

HISTORIC 4TH STREET WALKING TOUR

Historic Fourth contains the best concentration of late 19th century commercial buildings in Sioux City. Most of the larger buildings in the district are notable for their distinctive Richardsonian Romanesque style, an architectural style popular in the late 1890s.

Two blocks long from Virginia to Iowa Streets, Historic Fourth contains 15 buildings dating from 1889 to approximately 1915. Two of the buildings, the Evans Block and the Boston Block are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Boston Block
1005-13 4th Street

Constructed in 1890-1, this massive, five-story, pink-hued stone building is one of four in the district developed by the Boston Investment Company. Previous occupants

included the Hicks-Fuller-Pierson Dry Goods Company, H.A. Baker Company and Aalfs Paint and Glass Company. The building was designed by local architect Edward W. Loft in the popular Richardsonian Romanesque architectural style. Typical of the style, the building appears to rest tenuously on two stories of fragile glass and thin cast-iron columns.

In 1984, Aalfs Manufacturing undertook a major restoration project exposing the iron columns and the glass window frames which for years had been hidden beneath a modern brick wall. Today, you see the building much as it looked the day it was constructed over one hundred years ago.

John Stevenson's Saloon
1019-21 4th Street

Built between 1890 and 1897, this painted brick building features round arches above the windows, a common characteristic in the historic district. John Stevenson and others ran a saloon in this building from the late 1880s until the 1920s. During the '20s and prohibition, proprietors *legally* dispensed only soft drinks. The original bar still exists in Luciano's restaurant

Krummann Block
1101-03 4th Street

In 1889 long-time Sioux City resident Samuel Krummann hired local architect Charles P. Brown to design this three-story Richardsonian Romanesque-styled building. Mr. Krummann operated a grocery store here from 1889 until his retirement in 1915 however this building remained in use as a grocery well into the 1930s. Roomers and various small businesses occupied the upper stories. Long-term tenants included Dr. Kate Z. Horner (1897-1930) and O.E. Jacobson, steamship agent and publisher of the Swedish newspaper *Svenski Monitorer* (1901-1924).

Notable features of this distinctive building include its rounded corner, its terra cotta detailing in foliage patterns, and its large round-arched windows.

This building underwent restoration in 1998.

Bay State Block
1105-13 4th Street



One of four buildings in the district financed by the Boston Investment Company, this four-story building was designed in 1890 by architect Edward W. Loft. Like the other Boston-financed buildings in the district, the Bay State was designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style and features rough-cut Ohio gray sandstone, large storefront windows, cast-iron columns, round-arched windows and intricate foliage detailing. A variety of retail establishments occupied the Bay State including furniture companies, shoe wholesalers, the Larson & Anderson grocery, saloons, pool halls, and restaurants. Apartments occupied the upper floors.

During the decades following WWII, this building, like many others in the historic district, fell into disrepair. A 1998 restoration project removed aluminum cladding covering the tall storefront windows and cast iron columns.

The Egralharve Building 1119-23 4th Street

Built in 1910, the Egralharve Building was constructed by Sioux Cityan Gordon Badgerow. The building's unusual name results from the combination of the names Egbert, Ralph and Harve, sons of Mr. Badgerow. Previous occupants included the Ego Hotel, Johnson's Restaurant, the Virginia Café, a pool hall and barber shop.

In 2000 an ambitious restoration project removed wooden paneling covering the long storefront, replaced windows, and on the interior, restored decorative tin ceilings, and installed an elevator.

The Perasso Building 1127 4th Street

Constructed circa 1914, this building was operated by the Perasso family as a confectionery from 1914 until 1930. Later occupants included a cigar shop and saloon.

Evans Block 1126 4th Street

Financed by Fred T. Evans for the Northwestern National Bank, this building was constructed in 1890 by local architect Charles P. Brown. Mr. Evans was prominent in developing the Black Hills region, especially the town of Hot Springs, South Dakota. His Black Hills quarries provided the sandstone for this building's exterior walls.

Notable features include a deeply recessed semi-circular entry portal, rooftop battlements, and hand-carved detailing in foliage patterns. Note especially the carved thistles on the east wall of the building.

1120 4th Street

This small, two-story commercial building was constructed around 1901. A number of businesses have occupied the building over the years including Newman's grocery, Clancey's meat market, and Machmanowitz, shoemaker.

The White Palace 1116 4th Street

Constructed circa 1930, this small, white-stucco building was associated with the White Palace chain of restaurants.



Plymouth Block
1100-10 4th Street

This massive 5-story building is another 1890 Boston Investment Company project designed by local architect Edward W. Loft. The Plymouth Block features a number of interesting details including massive arches, decorative

column caps, terra cotta panels in foliage patterns, and a horizontal band of cherubs running the length of the building.

In its time, the Plymouth Block was the largest mercantile building ever constructed in Sioux City. Occupants included a bank, saloon, men's clothing store, printing companies, barber shop and a hardware store. Other early tenants included the Sioux City College of Medicine, Metropolitan Business College (forerunner of Morningside College), and Aalfs Wall Paper Company.

In 2000, the building's owners undertook the district's largest restoration project. The storefronts were restored to near-original appearance, the brick walls were cleaned, and the upper floors were converted to apartments.

Lee Block
1014-24 4th Street

This long, narrow, two-story commercial building was constructed in 1910 and designed by local architect Wilford W. Beach. Its storefronts included a pool hall, drug store, saloon,

furniture store and clothing store. The second floor was reserved for apartments.

The Boiler Plant
Behind the Lee Block

In 1890 the Boston Investment Company constructed the Boiler House to provide steam heat to its buildings along 4th Street. This utilitarian brick building features a prominent smoke stack on the southwest corner. Fading signs painted on the south wall reveal that a neon sign business once occupied this building.



Major Block
1010-12 4th Street

Sensing the development possibilities of 4th Street, in 1889 Robert Ortel Major hired local architect Edward W. Loft to design this highly decorative, stone and brick building.

The Major Block was briefly the home of Northwestern College of Commerce and Morningside's College of Law, but its long-time tenant was the Ochsner & Orcutt Company, a hardware store. The upper floors provided lodging, variously known as the Acme, Victory or Major Hotel.

Notable features include round-arched windows, geometric and foliated terra cotta panels, and a name block adorned with dog's heads.

In 1996, this building underwent restoration. Wood paneling covering the storefront was removed, paint was stripped from the stone columns, and the building's brick walls were cleaned

1008 4th Street

Built circa 1912, this commercial building has been home to a barber shop, a restaurant, and saloon. Mrs. Elmer offered furnished rooms for let on the upper floor. In the decades following WWII, the storefront windows were covered with wood paneling. In 2000 the paneling was removed and a replica storefront added. Today, this building appears much as it did when it was constructed.

Levich/Nelson Building 1002-04 4th Street

This three story commercial building was constructed circa 1908. The first tenants were Nels Nelson's funeral home in one half of the building and Morris Levich's furniture sales room in the other half.

Notable features above the first floor include decorative brick patterning above the second and third floor windows and brick corbelling near the roofline.