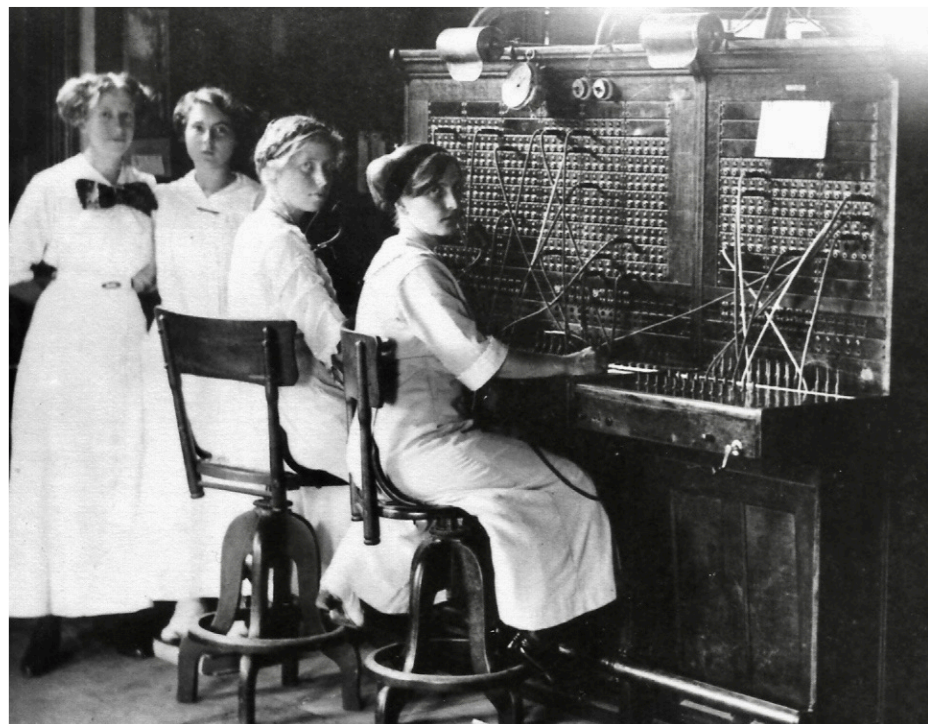


# *Walking Tour of Historic Dodgeville, Wisconsin*

DODGEVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION







## History of Dodgeville

In the summer of 1827, Henry Dodge, his family, and a party of 40 miners set out for the Upper Mississippi Lead Mine Region from their home in Missouri. For many years, adventurers and explorers had told tales of lead deposits so abundant that ore lay on top of the ground, and it was known that the local Indian tribes had smelted lead as a source of barter income since the late 1600's.

The Dodge party traveled through Galena, Illinois, a well-established mining community. Because of his status as a militia general in the War of 1812, Dodge was persuaded to lead a military expedition against the indigenous population. This show of strength took him as far north as the Wisconsin River.

The search for a mining claim brought Dodge to this area. He negotiated a treaty with the local Indigenes, who still held legal rights to the land, and established himself in a small ravine now traversed by our Fountain Street.

Dodge's party, well skilled in the tasks of tree felling, smelter building, teamsterning, and rock blasting, set about constructing a mining operation adjacent to a small stream. The party also built a fort for shelter and protection against potentially hostile Indians. The fort was comprised of a double log cabin and a blockhouse enclosed by a palisade of logs set on end in the ground to a depth of two feet. The enclosure stood 8-10 feet high and was approximately 75 feet square.

As the price of lead rose, and land was made available for sale, a steady stream of prospectors ventured northward up the Mississippi. Like the Dodge party, many were veterans of the Missouri lead mines. An influx of Europeans around 1840 included skilled miners from Cornwall, England. A British historian describes their migration:

The area quickly took on the appearance of a vigorously worked over landscape, pockmarked with numerous spoil piles, open pit sites, mine shafts, and log shacks. Lead production reached a zenith in 1845, with the most profitable surface deposits worked out. Many miners left for California in the Gold Rush of 1849, or set out for the copper mines along Lake Superior. Those who stayed, notably in the Cornish, began the task of extending the life of the mines with their expertise in hard-rock mining, water diversion, and explosive powders. Others turned to farming or became merchants.

By this time, two distinct settlements had evolved; Dodgeville, centered around the Dodge party stockade and smelter; and Dirty Hollow, which included the area known as Minersville, located in the valley Spring Street now traverses.

Over the next several years, a political battle divided Iowa County. Petitions circulated demanding the removal of the county seat from Mineral Point, where it had been since 1830, to Dodgeville, more ideally located at the center of the county. As controversy heated up, Dodgeville and Dirty Hollow incorporated into a village. A newspaper was established with the financial backing of a group of businessmen to advance their views on the new village's merits. The ridge midway between the two settlements was chosen as the location for the proposed courthouse. The site was a virtual wasteland with mine tailings and mine shafts everywhere. Leveled by horse and drag, the area became suitable for building, and the cornerstone of what is now Wisconsin's oldest courthouse was laid in 1859.









According to the 1860 census, Dodgeville's population was 1224. Of the 240 family heads listed, 145 were English (many from Cornwall), 47 Welsh, 31 American, 7 Irish, 4 Norwegian, 3 German and 2 Canadian — forming an almost purely English-speaking community.

In the following decades, Dodgeville developed an active retail trade sector. Rail connections were made in 1881 with the construction of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad depot about one mile north of downtown. This line linked Dodgeville with Madison to the east and farming communities to the west. Seven years later, the Illinois Central Railroad provided a second and more accessible station from downtown to points south, with rail connections to Chicago.

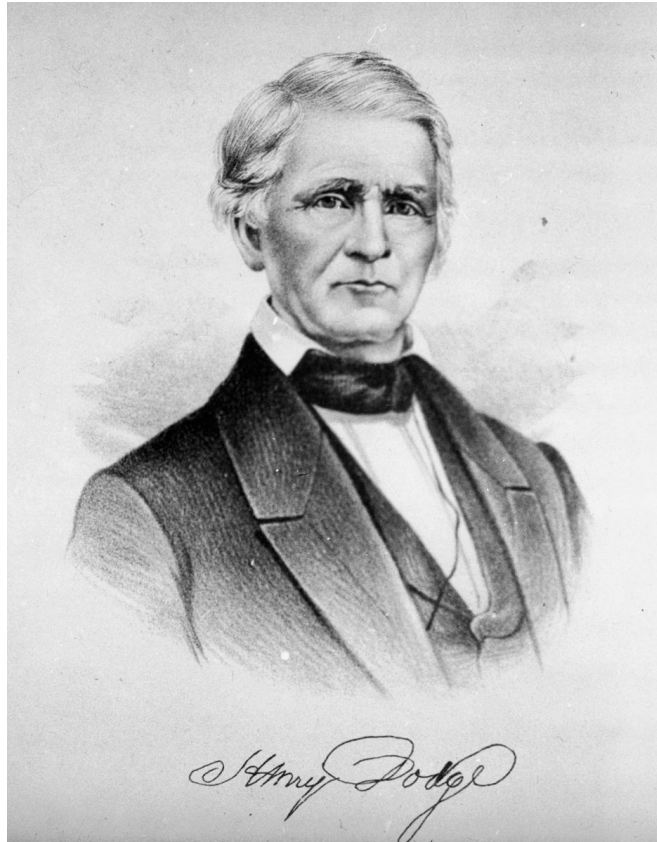
A number of businesses catered to the farmer as agriculture flourished, with wheat, and later corn and oats as principal crops. One leading industry was the Stratman Carriage & Wagon Works, a company that occupied five buildings downtown and employed 30 men in the manufacture and sale of wagons, sleighs, plows, carriages, cutters, harrows, rollers, and cultivators.

Dodgeville's first hospital, a 3-bed facility, was established in 1899 by Dr. William Reese on the second floor of the Roger's Block. This small concern closed in 1914, when the Franciscan Sisters built St. Joseph's Hospital at the south end of Iowa Street.

Mining intensified as a market developed for zinc, an ore typically underlying lead deposits. Used in the manufacture of paint, it had advantages over lead as a pigment; it was also used as an alloy with copper to produce brass.

Zinc mining required a new scale of operations. The individual entrepreneur — the epitome of the early Dodgeville settler — was replaced by the corporation with their access to advanced technologies and sources of capital. In 1889, the Dodgeville Chronicle reported that fifteen mines employing 70 men were operating in the area, and that the "advanced price of ores" was responsible for the flurry of activity. Several mines operated through the World Wars, but eventually closed as demand diminished.

Today, Dodgeville remains an agriculturally based community, with new industries playing a larger part in a growing economy. Surrounded by natural beauty and an attractive downtown, Dodgeville has become a destination for travelers and those interested in early Wisconsin history.



## *Henry Dodge (1782-1867)*

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Henry Dodge was a miner, a soldier, and a pioneer. Following his successful mission as Colonel of the Iowa County Militia in the Blackhawk War, Henry Dodge served as Colonel of the First Regiment of the United States Mounted Dragoons, which toured the Southwest United State Indian Territory. He was appointed first Territorial Governor of the Wisconsin Territory, Territorial Representative to the United States Congress, and served as a United States Senator during the years leading up to the Civil War. Dodge was a colorful character, as the following descriptions attest:

*“About five miles from Mineral Point I called on Governor Henry Dodge, at a quiet cabin he had built for himself in a secluded valley, in a tolerable, well wooded area. Dodge, at the time Chief Magistrate of the Territory, was said to be a perfect Western character, always dressed in plain clothes, but wearing immense horse pistols in holsters, notorious for various feuds. On taking leave of his excellency, we passed some diggings with a few miserable huts erected near them, dignified by the name Dodgeville.”*  
George William Featherstonhaugh, Geologist for the Federal Government, May 1837

*“Of fine physique, but somewhat pompous manner, at times amazingly obstinate in disposition, and obviously a creditable official and man of action. He has a dash and bravery that appealed strongly to the populace who had overestimated his other qualities. The miners who had served under him idolized him.”*

*Reuben Gold Thwaites*

Christiana Dodge accompanied her husband to the Wisconsin frontier in 1827, at the age of 42. They had 13 children, several born after their arrival here.

After living only a year or two in the stockade settlement of Dodgeville, they moved to an area rich in timber two miles south, where ready access to fuel supplied a smelting operation. During the Blackhawk War their home became a military outpost known as Fort Union.

Originally housed in a log cabin, they eventually built a fine two story clapboard home, known as “The Grove.” This structure, eventually lost to fire, is notable as one of the first structures in the entire region built of sawn lumber, which required transport up the Mississippi River and overland to the site.



# WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC DODGEVILLE

The Dodgeville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) was formed in 1992 to protect historic properties and to promote an appreciation for our city's history and architectural heritage. The current Commission continues to follow this mandate.

The sites are divided into three tours, which can be selected as time and interest allow. Several sites are not within easy walking distance. Those that aren't, are within easy driving distance on the outskirts of the city.

## **Tour A – The Courthouse, Churches, and Dodgeville homes**

1.	Iowa County Courthouse -1859	9
2.	Temple of Freemasonry - 1930	11
3.	Plymouth Congregational Church - 1907	12
4.	Hugh Jones House - 1899	13
5.	Luman Strong House - 1865	14
6.	Orville Strong House - 1879-1899	15
7.	First Baptist Church - 1896, basement added in 1917	16
8.	Samuel Reese Residence -1888	17
9.	John Reese Residence - 1904	18

## **Tour B – The Downtown Business District**

10.	Metropolitan Auto Company - 1915	19
11.	William Todd Store -1842	22
12.	Hotel Higbee - 1852	23
13.	Williams Block -1889	24
14.	Smith Brothers Building -1865	25
15.	The Auditorium - 1900	26
16.	Jones & Owens Building -1876	27
17.	Ryall Building -1929	30
18.	Albert Hearn Building -1910	31
19.	Hahn Billiard Hall - 1900	32
20.	First National Bank -1919	33
21.	Rogers Block - 1879	34
22.	H & J Rowe Building - 1868	35
23.	Dodge Theater - 1921	36
24.	Morris Hall -1866	37
25.	Pascoe Block - 1896	38
26.	Owens Building - 1898	39
27.	Strongs Bank - 1884	40
28.	J.H. Ford Building - 1888	41
29.	W.P. Peters Building -1888	42

## **Tour C – Dirty Hollow, Minersville and other places of Interest**

30.	Illinois Central Railroad Depot -1888	43
31.	Rock Cottages - 1844-1860	46
32.	Old Rock School -1853	48
33.	Floyd School - c1886	49
34.	The Slag Furnace -1876	50
35.	East Side Cemetery -1851	51
36.	Old Church Yard & Burying Ground -1827	52
37.	Dodge Mining Cabin - 1827	53
38.	St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery -1909	54



## *1. Iowa County Courthouse*

222 North Iowa Street

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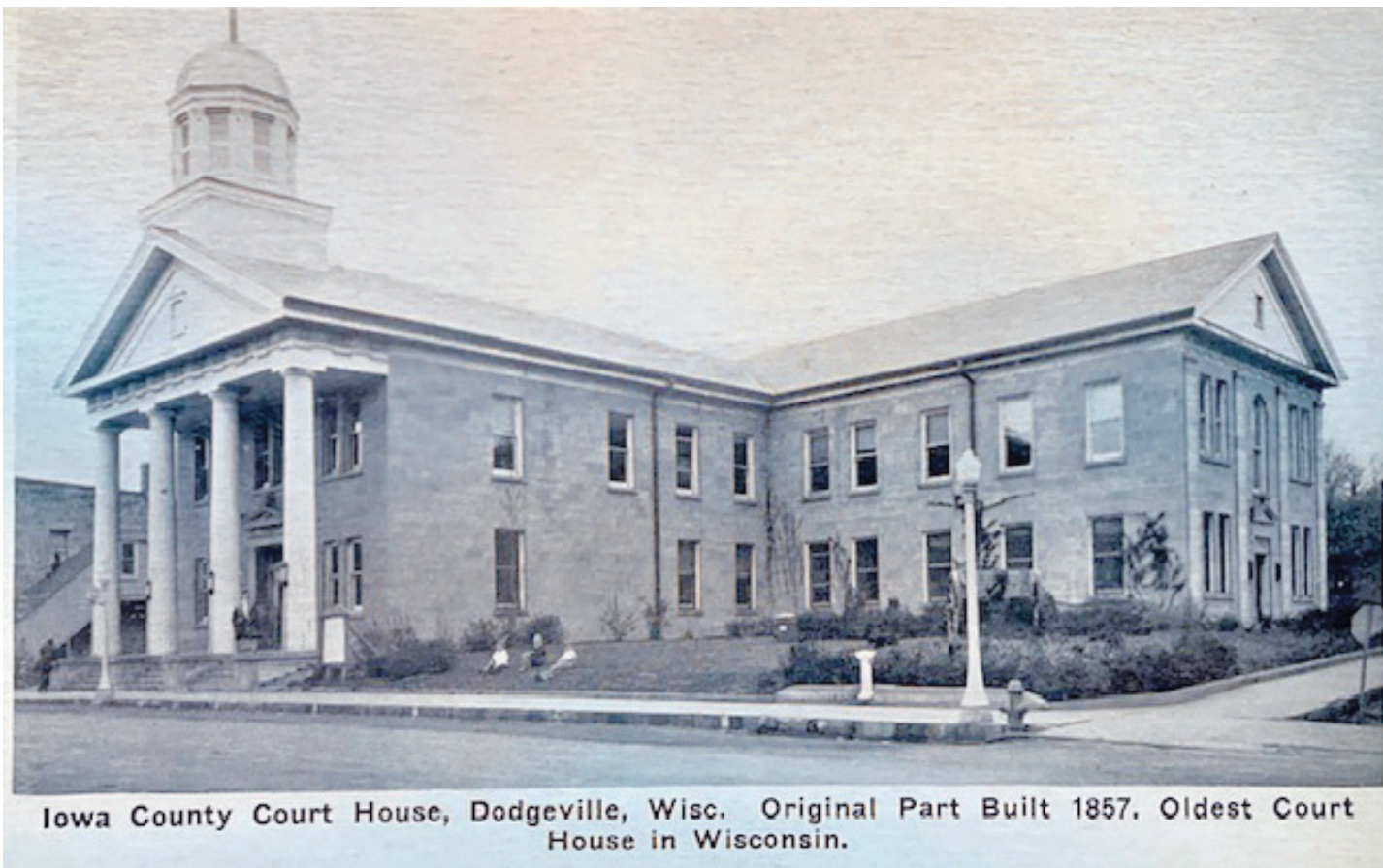
### Architectural Style: Greek Revival

Dodgeville is home to the oldest courthouse in Wisconsin still in continuous use. Despite several additions, the visually impressive building has retained its historic character. Made of dressed native Galena limestone, the original structure measured 65 feet long, 42 feet wide and 44 feet to the ridge of the roof, and was completed at just slightly over the \$10,000 budgeted for the project. The classic façade has an overhanging Doric pediment surmounted by a dome-shaped cupola, which is supported by four fluted columns forming a ten foot portico.

The cornerstone for this building was laid on June 11, 1859 amid a huge celebration. Surrounding townspeople were invited to attend the festivities and free barbecue as guests of the Dodgeville residents. More than 3,000 people came for the event, traveling by wagons and buggies from the northern communities to witness the momentous event and hear speeches by prominent and illustrious citizens, including the Honorable Luman Strong, presiding County Judge and notable Dodgeville resident.

This ceremonial laying of the cornerstone took place in 1859 although the heated battle between Dodgeville and the nearby town of Mineral Point over the coveted designation as the Iowa County seat was not actually resolved until two years later. The County Courthouse was originally in Mineral Point, but in 1858 the County Board determined that a more central location would better serve the county's needs. After considerable dispute, court action and several ballots, voters chose Dodgeville as the county seat by a majority of 350 votes, but the feud continued, and even today a certain rivalry exists that some say stems from the events during the 1850's.

Completed in 1861, the Greek Revival Courthouse was described by architectural historian Richard W. E. Perrin as, "...an outstanding piece of work, unique in the State and in the Middle West, and deserving of careful attention and preservation." Ernest Wiesen, a cultivated graduate of the University of Berlin living in Mineral Point, designed the plan for the Courthouse, which the County



Board chose from among many plans offered. Greek Revival style was at its peak in the Midwest at this time and there were many refinements in Wiesen's plan that displayed an expert knowledge of classical architectural principles. For example, the columns have an inward inclination, which gives it the optical illusion of great solidity.

The majority of the men who cut the stones learned the trade in their native Cornwall, England. The front entrance to the building with carved wreaths, ornaments and the date "1859" especially reflects the unique skill of the Cornish stonemasons, which was unsurpassed in the county. Many other limestone buildings constructed by Cornish builders exist in Dodgeville and together with the Courthouse stand today as a wonderful testament to the art of the Cornish stone cutters and masons.

In 1894 an addition was added to the rear of the Courthouse in order to make room for the many new administrative offices necessary as government services expanded.

When the problem of expansion came up again in 1927, an addition was added that was built at a right angle and attached to the first addition on the south side, forming an "ell" to the building. Later, in 1937, the entire portico was rebuilt as originally designed because of deterioration, which placed the overhanging pediment at risk.

Just south of the Courthouse is a less imposing building, which was also vital to county government-the former county jail and sheriff's residence. This two story limestone building was constructed in 1872 in response to a need for more space in the Courthouse where the jail was originally located. The practice of combining the mail and sheriff's residence originated in England and was both a practical and economical way of housing prisoners. The county jail and sheriff's residence continued to be used until the 1960's and today very few examples of this building type remain in the state.





## *2. Temple of Freemasonry*

200 West Chapel Street

Architectural style: Neoclassical



Characterized by its symmetry and restrained ornamentation, this revival style was popular for public buildings in the first half of the twentieth century. A shallow portico, defined by Tuscan style pilasters, frames the front entrance. A plain entablature wraps around the building just below the parapet wall. The metal gabled roof is a later addition.

Fraternal organizations played an important role in the social and political life of nineteenth century Dodgeville. Lodges, temperance societies, literary clubs and other voluntary organizations gave persons adrift in a new city, often recent immigrants, a chance to meet others and become involved in community issues.

Among the first to organize in Dodgeville was the Masonic Lodge, established in 1859. Until 1930, when this large Neoclassical building was constructed, the group met at a number of “halls” or spaces above downtown stores. The total cost of the project was \$55,000. Many prominent Dodgeville citizens were Masons, including Luman Strong, who served as the first Worshipful Master.

### 3. *The Plymouth Congregational Church*

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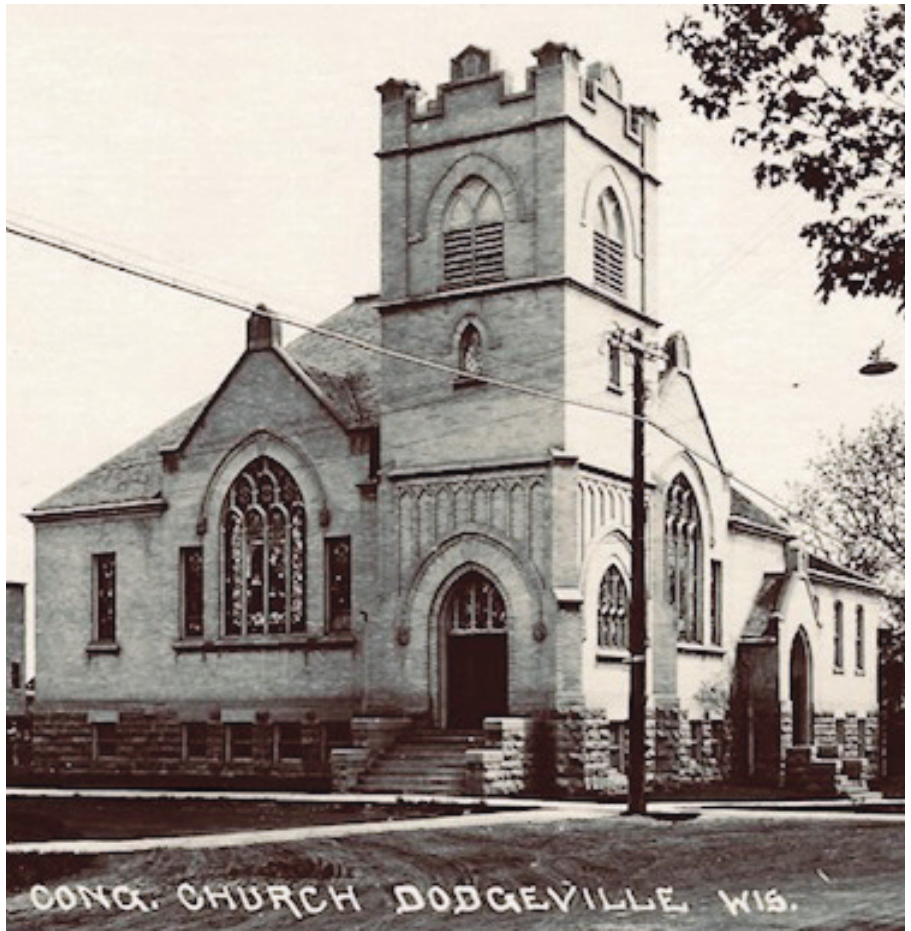
115 West Merrimac Street

Architectural style: Neo-Gothic Revival

Neo-Gothic Revival in style, this restored brick church is dominated by a corner tower topped by a decorative battlement. Parapeted gables on three sides of the building feature large Gothic arch stained glass windows, the upperpart accented by tracery, creating a rich pattern of shapes. The Gothic arch motif is repeated in abundance, and can be seen in the secondary windows, in the cast concrete panels at the parapets, on the battlements, and in the brickwork.

The Plymouth Congregational Church was organized in 1897 following a split with the Primitive Methodist congregation, which had been established in 1849. Both groups shared a church building (no longer standing) until a court ruling in 1906 decided ownership in favor of Primitive Methodists.

Following the court decision, the Congregational Church members embarked on a construction program. Donations of money, materials, and labor were instrumental in the completion of this fine structure in 1907.





## 4. *Hugh Jones House*

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110 North Main Street

Architectural Style: Queen Anne

This well cared for house is virtually unaltered and stands as a testament to the creativity and craftsmanship of those who lived and worked in Dodgeville 100 years ago. Built in 1899 for a cost of \$12,000, this finely executed Queen Anne style structure features strong massing and generous ornamentation. A steep roof with a central hip and projecting gables is covered with patterned slate shingles. The two-story corner tower with its inverted conical roof establishes a strong vertical element. A rich textural quality is achieved on the walls with panels alternating from narrow lap siding to fishscale shingles. Scrollwork adorns gable ends. Turned posts, delicate brackets, and spindle balusters add dramatic visual effects to the two small porches.

Hugh Jones (1838-1914) settled in Dodgeville in 1857 and obtained a job as a clerk for Hoskins, Thomas & Co., a mining and smelting firm. In 1863, Jones left the company and with his brother-in-law established the general merchandise firm of Jones & Owens (146-154 North Iowa Street). He operated this successful business until his retirement in 1909. Jones and his wife Mary Edith Owens Jones were natives of Wales.



## 5. Luman Strong House

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106 North Main Street

Architectural Style: Italianate

Construction of this two story, Italianate clapboard house began in 1865 and was completed two years later. Paired brackets, prominent window moldings, and a classically detailed entrance surround characterize this frame residence.

The house was built by Luman Strong (1803-1867) who moved to the area from Iowa in 1848. Strong combined farming with transporting lead from Highland to Galena, Illinois, to earn his living, but he had an eye for public office. In 1852 he was elected to the state legislature and subsequently settled his family in Highland, where he also served as Justice of the Peace and Postmaster. The ambitious Strong completed his study in law during this time. It is said he began reading law books while sitting on the ore wagons as they traveled slowly back and forth. He moved to Dodgeville in 1854 when he was elected County Judge, a position he held until death.

The house was then occupied by Luman Strong's son Orville, and later his grandson, Arthur. Descendants of this prominent Dodgeville family lived in the house for over 115 years.







## ***6. Orville Strong House***

202 West Division Street

Architectural style: Queen Anne

The Orville Strong house, erected at the close of the nineteenth century, is one of Dodgeville's most impressive examples of the Queen Anne Style of architecture. The two and a half story brick house has irregular massing, projecting gables, a turret with a conical roof, and a beautiful "wrap around" veranda, all characteristic of this sophisticated style.

Orville Strong (1843-1931) was the son of Judge Luman Strong. He attended the Highland public schools, concluding his formal education at the Platteville Academy. When the Civil War broke out, Strong enlisted and served in the Union Army until the war's end. He returned to Dodgeville and worked for his father in a business that included law, collections, loans, and real estate. In 1881, after a number of successful business ventures, Strong established a financial enterprise originally known as Orville Strong & Co. Three years later the brick building at the corner of North Iowa and Chapel Streets opened its doors as Strong's Bank. In addition to his business pursuits, Strong served as village clerk, mayor, county clerk, and deputy county treasurer.



## ***7. The First Baptist Church***

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210 South Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Early Gothic Revival

This one-story church has an asymmetrical design characterized by two gabled wings. The tower which is capped with a “witch’s hat” is a dominant element. Pointed arch windows appear at several places on the facade with a hood located over the main entrance. The brick foundation is visible beneath the aluminum siding. The vernacular design relied on simple lines and the application of well-proportioned materials. The historic photo reveals narrow lap wood siding with generous frieze, corner and water table boards, and decorative bargeboards at the gables.

Today, additions, alterations, and the regrading of the street have obscured the residential scale of the original structure. The large stained glass Gothic arch window, and the roundel above, remain intact.

The congregation of the First Regular Welsh Baptist Church was organized in 1854. The Welsh were an important element of Dodgeville’s pioneer population, most of them settling in the community in the 1840’s-50’s. It was not until funds were available in 1896 that the church building was constructed. After the building was completed the congregation was known as the First Baptist Church.

Current use: New Life Pentecostal Church



## ***8. Samuel Reese Residence***

401 South Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Second Empire

This stylish three-story brick home features an irregular plan configuration. A stone foundation with a brick and asbestos shingle exterior. It features a full story mansard roof with dormers and paired brackets at the cornice. The tall narrow windows are capped with stone hoods. Despite minor alterations, this handsome brick dwelling retains its architectural distinction.



Samuel Reese (1830 – 1902), a Dodgeville lawyer and banker, immigrated to the United States as a child. In 1852, he settled in the rapidly growing community of Dodgeville. After working in a general store for four years, he opened his own store, an enterprise which he managed for one year and then sold in order to take up the study of law. In 1871 he established the Dodgeville Bank, the first financial institution in the community. Reese was active in the Republican Party, and served as county board chairman, mayor of Dodgeville, and Iowa County District Attorney.

Current use: Apartments





## ***9. John Reese Residence***

602 South Iowa Street

Architectural style:  
Colonial Revival/Georgian Revival



Situated on a large corner lot, this two and a half story home is characteristically symmetrical and classically detailed featuring a squared-shaped configuration and a clapboard exterior with a truncated hipped roof. Various classical elements include large corner pilasters, ornate window moldings, dentils and modillions placed at the eave line, and gabled dormers with lunettes appearing in the pediments. While the frame has been well maintained, additions have been made.

Born in Dodgeville in 1869, John Reese succeeded his father Samuel Reese in the banking business. The younger Reese first served as assistant cashier in the bank, becoming president in 1902 upon his father's death. In 1919, John Reese relocated the bank to the newly constructed Neoclassical building at 178 North Iowa Street.



## ***10. The Metropolitan Company***

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201 South Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Twentieth Century Commercial/Modern Broadfront

This one-story building features a brick exterior and a gabled roof. A stepped parapet and segmental arch openings on the side walls are distinguishing elements of this simple concept building. The facade is flanked by large display windows

The Metropolitan was the first modern garage built in the city. As the automobile replaced horse-driven vehicles, so the garage replaced the old Stratman Carriage & Wagon Works, which was located at this site since 1860. The brick building was constructed by S.E. Knickerbocker and Ole Larson, who operated the business for three years. Succeeding proprietors include John King, A.L. Trachte, Anderson & Miller, and the Klusendorfs. In addition to its commercial use, this large brick structure housed the city's fire department in the basement.

Current use: Family Resources of Iowa County, Iowa County Job Service



## *The Downtown Business District*



Dodgeville's Downtown Business District is a compact arrangement of commercial buildings situated along four blocks of the city's main thoroughfare. The tour highlights structures built between 1840-1920. Most of the buildings are two stories in height and built of brick or limestone. The district includes fine examples of Greek Revival, Italianate, and Neoclassical architecture; however, a majority of the buildings are Commercial Vernacular—an eclectic architecture that freely borrows form and detail from more formal styles.

These buildings reflect Dodgeville's growth and development as a commercial center of Iowa County. Many of the earliest structures in Dodgeville were wood frame with clapboard siding. These were gradually replaced by brick after several disastrous fires. Two primary commercial building types are represented in the downtown district. The most prevalent are narrow stores for a single retail business, with office or living quarters, usually housing the shopkeeper above. An example is the Pascoe Block at 225 North Iowa Street. The second type are large business blocks, often located on a corner. These buildings provide for several business ventures on the street level, and professional offices or small shops on the upper level. The Williams Block at 101 — 105 North Main Street is an example.

Buildings constructed at the turn of the century reflected an economic system radically changed by the Industrial Revolution. Where previously only simple frame buildings were possible for merchants of modest means, the railroad made available prefabricated parts from manufacturing plants in the East. Through catalogs, how-to books, magazine articles, and stock or pattern books, the store owner could select cast iron columns or pressed tin cornices and put the component pieces together with the expertise of local builders.



The Victorian preference for strong massing and elaborate detailing was evident on many of the buildings. The facades generally show a remarkably well defined form and ornamentation. A centered recessed entry, flanked by large display windows, admitted light into the back of the store and invited customers to inspect the goods. Structural elements such as iron columns or brick piers emphasized the verticality of the building, and together with a prominent overhanging cornice, gave the passer-by the impression of strength and permanence. Smaller, textural elements such as beltcourses or panels of brickwork relieved the flat plane of the façade and gave a feeling of richness and prosperity. By projecting this image of quality, the merchant had confidence in attracting customers. The pride of ownership was evident in the cornice pediments, with the businessmen's name and date of construction figuring prominently.

In recent years, there has been an awakened interest in preservation. Many owners have made major investments in their buildings thus making a contributing asset to the entire community. The Dodgeville Historic Preservation Commission continues to assist and guide historic building owners in Dodgeville wishing to refresh and maintain the beauty and architectural style of their local historic buildings.



## 11. William Todd Store

142 South Iowa Street

Architectural style: Greek Revival



This two-story retail structure was designed with a rectangular plan configuration. A brick and metal exterior with a gabled roof, it also features dentils along the north and south eaves, and prominent stone sills.

Among the oldest structures in the city, this building is known historically as the William Todd store and has had many uses in its lifetime. William Todd established his general merchandise store in the nascent miner's community of Dodgeville in 1842, just 10 years after the Blackhawk War. The Todd Store operated for about 20 years. The building then became headquarters for the Dodgeville Chronicle, a weekly newspaper, founded by Editor Wrigglesworth in 1862.

In 1902, John I. Hahn purchased the building and moved his cigar factory here from a location uptown. Hahn, born in Dodgeville in 1872, learned the trade working in his father's shop located in Spang's Opera House. At age 17, Hahn, a full-fledged cigar maker, secured employment in Milwaukee, earning \$10-12 per week for piece work. After two years, he returned to Dodgeville and established his own cigar factory. One year later, he opened a small retail shop, and from that time on maintained both a wholesale and retail trade, often combined with a billiard hall.

Hahn conducted a busy cigar factory, employing as many as 23 people at a time. His company produced 20 brands of cigars, including the "Dodger from Dodgeville" and the "Havana Story." In later years, Hahn discontinued the manufacture of cigars and took up the wholesale distribution of tobacco, candy, gum, etc. Throughout his lifetime, Hahn was involved in community enterprises. He was president of the Iowa County Agricultural Society when the fair brought the first street carnival to town. He was active in the Park Association, which built Centennial Park, and he was president of Kiwanis Club when it was organized in 1928.

Current use: Airbnb, and Culligan Water store







## 12. Hotel Higbee

102 South Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Commercial Vernacular with Italianate influence

This three-story hotel features a rectangular-shaped plan configuration. A cut-stone foundation with a brick and concrete block exterior with a flat roof. The most salient features of this brick building are the tall 4/4 window sash accented by segmental arch lintels, and the paired brackets at the cornice. While considered Commercial Vernacular in form, the Hotel Higbee reflects Italianate influences.

Numerous additions have been made to the building. A concrete block-faced addition on the south side was built between 1905 and 1915. And then another brick addition also on the south side was added, along with a contemporary one-story attachment on the west.

Although neglected in recent years, much of the exterior building fabric is still intact including the cornice and many of the windows. The historic photo reveals the original entrance along Iowa Street, now bricked over, and the balcony which once spanned the width of the building.

“Dutch” Walter was the original owner, but before the structure was completed he sold the building to Herman Tick. Tick in turn sold the building to Thomas and Moses Howell, who opened the hotel in 1852 as the Dodgeville House. The hotel later operated as the United States Hotel.

When Reuben Marks purchased the hotel in 1875, he renamed it The Marks Hotel, renovated the building and added a balcony as an observation post for his visitors. In those days, a bar was considered a requirement in a hotel, but the Marks Hotel had the distinction as the only effective temperance establishment in the city.

Adeline and H.W. Higbee bought the building in 1895 and renamed it Hotel Higbee.

Current use: Apartments





### ***13. Williams Block***

101-105 North Iowa Street

Architectural style: Italianate



This turn of the century brick Italianate once featured distinctive architectural elements which have been gradually removed over the years. When first built in 1889, this two-story business featured segmental arch window hoods on the second story along with a large ornate central pediment which sat above a bracketed metal cornice. The first floor once displayed a smaller cornice which capped the store windows. The cornice was melted when plate glass windows exploded during a fire across the street in 1935.

Williams Bank, founded by David H. Williams, was the first to occupy this building with his family owned business. In 1913 the bank changed names to City Bank of Dodgeville and later became Citizens Bank which was then closed during the Great Depression in the 1930s.

The north half of the building was occupied by Louis Ryall who supplied goods and tools for miners, farmers and builders. In 1929, Ryall moved to his own building at 121 N Iowa Street. At that time a small funeral chapel and mortuary was erected at the rear of the block.

Currently: Jeff's Performance Archery, Vibe Body Art LLC



## ***14. Smith Brothers Building***

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117 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Commercial Vernacular

This small two story commercial vernacular building was constructed in 1865. The limestone facade building is simple in form and detail. Built during the Civil War by Cornish masons, it stands today as a remnant of the city's unique architecture. Distinguishing the storefront are cast iron columns manufactured by the K & W Co., of Madison, Wisconsin.

The name Hocking Market comes from the original occupants of the building, however, this structure is known historically as the Smith Brothers Building. The 1927 Sanborn maps available for the City of Dodgeville show this structure once housing a dry goods establishment.

Currently: Studio K



## 15. *The Auditorium*

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130 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Commercial Vernacular

This three-story brick building dominates the downtown with its grand scale and complex ornamentation. Expansive display windows serve storefronts on either side of a central second floor entrance. The upper facade features pressed metal oriel windows capped by a projecting bracketed cornice that extends across the width of the building. Above is an arcade of brick panels under the parapet cap. Brick patterns lend subtle definition to the upper story transom windows which alternate from rectangular to semicircular. With the exception of the 1920's era storefront window sash and bulkhead, the original material of the building is intact.

Built in 1901, the Auditorium superseded Spang's Opera House as Dodgeville's cultural and social center. At the rear of the building the second and third floors are given over to a large space that at one time contained balcony seating and a stage for plays, concerts, dances, and commencements. The last high school commencement took place in 1939. The space was later used as a roller skating rink. Peterson & Moen Billiards Hall occupied the street level of this building for several years.

Currently: Lundell, Insurance, Cook's Room Cafe'



## 16. Jones & Owens Building

145-154 North Iowa Street

Architectural style: Italianate

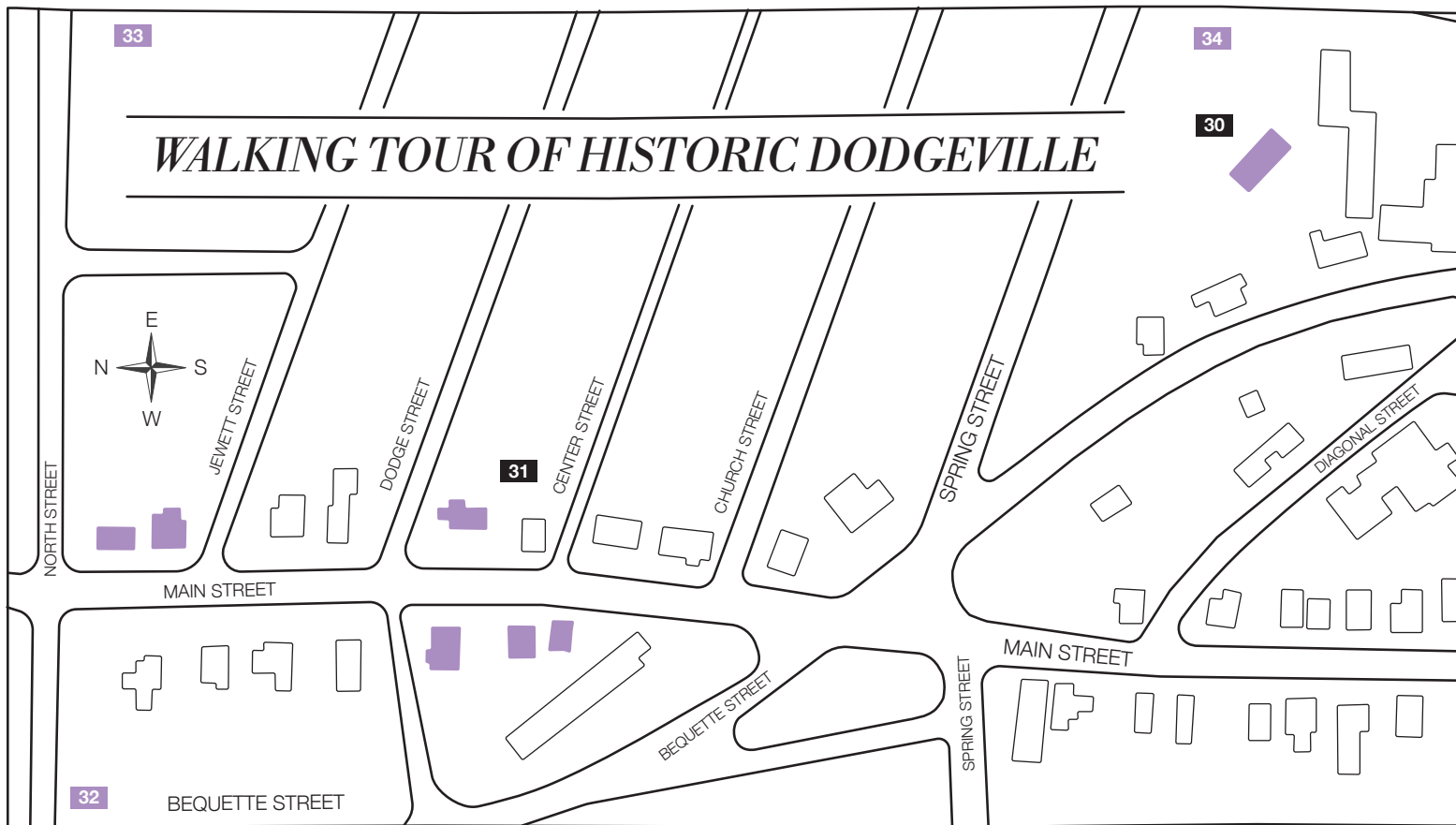
Executed in the Italianate style this two-story brick building retains much of its original character. The historic photo shows three recessed store entrances with large muntined display windows, each flanked by a pair of roped columns. Still in evidence are the fluted pilasters with ornate capitals.

The upper story features regularly spaced round arch windows with stone lintels and stone quins at the building edge. The brick facade had deteriorated and was removed and replaced with new brick in 1993. The cornice, in beautiful condition, has panels of dentils and medallions set between ornate brackets. Missing is the center segmental pediment, which proclaimed the building's name and date of construction.

The Jones & Owens Building, erected in 1876, housed the mercantile firm of Jones & Owens. The well-known establishment stocked "dry goods, ladies and gentlemen's furnishing goods, cloaks, hats, caps, staple and fancy groceries, etc." In 1908, the partnership dissolved with Jones purchasing the stock of goods and continuing the operation under the name Jones Mercantile Company. A year later the Clark & Elliott Company purchased the business. The building also provided space for lodge meetings. The Commercial Club (probably a group similar to today's Chamber of Commerce) is recorded as using the second story in the early part of this century.

Currently: Quality Bakery, BPA Boutique





## Tour A

### *The Courthouse, Churches, and Key Dodgeville Homes*

1. **Iowa County Courthouse**  
222 North Iowa Street
2. **Temple of Freemasonry**  
200 West Chapel Street
3. **Plymouth Congregational Church**  
115 West Merrimac Street
4. **Hugh Jones House**  
110 North Main Street
5. **Luman Strong House**  
106 North Main Street
6. **Orville Strong House**  
202 West Division Street
7. **First Baptist Church**  
210 South Iowa Street
8. **Sam Reese Residence**  
401 South Iowa Street
9. **John Reese Residence**  
602 South Iowa Street
10. **The Metropolitan Company**  
210 South Iowa Street

## Tour B

### *The Downtown Business District*

11. **William Todd Store**  
142 South Iowa Street
12. **Hotel Higbee**  
102 South Iowa Street
13. **Williams Block**  
101-105 North Iowa Street
14. **Smith Brothers Building**  
117 N Iowa St
15. **The Auditorium**  
130 North Iowa Street
16. **Jones & Owens Building**  
145-154 North Iowa Street
17. **Ryall Building**  
119 N Iowa St
18. **Albert Hearn Building**  
165 North Iowa Street
19. **Hahn Billiard Hall**  
167 North Iowa Street
20. **First National Bank of Dodgeville**  
178 North Iowa Street



## Tour C

### *Dirty Hollow, Minersville, and Other Places of Interest*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>21. Rogers Block</b><br/>206 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>22. H &amp; J Rowe Building</b><br/>210 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>23. The Dodge Theater</b><br/>205 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>24. Morris Hall</b><br/>213 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>25. Pascoe Block</b><br/>225 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>26. The Owen's Building</b><br/>301 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>27. Strong's Bank</b><br/>302 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>28. J.H. Ford Building</b><br/>326 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>29. W.P. Peters Building</b><br/>110 Diagonal Street</p> | <p><b>30. Illinois Central Railroad Depot</b><br/>415 North Iowa Street</p> <p><b>31. Rock Cottages</b><br/>606-805 North Main Street</p> <p><b>32. Old Rock School</b><br/>914 North Bequette Street</p> <p><b>33. Floyd School at the Iowa County Historical Society Museum</b><br/>1301 N Bequette Street</p> <p><b>34. The Slag Furnace</b><br/>400 block of East Spring Street</p> <p><b>35. East Side Cemetery</b><br/>509 E Fountain Street</p> <p><b>36. Old Church Yard &amp; Burying Ground</b><br/>313 S Union Street</p> <p><b>37. Dodge Mining Camp Cabin</b><br/>205 E Fountain Street</p> <p><b>38. St Joseph's Catholic Cemetery</b><br/>1017 Heritage Lane</p> |
|---|---|



## *17. Ryall Building*

121 N Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Commercial Vernacular

Built in 1929, this two-story Commercial Vernacular style retail building features a rectangular shaped plan configuration, a brick exterior, and a flat roof. A parapet with a stone trim distinguishes the facade. On the second story, brick lintels and projecting sills frame the windows.

The Ryall Building was constructed to house the Ryall Hardware Store previously located in the Williams Block. Established in 1886 by Louis Ryall, the store carried round oak stoves, ranges, furnaces, lawnmowers, Speed Queen washing machines, and “hundreds of other hardware items.”

After the hardware store closed in 1942, Louis’s son Bill opened a Marshall-Wells store. Other businesses housed in the building included an antique store, a florist, a shoe store and a video store.

Currently: Farmyard Primitive Antiques, My Choice Wisconsin





## ***18. Albert Hearn Building***

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165 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Commercial Vernacular

The simple brick commercial structure was constructed in 1910 by Albert Hearn. It lacks the exuberant ornamentation of structures built a decade or two earlier. Relying on simple, geometric forms, the upper facade includes a stone-capped stepped parapet, a simple pattern of brick corbeling between pilasters at the cornice and 1 over 1 windows with stone lintels and sills. The storefront, restored with some new material in 1993, has a projecting bay with a beautiful lavender glass transom window.

Albert S. Hearn purchased the Chronicle in 1874, served as editor for a third of a century and as Postmaster from 1892-1895. The Dodgeville Post Office occupied this building for 17 years. Later the building housed the Perkins Market, Obma Photography, and Photoland. Edgar Obma photographed John F. Kennedy in 1960 when he visited Dodgeville during his Presidential campaign.

Currently: Christianson Law Office





## 19. *Hahn Billiard Hall*

167 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Commercial Vernacular

This two-story brick building has seen many alterations since its construction at the turn of the century. Originally wood sided, the facade of the building was completely given over to modern style brickwork in 1923. It features a rectangular shaped plan configuration, a brick exterior, and a flat roof. A string course and stone sills on the second story windows are other architectural elements found on this structure. Other changes are evident at street level with the streamlined metal sash and colored panels at the store entrance.

Originally operated as a saloon, then a general store, the John R Davis building was purchased in 1917 by John I. Hahn, a successful cigar purveyor whose factory was located down the street. Hahn had operated a billiard hall in connection with his retail trade in cigars for a number of years. His offices occupied the second floor while the business remained at this location for 18 years. As the Dodgeville Chronicle reported in 1933:

“During all the years that Mr. Hahn has operated billiard parlors he has earned the name of conducting a clean business. He catered to the better class of people and his parlors were models of order and cleanliness.”

Currently: Bob’s Bitchin BBQ





## ***20. First National Bank of Dodgeville***

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178 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Neoclassical/Beaux Arts

This two-story bank building features a rectangular shaped plan configuration. With a smooth stone exterior and flat roof, colossal ionic columns rise two stories high on the facade. A stately and appropriately dignified stone structure, the symmetrical window placement and simple details define a well-executed composition. The monumental proportions and classical details are characteristic of the early twentieth century style.

The First National Bank originated in 1871 as the Dodgeville Bank, the first financial institution in Dodgeville. The founder of the bank, Samuel Reese, began business from the upper floor of Morris Hall.

The bank moved once again when this neoclassical structure was built by John Reese. Samuel Reese died in 1902. John succeeded him as bank president and reorganized the business as the First National Bank of Dodgeville.



## 21. Rogers Block

206 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Italianate

This fine two-story limestone structure is executed in the Italianate style, with a prominent bracketed cornice, round-arched upper windows accented by stone hoods and keystones, and quoining along the building edge.

The building housed a general store from the time it was constructed in 1879 until 1893 when it opened as the Corner Drug Store. The upper floor spaces, accessed from the street by an ornate metal stairway, were used as a meeting hall by a temperance group and by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, IOOF.

In 2020 and 2021, the building went through an extensive restoration bringing both the exterior and most importantly the interior to much of its original luster. Currently the building is home to Cathryn's Market, owned and operated by Cliff and Cari Gonyer. Upon entering you will notice the original maple floors and shiplap ceiling which can be seen in the photo hanging on the back wall taken at the turn of the century. Most notable today is the fully restored 1940's soda fountain that is an iconic piece of Dodgeville history.

Currently: Cathryn's Market





## *22. H & J Rowe Building*

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210 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Commercial Vernacular

Built in 1868, this stone building features a facade of limestone ashlar, the large blocks finely cut and laid in regular rows. Rather plain in form, the building relies on the solidity and textural quality of the stone for its appeal. The panel of corbeled brickwork at the roofline is believed to be a later addition.

Henry and James Rowe, brothers from Cornwall, England, operated a general store in the newly constructed building. According to one account, they stocked “dry goods, ladies’ and gentlemen’s furnishing goods, clothing, clocks, boots, shoes, hats, caps, staple and fancy groceries, crockery, and glassware.” Until the turn of the century the second floor of the Rowe building was used as a meeting hall by various temperance groups.

Currently: 608 Screen Printing LP

## 23. The Dodge Theater

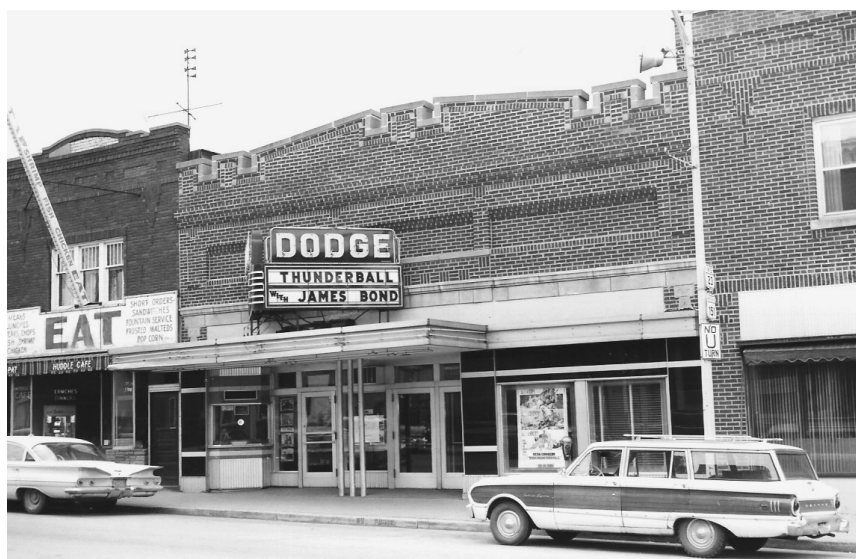
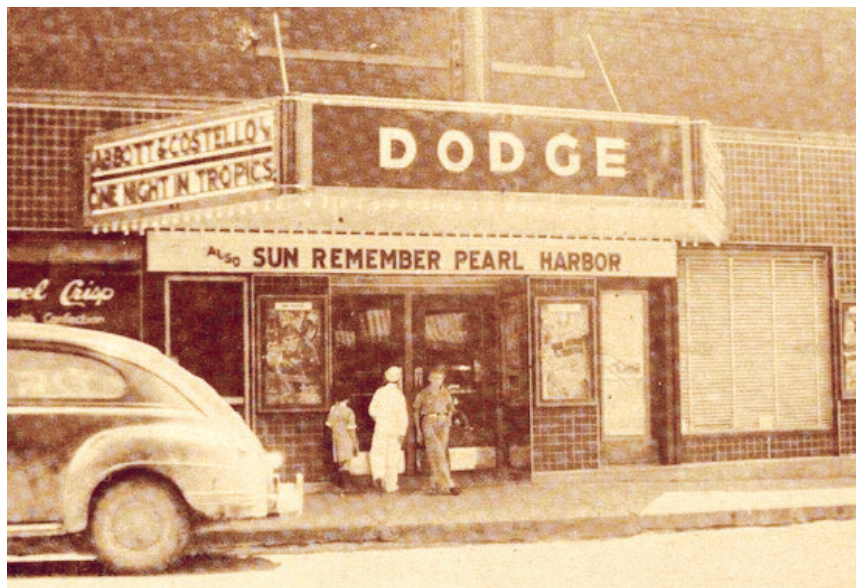
205 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Commercial Vernacular

The Woerpel brothers, previously located in Spang's Opera House, acquired this lot on Iowa Street to build a completely modern facility for their successful Ford dealership. Constructed in 1921, the front section of the building contained a showroom, while the rear (now occupied by the Red Room) provided access to the service center. In those days, Ford vehicles arrived in parts via railroad, and the dealer was responsible for final assembly.

Pat Woerpel withdrew from the partnership and went into the emerging field of radio, while his brother Fred remodeled the building, opening the front section as a theater in 1935. His wife managed the Caramel Crisp Candy Shop, visible in the historic photo.

The Dodge Theater continues to operate.





## 24. *Morris Hall*

213 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Boomtown

Morris Hall is noteworthy as one of the few remaining wood frame/wood cladded commercial buildings having survived the many fires, which periodically ravaged Dodgeville. The downtown, at one time, consisted of a high percentage of structures of this type. A popular style for stores and economical to build, the false front conceals a two story gabled roof, giving the illusion of a more prominent structure and providing space for the requisite bracketed cornice. The recessed entry, large storefront windows with paneled bulkheads below, and the narrow brick piers complete the simple, yet well-proportioned design.

The exterior of the building was completely restored in 1993. Most of the original building fabric was either missing or in poor condition and was replaced with new wood milled to original profiles, using historic photos as a guide. An interesting feature which still remains is a skylight structure located in the northeast corner of the roof. This can be traced to an 1886 occupancy by a photographer.

The building is named for Peter J. Morris, a Welsh blacksmith and entrepreneur who settled in the mining village of Dodgeville in 1858. Morris built the hall in 1866 and leased both floors to a number of commercial enterprises over the years, including Dodgeville's first bank operated by Samuel Reese, in a partitioned off section of the upper floor in 1871. The upstairs also saw frequent use as a theater and was available to the local citizenry for social and religious gatherings.

Currently: Jackson Law Office





## 25. Pascoe Block

225 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Italianate

The W.D. Pascoe Block, built in 1896, is a handsome example of late Italianate architecture. The facade is organized vertically into three equal bays, defined by corbelled brick pilasters and metal columns flanking the entrance. Highly detailed brickwork includes arches with diagonally bonded brick and panels of vertical brick on edge, creating a distinctive zigzag pattern. A band of corbelled brick creates a strong horizontal element just below an elaborate metal cornice with Pascoe's name in a triangulated pediment.

W.D. Pascoe, an Iowa County native of Cornish ancestry, opened his saloon and hostelry at the height of population boom in Dodgeville. This venture lasted until 1905, when he leased the building for use as a drug store. It remained a drug store for 22 years, when in 1927 it again became a drinking

and eating establishment. Restaurant enterprises continued through the 1950s. The building then housed a hardware store, a flower shop, an insurance agency, and an antique store. In 1938 the building underwent its first change in ownership when Minerva Reese purchased the property from the Pascoe heirs. Reese remodeled the upper floor to accommodate her already established beauty parlor and to provide living quarters for her family. She operated the business for 42 years before retiring, continuing to use the upper level as her home until 1992. In 1994 the building underwent major restoration, including the replacement of a 1920s era aluminum storefront with new wood window sash and bulkhead panels.

Currently: Exhale Fitness





## 26. *The Owen's Building*

301 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Italianate

This distinctive corner building was constructed in 1898 by Sarah Owens, a widow with 20 years of experience in the grocery business, who operated her new venture with her sons and daughters. Known as “The Banner Store,” the grocery remained a family-run business until 1934, when it was leased to the Gamble Hardware Store. The last of the Owens family sold out in 1958 for \$14,000.

Elaborate brick details and the repetition of vertically defined bays belie a building that is actually quite modest in size. Arched brick hoods highlight the singularly placed sash windows at the upper façade. The brickwork includes inset panels, belt courses, and cornice-line corbeling and contrasts smooth brick with the stone-like appearance of wire-cut brick. This rusticated look carries over to the narrow turret, with its conical metal cap and datestone, designed to create rich textural qualities and command its corner location.

The upper floor, accessed by an outside stair at the rear of the building, provided space for various small

enterprises. The most well known was the medical practice of Dr. William Reese, a local farmer turned physician who practiced here to the age of 90.

The lack of windows on the north side can be attributed to the requirement made by the city when Mrs. Owens bought the lot. A masonry wall was to be constructed at least 60’ long and two stories high with the landowner to the north granted the right to use the wall. The large sections of mismatched brick on the south wall can be traced to the 1949 fire which completely destroyed the neighboring Grand Hotel, a three-story brick building. Hours after the fire was extinguished, the north wall of the hotel collapsed, and tons of brick were hurled across Chapel Street with such force that the south wall of the Owens Building was bashed in about eight inches and the plate glass window shattered, with brick being hurled into the store. The metal storefront and coarse brick at the bulkhead date from a 1920s era remodeling.

Currently: Dodgeville Library Annex



## 27. Strong's Bank

302 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Italianate

Prominently located on the corner adjacent to the Courthouse is Strong's Bank, established in 1881 by Orville Strong. A small frame structure on this site originally housed the bank, and was replaced by this impressive building three years later. The two-story red brick Italianate structure is distinguished by decorative brickwork with stone accents and segmental arch windows on the upper story. A gabled parapet adds definition to the canted corner entrance. The limestone doorway surround and the dark fixed windows are a later addition. The original windows were 1 over 1 wood sash.

Mr. Strong was in the real estate business and happened to own one of the strongest safes in town. Since all monetary transactions were then made in cash, he opened his bank when he recognized that his office safe was more in demand than his realty services. A new safe was ordered, arriving in Mineral Point by rail. The Dodgeville Chronicle reported:

"The new safe for Orville Strong & Company's bank is at Mineral Point, but as it weighs 7,250 pounds, the problem is how to get it out here in the present condition of the roads."

The unloading and installation, which took all day and part of the night, attracted a large crowd of interested spectators, and it was suggested "a small admittance fee would have netted the firm quite a handsome sum."

Succeeding Orville Strong as bank president were his sons Throop and Arthur. Another son, Harry, also worked at the bank for many years.

Currently: BMO Bank





## 28. *J.H. Ford Building*

326 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Italianate

The two-story brick Ford Building, retaining almost all of its original material, is an excellent example of late Italianate architecture. On the street level, tall double entry doors are flanked by generous display windows featuring lavender leaded glass transoms. Corinthian style cast iron columns and brick piers at the building corners are surmounted by an ornate pressed metal cap. The upper story windows, arranged in three bays, feature carved stone hoods. A large pressed metal cornice with a fantail motif features a triangular pediment with Ford's name.

J.H. Ford was born in Minersville in 1858. When he was two years old, his father was fatally crushed in a mine accident near the Courthouse. Raised by his

mother and an uncle, he attended the Old Rock School and later the town hall school. As a young man, he entered into employment with a local general store and became a full-fledged tinsmith. Later he bought in with his employer, eventually becoming sole proprietor of the hardware department. Together with his new wife, who had considerable experience clerking and keeping business books, he opened his own store in their newly constructed building in 1888. All his life, Ford was active in community affairs, serving on the City Council and as a member of the City Band, fire department, and the Kiwanis Club.

Currently: Applied Micro Computer and Tricor Insurance



## 29. *W.P. Peters Building*

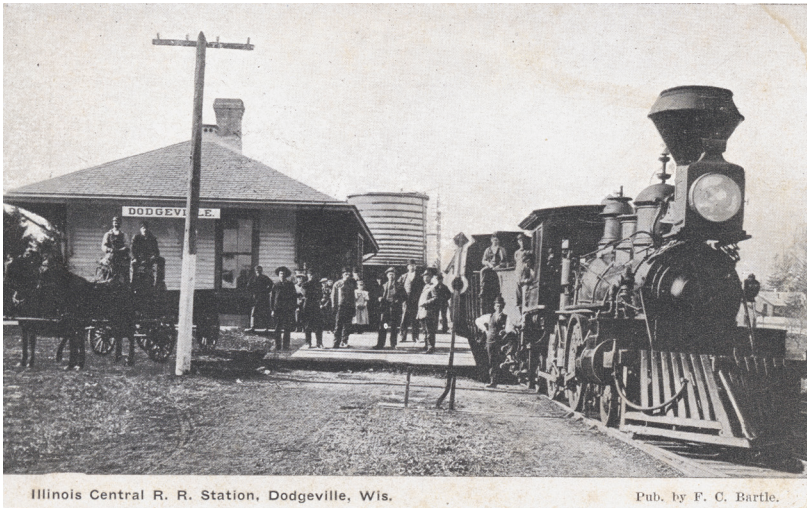
110 Diagonal Street

Architectural Style: Boomtown

The original facade of this modest two-story wood frame building followed the typical arrangement for stores built around the turn of the century. A simple cornice with panels of beadboard below, capped the wood-sided false front. The upper story windows featured triangular hoods with applied ornament. Below a wide signboard, a large four-pane display sash set on substantial bulkheads flanked the two recessed store entrances.

W.P. Peters opened a dry goods store in this building when constructed around 1888. A small dress shop conducted business upstairs. In 1895, Dodgeville's first telephone switchboard, founded by several local citizens, operated out of this space. An earlier attempt at telephone service was made in 1883, but was abandoned soon after. The 1895 switchboard ran telephone lines to the nearby towns of Edmund, Linden, Cobb, Highland, Barneveld and Mineral Point. Dial phones were not put into operation until 1943. After the turn of the century the building housed a succession of taverns, a tradition which continues to the present.

Currently: Dino's Bar and Grill



### ***30. Illinois Central Railroad Depot***

415 North Iowa Street

Architectural Style: Vernacular

The restored railroad depot is typical of stations built in small towns in the late 1800s. Stylistically, the building is a modest structure intended to convey an image of utility and service. Running parallel to the track, the building assumes an elongated form, capped by a low-pitched hip roof. Materials are common wood cladding and double-hung sash windows. Generous braces at the eave lend a bold, geometric design element to this otherwise unassuming structure.

When originally constructed in 1888, the railroad facility included a roundhouse which is no longer standing. The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, the first railroad to reach Dodgeville, arrived in 1881 on a line located north of town. The Illinois Central Railroad, the second railroad to arrive in Dodgeville, connected the emerging agricultural community to Freeport, Illinois, with connections to markets in Chicago.

Currently: Dentist Office and office space





## *Dirty Hollow & Minersville History*

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The presence of lead ore determined the physical layout of Dodgeville. The miners and prospectors, who first settled the area, staked their claims and constructed their crude cabins as close as possible to their “diggings.” Proximity to water was a common concern that accounted for the clusters of dwellings along small streams.

In the mid-1830’s, these centers of mining activity were given names. Minersville referred to the area north of a small stream now traversed by our Spring Street. The area adjacent to the stream was Dirty Hollow. Here, partners Guines and Wooley opened a mine as early as 1827.

As the rough assortment of dwellings evolved from a mining camp into a village; stores, taverns, groceries, and shops of all kinds vied for business. The amount of commerce transacted in Dirty Hollow outpaced its rival settlement, Dodgeville, until the 1860’s. After the

Courthouse was built, activity gradually shifted up the street to new and more spacious commercial blocks along Iowa Street.

Only a few remnants and stories remain of this once bustling area. In the early days, three hotels flourished in Dirty Hollow. These hostelries provided lodging for travelers, and were popular gathering spots for the local citizenry. The Wisconsin Hotel, a two-story rock building constructed in 1847, was originally known as the Rough and Ready House. The building saw its demise in 1937 when Highway 23 was relocated from Diagonal Street to its current location. The second establishment, the Dodgeville Hotel, stood directly south of Spang’s Opera House. The Western Hotel, opened in 1847 by Thomas Stephens (later renamed the Roberts Hotel in 1854) was the third hotel. Known as one of the leading hotels in its time, this building was most recently used as apartments until it was demolished in 2020.



Dodgeville Hotel



Westen Hotel



### *31. Rock Cottages*

606-805 North Main Street

Architectural Style: Cornish

The collection of rock cottages along North Main Street, built in the 1850s, share a common heritage and architecture. The form, materials, and methods of construction reflect the skill and sensibilities of the Cornish immigrants who built them. One or two rooms wide, the 20-24" thick walls are coursed rubble limestone and feature dressed quoins or a coursed ashlar facade. Wood shingles were typical cladding over a roof frame of sawn lumber. Typically side gabled in form, the cottages feature a small, simply detailed porch.

The cottage at 606 is known as the Edmund Edyvean house. Edyvean (1831-1890) emigrated from Cornwall in 1854. Upon his arrival in Dodgeville, he taught school, but soon became involved in the booming mining and smelting business.

The John Henry Penberthy house at 610 was home to another Cornish immigrant. Penberthy (1835-1908) settled in Dodgeville with his family in 1846. He worked in

the lumber trade and later started a mercantile business. Penberthy held several local offices and was ordained Deacon and Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The cottage at 613 was built by Thomas Carkeek as his private residence. Carkeek learned the stonemason trade in his native Cornwall, England. Born in 1819, he came to Dodgeville in 1849 with his wife and two children, and immediately established himself as a skilled stonemason and builder. Carkeek is credited with construction of many buildings including the Old Rock School, the Iowa County Courthouse and Jail, and the Slag Furnace. He was Justice of the Peace and Village Trustee. Ordained as a Methodist Minister, he served the Ridgeway congregation for many years.

Known as the William Harris house, the cottage at 614 was home to a Cornish blacksmith. Harris, born in 1815, emigrated to America in 1846 and in the same year settled in Dodgeville, where he established his own





shop. By the 1880s, Harris was the veteran blacksmith and wagonmaker of the area, employing several hands. A wagon by Harris received first prize in the 1880 Iowa County Fair. He was active politically, serving four terms on the Village Board.

The cottage at 801 is known as the Thomas Paull home. Paull, a stone mason from Illogan, Cornwall, England with his brothers David and Joseph, left England for America in the spring of 1846 and settled in Dodgeville..aHis mother, Mary Elizabeth Ward Cocking Paull and a large group of her family, including his younger siblings emigrated in

1847. Thomas married Susannah Bailey Rogers (1834-1858) on Sep. 22, 1853 in Dodgeville.

The William Marr house at 805 served a dual purpose. The second story was Marr's private residence; the lower level contained his furniture and coffin making business — the first establishment of its kind in Dodgeville. Marr, who died of cholera in the epidemic of 1850, was succeeded in business by his son James. Built earlier than its neighbors (1844), this cottage is also the only two-story rock home on the street.



### ***32. Old Rock School***

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914 North Bequette Street

Architectural Style: Cornish

This two-story gabled roof building of coursed limestone rubble, features massive blocks of dressed limestone quoins and lintels. Well-proportioned 6 over 6 double hung sash windows are evenly spaced. Wide fascia and frieze boards complete the simple, but refined design.

The Old Rock School is a significant example of 19th century Cornish masonry work indigenous to the Dodgeville area. The builder, Thomas Carkeek, an immigrant from Cornwall, England, constructed this building in 1853. Carkeek was the principal mason for nearly every other major stone building in Dodgeville including the Iowa County Courthouse.

The Dodgeville public school district, established in 1849, operated in rented facilities. It was not until 1853 that the first permanent school buildings were constructed. The Rock School and the Grove School, a frame building demolished in 1898, were built in the same year. The schools operated independently and accommodated more than 200 local children.

Enrollments rose rapidly over the years and a new school building on West Chapel Street was completed in 1882. The Rock School was auctioned off to help defray costs of the new school. Mr. Joseph Hocking, proprietor of the Wisconsin Hotel, purchased the building for \$875.00 and turned it into his home.

The building remained a private residence until the 1950s, when it was remodeled once again for use as apartments. In 1970, a couple from Madison purchased the vacant building and began the laborious task of removing 100 years of alterations — stripping the interior of paneling and partition walls and chipping off a thick layer of green parging from the exterior rock. Restored to a close approximation of its original state, the building again changed hands. The new owners built a small addition onto the blank west wall for year-round living, leaving the Old Rock School unaltered as a rustic retreat. The Old Rock School is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Currently: Private Residence



### 33. *Floyd School*

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1301 North Bequette St

Architectural Style: Utilitarian

One-room schools were typically simple and practical in design using materials available locally. Prior to the early nineteenth century, many one-room schools had two front entries; one for boys and one for girls. Inside, seating was typically segregated with boys on one side and girls on the other. This practice began to fade in the early 20th century. Large side windows were specified to allow natural light.

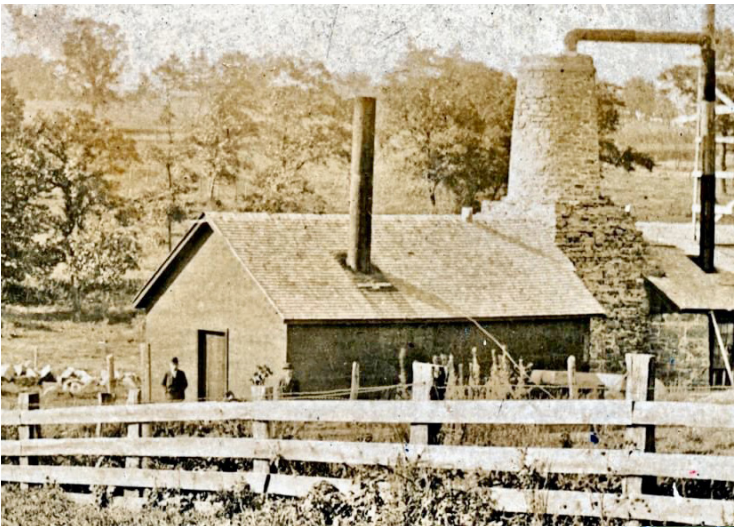
*“One-room schoolhouse plans did not incorporate windows on the walls facing the entries so as not to backlight the teacher or blackboard writings.”*

Education in the Floyd Settlement, seven miles northeast of Dodgeville, near the intersection of Floyd Road and Highway 130, began prior to the building of a log cabin school in 1849. The name Floyd became attached to the school because of an early settler to the area, A. W. Floyd. In 1855, a more substantial school was built across Floyd Road on land that later came to be owned by the Curtis Peterson family. As many as 53 students attended the school in 1860. Tragedy

struck in 1886 when the second school was destroyed by fire. Construction of the third school, complete with furnishings and books, was accomplished for \$600. For the next 75 years the Floyd school operated as a flourishing rural one-room school for the Standart/Floyd area. In 1961, the school closed under orders for consolidation by the State of Wisconsin.

For a few years it served as a summer home for a family from Madison. After standing unoccupied for several years, Curtis and Donna Peterson donated the Floyd school to the Iowa County Historical Society in 2008. It was accepted and moved to its present site, mounted on a new rock foundation and extensively and carefully restored inside. The Floyd School stands today as a monument to all the one room schools of Iowa County. It became the perfect home for hundreds of donations of desks, maps, books, and other rural school related objects that had been given to the Iowa County Historical Society.

Currently: Iowa County Historical Society owned site



### 34. *The Slag Furnace*

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400 block of East Spring Street

The Slag Furnace was built in 1876 when the demand for lead was still quite strong. The smelters in common use produced a waste product called slag, which contained a considerable amount of lead ore. In order to recover this lead, the enterprising company of Bennett & Hoskins built the blast furnace adjacent to their conventional smelter. By using premium fuel (coke or charcoal) and by employing an engine-driven fan, a very hot blast was obtained which was sufficient to fuse the slag and thus recover 20% more lead. The ore obtained was inferior in quality, but still marketable and was shipped in 75-pound pigs similar to the product from the first process. Teamsters were kept busy hauling coke, transporting slag from the numerous smelting points in the region, and conveying the pig lead to the railroad at Mineral Point.

The furnace was built by Cornish stonemasons Thomas Carkeek and Samuel Cornelius, the same builders responsible for the Courthouse and the Old Rock School. The structure is believed to be the very last of its kind in the Wisconsin Lead Mine Region, and as such is among the few remaining remnants of the industry itself.

The Dodgeville Women's Club restored and has maintained the furnace since 1936. Carolyn Meuer was instrumental in obtaining a grant for a more recent restoration. The following description is from a very interesting account published by the Club:

*"Throughout the period of its operation this plant was an important center of activity having a life peculiar to itself...The Slag Furnace in action was a brilliant sight at night, attracting many visitors who recall how fascinated they were by the ruddy glow of the coke fire and the gorgeous display of colors resulting from the burning of the various impurities in the slag. The perspiring smelter clad in woolen clothing, working in the tremendous heat with a red-hot stream of molten lead flowing beside him excited much sympathy. He seemed truly heroic as he directed the ladles that dipped the melted lead from the huge iron kettle and poured it into the molds close by."*



### *35. East Side Cemetery*

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509 E Fountain St

In 1851, six acres were purchased from Henry Dodge for the East Side Cemetery, located in the 500 block of Division Street.

Several markers of interest can be found. Look for those of Henry Dodge Maddin, a miner and grandson of Henry Dodge, Mary Linn McArthur Black, a younger half sister of Henry Dodge who operated a tavern at Belmont during its brief season (1836) as the first capital of the Wisconsin Territory, and her husband Robert S. Black (no marker), an Irishman who owned Blacks Grove, the wooded area south of the cemetery. He was recognized by some as a front man for Henry Dodge. Mary Black was buried with a 20-month-old grandson. Also to be found is the Owens Jones Vault, a family of prominent merchants, and the weathered stone of Luther Tyrer, the only veteran of the War of 1812 buried in Dodgeville. The cemetery is currently in use today.



## ***36. Old Church Yard & Burying Ground***

313 S Union St

**The Old Burying Ground** is located on the 300 block of South Union Street. This half-acre tract was donated by Henry Dodge in 1827, when a member of his party died. Later known as the Cholera Cemetery, 136 victims of the plague are buried here. Southwest Wisconsin was a scene of total confusion in the year 1849 and again in 1851, when Asiatic Cholera spread into the area. Almost all business ceased and many people abandoned their homes. Bonfires were kept burning and disinfectants were used liberally. Although many of the local Physicians had fled to avoid contracting the disease themselves, two notable physicians remained and braved the epidemic, they were Dr. Silby and Dr. Burrall. A local farmer and his wife, Asa and Chloe Tyrer were very successful in treating the disease through a method of steaming and hydrating which proved very efficacious. It is written by Elva Power Fieldhouse, great granddaughter of Asa and Chloe Tyrer, "In 1850-1851 when the cholera was so serious, Thomas Shaunce went with his father-in-law and mother-in-law (Asa and Chloe Tyrer) and helped wherever people had the disease." Descendants of the Tyrer family still reside in Dodgeville till this day. The cemetery was closed in 1851.

A survivor had this recollection:

*"When the plague came, almost everyone in the villages picked up a few belongings, abandoned their houses, and rushed to the open prairie to live until the disease had passed.*



### ***37. Dodge Mining Camp Cabin***

205 East Fountain St

Architectural Style: 19th Century Revival

A rough log cabin, located at 205 E. Fountain Street, is believed to be a structure from the original Dodge settlement. The roof framing and sheathing indicate a rebuilding in the 1840-50's, when sawn lumber would have been available. It was at this time that the cabin was remodeled into the popular Greek Revival style, elements of which are still in evidence.



This nearly 200 year old log cabin, exposed under the horizontal pine siding, was originally built, circa 1827. An analysis of tree ring data compared to logs in the cabin established that the structure was built around 1827. Originally it is believed the cabin would have had a sod roof since milled lumber would not have been readily available to these first settlers to Dodgeville. Henry Dodge established his mining camp in the valley along Fountain Street, east of Iowa Street in the fall of 1827, thus leading to the conclusion that the cabin had been part of Dodge's original settlement in the area.

Because logs in parts of the cabin were dated to 1835, it is thought the roof had collapsed on the original cabin. Circa 1835 the cabin was rebuilt, possibly by William Crawford Young, who purchased the cabin site in 1836. Sometime between 1840 and 1870 the original log cabin was further remodeled into a Greek Revival house, with additional rooms, and covered with pine siding, preserving for history the log structure beneath. In the 1920s a family of nine lived in the house. In 1987, the Ken Palzkill family donated the cabin, which was discovered under the siding of the then deteriorating home, to the Iowa County Historical Society.



After establishing its authenticity at its original location, it was moved to the current location and restored in 2000. In 2005 the Dodge Mining Camp Cabin was added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places as an example of mid 19th Century Revival architecture.



### ***38. St. Joseph's Cemetery***

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1017 Heritage Lane

St. Joseph's Cemetery is located just south of the hospital on Iowa Street and is associated with St. Joseph's Catholic Church. In 1909, a half-acre of land, which was part of a vineyard was purchased for \$20 from the Ellwood brothers in the southern part of the city to be used as a cemetery.

Fr. Andrew Ambauen was assigned as pastor at the St. Joseph's Parish in 1886. He remained as pastor for 58 years and ministered to mission churches in the area when needed. He died as a result of being hit by an automobile while walking on the roadside at Holy Hill in 1928. He is buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

The cemetery is currently still in use at this time.

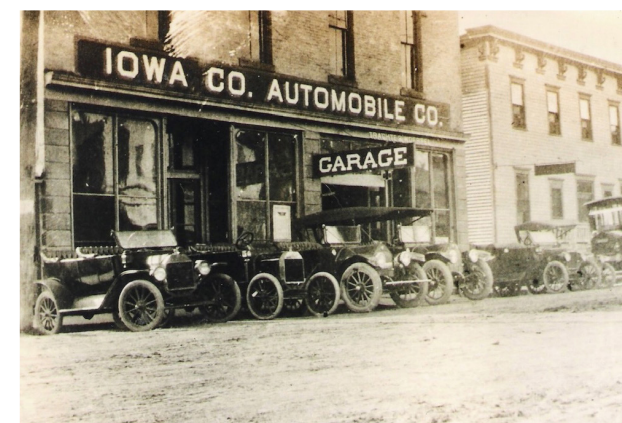
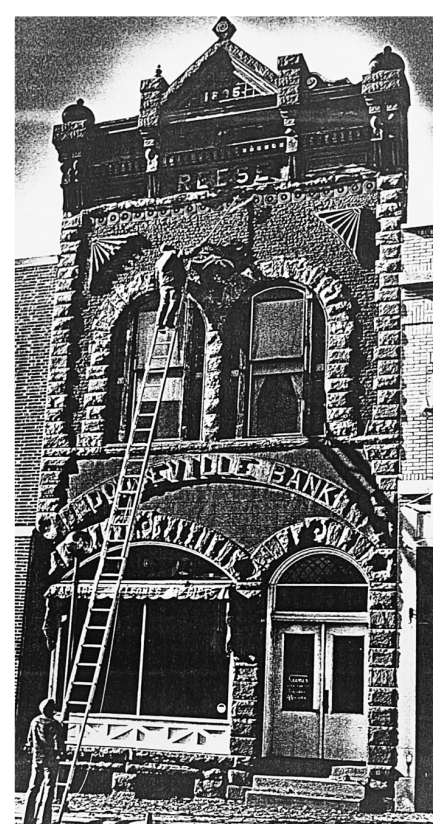


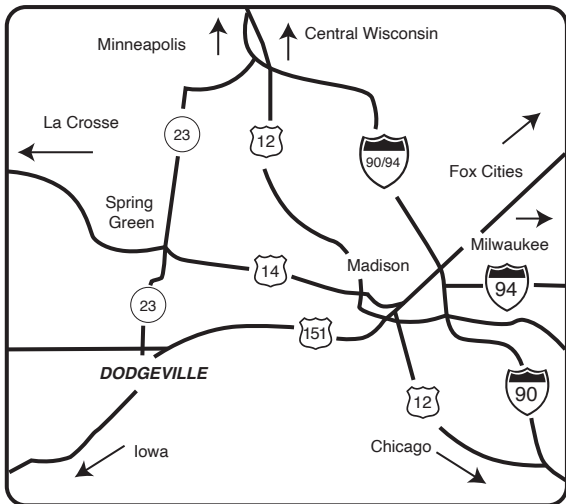
# Glossary

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- Arcade:** A series of arches
- Baluster:** A post or spindle supporting a handrail
- Bargeboard:** A decorative board at the gable end of a roof
- Battlement:** A parapet with alternate solid parts and openings used for defense; generally employed as a decorative motif
- Belt Course:** A decorative horizontal band across the façade of a building
- Boomtown Style,** also known as False Front Commercial  
Characterized by tall false facades (parapets) hiding a pitched roof behind. Common in all areas of Wisconsin, especially in rural areas.
- Bracket:** A supporting element under eaves or other overhangs, often more decorative than functional
- Bulkhead:** A short wall which forms the base of a large window
- Capitol:** The topmost member, usually decorative, of a column or pilaster
- Clapboard:** Narrow wood siding applied horizontally
- Colonial Revival:** An orderly, balanced façade with prominent entryway marks this turn of the century style
- Commercial Vernacular:** vernacular buildings reflected the traditions, materials, and building methods of the region they were built, thus why there is no one unifying characteristic
- Corbel:** A form of bracketing produced by projecting successive courses of masonry beyond the wall surface
- Corinthian:** The slenderest and most ornate of the classical Greek orders
- Cornice:** A molded projection which crowns or finishes a façade or other building element
- Coursed Ashlar:** Sawn or dressed stone laid in uniform horizontal rows or courses
- Coursed Rubble:** Rough stone of random size built up in more or less uniform rows or courses
- Cupola:** A dome-shaped roof on a circular base, often set on the ridge of a roof
- Dentils:** Small rectangular blocks placed in a row, like teeth, for decorative effect
- Doric:** The oldest and simplest of the classical Greek orders
- Dormer:** A small roofed structure, usually housing a window or louver, that projects from the main roof
- Eaves:** The overhang at the lower edge of a roof
- Engaged Column:** A column built partially into a wall, not freestanding
- Façade:** The front, or principal elevation of a building
- Fascia:** A finish board which covers the ends of roof rafters
- Frieze:** A finish board just below the eave
- Gable:** The triangular portion of a wall defined by the sloping edges of a double pitched roof
- Greek Revival:** A pre-Civil War style featuring a low-pitched gable roof, wide cornice with return eaves, symmetrical window and door placement
- Gothic Arch:** A pointed arch
- Hip Roof:** A roof with four or more pitched sides
- Hood Molding:** The projecting molding over a door or window, originally designed to direct water away from the wall, also called a drip molding
- Italianate:** Popular mid-to-late-1800's, a style characterized by a broad cornice with brackets and heavy moldings at the windows and doors
- Keystone:** The central block of a masonry arch
- Lintel:** The load bearing beam which spans a door or window opening
- Mansard Roof:** A roof having a double slope on all four sides, with the lower slope being much steeper
- Medallion:** An ornamental plaque on which is represented an object in relief, such as a head or flower
- Neoclassical:** A style based on the use of Roman or Greek forms, particularly columns and cornices, popular in the early 20th century
- Oriel Window:** A bay window projecting from an upper floor
- Parapet:** The portion of a wall which extends above the roof line
- Parging:** A coat of cement mortar on face of rough masonry
- Pediment:** An ornamented gable defined by crown molding at the roof and a horizontal band at the eave line; also a triangular crowning element over a window or door
- Pilaster:** A shallow rectangular column attached to a wall
- Portico:** A porch, usually with a pedimented roof, supported by classical columns
- Queen Anne:** An exuberant style popular in the late 1800's, expressed by asymmetrical massing, a steep and varied roof line, and richly textured surfaces
- Quoins:** Large blocks of dressed stone used to reinforce and accent the corners of a building
- Sash:** Moveable frames holding panes of glass. When divided by muntins (cross pieces), the sash is characterized by the number of panes, as in 6 over 6 sash (six panes of glass in a sash over another sash also containing six panes)
- Sill:** The horizontal bottom member of a window frame
- Tracery:** An ornamental work characterized by pierced patterns
- Transom:** A window above a door or larger window
- Turret:** A small slender tower usually at the corner of a building
- Tusan:** The simplest of the Roman classical orders
- Veranda:** A roofed porch
- Water Table:** A horizontal ledge, sloped to deflect water







## Walking Tour of Historic Dodgeville

Dodgeville Historic Preservation Commission

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