

THE PRESS IN ANKENY

Ankeny has had a newspaper for seventy-three years. The first copy of the Ankeny Times was issued May 17, 1902. The publishers were N. B. Fulmer and Son. They sold the business to Mr. Al Stader on January 16, 1903.



Al Stader



Ankeny Times Building located at 603 Third Street

The Ankeny Times was next published by the Thorp Publications located on East Walnut Street in Des Moines. The last issue was published in 1966.

The Press Citizen published its first issue the first week in October 1956. The issue was ready for the post office about five a.m. on Thursday morning after a very hectic twenty-four hours. Bob Jensen was the founder in 1956 and published it until he sold the paper in 1965.



Bob Jensen

When Bob Jensen came to Ankeny he had no intention of publishing a newspaper but local merchants and others felt the town of Ankeny warranted a local newspaper instead of one being published outside the town.

The Jensens came to Ankeny from Des Moines in 1955 and bought the Shult Print Shop, then located at 324 Third Street in the Shult's two-story garage.

In the spring of 1956, the printing shop was moved to the present location, 602 Third Street. The building was built by Mr. and Mrs. Cecon who operated a restaurant there. Due to the growth of the community, more room was needed so in 1962 an addition to the building was constructed. This has been a great help in getting the newspaper out on time.

In October of 1965, the Jensens sold the paper and commercial printing plant to George Hanrahan.

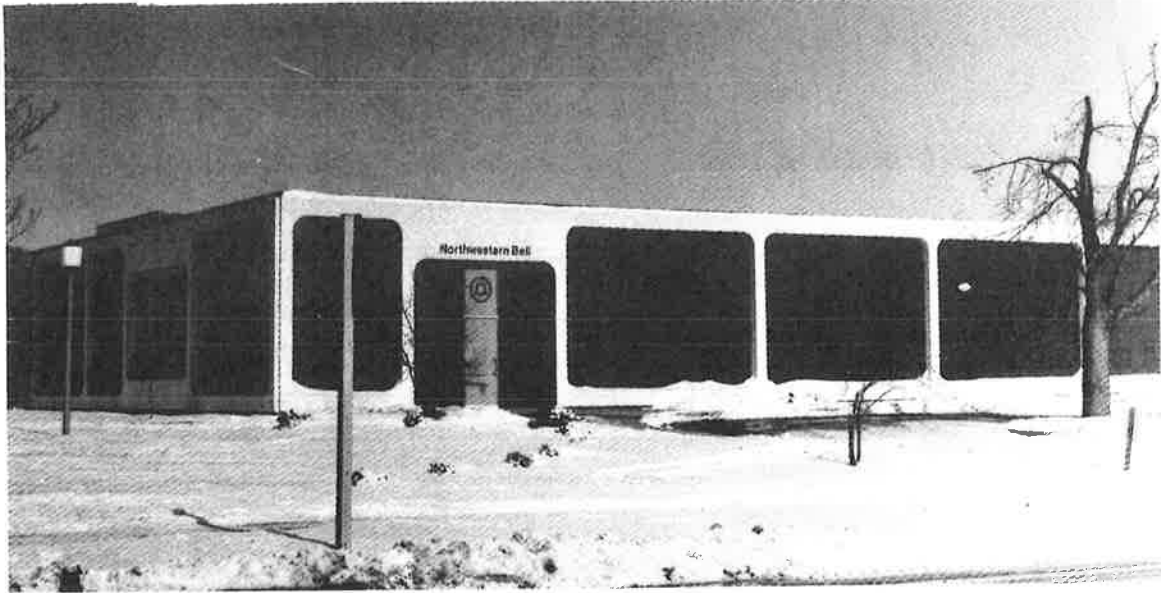
Following Hanrahan, Norris C. Adams published the paper until August 1, 1969 when it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Scarborough. Merle Griffith became editor and general manager at this time. The Scarborroughs also own the West Des Moines Express and the Northern Polk County News. The Press-Citizen is printed at their West Des Moines plant which has the latest in modern offset printing methods.

Ron Sampson is the present manager and editor of the Press Citizen.

THE ANKENY TIMES.	
Published every Friday at	
ANKENY,	IOWA.
Subscription \$1.00 per year, in Advance.	
Entered at the Post-office at Ankeny as Second class matter.	
AL. STADER & Co.	

FRIDAY, APR 15, 1904.





TELEPHONES

Three or possibly four telephone companies were operating in the town of Ankeny at the turn of the century. Considering the telephone system of today compared to when Ankeny had its first phones, telephones and systems were in their infancy.

Individual telephone systems were established in many communities and vied with each other to get lines and phones established in other communities. There was no thought given as to how many exchanges one might have to go through to get to their next door neighbor.

Before companies started coordinating efforts in October 1903, information indicates that Farmer's Mutual Exchange of Bondurant, Repass Telephone Company of Dallas Center, Iowa Telephone Company of Adel, and Northwestern Bell all had some phones installed in Ankeny.

In March 1904, Repass Telephone Company made a big improvement in service when it installed private metallic circuits. Previously one might be talking on one line and the second line conversation would come in with some clarity.

In 1903, telephones were changed to the kind that would ring when central was called. The same year the company rented a couple of rooms in the new bank block so that there might be a permanent "central" established.

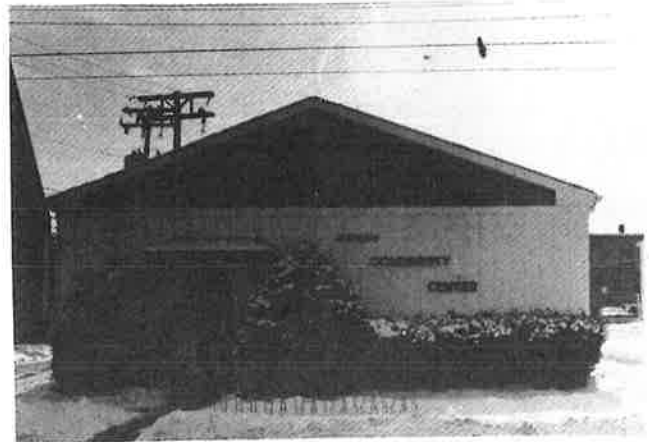
Bertha Weinhart and Eliza Donaghy were two of the early telephone switch board operators.

Telephone books were first distributed in 1904 and patrons were requested to call by number only.

Northwestern Bell acquired the Farmer's Telephone Company in 1909 and many changes have been made since.

Ankeny telephone users discarded their old "crank and holler" phones for dial ones in December, 1939. At

the same time Ankeny's first telephone building was constructed on Second Street. Several additions were made to the building over the years.



Old Telephone Building - Second Street
Now Ankeny Community Center

In 1962, Ankeny became one of the first communities in Iowa to have direct dial long distance calls to over 100 million telephones in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

The Northwestern Bell moved into its new \$225,000 building, complete with new central office equipment, a business office, customer service room, meeting room, garage and work center at 413 Ankeny Blvd. on July 11, 1970. The same year brought Touch-Tone service to Ankeny customers. Also another improvement was the installation of many miles of buried telephone cable in the Ankeny area.

BUSINESSES - 1903 - 1965



DRUGSTORE

The first drug store was located at 502 Third Street and owned by L. B. Morgan.

In 1915, the store was still operated by Morgans but they sold the business to Charles Brooker in the early 20's. Brooker continued the business until 1931 when he sold it to Fred Wright. Fred was twenty-five at the time and one of the youngest businessmen in Ankeny. He operated the store until it was destroyed by the 1940 fire. It is said that at the time of the fire he rushed into the building and came out with the cash register and some papers, locked the door and said, "O. K. boys let her burn, I'll get more out of my insurance anyway."

Mr. Wright did not re-open the store here but purchased a drugstore in Vinton, Iowa.

After rebuilding, a drugstore was opened at the same location, 502 Third Street in 1941 by Guy Hall. After Guy Hall, Francis Hall, his son, took over the business.

In 1954, he sold the store to Don Steffensen who operated the store until August 1972. At that time he moved the drugstore to Frontier Shopping Center on West First Street and re-named it the Frontier Walgreen.

In 1960, Mr. Steffensen announced plans for a second store to be erected east of Highway 69. This new modern store to be a Walgreen Agency located at 613 Ankeny Boulevard opened for business in August 1961.

The new brick building was modern, featuring self-service. Today it is a part of the Ankeny Plaza Shopping Center.

Another drugstore, Drug Town, 849 Ankeny Boulevard had its grand opening May 24, 1973. Drug Town is a division of Hy Vee Food Stores. Vince Kopacek has been the manager since its opening.



Logli's Bakery - 1908



Logli's General Store 1910

Peter Logli originally settled at Saylorville and worked in the mines when he first came from his native home in Italy. He was born in Italy in 1878. Peter was one of ten children. He was the first of the family to emigrate to this country.

He married Attavia Migliori. They had seven children: Reco, (deceased), Richard, Anita Birdsall, Clara Struthers, Dena Randolph, Lecia Johnson and Dora Peterson.

He worked in the mine and saved enough money to bring his family to this country. It took approximately ten years to accomplish this which shows his perservance in accomplishing his first goal. This same character continued and he opened his first bakery trait continued and he opened his first bakery business Ankeny in 1908. This bakery was located on the east side of Main (Cherry) about one half block south of Third Street. He delivered bread to the mining camps. Logli next moved to 511 Third Street and started a meat market. He then extended his business to West Des Moines as well as the mining camps. His wide acquaintance from mining days was very helpful.



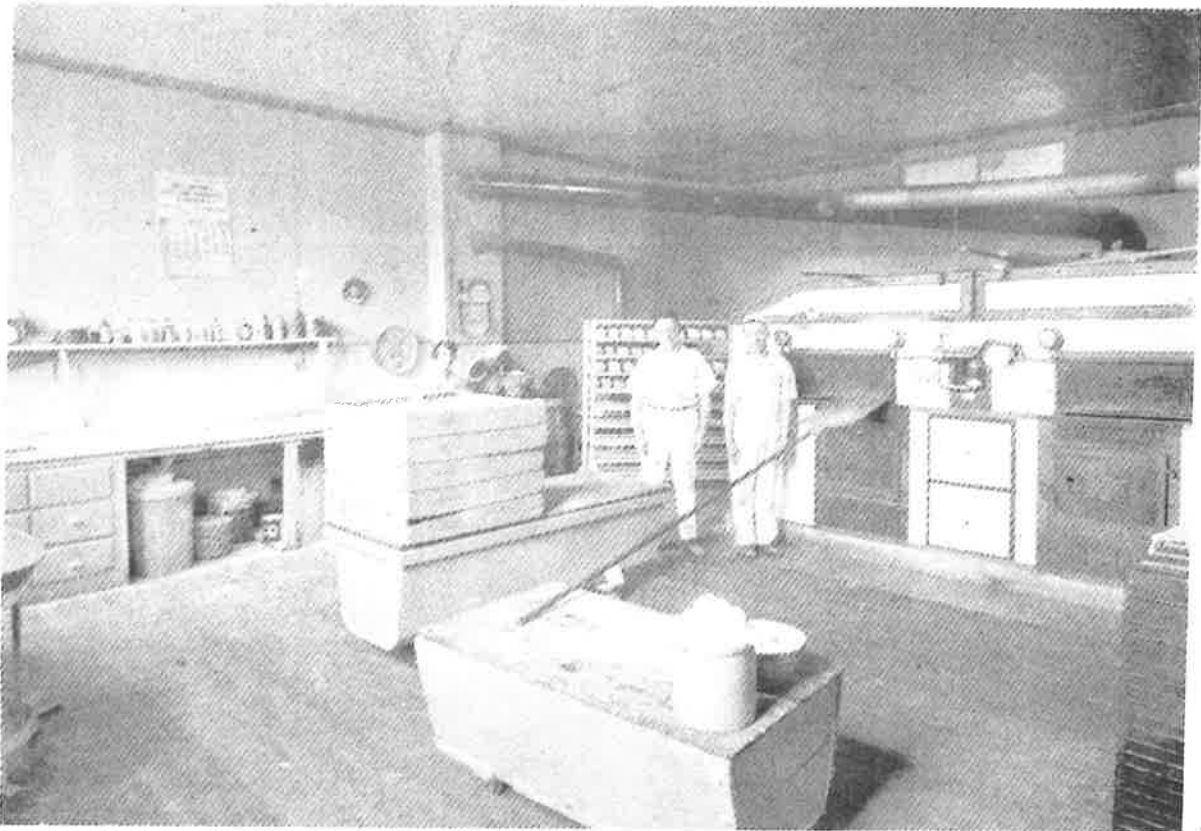
Logli's General Store in 1930's

He moved from the south side of Third Street to the north side when he purchased the General Merchandise Store from Goughnour. This store was located in the east part of what is now the Ankeny State Bank Building. The store operated under different trade names, one being the IGA.

In 1951, Logli moved from the IGA Store on Third Street to the northwest corner of Third and Ankeny Blvd. The Logli store remained in operation for twenty-three years at this location. It was purchased by Easters in 1974 at which time it was operated as a Super Valu store.

In 1967, Reco and Richard were awarded the Outstanding Merchandising silver plaque from Super Value Stores.

The various Logli stores had a continuous operation in Ankeny for sixty-six years. Reco and Richard continued the business after Peter's death. Richard continued to operate the store after Reco's death until ill health forced him to sell the business and retire.



Fontana's Bakery 1924



Fontana's Bakery Sale Room [1924]

FONTANA BAKERY

Paul Fontana came from Peondelagotti, Italy at the age of sixteen. He first lived at Enterprise, Iowa which is located east of Ankeny. He lived there with his father Guseppi Fontana, and was later joined by his brother Joe Fontana.

In 1921, Paul Fontana married Isola Carzoli, who also came from Italy and was raised in Ankeny. There were no children in this marriage. Paul and Isola Fontana went into the bakery business the same year they were married.

The bakery was originally located at Carney which is south of Ankeny. Paul Fontana purchased the bakery from Anthony Bianchi, and then moved the business to Ankeny. It was located where the Ankeny Legion Hall now stands. It was then moved across the street next to east part of what is now the Ankeny State Bank. Paul and Isola Fontana worked themselves in the bakery and for a short time Paul's brother Joe also worked in the bakery.

Two employees Leno Carzoli and Frank Ghitalli who were brother-in-laws of Paul Fontana later purchased the bakery from Paul when he retired. These two men retired in 1974 and sold the business to Bill Duncan. The bakery is now located at 703 Third Street.

LAMBERTI BAKERY AND MARKET

Rex and Frank Lamberti came here from Italy around 1908. Their brother Angelo remained in Italy to care for the family. He came to this area some years later.

When Rex and Frank first arrived they worked in the mines later going into business in Ankeny.

Rex first started a bakery with Pete Logli and Roy Carzoli. It was located on the south side of Third Street. He later moved the business to the east side of Main (Cherry) Street.

Rex and his brother, Frank, started their meat market around 1910. The market was located on the north side of Third Street in the Wagner Block.

In connection with the meat market, Rex also operated the Cunard Line Agency which was a steamboat agency where the people could purchase passage to Italy. He also advised other Italians in money affairs.

Lambertis remained in business until May 1940 when the grocery and meat market was destroyed by fire.

Frank Lamberti had four children: Domic, Charles, Pete, Lena (Punelli) and Nello born here. Lena became a teacher of languages at Drake University.

Rex had one son, Aldo.



OTHER KNOWN BUSINESSES OF 1903 - 1939

Haulman Brothers - Slaughter house located on north side of Third Street west of the tracks.

McKellip and Swartfager - Dealers in stock.

Wagner Brothers - large warehouse west of tracks - used for storage of buggies and implements.

George McKellip - Ice man.

E. R. Wagner - Insurance.

Oley Landey - Coal Dealer selling coal at \$3.25 per ton at car and \$3.40 delivered in town.

Al Stader and Sons - Tires and Accessories.

Hitz Dairy

V. W. Smith Oils Inc. - started business in 1926. Vernon started with his father in 1927. In 1930, Vernon became agent for Phillips Petroleum. In 1941, he became distributor for Texaco products. In 1966, he built the Hawkeye Texaco and Restaurant.

Ankeny Tractor Inc. - Established in 1926 by Guy Kline as a part of Ford Dealership. In 1947 it was incorporated and Brown became president. In 1957, moved from 301 Walnut to Ankeny Blvd. Specializes in Ford Tractors.

Ankeny Motors - Established in 1926 by Guy E. Kline. Incorporated in 1947. Kline died in 1960 and Kenneth Scholes was named president. Sold to Jack Kaldem in August 1971 who later sold to Dale Miller in February 1972, now Dale Miller Ford, Inc.

Flitcraft Cafe

Ankeny Tire and Battery Service -

D. Lamberti - Ice and Coal Business

Dreher's Riteway Food Store

Otis P. Wright - Milling

F. L. Ballard & Sons Feed - Frank Ballard started in the trucking business in 1935. In 1946 he formed a partnership with his four sons in the feed business. By 1960, only one son remained as partner thus changing the name to F. L. Ballard and Son. In 1964, Frank retired and sold the business to Gerald Ballard. It was incorporated and Gerald became president and is now known as Ballard Feed and Ag Service, Inc.

Smith Decorating, Inc. - Established in January 1939 as E. A. Smith Paint Contractors. In 1963, his son Don became a partner and Smith Decorating, Inc. came into existence at the time of incorporation in January 1967.

Best Pickle - Ed Zingler.

Lein Locker Plant - Lawrence and Lola Lein - was built in 1939. When the Ordnance Plant started a grocery store and ice cream parlor was operated in addition to the locker. The locker was enlarged and remained in business for twenty-five years. Due to the illness of Lawrence it was closed.

**SOME KNOWN BUSINESSES
STARTING IN 1940's**

McLean Hardware and Variety
Ankeny Food Market -
Ankeny Radio Service - C. C. Hull
FoxBilt Feeds - M. W. Johnson
Welding and Repair Shop - M. B. Baker
Roller Skating Rink - F. J. Sexauer
Evans Hatchery
Stittsworth Food Market -
Al's Uptown Grill -
Bachman Gate Works - Perry and LeRoy Bachman
Farmers' Supply Company - E. L. Dutcher. Started business in 1946. He developed the Dutch Maid Brand feed. He sold the company March 1, 1966.
Ankeny Electric Service - started by Mr. Manny in 1947, purchased by Otis Cross about 1950 and by Blasco Fontanini in 1955. Incorporated by Fontanini and Joe Bianchi under the name Ankeny Electrical and Plumbing. Corporation dissolved in 1970 and name changed back to Ankeny Electric Service.
Carmen's Beauty Salon - Carmen Zimmer.
Agricultural Lime Cement and Road Gravel - Orville Johnson
Harold's Barber Shop - Harold Zimmer.
Corn Shelling and General Trucking - Abe McCleary.
Green Jewelry Company
Standard Oil Company - Wilbur Silvers
Ankeny Cleaners - Miles Stout
Ankeny Grill -
Western Auto Associate Store - Jack Gordon.
Ahlberg Chevrolet Company - Ray Ahlberg opened the company in July 1949. Jerry Bucklin purchased the business which he later sold to the Moyer Brothers, now known as Moyer Chevrolet, Inc.
E. C. Varnum - Restaurant

KNOWN BUSINESSES IN 1950's

Ankeny Sales Pavillion - Harry Higgenbottom.
Ankeny Variety Store - Jim W. Bowers.
Ankeny Cafe - Howard Pearson
Stefani Cafe
Custom Shelling - J. E. Lundstrom
Gamble's - H. B. McArthur, owner.
Ace Hi Tavern
Ankeny Machine Shop
Fuel and Feed - Gene Sheppard
Doughten Auto Supply - William M. Doughten.
Cory's Inc. - Mel Cory, hardware and appliances. Mel-Ray Trailer Court
Howell Refrigeration and Supply
Paul's Plumbing - Paul Allen
Farm Service - R. E. Nicolle
Paullin Jewelry - Bud Paullin - graduate of Kansas City School of watch making - 19 years experience.
Fulton's Floor Covering - Jerry Fulton - sold business to Lukes now known as Luke's Brothers.
Lewis and Zager, Inc. - Excavating and Grading.
The Breeze House - Harold Enquist - a popular, well known eating place in this area, family style.

Red "E" Mix - C. D. Fuqua, manager
Triplett Implement - Charles Triplett - John Deere sales and service.
Painting and Repairing - Rodney Lien.
Plumbing, Heating and Wiring - Dave Essick.
Ballard Egg Ranch - D. F. Ballard.
Flair's Sinclair
TV Service - Jerry Wines
Bair's Piano Shop
Village Beauty Shop
Painting and Contractors - Herman and Kovacevich.
Gilbert's Saw Service
Ankeny Dairy Queen - W. F. Krok.
McCleary's Show Store - Abe McCleary.
Yankee Clipper - Floyd Carzoli.
Myran's Beauty Salon
TV Service - Charles Love.
Mike's Barber Shop - Mike Hutton.
Cemetery Lettering - (state wide) Harlyn Urness.
Ankeny Garbage Route - Cluny and Morris.
Borgstrand Sanitation Service - M. J. Borgstrand.
Lint's Paint Store
Ankeny Easy Wash - Mel Cory.
Furniture and Appliances - Gene Nicholson.
Toy Villa
Bunny's Cafe - now Leaning Tower of Pizza.
Shell Oil Company
Juhl Insurance Agency - founded by Anton B. Juhl in 1959. Juhl purchased a portion of the F. B. Swartfager Insurance Agency. In 1961 he was joined by Reno Bertogli and in 1968 was incorporated. The agency has been an independent insurance agency since its inception. During the tornado of June 1974 the agency paid losses amounting to nearly 4 million dollars.
Carpenter and Builder - Arnold Huisman.
McClintock Shoe Repair
McClure Realty Company
Insurance - Ralph Brazelton
Spahr Realty - was started in 1950 by Wayne Spahr. Roger Spahr, their son, joined his folks in the business in 1962. They have developed Spahr Manor, Hayes Acres, Waywin Acres and Greenwood Acres. The Spahrs' have been Ankeny residents since the Horse and Buggy days of 1911.
Ankeny Tire and Battery - Merle O. Johnson, present owner - business started by Louis Fontanini in the 1940's - the firm specializes in auto repair work and in the sale and repair of lawnmowers.
 Some interesting facts taken from Spahr's Realty Files:
 Homes sold in Ankeny in the 50's, 60's and 70's -
 1950-1960 — good two bedroom houses sold from \$9500 to \$16,000.
 1960 - 1970 — three bedroom houses \$15,000 to \$31,500.
 1970 - 1975 — from \$28,500 to \$44,000.
 From farm file 1950 to 1975 - first farm sold near Ankeny in 1950 was \$250 per acre. 1950 near Altoona

\$200 per acre. 1953 near Polk City \$275 per acre. 1956 near Ankeny \$400 per acre. 1958 near Bondurant 468 per acre. 1960 near Ankeny 475 per acre. 1963 near Elkhart \$555 per acre. 1966 near Ankeny \$1,000 per acre. 1969 near Alleman \$775 per acre. 1973 near Bondurant \$1,250 per acre.

KNOWN BUSINESSES 1960 - 1965

Rounds Insulation Service - Bob Rounds.
Elwell's Food Market - sold to Dunns Frontier East.
Ballard's "66" Service - Cecil Ballard.
Ankeny Bowl - now Ankeny Lanes Inc.
Lola's Eco-No-Wash - Lola Lein.
Dry Cleaning "U-Kleen Inc.", coin operated.
Lundstrom Realty - John Lundstrom.
Skelly Station - Bob Brown.
Al's TV Radio Service
Farrell's Barber Shop - Farrell Leonard.
Red's Electric Service, Inc.
Frontier Furniture and Carpet - Frank and John Lint.
Ankeny Hair Fashions - Mary Sanger.
Deluxe Cleaners - Randy Hirsch.
Hawk Spot, Teen Center - Rodney Lein.
Ben Franklin's Variety Store.
Flatt's Clothing - Joseph Flatt.
Ankeny Paint Store.
Maxine's Sportswear.
Herb's Shoe Repair.
Virginia's Beauty Shop.
Dairy Sweet Diner - Jones.
Cheto's Place Tavern - now Big Bear, restaurant and lounge - Duncan (this building is over 60 years old)
Thyberg Beauty Supply Co. - Ray Thyberg, manager.
International Wholesale House.
Vic's Barber Shop.
A and W Root Bear
Brown Concrete Construction.
El-A-Dor Motel - Joe Bianchi owner - thirty units.
Bob's Bike Shop.
Mike's Mileage Station.
Fina Service Station.
Evan's D-X Station.
Crees Concrete Company - Daryl Crees.
J and J Barber Shop.
Kay's Beauty Salon.
Breeze Oil Company.
Photographer - A. Collison.
Big Dutchman - stock feeders.

1930's: A DECADE OF EXTREMES

The decade of the thirties was one of extremes. The monetary situation was unusual and our government was forced to take measures to help the people. The drought years of 1934 and 1936 have not returned with such severity since. The snowstorms of the winter of '36 and '37 seemed to be endless. The hardships were many but those years passed on like all those before have done.

DEPRESSION

What is a depression? A depression as described by some as a condition in economic life in which a great many men have no work, machines stand idle and the general level of economic activity is low or depressed.

The depression that started the last part of 1929 is referred to as the Great Depression and lasted for ten years. It reached its worse point in 1932 and 1933. Every state and every community were affected, including Ankeny, as reflected in the minutes of the Town Council.

At the Town Council meeting of December 1, 1933 prompt action was taken on a CWA Project relative to the gravelling of streets and providing employment for the unemployed and those on relief. The mayor appointed John Peters and G. E. Goughnour to go to Des Moines and complete arrangements for work to start Monday of the next week or as soon as possible.

Twenty men had registered for relief and were present at the meeting. Their names and dependents were documented for use in hiring for the work project.

The work project was to gravel the streets of Ankeny and on December 4, 1933 the Town Council authorized the purchase of gravel from L. O. Rowland at 15 cents per yard.

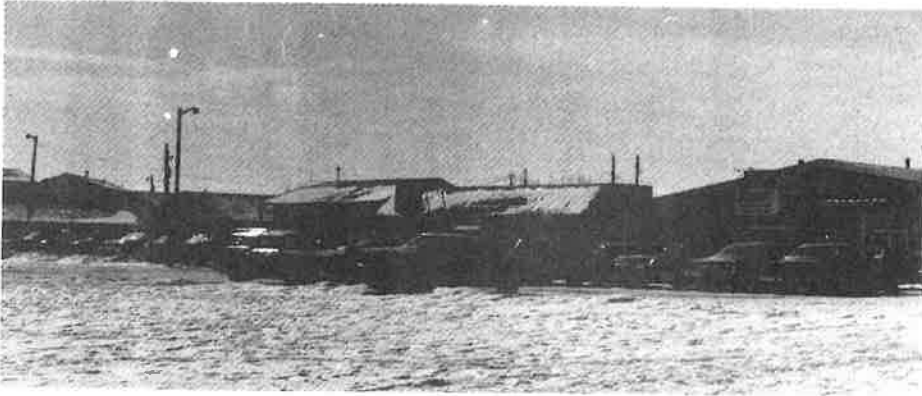
On February 7, 1933, the town council notified the Ft. Dodge-Des Moines and Southern Railroad to discontinue some street lights as town expenses must be reduced. They also reduced the town work rate to 30 cents per hour.



The Historical Book Committee decided that business places established after 1965 could not be listed due to limited space in this history.



SHOPPING CENTERS



WESTVIEW SHOPPING CENTER

ANKENY PLAZA



BOULEVARD VILLAGE

FRONTIER SHOPPING
CENTER



UNDERTAKERS AND FUNERAL HOMES

In the very early history of Ankeny, the undertakers were not recorded. The first undertaker, as nearly as can be determined was Dr. Morgan who also owned the drugstore.

In the early 1900's, Earnest Walters had a furniture and undertaking business.

The Ankeny Funeral Home is a long time Ankeny firm with history dating back to 1933. The business is now owned by International Funeral Homes with Joseph Conley and William Webster the local funeral directors and managers.

The funeral home was first opened in 1933 as a branch of the Evan Lilly Funeral Home. In 1961, Paul Hamilton purchased the Lilly homes at 15 and High in Des Moines and the Ankeny branch. He operated the firm until it was purchased in 1961 by International Funeral Homes. The name was changed to Ankeny Funeral Home at that time.

In 1973, the Ankeny Funeral Home moved from its location at the corner of Third and Logan to its newly built home at 1510 First Street. The dedication of the new home was held June 23, 1973.

CEMETERIES

The first burying grounds for Ankeny were Oralabor, Greenwood, Union, and Brethern cemeteries. Oralabor (means to work and pray in German) and Greenwood are located south of Ankeny. Union is west of Ankeny and Brethern is located northeast of Ankeny.

Riley Thornton donated the land for Greenwood around 1850. Records were not located as to how the lands for Oralabor and Union were acquired. Markers show that burials were made as early as 1856 in Oralabor.

The Brethern cemetery was started with a one acre track of land which was purchased in 1899 for \$75.00. The cemetery was enlarged in 1939 when an adjoining piece of land was added.

There are markers in these cemeteries that are no longer legible and a few native stones with no inscriptions. These cemeteries are all well cared for and are still being used for burials.

A few of the early residents are buried in Pine Hill cemetery on Sixth Avenue and in the Berwick cemetery.

As the area north of Ankeny was settled the Lincoln Cemetery which is approximately four miles north was started.

Ankeny Memorial Gardens was incorporated March 7, 1968 and twenty-two acres of land was purchased from Iva E. Sexauer for the sole purpose of constructing a memorial park cemetery.

Construction started May 1, 1968 with the development of ten acres. Individual gardens designated for Catholic, Protestant, Masonic and Military burials were constructed; each with a marble statue to enhance the everlasting beauty.

Hard surfaced roads were built and over three thousand plantings of trees, shrubs and hedge. A well was dug and a water system installed with water piped to each garden. Chain link fence surrounding three sides of the cemetery to protect the property. An office building constructed and equipped with fire proof files to assure the safekeeping of records.

Ankeny Memorial Gardens has lot owners from eleven communities other than Ankeny.

Two men, Mr. Ray Griffieon, a prominent local farmer, and Earl Stelpflug, an Ankeny business man for the past fifteen years, were the founders of Ankeny Memorial Gardens.

IOWA POWER AND LIGHT

This company furnishing gas and electricity to Ankeny had its beginning in 1884 with less than 10 miles of power lines and no generators. It has grown to be the largest electric company in Iowa. During the 90 years of existence it has operated under the following names: Des Moines Edison Light Company, Des Moines Electric Company, and Des Moines Electric Light Company. In 1943, all properties were combined under the present name, Iowa Power and Light Company.

In 1887, there were only sixteen employees, the firemen in the power house worked a 12 hour day and received \$1.25 per day. Sometimes the workers were actually paid in cash, but many times they were forced to accept orders on groceries or clothiers who had been unable to pay their bills for service.

On November 15, 1945, the company completed the installation of a gas system in Ankeny. However, it wasn't until June 1, 1956, that Iowa Power was assigned the electric franchise for Ankeny from the Fort Dodge, Des Moines and Southern Railway Company.

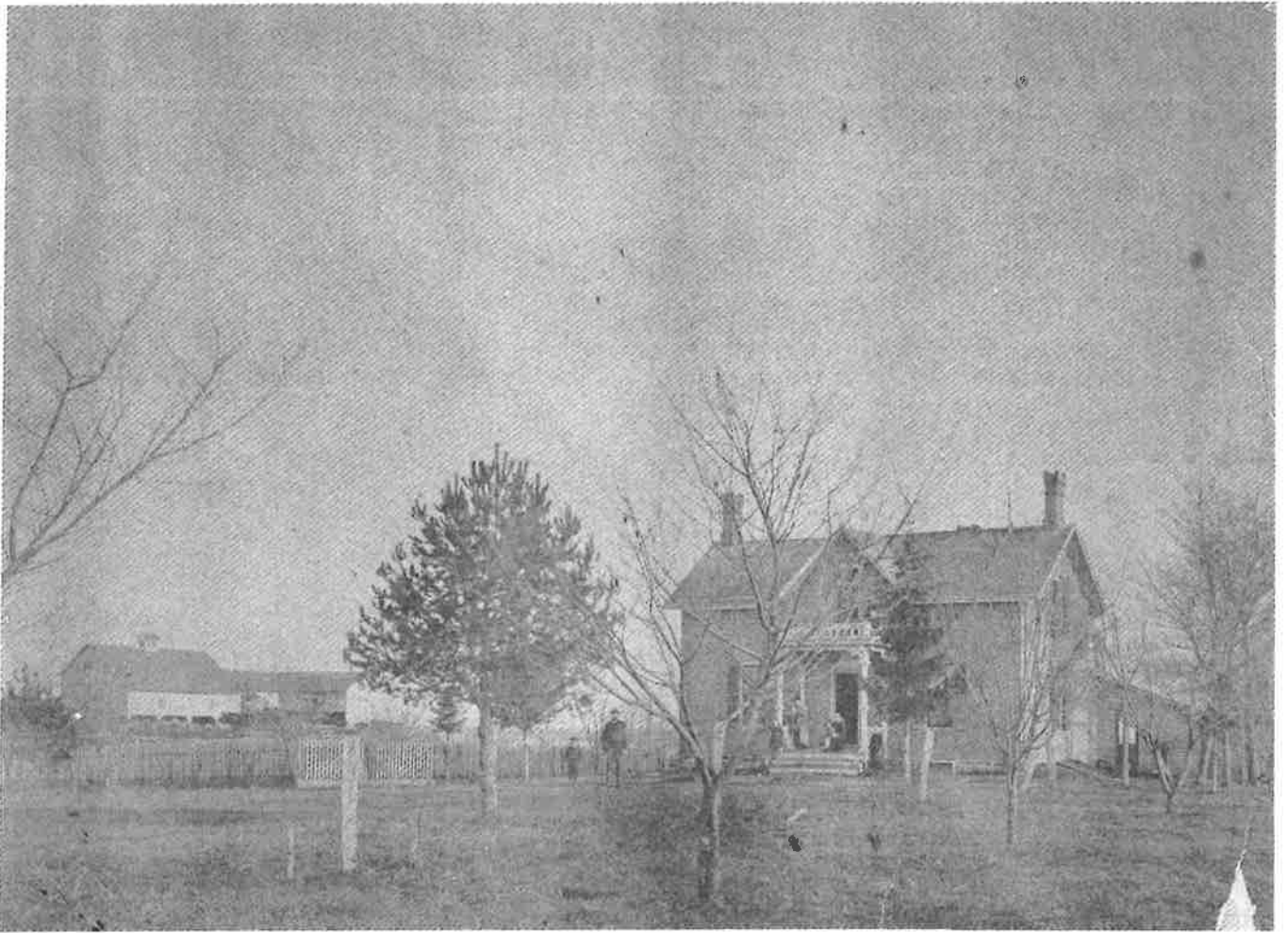
Electricity in the early days cost about 25 cents per Today the rates have been lowered to the point where the average residential customers pay less than 2½ cents per kilowatt-hour.

The company moved to their present Ankeny office at 221 Third Street on December 28, 1964.

At the end of 1974 the company had installed 3,439 gas meters and 4,596 electric meters in Ankeny.



INDUSTRIES



Matthew Sexauer House built in 1871 and torn down May 12, 1969 to make way for Frontier Village Shopping Center. Picture taken about 1883. Front left to right - Fred Sexauer, Matt Sexauer, Emily Sexauer by post [age five] Mrs. Barton and son - behind post, Minnie Sexauer holding Hal, Rosana Sexauer.

AGRICULTURE Crocker Township

During the last few years rapid change has affected all society, not the least of which occurred in the area of agriculture. Farming in the local and surrounding area has advanced more in the past decade and a half than in the previous quarter.

It was not too long, with Des Moines as the state capitol, until growth started and farm land was being changed to residential and business uses. Railroad right-of-ways took more land, and the automobile required wider and better roads. However, in the last decade farm land has decreased more rapidly. As Ankeny continues to grow as a city in the suburban area of Des Moines many new development areas for

homes, industries, and schools are needed. The Interstate has also hastened the change from productive pursuits to non-agricultural uses.

When Crocker Township was first organized in 1870 the entire township of thirty-six sections was farm land. Now there are only ten sections that are completely made up of farm land.

According to recent Iowa Farm Census reports, the number of Polk County farms has dropped by 697 and the average size of the farm has gone from 180 acres to 245 acres. The average age of the farmer is now 56.

This caused a decline in farm population. As the total acres in farm land declined many farm families were forced to look elsewhere for livelihood.

Farm land in this area has increased in value from \$250. per acre in 1950 to \$1,000 per acre. Farms for development, sell much higher.

Methods of farming have also changed from the horse drawn and steam powered implements to the modern machines of today.

Grain today is being harvested mostly by combines. Corn is shelled, artificially dried for safe storage until marketed. A few short years ago the combine and corn picker-sheller were very unusual machines, they are now quite common. Soybeans and oats are also combined. The combine replaced the

binder and threshing machine. The harvester - the husking of corn by hand. Now the women no longer have to prepare the large "threshing meals" for crews.

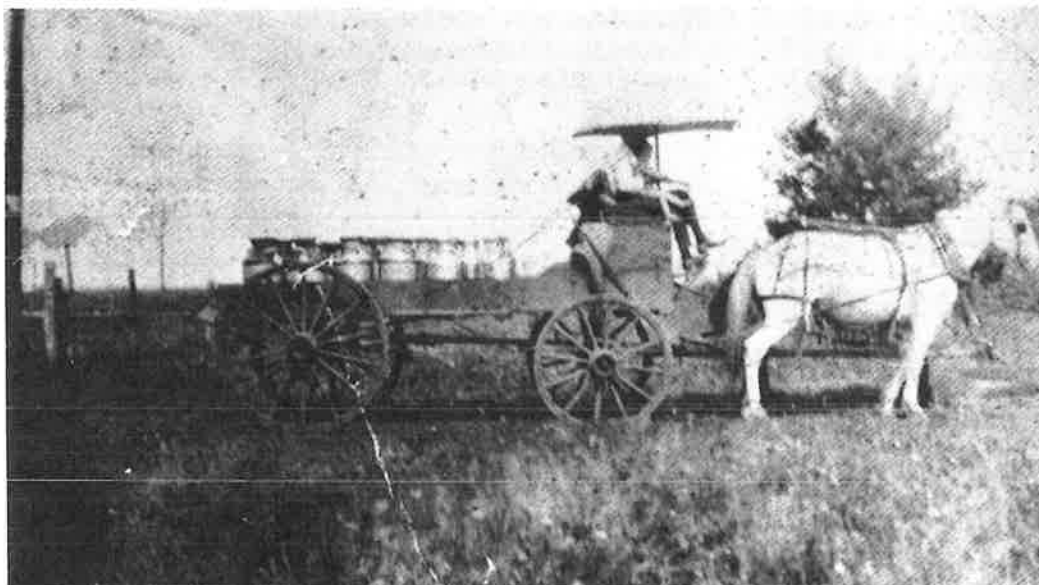
The majority of the farm land left in Crocker Township is planted in corn and soybeans. Due to the development of hybrid seeds, modern machinery, fertilizers, methods, and control of pests the average production per acre has increased considerably.

Of the various enterprises on Crocker Township farms, dairying has probably decreased the most and more beef was raised to meet the demands of the 60's.

Ankeny differs from other cities of the same size in Iowa as associations, government agencies and experimental work connected with agriculture have located in this area.



Steam engine used for threshing and power for saw mills. Picture taken at Matt Sexauer home on North Ash Street.



Daymude delivering milk to Des Moines.

THE CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA-7515 NE ANKENY ROAD

The Society was organized in 1945 and later incorporated in the District of Columbia. The Society is a private, non-profit scientific and educational organization. Most of the members are professional natural resource conservationists, some ranchers, farmers, and legislators. All have an interest in the Society's primary objective — "to advance the science and art of good land use."

The Society's international headquarters is in Ankeny, Iowa. It employs sixteen people.

DAIRY ORGANIZATIONS

The Dairy Building at 101 NE Trilein Drive contains the following organizations: Iowa State Dairy Association, Midland United Dairy Industry Association, Iowa Dairy Industry Commission, Dairy Council, (Inc.), and Iowa Dairy Products Association.

The general responsibilities of these organizations are to promote dairy products and the dairy industry. To be more specific - The Iowa Dairy Association owns and operates the building. Midland United Dairy Industry Association is charged with advertising and merchandising of dairy products, Dairy Council, Inc. is responsible for nutrition education, Iowa Dairy Products Association's main function is legislation. Iowa Dairy Industry Commission is a state agency charged with the promotion of dairy products.

The building was occupied in December of 1971. The longest existing organization in the building is the Iowa State Dairy Association. It was incorporated in 1891 and has continued to function as a state agency since that time.

POLK COUNTY ASCS, SCS, AND FHA

The Polk County ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation) moved to its new building at 105 East First Street, Ankeny December 28, 1962. At that time they serviced the 2380 farms in Polk County. They administer farm programs such as, the Feed-Grain program, Commodity loans, Wool program, and conservation.

The county FHA (Farmers Home Administration) joined them in the same building.

Major purposes of the FHA rural farm credit program includes: to help build the family farm system, the economic and social base of many rural communities; to expand business and industry, increase income and employment, and control pollution; install facilities that will help upgrade rural living; and to provide or improve modest homes at prices and terms that low income families can afford.

SCS [SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE]

The excessive rainfall and forming of gullies and drainage problems in 1943 and 1944 helped to arouse the farmers interest in organizing a Soil Conservation District in Polk County in 1945. The district became active in 1946 and most of the work on soils is accomplished through the district.

Twenty-five years ago when the district was first formed, the forester in the district had a broad assistance program for working with farmers and landowners in timber management. But, in more recent times, in high population centers such as Polk County, the forester's work became, at least in part, urban in nature. The cities, suburbs, businesses, and individuals now receive assistance in the same manner as rural land owners.

ANKENY RESEARCH FARM Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station Iowa State University

The Ankeny Research Farm is located in the southern part of Ankeny. The land was purchased from the Ordnance Plant. The farm has the following department and services: The European Corn Borer laboratory, farm services department, beef cattle, poultry and dairy research services.

EUROPEAN CORN BORER LABORATORY

The European Corn Borer Research Unit has been located on the Iowa State University Research Farm at Ankeny, Iowa since 1950. It is a cooperative installation of the Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, and the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, Iowa State University.

The primary goal of the laboratory is to develop new and improved techniques for controlling the European corn borer, a major insect pest of corn in North America. Employed in this task are eight entomologists working in six research areas: Dr. W. D. Guthrie, Research Leader, and development of insect resistant corn lines; Dr. W. B. Showers, Biology and Ecology; Dr. L. C. Lewis, Insect Pathology; Dr. E. C. Berry, Insecticide Investigations; Drs. R. E. Lynch and J. F. Robinson, Pest Management; Dr. J. A. Klun, Bio-chemistry; and Dr. G. L. Reed, development of insect resistant corn lines. These scientists are supported in their research by S. W. Carter, M. L. Lodholtz, and E. M. Olson in insect rearing, and M. E. McIntosh, Administrative Clerk.

Major accomplishments of the laboratory include: introduced corn borer parasites from Europe into North America, improved fall farming practices which prevent more corn borer larvae from overwintering, selected corn inbreds which are resistant to corn borer feeding, pioneered the development of granular and foam insecticide applications, improved techniques for monitoring insect populations, developed techniques for corn borer control using the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis*, synthesized the sex pheromone of the European corn borer with which the female attracts the male, and developed an artificial diet which is used to rear the insect all year, allowing more extensive research programs.

ANKENY FARM SERVICES

This department oversees and operates 1310 acres. There are seven homes and fifteen barns besides other farm buildings located here. The department raises approximately 320 acres of Certified Foundation and Breeder Beans each year for the Crop Improvement Department at Iowa State University, Ames. Corn acreage averages about 250 acres which is used for silage and grain for the Beef and Dairy Department. They also do all the farm work on 70 acres of test plots used by the experimental people.

The Beef Cattle Research Department averages 300 cattle on hand and do cross breeding for the Iowa State University Animal Sciences Department. They feed the steers for market and the carcasses are graded for quality at the time of sale and slaughter. Most of the heifers are fed for market and grading but some are kept for replacement purposes.

The Dairy Cattle Research Department keeps around three hundred Holstein cattle. They average milking 120 cows and sell the milk to Des Moines Co-op. The department conducts long term breeding experiments for the Dairy Science and Animal Husbandry Department, Iowa State University, Ames.

The Poultry Research Division average about 2000 laying hens. The eggs are sold on the commercial market. This department does genetics experimental research for the Animal Science Department, Iowa State University at Ames.

HARRIS' LIVERY AND FEED STABLE

East of Depot.

*When you want a good rig come to me. I have them,
and will not rob you, I cut all prices on livery.*

OATS AND CORN FOR SALE.

The Sharples Tubular Separator.

Will separate cold milk and warm milk.

Low Milk Pan.

ONLY OIL EVERY 30 DAYS.

Always on Hand. Call and See Them.



Klondyke Incubators and Brooders.

Will cut prices on Top Buggies on 20 jobs.

I want to sell them.

CALL AND SEE THEM.

Two Row Cultivators are the Thing.

You'll need a few Seeds.

by and by!

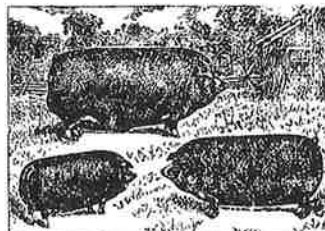
Then bear this in mind: Under equal conditions the better the seed the better the crop.

Let us send you some of our splendid seeds—They're fresh, clean, tested and full of vitality—They cost no more than inferior kinds. Many customers call us "the old reliable." We've had 34 years' experience in raising high-grade seeds. So come to us with confidence. Large illustrated catalogue of 100 pages, free if you mention this paper.

IOWA SEED CO., 615-616 Locust Street,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Ankeny, Iowa.

WAGNER & SON, Ankeny, Iowa.



DEALERS IN
LIVE STOCK

SEE US
BEFORE YOU SELL.

We Want Your Hogs
and Cattle.



Oralabor Mine and top crew in approximately 1910. Back row left to right; Burdock, Lundholm. Center row; A. L. Patrick, Tom McGovern, Hulderson. Front row; Al Mose, Joe Lawson.

MINING

In Polk County, coal was first spotted by the soldiers at Fort Des Moines in the vicinity of the Des Moines River. The first coal shaft and stone quarry were opened in 1843 by Captain James Allen and A. N. Hayes. At that time coal was not used to any great extent because of the abundance of timber.

The Mines and Minerals Department of the State of Iowa was abolished by an act of the legislature in 1973 and practically no records other than card files of the mines can be located. These cards are in the Geological Survey Building in Iowa City.

Crocker Township had two important mines the Carney (Saylor Coal Company No. 2 Shaft) and Oralabor (Saylor Coal and Mining Company). Much of this information was obtained from miners who had worked in these mines.

The Carney mine opened in 1906 and operated until the early to mid 1930's. This was a relatively deep mine some 350 feet and produced a clean high quality coal. At some places the vein was as much as five feet thick and it was a dry mine not bothered with water.

Most of the digging was southwest and extended to what is now Highway 415.

In the winter months more than three hundred miners were employed.

The Oralabor shaft was to the north and was an entirely different type mine. The coal was of poorer quality with a high sulfur content and had to be cleaned before marketing. Mining for the most part was north of the shaft. There was a continuous water problem and finally the mine had to be closed when heavy water broke through.

The superintendent of the mines were the Carney brothers. Miners liked the management and thought they were well treated and given opportunities for extra earnings that did not exist in many mines of that day.

Ankeny area miners also worked in the mines located in Saylorville and Enterprise.

In 1908, the Carney mine was the county's leading producer of coal. Houses for the miners were moved from Old Saylor.



THE GREAT WESTERN FIREWORKS COMPANY

At one time Ankeny had a fireworks factory located south of where the Fina Station is now located, on Highway 69 near the railroad tracks.

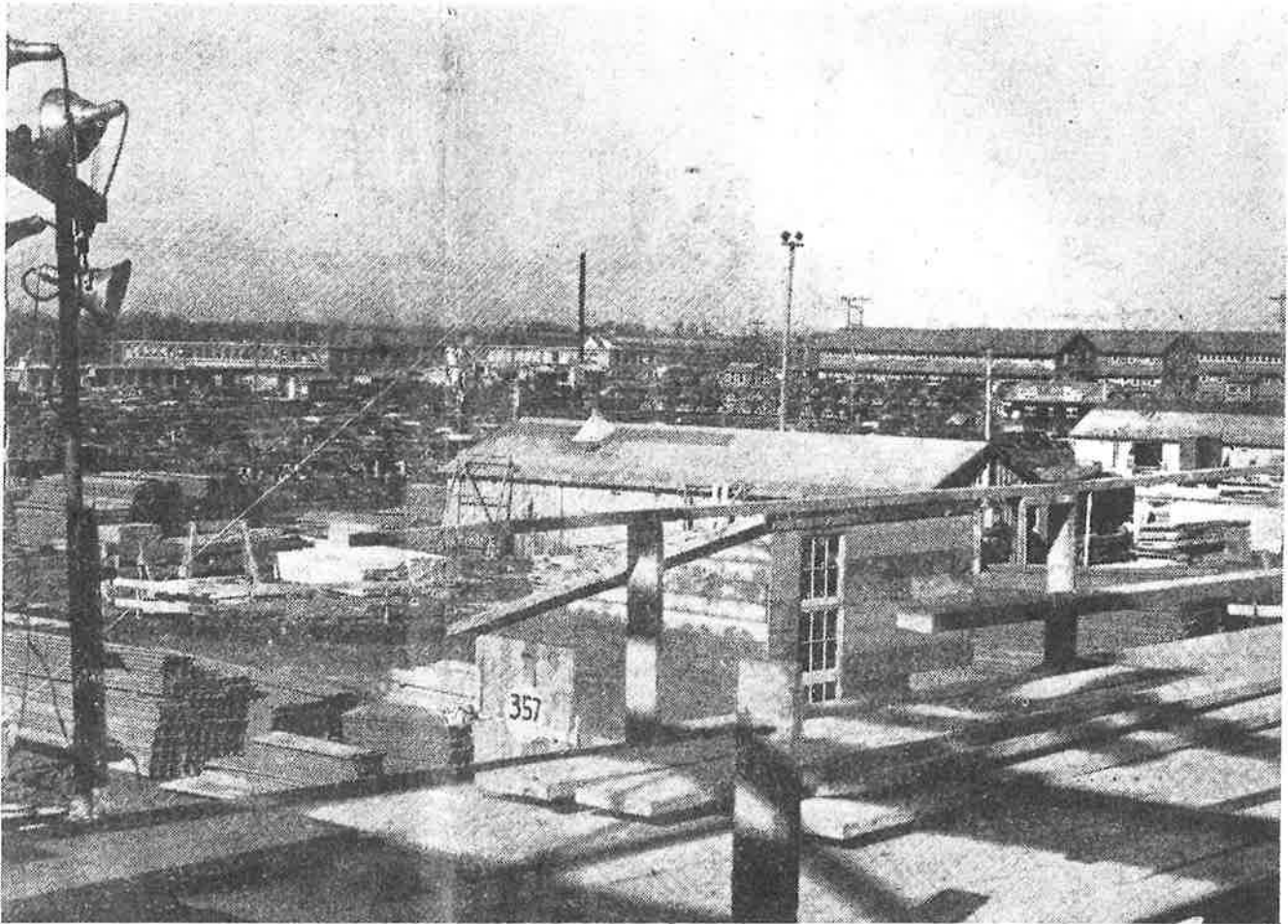
The business was started by George Swartfager and Sam Goughnour in 1927 and remained in business for about five years. Mr. Baldy was hired as manager and Mr. Stalcup set up the fire displays with the help of other employees. He also fired the displays. These displays were set in both Iowa and Missouri for celebrations. The company employed approximately

forty townsmen and women..

Some of those employed were: Victor Bloch, Roscoe Sexauer, Sam Wheeler, Coral Essex, Robert Gray, Helen Johnson, May Miller, Louie Fontanini, Erma Fontana, Hanna Dann, Eleanor Fitch, Vernon Welton, Mabel Donaghy, Alma Wheeler, Verna Farlowe, Delma Baker, Bill Engelkeys, Lena Ugulini, Anita Ugulini, Emma Bulgarelli, Assunta Giannasi (Brugioni), Theresa Carone, May Boyer, Roscoe Sexauer and Sam Swartfager.



On the way to Keokuk to set up firework displays.



Ordnance plant under construction

ORDNANCE PLANT

The Des Moines Ordnance Plant and rifle range testing area were built on 4442 acres of land just south of Ankeny. The land had been acquired from previous owners therefore becoming government property.

Due to the emergency of the time farm homes and buildings were destroyed. However, one building, the new Fitch Dairy Barn, was left standing to be used as temporary offices. This building is still standing on the Iowa State University grounds.

The plant was built and equipped at a total cost of \$54,745,461 between July 31, 1941 and June 15, 1942.

The first cartridge making machine was set November 30, 1941, seven days before Pearl Harbor, and the first cartridge passed fire test January 31, 1942. This was seven months after the site had been farm land.

The plant was operated by the United States Rubber Company under a government contract from January 31, 1942 to September 1, 1945. Since this was government owned land the Polk County Board of Supervisors cancelled tax assessments on the 4442 acres. This temporarily removed over 16% of the land in Crocker Township from the tax roll.

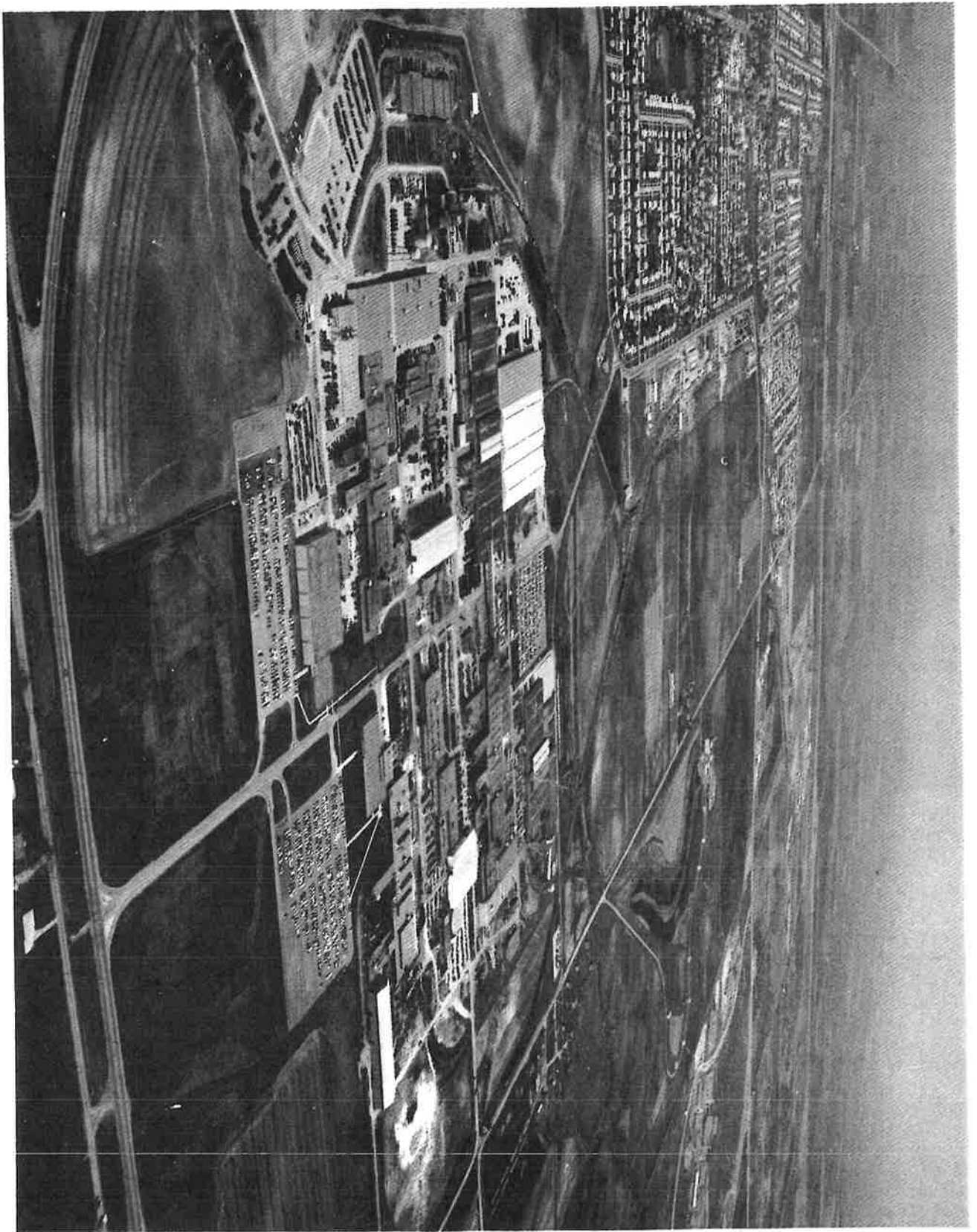
The arms plant closed July 31, 1945. Gradual lay-off for 10,800 employees began. They were layed off gradually as the plant could not be phased into civilian production at this time. The War Department ordered it held on "standby" in case at any time the war with Japan required more ammunition than scheduled.

The plant during its period of operation produced one bullet for every person on the face of the globe with plenty to spare.

SOUTHLAWN ADDITION

The location of the Ordnance plant adjacent to Ankeny was the real reason for the development of this area. The homes on the seventy lots were built under Class six of the Federal Housing Administration, which allowed priority rights in building defense homes in Defense Areas.

Nine business and professional men purchased the seventeen acres known as the Marts tract in the latter part of 1941, which was platted into the seventy lots of this addition.



JOHN DEERLE - Aerial View

JOHN DEERE DES MOINES WORKS

John Deere, founder of the Company, was a blacksmith from Vermont. His interest in farm machinery was one of the reasons for his moving to Grand Detour, Illinois so that he could be in the farming area of the midwest.

It was in his shop at Grand Detour, Illinois in 1837 that he fashioned the first successful self scouring steel plow. This opened to cultivation the vast farm lands of the Midwest, where the rich but sticky soil had made conventional plows almost useless.

This large machinery manufacturing company, John Deere, entered on the Ankeny scene in 1947 when they purchased the buildings and five hundred twenty-eight acres from the General Services Administration of the United States Government. Many of the buildings were built in 1941 for use during World War II as an ammunition plant. Since that time several large buildings have been added to the original Ordnance Plant facilities.

The company started production in the new plant in February 1948, making corn pickers and cultivators. The third category of equipment manufactured was the cotton harvesting equipment. In 1950, the cotton picker became the first machine designed and built from basic Des Moines Works' concepts.

Through the years, potato planters, beet harvesters, rotary hoes, rod weeders and stack wagons became a part of the Des Moines line. In 1969, the grain drill was transferred and the production of the corn picking equipment was transferred out of the Des Moines Plant.

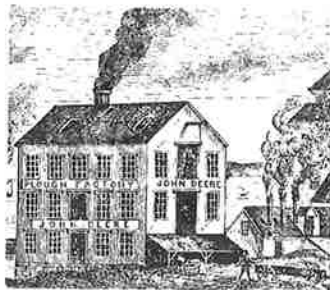
New products which have been engineered and developed here include hi-cycle sprayer, corn attachments for combines and the crop thinner. They also produce chisel plows, corn huskers, tool bars and cotton strippers.

These products are shipped to every state in the Union, Canada, most of Western Europe and Latin America. Both rail and trucks are used for shipping in raw materials and shipping out the finished products.

Employment at the start of production in 1948 was 546 and has increased to approximately 3000 at the present time. These employees come from 100 communities in twenty-eight counties. The annual payroll exceeds thirty-three million dollars. The company is the world's largest producer of farm equipment. They have nine factories in the U.S. and facilities in ten foreign nations.

On May 18, 1974, the company celebrated its silver anniversary.

Testing his first plow



First Moline factory

BUILDERS AND DEVELOPERS

Frank is a local farm boy, born four miles northwest of Ankeny in 1926 and educated in the local schools.

The year after graduation from high school he went to Alaska to work on the Alcan Highway and also worked for Lytle and Green Construction Company in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Frank gained valuable building experience but this was interrupted by service in World War II. After his discharge he spent a short time with Ankeny Motors and then worked for John Deere. He started his construction business in 1949 while still working for John Deere. In February 1953, he quit John Deere and devoted full time to his construction business. In 1959, he acquired a part interest in Ankeny Red "E" Mix Concrete Co. Other stockholders were Joe Bianchi and Blasco Fontaninni. This company developed land and built homes and business buildings.

Along with other construction, Frank built Westview Shopping Center, a business building in the 800 block on the south side of Third Street and Frontier Shopping Center. The Lint Enterprises have donated land for city parks. Frank was instrumental in getting the Faith Baptist Bible College to locate here when they moved from Omaha.

Some other active builders and developers in Ankeny are: Bob Terrell, D. Feldman, J. Nelson, Hoksbergen Homes, Inc., G. Skogman, M. Christensen, R. Terrell, E. Smith, G. Nelson, Norris Construction, N. Stuart, W. Spahr, V. Uehling, D. Hick, D. Crees, R. Spahr, R. Logli, and El View Construction.

EL VIEW CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

In the Spring of 1959, Jack E. Ellenberger and Albert (Bud) Wiuff formed the ElView Construction Co., Inc. The office was located on the front porch of Mr. Wiuff's residence, located at 418 Ankeny Blvd. Principle business that the company became involved in was residential single family dwellings. The owners worked with the tools, sub-contracting masonry work during the early days of developing the business.

The following year the company began building service stations for major and independent oil companies. The experience of the principals seemed to adapt more closely to this market than to housing; which prompted a change in the direction of the market they pursued.

A new office was later built of approximately sixteen foot square and spotted at different locations along Highway 69 in Ankeny. As properties were developed, the office would be moved.

Later the property at 806 Ankeny Blvd. was acquired and developed to the existing office.

Offices were developed in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Cedar Rapids, and Bettendorf, Iowa.

The combined offices employ approximately eighty people and offer a full service as general contractors - conventional construction, steel building, multiple housing and remodeling work is actively pursued.

OTHER INDUSTRIES

Custom Fabricators - Started business in 1956. They are specialized steel fabricators and do business in Iowa, Illinois and Missouri.

Neese and Sons - manufacture pre-mixers under Vitamite Brand name. Started business in 1964.

Dakon Dakota Iron - B. Reardon - distributors for Brady Manufacturing Co.

Brady Operations - Farm Division of Koehring Company, moved to Industrial Park in 1967. They pioneered the four row corn stalk shredder and are still the leading manufacturer for it. They also manufacture cultivators, chisel plows and the Brady Hydra-Mill.

Hulsizer's Inc. - this company is supplier of display materials for large companies. It also manufactures metal fixtures, seasonal foliage, boutique wood cabinets, novelty figures and ornaments. It moved to Ankeny in 1968.

Concrete Pre-Cast, Inc. - makes pre-cast wall panels and their sales area is Iowa and the bordering states. Came to Ankeny in 1968.

Marine Distributors, Inc. - Fred Lorenz and Bruce Jones. They handle items from about 140 different suppliers and manufacturers in the marine business and sell to dealers in Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Thorpe Well Co. - came to Ankeny in 1970. The company specializes in well drilling, servicing of pumping equipment, sewage pumps and handles water treatment equipment. It is also a distributor for soil compaction and erosion control products and asphalt treatment.

Quality Machine Co., Inc. - manufactures tractor and farm machinery parts which they sell in Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Oregon, and other states.

Arndt Organ Supply Co. - Robert E. Arndt - came to Ankeny in 1970. Produces organ items such as contact blocks, pneumatics and electronic solid state parts. They also sell radar alarm systems.

Ralph's Distributing Co. - Ralph Engstrand - distributors for travel trailers, campers, boat trailers, boats and canoes. It is the largest wholesale distributors of these items in Iowa.

Fred T. Lowy, Distributors, Inc. - serves the floor covering industry in the midwest from Tennessee to Canadian border. Came to Ankeny in 1970.

Rendering and Oil Associated Rebuilders, Inc. - main product manufactured is a screw press.

Green Thumb Products - wholesale distributors for tropical house plants and operates in Iowa and Nebraska. Opened company in 1973.

Bumper Replating, Inc. - a division of Automotive Enterprises, Inc. - bumper and custom plating - do business in Iowa and bordering states.

Ankeny Concrete Block - Lyle Jenkins.

Ray's Cabinet Shop - Raymond Stuart.

Briggs Transportation - common carrier - fleet of trucks company owned.

Central States Express, Inc. - Simpson Brothers - common carriers - haul for Brady, John Deere and others.



LATER CHURCHES

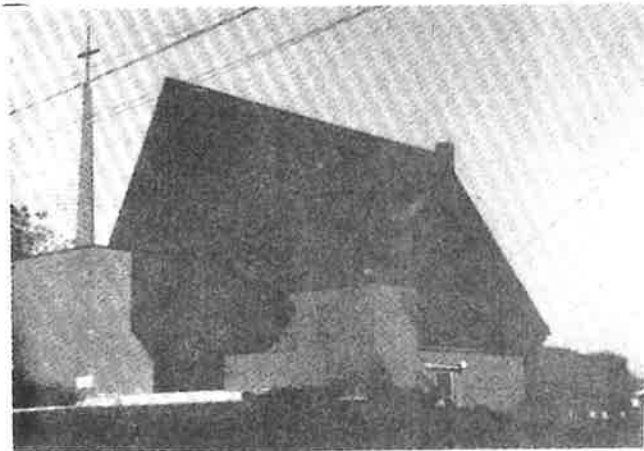
CHURCHES . . . ESTABLISHED SINCE 1950

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Holy Trinity Lutheran Church was organized in February 1950. The first pastor came in November 1952. All efforts were put into erecting a worship and education center. After four years in the local legion hall they moved into their new church in 1953. The new church was dedicated December 11, 1953. The new structure cost approximately \$35,000.



Presentsbrick church at 518 Elm Street



1953 brick church

Congregational life and activity gradually expanded. Five years after the first structure was dedicated a new educational wing was added in 1958. It was but another short eight years later in 1966, that a new structure attached to the old was completed. It represents the labor and determination of a group of people who met the needs for expanded worship, education and fellowship facilities. The present \$260,000 structure was dedicated on May 8, 1966.

The Rev. George Schardt was the first pastor called to serve the church from 1952-1955. Other ministers who have served have been: Pastor Henry Schiffler 1957-1962, Pastor George Krumrey 1962-1968, Pastor Eric Biedermann, the present minister came in 1968.

ANKENY BAPTIST CHURCH



Present church located at Fifth and Maple Streets

The Baptist Church of Ankeny was organized June 29, 1957. Meetings were held in the American Legion Hall until they were able to move into the present brick structure.

The new church was dedicated February 16, 1959.

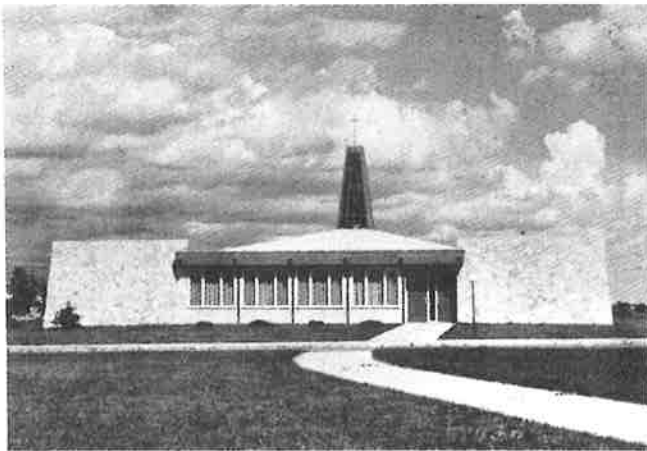
Even though the church has been expanded and improved the membership has grown so that today facilities for worship and education are inadequate. The congregation has purchased several acres of land at Ordnance Road and Northwest Sixteenth Streets. The new facilities will include a sanctuary, Christian education and parking facilities. Construction will begin in the near future.

Since its organization the following pastors have served the congregation: Reverend A. D. Mohr, (first pastor), Reverend John Polson, Reverend Calvin Rumley, and Reverend Fred B. Davidson, present pastor.

ANKENY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Ankeny United Presbyterian Church was established November 26, 1964. The membership held its worship services at the Rebekah Lodge with just a half a dozen couples attending. They then moved their meeting place to the "Manse-Chapel", which was also the Pastor's home. They moved into their new building late in 1967. Dedication ceremonies were held November 19, 1967. The first building was the first of a three unit construction.

The Reverend B. J. Unkena has been the pastor since their organization.



Present church located at 317 Trilien Drive

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH

In the fall of 1964, the Home Mission Department of Iowa District of the Assemblies of God with headquarters in Des Moines purchased a lot from Mrs. D. A. MacLean who lived at 1125 West Third Street.

Home missionaries Pastor and Mrs. Robert Wenig were invited to pioneer and build the church. The Wenigs moved from Hannibal, Missouri to Ankeny on November 11, 1964. Sunday School was first held in the parsonage on January 4, 1965. As the membership grew the Sunday school and church services were moved to the American Legion Hall for several months. Then more space was needed so services were moved to the Rebekah Lodge.

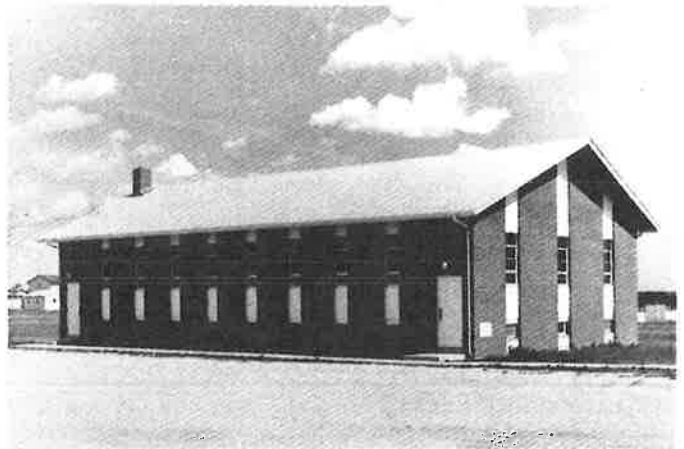
Pastor Wenig was appointed general contractor and overseer of securing a loan and construction of the building. Building began November 10, 1965 and dedication of the new facilities was held May 9, 1966. The church was recognized on March 13, 1969 as a sovereign body.

The Reverend Forrest McClellan is the present pastor.



Present church located at 1125 West Third Street

EAST ANKENY BAPTIST CHURCH



Present church located at 701 East First Street

The East Ankeny Baptist Church was organized in 1962. The Reverend Donald Woodcock was called to serve as the first pastor.

Meetings were held in the American Legion Hall until the membership purchased the present parsonage at 713 East Third Street. Then the meetings were held in the parsonage until the present church was completed.

Two acres of land was procured and the first stage of a total church plant was erected in the fall of 1966. The church was completed and dedicated March 5, 1967.

Other ministers who have served the church have been: Reverend Wendell Mosser, Reverend Leonard Lee, Reverend Milton Hodge, and the present minister Reverend Thomas Cole who has served the Ankeny church since March 1970.

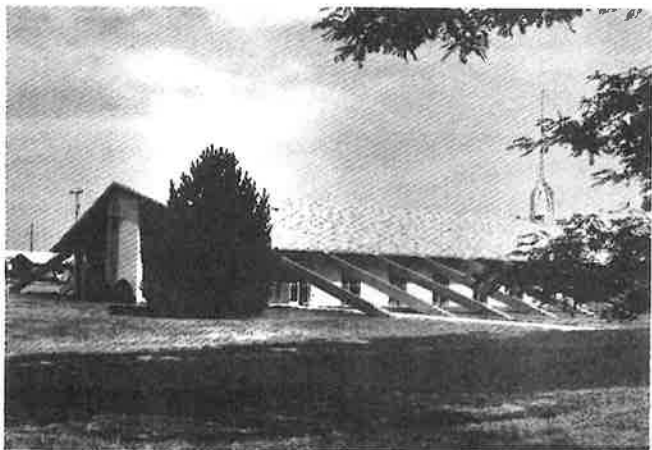
OUR LADY'S IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH

On October 1, 1959 the Visitation Parish purchased about ten acres of land from Dr. and Vi Henderson to be used for a new church, proposed school and athletic field.

The first Catholic Church in Ankeny was organized in January 1960. Father Woodrow Elias was named the first Priest of the newly formed Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Parish. Prior to the organization of the new Parish, Mass was held at St. Michael's Church in Carney. Services are still continued there. After the Parish was formed, Mass was held in the Ankeny American Legion Hall for almost a year until the church was completed.

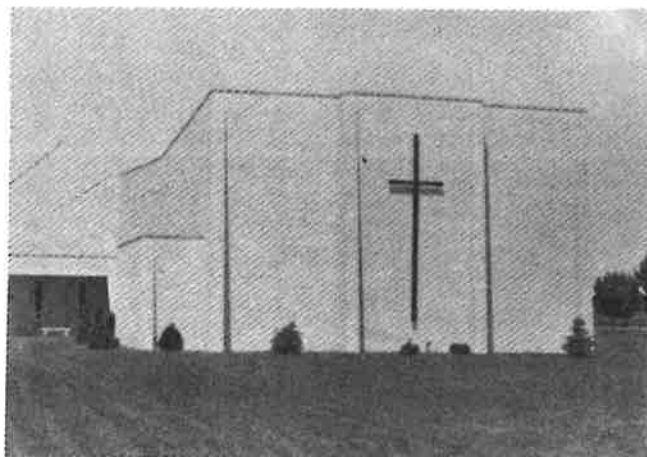
On June 4, 1961 ground was broken for the new Church, Rectory and Parish and on Easter Sunday April 29, 1962 the first Mass was said in the new Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church.

The present Priest Father Paul Hans came to the church January 16, 1967, he is assisted by Monsignor Peter Schmitz.



Present church at 501 East First Street

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Present church located at 1110 Sharon Drive

The St. Paul Lutheran Church was organized in April 1967. The membership held their services in Ankeny American Legion Hall until November 23, 1969 when their new brick church was completed at 1110 Sharon Drive.

The Reverend Donald Illian has been the pastor since organization.

The church was organized to provide a place of worship for Lutherans of the Missouri Synod.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST



Present church located at 310 North Ash Street

The First Church of Christ in Ankeny was first formed in November 1967. Land was purchased at 310 North Ash and the church building began to be constructed. In the meantime, meetings of the

worshippers were held in members' homes and as the membership grew more space was needed so they secured space in the IOOF Rebecca Lodge Hall at Second and Cherry Streets for meetings until the new building was ready.

The present church was completed and they moved into the new structure in December 1971.

The new building was damaged by the toronado which struck Ankeny June 18, 1974. After the repairs were completed a dedication was held. Reverend Roger Smelsor, the church's first minister, returned for the dedication. The Reverend Charles E. Johnson is the present minister.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Faith United Methodist Church was organized November 6, 1969. The Reverend Harold Vance has been their only pastor.

This church was established as a result of surveys conducted by the Methodist Churches in Ankeny and Marquissville. The survey showed a need for a church in this location.



Present church located at 7384 N.W. 16th Street

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

This is one of the newest congregations in Ankeny. The church was organized in October 1972. Their pastor at that time was the Reverend Nevin Williams.

The members are still holding their worship services in the IOOF Hall. However, lots have been purchased on North Ash Street for building in the near future.

The present pastor is the Reverend Larry Hall.

ORGANIZATIONS

LODGES AND ORGANIZATIONS

ANKENY STAR LODGE #627

Ankeny Star Lodge #627, 100F was instituted May 13, 1896 by C. W. Bowan, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Iowa. Those signing the Charter were Alfred Thompson, Oley Landey, Burt O. Keen, W. H. Lewis, J. D. Parmenter, E. Farrell, G. G. Witmer, John E. Witmer, Edgar A. Harvey, Charles Loveless and George Loveless.

Installation of Officers was conducted by G. M. Newman and Staff. The first elected officers were: Noble Grand, George Loveless; Vice Grand, Burt O'Keen; Sec. John E. Witmer; and Treasurer, F. G. Witmer.

The Noble Grand's appointed officers, Warden, Frank Farrel Conductor, William Lewi Inside Guardian, John Parmenter; Outside Guardian, Al Thompson; Right Support Nobel Grand, Oley Landey; Left Support Nobel Grand, Charles Loveless, Right Support Vice Grand, Ed Harvey; and Chaplain, Sabert Parmenter.

Since there were not enough members to fill the Charter, J. H. Horning, Lou Nelson, F. W. Tait, A. Gregory, Walter E. Parmenter, Frank Ritchart, N. W. Horning, Alex Tilton, and B. A. Lamason were initiated into the Order. The Noble Grand then appointed, B. A. Lamason, Right Scene Support F. W. Tait, Left Scene Support; and Alex Tilton, Left Support Vice Grand. The first trustees were B. A. Lamason, 3 years, Charles Loveless, 2 years, and F. W. Tait, 1 year. H. C. Thompson to act as janitor for ensuing year.

The first business at hand stated that there would be no spittoons in the Lodge Hall. Other business was a bill for 25 cents which was presented for hauling a stove from Des Moines to Ankeny; the bill was dated January 30, 1896. February 13, 1902 Oley Landey received \$1.50 for coal.

In 1921, the Odd Fellows became a part of 'The Orientals', a Drill Team of Odd Fellows from Polk County with John Brown, Drill Captain. Those participating from Ankeny were Ray Gilbrech, Ed Parmenter, Leland Harbey, Earl Gilbert, Elwin Grigsby, Ross Thompson, and Ted Tall. Practice was held at the Fair Grounds. John Brown was considered a very precise drill captain. The Team, with their green pants, yellow shirts, red hats with yellow tassels, were not only colorful but were very good and participated in drill all over the state.

The Odd Fellows believed and lived the true meaning of Odd Fellowship, Friendship, Love, and Truth, taking care of their fellow Brothers and their families in sickness and death.

There were ice cream, chicken, and oyster suppers with proceeds going to a needy Brother and his family.

There were also ice cream suppers in the summer, oyster suppers, with the stew being made in a big boiler, in the winter, and chicken suppers in between with the Rebekahs and Odd Fellows together in fellowship. (On November 10, 1898 nine brothers, John J. Riley, George Loveless, W. J. Van Slack, John W. Horning, John E. Witmer, Fred Horning, Burt O. Keen, Noah Horning and Frank Kile helped the women institute the Rebekah Lodge.

The Odd Fellows were hard workers, striving to bring entertainment and betterment to the community.

In May 1910 the Stanley Medicine Show came to town for a weeks appearance at the Hall. In September of the same year the Odd Fellows purchased the old Hotel, where now stands the Masonic Temple. It was purchased from C. and Retta Davis with Floren Allen, Frank Zelle Sr. and J. W. Wagner acting as purchasing agents.

In the late '20's and early '30's square dancing Saturday nights hit the town. Sometimes it was a professional orchestra and other times it was hometown talent with Frank Butterfield on the violin, his wife Mary Brobiel Butterfield on the viola and Arlene Harvey at the piano. Little Frank and Will Zelle did the calling for as many as 16 squares on the floor at one time. Of course, there were refreshments. Hot dogs, pie, pop, coffee, and plenty of it too, was served by Earl and Leta Gilbert.

Ankeny Star Lodge meets at the Rebekah Hall, 2nd and Cherry, on Monday nights. They have 13 members and although small in membership they still practice the teachings handed down by original members, that being, Friendship, Love and Truth.

The Hall is still being used by other organizations. Four of our churches have originated in the Hall. At the present time, the Church of the Nazarene meets Sundays and Wednesday evenings. Zimmerette Baton Twirlers practice here. There are also family dinners and get togethers.

The present officers are, Noble Grand, Carlton Purdy; Vice Grand, H. C. Tompkins; Secretary, Joe Houchin, Treasurer, Ed Howard; Chaplain, Ross Thompson; Warden, Ed Howard; Conductor, Earl Lewis, Inside Guardian, Ray Gilbrech; Right Support Noble Grand, Dan Dalasta. Earl Lewis will receive his 50 year Jewel this year for 50 years of membership.

THE REBEKAH LODGE

Rebekah Lodge, a subordinate of the Odd Fellows, was established by Schyler Colfax, September 20, 1851 in Baltimore, Md. It is not a religion but its doctrine proclaims one must believe in God and country and follow the religion of his choice in his own

country and obey the law of the land. From Baltimore our Order has spread to 11 countries outside of the United States.

Our creed is, "Visit the sick, Relieve the distressed, Bury the dead and Educate the orphan." Helping others is a mandate.

Although old in origin their projects are modern. We participate in the Visual Research for the establishment of Endowed Chair in Ophthalmic research at the Wilmer Institute of John Hopkins University. Student loans to help young men and women to further their education. Youth programs, Jr. Odd Fellows and Theta Rho Girls with a Youth Pilgrimage to the UN for youth all over the United States, and local recreation camps.

We, also support the Smart Set International Inc. which is primarily a youth prevention program in helping to stamp out the use of drugs.

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs originated the Home for the aged and orphans. Today there are 64 homes over the United States. Our home is located at Mason City, Iowa. Our last 2 members to have resided there were Adam Piagentini and Harry Swartfager.

Ideal Rebekah Lodge #493 was instituted as Anchor Rebekah Lodge by the Sisters of Mercy Rebekah Lodge from Des Moines. The original Charter was signed November 11, 1899. Those signing were: John J. Riley, Lydia Riley, George Loveless, Will Van Slyck, Laura Van Slyck, Burt O'Keen, Hattie O'Keen, Frank Kile, Lillie Kile, John Horning, Noah Horning, John E. Witmer, and Viola B. Witmer.

The first presiding officers were: Nobel Grand, Lillie Kile; Vice Grand, Lydia Riley; Secretary, Hattie O'Keen; Treasurer, Laura Van Slyck, Conductor, Frank Hollowell; Warden, Lou Campbell; Inside guardian, Fred Horning; Chaplain, John J. Riley; Right Support Noble Grand, Mary Campbell; Left Support Noble Grand, Nellie Lewis; Right Support Vice Grand, Maggie Shellhart, Left Support Vice Grand, Ida Hollowell.

On January 19, 1900 the Lodge voted to change their name from Anchor to Ideal Rebekah Lodge.

Ideals Charter was reclaimed April 7, 1914 by brothers and sisters, L. D. Weinhart, Matilda Weinhart, Burt O'Keen, Hattie O'Keen, George Loveless, Dicie Loveless, Anna C. Boyer, Bertha Gose and Bertha Canfield.

Ideal has 3 honored 50 year members. Bertha Gose, 74 years, Anna Campbell and Minnie Donaghy, 55 years and 2 members who have served our Order over 50 years. Mildred Parmenter, 58 years and Ora Parmenter 51 years.

Ethyl Purdy is President of District 77 Convention which will be held in our Rebekah Hall in April.

Our present elective officers are; Nobel Grand, Mary Houchin; Vice Grand, Mildred Sexauer; Recording Sec., Beverly Scherbart; Financial Sec., Margaret Gilbert; Treasurer, Maxine Gilbert. Appointive Officers, Conductor, Ethyl Purdy; Warden, Florence Dalasta; Inside Guardian, Anna Campbell; Outside Guardian, Gertrude Tomkin Chaplain, Bernice Bennett; Musician, Lelia Adams; Flag Bearer, Grace McAmis; Right Support Noble Grand, Ora Parmenter;

Right Support Vice Grand, Cecile MacLean; Left Support Vice Grand, Ruth Spencer.

There are 36 members and we meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

In the latter part of September, 1960, Rev. W. L. Elias decided to form a Knights of Columbus Council in Ankeny to assist with the lay functions of Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church.

The forming of the new council was under the guidance and supervision of the Knights of Columbus State Deputy, Larry Hurley, district Deputy, John Bisanti were members of the Knights of Columbus Council #644 in Des Moines, Iowa.

The first general meetings were held at the St. Michael's Mission Church at Carney, Iowa where the Ankeny parishoners attended. The purpose of these general meetings was to present the functions of the Knights of Columbus and to sign up new members.

The Council was formed and the initiation of the new members was held in October 1960. The Council became chartered on October 26, 1960 with 98 members.

It was named the Msgr. J. M. Hanson Council #5038, after the late Msgr. J. M. Hanson, pastor of the Visitation Church in Des Moines and who was responsible for the formation of St. Michael's Mission Church in Carney.

The first formal official meeting of the council was held Nov. 9, 1960 at the American Legion Hall in Ankeny. The installation of the newly elected officers was held at this meeting and were as follows: Grand Knight - Dick Pertzborn; Deputy Grand Knight - Aldo Ugulini; Financial Secretary - Carrol Schwaderer; Chancellor - Dan Carraher; Recorder - Francis Pardoe; Treasurer - H. J. Flieschacker; Advocate - Douglas Conway; Warden - John Flannery; Guards - Larry Polich, Ron Fontana, Al Schmidt; Lecturer - Asa Hutton; Trustees - Al Lamberti, Larry Gioffredi, John Hardin.

On June 4, 1961 a ground breaking ceremony was held for the new church and parish hall which was named Our Lady's Immaculate Heart. The first mass was held on Easter Sunday, April 29, 1962. From that time the Knights of Columbus has held their monthly meetings in the Parish Hall.

The Council presently has 202 members, the majority of whom belong to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church. The membership also includes council members from Elkhart, Madrid, and Des Moines Parishes. The present officers are as follows Chaplain, Rev. Paul F. Hans; Grand Knight, Tom Quinlin; Deputy Grand Knight, Mark Stolze; Chancellor, Joe Lynch; Recorder, Ken Brecke; Treasurer, Nick Pauly; Advocate, Joe David; Warden, Tommy Smith; Guards, Joe Falvey, Chuck Lammers. Lecturer, Dan Brady; Church Activity, Mike Meir; Youth Activity, Dick Hinrichs; Community Activity, Ken Labounty; Council Activity, Bob Tigges; Membership Mark Stolze; Trustees; Raphael Schmidt, John Flitcraft, Virgil Rohlf.

The Past Grand Knights are as follows:

1960 - Dick Pertzborn
1961 - Al Ugolini
1962 - Asa Hutton
1963 - Henry Fleischacker
1964 - Jerry Gray
1965 - Bill Magnani
1966 - Charles Fisk
1967 - Joe Shindelar
1968 - Francis Schlueter
1969 - Robert Allen
1970 - Robert Scanlan
1971 - John Flitcraft
1972 - Virgil Rolf
1973 - Ray Schmidt

The Knights of Columbus serve as a charitable and fraternal organization participating in community functions, donating blood, and soliciting funds to help the retarded citizens. Members and their families are also assisted in times of distress.

LOGIC LODGE #636

When dispensation was granted by the Grand Master, Logic Lodge #636 was formed in Ankeny on March, 1921 with Elmer Myrhe, Worshipful Master, Arthur Merkel, Senior Warden, William J. Liechty, Junior Warden, William C. Thornton, Treasurer, and Ed W. Neveln, secretary.

Charter members were: Will Fleming, Guy Zelle, R. C. Schaal, J. F. Hallowell, W. C. Schurke, A. W. Malley, L. E. Watson, William Donaghy Sr., E. W. Neveln, James Fleming, W. D. Thornton, H. A. Bates, M. A. Souers, W. F. Harmon, and W. E. Bieghler.

Thirteen petitions for memberships were read at the first meeting. The Charter was granted at the Grand Lodge Communication held in Waterloo, Iowa, June 14, 1921. There is a current membership of 201 compared to eighteen charter members in the beginning.

Serving as Worshipful Master were E. W. Neveln in 1922, A. E. Merkel 1923, G. C. Zelle, 1924; W. C. Thornton, 1925; and A. L. Hildreth, 1926.

Others were P. R. Bemis in 1927; C. B. Brooker in 1928; S. L. Farlow in 1929; J. W. Hildreth in 1930; L. E. Brewbaker in 1931 and 1932; T. H. Harmon in 1933; C. Howard in 1934, and R. H. Moeckley in 1935. Also L. T. Linthacum in 1936; W. H. Clinite in 1937; W. S. Roberts in 1938; P. W. McElwain in 1939; F. E. Whiting in 1940 and 1941; and L. E. McClung in 1942. Also W. R. Spahr in 1943; J. W. Gfeller in 1944; W. M. Fredericks in 1945; D. B. Whiting in 1946; M. C. Putman in 1947; A. B. Juhl in 1948; B. E. Floto in 1949; L. B. Eckles in 1950; W. D. Barton in 1951; and J. A. Ault in 1952.

E. L. Dutcher served in 1953; F. B. Swartfager in 1954; R. K. Stroup in 1955; H. E. Carlson in 1956; J. H. Lammert in 1957; E. W. Warrington in 1958; P. F. Swartfager in 1959; and D. H. Wilson in 1960. Also C. J. Heaton in 1961; F. Pardoe in 1962; F. Miller in 1963; W. Marvin in 1964; J. Crosser in 1965; E. Carman in 1966; J. Liike in 1967; and D. Crossett in 1968. Also R.

Lyons in 1969; W. Brown in 1970; D. Cornett in 1971; D. Seley in 1972; R. Mahlow in 1973; and W. Plate in 1974.

ANKENY EASTERN STAR

A special meeting was held September 24, 1921 by guest officers to elect and initiate members to institute an Eastern Star Chapter at Ankeny. Twenty-four members are listed on the Charter, which is dated October 26, 1921, and designated the new organization as Ankeny Chapter No. 513, Order of the Eastern Star in Iowa.

Charter members were Miss Ethel Brobeil, Mrs. Pearle Fleming, Mrs. Christine Liechty, Miss Matie Morrison, Mrs. Fern Myhre, Mrs. Dora Peterson, and Mrs. Iva Sexauer. Also Mrs. Mary Wagner, Mrs. Daisy Humphrey, Mrs. Bertha Neveln, Mrs. May Packman, Mrs. Clara Sandborn, Mrs. Dells Schurke, and Mrs. Emma Whiting. Also William J. Liechty, Elmer Hyhre, Carl O. Peterson, Louis Watson, Walter Bieghler, Earle Humphrey, Edward Neveln, Joe Packman, William Schurke, and Frank Whiting. Initiation fees were \$5.00 and annual dues were \$1.50.

The original meeting place was located at the northeast corner of Third and Cherry Street, upstairs over what is now the Ankeny State Bank. The Masonic Temple moved to its present location upstairs at 311 Walnut in May of 1955.

Mayme Wickersham served Grand Chapter of Iowa as Grand Warder. The 50-year members of Ankeny Chapter to date have been Iva Sexauer and Bertha Neveln (charter members), Dora Eckles, Alice Howard, Bill Fleming, Earney Sexauer, Mary Donaghy, Abbie Baltzley, Florence Young, Clara Harmon, and Gladys Hammond.

The following have served Ankeny Chapter as Worthy Matron and Patron: 1921 (part) and 1922 - Christine Liechty and Elmer Myhre; 1923 - Della Hutton and Earl Humphreys; 1924 - Daisy Humphreys and John Hildreth; 1925 - Marie Hallowell and A. E. Merkel; 1926 - Pearle Fleming and Carl Ostrem; 1927 - Emma Whiting and Clarence Brooker; 1928 - Iva Sexauer and Arthur Hildreth; 1929 - Delores Brooker and Guy Zelle; 1930 Nellie Lewis and Frank Whiting; 1931 Edna Cherrie and Robert Moeckley; 1932 - Alice Howard and Lewis McClung; 1933 - Lillian Olson and Earney Sexauer; 1934 - Dora Crouse and Walter Harmon; 1935 - Minnie Eissler and Harold Moeckley; 1936 - Mayme Wickersham and Mel Farrell; 1937 - Ferne Kline and Loren Hildreth; 1938 - Lucille Moeckley and Wayne Clinite; 1939 - Alta Linthacum and Verle Atkinson; 1940 - Blanche Clinite and Paul Bemis; 1941 - Laura Madison/Blanche Foster and Leon Linthacum; 1942 - Lola Lein and Ray Smith; 1943 - Orpha Atkinson and Donald Whiting; 1944 - Ilene Scholes and H. M. Fredericks; 1945 - Irene McElwain and Donald Cram and Jeanette Fredericks and Anton Juhl; 1946 - Irene Smith/Jeanette Fredericks and Arthur Ault; 1947 Mildred Spahr and Ray Albaugh.

Also, 1948 - Helen Hall and Paul McElwain; 1949 - Myrl Johl and J.W. Foster; 1950 - Dora Eckles and Dewey Barton; 1951 - Kathryn Hall and Lester Eckles;

1952 - Doris Griffieon and Ray Griffieon; 1953 - Phyllis Floto and Edward Strong; 1954 - Winifred Spahr and Earl Reinhart; 1955 - Charlotte Dutcher and E. L. Dutcher; 1956 - Elna Gabel and Ray Albaugh; 1957 - Jody Strong and DeVere Wilson; 1958 - Fern Albaugh and DeVere Wilson; 1960 - Gracia Long and E. L. Dutcher; 1961 - Gladys Wilson and George Hart; 1962 - Cynthia Akers and William Moss; 1963 - Luella Taylor and Thad Taylor; 1964 - Barbara Olinger and William Moss; 1963 - Luella Taylor and Thad Taylor; 1964 - Barbara Olinger and William Moss; 1965 - Jean Enquist and Harold Enquist; 1966 - Beulah Pardoe and Ward Brown; 1967 - Janice Crosser and Robert Nowels; 1968 - Deloris Moss and William Moss; 1969 - Dorothy Brown and Ward Brown; 1970 - Jane Seley and Herb Johnson; 1971 - Pat Brewbaker and Max Brewbaker; 1972 - Laura Hoover and Ed Strong; 1973 - Gwen Swartfager and Reginald Greenlaw; 1974 - Ramona Hitchens and Ward Brown.

ANKENY RAINBOW ASSEMBLY NO. 156

Ankeny Rainbow Assembly No. 156, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, was instituted on October 12, 1959, and was issued its formal charter May 26, 1960 under the sponsorship of Ankeny Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. There were 28 charter members: Harriet Hall, Sue Moore, Kim Wilson, Ruth Knox, Marva Freel, Linda Randolph, Bonnie Doughton, Gail Spahr, Mary Dutcher, Suzanne Taylor, Sharon Wheeler, Sharon Hale, Connie Hall, Karen Wilson, Stephanie Johnson, Marcia McArthur, Susy Carlson, Dena Bailey, Diane Varnum, Barbara Sheldahl, Jeannie Paullin, Ronaele Wilhelm, Georgia Wheeler, Karla Kahrs, Jane Adams, Janice Hefte, Deborah Schwartz, and Lynn Dann. The Mother Advisor was Kathryn Hall, and her daughter Harriet Hall was the first Worthy Advisor.

Girls who have served as Worthy Advisor are as follows: 1960 - Sue Moore and Kim Wilson; 1961 - Ruth Knox, Sharon Wheeler, and Karen Wilson; 1962 - Edna Wilson, Sue Taylor, and Marcia McArthur; 1963 - Mary Dutcher, Robin Hopkins, and Georgia Wheeler; 1964 - Lynn Dann, Jeannie Paullin, and Donna Bruce; 1965 - Sue Kiersey, Dixie Nowels, and Jill Harmon; 1966 - Rosemary Moeckly, Carol Ferguson, and Edith Redmon; 1967 - Cathy Huff, Linda Enquist, and Diane Despotovich; 1968 - Diane Kral, Sheila Hutchins, and Lonnie Marsh; 1969 - Jenifer Ladman, Diane Boswell, and Debbie Chalstrom; 1970 - Jacque Moss, Barbara Robinson, and Debbie Brinkman; 1971 - Kathy Johnson, Ruth Politsch, and Trena Madison; 1972 - Kathy Thorpe, Debbie Boswell, and Diane Price; 1973 - Robin Agan, Monna Ranard, and Tena Dowden; 1974 - Diane Mosier, Lynn Wells, and Julie Thorpe.

Mother Advisors have been: 1959 - Kathryn Hall; 1961, 1962 and 1963 - Luella Taylor (Mrs. Thad L); 1963 and 1964 - Evelyn Dann (Mrs. Ralph C); 1965 - Virginia Adams (Mrs. Robert L); 1966 and 1967 - Charlotte Dutcher (Mrs. E.L.); 1968 - Bonnie Hutchins (Mrs. Howard); 1969 and 1970 - Deloris Moss (Mrs. Wm. E); 1971 and 1972 - Janet Leonard (Mrs. Earl D); 1973 and 1974 - Josephine Thorpe (Mrs. Tom C).

Rainbow Dads have been Devere Wilson, Thad Taylor, Horace Huff, and Bill Moss.

Grand Officers from Ankeny have been Suzanne Taylor, who was appointed Grand Nature, and Jacque Moss, who served as Grand Worthy Associate Advisor and Grand Worthy Advisor. Dixie Nowels served as an Executive Committee member, and 4 girls have served as Grand Representatives: Sharon Wheeler, Linda Enquist, Sheila Hutchins, and Robin Agan.

In these first 15 years at Ankeny Assembly, 185 girls have been initiated in addition to the 28 charter members. Ten others have transferred their membership to Ankeny from other assemblies.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE

The Women of the Moose Des Moines Chapter 10 is an Auxiliary of Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 849.

The National organization was founded by the late Senator James J. Davis of Pennsylvania in 1913. Mooseheart, the city of childhood was dedicated at this meeting.

In 1916, three short years after Mooseheart was dedicated, the Women's Circles, as the groups were known were unified into an International Auxiliary called "Women of Mooseheart Legion". That Auxiliary title was change to "Women of the Moose" in 1933. From its very beginning the Women of the Moose have worked and promoted many projects for the care and beautification of Mooseheart, a home for children in Illinois. Another project is Moosehaven, a place for oldsters in Florida.

Co-workers who serve as officers and Chapter Development Committee Chairman are eligible to qualify for personal honors.

The Academy of Friendship is the first honor of the W.O.T.M. Each state holds a special state wide meeting on the first Sunday in May each year to bestow this honor.

A co-worker who serves as Senior Regent and as Junior Graduate Regent is eligible to receive the College of Regent's Degree. This is a special ceremony held each year at the International Convention to bestow this honor. A co-worker serving as Recorder is eligible to receive the Star Recorder Degree, this honor is bestowed each year at the International Convention.

The Presiding officer of Des Moines Chapter #10 for the year 1974-75 is Patricia Baker. The Auxiliary has a membership of 163.

ANKENY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Ankeny Chamber of Commerce, chartered in 1952, through its officers, directors and members have been engaged in Ankeny activities. The Chamber performs the function of a civic clearinghouse, a public relations counselor, a legislative representative at the local, state and national levels of government, an information bureau and a research and promotion medium.

This agency is a voluntary organization of individuals and businesses who band together to advance the commercial, financial, industrial and civic interests of the community.

The Ankeny Chamber of Commerce was chartered in 1952, but the beginnings of the organization can be traced back almost 6,000 years to the city of Mari in Mesopotamia.

The evolution of the modern Chamber began in 1599 when merchants in Marseilles, France, formed an independent voluntary organization to represent commercial interests of the port. During the 18th century Chambers were established in other French cities and in England and Ireland.

The first American Chamber of Commerce was the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York representing the businessmen of New York City which was organized in 1768. Five years later, the Charleston, South Carolina, Chamber was formed.

By 1801, Chambers had been organized in New Haven, Connecticut, and Philadelphia; and by 1870, there were Chambers of Commerce in 40 major American cities.

As a result of a suggestion by President William Howard Taft that some system of national cooperation between business and government be established, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States was created on April 22, 1912.

It was a new step in commercial organization - a representative federation with autonomous chambers of commerce and trade associations from every part of the country and from every type of industry as its controlling and directing force. There are presently over 5,000 Chambers of Commerce organizations in the United States.

The backbone of the Ankeny Chamber is its committees which act as task forces in accomplishing the organization's goals in areas of agriculture, civic affairs, education, industrial development, public relations, recreation, retail, tourism and many others. Financed on a voluntary basis, the Chamber's expenses are apportioned among its members, consisting of firms and individuals. Any firm or individual sharing a common interest in community improvement is eligible for membership. Chamber membership is an investment in the present and future of the individual's and the community's welfare.

Some of the most significant projects of the Chamber in the past include widening of Highway 69 to its present four lanes and the installation of traffic lights, the sidewalk program and improved streets and lighting, participation in recreational programs and in the Fun and Feed Days celebration, securing the Faith Baptist Bible College, and the Des Moines Area Community College for Ankeny and helping to establish the Ankeny Industrial Park. Many Ankeny citizens took an active part in these programs and today can rightfully boast of their confidence in the future economy of Ankeny.

The Ankeny Chamber of Commerce gives continued attention to the increasing number of new enterprises in Ankeny. There are continuing programs to promote the business community and

business oriented workshops and seminars given to assist people in strengthening everyday business operations. The Chamber Board of Directors undertakes to examine, advise and act on local issues that affect the general welfare of all who live and work in the Ankeny area.

Interest in the Chamber and membership in the Chamber has surpassed our previous years. Recommended continued action to provide continuity of the Chamber operations in the following years was acted upon in 1972.

1. Continuation of the Education Program
2. Continued study by the Air Strip Committee
3. Instituting of the "Fair Share" Dues Investment
4. Continued evaluation of community solicitations
5. Proper utilization of the Executive Secretary
6. Strengthening of the Retail Bureau
7. Continued effective budgeting
8. Continued bureau systems
9. Maintaining awards policy

The philosophy behind all that the Chamber does and stands for states that planning is the process of perceiving and selecting the future you wish to live in from the almost unlimited possibilities.

ANKENY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PAST PRESIDENTS

1951 - Dr. Russell E. Love
1952 - James Bower
1953 - Dr. Ollie J. Weigel
1954 - Otis Cross
1955 - Charles Feight
1956 - V. W. Smith
1957 - Francis Hall
1958 - Dr. Paul K. Dougan
1959 - Donald Steffensen
1960 - Earl Olmsted
1961 - Dr. Glenn Higgins
1962 - Dr. George Keays
1963 - Jerry Fulton
1964 - James Maggert
1965 - Richard Miller
1966 - Frank Lint
1967 - William Wallace
1968 - Forrest McClure
1969 - Donald Steffensen
1970 - Dr. Ollie J. Weigel
1971 - Norris C. Adams
1972 - Joseph Flatt
1973 - Larry Cairns
1974 - Larry Donaghy

Eldon Leonard is the 1975 President of the Ankeny Chamber of Commerce and will officiate during the Ankeny Centennial.

THE UNITED ANKENY CIVIC ORGANIZATION

The United Ankeny Civic Organization was incorporated on June 30th, 1967. The original incorporators were Wayne Begg, Doris Comstock, Reno Bertogli and Richard Hermann. Those serving on the original Board of Directors were Wayne Begg, John Lundstrom, Pat Hopper, William Wallace, David Alexander and Harold Hoffman.

The United Ankeny Civic Organization, which is referred to as U.A.C.O. or UACO, was organized for the purpose of putting on one big annual celebration where all the civic organizations would cooperate in the production thereof. It also was thought that it would bring better cooperation and more civic minded thought throughout the community.

At the time it was organized the JC's sponsored a 4th of July Celebration and the Lions sponsored the Labor Day Barbecue. It was agreed that both celebrations would give away to an annual celebration to be held the weekend after the 4th of July each year.

Originally the presidents and the vice-presidents of all sponsoring organizations were the respective representatives to UACO. Each sponsoring organization donated \$50.00 for a membership in UACO. The original organizers were Lions, Kiwanis, American Legion, Ankeny JC's, Ankeny Chamber of Commerce, the Jayceets and Welcome Wagon.

Since its inception the UACO has made a profit every year and has made donations to various civic needs with those profits, the latest of which is \$4,500 towards the rebuilding of the Ankeny Shelter House which was destroyed by the 1974 tornado.

1974 was the eighth annual celebration. The people in the community now look forward to this celebration which consists of three days starting with a kiddy parade on the evening of the first day and an adult parade on the following morning and ending with a giant fire works display on the final day. The purposes of the organization have been fulfilled.

ALBAUGH - McGOVERN POST #42 AMERICAN LEGION

The American Legion of Ankeny, Iowa was organized March 1919 by Dr. C. W. Likely of Ankeny.

A temporary charter was issued by the state department, and was named the Charles A. McGovern Post #42. Mr. McGovern was the first Ankeny service man to give his life in World War I.

The Post was then changed to be known as the Albaugh-McGovern Post #42. This was in the honor of Lester Albaugh who died in France in 1918. Thus, Albaugh-McGovern Post No. 42 was the first Post in Polk County.

The first commander was Dr. C. W. Likely, Adjutant-L. E. Brewbaker, and Finance officer-C. O. McLean.

The main purpose of the American Legion is to honor and respect the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States of America.

The American Legion has a very active past, taking part in all civic and patrol affairs of the community. Memorial Day and Armistice Day were celebrated with full observance.

Then came World War II in 1942. This war took many young men from the community. These men were in the service for almost four years.

After their return home, they became interested in the American Legion and many joined which created the need for a larger Legion Hall. A larger hall was built and dedicated.

The Legion became interested in organizing a boy scout troop and still sponsors troupe 88.

Membership again increased when men from the Korean Conflict and Vietnam returned.

Many memories linger with the remaining first Legion Post members. They are very grateful to the present members for carrying on the principles of the American Legion.

There are now six living charter members of the Albaugh-McGovern Post #42, four are life members:

Fred Swartfager (life member) Ankeny; Ed Howard (life member) Ankeny; Lloyd Brewbaker (life member) Perry; John Donaghy (life member) Slater; George Cherrie (Cannon City, Colo.); Paul Harley, Sheldahl.

AMERICAN LEGION AND AUXILIARY

The veterans of Ankeny, Elkhart, and Alleman met in March 1919 to form a Legion Post. The Charter was temporary and named for Charles McGovern, the first Ankeny man to give his life. Later the Legion voted to add the second man's name to the Post's title, Lester Albaugh. The following officers were chosen to serve the new post; Dr. C. W. Likely, Commander; L. E. Brewbaker, Adjutant; C. O. McLean, Finance officer.

On November 28, 1919 Commander C. W. Likely called together the wives, mothers, and sisters, of Post 42 to organize an Auxiliary. The following ladies were elected to govern the meetings; Mrs. L. S. Humphrey, President, Mrs. C. O. McLean, Vice President, Mrs. C. W. Likely, Secretary, Mrs. Fred Swartfager, Treasurer, Mrs. O. C. Brewbaker, Chaplain. Sixty-three members signed the Charter, with one Gold Star Mother, Mrs. John Albaugh.

Clara Mathis was elected President on March 1, 1921 and served the Auxiliary five different times as President. Five years ago her death was reluctantly recorded. She held offices in her Unit, County, and District.

The Auxiliary had no permanent meeting place so the members took turns meeting in the homes. In November 1939 the Legion purchased a building known as the Farmer's Savings Bank. Through their kindness we finally had a home and many hours of hard work promoting the following: Child Welfare, Rehabilitation, Poppy Poster Contest, and selling poppies before Decoration Day. Our goals were to help others and serve mankind.

In the year 1939, rumors of war began to fill the

newspapers. Many young men began to register and enlist. This required more work for the Auxiliary . . . The making of gifts for hospitals and service men.

Then World War II was over, and our boys begin to arrive home. Some never returned. Phil Hutton was one of them. His mother, Mrs. Mary Hutton, is one of our Gold Star mothers.

As the organization grew the meeting home became too small. The Legion Post and Auxiliary began to look for a new place to meet and soon a new building was under way on the southwest corner of Cherry Street.

Many projects were undertaken and success was realized in building the new home. As of 1953 the mortgage of the building was paid in full. It was also during 1953 that Gold Star Mother, Mrs. John Albaugh died.

Our units have many honors given through its projects. Our girls have been honored at Girls' State and our boys at Boys' State. A poppy poster, painted by Larry Newbauer, a graduate of Ankeny school, hangs in the Washington Art Center.

On November 2, 1968, the American Legion and Auxiliary celebrated the 50th year of the Organization.

Following are the presidents who succeeded Mrs. Jennie Humphrey and Clara Mathis: Edna Cherrie, Nellie Gabbert, Delores Brooker, Pauline Stanfield, Ida Albaugh, Bessie Culp, Verna Howard, Myrtle Donaghy, Hazel McLean, Alta Brewbaker, Carie Brewbaker, Florence Donaghy, Blance Foster, Mabel Larson, Mary Stefani, Mary A. Hutton, Marie Ballard, Verna Howard, Velma Warrington, Wanetta Brazelton, Jeanne Doughton, Louise Harness, Mary Alderman, Cleadythe Buehler, Pat McCabe, Anne Hick, Mary Ann Cory, Elsie Wilson, Ruth Ann Grace, Marge Swartfager.

We proudly record five - fifty year members still living. They are: Verna Howard, Florence Donaghy, Mary Donaghy, Myrtle Donaghy, Ella Swartfager.

V.F.W. POST 9123

The Ankeny V.F.W. Post 9123 was constituted April 19, 1968 for veterans having served in foreign wars.

A V.F.W. Post organizer from Minneapolis first contacted Robert Crawford, a local businessman and work was begun to obtain the first thirty-three members.

The V.F.W. is a service organization dedicated to God, country and fellowman. It supports a National Home at Eaton Rapids, Michigan for widows and children of veterans and handicapped. They also work with V.A. Hospitals and for the good of the community.

The first commander was Forest Brown and first meetings were held in the shelter house at Wagner Park, then the American Legion Bldg. and finally to their present home on Oralabor Road.

Names on the Post charter are: Donald L. Baldwin,

Raymond H. Bowden, Harland H. Crowdes, Francis M. Downey, Don D. Florence, Marion P. Heggen, Orville E. Hokel, Wilbur L. Lundholm, James P. Miller, Orvell J. Rodenbaugh, William T. Sparks, Billy D. Barth, Louis T. Carr, Ralph C. Dann, William E. Duncan, George E. Hanrahan, Carl C. Henderson, Eugene A. Lindahl, William L. Mareen, William F. Mundt, Cecil V. Sand, Gary A. Vignaroli, Forest C. Brown, Robert D. Crawford, William N. Doughten, Charles E. Feight, Dale E. Hansen, Harold C. Hoffman, William B. Linthicum, Paul O. Martin, Willard L. Nagle, Raymond E. Schreurs, Robert L. Voss.

The Ladies Auxiliary is supportive to the members of the Post likewise doing service work.

The first president was Frances Barth. Names on the Auxiliary Charter are: Frances Barth, Lucille Brown, Lenore Carr, Mildred Corey, Lee Crawford, Dorothy M. Crowdes, Dorothy Downey, Mauriel Heggen, Katherine Hokel, Ramona Hoffman, Verma Knoll, Virginia A. Linthicum, Patricia McCabe, Laurel Martin, and Betty Mundt.

The Post now has 94 members. The Auxiliary has 32 members. Past commanders have been Forest Brown, Orville Hokel, LeRoy Corey, Billy Barth, Elwood Johnson, Marion Heggen. Present commander is Joe DePasse.

Past Auxiliary presidents have been: Frances Barth, Lucille Brown, Virginia A. Linthicum, Katherine Hokel, Mauriel Heggen. The present president is Lavon (Bonnie) Johnson.

ANKENY FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary was formed by the wives of the Fire Department members in February 1967. Thirteen of the original members are still active members.

The purpose of the Auxiliary is to aid and assist the Fire Department members in any way possible and to create a friendship and fellowship among fireman's wives.

The first president was Mrs. Bill Michael. The current president is Mrs. James Blair.

ANKENY WELCOME WAGON

"There are no strangers — just friends who have not met". This is the Welcome Wagon Club motto. It expresses very well the reason for such an organization!

Welcome Wagon originated in Memphis, Tennessee in 1928. It began in Ankeny February 15, 1965 because several women felt the need for such an organization. The first meeting was held at the Breeze House and was attended by 29 ladies. Soon it will celebrate its tenth year of organization.

Welcome Wagon Club meets monthly for a program and business meeting. It has participated in and donated to many civic projects. There are a number of interest groups who meet at various times and places. These include card groups, antique study,

bowling, softball and sewing. Socially there have also been dances and pot luck suppers and a variety of other activities.

The first W.W. president was Mrs. Avera Houseknecht. First hostess was Mrs. Betty Dean. Other past presidents of W.W. have been as follows:

1965-66 Mrs. Bonnie Davis
1966-67 Mrs. Barbara Puff
1967-68 Mrs. Judy Story
1968-69 Mrs. Pat Hykes
1969-70 Mrs. Luita Risch
1970-71 Mrs. Delores Van Dort
1971-72 Mrs. Pat White
1972-73 Mrs. Lynn Boldt
1973-74 Sherry Schultz
1974-75 Mrs. Diane Dollison

KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Ankeny, Iowa began with a charter dated 9th of June 1953, with a total of 30 members present. First officers were Gordon Scott, President, Herbert Brown, Vice President, Gene Muehlenthaler, secretary, and Norman Hall, treasurer.

Some of the activities and services of the club include support of the Boy and Girl Scouts, the Little League Baseball Project, aid to anyone worthy that may be in need of help, scholarships to needy students who desire to further their education and many other projects of various natures.

The club's membership is very active, many of whom have served the community in an outstanding manner. The Kiwanis Club of Ankeny was honored by membership in District 6 by electing Keith Hopkins as the Lieutenant Governor in 1967 and Walter Lane as Lieutenant Governor in 1971. The present president is James Maggert.

ROTARY CLUB

The Rotary Club of Ankeny was formed January 20, 1973. The local club began in September of 1972 with a series of casual and informal luncheon sessions called by Milton Aunan Sr., the club's first president. It became apparent that there was a real interest in Rotary, therefore, the club received its charter the following spring.

Rotary International was formed in 1905 and is recognized for its service on the local, national, and international levels. The present officers are: President - Gene Leedom; Vice President - Jerry Crosser; Secretary - Thornton Bentall; Treasurer - Gene Riley. Board of Directors: Dr. Rodney Carlson; Don Miller; Dale Miller; Milton Aunan Sr., past President.

ANKENY LIONS CLUB

The International Association, Lions Clubs, was conceived in 1917. Since that time, Lions International has grown to 28,000 clubs with more than one million members.

Lions Clubs are interested in opportunities for unselfish service to the community and to this end their activities are grouped under ten headings: Sight Conservation - Work for the Blind; Hearing Conservation - Work for the Deaf; Citizenship Services; Educational Services Environmental Services; Health Services; Recreational Services; Public Services; Social Services; International Understanding - Youth Exchange.

Lions Clubs are non-political, non-sectarian service organizations composed of the community's business and professional men. Membership is by initiation only.

The Ankeny Lions Club was chartered in 1941. The Des Moines Lions Club was responsible for organization and beginning of the local club. The charter members included 24 of Ankeny's leading business and professional men: They are as follows: Frank Ballard, Lloyd Brewbaker, Chas. C. Campbell, David Essick, J. W. Foster, H. M. Fredericks, Louis Fontanini, S. R. Graham, Frank Hanna, Francis V. Hall, J. A. Henderson, Chas. Howard, Carl F. Huston, Earl Irvine, Clarence Johnson, Guy Kline, Lawrence Lein, W. J. Liechty, P. A. Logli, D. A. MacLean, Fred P. Miller, Robert Moeckly, Russell D. Mowry, E. W. Neveln, A. J. Radcliffe, Myron Schafroth, Espy Shepard, F. L. Shapherd, P. E. Shult, Vernon Smith, Fred Swartfager, R. E. Thorpe, Rolfe O. Wagner, and Harley Winchester.

The Club's Charter President was Dr. H. M. Fredericks. Current Club President is J. David Turner. The Ankeny Lions Club meets on every first and third Thursday of the month at 600 p.m. The meetings are held at the Ankeny Country Club.

The Ankeny Lions Club activities and services reflect the Lions International motto: **We Serve.**

THE ANKENY JAYCEES

The Ankeny Jaycees received their charter December 12, 1962. The charter was extended by the Des Moines Jaycees. Larry Donaghy served as the first president.

Since the organization of the Chapter the Jaycees have been a valuable organization in the improvement and growth of the community. The Jaycees are unique in that it not only serves the community but inspires improvement for self and family. Many of the members have served in the community as officers of city government. Others have served not only their Chapter but the State and National Jaycees in various offices and other capacities.

Dave Longnecker, Don Haines, and Neil Colwell have served as National Directors. Don Haines also is past President of the Iowa Jaycees.

The Chapter has won awards, not only from the

State, but from National Jaycees as well. The Chapter has won the Blue Chip Chapter award every year since its charter. This record is unequalled in the state of Iowa. On the national level, the Chapter is one of four to achieve this record. In August of 1973, the Chapter was awarded the "Pride of Iowa Award". This award is the highest praise that the Iowa Jaycees can award an organization. Last year the Chapter was awarded the "Number One Chapter State Award".

The active membership is made up of men between the ages of 18 and 35.

Following are the presidents and the year they served:

1962-63	Larry Donaghy
1963-64	Warren Thornton
1964-65	David Longnecker
1965-66	Bob Schmied
1966-67	Fred Owen
1967-68	Don Haines
1968-69	Dave Pitz
1969-70	Ray Fortune
1970-71	Dick Spidle
1971-72	Phil Stevens
1972-73	Neil Colwell
1973-74	Larry McDowell
1974-75	Joe Dollison

ANKENY JAYCETTES

In 1964 a group of Jaycee wives organized the Ankeny Jaycettes. The group was to work in close cooperation and harmony as an auxiliary to the Ankeny Jaycees. They also were to assist them in all undertakings when requested.

Further purpose was to promote civic welfare, assume responsibilities of intelligent and patriotic citizenship.

The group was chartered in 1966. Members listed in this Charter are as follows: Doris Comstock, Dorothy Donaghy, Sara Hildreth, Dorothe Kenyon, Sharon Miller, Jane Pitz, Barb Leigh, Marge Reese, Lois Galpin, Beth Schmied, Barb Owen, Geri Stone, Dixie Bright, Marilyn Smith, Kerry Jo Ostring, Kathy Sturtz, Virginai Ginter, Francis Neissbaun, Karen Kaplan, Celia Henderson, Jan Pinkerton, Judy Clark, Bonnie Fortune and Barb McNamee.

The Jaycettes perform an entire host of activities in the community. Listed below are some of the activities that have been performed the past year.

1. Sold pop and popcorn at Women's softball game.
2. Float and Stand in Fun and Feed days.
3. Babysitting Clinic.
4. Kindergarten and Vision Screening.
5. Bingo at Goodwill West County Home.
6. Concession Stand (donated time) Bike Marathon.
7. S.L.D. Preschool Survey.
8. Style Show and Card Benefit.
9. Meet the Candidates Night.
10. 2 Christmas food baskets.

11. Gave Christmas tree to needy family.
 12. Pictures with Santa
- The membership in the Ankeny Jaycettes numbers 34.
- The first president was Joyce Haines and the present president is Elaine Pauly.

P.E.O. CH. LQ

Fourteen charter members were organized April 11, 1974 by Mrs. Enoda Carter, state organizer of PEO into Ch. LQ of Ankeny, Iowa. The first officers were: President, Betty Friedmeyer; Vice Pres., Martha Gray; Recording Secretary, Harriet Mabon; Corresponding Sec., Dorothy Despotovich; Treasurer, Jane Maggert; Chaplain, Bee Gray; Guard, Nancy Gerhart.

Other charter members were: Corinna Drongen, Margaret Harrison, Eunice Johnson, Ann Mills, Evelyn Rigby, Helen Robertson, and Sue Textrum.

There are now 45 members in Ankeny Ch. LQ with Margaret Pezzetti as president. There are eight past presidents who have served their time in office.

- 1964-65 - Betty Friedmeyer
- 1965-66 - Betty Friedmeyer
- 1966-67 - Martha Gray
- 1967-68 - Harriet Mabon
- 1968-69 - Dorothy Despotovich
- 1970-71 - Jane Maggert
- 1971-72 - Barbara Olinger
- 1973-74 - Mary Ann Scott

The purpose of the PEO sisterhood is to promote general improvements in society especially in education. There are many projects such as supporting Cottey College, a girl's college, Sara Porter Beckwith Home, a home for PEO's, Educational Loan Fund, and International Peace Scholarship Fund. Ch. LQ has also been active in supporting girls for college.

ANKENY GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Ankeny's community spirit was reflected in the establishment of a new Country Club in 1961. The Club was organized in November of that year and officially opened December 8, 1962.

The total area covers eighty acres for the nine hole course including a seven acre spring fed lake stocked with several species of fish and an 80 x 300 foot swimming area complete with sand beach and bath house.

The land was purchased from Roe Anderson. Vigorous leadership was provided by the Club's first elected Club officers, namely, E. L. Dutcher, Noel J. Liechty, Reno Bertogli, Charles Feight, Max Akers, Doug Conway, William Day, Paul G. Hamilton, Ralph Jorgensen, Jack Kovacevich and V. W. Smith.

The cost of the land, club house, course lay-out, pro shop and other buildings was approximately \$150,000. The club has its own well and sanitary system.

Approximately one hundred dedicated charter

members worked diligently to get things going. Present membership is over 250 with a waiting list. Social memberships are available also.

THE LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

The Ladies Golf Association has about seventy members each year. They send a group each year to participate in District and State Team Play Events and have won several times. Guest days are happy events with ladies participating from all over the area. The group is a member of the Iowa Women's Golf Association.

Membership in the Club is open by application to the board, that meets once a month.

AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Installation of Ankeny Charter Chapter officers was held July 19, 1973, at the Des Moines Area College, with installing officer, Arlene Raymond, of Des Moines Charter Chapter.

Much of the organizational work was done by Elin Gustafson, Dee Day, Millie Tillotson of De Mo Chapter, the sponsoring chapter. The first officers were: President, Louise Woods; Vice President, Millie Tillotson; Corresponding Secretary, Camilla Frakes; Recording Secretary, Mary Berg; and Treasurer, Fern Claus.

Charter Members: Ingrid Archuleta, Maxine Beitzell, Mary Berg, Gloria Carder, Margaret Carr, Ferne Claus, Dee Day, Elsie Fahnce, Camillia Frakes, Janice Franklin, Pauline Freund, Irene Garanson, Margaret Gilbert, Vi Gorman, Doris Grant, Virginia Greenlaw, Elin Gustafson, Genevieve Hagan, Wilma Hall, Joan Hartmen, Barbara Hudson, Leah Jackson, Jean Jones, Linda Lawr, Marion Lord, Ruth Pidgeon, Donna Reed, Linda Sargent, Katharine Sedlacek, Wilda Sinclair, Iris Swanson, Mildred Tillotson, Elizabeth Vlademar, Louise Woods.

The purpose of American Business Women's Association is to improve employer-employee relationships, keep women up with business trends, advancing women in business through education to be ready for advancement opportunities.

ABWA was organized in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1949, and has grown to 80,000 members nationwide, giving more than \$613,000 scholarships in 1974. Ankeny Charter Chapter awarded \$650 in scholarships in the past year.

Ankeny Centennial year president is Marjorie Houser.

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY ASSOCIATION

The faculty association of the Des Moines Area Community College was founded February 1, 1968, and the constitution revised March 5, 1971. Chartered

members of the Faculty Association were: Jim Dye, Bob Barron, Dennis Marten, Bill Stewart, and Margaret Rowe. The first president of the faculty association is Clair W. Fisher.

The purposes of the Faculty Association are the following:

1. The Association shall be organized in such a way as to promote unity through communication between the students, faculty, and administration and to insure faculty participation in the development of the curriculum, improvement of general policy, and such other matters as are appropriate.

2. The Association shall provide a means through which the members of the faculty of the Des Moines Area Community College can work together for the improvement of the college and the maintenance of its standards.

3. The Association shall endeavor to establish written Board of Education policies and to participate effectively in the formulation of such policies as shall govern the Des Moines Area Community College.

4. The Association shall be the means by which the faculty governs itself within the overall structure of the college.

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE WOMEN'S CLUB

Mrs. Hilga Lowry was instrumental in organizing the College Women's Club which was chartered in the fall of 1971. There were thirty-eight charter members. Jan Eicher served as the first president.

The organization was formed to serve the college in promotion of social functions, to increase friendliness, and to meet various needs of the college, the students and community. Another important aim is to help support the Student Emergency Loan Fund at the college.

The membership is made up of faculty wives, faculty and staff women. The membership today totals sixty-three and the president is Sally Fisher.

ANKENY'S SCOUTING HISTORY

Scouting in Ankeny started with Troop 111 in the late 30's. The scouts met in a building that stood where Doughten Auto Supply is today. Original members were Gerald Ballard, Don Betts, Asa Hutton, Dick Swartfager, and Harold Swartfager. Harold Moeckly acted as the first scoutmaster to these scouts.

The outdoor scouting adventure continued until the Second World War started. At that time actions were channeled elsewhere and as a result scouting died out. Interests were renewed again in the late 40's by the American Legion Post of Ankeny.

Presently there are four Scout Troops, four Cub Packs, and occasionally an Explorer Post here in Ankeny. Since 1957, these nine units have produced 53 Eagle Scouts, the highest award in scouting. The scouting program believes in building a scout's

character, citizenship, and fitness. Achieving these aims helps develop future citizens. To accomplish these aims our scouts have the opportunity to attend nature camps. These camps are Mitgwa Scout Camp near Boone, Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico, and the Region Canoe Base between the Minnesota and Canadian border.

The oldest troop in Ankeny is Troop 88. It began in 1941 and its first sponsor was the Ankeny P.T.A. The first scoutmaster on record was Edward M. Schafroth. Presently Troop 88 is sponsored by the Albaugh-McGovern Post Number 42 of the American Legion. The scoutmaster is John Arbuckle who has succeeded 15 other scoutmasters since its beginning. The unit has 20 registered scouts.

Troop 188 was started in 1962 and is still sponsored by the United Church of Christ. The first scoutmaster was Don Zuck. Today, Troop 188 of 14 members is guided by Mike LaZella. Since its beginning, Troop 188 has had six scoutmasters.

In 1963 Troop 237 began, its first sponsor was Our Lady Immaculate Heart Church. Today, it is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of that church. The first scoutmaster was Chalres L. Szrazine and at present the troop is regrouping.

The youngest troop in Ankeny is Troop 182. It was started in 1967 by the Methodist Men's Club with Jim South its first scoutmaster. Since that time, six scoutmasters have led the troop including the present leader Beryl Sawyer. It now has over 40 scouts on its roster.

Cub Scouts are also active with over 150 participants. The present Cubmasters at present are: Pack 88-B. B. Canova, Pack 188 - Bill Coady, Pack 237 - Richard Doerhoff, and Pack 182 - Lyle Leonard.

Successful Ankeny scouting presently requires the work of over 100 volunteers. These include scoutmasters, their assistants, committee members, merit badge counselors, cubmasters, their assistants, and den mothers. Over the years men and women of Ankeny have dedicated themselves to making this a rewarding program to over 1,000 young men.

ANKENY GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouting was founded by Juliette Gordon Low on March 12, 1912 in Savannah, Georgia. Congress chartered the organization on March 16, 1950.

Girl Scouting was first brought to Ankeny in 1965, when Mrs. Glenn Higgins moved here from Highland Park. For two years they were part of Highland Park Neighborhood. In 1967, Ankeny Girl Scouts became their own neighborhood with the hard work of Mrs. David Woods and Mrs. Higgins. There have since been five different women serve as neighborhood chairman. They are Mrs. David Woods (1967-70); Mrs. Charles Agan (1970-72); Mrs. Martin Coyne (1972-73); Mrs. Jerry Crosser (1973-74); Mrs. Kenneth McConnell (1974-75).

The purpose of Girl Scouting is to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism

and service so that they may become happy and resourceful citizens.

The Ankeny Girl Scouts worked in the community by helping clean the parks, working at the recycling center, entertaining and making tray favors for our nursing homes, adopting needy families, and adopting grandparents through the nursing home. Many of the girls did volunteer work after the summer tornado.

Girl Scouting is broken up into six different age levels; Brownies (1st through 3rd) Juniors (4th - 6th); Cadettes (7th - 9th); Seniors (10th - 12th); Campus (College); Adults. This year the Ankeny Neighborhood has eight Brownie troops, six Junior troops, one Cadette troop, and one Senior troop. By October 1, 1975, we will have served 320 girls this year. There are approximately fifty registered adults. This year the town of Huxley and Polk City was welcomed to our neighborhood.

The Neighborhood committee for the year 1974-75 is as follows: Chairman - Mrs. Kenneth McConnell; Publicity - Mrs. Jerry Crosser; Junior Consultant - Mrs. Wesley Hunziker; Junior Organizer - Mrs. Gene Neese; Brownie Consultant - Mrs. Russel Zubradt; Brownie Consultant - Mrs. Martin Coyne; Product Sales Chairman - Mrs. Robert Buehler.

CAMP FIRE GIRLS

Ankeny Camp Fire Girls joined the Heart of the Hawkeye Council in 1946. Mrs. E. L. Dutcher, Mrs. Clifford Hull, and Mrs. George Hart each served as chairman during the late 40's and early 50's.

Ankeny began with only a handful of members and has grown to its present size of 23 groups and over 200 members.

Camp Fire is the nation's oldest nonsectarian organization for girls. It was established in 1910, and has changed with the times to meet the needs of the modern world.

Actually, Camp Fire is four different programs, each designed for a specific age group. The youngsters start out as Blue Birds, then progress into Adventure, Discovery, and Horizon. In the latter, the older girls begin to take their place in community activities; and boys are now eligible to join this group, too.

Camp Fire has kept pace without losing its original essential character. It still emphasizes the outdoors and the Indian origins of America. But it has been quick to recognize the problems and issues that affect today's world.

Today, Camp Fire is actively involved in working to improve the quality of life; to eliminate prejudice on the basis of race, religious belief or national origin; to improve the environment; to improve the methods used to cope with social ills; and to provide opportunity for individuals to influence decisions that affect their lives.

These are serious goals, indeed. But Camp Fire is for fun. The association of growing girls together is a great joy, whether it's a long stay at summer camp in the woods or a casual gathering after school.

Camp Fire is for everyone. Whole families are involved. Some of our leaders are men. The ideals are such that all may enthusiastically subscribe to them.

Partially supported by United Way, Camp Fire relies on volunteer public help for its existence.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Ankeny study groups of the Des Moines Branch of the American Association of University Women were started in September of 1971 with the guidance of Maggie Miller and Donnie Larson who were local members of the Des Moines Branch. Two study groups emerged from the original organization meeting. The name Kaleidoscope was chosen and the groups were numbered I and II. To be eligible for membership women must be graduates of an accredited college or University.

In the organization women study to continue their educational growth, further the advancement of women, and use their education for the betterment of society. Study topics for 1975 include: Woman-Searching for Self, Dynamic Learning, Releasing Human Potential, Media-Issues in Communication, and Global Interdependence-Budgeting for Earth.

Members may choose further topics within their individual study groups which range in membership numbers from 10-30 people. There are 23 study groups in the Des Moines Branch with 500 members. Approximately 50 of these are from Ankeny. Leader of Kaleidoscope I is Grace Kerr and leader of Kaleidoscope II is Sally Stone.

BETA SIGMA PHI

The object of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority is to unite congenial young women of the community for the purpose of friendship and cultural development.

The Etta Gamma Chapter was formally initiated in Ankeny on November 19, 1962. Fourteen members took part in the first pledge. The appointed officers installed were: Carolyn Zuck, President; Caryl Zachary, V. President; Caroline Lamberti, Secretary; June Krull, Treasurer.

The XI Gamma Phi Exemplar Chapter was formally initiated on May 13, 1969. Fourteen members took the ritual. The elected officers installed were Pres. Carrol Ralow; Vice President, Jo Ann Carlson; Secretary, Peggy Nelson; Treasurer, Jeri Begg; Corresponding Secretary, Lorraine Howard.

The Ritual of Jewels Chapter was formally initiated September 14, 1971. Six members took part in the ritual. The elected officers installed were: President, Alice Reynolds, Vice President, Karolyn Witt, Secretary, Judy Ericksen, Treasurer, Sara Bartlett, Corresponding Secretary, Myrna Anderson.

XI Epsilon Gamma was organized May 1974. The following officers were elected: President, Judy Dunphy; Vice President, Ellen Cherry; Recording Secretary, Sonie Spahr; Treasurer, Joan Stebbins.

LITTLE LEAGUE

The Little League program in Ankeny began approximately fifteen years ago. It sponsors summer baseball for five different groups of boys ranging in ages from 8-15 years. The Senior League for 13-15 year olds, Major Little League for 10-12 year olds, Minor Little League, 9-11 year olds, Intermediate for 9 year olds, and Pee Wee for 8 year olds. There are 48 teams with 550 to 600 that participate in the program.

The League is under a Board of Directors with fathers assisting. The mothers have a Little League Auxiliary. The program is supported through sponsors, donations, fund raising activities, and fees. It is not supported by taxation. The money raised is used for equipment and maintenance of the ball diamonds which are located east of Ankeny.

ANKENY SENIOR CITIZENS

The Senior Citizens Group was organized October 22, 1965 by the North Polk Ministerial Association. Representatives were invited from each of the churches in the area to meet in the Fellowship Hall of the Methodist Church. The purpose was to see if there was a need for the senior citizens to be organized.

The first meeting was held at Legion Hall and plans were to continue meeting there. Seventeen were present. These were: Mr. and Mrs. Street Hutton, Mr. and Mrs. Earle Smith, Isabelle Rutherford, Hazel Sheppard, Eileen Godell, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Swanson, Alice Howard, Birdie Howard, Ellen Larson, Howard Reed, Kathryn Sargent, and Jean Eilus (organizer).

Elected officers were: Earl Smith, President; Hazel Sheppard, Vice President; Mary Hutton, Secretary; Street Hutton, Treasurer.

Meetings were to be held at the Legion Hall the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month with a pot luck dinner. A retirement home was proposed in 1966 to be built in Ankeny.

Park and Recreation have helped in many ways providing bus tours, serving dinners, and providing bus passes for shopping and out of town entertainment. Passes are also given to all school activities upon request.

Birthdays are honored each month, also long time wedding anniversaries. Cards are sent to members who are ill, also cards are sent to the family of our deceased members.

In November 1973, the Federal Government took interest in all Senior Citizens. Meals are now provided at Area College 5 days per week. Transportation is also available. Over 100 persons have used the meals provided at the college as well as enjoying the various programs there.

The Senior Citizens Organization has helped many elderly to mix with others of like age and interest through our participation in games, Bingo, cards, and music programs. It has helped us to give well balanced meals. It has enabled us to go on shopping trips and to entertainment of various kinds.

The Senior Citizens are very grateful for the privileges we are given. The elderly need each other and we need you!

Past presidents of the Senior Citizens are: Hazel Sheppard, Anna Campbell, Kathryn Sargent, Mary Hutton, Violet Maggart, Russel Mowry, Delmar Kobi. President for 1975 is John Biegger.

ANKENY LA LECHE LEAGUE

To encourage "Good mothering through breast-feeding" is the purpose of La Leche League. The Ankeny Le Leche League group is one of over nineteen hundred groups in thirty-two countries. Our group was formed in 1968 by five Ankeny women who were attending meetings in Des Moines. (There are three Des Moines groups.)

LLL is a nonprofit, non-sectarian group of mothers who have successfully nursed their babies who help others mothers who wish to nurse their babies. We give encouragement and practical suggestions of a nonmedical nature. All LLL material is approved by its Medical Advisory Board. LLL began in a Chicago suburb, when one nursing mother helped another mother who wanted to breastfeed. This is still the basic approach, although the League is now international in scope.

There are a series of four discussions meetings: 1. Advantage of Breastfeeding to Mother and Baby. 2. Art of Breastfeeding and overcoming difficulties. 3. Arrival of baby, the family in relation to the breastfed baby. 4. Nutrition and Weaning. The meetings are held monthly on the third Tuesday of every month. All women who are interested are invited. Available at the meetings is an excellent lending library. Throughout the years approximately 120 women have attended meetings at one time or another. Most meetings have an attendance of 15 to 20.

Group leaders must be qualified through state and international offices. They lead meetings and are available for telephone counseling.

The Ankeny group tries to have occasional couples meeting and a yearly family meeting centered around a picnic or homemade ice cream party.

THE ANKENY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

This is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa.

It was formed by a group of Ankeny citizens governed by a board of directors elected by shareholders of the corporation.

Their purpose was to secure suitable land for an Industrial Park where companies could afford to locate. The land secured is north of Oralabor Road between the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad and Delaware Road.

In November 1971, the last 133 acres of the Industrial Park area were sold to Lloyd Huffer and

George G. West of Des Moines.

The corporation has donated \$100,000 to the new library fund and also have purchased and given to the city the building where the city police department and city garage are currently located.

DEERE EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

Deere Employees Credit Union had its organizational meeting on April 13, 1950. The new credit union was organized to serve the employees of the John Deere Des Moines Works of the Deere Manufacturing Co. — and members of their immediate families.

The credit union had a primary potential membership of 2,000 persons and 300 were expected to join within the first year.

Charter members of the credit union were Ralph Tilton, Eric Brown, Howard Payne, Arthur G. Davis, Helen Justice, Verla Streebin, Leland Matson, Roland Wonders, Ernest Gamble and Floyd Castle. Of that group, Ernest Gamble and Helen Justice still are members a quarter of a century later — and four of the original board members still are members. They are Harold Carlson, Leste Raper, Ernest Gamble and Ralph Hollingsworth.

It is interesting to note that in 1950 when the credit union was founded, television was a very new and exciting household appliance and few people owned TV sets. There were only about one million in the entire nation. A brand new Pontiac six cylinder sedan was selling for \$1,775. Many financial institutions were paying 3 per cent interest or less on savings and savings accounts were only insured to \$5,000.

Of course, it was to meet the financial needs of Deere employees in the economy of the 50's that led to the founding of the credit union.

An early year-end report of the credit union, Dec. 31, 1952, shows that 848 members had joined in the first 18 months of the credit unions. Three hundred and eighty-three members had taken loans out totalling \$81,738 and total assets were \$133,674.

By June of 1954, there were assets of \$187,761 and 445 members had loans in force for \$153,631. Loans granted since organization totaled \$757,592.

Growth continued throughout the 50's and on into the decade of the 60's. The year-end report for 1960 shows 2,193 members and assets of \$1,013,869. Since organization, a total of \$6,510,937 had been granted in loans.

The credit union's 15th year, 1965, was a big one with the move to the new building on Nov. 13. Until then the credit union had operated from a small office in the fire station on the plant grounds.

1965 also saw assets top \$4 million to reach \$2,094,171. There were 2,872 members. Since organization the credit union had granted 23,647 loans for a total of \$18,360,763.

In 1968 the credit union was converted to the data processing system operated by League Accounting Center. This made possible swifter handling of member accounts and also provided the staff with

more time for personalized service.

In the fall of 1969, the credit union's treasurer, J. Marvin Rankin, was elected to the presidency of the Iowa Credit Union League. Mr. Rankin had been a member of the League's Board of Directors since 1961 and this year is marking his 14th year on the league board.

The credit union moved into the 1970's keeping up its pace of growth. The end of the year report for 1970 shows assets of \$3,712,800. Savings during that year rose by 16 per cent to reach \$3,406,797 and members had \$2.9 million in loans in force.

By the end of 1973, there were 4,036 members and shares and deposits of \$4,265,483. Loans totaled \$3.9 million, and the credit union's total assets were \$4,679,045.

The past year was one of rapid growth for the credit union. In 1974, membership rose to 4,893, an increase of 857. Shares reached a total of \$5,571,442, an increase of \$1,305,959. Loans in force reached \$5,463,471, for an increase of \$1,533,240.

And this past year, the credit union had an unusual opportunity to be of service to members by helping many Ankeny families recover from the devastating June tornado. Many of the loans issued this year were used by members to repair storm-damaged homes. This includes \$180,437 in FHA Title I insured home improvement loans.

Members of the board of directors this past year have been Edwin Frazee, President; Harold Swim Jr., Vice President; Sam McReynolds, Secretary; and J. Marvin Rankin, Treasurer-Manager.

Auditing committee members were Dean Gander, Walter Pohl, and Richard Wren. Credit committee members were Paul Bengs, Philip Krambeck, Alex Crawford, Marvin Overton and Jerry Howard.

THE QUESTERS

The Questers is a national organization dedicated to the study of antiques and the restoration and preservation of historical buildings and memorials. The first chapter of The Questers was founded in 1944 in Pennsylvania. The organization's motto is "Its fun to seek and a joy to find."

The Cher Cher Chapter of The Questers was chartered in 1968. Mrs. Don Schmitt and Mrs. Don Zuck were instrumental in organizing the Ankeny Chapter. The group meets once a month for study.

The 1974-75 officers are: Janis Nelson, President, Ellen Crowe, Vice President, Colleen Zimmerman, Sec.-Treas., and Marjorie Lint, Historian.

Another Quester chapter in Ankeny is the Martha and George Washington Chapter which was organized in February, 1971. This chapter is unique in that its members are couples. It was the first chapter in the state to organize with this type membership.

The chapter meets once a month for study and discussion to enrich their knowledge of antiques.

THE SUBURBAN DES MOINES JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB

The Suburban Des Moines Junior Women's Club came together as a group on November 23, 1970 with Mrs. Larry L. Richards elected to serve as Chairman. The Club was elected into the General Federation of Women's Clubs on March 4, 1971 with the following Charter members: Mrs. Gordon Atzen, Mrs. Don Banning, Mrs. Richard Byerly, Mrs. Howard Elson, Mrs. LeMar Gailey, Mrs. Mearle Griffith, Mrs. Jack Harris, Mrs. William Heine, Mrs. Larry Johnson, Mrs. Stephen Larson, Mrs. Jerold LeMar, Mrs. Stephen Lundstrom, Mrs. John Megerson, Mrs. Don Newby, Mrs. Kale Renaud, Mrs. Larry Richards, Mrs. Paul Sabina, Mrs. John Schaaf, Mrs. Joe Scott, Mrs. Lawrence Snyder, Mrs. Tom Towers, Mrs. Larry Wellendorf, Mrs. Barry Youst and Mrs. Dick Kuehl.

The following Women served as officers: President - Mrs. S. D. Lundstrom; First Vice President - Mrs. Stephen Larson; 2nd Vice President - Mrs. Don Newby; 3rd Vice President - Mrs. Larry Richards; Secretary - Mrs. Jerold LeMar; Treasurer - Mrs. Richard Byerly; Member-at-Large - Mrs. John Schaaf.

A junior Women's Club was formed in Bondurant and a Club was established in the Southeast Polk area from members of this club.

Service projects include vision screening, sponsoring a person at the Woodward State Hospital, assisting area libraries, Project Concern, a community educational plan on venereal diseases, providing holiday nut cups for the nursing home and scholarships.

The Club received a 1973 state CIP award for their community involvement program. The Club motto is:

"Great it is to have a dream,
When we stand in youth by a starlit stream,
But greater it is to fight life through,
And say at last the dream is true".

ANKENY FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUB

The Ankeny Federated Women's Club was organized in June 1966 through the efforts of Lois Voss and a group of sixteen volunteers. Acting Chairman, Mrs. Lois Voss invited Mrs. Ralph Weeeler, recording Secretary, Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, of Granger, Iowa, to assist them in their Club organization. An election of officers for the newly organized club was held on June 6, 1966. Those first officers were: President - Mrs. Becky Ellefson; 1st Vice President - Mrs. Lois Voss; 2nd Vice President - Mrs. Ellen Crowe; 3rd Vice President - Mrs. Dorothy Van Gorp; Secretary - Mrs. Mary Kamphius; Treasurer - Mrs. Fran Henderson.

Installation was conducted by Mrs. Judy Johnson of the West Des Moines Junior Women's Club.

The purpose of the Ankeny Federated Women's Club is the betterment of the community. Each year

club projects are developed for improvement of the Ankeny area. Other functions are the organization of departments within the club to serve the interest of club members. All study programs of Women's Club meetings are geared to be of service as well as informative.

The Club's Charter members are as follows: Becky Ellefson, Loane Dodge, Carol Erickson, Sally Boyd, Judy Story, Shirle Cole, Lois Voss, Mary Kamphius, Margarite Wilson, Jan Shelquist, Vivian McMahan, Ellen Crowe, Dorothy Van Gorp, Charlene Hildreth, Margaret Hubbard, Fran Henderson, and Karen Ritchie.

Past presidents of the club are as follows:

1966-67 Becky Ellefson
1967-68 Lois Voss
1968-69 Ellen Crowe
1969-70 Linda Schneff
1970-71 Barb Anderson
1971-72 Kathy Marshall
1972-73 Phyllis Heikens
1973-74 Mary Kamphius
1974-75 Shirley Hayes

ANKENY FEDERATED GARDEN CLUB

The Ankeny Federated Garden Club was organized in 1945 with Mrs. John Fett elected president. Charter members numbered 12 and were: Mrs. George Breese, Mrs. Lester Eckles, Mrs. John Fett, Mrs. J. A. Foster, Miss Jane Henderson, Mrs. Minnie Hitz, Mrs. Marion Kochheiser, Mrs. Lloyd Rittgers, Mrs. Ed Royer, Mrs. P.D. Sargent, Mrs. Ed Schlenker, and Mrs. Vernon Textrum.

Of these, Mrs. Breese, Mrs. Kocheiser, and Mrs. Schlenker are still active in Garden Club activities. The club numbers 30 members. Meetings are held the second Friday of each month.

The present officers are as follows: Mrs. E. A. Butler, President; Mrs. Anton Juhl, 1st Vice President; Mrs. Victor Goode, 2nd Vice President; Mrs. George Breese, Treasurer; and Mrs. Robert Conley, Secretary.

NATIONAL T.T.T. SOCIETY ANKENY CHAPTER BR

The Ankeny Chapter of the T.T.T. Society was originated in May 1952. The National T.T.T. Society was founded in 1911 by six young women from Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

Emphasizing service and charity, the society helps maintain three summer camps which provide for deserving girls. Each summer a girl is sent to Eden Valley, Minnesota for two weeks. Money-making projects are used to help fund this philanthropic work.

The present Chapter has twenty-five active members. Mrs. Russell Copley currently serves as president. Mrs. Frances Carpenter was the Chapter's first president.

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE

On February 13, 1967 the Des Moines Chapter of the Izaak Waltons was honored to have been responsible for the formulation and chartering of the new Izaak Walton League Chapter in Ankeny.

Known as the Dragoon Trail Chapter, the name was derived from an old river trail that proceeded north from Des Moines following the Des Moines River Valley.

The purposes of the organization are:

1) To conserve, maintain, protect and restore the natural resources of the United States of America including particularly but not exclusively, forests, soil, water and wildlife.

2) To promote means and opportunities for the education of the public with respect to such resources and the enjoyment and wholesome utilization thereof.

Honored for outstanding work, awards have been given to William Powell, Arlie DeHoet, Ron Warner, Lanny Tietsort, LeRoy Schnethorst, Ross Smith, Ivan Speer, and Milford Johnson. Loren Wilson was honored for his work in writing and making a historical book of the club activities. Jack Riney was given a founders pin for helping to get the club started.

The first officers of the organization were: Farrel Leonard, President; Thad Taylor, 1st Vice President; Arlie DeHoet, 2nd Vice President; Jack Riney, Secretary; Milford Johnson, Treasurer.

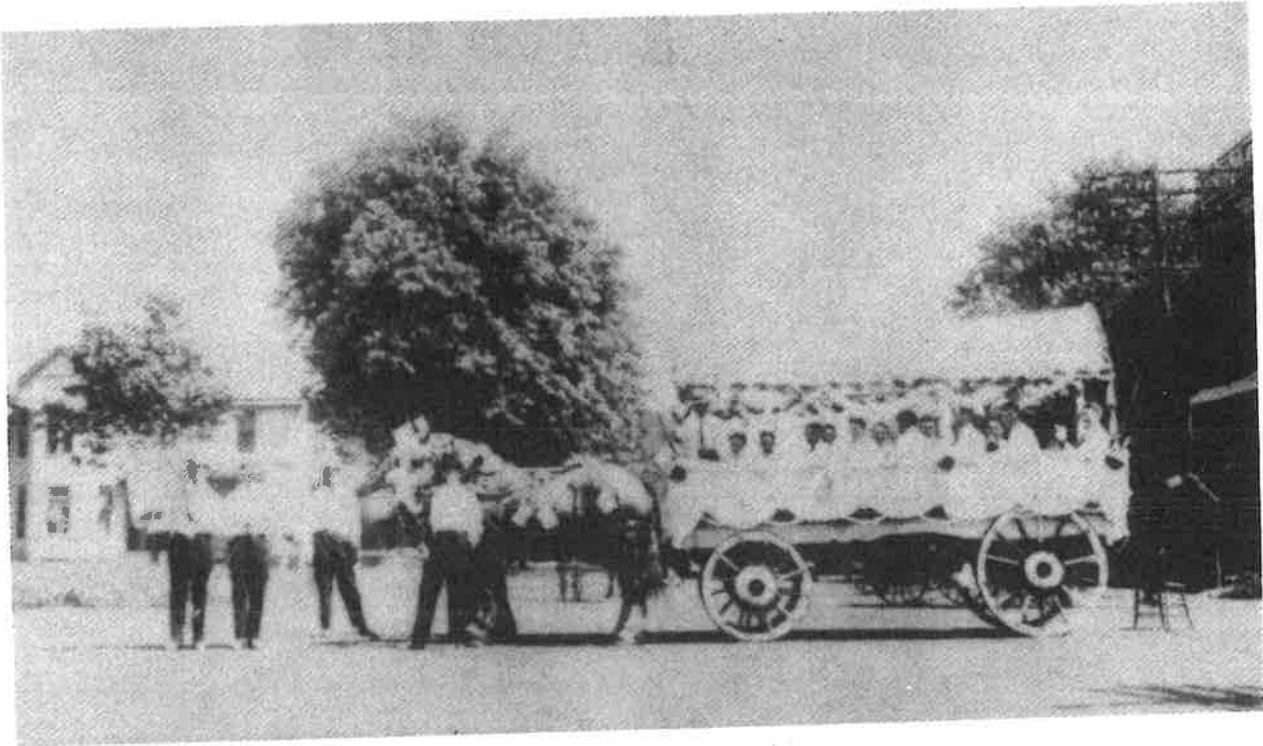
The first board members were: Fayne Griffith, Neal Doms, D. J. Schmitt, D. L. Armann, Jim Davis, and Dwight Borgstrand.

Present officers are: Leroy Schnathorst, President; Ross Smith, 1st Vice President; Pete Lodholz, 2nd Vice President; Jim Walter, Secretary; Pat Hurley, Treasurer.

Some of the projects of the Dragoon Trail Chapter are, kids fishing, pheasant and quail release, and river and roadway cleanup. The league is also active in UACO. Other projects are National Hunting and Fishing Day, safety classes and for the youth of this area, wildlife cover has been planted on numerous farms in this area.



ENTERTAINMENT



'town band 1907. The band wagon was pulled to Third Street for the concert and would play until midnight. Ankeny's carnival band traveled to many of the surrounding small towns in the first decade of the century.

The Opera Troupe, from Polk City that presented *Dot, The Miner's Daughter*, was certainly well received and presented their beautiful drama in a way that would put many professionals in the rear, and everyone there felt it was good to be there. Each actor and actress proved they were possessed with rare talent and the four acts were replete with fun and seriousness. Receipts for the evening, \$25.35 and if they should return a much larger crowd should turn out to see the performance. We wish to recommend them to any who desire a clean meritorious production. ¶ Taken from April 17, 1903 Ankeny Times.

A medicine show played in Ankeny in early November of 1903 and received this write-up in the November 6, 1903 Ankeny Times:

FINE

Large audience attended the German Medicine Com.'s show at the Woodman Hall this week. It is to be regretted that Dr. Floyd Williams did not arrange for a one week or even two weeks stay with us.

This is one of the cleanest and most up-to-date shows on the road and we can truly say that they put on as clean a vaudeville entertainment as was ever seen on a stage.

Dr. Floyd Williams, the manager is the finest violinist we have ever heard and we have heard a great many. The way he renders "Listen to the Mocking Bird" is simply grand. Albert Jahnson, the German comedian, is a star and for real downright fun, he is the king-pin.

Mr. Brackley, the black face and Irish comedian, is an artist in his line and Mr. Hackett, the athlete and contortionist, also comes in for his share of the praise and performs startling tricks.

Lena and Gay Pearl are two members of the company not to be forgotten, as Mrs. William ranks high as a musician and is a clever lady when taking part in the farces.

We heartily recommend them to any audience and should they ever come to our town again we will need a larger opera house. They certainly have a good clean, respectable and up-to-date show.

Georgia Swartfager was voted the most popular young lady in the audience at the Medicine show.

PATRIOTS CELEBRATE

The Fourth of July celebration was an annual event in the earlier years.

The Ankeny Times dated Friday, July 4, 1902 was printed on red, white, and blue striped paper. Page one had a two-column box which said in bold type:

**OH JOY
HOW HAPPY
A GRAND STREET PAGEANT!
FUNNY CLOWNS,
GREASED PIG,
FOOT RACES,
SACK RACES,
BUTTERMILK DRIVE**

IN FACT ALL EVENTS ARE GOOD

**There will be a Great Ball Game. Fine speaking by
one of Iowa's Best Orators.**

**REDUCED RATES ON ALL TRAINS
COME AND BRING THE FAMILY**

The Committee

The first event was the parade, in which young and old marched or rode in vehicles drawn by horses or mules, ponies or dogs. Each unit was decorated with flags and bunting, even the horses. Prizes were awarded for the outstanding floats.

Basket dinners at noontime were followed by games for the children and speeches.

Highlights of the evening was the fireworks display accented by children shooting firecrackers.

WHEN THERE WAS CHAUTAUQUA IN ANKENY

Some in Ankeny remember when each summer the Chautauqua would come to Ankeny and set up the big tent on Main (Cherry) Street south of Third.

In the 1920's two chautauqua companies operated in Iowa. The Redpath-Vawter Circuit and the United Circuit. One was a seven day program and the other a four day.

The Chautauqua was a program of famous entertainers, music performers who traveled from town to town. The programs also included speeches, and plays such as, Uncle Tom's Cabin.

Different performers entertained every day, both matinee and evening. The Redpath-Vawter had a youth program in the forenoons and those participating appeared in a skit the last day.

Chautauqua arrived before motion pictures and radio filling a need which was appreciated by the towns' people. However, by the 1930's the Chautauqua circuits had practically disappeared.

In general, amusements for the early residents were simple. Skating and bob-sledding were popular. In the summer there were picnics, swimming, and ball games. Carnivals were another form of amusement which came to town.

EARLY SPORTS

The town organized a baseball team soon after incorporation. Members of the 1903 Town Team: McClung - first base, Doubleday - second base, Horning - third base, Hall - shortstop, Wagner - left field, Canfield - center field, Matter - right field, Wohlwend - catcher, Fenner - pitcher.

Item in Ankeny Times May 5, 1903: Drake baseball team plays Ankeny team, score Drake 14, Ankeny 10.

The baseball diamond was located on south School Street. The schools now own the property.

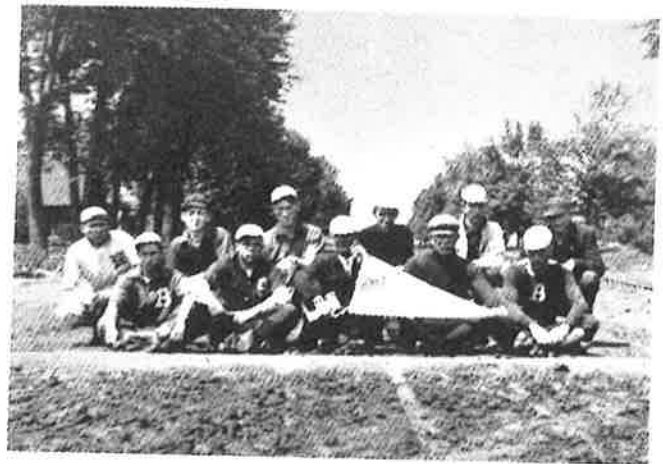
In July 1922, the council ordered that it would be unlawful to play baseball on Sunday within the corporate limits of the Town of Ankeny. Adult sports teams are still popular in Ankeny today.



EARLY TOWN FOOTBALL TEAM

Front row, left to right: Allen, Callemen, Young, ? , ? , G. Cherrie, Fred H., Fred S.,

Back row, left to right: W. Harman, Shepard, John Smith, L. Shepard, P. Smith, Ed. Howard



1913 TOWN BASEBALL TEAM

Burt O'Keen, coach, some other members: Louis Hallowell, Dave Essick, Jerry Donaghy, Fred Swartfager, John Smith. Others unidentified.

FARMER'S INSTITUTES

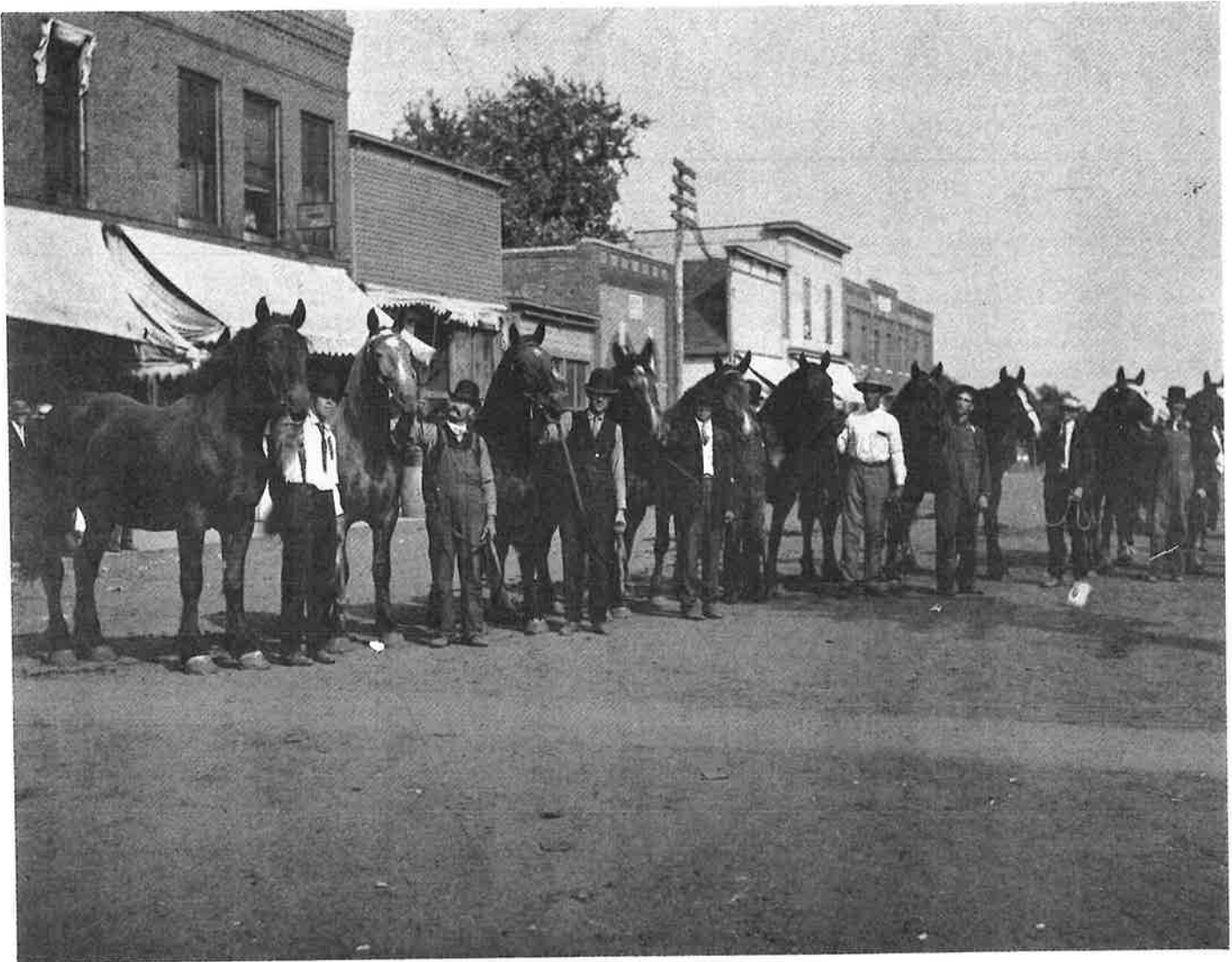
The Farmer's Institutes were annual events in the earlier years of Ankeny. They were usually held late in the fall. It was a fall fair when all the farmers would exhibit their horses, cattle, sheep, poultry, corn, oats, and wheat.

The women would exhibit their breads, corn breads, butter and cakes.

Prizes were given in each class.

The churches would serve dinner and the Interurban would run extra cars giving special rates.

The Institutes were also organized to discuss more progressive methods of farming. Men would come in and speak on farm matters.




HORSE SHOW ON MAIN STREET 1911

Shown with their horses are [left to right] Bill Donaghy, John Albaugh, Bill Hutton, Street Hutton, Bill Sargent [partly hidden], Pete Thompson, unidentified man, Mr. Adamson, and Ted Sedan.



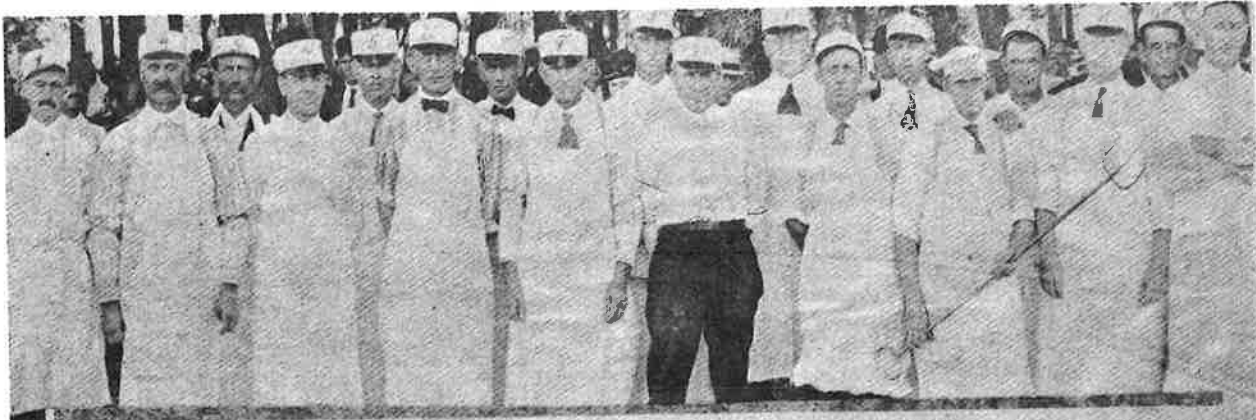
A Farmer's Institute was held in 1913 in Ankeny. While the men were busy at the institute the ladies attended a short domestic course in the basement of the Methodist Church. Among those in the picture are: Ora Parmenter, Orra Shepard, Juanita Stanfield, Mary Mathis, Beulah Lawson, all of Ankeny.

ANKENY, IOWA. Dec. 12-13-14 1912.	TWELFTH ANNUAL FARMERS INSTITUTE  CATTLE.	THIRD PREMIUM
--	---	--------------------------

SATIN RIBBON GIVEN TO WINNERS

WAGNER BARBECUE BIG ANKENY EVENT

The Ankeny Homecoming was a big event held annually at Wagner Park. It became known as the Wagner Barbecue. Henry Wagner furnished the beef for the barbecue. The beef was cooked in big iron kettles over an open fire. Many times the crowd would number over 1,000 or more. The first barbecue was held in 1916 and ended with the death of Mr. Wagner in 1929.



The serving committee for the 5th Annual Homecoming Barbecue held September 16, 1920 are, from left to right: P. A. Logli, John S. Albaugh, George

Swartfager, Frank Whiting, B. T. Haulman, Jess Staley, Will Gose, Arthur Murray, David Esseck, Verle Addison, Rolfe Wagner, Frank Zelle, Clare Sul-

ser, Florin Allen, Sam Wheeler, Unknown, Charley Hildreth, Chas. Howard, and Francis Kile.

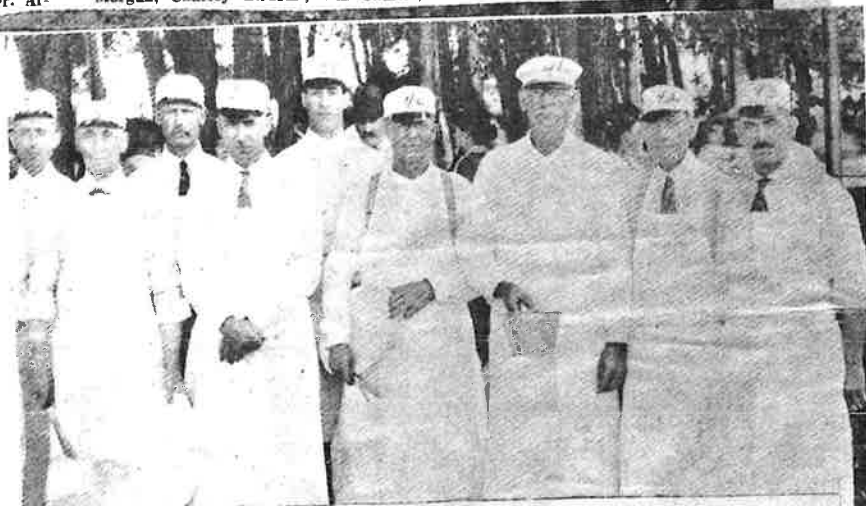


Others serving at the barbecue were: Francis Kile, Henry Wagner, Jacob Abuhl, Elmer Meyer, Frank Deymude, Dr. Ar-

thur Merkel, Will Randolph, Edwin Wagner, Loren Maris, Will Liechty, Druggist Morgan, Charley Birdsall, Will Shurke,

Dr. Spalding, John Smock, and "Walters" undertaker.

**Wagner
Barbeque
Big
Ankeny
Event**



Still others serving at the barbecue were: Orville Canfield, George Goughnour, Will Zimmerman, William Wick-

erham, Frank Splers, George Zimmerman, Will Zelle, Frank Hanna and Frank Hallowell.

CATASTROPHES

DISASTROUS FIRES

"South side of Ankeny's Trade Area Destroyed by Fire"

January 22, 1932
Des Moines Tribune

The origin of a fire which destroyed four store buildings at Ankeny, Thursday night (Jan. 21, 1932) had not been determined Friday. Opinions differed as to whether the fire had begun in the Bert O'Keane's Restaurant or in an unoccupied building owned by Dr. C. F. Patterson of Des Moines which housed an airplane and glider belonging to Patterson's son, Charles.

Buildings destroyed were the Bert O'Keane's restaurant, Dr. Patterson's building, the Jay Good Barber Shop and the Brewbaker Plumbing Shop. Damage estimates ranged from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

With the exception of office equipment and plumbing supplies saved from the Brewbaker shop, the contents of the four buildings were destroyed. In addition fifty feet of telephone cable, 2 posts and wiring were damaged. Repairs to the telephone wiring were completed at noon Friday after an emergency crew had worked from 3 a.m.

Ellis Lowe, a fireman, who was burned about the face and neck by a chemical tank was recovering Friday.

Quick action by the Ankeny Fire Department which arrived on the scene ten minutes after fire was discovered by Fontanini and Ellis, saved the Ankeny Battery Shop next to the barber shop.

Five tons of coal in the Brewbaker basement burned for several hours.

Charles Patterson had nearly completed the rebuilding of an old Boite Airplane by working evenings for several weeks was the most downcast. His prized possession was a twisted mass of rods and metal sheets.



Fire Burns Elevator

July 20, 1936
Des Moines Register

The Wagner Grain Co. will soon start construction of a new elevator to replace the one destroyed by fire early Monday at Ankeny, Iowa.

Edwin H. Wagner, owner, said the \$20,000 fire loss was covered by insurance but the great loss was to have a fire at this time when the harvesting season has started.

This is the time of the year we usually pick up a little profit after sitting around all year waiting for it, Wagner said Monday.

Flames shooting fifty feet above the 100 foot wood and corrugated metal structure attracted hundreds of motorists for more than 20 miles in every direction.

Two motor trucks, machinery and 5,000 bushels of wheat, oats, corn and ground feed were destroyed in the flames which still burned late Monday morning. Office furniture and the company's safe were saved, Wagner said.

The fire also damaged an empty freight car which stood beside the elevator. Two others had been pulled away from the flames by a passenger train early Monday. The cause of the fire had not been determined Monday, although it was suspected that the electric and windstorm Sunday night had caused a wiring defect, the flame not being discovered until 12:30 a.m.

"Half of Ankeny's Trade Area Destroyed Third Major Fire in 10 Years" May 14, 1940

A raging early morning fire Tuesday, May 14, 1940 destroyed five stores and one office in the half block area on the north side of Third Street from Walnut Street west to the alley. The following were destroyed: Wright's Pharmacy owned by Mayor Wright, Lamberti Grocery and Meat Market, operated by Rex Lamberti, George Thompson harness Shop, the office of Dr. Henderson, Veterinarian, Sexton Cafe operated by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sexton and Margaret's Beauty Shoppe operated by Miss Margaret Gilbert.

The fire started in the beauty shoppe and was discovered by Wilbur Lundholm about 3:30 a.m. Estimated loss was \$50,000. The only building saved was a frame building belonging to C. O. McLean and occupied by the M & E Cafe and Bett's Barber Shop.

Mr. and Mrs. Sexton were sleeping in the rear of the cafe and Frank Miller above Lamberti's Market. All escaped without injury.

There was a strong wind which made the fire difficult to fight. Beside the frame building the firemen were able to save the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Birdsall and the Methodist parsonage just north of the burned area.

The buildings that burned were owned by Al Stader of Sioux City (a former resident of Ankeny) and Dr. A. E. Merkel.

At 7 a.m. on January 29, 1952 the Ankeny water softener tank blew up. The explosion destroyed the two tanks and wrecked the east and north part of the fire station building, causing \$20,000 damage.

LUMBER COMPANY FIRE

Another major business fire on Third Street occurred March 18, 1973 when an early morning fire destroyed the Denniston-Partridge Lumber Company located west of the tracks.



Volunteer Firemen battle blaze which destroyed five business houses in Ankeny.

WEATHER Snowin' and Blowin'

The word "Blizzard" was coined by a newspaper man to portray the fury of the great winter storms that once swept over the Iowa prairies. The old time blizzards usually lasted several days with falling temperatures and rising winds. The snow would become fine as powder and would penetrate every crevice of the houses. Sometimes it would get so deep inside the homes that it would be impossible to start a fire. Once in a while it even became necessary for several families to move into one cabin.

The first blizzard on record in this area came March 14, 1870, and was for years remembered as the great blizzard.

In 1936, a heavy snow storm sent temperatures plunging to twenty-two degrees below zero. The snow and winds continued nearly everyday during the month of February.

On March 12, 1959, one of the worst snow storms in many years hit Ankeny, paralyzing traffic and stranding motorists. Many homes took in over-night guests who were unable to reach their homes. More



Snow storm - 1936

than two hundred John Deere employees had to spend the night at the plant. The schools dismissed and while most students were home by 2 p.m. some were much later but fortunately all reached home safely. Some rural areas were isolated for nearly two days.

On December 22, 1961 mother nature assured Ankeny of a white Christmas. Strong winds accompanied by seven to nine inches of snow brought everything but emergency equipment to a standstill. The storm started in the forenoon and schools were dismissed at 2:10 p.m. One bus driven by Hildreth Roberts made all but the last two stops before becoming stuck. Mr. Roberts and five children spent the night at the John Moeckly home. Another bus driven by Earl Herring got all the children home before getting stuck. Emergency equipment was kept on Third Street. Approximately two hundred stranded motorists spent the night in Ankeny, many at the Legion Hall.

A freak snow storm hit Ankeny on April 9, 1973. The following day green grass could be seen between the snow drifts.



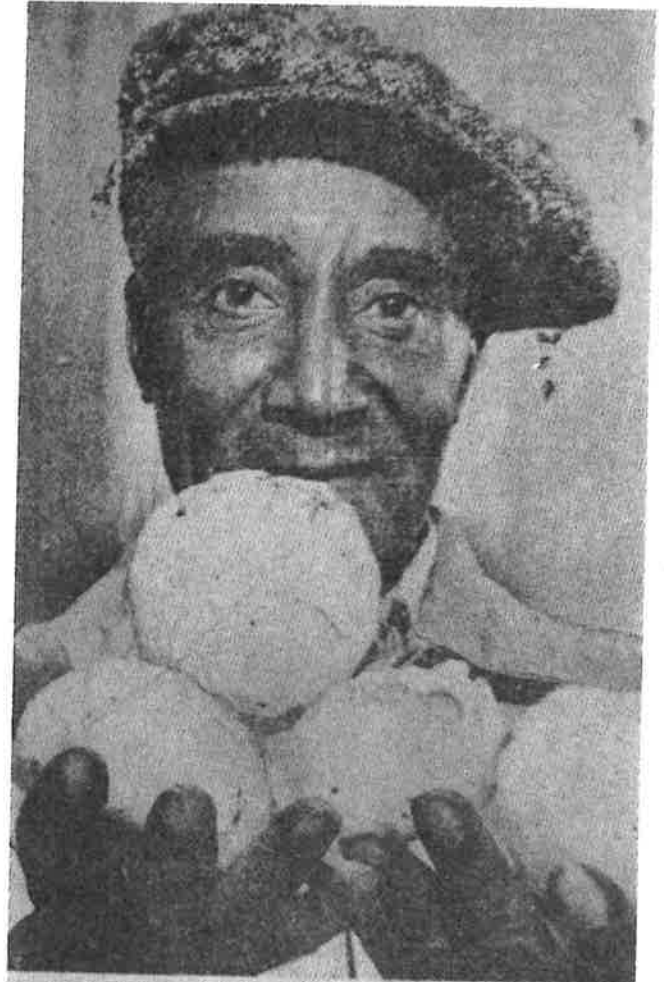
Sky at sunset, June 18, 1974

TORNADOES

In the 1890's a tornado dropped down west of Ankeny and destroyed a church. The storm followed a southeasterly course thus by-passing Ankeny to the south.

Another tornado struck Ankeny in 1966. Many living in the western part of Ankeny were unaware at the time that a tornado had struck on the east side. It struck above five p.m. on October 14, 1966. The storm bounced from East Ninth Street to East Elementary School in the city and then proceeded to the country side in a northeasterly direction. Most of its force was spent soon after it left Ankeny. No deaths occurred and its path was narrow.

On June 18, 1974, Mammatus clouds were seen in the evening sky. At 10:32 p.m. the tornado struck. It ripped through Ankeny and other parts of Polk County from northwest to southeast, with winds of 70 to 85 miles per hour, accompanied by heavy rain and hail. When it was all over, two were dead in Ankeny, and damage to the city's business and residential areas was estimated to be between ten and twenty million dollars.



Hailstones in Ankeny

Baseball was on many tongues Wednesday. It even described the size of the hailstones that fell at Ankeny. Here's Westley Burrell with a handful of evidence!—Register Staff Photo by Arnold Gore.

HAIL STORM

Huge hailstones, some so big they were like blocks of ice, fell out of a thunder storm over Ankeny about 7 p.m. on October 8, 1958. The mayor's wife measured one at ten inches in diameter.

Almost every house in the town was damaged. Some of the chunks of ice fell with such force they smashed through roof tops leaving gaping holes. Hoods and roofs on cars were badly dented. Thousands of window panes were broken.

Every window on the north side of Parkview Elementary School was broken and so many windows in the other two school buildings that schools were closed October 9. Total damage was estimated at \$100,000 or more. Electric power was out for about an hour.

PART III

THESE THINGS

AND

THOSE THINGS -

A Peek into the Past

PEOPLE OF DISTINCTION

Ruth H. Wagner, a former resident of Ankeny, gained considerable recognition in the educational field. She was the co-author of "We Three" and "What Next" primary readers published by Scott Foresman Company of Chicago. She was also co-author of "Iowa Beautiful Land" and "Put Democracy to Work". Miss Wagner was associate editor of Midland Schools, a publication of Iowa State Association, from 1947 to 1954. Since 1946 she was a lecturer on UN and UNESCO. Ruth was also managing Editor of the Kansas Teacher from 1954 to 1956.

She became a professor of English at the American Academy for Girls in Tarus, Turkey in 1957. She taught under the auspices of the Congregational Christian Churches for three years. In 1960, she became Editor and Director of Children's publications for Friendship Press in New York.

She received the Grinnell College Alumni Award in 1973.

Miss Wagner was born August 6, 1909. She was the daughter of William Wagner an early business man in Ankeny. She died on December 20, 1974 in Canon City, Colorado.

Another former Ankeny man of prominence is Nello A. Lamberti, a son of Frank Lamberti. He graduated from the Ankeny High School, received his Bachelor of Science, Masters of Science, and Doctorate in Business Administration from Iowa State University. Mr. Lamberti was an associate professor at the University of California Graduate School of Business. He also held the position of Vice President in charge of operations for the Automotive Division of Studebaker Corporation.

In 1964, he was appointed to the newly created post of Senior Vice President of the Universal American Corporation. He had the responsibility and supervision of their manufacturing operations. Nello, at present, is operating a Counseling Management Firm in Los Angeles. He is listed in Who's Who in America.

A voice that many Ankeny people would recognize is the voice of Chet Randolph. Chet was born in 1926 and at an early age dreamed of the day he would be a radio broadcaster. He first started speaking at the Ankeny Methodist Church on Christmas and Children's Day programs. Chet gave much credit to two of his high school teachers, Sylvia Snook, dramatics and Walt Freisner, Vocational Agriculture Instructor.

He graduated from high school in 1943 and started radio work at WOI Ames radio station on a part time basis. He then came to KGIO Des Moines with two programs "Farm Reporter" and "On the Farm". He left Des Moines and appeared daily on WLS Chicago as "Denver Bill". Chet spent some time as an instructor at the University of Arizona. He is probably best known in this area for his farm reports over WHO Des Moines.

Chet is now living in West Des Moines.

HOMESTEADERS OF CROCKER TOWNSHIP

Winter in 1848 . . .

A large number of the pioneers of this community arrived in this area in 1848. They were of hardy stock and desirous of homes of their own. This is best proven by the type winter they had here the first year.

The snow commenced early in November 1848 before the ground was frozen and continued until the unprecedented snowfall of December 21, which was the most fearful one ever witnessed in the County. The snow continued at a depth of over three feet until the following February. Heavy driving storms followed each other every few days. Most of the time travel of any nature was impossible and it was dangerous to get any distance from your cabin. There was much suffering and want during the winter.

—From History of Polk County 1880 .

SECURING LAND TITLE . . .

The Indian title to the lands now included in the bounds of Polk County expired at midnight October 11, 1845. This date was anxiously awaited by those who were already here for after that time each one was at liberty to make a claim of 320 acres which could be held until the government brought the lands into the market, and then purchased under regulations in force at that time.

So eager were the settlers, who had remained only at the suffrance of the Government, to have permanent homes near Fort Des Moines, that during the fore part of the night men were stationed in all directions with instructions they could immediately begin measurement of claims as soon as midnight arrived.

Precisely at midnight the loud report of a musket, fired from the Agency House announced the empire of the red men had ended forever. Answering reports rang sharply on the night air in quick succession from every hilltop, and in every valley till the signal was conveyed for miles around. The moon was slowly sinking in the west and its light was poor. Torches were used for light and before the light of morning the Indian lands had new tenants.

No land could be sold prior to a survey. Crocker Township was surveyed by Joseph Morehead, commencing July 5, 1847 and completed July 16, 1847.

The following are the settlers who homesteaded on the land that is now within the corporate limits of Ankeny. The dates are when they secured title from the U.S. Government. Their claims were entered at an earlier date.

These are Ankeny's first citizens. Many remained and while we may not recognize some of the names now many of their descendents are a part of the community.

—Taken in part from History of Polk County 1880

**FIRST OWNERS AND SETTLERS ON THE
LAND THAT IS NOW INCORPORATED IN
ANKENY [Homesteaders] . . .**

Crocker Township date of absolute title from the Gov.

Thomas Brannan	6-26-1854
William W. Willingham	8-29-1854
Sanford Porter	4-1-1854
Hiram W. Chase	4-1-1854
Jacob Wilson	11-6-1852
Bassdalt W. Lems	3-20-1849
R. L. Tidrick	11-15-1853
Nathan Koons	10-30-1848
Conrad Dietz	10-5-1852
Seth Richards	6-16-1853
Ives Marks	11-11-1852
James Holland	6-19-1854
Elizabeth Conklin	11-12-1853
Ezekiel Hanna	3-3-1854
Joseph W. Tiara	3-5-1852
Calvin Thornton	5-5-1853
Samuel Harvey	6-1-1850
Miles White	6-11-1855
James Shaw	1-1-1853
Nathaniel J. Powell	6-15-1853
Samuel S. Aldrich	3-1-1850
John Miller	5-30-1849
Lysander Harvey	10-21-1852
Edmund Webb	11-6-1852
Davis Harrison	4-9-1855
Samuel F. Irwin	4-4-1855
Homer S. Aldrich	3-29-1849
James T. Thornton	5-5-1849
Caleb Richeson	10-3-1853
Andrew J. Stevens	1-2-1854
John N. Kennedy	10-11-1853
David L. Harley	10-22-1853
William Lewis	10-4-1853

Douglas Township

Newton Thornton	6-16-1854
Nathan Thornton	6-14-1852
William P. Lewis	11-6-1854
Miles White	1-4-1855
George Hibben	6-16-1854
Arabel W. Hubbard	6-16-1854
Jenkin W. Morris	5-29-1854
Calvin Thornton	12-7-1853
Henry R. James	4-25-1851

ANKENY CENSUS

Taken from the State Census Books
First Census 1905 of newly incorporated (1903)
town of Ankeny (ninety-two families)

ANKENY CENSUS

Taken from the State Census Books
First Census 1905 of newly incorporated (1903)
town of Ankeny (ninety-two families).

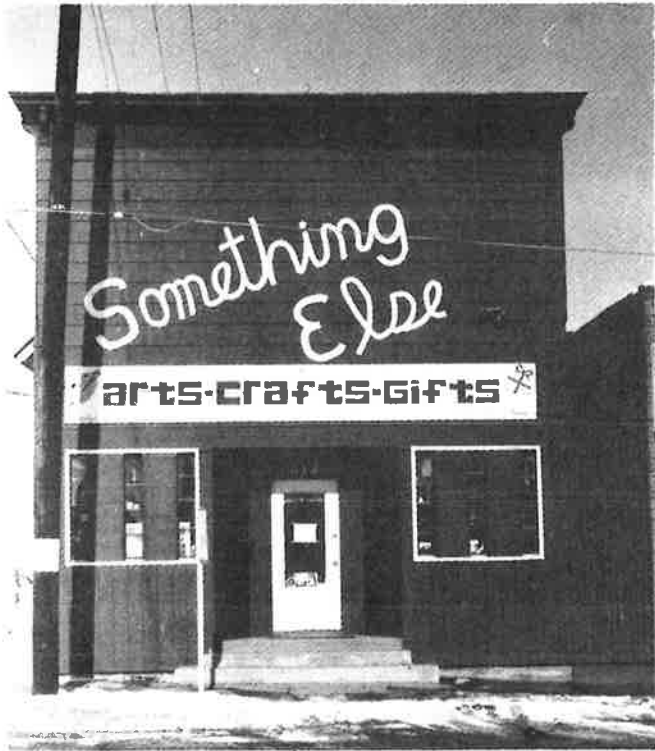
S. Allen, F. A. Allen, A. C. Boyer, J. L. Boyd, Thos. Barr, A. E. Burgess, Rosina Buck, Brayton Butterfield, R. H. Canfield, J. H. Canfield, Anna Cherrie, Butler Cooper, Geo. F. Coffin, Chas. Campbell, Susan Dean, Margaret Donaghy, C. W. Dodds, A. L. Eike, Bert Fenner, Geo. Ford, Wm. Gose, G. E. Goughnour, Ed Hall, W. J. Hall, D. F. Hallowell, T. O. Halverson, M. E. Havens, E. W. Harris, Selma Harris, H. Haulman, H. E. Haulman, David Hedges, A. W. Hildreth, J. E. Hildreth, J. H. Horning, T. J. Horning and Louis Hoffman. C. A. Hutt, Catherine Kaltenheuser, M. Krause, W. H. Lewis, E. M. Lewis, E. Landaker, B. A. Lamason, Oley Lande, L. M. Lehr, J. C. Marts, Ellis Meader, G. R. McKilly's, A. F. Nelson, L. Nelson, Burt O'Keen, J. A. Peters, C. F. Patterson, J. F. Ringgenberg, F. J. Sexauer, W. O. Sargent, J. E. Spahr, J. C. Sheppard, Ruth Sheppard, C. L. Shaw, J. B. Smock, H. T. Summery and Tersey Summey. Al Stader, Joseph Steele, Geo. Stableton, A. L. Stebleton, Chas. Swartfager, F. W. Tait, A. S. Tait, James Thomas, Wm. Thornton, H. C. Thompson, H. D. Thomas, Alex Tilton, W. A. Tidball, E.M. Trent, T. C. Verts, E. R. Wagner, Henry Wagner, John Wagner, Chas. C. Waud, John Witmer, John Wilson, J. G. Wicks, F. E. Woods, L. D. Weinhart, George Zimmerman, Wm. Zimmerman and George Zimmerman (Jr.)

Population of Ankeny: 1905 - 306; 1960 - 2964 and 1970 - 8958.

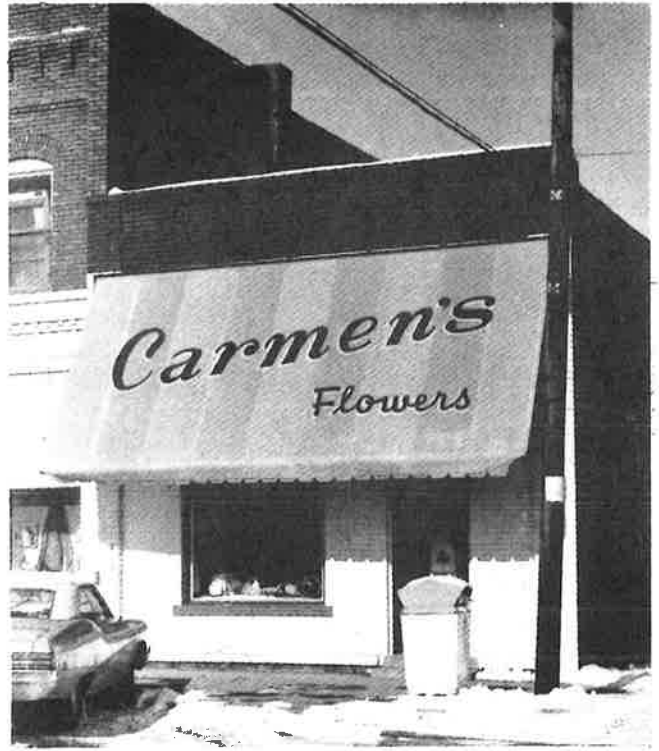
Population of Ankeny: 1905 - 306; 1960 - 2964; 1970 - 8958.



THE OLDEST BUILDINGS IN ANKENY



512 Third Street, built in 1893. Present owner E.C. Varnum



Built in 1902. 516 Third Street



302 Maple Street - built by Mr. Hallowell in approximately 1912. Present owner, Bill Duncan



312 Maple Street - built approximately 1910. Present owner Floyd Carzoli.



S.W. corner of 3rd and Walnut



506 Walnut - Still standing - Half of Hotel.

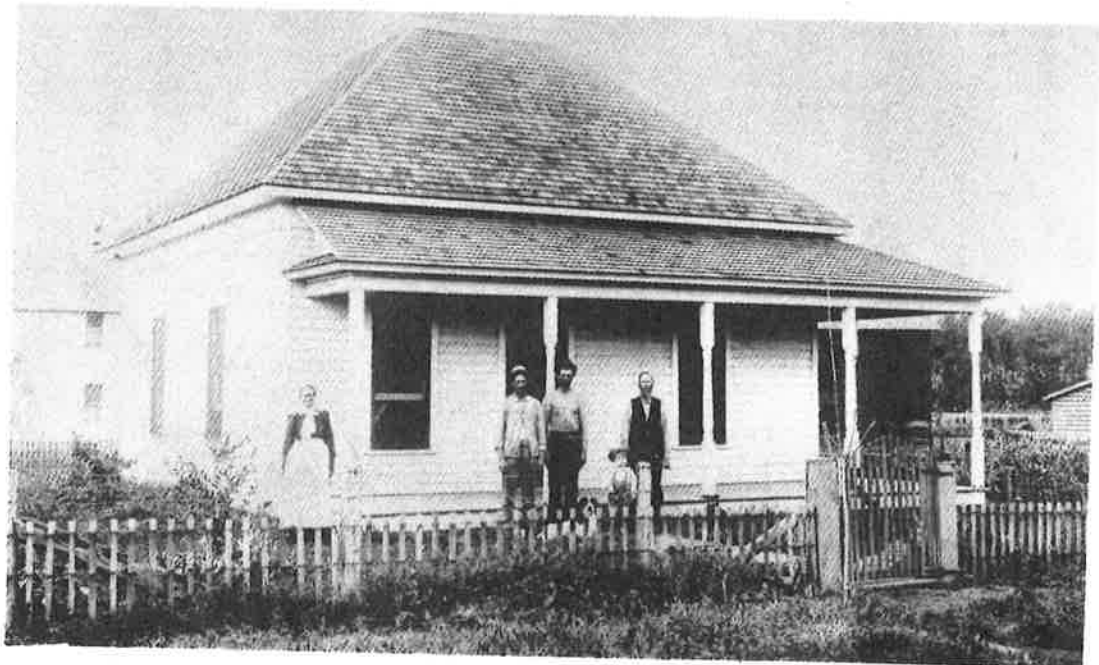
ORIGINAL HOUSES IN ANKENY



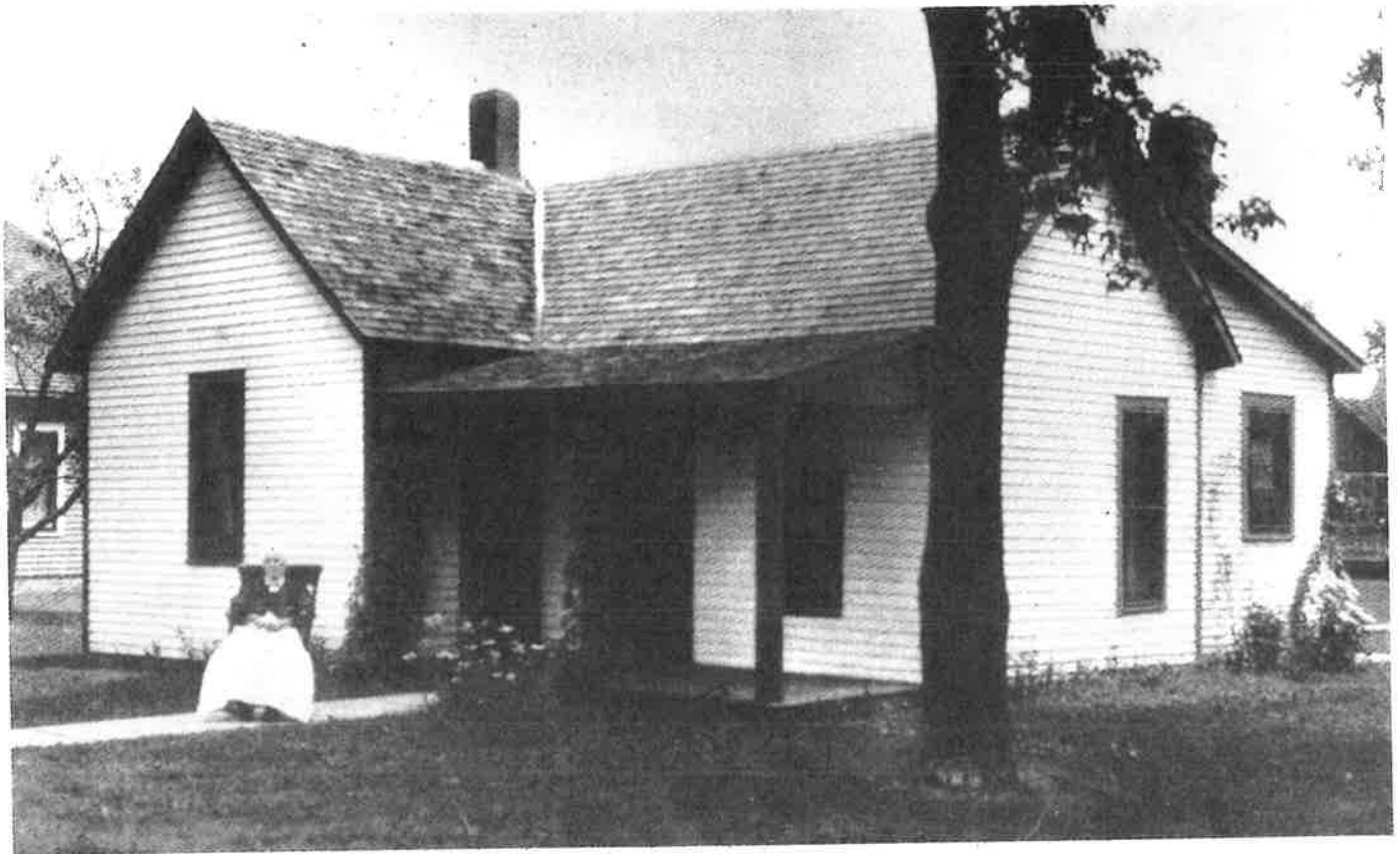
118 Walnut - One of the original houses



106 Cherry before remodeling.



N.E. corner of 2nd and Main (Cherry) Street. George Zimmerman family - 1879.



105 Maple Street, South of First Street - 1894.



209 Cherry Street, built in 1892. Pictured left to right: Belle Donaghy Landy, Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas, Ben Lamason.

EXCERPTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

- April 6, 1903 — Complaint made by Dr. Patterson of hogs in close proximity to dwelling house.
- December 7, 1903 — Condemned the sidewalk in front of Art Wagner's property.
- April 4, 1904 — Approved the Council meeting in a room at Al Stader's place of business for one year at \$1.00 per month.
- August 1, 1904 — Marshall's pay was \$25.00 per year.
- April 4, 1905 — Not enough members present for a quorum.
- May 1, 1905 — Committee named to investigate the bank building's water closet.
- March 7, 1907 — Council approved \$2.00 per month rent for one year for meeting place.
- February 3, 1908 — Balance of \$992.34 in the treasury.
- June 4, 1908 — Town clerk to write Howard Bachman that when he tied out his cow to tie her so she could not get on the sidewalk.
- November 2, 1908 — Ole Landey resigned his job of lighting street lamps.
- May 3, 1909 — Plat of J. E. Hildreth's 2nd addition approved.
- January 3, 1910 — Dr. Patterson was health officer for Ankeny. Bill for the year 1909 was \$34.00 and was approved.
- February 7, 1910 — Council reduced John Daymude's bill for 1 day mowing weeds from \$5.00 to \$4.50.
- July 16, 1910 — Authorized purchase of fire extinguishers.
- October 1, 1910 — Jail to be placed on Ole Landey's lot.
- April 4, 1911 — Raised Marshall Landy's salary from \$25.00 to \$50.00 per year.
- June 5, 1911 — Approved purchasing a mower for the town.
- December 6, 1911 — Treasury overdrawn \$49.08.
- February 7, 1912 — Requested that all business houses remain closed on the Sabbath Day.
- April 4, 1912 — Council to meet at Morgan and O'Keene's hall, rent to be \$1.00 per night.
- July 1, 1912 — C. C. Waud was street lighter.
- July 3, 1913 — J. C. Pike, Dr. Patterson, and Henry Wagner appointed library committee.
- October 12, 1914 — Vote on municipal water plant. 61 for — 88 against.
- February 1, 1915 — Town Council sold a pump and windmill for \$60.00 cash.
- May 17, 1917 — Motion carried that W. C. Scheke be appointed fire chief and have him organize a fire team subject to the approval of the Town Council.
- July 3, 1917 — Sewer system and disposal plant bid from the Empire Construction for \$31270.12 was accepted.
- March 4, 1918 — Town Club was authorized to make a new cover for the town cistern.
- December 2, 1919 — Discussed establishing a cemetery for the town of Ankeny.
- August 4, 1919 — Ankeny became a member of the League of Iowa Municipalities.
- February 20, 1920 — Council officially named "The Henry Wagner Park."
- September 6, 1920 — Authorized purchase of speed signs.
- February 7, 1921 — Nelson and Swartfager to buy posts for traffic signs and S. W. Sheppard to install them.
- March 7, 1921 — Authorized purchase of a pair of hand cuffs for the marshall.
- July 11, 1922 — Council order: "It shall be unlawful to play baseball on Sunday within the corporate limits of the Town of Ankeny.
- November 6, 1922 — Gave S. W. Sheppard a license to sell milk and cream in the Town of Ankeny for one year.
- August 7, 1923 — License granted to C. L. Thornton for \$1.00 for exclusive rights to run his pop corn machine in the town of Ankeny, not to obstruct streets or sidewalks.
- September 4, 1923 — Zoning commission of 5 appointed, O. O. Brewbaker, George Cherrie, H. O. Wagner, O. W. Swartfager, and L. H. Weber.
- July 7, 1924 — Employed Milton Fox to motorcycle traffic policeman, he is to receive 50% and the town 50% of the fines.
- May 4, 1925 — Council ordered: "There shall be no more public dances held in the Town of Ankeny without permission of the Town Council."
- June 7, 1926 — Marshalls instructed to stop all shooting of fireworks and firecrackers on the street until July 4th.
- September 6, 1926 — All cut-outs on automobiles must be closed while within the Town limits.
- June 13, 1926 — Motion approved to recommend to the Polk County Board of Supervisors that drainage ditch No. 31 be continued to the inside of the southeast part of the town of Ankeny.
- August 1, 1927 — Ordinance #35 amended to increase the speed of automobiles and trucks on Highway 65 through Ankeny from 20 to 25 miles an hour. The following taxes for the town of Ankeny were levied for the year 1927: General Fund - \$1,300.00; Light Fund \$900.00; Cemetery Fund \$65.00; Bond Fund - \$2450.00; Road Dragging - \$130.00 for a total of \$4,845.00.
- May 6, 1929 — Fred H. Gabbert was hired to take care of the park during the summer months at \$25.00 per month.
- June 6, 1929 — Wm. Wickersham authorized to purchase 2 lanterns.
- January 20, 1930 — Council authorized payment of \$3.20 to Ada Welton for feeding a lodging a tramp and to the Flitcraft Cafe 35 cents for feeding a tramp.
- June 2, 1930 — Authorized roof to be built over the stone in the park.
- May 4, 1931 — Council hired O. E. Lowe for 40 cents an hour to clear septic tank.
- July 18, 1932 — Authorized paying F. A. Allen for feeding poor family.
- February 7, 1933 — Council notified Ft. Dodge, D.M., and Southern R.R. to discontinue some street

lights as expenses must be reduced. City work rate was reduced to 30 cents per hour.

April 20, 1933 — 3.2% beer approved for sale in Ankeny.

December 4, 1933 — L. L. Cunningham to be paid \$5.00 per month as night watchman.

February 4, 1935 — Authorized cleaning the city water tank for \$3.75.

August 6, 1936 — Authorized contract with National Tank Maintenance Corporation to keep water tank in good condition for \$119.20 per year for 20 years.

September 22, 1936 — Authorized test hole for well to be made on the A. L. Hitz farm about 1 mile north of 1st Street along the Right of Way of the Ft. Dodge, D.M., and Southern railroad.

February 1, 1937 — Authorized purchase of easement for \$500.00 from Cora E. Wagner for the site of the new well.

June 7, 1937 — The Council approved purchasing a sythe to be used by transients when given a free meal.

June 16, 1937 — Granted a Class "C" beer permit to Lamberti Bros.

September 7, 1937 — Marshall Lawson's salary approved at \$10.00 per month.

November 1, 1937 — Authorized contract with the General Filtering Co. of Ames, Iowa, to install water filtering plant for \$2385.00.

March 7, 1938 — Authorized paying Roy Donaghy for the two weeks lost on account of injury at the Brazelton fire, also pay for damaged clothing and pay on the same basis until released by Doctor. Authorized mayor a salary of \$50.00 per year.

December 5, 1938 — No Parking signs authorized at entrance of fire station.

May 1, 1939 — Authorized purchasing a test meter for the water department.

October 2, 1939 — Increased Eddie Lowe, water superintendent's salary \$5.00 per month to take care of expense of driving to and from new well and pump.

November 6, 1939 — Water rate for excesses of 4000 gallons per quarter reduced from 50 cents to 40 cents per 1,000 gallons.

March 4, 1940 — Council members are to receive \$1.50 per meeting.

April 1, 1940 — Council reduced the valuation of the Farmers Savings Bank Building from \$3,045.00 to \$1,500.00.

August 1, 1940 — Mayor Fred L. Wright resigned.

April 7, 1941 — Council meeting had been held past 3 years in Dr. H. M. Frederick's office.

June 2, 1941 — The necessary books were authorized to establish a Mayor's Court. The Health Department criticized the condition of the IOOF Hall.

June 16, 1941 — Jack Thornton was hired to paint fire hydrants at 35 cents each and light standards at 50 cents each.

November 14, 1941 — Council accepted and approved the plat for Southlawn addition.

April 3, 1944 — Authorized purchase of a panel truck for town use. To purchase for \$750.00, if possible.

April 23, 1945 — Discussion on the misdemeanors committed by various youths of the community. If they do not heed warnings from the Marshall, he is to pick up their air or BeeBee guns.

TAKE A PEEK INTO THE PAST A BACKWARD GLANCE THROUGH NEWSPAPERS OF YESTERYEARS

1902 — The new two room school building cost about \$2000.

1902 — Kenfield and Wohlwend, battery for Midget Baseball team.

1902 — Book agents were as thick as mosquitoes.

1902 — Round trip to New York, via Chicago & Northwestern cost \$28.15.

1902 — Completing work on the new brick school building two miles south of Ankeny.

1902 — Miss Mabelle Wagner gave a concert at the Congregational Church.

1902 — Maud Kennedy, teacher for High School room, 19 pupils. Pearl Benedict, teacher for Primary room; 40 pupils and only two teachers.

1902 — Arthur Hildreth family moved to Craig, Montana.

1902 — There was a Bethany Church in the Rock Creek neighborhood and a Quaker Church south of Ankeny.

1902 — Cora Doke was teaching in the Rock Creek neighborhood.

1902 — O. O. Brubaker was president of the Polk County Farmers Institute.

1903 — The first passenger train went through Elkhart 1-1-1903.

1903 — January 12, 1903 Board of Trades prices; Wheat 72 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents, Corn 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, Oats 32 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents.

1903 — January 23, Northwestern Coal Co. prospecting on the Hartman farm for coal. If they strike the desired quantity, will pay \$125.00 per acre for top and bottom.

1903 — November 30, The box supper at Rock Creek School brought in \$25.00. The teacher's box sold for \$5.00.

1903 — February 6, thieves stole 75 chickens from Frank Kile.

1903 — March 13, Sunday donations at the Dedication of the M.E. Church were \$5708.00, previous donations were \$55.00. The two items paid for the church.

1903 — March 20, Emma Harvey was the teacher at the Nagle School.

1903 — Baseball team McCleary 1st base, Doubleday 2nd base, Horning 3rd base, Hall Shortstop, Wagner left field, Canfield Centerfield, Matter, right field, Wohlwend Catcher, Fenner pitcher.

1903 — Baseball, Drake 14, Ankeny 10.

1903 — June 5, Harry Thornton is running a sawmill in the Sexauer timber.

1903 — June 12, Our report last week of the death of Ed Howard was erroneous and we are very sorry it was printed and we guess Ed is glad that he still lives to hear of his death in the TIMES.

1903 — June 12, We print anything printable.

1903 — August 4, Parmenter Bros. had a farm sale, total amount was \$4400.00. Corn in the field sold for \$16.00 per acre.

1903 — August 4, Coal drillers are still at work in the southeast suburbs of Ankeny and we are inclined to think they have struck "paydirt."

1903 — Ed Lewis and Fred Wheeler had a farm sale.

1903 — September 9, Will Athinson has traded his "Cleveland Bay" for an automobile. **Ten Cents** for a ride around the world.

1903 — September 25, Someone visited Will Felts chicken coop Sunday evening and was discovered "inspecting chickens" by Ted McHome.

1903 — October 9, To the parties dumping butcher refuse in Four Mile Creek, please read the Code of Iowa and make up your minds not to form a bad habit.

1903 — October 9, Due to the high cost of potatoes Silas Allen had to raise the price of his meals to 25 cents.

1903 — November 6, Election of November 5, 1903; Constable, Ole Landy 124, Supervisor, Mathis 112, Hug, 97, Trustee, Bates 102, Justice of Peace, Frank Woods 139, Henry Bogues 116, John Horning 78.

1903 — November 13, Ankeny only had \$1.46 in delinquent real estate taxes, and that by non-resident.

1903 — November 20, The Husking Bee at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Street Harvey was a grand success. Five teams were in the field before sunrise and fifteen teams took part. 124 adults and more than 25 children ate dinner there. Mrs. Harvey had raised the crop for the Ladies Aid Society of the Congregational Church.

1903 — November 27, The swine plague is bereaving the hog raisers again.

1903 — December 11, Garfield Clothing Co. East Locust, Des Moines, Iowa is advertising Suits for \$12.00.

1903 — December 18, The Harriet L. Ankeny farm two miles northeast of Ankeny is for rent.

1903 — December 25, The Methodist parsonage now has a telephone.

1904 — January 1, Robert Mills is cutting props in Joe Harvey's timber.

1904 — January 1, To the party who poisoned the Editor's fine pup -- beware -- there is a judgement day coming and you will certainly suffer.

1904 — January 22, The Matt Sexauer's moved in their new home. George McKillip is filling his ice house and one for Henry Wagner.

1904 — February 2, Sabe Parmenter sold a 780 lb. hog to George Swartfager. He challenges the County to produce a heavier one.

1904 — February 19, Hannah Cook Waud was born January 15, 1828 in England and died February 11, 1904. She married James Waud July 29, 1851. Four children were born to this marriage, two living, Chas. C. of Ankeny and George E. of Cambridge.

1904 — February 26, J. E. Hildreth farm house two miles north and one mile east of Ankeny burned. The house was insured but not the furniture.

1904 — February 26, Ellis Randolph purchased some Missouri land.

1904 — Lost Between Ankeny and Des Moines a man with a hay team, weight 1800 lbs. with a load of apples. \$5000.00 reward for return of man, team and wagon. Finders can eat apples.

1904 — March 3, Some of the young ladies of Ankeny met at Mrs. Cherries and formed an H.G.L. Club. Maud Kennedy Pres., Iva Harris Sec., Pearl Wagner, Treas.

1904 — March 8, The story is told on an Ankeny young man that is so slow that after he leaves on Sunday evening, his girl friend has to mess her hair in order to make believe she has been kissed.

1904 — April 15, Will Kennedys' dog went mad Tuesday morning, Will immediately put him out of business via the stove poker, shotgun route.

SOME 1902, 1903, and 1904 MARRIAGES

1902 — H. Ed Wagner married Mabel Ann Patrich of Des Moines in November.

Wm. Lentz married Ella Thompson in December.

1903 — Ernest Barr married Mamie Hall.

J. C. Leichty married Mattie Boda and they will live in Lytton.

George Gilbrech married Anna Huse.

Thad Nagle married Etta Wright.

Freely Moreland married Winnie Tilton.

Dr. C. F. Patterson married Mabel Everett October 15.

1904 — Charles Howard married Alice Coppoch.

Amos Hildreth married Florence Kennedy.

EARLY SCHOOL CONTRACT

"Article of Agreement made and entered into this 9th day January 1846, between R. F. Weller of the Territory of Iowa, and the undersigned, witnesseth that said Weller agree to teach a common school for the term of three months, vis: Spelling, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic.

The undersigned citizens of the said county, agree to pay said Weller one dollar and fifty cents per scholar; also, furnish a suitable house and fire-wood, and board said Weller; the above amount may be paid in making rails at the customary price, one-third to be paid on or before the expiration of each month. School to commence when 20 scholars are signed."

The first school in the county was in Log Building No. 26 at Fort Des Moines. The first teacher was a Miss Davis in 1846, second teacher was Lewis Whitten. In 1847, R. L. Tidrich was hired.

— taken from History of Polk County 1880

FABULOUS PRICES

There was a time many years ago that groceries could be bought here at a fabulous price compared with the high cost of living today.

Some of these prices were: 2 lbs. hamburger .29, 2 lbs. sausage .35, 2 lbs. boiling beef .30, pint of oysters .35, lb. liver .18, lb. beef steak .25, lb. bacon .25, large rooster 1.00, pkg. pancake flour .15, 2 lbs. crackers .16, 3 lbs. coffee .75, 3 cans peas .23, doz. oranges .15, 3 grapefruits for .10, cooking apples .03, 2 lbs. peanuts .25, English walnuts .25, 6 bars soap .27, bunch of celery .15, head lettuce .10, box of cereal .10, loaf of bread .09, qt. pickles .20, qt. olives .45 and a lb. of popcorn .12.

For the men: overalls 1.00, husking mittens 1.00, BVD's 1.00, shirts 1.00, rubbers .50, dairymen shoes \$3.50, suspenders .50, supporters .25, collars .15, collar buttons .10, arm bands .10, watch chain .25 to \$3.30, palm beach pants \$3.50, vest \$3.30, Cravanette coat \$10.00, Russian calf overcoat \$31.00, cloak \$14.50, fur coat \$24.00, fur cap \$5.50, Panama hat \$5.00, Aviation cap .84, belt .50, Windsor tie .25.

June 11 1910
 Received of H. C. Zimmerman Sr.
 One hundred 100 Dollars
 In full to date
 \$1500
H. L. Spaulding

Brocker Township, Sept. 30 1889
 RECEIVED OF James Shiff
 the sum of three Dollars, Cents.
 in 2000 in full of his Poll and Personalty-Road Tax
 and Road Tax on
 for the year 1889 J. R. Murray
 \$3.00

May 1 1903
 Received of J. R. Murray
700 Dollars
J. R. Murray

STOP ROAMING-TRY ANKENY
 ANKENY, IOWA, 7/2 1923
 M. H. M. Sepauer
Ankeny Ia
 IN ACCOUNT WITH
HAULMAN & WAGNER
 AUTHORIZED SALES AND SERVICE
FORD AND LINCOLN CARS
 FORD TRUCKS AND FORDSON TRACTORS

1 Fordson Tractor	43200
1 Set Fenders	2500
1 Top	1000
	<u>46800</u>
Less Tractor in &	13300
	33500

Received payment
 in full
 July 9-1923
C. A. Sprath

Children's clothing, like today, ran about the same price as men's and women's.

For the lady of the house who sewed, there were such items as: 50 different kinds of yard goods for less than .10 a yard - some were velvet, China silk, crepe de-chine, chiffon, wool, corduroy, pique, tissue gingham, seersucker, calicos etc. For .15 you could get needles, thread, hook and eyes. Crochet hooks, safety pins, buttons, silk thread, embroidery hoops, collar forms, edging, and ribbon for .10. Patterns were .25, fashion book .10, and delineator .75 (tailoring pattern adjustable to size).

For the home you could purchase such items as: sheets .75, blankets \$1.00, bedspread \$3.00, pillow tops .38, long linen tablecloths \$3.50, rugs \$1.25 to \$5.00, Colonial velvet rug \$25.50, broom .15, carpet sweeper \$10.00, ironing board \$1.75, towels .15, parasol .60, suit case \$1.98, lace curtains \$8.00, blinds .25, set silverware \$19.60, and davenport \$25.30. You could trade fresh eggs, butter or milk for part of the merchandise purchased.

HOMES

Only five new homes were built in Ankeny in 1939. Cost of the homes ranged from \$3,000 to \$6,000. The city has shown tremendous growth since that time. In 1974, 102 permits were issued for dwellings and apartments with a valuation of \$6,917,050. In addition, 180 commercial permits were issued with a valuation of \$4,407,811.



Five-room brick home of Dr. H. M. Frederick, osteopath.



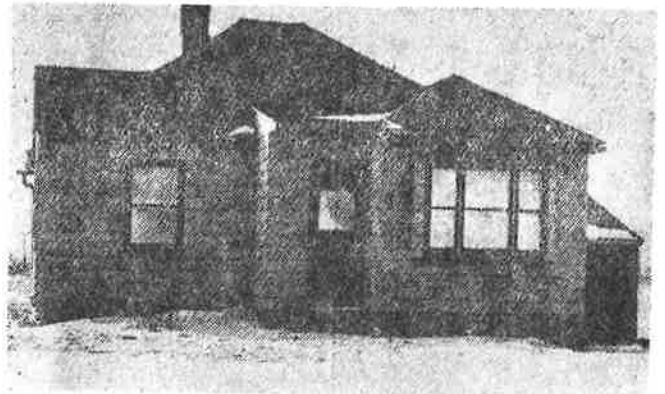
Six-room frame home of C.E. Johnson, Polk county deputy sheriff.



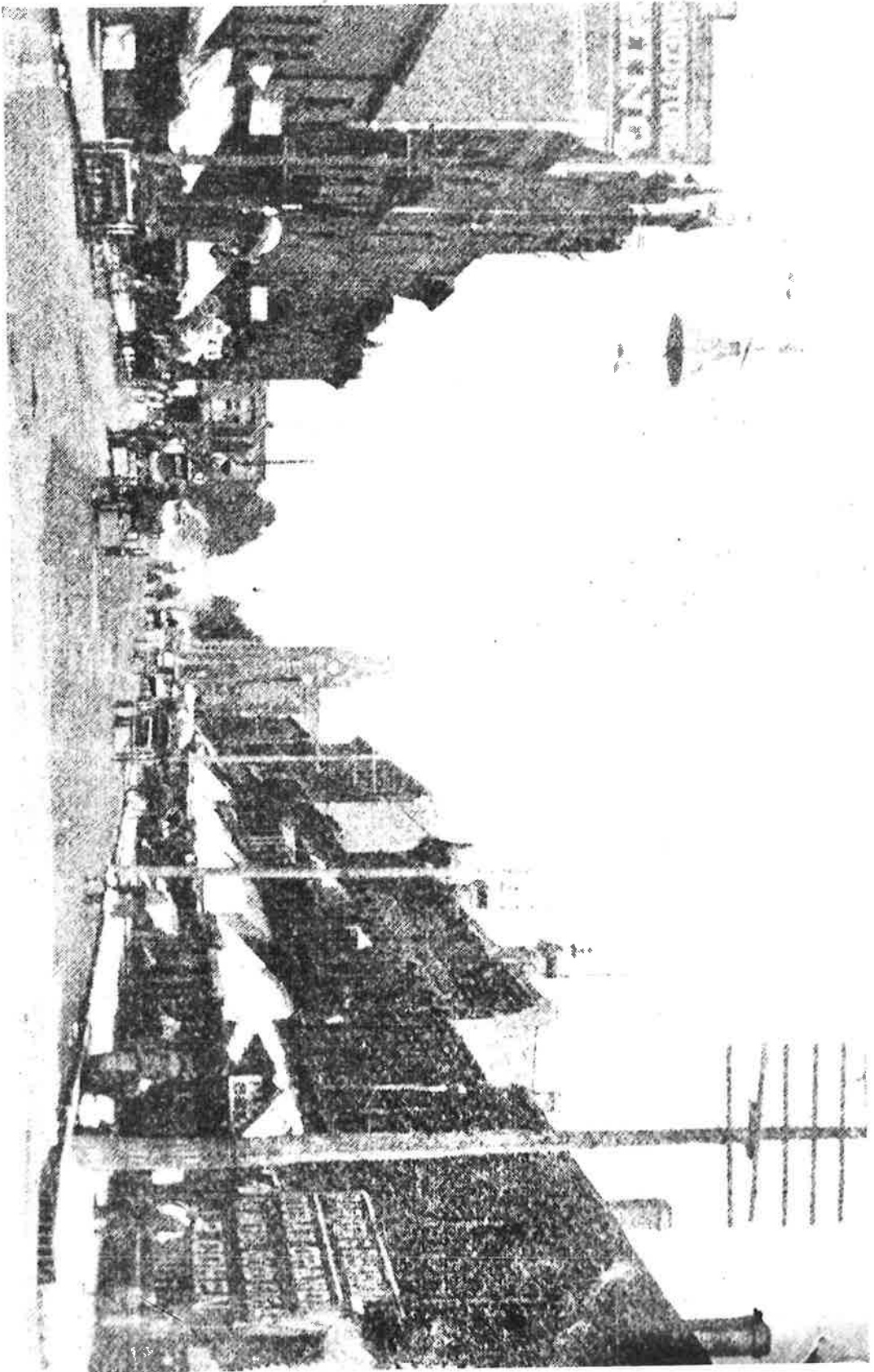
Five-room frame home of Elmer Baughman, carpenter.



Colonial type six-room home of Dr. J. A. Henderson, veterinarian.



Five-room frame home of W. M. Williamson.



Before Ankeny became a village, the first settlers in this area shopped at the W. F. Griess general merchandise store located on East Fifth Street, Des Moines. (picture taken 1899).

Ankeny is now but a stone's throw from two of the busiest thoroughfares of our nation, Interstate 80 and Interstate 35. It is only a few minutes away from our state capitol and large shopping centers of Des Moines. The city has all the business enterprises necessary to a growing community; water, electricity, natural gas, direct dialing, industries, and adequate paved highways in any direction. The people are progressive and educationally minded.

May the second hundred years in Ankeny be inspired by the men and women to whom a profound debt of gratitude is justly due, and may the generation of this time solve the problems of the time with equal vision, fortitude, and wisdom.

LIFE

Morning beams

Sunlight gleams

Hurrying life moves onward

Twilight falls

Evening feet tread forward.

