



**Stillwater Heritage Preservation Commission**  
**Historic Site Designation**  
*Registration Form*

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**1. Name of Property**

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Historic Name Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter Addition, East Half, Historic District

Other Names \_\_\_\_\_

SHPO No. \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. Location**

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Street Address Bounded by S. Fourth St. on west, E. Willard St. on north, S. First St. on east,  
and East Hancock St. on the south

City Stillwater

State MN

County Washington

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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**3. Heritage Preservation Commission Certification**

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The Stillwater Heritage Preservation Commission determined that this site is eligible for designation as a Heritage Preservation Site.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**4. City Council Certification**

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The City Council approved designation of this site as a Heritage Preservation Site.

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Classification**

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Ownership of Property:  Private  Public-local  Public-State  Public-Federal

Number of Resources within Property 101

Category of Property: District

Name of Property Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter Addition, East Half, Historic District

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## 6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling; DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling;  
EDUCATION: School; COMMERCE: Store; RECREATION: Theater

Current Functions DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling; DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling;  
COMMERCE: Store; COMMERCE: RESTAURANT

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## 7. Description

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Architectural Style Mid-19th Century: Greek Revival; Late Victorian: Queen Anne, Italianate, Stick;  
Late 19th & Early 20th Century Am. Movements: Commercial;

### Materials

foundation stone, concrete

walls brick, wood

roof asphalt, metal, slate

other \_\_\_\_\_

Integrity \_\_\_\_\_

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## Narrative Description

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*See attached sheets.*

Name of Property Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter Addition, East Half, Historic District

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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### Applicable Historic Criteria

- 1. Its character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the City of Stillwater, State of Minnesota, or the United States.
- 2. Its location as a site of a significant historic event.
- 3. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the City of Stillwater.
- 4. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style, period, form or treatment.
- 5. Its identification as work of an architectural or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the City of Stillwater.
- 6. Its embodiment of elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.
- 7. Its unique location, scale or other physical characteristic representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, a district, the community, or the City of Stillwater.

### Applicable Historic Contexts

- I. Precontact Period Native American Cultural Traditions
- II. Native Americans, european contact, Initial Settlement
- III. St. Croix Triangle Lumbering
- IV. Town Planning and Development
- V. St. Croix River, Railroads, and Overland Transportation
- VI. Late Nineteenth Century Agricultural Development
- VII. Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Industrial Development
- VIII. Development of Downtown Stillwater
- IX. Development of Residential Neighborhoods
- X . Development of Stillwater City, Washington County, and State Government

Date of Construction 1868-1986

Significant Dates 1868-1940

Significant Persons \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/ Builder Orff and Joralemon (Nelson School)

Previous Documentation: Currently listed on National Register  Previous Surveys

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## Narrative Statement of Significance

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*See attached sheets.*

Name of Property Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter Addition, East Half, Historic District

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## 9. Bibliography

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*See attached sheets.*

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property Approx. 32 acres Property Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References 15 515449 4988511 / 15 515454 498126 / 15 515152 498126 / 15 515145 49885519

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## Form Prepared By

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Name Daniel J. Hoisington

Organization Hoisington Preservation Consultants Date June 1, 2013

Address P. O. Box 13585 Telephone 651-415-1034

City Roseville State MN Zip Code 55113

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## Additional Documentation

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### *Maps*

A USGS or city map indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### *Photographs*

Representative photographs of the property.

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## Property Owner

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_



# NE Churchill, Nelson, Slaughter Addition



## NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition Historic District is located south of downtown Stillwater, Minnesota. The district encompasses the east half of the Addition and includes six city blocks, bounded by West Willard Street on the north, South First Street on the east, West Hancock Street on the south, and South Fourth Street on the west. Its boundaries come from legal property descriptions rather than clear visual differences from the surrounding properties. The historic district includes a range of property types, including single and multiple family dwellings, a few commercial buildings, and one school. There are 101 properties, with sixteen considered noncontributing to the nomination. The noncontributing resources have undergone modern facade renovations and no longer retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the district. Only one house was constructed after the period of significance.

This is a residential area located on relatively flat terrain on bluffs that drop steeply to the St. Croix River valley to the east. To the north, outside the district, the Washington County Courthouse, St. Michael's Catholic Church, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church are clustered within two blocks. Combined with the sharp drop of the streets into downtown Stillwater, those streets lack the quiet neighborhood sensibility of the Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter Addition. To the west and south, there are no clear visual demarcations between the historic district and the home-lined streets just across the boundary.

What sets the district apart is its concentration of early Stillwater homes. It was settled early in the city's history and virtually all lots were sold by 1890. Within its boundaries, only a single building dates its construction from the post-World War II era. Indeed, only four buildings were erected after 1920. Of the 101 properties, eighty-six date to the nineteenth century.

At the heart of the district's stability is the single family home. These are typically balloon-frame houses with clapboard siding, reflecting the centrality of the lumber industry in the early years of the city's economy. Some historians often considered the South Hill area as a workingman's neighborhood; however, the size, style, and architectural refinements of homes are interspersed, so there is no uniformity of look to the district. A review of the employment of residents in the nineteenth century confirms that this was an area where residents have a variety of occupations and income.

The district's architecture generally uses vernacular forms of the styles that were popular between 1870 and 1910, often with a front gable or gable and ell form. There are some fine examples of Queen Anne and Italianate homes, suggesting the primary period of settlement, with little to represent the later Craftsman and Revival movements of the 1920s and 1930s.

There are four commercial buildings in the district, clustered on West Churchill Street near South Fourth Street. This commercial corner, extending across to the west side of South Fourth Avenue, is a good example of how Stillwater neighborhoods drew entrepreneurs to open small restaurants, bars, and service businesses. The commercial buildings have been altered, yet because they are essential to understanding daily life within the district, they are included as contributing to this nomination.

The buildings as they now appear reflect that this was generally a middle-class neighborhood, with homes erected primarily in the nineteenth century. Nearly all of the homes are likely to have been altered in one way or another in response to the changing needs of the owners — economics dictated remodeling and upgrading of the existing housing stock rather than wholesale changes. Architectural integrity, therefore, is often less than pristine, as owners added additions, enclosed porches, altered siding materials, and replaced windows. However, in most instances, the basic

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

integrity of form and location remains intact. Within the district, properties were considered as contributing if they retained a majority of their original features.

The streets are two-way with one lane of traffic and parking on both sides. Standard width sidewalks flank the street, with occasional street trees, utility poles, and street lamps. The majority of the buildings are set back at least ten feet from the sidewalk, with the exception of the commercial buildings and a few homes. Streets are lined with deciduous trees.

The house histories are taken from Donald Empson's survey report, *The Eastern Half of the Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter Addition Residential Area, Stillwater, Washington County, Minnesota* (Stillwater: Stillwater Heritage Preservation Commission, 2003). His research was exhaustive and contributed greatly to our understanding of the district. Additional information has been added to Mr. Empson's work. Property descriptions are based on field visits in November and December 2012. Determinations of contributing status recognize that some changes are likely, but multiple alterations to windows, siding, and porches remove much of the historic look of a home.

**Address:** 114 W. Churchill St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1357

**Historic Name:** O'Neal Brothers, James & Eugene

**Date Built:** 1915

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a one-story, gabled-roofed, rectangular brick building with a stepped front now used as a garage. The foundation is concrete block. The façade shows four bays, with two having roll-up garage doors. The other two have glass block windows. All have a brick course above. The roof has asphalt shingles with metal flashing on the parapet.

**Historic Information:** 14 W. Churchill Street, a one-story brick building, was originally constructed as a "picture theatre" in the summer 1915. The owners, the O'Neal Brothers, James & Eugene, were lumbermen. According to the building permit, the \$3,500 structure was to be one-story, 50 feet wide, and 75 feet deep. The building material was concrete, and the roofing "rubberoid." In an article in the February 16, 1916, issue of the *Stillwater Messenger*, there was an announcement of the building's new ownership:

The Hilltop moving picture house will be re-opened immediately under new management. The new manager's name is Samuel Carlson. Mr. Carlson states that the main drawback to the theatre, the lack of heat, has been remedied by the installation of a number of more radiators and that the theatre will now be found warm and comfortable.

In 1924, the theatre was closed and the building reopened as an automobile repair garage.<sup>1</sup>

**Address:** 215 E. Churchill St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1351

**Historic Name:**

**Date Built:** 1883

**Noncontributing**

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<sup>1</sup> SAM 7, Roll 4; 1877, 1881-82 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #1606; *St. Croix*

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**Physical Description:** A small 1½ story building is vernacular in style with added porch on west end, and a gabled ell off the rear. The house has a side gabled roof with asphalt shingles, aluminum 1/1 light windows, and manufactured siding. The façade is symmetrical, with a central single entry door and windows on either side. There is a metal awning over the front door. The foundation is limestone. Although the core of the house is historic, it now lacks sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district.

**Historic Information:** There is not one deed or other property record before 1908, on Lots 1 & 2, Block 15, and the location of the house at 215 E. Churchill Street. From the tax assessor's records, it appears the house was built about 1883. The McDonough family lived there in the early 1890s, but it does not appear they built the house.

**Address:** 218 E. Churchill St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1352

**Historic Name:** Mary Ann & James Nichol

**Date Built:** 1886

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This is an enlarged and modified front gable and ell house. It also has an attached garage. The entrance is on the Churchill Street side. On this façade there are three windows across the upper wall, symmetrically placed. These are 1/1 lights, double-sash, with faux shutters. On the ground floor, casement style windows are found, with the entry on the east side of the façade under a metal awning. Gabled roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. The replacement windows, faux shutters, and aluminum siding on façade diminish its integrity.

**Historic Information:** In June 1874, Elizabeth Churchill sold Lot 15, Block 2, to Mary McGoldrick on the equivalent of a Contract for Deed. Apparently McGoldrick defaulted on the Contract, for Elizabeth Churchill sold the same lot to Mary Ann and James Nichol in March 1885. They soon after built a house that took the number 218 E. Churchill Street. James A. Nichol was a laborer for the Musser-Sauntry Land, Logging, and Manufacturing Co. <sup>2</sup>

**Address:** 704 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1359

**Historic Name:** James and Minnie Hanson

**Date Built:** 1895

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** A building is a two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style home, with its primary façade facing east. The roof is hipped with a front-facing gable and two-story gabled bays on the north and south. Gabled ends are finished with fishscale shingles, while the roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. Windows are asymmetrically placed, but are generally 1/1 lights, double-sash. Most striking is the circular window under the front gable. The hipped roof porch is open with spindlework supports and frieze. Also contributing is the two-story stable in the rear. This rectangular formed building has a steeply pitched gabled roof with rolled metal sheathing. The gable ends are finished with wood shingles with a slight pent. Windows are 2/2. There are two modern roll-up garage doors on the north elevation.

**Historic Information:** Seward P. and Elizabeth Richardson purchased this property in April 1881; they immediately took out a \$1000 mortgage with the Stillwater Building Association. But the loan

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<sup>2</sup> E Bonds 138; 7 Deeds 327; 1887, 1891 *Stillwater City Directory*.



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was not used to build a house on this property, but perhaps elsewhere. By 1889, the mortgage had been satisfied, but within a couple of years, it appears the Richardsons had financial troubles, for they sold these lots and their home at 712 S. Third St. to Robert McGarry, a bookkeeper for the Hersey, Bean & Brown Lumber Co. In June 1895, McGarry sold the two and one-half lots to James and Minnie Hanson who built a house. A building permit taken out in October 1895 records the building of a barn and wagon shed, 20 feet by 30 feet, one-and-a-half stories high at a cost of \$300. Madt Nelson from the North Hill was the builder. In 1900 John Peterson, a travel agent, was a resident here, likely the owner.<sup>3</sup>

**Address:** 712 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1362

**Historic Name:** Ernest Borscht

**Date Built:** 1881

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** The basic form of the house shows a side gable with an extending bay on the south elevation. There is a front gabled extension on the primary façade with a fanlight in the gable end. On the south, a two-story bay with a gabled roof extends six feet from the main block. The window hoods are a distinguishing feature of the house. There is an open one-story gabled porch on the main entrance. There is a one-story garage in the rear with a gable roof and clapboard siding.

**Historic Information:** In May 1879, Ernest Borscht, a fruit dealer and confectioner, purchased Lots 4 & 5, Block 2. Within six months he took out a mortgage with the Seymour, Sabin & Co. who most likely furnished the lumber to build the home at 712 S. First Street. By 1881 the tax assessor had assigned a value of \$1050 to the two lots and building. Borscht remained here at least through 1900.<sup>4</sup>

**Address:** 720 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1364

**Historic Name:** Charles and Ida Crowell

**Date Built:** 1883

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This Queen Anne two-story wood frame house has a hipped roof, a front facing gable, with a cross gable, with several lower gabled windows toward the rear. The porch is hipped and wraps around the south elevation, with a gabled portico entry and turned posts. The windows vary in size and placement, and are sometimes paired, but are generally 1/1 glazing with wood sills and lintels. As is typical no wall is left without some additional finish, including fishscale shingles in the gable ends. The foundation is stone. There is a two-story barn/ garage at the rear with a gabled roof and a thru-wall gable on the east slope with paired windows.

**Historic Information:** This property went through six owners before Charles W. and Ida J. Crowell purchased it in August 1881. By 1883, the tax assessors' records recorded a value of \$1650 for the two lots and home at 720 S. First Street, indicating quite a substantial home. Charles was a miller. In April 1886, the Crowells sold the property and house for \$3000 to Mike Johnson of Houlton, Wisconsin, who, it appears, rented the house for a number of years. Fourteen years later, Justus and

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<sup>3</sup> 8 Deeds 120; P Mtgs 345; 8 Mtgs 133; 35-291; 40 Deeds 521; 1896-97, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #867.

<sup>4</sup> 5 Deeds 175; O Mtgs 141; 1881-82, 1887, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*.

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Bertha Johnson are listed as boarders here. Justus worked as a clerk at the Minnesota Threshing Company.<sup>5</sup>

**Address:** 802 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1366

**Historic Name:** Frederick E. Loomis

**Date Built:** 1879

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a very simple front gable house with a very steeply pitched roof, with decorative spindlework in the gable end. There is a single window on the façade, 1/1 glazing with wood surround. The hipped porch, with square columns and raised capitals, has been screened, but the door is fairly elaborate, with narrow sidelights. The porch is slightly off-center, and on the south elevation is a one-room, one-story addition to the main house. There is a 1-½ story garage to the rear with a tripartite window in the gable end.

**Historic Information:** The home at 802 S. First Street first had the house number, 726 S. First Street. Frederick E. Loomis, a photographer, bought Lots 8 & 9, Block 2, in July 1878. He took out a mortgage with the Stillwater Building Association that same month, and it appears within a year to so, he had built a house. In 1882, he sold the property and house to Charles W. and Addie N. Gorham. In 1900 this was the home of Charles D. Gates, a sashmaker at the Stillwater Manufacturing Company.<sup>6</sup>

**Address:** 808 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1368

**Historic Name:** Albert Bentley

**Date Built:** 1900 ca.

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This home has a complex roofline, with a basic hipped roof and a large hipped dormer on the north elevation. On the south elevation, there is a two-story bay with a columned porch on the second floor. The second floor double-sash windows appear old, with 2/2 lights. On the first floor, prominent windows on the facade and north elevation have been replaced with casement type windows, each with a fixed metal awning. The eaves show ornamental brackets, while the dormer and south porch have wood shingles. The under roof porch, on the southeast corner, has been screened, but its gabled entry appear original. The 1904 Sanborn map shows a one-story porch across the front, removed by 1910.

**Historic Information:** George Low and his wife, Ossina, purchased a number of lots in this area in the 1870s. Ossina Low was a florist, and a building permit taken out in September 1886 is for a \$700 greenhouse, 26 feet wide, and 96 feet long, one-story in height. George Low was listed as the builder, but the 1898 Sanborn map shows it as Albert Bentley's Greenhouse. By 1904, as shown on the Sanborn map of that year, the greenhouse was gone and a new house erected. The tax assessor's records indicate a building date 1906, likely off by two years.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> 8 Deeds 380; 15 Deeds 597; 1884, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 13.

<sup>6</sup> I Deeds 594; N Mtgs 271; 10 Deeds 360; SAM 78, Roll 13; 1884, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>7</sup> SAM 78, Roll 11; N Mtgs 181; I Deeds 613; 1877 & 1881-82 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #132; 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*.

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**Address:** 912 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1370

**Historic Name:** Wilhelm & Bertha Gast

**Date Built:** 1884

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a gable and ell home, now encased in manufactured siding. The one-story front entry is in the ell with a steeply pitched hipped roof. The ell also has a single, thru wall gabled dormer. On the south elevation, there is a two window shed roof dormer. Windows, 1/1, appear to be mid-20th century replacements, although the openings appear original. The new siding obscures details of window surrounds. There is a one-story, gable roof garage in the rear with two bays.

**Historic Information:** Wilhelm & Bertha Gast purchased Lots 3 & 4, Block 15 in July 1883. Within a year they built their modest sized house that was to take the number, 912 South First Street. In the 1884 Stillwater City Directory, Wilhelm is listed as a tailor working for F. C. Cutler, and residing (before house numbers) on the west side of First, the second house south of Churchill. In 1902, the then owner, Henry Hagen, added a \$70 two-story 20 by 12 foot barn to the property. In 1900 this was the home of Frank Glynn, a carpenter, along with Joseph Glynn, a cook, and Elizabeth Glynn.<sup>8</sup>

**Address:** 918 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1373

**Historic Name:** Charles Ries

**Date Built:** 1892

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** A two-story retains its original cross-gable roof form with a substantial two-story addition in the rear. There is a one-story hipped bay on the south wall. The addition was built between 1898 and 1904. The exterior is a buff-colored asbestos shingle. Windows are generally double-sash 2/2, and the surround appears original. The front entry, off-center, has a fixed awning. Sanborn maps show that it originally had a one-story porch across the facade. Although resided, it retains enough integrity of location and form to be considered contributing.

**Historic Information:** 918 South First Street appears to be a house built by Charles Ries about 1892. Charles purchased Lots 5, 6, & 7 in November 1891 from Julius Heller. He soon after took a mortgage from the Stillwater Savings Bank.<sup>9</sup>

**Address:** 920 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1375

**Historic Name:**

**Date Built:** 1900 ca.

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This 1½ story cross gable home retains much of its original workmanship. The full facade porch has three square posts with an off-center entry door showing patterned glass. There is a plate glass window on the facade. Other windows have 1/1 lights and are double-sash, although a casement window has been installed on the south wall. There is a one-story, front gabled, two-bay unattached garage in the rear.

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<sup>8</sup> 7 Deeds 194; SAM 78, Roll 13; Stillwater Building permit #1094; 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>9</sup> 31 Deeds 613; X Mtgs 483.

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**Historic Information:** The house at 920 South First Street, was, according to its present owner, moved to this location from the site of Lakeview Hospital sometime after 1956. It is noncontributing because it was not located here during the period of significance.

**Address:** 1002 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1377

**Historic Name:** John J. Maloy

**Date Built:** 1884

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a three-bay Italianate with paired brackets, a peak hipped roof, and a large step down addition in back as well as a one-story addition on the north side. Windows have 1/1 lights with ornamented hoods. The entry porch has simple round columns. There is a one-story box bay on the south wall with a tripled window and brackets under its eaves. As late as 1956, the house had a full facade, one-story porch.

**Historic Information:** John J. Maloy, a bookkeeper, bought Lots 8 & 9, Block 15 in the fall 1884; soon after he built his home at 1002 South First Street. In the fall 1888, Malloy took out a building permit to add a \$200 kitchen addition on the rear of the original house. The new addition was to be one-story, 18 feet by 20 feet. The permit also notes that the original house was two-story, 24 feet by 30 feet with a hip roof. In 1900 this was the home of Louis Wolf, who operated a saloon at 402 S. Main Street.<sup>10</sup>

**Address:** 1006 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1378

**Historic Name:** Joseph P. Berkley

**Date Built:** 1895 ca.

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house is a small Queen Anne home with a complex roofline. The bell-shaped roofed tower on the south elevation has fishscale wood shingles, and the front gable cornice shows a sharp return. Windows in this gable end are tripled in one bay. The facade has been altered, as a wrap around porch was partially removed and fully enclosed. There is a two-story gabled bay off the north wall. The property has a large 1½ story unattached front-gabled garage.

**Historic Information:** This was the home of Joseph P. Berkley, Vice-President and Secretary of the Joseph Wolf Company, local brewers.<sup>11</sup>

**Address:** 1018 South First St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1383

**Historic Name:** Nelson School

**Date Built:** 1897

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** A square two-story red brick structure resting on a high, cut limestone foundation. With the exception of the front façade and corner pilasters, the ten-bay sides are undecorated. The front façade is divided into three bays. The central bay, which is slightly recessed

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<sup>10</sup> 15 Deeds 98; 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #351.

<sup>11</sup> 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*.

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and defined by pilasters, is dominated by a second story oriel. The oriel is decorated with pilasters, dentils, and a semicircular arch. Two brackets support it. The main entrance to the school is located beneath the oriel and is recessed. A dormer with full pediment is located above the oriel. The bays to either side of the oriel contain blind windows bearing name and date inscriptions and semi-circular pediments. The rear façade of the school is a blank wall with the exception of a simple oriel.

**Historic Information:** Nelson School opened in September 1897. Called “a model structure of its kind” by the *Stillwater Gazette*, the building was designed by the architectural firm of Orff and Joralemon of Minneapolis. It was named after Socrates Nelson, the real estate speculator whose name is included in the district. It replaced an earlier one-story frame school. The public school system stopped using this as a school building in the 1950s, although it continued to hold District 834 administrative offices through 1977. After a battle over its preservation, it was purchased by a group of investors known as the Nelson School Partners in 1980. They renovated the school into apartments, now converted to condominiums.<sup>12</sup>

**Address:** 713 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1384

**Historic Name:** David Tozer

**Date Built:** 1870s

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** A simple two bay gable front with an addition in the rear and an enclosed front porch. The house has manufactured siding and windows appear to be mid-late twentieth century replacements. There is a shallow thru wall shed roof dormer on the south elevation. The property has a front gabled one-story, two bay garage in the rear.

**Historic Information:** David Tozer purchased Lots 26-28, Block 4, in November 1868 for \$200. He built two rental homes on the lots that took the numbers 713 South Fourth Street and 715 South Fourth Street. Tozer, a successful lumberman, lived in the neighborhood at 704 South Third Street. He built several rental houses in the area; they remained in his ownership until after the turn of the century. By 1900 this was owned by William Horgan. He was a clerk at Murphy and Co.<sup>13</sup>

**Address:** 715 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1385

**Historic Name:** David Tozer

**Date Built:** 1870s

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** A simple two-bay vernacular, gable end house with an addition in the rear. It is now sheathed with manufactured siding and window surrounds have been somewhat hidden. Windows are double-sash with 1/1 lights. There is a full facade porch with a hipped roof, now enclosed. There is a one-bay garage to the rear with a rollup door.

**Historic Information:** David Tozer purchased Lots 26-28, Block 4, in November 1868 for \$200. He built two rental homes of the lots that took the numbers 713 South Fourth Street and 715 South Fourth Street. Tozer, a successful lumberman, lived in the neighborhood at 704 South Third Street.

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<sup>12</sup> *St. Paul Dispatch*, January 30, 1979; *Stillwater Daily Gazette*, September 25, 1897.

<sup>13</sup> S Deeds 543; SAM 7, Roll 5; 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*.

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He built several rental houses in the area. In 1900 William H. Brown, a scaler for the Surveyor General lived here, along with a William H. Brown who worked for the St. Croix Boom Company.<sup>14</sup>

**Address:** 719 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1386

**Historic Name:** John Sinclair

**Date Built:** 1877

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a plain two-bay gable front house with its exterior finished in stucco up to the second floor windows. The windows are generally double-sash with 1/1 lights. The gabled porch is open, supported by unfinished square beams. There is a two-story gabled addition to the rear. Most interesting is the one story cross-gabled wing on the north side of the home. This appears in the 1891 Sanborn Map. There is a one-story unattached garage in the rear.

**Historic Information:** John Sinclair, a logger, bought Lots 24 & 25 in October 1874. By 1877, the tax assessor's value of the lots had risen from \$480 to \$1150, indicating a home on the property. This house at 719 South Fourth Street was home to James A. Sinclair and Tillie Sinclair, as well as Mr. & Mrs. John Sinclair. Collin Downs resided here in 1900. He was a rafter for the William Sauntry Company.<sup>15</sup>

**Address:** 801 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1387

**Historic Name:** Anna Maloy

**Date Built:** 1872

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** Although altered, this basic look of the house is Italianate, with its boxlike form and shallow peaked roof, sheathed in rolled metal. The upper windows are symmetrically placed, with 1/1 lights. The full facade, hipped porch has been screened. There is a one-story ell on the north elevation, appearing on the 1891 Sanborn Map. This wing has its own entry of the street facade. Windows here are 2/2.

**Historic Information:** Anna Maloy obtained a Warranty Deed on Lots 22 & 23 in May 1873 from Elizabeth Churchill, but it appears she had already built a house on the lots. The *Stillwater Gazette* in its listing of improvements in the city, noted a house built in Nelson's Field (as the South Hill was then called) by Mrs. Maloy worth \$900. The tax assessor's record, less enthusiastic, has the note, "\$300 house" penciled in. When house numbers were later assigned in the 1880s, this house took the number, 801 South Fourth Street. By the time, the house number was assigned, the house was in the possession of the Patrick Barron family who lived there for quite a while. By 1900, Patrick, Morris, Everett, James, and Anna Barron, a seamstress, are listed as boarders here. The men are general laborers, except for Everett, who worked as a laborer for the St. Croix Boom Company.<sup>16</sup>

**Address:** 807 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1388

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<sup>14</sup> S Deeds 543; SAM 7, Roll 5.

<sup>15</sup> Deeds 54; SAM 7, Roll 5; SAM 7, Roll 6; 1884, 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>16</sup> SAM 7, Roll 3; Z Deeds 259; 1884, 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*; *Stillwater Gazette*, November 14, 1871.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Historic Name:** Timothy and Abbie Kilty

**Date Built:** 1872

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** The house is a two-story front gable, wood-frame building. The roof has a moderate slope with asphalt shingles. Two windows on the second story are 1/1 with a wood surround. The porch is full-façade with a hipped roof. It is enclosed, likely quite early since there are 3/1 windows typical of the 1910-1930 period. The entry door on the porch has two-paned sidelights.

**Historic Information:** The Irish-born couple, Timothy and Abbie Kilty, bought Lots 20 & 21, Block 4, in September 1871. His new house is noted in a list of improvement published in the *Stillwater Gazette* of November 14, 1871. The 24' by 26' house was located in Nelson's Field (as the South Hill was then called) and worth \$800. The tax assessor's record for 1873 specifies a house worth \$400 on Lot 21. The 1877 Stillwater City Directory lists: "Timothy Kilty, laborer, res. 4th nr. Churchill." By 1880, they had ten children living in the house with them, ranging from ages six to twenty-seven. There was also one boarder. A City of Stillwater Building Permit #32 taken out on April 29, 1886, gives us some additional information on this house. The Permit says the house was built about 1873 by a J. Powers at a cost of \$700. The original house, according to the permit, was 1½ stories high, 18 feet wide and 26 feet deep with a 16 by 16-foot cellar. To this original structure had been added a kitchen in the rear. The reason for this 1886 permit was to allow this older kitchen addition to be removed and replaced with a new \$25 kitchen addition. The owner was Timothy Kilty; the "architect" was listed as L. W. Clarke, (he was the city engineer) and the builder as Michael Carroll, a carpenter who lived in the neighborhood at 924 South Fourth Street. Timothy Kilty died in 1876, however, family continued to live here through at least 1900.<sup>17</sup>

**Address:** 815 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1389

**Historic Name:** John C. Kilty

**Date Built:** 1891 ca.

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** The house is an Italianate cube, with a shallow pitched hip roof and box-like form. The eaves are wide and have brackets. There are three bays across the front, but only the two southernmost have windows on the second floor. These are 1/1 glazing with wood sills and lintels. There is a one-story hipped bay on the south with new plate windows. There is a modern front gabled garage with a rollup door on the property.

**Historic Information:** This house at 815 South Fourth Street was built about 1891 by a member of the Kilty family. The first name appearing on this property is Patrick Kilty, but it appears the lot remained empty until his brother, John J., erected a home between his aged father and older brother. John worked for his brother, Timothy, at his coal and wood trade. This was the residence of James H. Stilkey in 1900. He was a guard at the Minnesota State Prison.<sup>18</sup>

**Address:** 817 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1390

**Historic Name:** Timothy C. Kilty

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<sup>17</sup> 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*; U Deeds 764; City of Stillwater Building Permit #32; SAM 78, Roll 9; 1880 Census.

<sup>18</sup> SAM 78, Roll 13; 1890, 1894, 1896, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Date Built:** 1883 ca.

**Physical Description:** This building has core elements of its 1880s construction, although now with manufactured siding. Box-like in form, the roof is a low-pitched peak hip form, sheathed in asphalt shingles. Windows on the façade are symmetrically placed with five bays — on the second story, the center bay is blank, with two 2/2 windows on either side. All have wood sills and lintels. The porch roof runs the full façade and has a hipped roof. Porch woodwork remains with turned posts and a spindlework porch frieze.

**Historic Information:** Having grown up on S. Fourth Street, Timothy Sr.'s sons, Timothy and Patrick Kilty, bought Lot 18 in May 1883, and they built a house at 817 South Fourth Street on it soon after. It was the residence of Timothy, who operated a wood and coal trade on Chestnut Street, later running the Palace Dry Goods store at 122 S. Main Street. In 1900 this was the residence of Anton Sachi, who worked at Nelson and Neumeier.<sup>19</sup>

**Address:** 823 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1391

**Historic Name:** Stillwater Oil Company

**Date Built:** 1923

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This commercial building was originally a service station and has undergone substantial changes. The older section is a gabled one-story section to the rear, while a two-story addition faces South Fourth Street. It no longer retains sufficient integrity and is therefore noncontributing to the district.

**Historic Information:** The Stillwater Oil Company and its proprietor, John J. Kilty, built 823 South Fourth Street as a gasoline service station in 1923. The contractor was W. E. Meier who lived nearby at 915 South Fourth Street. Kilty had grown up on S. Fourth Street and resided nearby. According to the building permit, the cost was \$2,500; the size of the building was 75 feet wide and 67.5 feet deep. It was to be heated with a stove and have metal ceilings.<sup>20</sup>

**Address:** 901 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1392

**Historic Name:** Charles & Carrie Glaser

**Date Built:** 1901

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** A two-story Germanic-influenced building with a bar in the lower portion and apartments above. There is an addition in the rear, which was originally opened as a pool hall. The roof form is a peak hip with gabled dormers with paired windows on the west and north elevations. The exterior is buff-colored stucco with raised timber beams. The street facade, with a slight overhang between floors, is finished with buff-colored facing brick. The entry is recessed with casement windows flanking it. There is a secondary single entry door on the south side (right) of the facade. There are three bays on the second floor, with paired sliding windows with faux shutters. There is a one-story stuccoed garage to the rear with three bays.

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<sup>19</sup> 7 Deeds 173; SAM 78, Roll 13; 1890, 1894, 1896, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>20</sup> City of Stillwater Building Permit #2011.



**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Historic Information:** In summer 1901, local carpenter, Adolph Sprich built a store and house on Lot 28. The \$2,000 building was two-story, 38 feet wide and 40 feet deep. The cellar was seven feet deep, 34 by 36 feet, with a cement floor. The first floor was hardwood; the second floor was clear pine. The owners, Charles and Carrie Glaser, operated a bakery (901 South Fourth St.) and home (903 South Fourth St.) out of the building. The Meister family took over the property in 1948 and altered the exterior.<sup>21</sup>

**Address:** 909 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1393

**Historic Name:** Thomas & Elsie Ward

**Date Built:** 1872

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** Although altered, the house retains its original form despite its manufactured siding. It is a front gable plan with three bays on the street facade. The windows, with 1/1 lights, have a wood surround. The hipped porch is full facade with three turned posts supporting it. Entry door is off-center. There is a large 1½-story barn to the rear.

**Historic Information:** Thomas and Elsie Ward bought Lots 26 & 27, Block 13, from Elizabeth Churchill in September 1871. According to the *Stillwater Gazette's* listing of improvements in its issue of November 14, 1871, Tom Ward had built a 24 by 26 foot home in Nelson's Field (as the South Hill was then called) that was worth \$800. The tax assessor was not so sanguine, giving the house a value of \$350 in 1873. That house was later to take the number, 909 South Fourth Street. Ward was a lumberman, and the family lived there for decades. James Ward, city clerk, lived here in 1900.<sup>22</sup>

**Address:** 913 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1394

**Historic Name:** James McGee

**Date Built:** 1883

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This home has been encased in manufactured siding, but it retains its original plan, a simple two-story cross gable. There are paired 1/1 windows in the upper gable end. The full facade porch is open supported by four plain posts.

**Historic Information:** James McGee bought Lot 25, Block 13 in April 1881, and by 1884, Edward McGee, a farmer, is listed as the resident of 913 South Fourth Street. Edward remains here in 1900, now working as a mason.<sup>23</sup>

**Address:** 915 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1395

**Historic Name:** Mary McGrath

**Date Built:** 1895

**Contributing**

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<sup>21</sup> *Stillwater City Directory*, 1900-01; Z Deeds 240; M Mtgs 120; City of Stillwater Building Permit #1028.

<sup>22</sup> 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 9; X Deeds 393; 1877 and 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>23</sup> 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*; Z Deeds 134; 8 Deeds 140; 1884 and 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Physical Description:** A house has a simple front gable plan with a gabled enclosed front porch. This appears to have been years ago, showing four light fixed windows and wood shingles in the gable end. There are two bays on the second floor with 3/1 light windows. The foundation appears to be rusticated concrete block and the south wall, on the first floor, is stuccoed.

**Historic Information:** John and Mary Gillispie purchased Lot 24, Block 13 from Elizabeth Churchill in August 1873, but it does not appear he built on the Lot. Instead the first house on this property, 915 South Fourth Street, was built in 1895 when Mary McGrath took out a mortgage from the Stillwater Fire Department Relief Association. Addison Wright, a painter and decorator, lived here in 1900.<sup>24</sup>

**Address:** 919 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1396

**Historic Name:** Henry & Mary White

**Date Built:** 1873

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house is a two-story, front gable plan with three bays across the facade. Entry door is off-center, on the south (right) of the ground level and protected by a bracket-supported portico. Sanborn maps show a full-facade porch in 1910-1924. Windows are all twenty-first century replacements. There is a front gabled garage to the rear of the lot.

**Historic Information:** Henry C. White, a lumberman, and his wife, Mary, obtained a Warranty Deed for Lot 23, Block 13 from Elizabeth Churchill in June 1877. The couple was born in Maine: he in 1844; she in 1851. By 1880, they had two daughters in the house: Florence, 9; Alice, 2; and one son, Henry, 4. However, it appears he had a \$100 improvement (a small or partial house?) as early as 1873 according to the tax assessor's records. By the time house numbers were assigned in the 1880s, Henry White was listed at 919 South Fourth Street. This was the home of Oscar Joy, sanitary commissioner, in 1900.<sup>25</sup>

**Address:** 921 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1397

**Historic Name:** Timothy & Catherine Crowley

**Date Built:** 1872

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a simple vernacular 1½ story house with a front gable form, and two thru wall gabled dormers on the south elevation. The front gable end has two windows, 1/1 lights, while the ground floor has a single entry door on the right with a plate glass window facing the street. The porch shows turned posts, a gabled entry, and modillions under its eaves. The porch first appears in the 1910 Sanborn maps, not before.

**Historic Information:** Timothy and Catherine Crowley obtained a Warranty Deed from Elizabeth Churchill for Lot 22, Block 13, in March 1873. But it appears the home he built at 921 South Fourth Street preceded the Warranty Deed. The *Stillwater Gazette* in listing improvements made in the city notes, under the location "Nelson's Field" (as the South Hill was then called), "Tim Crowley, res. 18x24 . . . \$250." By 1887 the home was in the name of James Crowley, and later, in 1900, in the name of his son, William, a driver for the Stillwater Steam Laundry.

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<sup>24</sup> Z Deeds 643; 7 Mtgs 96.

<sup>25</sup> 10 Deeds 67; SAM 78, Roll 9; 1887, 1900-1901 *Stillwater City Directory*.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Address:** 1001 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1398

**Historic Name:** John Conklin

**Date Built:** 1883

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is an Italianate style house, with its boxlike form, wide eaves, paired brackets, and shallow pitched peak hipped roof. It is sheathed in rolled metal. Especially striking are the fine window surround with a pedimented hood with scrollwork on the street level windows. All are 1/1 glazing. There is also a one-story box bay on the south elevation. The house originally had a full facade front porch, not replaced with a simple, one-bay wide gable portico.

**Historic Information:** After going through several owners, John Conklin, a widower, bought Lots 20 & 21, Block 13 in January 1881. In the fall he took out a mortgage with the St. Croix Valley Savings Bank, and soon after built the home at 1001 South Fourth Street. The 1883 Tax Assessor's record lists the value of the property at \$1,400. This was the residence of Charles Dyson in 1900. He was a saloon owner, located at 316 E. Chestnut.<sup>26</sup>

**Address:** 1009 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1399

**Historic Name:** Thomas Sutherland

**Date Built:** 1873

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** The house has a basic front gable plan with numerous alterations. The cornice, with its pronounced return, suggests the early date of the house. There is a gabled dormer on the north slope of the roof. Windows are mixed in their glazing, and sometimes paired. The original porch has been enclosed and a gabled portico extends toward the street. There is a one-story box bay on the north elevation. The property has a substantial garage to the rear.

**Historic Information:** Around Christmas 1881, Thomas Sutherland obtained the deed to Lots 18 & 19, Block 13 from Edmund & Ida Butts. However, it appears that Sutherland, a contractor and builder, actually constructed the house at 1009 South Fourth Street in 1873. A building permit for repairs taken out in April 1886, notes that a \$700- 16 foot by 25 foot one-story dwelling house with a 16 foot by 22 foot ell and two chimneys, was built on these two lots in 1873. The permit also notes an unusual fact: that the foundation walls were seven feet deep and 18 inches thick, thus creating a full basement under the house. Sutherland later moved to Hutchinson, Minnesota. This was the home of John Haggerty, a lumberman, in 1900.<sup>27</sup>

**Address:** 1015 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1400

**Historic Name:**

**Date Built:** 1986

**Noncontributing**

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<sup>26</sup> *Stillwater Gazette*, November 14, 1871; Z Deeds 253; 1877, 1882, 1887; *Stillwater City Directory*; 1880 Federal Census for Stillwater, Family #139.

<sup>27</sup> 8 Deeds 540; SAM 78, Roll 13; 1887, 1894, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*; Fire Dept. Records; City of Stillwater Building Permit #25.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Physical Description:** The house is a split level ranch house with a two-bay garage on the street facade. The main house has a side gabled roof with manufactured siding. Windows are 1/1 and paired. the primary entrance is at the rear of the garage on the south elevation.

**Historic Information:** 1015 South Fourth Street is today, a new house built in 1986, but this is the second house on these two lots.<sup>28</sup>

**Address:** 1019 South Fourth St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1401

**Date Built:** 1900 ca.

**Historic Name:** Daniel F. Day

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house is a simple front gable form with a moderately pitched roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The window surrounds are wood with a slight triangular pediment hood. The porch is open and wraps around the southwest corner, supported by six square columns with a gabled entry on the north (left) side and a rusticated concrete block base.

**Historic Information:** Daniel F. Day purchased the lots occupied by the house at 1019 South Fourth Street in September 1871 from Edmund and Ida Butts. Butts was an attorney who dealt extensively in real estate. Within two years, Day had put up a home on the property. We know this for certain because he did not pay the contractor, and a lien was filed in May 1873 against the owner and the property. This particular lien is very interesting because it gives us an idea of how families determined the style of their houses.

“[John Green, dealer in hardware stoves and tinware] “agrees to furnish all the materials and erect and build a dwelling house...said dwelling house to be of wood also of good merchantable lumber all the work to be done in a good substantive and workmanlike manner; in size to be 20 by 28 feet two stories in height with 20 foot posts [studs]. The windows to be 14 in number – number 6 on first story and number 7 on second and one in loft to be of same size and pattern as those in the dwelling house of J.M. Knight [804 South Third Street] in Stillwater and glazed... The lower floors to be doubled and the upper floor single all to be well laid... The sides and ends of said house to be covered with rough boards and the boards with tar paper and sided with good siding... the cornice to be of the same style and finish as that on the dwelling house of Alex Underwood in said city. Gutters of tin to be put on the rough steps at the outside doors.”

The total of the lien, the cost of this house, was \$880.44. The 1874 Tax Assessor's record notes the value of the house and lots at \$1,080. Day is listed in the City Directory as a laborer. In 1900 this was the home of John Downs, a laborer who worked for David Tozer.<sup>29</sup>

**Address:** 704 South Second Street

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1402

**Historic Name:** Lawson Dailey

**Date Built:** 1877

**Contributing**

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<sup>28</sup> Washington County Tax Assessor's Office.

<sup>29</sup> A Liens 89; SAM 7, Roll 4; T Deeds 619; 1877, 1887, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Physical Description:** This house is built in the Italianate style, showing a flat hipped roof with wide eaves with brackets. The façade is obscured by a full height enclosed porch. The Windows generally have two over two lights and have a segmented arch. The foundation is stone. To the rear, there is an additional two-story wing that dates from the 19th century.

**Historic Information:** Lawson Dailey bought Lot 1, Block 3 from Betsy Nelson on a Bond for Deed — similar to our Contract for Deed — in September 1874. Three years later, the tax assessor placed a value of \$1100 on the lot, indicating a good sized home, which took the number 704 South Second Street, had been built. Dailey worked for a time as a planer in one of the mills; later he took up fence building. The Dailey family lived in the house past the turn of the century. According to two building permits, Lawson Daily took up the sale of stoves from his building at 704 South Second Street. The first permit, on March 30, 1901, was apparently for a \$150 addition, 18 feet by 30 feet, one-and-a-half stories high that would provide “More room & shop for stoves.” The second permit in August 1901 was for a \$450 building two stories in height, 20 feet by 52 feet, with a veneer of iron, and unfinished ceilings. The purpose was for a “stove store and shop.” Lawson and his son, Russell, who lived next door at 708 South Second Street, built both buildings. A third permit taken out in 1903 adds on a \$300 store room and notes that the “Building is sheathed up with nice lumber papered and sided with steel. Roof is fire proof roof felt paper.” The 1900-01 and 1906-07 Stillwater City Directory also lists Dailey as selling ranges and manufacturer of “Patent Ventilating Steel Ranges and Heaters.”<sup>30</sup>

**Address:** 708 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1403

**Historic Name:** Russell Dailey

**Date Built:** 1880

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house shows many characteristics of the Italianate style with its shallow peak hipped roof wide eaves with paired brackets underneath. The windows are fairly narrow with a raised hood. The windows are glazed one over one. A two-story porch has obscured the façade, but both floors remain open. Four square wood posts support them. The exterior is finished in a green stain.

**Historic Information:** Lawson Dailey who built his house next door at 704 South Second St. sold part of Lots 2 & 3 to George D. Hall for \$1650 in June 1880. That high a price indicates a home at 708 South Second Street on the property, but as late as 1879, the tax assessor's records indicate no value beyond that of the lot. The logical conclusion is that Lawson Dailey either built a house on the lot in 1880, or George Hall held an unrecorded contract that allowed him to build the house. The latter might make more sense because the following year, Hall sold to John Karst for \$378 plus the assumption of a \$1400 mortgage. Andrew Hanson, a travel agent, resided here in 1900.<sup>31</sup>

**Address:** 709 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** 712 819

**Historic Name:** Seymour, Sabin & Company

**Date Built:** 1875

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<sup>30</sup> SAM 7, Roll 6; E Bonds 250; 1877, 1887, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building permits #1026 & 1032, 1132.

<sup>31</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*. SAM 7, Roll 8; 5 Deeds 529; 8 Deeds 66.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** A simple front gable with a large picture window on the first floor. The exterior is a wood shingle. Apart from the front window, all others are rectangular 4/4 double-sash windows with a modest triangular hood.

**Historic Information:** Seymour, Sabin & Company purchased Lot 28, Block 2, in 1872. Seymour, Sabin was primarily a manufacturing company using the prison labor on a contract basis, but they also built houses on speculation. This medium sized house, which today has the number, 709 S. Second Street, was one of those. Within three years, the house had been sold to John F. Conklin, for many years, the Street Commissioner (somewhat equivalent to the head of Public Works) for the City of Stillwater. Butcher Henry Pflieger lived here in 1900. Pflieger worked for Ferdinand Kirchof.<sup>32</sup>

**Address:** 712 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1405

**Historic Name:** Demeter & Alice Kalinoff

**Date Built:** 1913

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a well-design house with a central hipped roof and wide gables extending to the south, north, and east. The house has wide eaves and show exposed rafter ends. A pent roof separates the upper gable from the main wall of the house. In these gable ends are paired windows with a wood surround and hood. There is a shallow two story bay on the south elevation. Windows throughout have 1/1 glazing. There is a full facade porch sheltering a large "Chicago" style window with double-sashed windows flanking a fixed plate window with leaded glass in the upper light. According to the building permit, the house was to cost \$5,000, 30 feet by 31 feet, two-story with a hip roof.

**Historic Information:** W. H. Harris purchased Lots 4 & 5, Block 3, from Betsey Nelson on a Bond for Deed in September 1873. Within a year, Harris had begun the construction of a house on these lots; but alas, he did not seem to have the necessary cash or credit. Seymour, Sabin & Co, a local manufacturing and lumber company, and McKusick, Anderson, another lumber company, each filed a lien against Harris in 1874 for \$236.10 and \$216.38 for lumber and materials used "to construct a dwelling." Harris apparently could not keep up his payments to Nelson for she took back the property and sold it to Fred Pennington. Pennington was a lumberman with Sauntry, Tozer, & Pennington. This house had the number, 712 S. Second Street. The story is that Dr. Demeter & Alice Kalinoff bought this house, and found that it would cost almost as much to install electricity and plumbing as it would to build a new house. Therefore they demolished the original house, and in 1913, they had Frank Linner (pronounced Lin-near) & Co. build a new house on the original foundation.<sup>33</sup>

**Address:** 713 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1406

**Historic Name:** Augustus & Caroline Godfrey

**Date Built:** 1894

**Contributing**

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<sup>32</sup> SAM 7, Roll 5; 5 Deeds 194, 195; 1877, 1881-82 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>33</sup> E Bonds 50; A Liens 112, 114; SAM 7, Roll 8; SAM 7, Roll 6; 1887, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #'s 373, 1548.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Physical Description:** This house has been sheathed in manufactured siding (likely aluminum), obscuring some original detail. The basic form remains, however, with a cross gable roof form and a two-story bay on the south elevation. Windows are mixed, with paired 1/1 light windows on the front gable end. There is a slight pent separating the two floors. The first floor has a two-part picture window with stained glass in the upper light. The single entry door has a gabled portico.

**Historic Information:** In 1894, according to a building permit application, a new house was built on Lots 26 & 27. According to the permit, the structure was to be 26 feet by 28 feet deep, one-and-a-half stories in height, and cost \$900. The owner at this time was William Heffernan and the contractor was the Stillwater Manufacturing Company. William was a tinsmith, with a shop at 107 S. Main Street.<sup>34</sup>

**Address:** 717 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1407

**Historic Name:** Frank Chartrand

**Date Built:** 1888

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** Although vernacular in form, with a front gable plan, and now sheathed in wood shingles, the house shows several period elements. These include the pedimented window hoods with carved scrollwork and a diamond-shaped window with leaded glass in the gable end. The full facade porch has been enclosed. There is a one-story bay on the south wall.

**Historic Information:** In the fall of 1888, a Frank Chartrand applied for a building permit to build a dwelling on this lot. The house was to two-stories in height, 24 feet by 28 feet, with a cost of \$900. Chartrand lists himself as both the owner and builder of this home which took the number, 717 S. Second Street. It was the residence of saloonkeeper J. Magliore Lupien in 1900.<sup>35</sup>

**Address:** 720 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1408

**Historic Name:** George Watson

**Date Built:** 1872

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:**

This house has a side gable form, but substantial additions have altered the house considerably. The main block, the oldest section, is a front-facing gable form with two bays on the second floor. Windows are 6/6 and appear to be relatively new replacements. There is a hipped roof over the main entrance, which hints at elegance with doric half-columns. There is a substantial addition on the north side with a thru wall dormer, paired windows above, quadrupled windows on the ground floor. The addition was completed after 1956.

**Historic Information:** 720 South Second Street occupies Lots 6,7,& 8, Block 3. In his annual valuation of properties in Stillwater, the tax assessor made a note for 1872 that the value of Lot 7 included a \$350 house, and the name "Watson" was added in pencil. The following year, the note "Watson's house" was added again in pencil. However, the actual Warranty Deed transferring the property from Elizabeth Churchill to George Watson was in March 1873, followed by Watson's mortgage in 1874. Two years later, in the fall of 1876, Watson sold the property to Edward O'Brien,

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<sup>34</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building permit #794.

<sup>35</sup> SAM 78, Roll 9; T Deeds 454; X Deeds 15; City of Stillwater Building Permit #345.

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a liquor dealer on North Main Street. In the summer 1889, the Stillwater Construction and Furnishing Company made a \$250 "Addition to Main House & Porch reshingling roof and slight changes inside." O'Brien continued to live here, appearing in the 1900 city directory.<sup>36</sup>

**Address:** 723 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1409

**Historic Name:** James H. Griffin

**Date Built:** 1872

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This Italianate style home shows the boxlike form and strong vertical sense typical of the style, as well as the shallow peak hipped roof with rolled metal sheathing. The window surrounds remain intact, with a slight raised hood. The siding, however, now has shingles on the second floor and clapboard siding on the ground floor. There is a one-story entrance foyer off the south side.

**Historic Information:** Edmund G. Butts, a Stillwater attorney and real estate dealer, sold Lot 23 to James H. Griffin, a saw blade sharpener, in September 1873. He must have immediately begun construction of a house at 723 S. Second Street, because the tax assessor's record notes a \$200 house on the lot followed by the penciled notation: "Griffith's House." The following year, in June 1874, Griffin bought Lot 24, completing the property.<sup>37</sup>

**Address:** 806 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1410

**Historic Name:** John & Kate Glaspie

**Date Built:** 1891

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house and the house to the south (#808) make an interesting case study. Similar in plan and form, the two houses have been treated very different. The roof is complex, with a front facing gable with a second story porch with spindlework and scrollwork in the wood surround. This upper porch has a central door with two flanking 1/1 windows. The ground floor has a porch under the roofline on the southeast corner with a single entry door. There is a large two-bay clipped hip roof garage in the rear.

**Historic Information:** John Glaspie, a local real estate dealer who lived at 719 S. Third St., and his wife, Kate, purchased Lots 9, 10, & 11 from the Stillwater Construction and Furnishing Company for \$900 in May, 1889. In turn, they sold part of Lots 9 & 10 to James and Ellen Dwyer in July 1890. Either the Glaspies or the Dwyers built the house at 806 South Second Street in 1891. It does not appear on the 1891 Sanborn Insurance Map. By 1900 this was the home of Gertrude, Hannah, and Edith Gowen.<sup>38</sup>

**Address:** 807 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1411

**Historic Name:** Lewis W. Clarke

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<sup>36</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 7, Roll 3; SAM 78, Roll 9; Z Deeds 53; K Mtgs 75; 1 Deeds 223; City of Stillwater Building Permit #426.

<sup>37</sup> Z Deeds 407, 465; SAM 78, Roll 9; 1887, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>38</sup> 31 Deeds 148; 1894, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*.



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**Date Built:** 1870

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is an unusual building for two reasons. At its core, it is a converted railroad depot, moved to the lot in the nineteenth century, with a front facing gable, wood shingles in the gable end, and wide eaves. The one-story porch is open with a nearly flat roof and modillions under the eave. The front shows a paired 1/1 window on the facade. The house has also undergone several additions, although maintaining a low profile to remain compatible.

**Historic Information:** George Low and his wife, Ossina, who lived at 808 South First Street, were prominent people in this early neighborhood. She was a florist with a greenhouse on their lots, and owned extensive property in her own name. George Low was a carpenter and later the general manager of the Stillwater Construction and Furnishing Company which built several houses in this area. The 1887 Stillwater City Directory has a brief description of the company:

Stillwater Construction and Furnishing Company. This company was organized March 20, 1887, with a joint stock of \$3,000 and with the following officers. F.E. Joy, president; H.V. Quackenbush, secretary and treasurer, George Low, general manager. Their business consists in the construction of any class of buildings required, in furnishing material and in general contract work. They have built the new Ascension Episcopal church and other structures. They employ twenty men and furnish anything required from the foundation stone to the parlor ornament of a building.

George and Ossina Low bought Lots 20 and 21, Block 2 (behind their own residence) and in the period between fall 1888 and spring 1889, they moved the old St. Paul-Duluth train depot from downtown Stillwater (the new Union Depot had just been completed) to these lots, took out two mortgages of \$800 and \$1,000, with the Stillwater Building Association, had the old one-story depot (22 feet by 52 feet) which, they claimed on a building permit, had been 50% damaged by decay and moving, transformed by the Stillwater Construction and Furnishing Company into a dwelling at 807 South Second Street, which they then sold to the Stillwater Construction and Furnishing Company in March 1889. The transformed house ended up in the possession of the Lewis W. Clarke family. He was the city engineer for many years, and also worked in the construction of houses in the neighborhood.<sup>39</sup>

**Address:** 808 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1412

**Historic Name:** Frank and Augusta Grace

**Date Built:** 1891

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** Similar in construction to 806, this has the same upper porch under an overhanging hip roof with a center door and flanking 1/1 windows. Here the porch railing is wrought iron and the siding is manufactured. The porch on the southeast corner has been screened. There is a large plate glass window on the main facade with faux shutters.

**Historic Information:** In May 1889, John Glaspie, a local real estate dealer who lived at 719 S. Third St. and his wife, Kate, bought Lots 9, 10, & 11 from the Stillwater Construction and Furnishing Company for \$900. The Glaspies must have had the home built at 808 South Second Street, for when

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<sup>39</sup> City of Stillwater Building Permit #385(B); 28 Deeds 219; X Mtgs 90,91.

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they sold one-half the property to Frank and Augusta Grace in January 1891. It does not appear on the 1891 Sanborn Insurance Map. The house lists a roomer, a seamstress, in 1900.<sup>40</sup>

**Address:** 814 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1413

**Historic Name:** William McPherson

**Date Built:** 1874

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house has hints of the Queen Anne style under its numerous alterations. The roof form is complex, with a gabled dormer facing the street and a bell-shape tower. There is a one-story bay on the south elevation. The two-story porch is enclosed on the second floor. It appears extensive remodeling was done in the 1890s.

**Historic Information:** William McPherson bought Lots 12 and 13, Block 3, in October 1874. In April 1888, George Walters, a policeman and owner of the house took out a building permit to repair the original house. According to the permit, the original house was one-story, 22 feet wide by 38 feet deep. The proposed repairs were necessary because of "decay," and would cost \$90. They included a new roof and "repairing of outside of Building." However, between 1898 and 1904, it appears that a new house was built, based on Sanborn Insurance Maps for those years. In the winter of 1909, a new \$150 front porch was added to the house. The appearance of the house suggests that major renovation and additions were done in the 1890s.<sup>41</sup>

**Address:** 815 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1414

**Historic Name:** Kate Glaspie

**Date Built:** 1896

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a Queen Anne home with a later front porch, sleeping porch in the rear, and fish scale shingles. The front porch has capitals on the porch columns, dentils, fish scale shingles, brackets, stone pillars supporting the porch, recessed panels in the porch, and spindlework. The leaded glass sidelights on the front door and the six sided door knobs; the spacious front hallway with fireplace; the newell post, stair rail spindles, and the radiators with ears are all typical of this period.

**Historic Information:** John and Kate Glaspie purchased Lots 18 & 19, Block 2, in 1891. John was, at this time, engaged in real estate dealing working out of his house at 719 South Third Street. Less than two years later, John died unexpectedly at age 49. Perhaps with the insurance money, Kate Glaspie had this \$1,200, two-story house, 28 feet by 40 feet, built by the Stillwater Manufacturing Company in 1896. However, by 1900, the primary resident was Emil Mock, who ran a dry goods store at 122 S. Main Street. In 1910 the home's third owner, Daniel Doyle, added on a \$400 front porch, and in 1919, a sleeping porch was added.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> 31 Deeds 456; 27 Deeds 575; 1894 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>41</sup> SAM 7, Roll 4; Y Deeds 266; 1877, 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #'s 273, 1371.

<sup>42</sup> *Stillwater City Directory* 1892-1894, 1900-01; City of Stillwater Building Permits #'s 901, 1382, 1751; 48 Deeds 309; 58 Deeds 572.

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**Address:** 819 South Second Street

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1415

**Historic Name:** Thomas Shattuck

**Date Built:** 1881

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a simple front gable, 1½ story home with a one-story bay on the south side and an enclosed porch on the front. Sanborn maps through 1956 do not show a front porch, however. The second floor has two bays with windows with 2/2 lights. One the south wall, the windows are paired on the second floor and lack the wood surrounds seen elsewhere. There is an open second story porch to the rear.

**Historic Information:** Samuel C. Norton purchased Lots 16 & 17 in August 1880, and a month later, he took out a mortgage with the Stillwater Building Association which it appears he used to build the house at 819 S. Second Street. No sooner was it built then he sold it to Thomas Shattuck, a Stillwater policeman, who lived there for a number of years. When Shattuck bought the property and house, the tax assessor valued it at \$1100.<sup>43</sup>

**Address:** 822 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1416

**Historic Name:** Charles Holcombe

**Date Built:** 1891

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a hipped roof form with lower cross gables. The house appears to have aluminum siding. In the gable ends, there are narrow, paired 1/1 windows with faux shutters. The front porch has turned posts and spindlework. A substantial addition has been built to the rear, facing Churchill, with an attached front-gable garage.

**Historic Information:** The home at 822 South Second Street appears to be the second house built on Lots 14 & 15. In 1880, Charles Holcombe was elected Sheriff, and the family moved into the sheriff's residence of the Courthouse. But in 1892, the St. Croix Lumber Company of South Stillwater [Bayport] filed a lien against Charles Holcombe in the amount of \$1155.58 regarding the fact they had "delivered to one Charles P. Holcombe... between Oct 3 and Dec 15, 1891...lumber, sash, doors, and other building materials...which said materials were used by said Holcombe in and about the erection and construction of a dwelling house..." A City of Stillwater Building Permit #611 taken out on October 15, 1891 confirms the building of this house. The permit lists the size as 32 feet by 32 feet, one-and-one-half stories high, costing \$1,500. The builder was Sven Berglund.<sup>44</sup>

**Address:** 903 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1417

**Historic Name:** John Sullivan

**Date Built:** 1873

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** The house has a simple, vernacular form with a front facing gable, two bays on the second floor with 1/1 replacement windows, and three bays on the ground floor with an off-

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<sup>43</sup> SAM 78, Roll 11, Roll 13; 5 Deeds 606; P Mtgs 219; 1887, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>44</sup> 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 9; SAM 7, Roll 4; 1 Deeds 273; A Liens 709.

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center door on the south (right). It shows a three-light transom above it and a bracket supported gabled portico. There is a one-story gabled wing in the south elevation rear with a screened porch.

**Historic Information:** The house at 903 South Second Street has a very simple history. John Sullivan purchased Lot 28, Block 15 from Elizabeth Churchill in July 1872. The tax assessor's record 1873 lists a \$250 house with the owner as John Sullivan. Sullivan is listed again in the 1887 Stillwater City Directory as a laborer, residing at 903 S. Second St. By 1900 it was the home of Otto Lawrence, a trimmer at G. H. Atwood.<sup>45</sup>

**Address:** 904 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1418

**Historic Name:** Herman Drews

**Date Built:** 1894

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a charming Queen Anne home with a steeply pitched gabled roof with hipped roof end, a lower front gable and a side gable to the north. Gable ends are adorned with wood shingles and small paired windows. It has a wrap around porch with a gabled entry over the stairs. Windows are both paired and single with 1/1 lights.

**Historic Information:** In the spring 1872, Watson Hall, a painter, bought Lot 1, Block 14, from Mortimer Webster, a local real estate speculator and developer. In October 1894 Herman Drews applied for a building permit to have William Beiging build him a house on the south side of Churchill between Second and Third — on Block 14, Lot 1. The house was to be two-story, 26 feet wide by 46 feet deep, and costing \$1,700. (This house appeared to have had the number 117 E. Churchill Street.) It was the home of August G. Schuttinger, manager of the Helen Schuttinger Crockery and Millinery at 216 S. Main Street. On a December afternoon in 1904, there was a large fire in the house; the estimate of damage was \$2,241.32. The owner at the time was J. F. Thoreen. A building permit confirmed the cost of repairing the damage at \$600. In 1909, Thoreen spent \$250 and had indoor plumbing installed: a toilet, sink and bath tub. Three years later, he spent \$1,000 remodeling the house.<sup>46</sup>

**Address:** 905 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1419

**Historic Name:** Timothy Sullivan

**Date Built:** 1886 ca.

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a simple gable front with an interesting segmented front door transom, and an unusual front door surround. A photograph of the home appears in the Stillwater Daily Gazette in April 1904. It shows a shed roof porch with a gable over the entry. The porch has been removed.

**Historic Information:** John Sullivan purchased Lot 27, Block 15 in the spring 1882 for \$200. Four years later, he sold it to his brother (?), Timothy Sullivan for the same \$200. Timothy built the house

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<sup>45</sup> 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 9; X Deeds 30.

<sup>46</sup> W Deeds 160; A Liens 82; SAM 78, Roll 9; 1877, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; Fire Department records; City of Stillwater Building Permit #'s 828, 1199, 1362, 1501.

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that remains today at 905 South Second Street, and two Sullivans, Raymond and Genevieve, appear as boarders here in 1900. In 1904 this was the home of Dr. George Watier.<sup>47</sup>

**Address:** 910 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1420

**Historic Name:** John Blake

**Date Built:** 1880 ca.

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house is Italianate in style with its cube-like form and symmetrically placed upper floor windows. The flat peak hipped roof has shallow eaves with paired brackets and dentils. Windows are generally 1/1 lights. The foundation is stone. The front porch, with a hipped roof, is screened with four rectangular column and dentils under its eaves.

**Historic Information:** John Blake, listed as a laborer, may have built the house at 910 South Second Street, around 1875 before he actually obtained a Warranty Deed from Edmund Butts, an attorney and real estate speculator active in the neighborhood. The tax assessor put the value of the structure at about \$200, a small value even for those days. By 1877, Blake is listed in the Stillwater City Directory as living on "2<sup>nd</sup> s. Churchill." In 1882, the property passed to Fred Scott, the proprietor of the North Star Pharmacy. Given the style and size of the present house, it may have been Scott who rebuilt or enlarged the house to its present size and style. In the spring 1910, a building permit was taken out for \$2,100 worth of work, among the items was to raise the ell and build porches. On a winter morning, shortly after the Christmas 1917, there was a fire in the home; the loss was estimated at \$808.11.<sup>48</sup>

**Address:** 911 South Second Street

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1421

**Historic Name:** Patrick & Betsey McCarthy

**Date Built:** 1878

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a modest Italianate style home with some fine period elements, including the shallow peak hipped roof and slightly pedimented window hoods. the porch remains open with four supporting turned posts. The street level windows have been altered and there is a single entry door to the south (right) on this facade.

**Historic Information:** Patrick & Betsey McCarthy purchased five lots: 22-26 from Emma Marsh in July 1877, taking back a mortgage from her. He immediately built a good-sized house that we know today as 911 South Second Street. Patrick is listed as a laborer. Seven years later, he sold off Lots 22,23,24 to Robert Siebert. The resident in 1900 was Eugene Mellin, a harnessmaker at Theo. Jassoy & Son.<sup>49</sup>

**Address:** 914 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1422

**Historic Name:** Lindsley C. Everitt

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<sup>47</sup> 7 Deeds 496; 19 Deeds 229.

<sup>48</sup> 1 Deeds 400; 8 Deeds 613; SAM 7, Roll 5; 1877, 1884, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; Fire Department records; City of Stillwater Building Permit #1525.

<sup>49</sup> M Mtls 208; 15 Deeds 133, 141; 1877, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 7, Roll 6.

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**Date Built:** 1876

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a 1½ story front gable home with a single window in the gable end. The roof is moderately pitched. Important features are the windows, generally 1/1 lights with modest triangular hoods. The full facade one-story porch has been enclosed.

**Historic Information:** The house at 914 South Second Street has an interesting early history. A.M. Dodd, an attorney and real estate speculator in the neighborhood, sold the S-1/2 of Lot 4 and all of Lot 5, Block 14, to Lindsley C. Everitt in November 1874. In the spring 1876, D. L. Burlingham, a house painter, filed a lien against A.L. Booth on this property for “furnishing material and painting . . . 100 yards with two coats at .17 cts.” The total of the lien was \$17.00. But who was Booth; his name never shows up in the records. The lien itself makes the situation clear: Booth was in possession of the small house “under a Contract to purchase the same, and said house is situate upon land owned by L.C. Everett.” Alas, it seems that Booth was never able to fulfill his contract for his name does not appear in any subsequent land records. This was the home of Charles Malloy, bartender, in 1900.<sup>50</sup>

**Address:** 915 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1423

**Historic Name:** Robert & Catherine Siebert

**Date Built:** 1886

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** Although vernacular in style, this house is well-executed. It has a front facing gable and a lower gable extending on the south wall. The bays are symmetrically placed with 1/1 glazed windows. The gable ends have patterned wood shingles. The porch shows a spindlework frieze and turned posts. There is a one-story bay on the north wall.

**Historic Information:** In November 1884, Robert & Catherine Siebert purchased Lots 22, 23, 24 for \$700 from their neighbor to be, Patrick McCarthy. According to a building permit taken out in April 1886, Robert Siebert, a carpenter, built them a rather lavish home costing \$1800 at 915 South Second Street. The house was two stories in height, 22 feet by 32 feet, with a 15-foot by 20-foot addition and a seven-and-one-half foot deep cellar that was 15 by 17 feet. The house was probably financed with the aid of a mortgage they took out from the St. Croix Savings & Loan.<sup>51</sup>

**Address:** 920 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1424

**Historic Name:** Nelson Foster

**Date Built:** 1882

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a 1½ story vernacular house with cross gables. The siding appears to be asphalt shingles and windows are late replacements with aluminum frames. The facade shows a paired window in the gable end, while on the ground floor, there is a plate glass window and an entry door on the north (right) side. The door's surround evokes the colonial revival style, with simple

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<sup>50</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 7, Roll 5; Z Deeds 171; A Liens 143.

<sup>51</sup> 15 Deeds 141; X Mtgs 8; 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #9.

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pilasters and a raised pediment. There is a one-story triangular bay on the south wall. Sanborn maps show that there was a one-story porch that wrapped around the southeast corner.

**Historic Information:** Nelson Foster purchased Lots 6 & 7 on a Bond for Deed [Contract for Deed] in January 1880. Two years later, he took out a mortgage and built the house that has the number today, 920 South Second Street. In the fall of 1886, Foster took out a building permit to make an addition to the house. The builders were the Northey Brothers, busy local contractors. The addition was listed as 18 feet by 24 feet deep, one-and-a-half-stories; the cost was \$800.<sup>52</sup>

**Address:** 1001 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1425

**Historic Name:** Michael S. Mockler

**Date Built:** 1875

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This home shows elements of its original Italianate design, with a box-like form and hipped roof, sheathed in metal. The exterior is sheathed in manufactured siding and windows appear to be late replacements. They also have faux shutters. There is a step down addition in the rear, and a small portico over the front door. The 1904 Sanborn map shows a full facade porch.

**Historic Information:** Mortimer Webster sold Lots 20 & 21 to Michael S. Mockler in May 1875, taking back a mortgage from Webster. The tax assessor's record for that year has a notation penciled in: "\$600 added for house." This house would later, when numbers were assigned, become 1001 South Second Street. When Mockler died in 1881, his heirs sold the property back to Webster for \$2,000. In 1900 John J. McCarthy, foreman, called this home.<sup>53</sup>

**Address:** 1004 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1426

**Historic Name:** Mortimer Webster

**Date Built:** 1876

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This building is a one-story house with a hipped roof and clapboard siding. Originally, there was a one-story ell off the rear, now with an extra addition post-1940. The full facade porch has been screened. Windows are mixed, but older ones on the south wall are 2/2 glazing.

**Historic Information:** The house at 1004 South Second Street occupies Lots 8 & 9, Block 14. Mortimer Webster, a real estate dealer and developer, purchased the two lots for \$900 in May 1875. That is a high price for two lots in this area, and may indicate a house on one of the lots. A year and a half later, in December 1876, Webster sells one of the lots, Lot 9, to John Simmons for \$1500, surely indicating a house on the lot. Simmons sells the lot back to Webster, who in turn sells Lot 9 to Almira Kellogg in June 1878 for \$1550. The following year, Almira purchases Lot 8 from Elizabeth Churchill. The tax assessor's records indicate the value of Lot 9 jumped from \$100 to \$1100 between 1875 and 1877. This was the home of Luman Kellogg and family in 1900.<sup>54</sup>

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<sup>52</sup> F Bonds 258; Q Mtgs 36; City of Stillwater Building Permit #143.

<sup>53</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1 Deeds 28; K Mtgs 288; 8 Deeds 476; SAM 7, Roll 4.

<sup>54</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1 Deeds 27, 279, 584; 5 Deeds 524; SAM 7, Roll 5; SAM 7, Roll 6.

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**Address:** 1007 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1427

**Historic Name:** Jim Settlemeier

**Date Built:** 1922

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This 1½ story bungalow style home retains much of its original form.

Rectangular in plan, the exterior is finished with stucco. Windows are grouped in twos and threes, / The front gable end shows a wide eave with exposed beams and a tripled set of windows. The porch, under a hipped roof, has windows, which appear to be part of the original plan. The foundation has been finished on the exterior with brick. The garage deserves mention, as it is possibly original. Clapboarded sided, it has a rollup door with six windows across.

**Historic Information:** The present house at 1007 South Second Street is apparently the second house at this address. There is a record of a fire in 1912 at this address; a fire that started at 4:00 in the morning, and caused \$1,800 in damage. The present house was, according to the building permit, built in 1922 by a local carpenter, Henry Mohr, according to plans provided by the Bluff City Lumber Company. The \$4,500 one-and-a-half story house was 26 feet by 32 feet with cedar shingles on the roof and stucco on the outside walls. The owner at the time was Jim Settlemeier.<sup>55</sup>

**Address:** 1008 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1428

**Historic Name:** M. C. Mosier

**Date Built:** 1918

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is one of the few twentieth century homes in the district and one of the few with Craftsman era sensibilities. These include the front-facing gable with a paired window, the wide overhanging eaves, and the exposed rafter ends. Windows are found in sets of three, most being double-sashed, 1/1 lights and the main entry has sidelights. The foundation is stone. There is a one-story front gable garage on the property with a rollup door.

**Historic Information:** The present house at 1008 South Second Street is, surprisingly, the third house to have this address. The first house was built about 1876 by a man named Merit Smith, and according to a building permit taken out in April 1887. Local contractors, Bieging & Schmidt, built the second house in 1890. The third — and present — house was built in 1918 by a carpenter named John Peters for the owner, M. C. Mosier.<sup>56</sup>

**Address:** 1012 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1429

**Historic Name:** Winfield & Althea Moore

**Date Built:** 1882

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house is typical of the vernacular homes in the district. Two stories, it has clapboard siding and a three-bay gable front with enclosed front porch. The windows are 1/1

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<sup>55</sup> City of Stillwater Building Permit #1912; Stillwater Fire Dept. records.

<sup>56</sup> City of Stillwater Building Permits #'s 198, 494, 1684; 12 Deeds 556; Yearly tax assessors records for the 1870s.



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with a triangular pediment hood. The porch has been enclosed and there is a modern bow bay window on the south wall.

**Historic Information:** It is not clear from the existing records exactly who built the home at 1012 South Second Street. From the tax assessor's records, it would appear that this house on the S-1/2 of Lot 11 and Lot 12 was built about 1882. We also find a Warranty Deed dated August, 1882 in which Winfield & Althea Moore buy the S-1/2 of Lot 11 and the N-3/4 of Lot 12 from Samuel Packard for \$1,575, a value surely indicating a house on the property. It does not appear either Packard, who was a bridge tender, nor the Moores ever lived in the house. A building addition permit taken out in September 1886 by the then owner of the house, Mathew Butler, a mail carrier, notes that the original two-story house cost about \$600. Butler is spending \$200 to add "porch in front — slight changes in the interior of house & general repairs" The builder is listed as L. W. Clarke, who appears to have dabbled in construction when not occupied with his job as city engineer. In the spring 1913, when Andrew Hanson was the owner, a \$1,000 worth of remodeling was done, including a new kitchen.

**Address:** 1013 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1430

**Historic Name:** Frederick & Thekla Kern

**Date Built:** 1879

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This is one of the smallest homes in the district, a one-story house with a front gable plan. It appears to have manufactured siding. There is a large picture win on the street facade with an entry door on the north (left) side. The only hint of the age of the house is the box-bay on the south wall.

**Historic Information:** Mortimer Webster, a local developer and real estate speculator sold Frederick & Thekla Kern Lot 17 and the S-1/2 of Lot 18, Block 15 in August 1879 for \$1,400—a price that would indicate there was a house on the lot. The Kerns, in turn, sold the property to Joseph Pecha for \$1,300 in September 1880. The 1881 Tax Assessor's record notes a house on the lot. In 1900 this was the home of Orris E. Lee, lawyer. Lee was a Washington County Court Commissioner for twenty years, and later served as a municipal judge between 1916 and 1932.<sup>57</sup>

**Address:** 1017 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1431

**Historic Name:** Margaret Organ

**Date Built:** 1882

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a vernacular Victorian era house with a front gable form and lower, through wall cross gables. Window surrounds appear original, with 1/1 glazing. On the street facade, there is a modern three-sided bay. The primary entry is protected by an arched porch with spindlework and turned posts. There is a hipped bay on the north wall.

**Historic Information:** Edmund Butts, a local attorney and real estate dealer, sold Lots 15 & 16 to Thomas Organ on a Bond for Deed in June 1873, receiving a Warranty Deed about nine months later. There is no indication he built upon his lots, but in 1882 he sold the property to Margaret

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<sup>57</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; 10 Deeds 445, 505; SAM 78, Roll 13; City of Stillwater Building Permit #124.

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Organ, who within the year built the house that remains at 1017 South Second Street. In the summer 1886, a \$225 one-and-a-half story stable, 20 feet by 24 feet was built on the property. In 1900, Isaac Arsenault called this home, as did dressmakers Elizabeth and Delphine Arsenault.<sup>58</sup>

**Address:** 1018 South Second St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1432

**Historic Name:** Frederick Wilman

**Date Built:** 1883

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This early house retains much of its Italianate influences. These include the two-story cube like form with a peak-hipped roof. Window surrounds have a triangular pediment with scrollwork. The eaves are wide and have paired brackets. The house originally had a one-story full facade porch, based on Sanborn maps, and an overhang between the first and second floors still remains. There is a lower back ell, original, with a slightly lower roofline, plus screened second story porch on the south wall.

**Historic Information:** For \$560 Samuel Packard sold the S-3/4 of Lot 13 and all of Lot 14, Block 14, to Frederick Wilman on a Warranty Deed in September 1883. The following month, Wilman, a jeweler, received a mortgage from the Stillwater Building Association. He had the house at 1018 South Second Street built, and lived there for years. By 1900, however, Andrew Hanson, travel agent, lived here.<sup>59</sup>

**Address:** 703 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1448

**Historic Name:** John O'Shaughnessy

**Date Built:** 1870

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** Although the house is a three-bay Italianate cube, it has undergone some substantial changes. The building has a shallow, peak hipped roof, with a wood cornice trim and dentils. Windows are generally 1/1 with a raised hood. The entry is later, dating from between 1910 and 1924, based on Sanborn maps. Off-center, it suggests the Colonial Revival style with side lights, tripartite transom, triangular pediment, and supporting columns. On the south wall, there is a ground level, single entry door with overhanging, bracketed porch, again more typical 1910-1924.

**Historic Information:** Discontent at living out near Lily Lake, far from downtown, the Irish born John & Mary O'Shaughnessy, aged 31 and 29, purchased Lots 28, 29, 30, Block 3 on a Warranty Deed for \$500 in June 1870, taking back a mortgage from the seller. Within a year, the tax assessor records a substantial \$800 house on Lot 29 taking the number, 703 South Third Street. By 1880, there were two parents, eight children, two boarders, and a servant living in the house. John O'Shaughnessy was a prosperous dealer in boots and shoes. He was also, at one time, an agent for the new Singer Sewing Machine Company, the Cascade Clothes Washer and the Cunard Mail Line Steamship Company. A small note in the Stillwater newspaper, the Republican, dated November 3, 1870 reads "Mr. J. O'Shaughnessy is this week moving into his new house out on Third Street. It is quite a tastefully built residence. We notice quite a number of new houses in that neighborhood. The

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<sup>58</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; E Bonds 21; Z Deeds 71; 10 Deeds 91; Stillwater Bldg Permit #87.

<sup>59</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; 12 Deeds 270; S Mtgs 521.

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suburbs are building up rapidly.” The family lived there more than fifty years. The thirteen child of this family, Ignatius Aloysius O’Shaughnessy, was to make his fortune in oil, and become a leading philanthropist of Minnesota some seventy-five years later. <sup>60</sup>

**Address:** 704 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1449

**Historic Name:** David & Margaret Tozer

**Date Built:** 1874

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a complex house, due to additions and subtractions, but it gives evidence of having well-to-do owner. It has a painted brick exterior, with a main box-like block with a peak-hipped roof, and a lower ell on the north side. There is a further addition off the northwest corner. The windows have stepped brick segmental arch hoods with brick sills. The house originally had a full facade porch, later removed, but suggested by the second story door above the primary entrance. This porch has paired columns. The entrance itself has sidelights and a three-part transom above.

**Historic Information:** David and Margaret Tozer bought Lots 1, 2 & 3, Block 4, from Edmund and Augusta Butts in April 1868 for \$300. David was age 45 at this time, a prosperous lumberman who believed in owning real estate. In 1888, Tozer took out a building permit to allow Sven Berglund, a local carpenter and contractor, to build a \$1,000, one-story 18 foot by 29 foot addition (with a porch in front) to the house to serve as a library. Like the original house, this addition would be brick veneer. The size of the original house is noted in the permit as being two-story, 28 feet by 30 feet with a hip roof. This estate, which came to include lots 27-30 behind the house, took the number 704 South Third Street. In 1936, in the midst of the great depression, David’s daughter, Olive Waldref, paid local contractor Edwin Olsen, almost \$11,000 for “complete remodeling of present building both inside & exterior, addition of 9x10 to main building and a 20x20 garage, also new.” David was born in New Brunswick; his wife’s family was from Scotland by way of Canada. In 1880, they had four children living in the house with them: David, Jr., 16; Ford, 9; Julia, 6; and Olive, 3. There were in addition two servants: Amelia Gaudiere, 19 and John Parant, 22. <sup>61</sup>

**Address:** 712 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1450

**Historic Name:** George & Sarah Rooney

**Date Built:** 1914

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This foursquare home has several elements typical of the style. This includes the boxlike form with a moderately pitched hipped roof and a prominent gabled dormer with a triangular pediment above tripled six pane windows. There is also dormer on the north and south roof slope, but these have returns and grouped windows. Again, typically, the foundation is concrete

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<sup>60</sup> T Deeds 237; I Mtgs 15; SAM 78, Roll 8; History of Holcombe’s Additions Residential Area by Donald Empson, p.97; 1877 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1880 Federal Census for Stillwater, family #103; City of Stillwater Building Permit #2101.

<sup>61</sup> S Deeds 377; SAM 7, Roll 4; 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1880 Federal Census of Stillwater, family #126; City of Stillwater Building Permit #'s 371, 2436, 2444.

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block with a ground level entry on the south wall and a two-story bay on the north wall. The porch is screened.

**Historic Information:** In the summer of 1914, Robert McGarry, who had been living in an older house on the lot, contracted with local contractor, Frank Linner & Co. to build a new house on the lot. According to the building permit, the \$4,000 house was to be two-story, 30 feet by 32 feet, with a cement basement.<sup>62</sup>

**Address:** 715 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1451

**Historic Name:** John McCarthy

**Date Built:** 1939

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** Although dating from 1939, this is one of the latest houses within the district and the only example of the Tudor Revival style. The roof is a clipped hip with a front gable in classic Tudor form with the long, asymmetrical form. The exterior is cream-colored stucco with accented dark wood cross beams. The primary entry is highlighted with stone facing. windows, as was typical, are sometimes grouped in sets of three, with 6/6 lights. There is a one-story, gabled sunroom on the north wall. The foundation appears to be concrete block.

**Historic Information:** A house built in 1939 occupies the two lots. Emil Johnson was the owner, and apparently the builder of this house, according to the building permit, cost \$3,500.<sup>63</sup>

**Address:** 718 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1452

**Historic Name:**

**Date Built:** 1870s

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This home has evolved over time. At present, it shows its core as a vernacular home with a front facing gable and a two-story ell. The windows have a slight triangular pediment on the surrounds. There are three bays across the front second floor, symmetrically spaced. The ell was added after 1954, as shown by the Sanborn maps, and the front porch appears to be a late addition. A gable front with an ell on the south side, a front leaded picture window and porch from the turn of the century.

**Historic Information:** The history of this house is uncertain. Lots 4 to 7 were in the hands of George & Sarah Rooney (see 712 South Third Street) until the 1880s. The early tax assessor's record for 1870 indicates there is a \$500 house on Lot 7; today the house occupying Lots 6 & 7 is 718 South Third Street. It could be the Rooneys built this house first, and then rented it while they built 712 South Third Street. In 1897, there were, according to a building permit, substantial changes made to this house. The ell part was moved from the south side to end of the building, and a new porch was added in front and a small porch in the rear. In 1900, this was the home of James D. Bronson, secretary and treasurer of the East Side Lumber Company. That year's directory also lists a female domestic as residing here.<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>62</sup> S Deeds 451; A Liens 127; 8 Deeds 42; SAM 7, Roll 4; 1880 Federal Census of Stillwater, family #228-3; City of Stillwater Building Permit #1569.

<sup>63</sup> City of Stillwater Building Permit #2567.

<sup>64</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; S Deeds 451; SAM 7, Roll 2; City of Stillwater Building Permit #928.

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**Address:** 719 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1453

**Historic Name:** John & Kate Glaspie

**Date Built:** 1888

**Physical Description:** One of the most striking houses on the street, it is a Queen Anne style home with a dominant front conical tower on the southwest corner. The tower shows four gabled thru wall dormers with arched windows. The upper tower is finished with wood shingles, as is the band between the first and second floors. The roof is hipped with a lower gable on the south roof slope above a two-story bay. There is also an unusual two-story bow bay on the north wall, under a gable. The entrance is on the street facade's north (left) side under a pedimented screened entry.

**Historic Information:** In July 1888, Charles McKenzie, living in Duluth, sold the property to John & Kate Glaspie for \$1625, a price that indicates there was a house on the two lots. However what house there may have been was demolished, for a building permit taken out in September 1888 details a new house being constructed for John Glaspie on these two lots. This new house, which remains today, was two stories in height, 35 feet by 48 feet, and valued at \$5,000, a very expensive house for the time. At the same time, Glaspie also had a \$1,000 one-and-a-half story barn, 22 feet by 27 feet constructed as well as a \$200 wood shed. The contractor for all three was Thomas Sutherland, who lived only a short distance away at 1009 S. Fourth Street. Sutherland built several other houses in the neighborhood. In 1900 David Carmichael, of Mulvey & Carmichael, logs and lumber, lived here.<sup>65</sup>

**Address:** 801 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1454

**Historic Name:** David and Margaret Tozer

**Date Built:** 1880

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a very simple workman's cottage, 1½ stories with a front facing gable. There are two upper story windows on the street facade, sheltered by metal awnings> The exterior is now sheathed in wood shingles and the full facade porch has been enclosed, with three sliding 2 pane windows. There is a one-story gable room off the rear.

**Historic Information:** In 1878, David Tozer, a lumberman whose lived down the block at 704 S. Third, bought Lots 21, 22, 23, Block 3 for \$100 per lot, or \$300 total. In 1880, he built moderate size rental houses at 801 South Third Street, 805 South Third Street, 807 South Third Street, one on each lot. The properties remained in his possession until after the turn of the century. In 1900 Henry Heisel, who worked for Tozer, resided in this house. On New Year's Day, 1905, at 2:20 in the morning, a major fire severely damaged the house at 801 South Third Street. Michael Welsh was the tenant at that time, and the damage was estimated at \$1,244.40.<sup>66</sup>

**Address:** 804 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1455

**Historic Name:** J. M. Knight

**Date Built:** 1871

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<sup>65</sup> SAM 5, Roll 2; Z Deeds 307; 24 Deeds 554; City of Stillwater Building Permit #'s 357, 367, 368, 1820.

<sup>66</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 11; 1 Deeds 619; 60 Deeds 478; Fire Department Records.

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**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This was a well-planned Queen Anne style house with subsequent alterations. The plan is a front-gabled roof with a lower front gable and two lower side gables. The side gables cap two-story, three-sided bays. This front lower gable has louvers and ornamental wood shingles. The upper gable now has casement style windows. Most windows show 1/1 lights, although near the entrance, there is a horizontal window with lozenge-shaped lights. There is a cement carriage step in front with the address and the name John J. Kilty.

**Historic Information:** J.M. Knight secured a Warranty Deed to Lots 8,9, & 10, Block 4 from Elizabeth Churchill in May 1873 for \$375, the price of the lots alone. The 1871 *Stillwater Gazette*, in listing the improvements in the city, noted J. M. Knight had built a residence worth \$1,600 on Third Street. Five years later, Wilmot A. Hursey bought those same three lots and the house at 804 South Third Street for \$1400. In the summer 1902, according to a building permit, Adolph Sprich, a local carpenter, increased the size of the house with a \$1,500 "two addition by build to the old Building also a new Roof to be constructed and the second floor have entirely new Walls on the Outside." By 1900 it was owned by John J. Kilty, whose firm offered building supplies for sale, located at 313 E. Chestnut.<sup>67</sup>

**Address:** 805 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1456

**Historic Name:** David and Margaret Tozer

**Date Built:** 1880

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is similar to the homes to the north and south -- simple workingmen's homes in a 19th century vernacular form. It is a small 1-1/2 story house with with an open, shed roof front porch and an addition in the rear. The windows are 1/1 glazing, with a grouping of three across the front ground floor facade.

**Historic Information:** In 1878, David Tozer, a lumberman whose lived down the block at 704 S. Third, bought Lots 21, 22, 23, Block 3 for \$100 per lot, or \$300 total. In 1880, he built moderate size rental houses at 801 South Third Street, 805 South Third Street, 807 South Third Street, one on each lot. The properties remained in his possession until after the turn of the century.<sup>68</sup>

**Address:** 807 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1457

**Historic Name:** David & Margaret Tozer

**Date Built:** 1880

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is similar to the homes to the north -- each with different "modernization" over the years. It is a simple 1½-story gable front house with two bays on the second floor and three on the street level. Windows are 1/1 with faux shutters. Here the porch is a simple gabled entry with two columns for support.

**Historic Information:** In 1878, David Tozer, a lumberman whose lived down the block at 704 S. Third, bought Lots 21, 22, 23, Block 3 for \$100 per lot, or \$300 total. In 1880, he built moderate size

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<sup>67</sup> *Stillwater Gazette*, November 14, 1871; 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; X Deeds 315; 1 Deeds 486; City of Stillwater Building permit #1072.

<sup>68</sup> SAM 78, Roll 11; 1 Deeds 619; 60 Deeds 478.

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rental houses at 801 South Third Street, 805 South Third Street, 807 South Third Street, one on each lot. The properties remained in his possession until after the turn of the century. This was the residence of George Lanphear, brakeman for the Chicago, St. Paul, and Minneapolis Railroad.<sup>69</sup>

**Address:** 808 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1458

**Historic Name:** Wilmot & Mary Hursey

**Date Built:** 1889

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** The stick style of architecture is not common in Stillwater, and this is a fine representative. Note the steeply pitched gable roof on the cross gables with fishscale shingles, plus bargeboard. The decorative crossbeams define the style. The square tower with the steep peak and oval windows with cartouches are excellent workmanship. There is a full facade porch with a sunroom on the south side.

A gable front with a turret, open front porch added later, and an addition on the rear. There is a primitive stained glass window in the front.

**Historic Information:** The house at 808 South Third Street is mostly on Lot 10, Block 4. That lot was variously in the hands of J.M. Knight and Wilmot Hursey who built and occupied the home at 804 South Third Street. In May 1889, Wilmot & Mary Hursey applied for a permit to have the Northey Brothers, local contractors, build them a house at 808 South Third Street. The house was quite expensive: \$1,600; it was 2 stories, 26 feet wide and 46 feet deep. The cellar was to be seven feet deep, 14 feet by 14 feet. It was not until 1893 that the exact dimensions of the present property were pieced together, when Mary Hursey sold Lot 10 to William Chalmers, and Christine Jackson sold the north 5 feet of Lot 11 to William Chalmers. Horace W. Davis, bookkeeper for Ann River Logging Company, resided here in 1900.<sup>70</sup>

**Address:** 811 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1459

**Historic Name:** Lydia & George Gaslin

**Date Built:** 1902

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This a two-story house with hints of the Queen Anne style, with a front gable plan and a cross-hipped roof. Notable are the wood shingles in the front gable end (which shows a return) and the bay on the south wall. The picture window on the street facade has been replaced. The porch is open with square wood posts and spindlework balustrades.

**Historic Information:** In August 1872, Edmund Butts, a real estate dealer in the neighborhood, sold Lydia and George Gaslin, Lot 20, Block 3, for \$100. The following year, the tax assessor noted an \$800 house, which later took the number 811 South Third St. on the lot, indicating a good sized home. However, an article in the *Stillwater Gazette*, November 14, 1871, on improvements throughout the city notes, on Third Street, the "Geo Gaslin residence \$1,000". The Gaslins owned the property for the next decade, but they are not listed in the Stillwater City Directory of that period suggesting the house was rental property. That house was apparently either demolished or moved, for a building permit taken out in November 1902 details a new house on this lot built by contractor

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<sup>69</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 11; 1 Deeds 619; 60 Deeds 478.

<sup>70</sup> 35 Deeds 521, 558;

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Eugene Schmidt for the owner, James W. Foley who lived next door. The house was to be built 20 feet wide and 44 feet deep at a cost of \$1,500. The cellar was to be under the entire house.<sup>71</sup>

**Address:** 813 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1460

**Historic Name:** James W. Foley

**Date Built:** 1896

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This two-story house, suggesting the Queen Anne style, shows a hipped roof and lower front-facing gable and two lower cross gables. The front gables show wood shingles. The foundation is rough cut stone. The full facade porch is ground level, while there is a second-story porch. Windows are typically single or paired with 1/1 lights.

**Historic Information:** In April 1896, William Chalmers sold Lot 19, Block 3 to James W. Foley on a Warranty Deed for \$350, a price that indicates there was no building on the lot. Foley, a bookkeeper, built his home at 813 South Third Street on the lot the same year. According to the building permit, the contractors were Adolph Sprich and Eugene Schmidt; the cost of the house was estimated at \$1,650. It was to be two stories high, and approximately 30 feet by 35 feet.<sup>72</sup>

**Address:** 814 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1461

**Historic Name:** August & Christine Jackson

**Date Built:** 1877

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a large four bay Italianate with a hipped roof with a gable on the street facade. This has a flat hipped roof with wide eaves, wide fascia board, and turned brackets. Windows show the original surrounds and are double-sashed, 1/1 lights. There is a simple hipped entry portico over the off-center front door, which has a sidelight and transom light. The house has a one-story bay on the south wall, repeating the turned brackets of the cornice.

**Historic Information:** The Swedish-born August & Christine Jackson bought Lot 11, Block 4 in July 1876, and Lot 12, Block 4, two years later in August 1878. Jackson, who was born in 1850, was a carpenter and contractor, and it is quite likely that he personally built this home at 814 South Third Street in 1877. By 1880, they had five children under the age of six, as well as a boarder, living in the house with them. In the spring of 1886, Jackson built a \$200 one-and-a-half story stable, 26 feet by 18 feet deep on his property. In 1900 Ernest Lund, a driver for J. J. Kilty, boarded here.<sup>73</sup>

**Address:** 821 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1462

**Historic Name:** William Chalmers

**Date Built:** 1895

**Contributing**

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<sup>71</sup> SAM 78, Roll 9; X Deeds 83; Washington County Tax Assessor's office; City of Stillwater Building Permit #1088.

<sup>72</sup> 46 Deeds 9; 1905 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #889.

<sup>73</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*.



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**Physical Description:** This is an impressive Queen Anne style home of 2½ stories with a side gable roof and a lower gable on the front, over a three-sided bay. Gable ends show imbricated shingles, with a Palladian window on the street facade and a circular window on the south. Most striking, though, is the sharply pitched hexagonal tower, with 3/1 windows and a slight pent diving the upper from the lower floors. The porch is open and wraps around the southwest corner, supported by a series of turned, paired posts.

**Historic Information:** The first home at 821 South Third Street originally had the house number, 743 South Third Street. William Foran, a raftsman, and later, a foreman for Isaac Staples, purchased Lots 16,17,18, 19 for the astounding price of \$2400, which included an \$850 house on Lot 16. That high price for these lots is reflected in subsequent annual tax assessor's records. In any case, Foran lived in a house at the address, 743 South Third Street in the 1880s. In the summer 1895, this house was moved south to Block 1, Lot 20 of Marsh's Addition. (Today this is the location of a newer house built in 1955 at 1117 Fifth Street South). In its place, William Chalmers, president of the St. Croix Lumber Company, had a \$3,500 house built by local contractors Adolph Sprich and Eugene Schmidt. According to the building permit, the house was to be 28 feet by 42 feet, 2 stories, with a cellar floor of concrete.<sup>74</sup>

**Address:** 822 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1463

**Historic Name:** Mary E. Capron

**Date Built:** 1890 ca.

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a grand home, 2 ½ stories with a few important alterations that diminish its integrity. Notable are the jerkinhead front gable with a pronounced wide cornice and paired brackets underneath, Windows on the street facade are paired, but symmetrically placed. On the north wall is a tower with an octagonal roof, over a three-sided, two-story bay. The original porch has been enclosed, although the modillions and triangular pediment over the entry remain. The house has manufactured siding.

**Historic Information:** The home was built for Mary Capron, a widow, who owned a livery stable located at 213-15 E. Chestnut. The house appears on the 1891 Sanborn Map, and Mary resides here in the 1890 city directory. After the death of her husband, her son, William, ran the livery business. Mary died May 15, 1901. There were at least two domestic living here in 1900.<sup>75</sup>

**Address:** 901 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1464

**Historic Name:** Walter Johnson

**Date Built:** 1912

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a rectangular concrete block building used for commercial purposes. The roof has a slight slope with a three-foot parapet. The entry is on the northwest corner under a cutaway. The former storefront has been enclosed with brick and has several fixed windows. There is an additional entry on the east wall.

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<sup>74</sup> SAM 78, Roll 9; X Deeds 103; 1877, 1884 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permits #854 & 859.

<sup>75</sup> 1880, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*.

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**Historic Information:** In a shuffle of buildings in the summer 1912, Walter Johnson, who had a grocery store at 1003 South Third Street, moved the house on the corner, 903 South Third Street, one lot south where the house took the new house number, 905 South Third Street. On the now vacant corner lot, he had a store built, which took the number, 901 South Third Street. According to the building permit, the concrete block structure was to cost \$3,000, described as two-story, 30 feet by 60 feet, with a flat tar gravel roof. Over the years, it has had many uses, but its initial use was as the grocery store of Walter Johnson who took up residence next door at 905 South Third Street.<sup>76</sup>

**Address:** 904 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1465

**Historic Name:** Frank & Mary Joy

**Date Built:** 1874

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** The corner house is a fine example of the Italianate style, with acube-like form, wide eaves with dentils and brackets and a peak hipped roof. There are three bays on the street facade with segmental arched windows 2/2 with a slightly raised wood hood. The street level shows three bays with the entry door off-center on the north (right) side. The door has a transom light above. The porch is well executed a short balustrade above. There is an attached garage addition in the rear.

**Historic Information:** David Tozer, a lumberman and real estate speculator, who built a number of houses in this neighborhood — and lived for many years at 704 South Third Street — purchased Lots 1 & 2, Block 13 in August 1873. Within a year, he had built this house with its typical hip roof that was to take the number, 904 South Third Street. The Tax Assessor, making his rounds in 1874, penciled in a note “\$1000 added for house.” But it appears the house was enlarged (or finished) shortly thereafter for in May 1875, Tozer leased the property “together with the dwelling house thereon” to Frank and Mary Joy. The two were both Yankees from Maine, then in their early ‘30’s. The rent on the house was \$20.00 per month, however, the lease stipulated, Joy could purchase the house for \$2,400 any time within two years — less the amount of rent already paid. Joy also got permission to build a stable on the two lots. But it was March 1878 before Joy received the Warranty Deed on his purchase. By 1880, the couple had comfortably settled in with no children, but a 20-year-old Irish servant, Katie Moriarty, looked after them. In the late 1880s Frank Joy was president of the Stillwater Construction & Furnishing Company, who did a good deal of business in this immediate neighborhood. Joy continued to own the house in 1900, now out of construction and listed as “insurance, real estate, loans, and rental agency.”<sup>77</sup>

**Address:** 905 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1466

**Historic Name:** D. L. Burlingham

**Date Built:** 1871

**Noncontributing**

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<sup>76</sup> City of Stillwater Building Permit #1504; see also entry at 905 South Third Street.

<sup>77</sup> X Deeds 382; 1 Deeds 510; E Bonds 243; SAM 7, Roll 4; 1877, 1887, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1880 Federal Census of Stillwater, family #129.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Physical Description:** Under the manufactured siding and the new sliding windows is the hint of a Queen Anne house. The roof is hipped with lower through-wall cross gables. The porch has been enclosed and now a shed roof portico shelters the main entrance.

**Historic Information:** D.L. Burlingham purchased Lot 27 & 28 in June 1871 from J.M. & Sarah Knight. He paid the very large sum of \$1,065 for the two lots. The 1872 tax assessor's record notes a \$800 house on the two lots. The *Stillwater Gazette*, in a list of improvement printed in its November 14, 1871, issue, notes a new residence by D. L. Burlingham on Third Street. The value is given as \$1,200. Burlingham was at this time, a house painter; later he went into the business of selling books, stationery, and news magazines. A building permit, taken out in June 1912, records that Walter Johnson, who had a grocery store at 1003 South Third Street, moved the house that was on Lot 28 (today the site of the Stillwater Apostolic Church) — which had the number, 903 South Third Street — to Lot 27 where it took the new number 905 South Third Street, and became the new residence of Walter Johnson. Thus it would appear the present house at 905 South Third Street is the second house on that lot, and its history would be that of the house previously at 903 South Third — a house that was also built by D.L. Burlingham in the 1870s.<sup>78</sup>

**Address:** 906 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1467

**Historic Name:** Ida Johnson

**Date Built:** 1906

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This foursquare home has a peak hipped roof and box-like form typical of the style. There are dormers on the east, north, and south slopes, gabled with paired 1/1 windows on the street facade, single windows on the others. The front is symmetrical with two bays on the second floor and three under the porch. The porch has a triangular pediment with foliate carving. Two attractive touches are the box bay on the south wall, supported by brackets, and the two-story three-sided bay on the north wall. The front window has two lights with the upper showing leaded glazing with stained glass.

**Historic Information:** Edward Stewart, a lumberman, obtained the Warranty Deed for Lots 3 & 4, Block 13, in the spring 1874, and, the tax assessor's record indicates, built a home soon afterwards. When house numbers were assigned a decade later, this house took the number, 910 South Third Street. Frank Linner & Co. built the present house on these two lots, 906 South Third Street, in 1906 for Mrs. Ida Johnson. The house cost \$3,000, was 30 feet by 40 feet with a mansard roof. It also had indoor plumbing: two water closets, two washbasins, one enameled iron sink and a bathtub.<sup>79</sup>

**Address:** 907 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1468

**Historic Name:** Harlow McIntyre

**Date Built:** 1878

**Contributing**

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<sup>78</sup> T Deeds 694; SAM 7, Roll 3; 1877, 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building Permit #1503.

<sup>79</sup> X Deeds 559; Z Deeds 379; SAM 7, Roll 4; 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*; City of Stillwater Building permit #'s 1269, 1271.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Physical Description:** Although this house has been altered, it shows the basic elements of the Italianate style, given its cube-like form and low-pitched peak hipped roof. There are three bays across the street facade, with symmetrically placed 4/4, double-sash windows. The wood surrounds also are intact, with the use of faux shutters. In addition, there is a two-story box bay on the south wall and a one-story hipped bay on the north wall. The entry reflects a later period, with a broken pediment over the door and sidelights. The porch is simple with a gabled overhang supported by wrought iron posts. Sanborn maps show that it originally had a full facade porch.

**Historic Information:** Thanks to two liens filed against the home, we get an extraordinary vision of building a house in Stillwater in the 1870s. After passing through several owners, Harlow McIntyre purchased Lots 25 & 26, Block 14 in September 1877 for \$400. Six months later, he took out a mortgage, \$1,000 at 6%, from the Stillwater Building Association. It is uncertain where he spent his mortgage money, but apparently it did not go to those who built his house. William May, a contractor and builder living on Sixth and Pine Streets, filed a lien for \$239.75 against the property. This amount, which is itemized, represents May's labor at the skilled rate of \$3.00 a day, and his crew's labor at the rate of either \$2.25 or \$2.50 a day. May and his crew worked to build this house from June 20 to July 16, 1878. It took 95 man/work days to build this house over a period of 35 calendar days for a labor cost of \$239.75. In November 1878, Seymour & Sabin Company, a local lumber dealer and manufacturing company also filed a lien against the property for "Lumber and Woodenware, Doors, Sash and Blinds" which is a detailed list of items sold between April 24 and Sept 28, 1877 and furnished for the house. Among the many items listed, some are particularly interesting: flight of stairs \$18.00, front door frame and transom \$3.00, 5 windows for bay windows, 12x36 \$12.50, 2 window frames for privy \$1.50, 32 feet cove molding .96, laying chimneys \$37.50, 1040 yards of plaster \$156.00, 18 fence posts \$2.25, 1 pair folding doors 7'6" x 8'6" \$12.00, front door 4'8" x 7'6" glass panel \$13.00. The total amount of the materials was \$1,253.17. In May 1886, Judd Orff added a large one-and-a-half story stable to the lots. In 1900 this was the home of Abraham Rohrbach, clothing merchant at 128 S. Main Street.<sup>80</sup>

**Address:** 913 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1469

**Historic Name:** James Gillespie

**Date Built:** 1886

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** Much like 907 on the north, this home is a substantially altered Italianate house. The cube-like form remains, as does the low-pitched peak hipped roof. Unlike 907, the windows are replacements and the replacement of the siding has removed the original wood surrounds. A shed roof overhang without posts shelters the entry. Sanborn maps show that it originally had a full facade porch. Addition extended the house to the rear of the lot after 1910.

**Historic Information:** James Gillespie purchased the N-1/2 of Lot 23, and all of Lot 24 from Alfred Marcel in September 1880. Six years later, he took out a mortgage with which it appears he built his house at 913 South Third Street. (For a time, this house had the number, 915 South Third Street.)<sup>81</sup>

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<sup>80</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1 Deeds 394; N Mtgs 228; A Liens 195, 221; Stillwater Bldg Permit #35.

<sup>81</sup> 5 Deeds 589; X Mtgs 344; 1887 *Stillwater City Directory*.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

**Address:** 916 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1470

**Historic Name:** Francis & Mary Revoir

**Date Built:** 1874

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a good example of Victorian vernacular architecture. With high-style elements, it shows a 1½ story front-facing gable form with bargeboard in the gable end. Windows are 6/6 and the triangular pedimented hoods have foliate carving. Both the side and front porches are shed-roofed with a spindle frieze on the front porch. The street facade shows a paired window and off-center single entry door. There is a one-story room extending off the south wall.

**Historic Information:** In the 1874 Tax Assessor's record, there is a penciled note on Lot 5, Block 13: "\$300 added for house." Henry Prince, a real estate dealer, purchased Lots 5, 6, & 7 in April 1872. It appears he added a small structure, or perhaps a partial house to Lot 5 before he sold the lot to Isadore Belisle in the fall 1875 for \$400. (Or perhaps Belisle had an unrecorded Contract under which he built the house.) Two years later, Belisle sold the property to Francis Revoir, a laborer, who is listed in the 1877 Stillwater City Directory as living at this location. The 1880 Federal Census for Stillwater (family #111) lists Francis, age 60, and his wife, Mary, age 58; both of them were born in Canada. They had a son, Prosper, age 20, and a daughter, Mary, age 16, living with them. This was the residence of Joseph Benner, laborer at Hershey Lumber Company, in 1900.<sup>82</sup>

**Address:** 918 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1471

**Historic Name:**

**Date Built:** 1890 ca.

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** The house has a basic Victorian era form with a front facing gable and a through wall side gables on the north and south, plus the prominent square tower with a mansard roof. The roof is sheathed in rolled metal, although the tower has asphalt shingles. Windows are tall and narrow, paired in the front gable end. The porch is open with square wood posts for support. Somewhat unusual is the use of rolled metal for the porch roof.

**Historic Information:** Francis Revoir owned Lot 6 as well as Lot 5 (see 916 South Third Street above). In 1887, he sold this lot to Lawson Dailey; in 1905 Dailey sold it to James C. Sullivan. Somewhere between these three owners, 918 South Third Street was built.<sup>83</sup>

**Address:** 919 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1472

**Historic Name:** Michael Gillespie

**Date Built:** 1880

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a basic 1½ story, vernacular home of the late nineteenth century, with a front facing gable and ell. There are two bays on the second floor. Windows are old, with 2/2 lights, and the surrounds appear intact. The clapboard has been replaced with manufactured siding. The porch is open with square pillars and dentils on the porch cornice.

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<sup>82</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; X Deeds 212; Y Deeds 636; 1 Deeds 449; SAM 7, Roll 4.

<sup>83</sup> 19 Deeds 472; 60 Deeds 418.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
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**Historic Information:** Michael Gillespie bought his property in October 1879; the following June he took out a mortgage with the Stillwater Building Association and built his home at 919 South Third Street. In his later years, Gillespie was a dealer in wood and coal. A John Matthews resided here in 1900, profession unlisted.<sup>84</sup>

**Address:** 920 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1473

**Historic Name:** Allard

**Date Built:** 1880

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is vernacular Victorian era two-story, front-facing gable house with minimal stylistic additions. The upper floor has two widely spaced bays with 1/1 windows. The wood surrounds appear original and the house has clapboard siding. The full facade hipped porch has been enclosed. To the rear, there is a 1½-story rear ell, then a one-story addition.

**Historic Information:** The Allard family built this home at 920 South Third Street around 1880. In 1900, this was the home of Patrick Bergin, listed as a laborer for the St. Croix Boom Company.<sup>85</sup>

**Address:** 1001 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1474

**Historic Name:**

**Date Built:** 1880s

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This house is in keeping with the simple nineteenth century vernacular architecture found in nearby homes. Two-stories, it has a front facing gable with three bays across the street facade. Windows are 1/1 and the wood surrounds are intact. On the ground floor, the entry is on the north (left) side with a wood surround and a transom light above. There is a 1½ story ell on the north side, dating to the nineteenth century, although the street facade now only has a only one paired window.

**Historic Information:** From all appearances, it was built circa 1880, and it appears on the 1898 Sanborn Insurance Map. In 1900 this was the home of Annie Fuller, widow of Nelson, along with multiple family members, Floyd, Frank, and Raymond. They worked as laborers.<sup>86</sup>

**Address:** 1002 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1475

**Historic Name:** John Gieriet

**Date Built:** 1876

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a well-proportioned three-bay Italianate style home, box-like in form with a shallow peak hipped roof. Symmetrically placed windows feature an arched window hood with 2/2 light windows. The eaves show brackets and modillions. The foundation is a rough cut

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<sup>84</sup> 5 Deeds 253; P Mtgs 118; 1881-2, 1887, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>85</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; 15 Deeds 258; SAM 78, Roll 11.

<sup>86</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
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stone. Of particular interest is the rear half of the house with an arched roofline. This section of the house is likely an early nineteenth century addition.

**Historic Information:** John Gieriet purchased Lots 8 & 9, Block 13, in June 1876, and he built a substantial house — which later took the number, 1002 South Third Street — within a year.

Apparently his residence was in question, for in 1877, he filed a homestead declaration on his property. John ran a “saloon and billiards” on the corner of Main and Chestnut Streets. Physician John F. Johnson was a resident here in 1900.<sup>87</sup>

**Address:** 1003 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1476

**Historic Name:** Prosper N. Rivard

**Date Built:** 1884

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This simple front gabled, two-story building stands out in the district because of its proximity to the street. There is a hipped overhang over the first floor windows, which are modern casement-type replacements. Other windows are more appropriate to its history, typically 1/1 lights. The siding is manufactured.

**Historic Information:** According to a building permit application dated in December 1891, Prosper N. Rivard, “grocer, confectioner, and ice cream manufacturer” wished to add to his original building at 1003 South Third Street — which was one-story, 18 feet wide and 26 feet deep — a \$75 one-story addition 12 feet by 16 feet. This addition was to be used as a store. In March 1901, he spent \$400 for more living and store space in an addition of a second story, according to the Sanborn Insurance Maps. The first floor ceiling was to be of iron. In 1912, this was the store of Walter Johnson who subsequently moved to 901 South Third Street. Lots 20, 21, 22 were owned by Rivard family.<sup>88</sup>

**Address:** 1006 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1477

**Historic Name:** Thomas & Susan Sutherland

**Date Built:** 1882

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is an asymmetrical Italianate cube with a peak hipped roof and wide eaves with brackets and modillions. There is one room, two-story addition on the south, completed between 1898 and 1904, and a two-story bay on the north, as well as a 3/4 facade porch with a low balustrade above. The ground floor was altered at the same time, since Sanborn maps show the entry on the south side of the facade, now shifted to the north side with a two-light picture window.

**Historic Information:** Thomas Sutherland, a Canadian-born contractor and builder, along with his wife, Susan, purchased this property in 1881, and built a house at 1006 South Third Street soon afterward. Sutherland lived for a time behind this house at 1009 South Fourth Street. He also lived at other addresses in this immediate neighborhood. In 1894, Sutherland moved to Hutchinson, Minnesota. The house was purchased by Frederick Swenson purchased the house, then hired a local

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<sup>87</sup> 1 Deeds 191; E Bonds 496; SAM 7, Roll 6; 1877, 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>88</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*. City of Stillwater Building Permits #636, #1025.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
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contractor, Baird & Johnson, to raise the roof of the house and add a second story on for a cost of \$200.<sup>89</sup>

**Address:** 1007 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1478

**Historic Name:** Lawson Dailey

**Date Built:** 1882

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a simple vernacular two-story Victorian home with a hipped roof, front-facing through wall gable. Much of the period detail is missing and the house has manufactured siding. Windows are generally new replacements with sliding sashes. This originally had a full facade porch, but between 1924 and 1956, a half-front one-story gabled entry porch replaced this.

**Historic Information:** Lawson Dailey, a carpenter, purchased Lots 18 & 19 in July 1881. It appears he built the houses a 1007 South Third Street and 1009 South Third Street soon after his purchase. Dailey, who lived at 704 South Second Street, apparently built these as rental houses. In 1920, Frank Linner & Co., local contractors, did \$3,000 worth of remodeling on 1009 South Third Street, including a 10 x 16 foot addition in the rear, and new floors inside. This was the home of John A. Kent, captain of the Steamer Lora, in 1900.<sup>90</sup>

**Address:** 1009 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1479

**Historic Name:** Lawson Dailey

**Date Built:** 1882

**Noncontributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a simple gable and ell form nineteenth century home, now with asbestos shingle siding. Some detail remains, such as the paired windows and surround on the front-facing gable end, with a slightly raised hood. On the ground floor, however, there is now a bow bay window with faux shutters. The entry porch on the north side of the facade is enclosed, replacing what had been a full facade porch. The foundation is a rough cut stone.

**Historic Information:** Lawson Daily, a carpenter, purchased Lots 18 & 19 in July 1881. It appears he built the houses a 1007 South Third Street and 1009 South Third Street soon after his purchase. Dailey, who lived at 704 South Second Street, apparently built these as rental houses. In 1920, Frank Linner & Co., local contractors, did \$3,000 worth of remodeling on 1009 South Third Street, including a 10 x 16 foot addition in the rear, and new floors inside. Physician and surgeon George N. Watier lived here in 1900.<sup>91</sup>

**Address:** 1010 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1480

**Historic Name:** Louis Billoou

**Date Built:** 1876

**Noncontributing**

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<sup>89</sup> O Deeds 413; SAM 78, Roll 13; 1894 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1880 Federal Census for Stillwater, Family #137; City of Stillwater Building permit #806.

<sup>90</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 11; R Deeds 72; City of Stillwater Building Permit #1795.

<sup>91</sup> 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 11; R Deeds 72; City of Stillwater Building Permit #1795.



**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
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**Physical Description:** The house has a basic two-story, front-facing gable form with two bays on the second floor and three on the first. The replacement siding has obscured most period details. Windows are 1/1 glazed. A simple gabled portico with wrought iron supports protects the off-center entry. It originally had a full facade porch, based on Sanborn maps. There is a shed roof, one-story room off the south wall.

**Historic Information:** Henry Prince, a local real estate speculator, sold Lot 11, Block 13 to Louis Billoou in the spring 1876. At the end of the summer, Louis took out a mortgage with the St. Croix Lumber Company and built a small house that has the number, 1010 South Third Street today. A Michael C. Lawler lived here in 1900, intriguingly listed as “explorer” for occupation.<sup>92</sup>

**Address:** 1013 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1481

**Historic Name:** Lawson Dailey

**Date Built:** 1884

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This vernacular Victorian home retains more of its original detail than several nearby homes. It is a hipped roof with lower cross gable form with an addition on the rear and enclosed entry porch. The narrow windows are paired on the street elevation with wood surrounds and raised hoods. This originally had a full facade porch.

**Historic Information:** In November 1883, Lawson Dailey bought Lot 17, Block 14, from Alice E. Castle. He built the house at 1013 South Third Street within a year. Like 1007 and 1009 South Third Street, this was another of his rental houses. Those renters included Nancy and Minnie Dixon in 1900. Minnie was a teacher at Central School.<sup>93</sup>

**Address:** 1014 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1482

**Historic Name:** Alexander Durocher

**Date Built:** 1877

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This vernacular home retains its basic gable and ell form, with the entry on the ell under a simple gabled portico supported by brackets. The exterior is an asbestos shingle, but window surrounds appear intact. There is a triple window on the front-gable end. This originally had a full facade porch.

**Historic Information:** Edmund Butts, an attorney and local real estate speculator, sold Lot 12, Block 13, to Alexander Durocher in September, 1877. Durocher, a carpenter, must have built his house — which took the number, 1014 South Third Street — almost immediately for he is listed in the 1877 Stillwater City Directory at that location. By 1900 this was the residence of Henry Desautell.<sup>94</sup>

**Address:** 1019-1021 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1483

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<sup>92</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1 Deeds 179; M Mtgs 5; 1884 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>93</sup> 1900 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 13; 12 Deeds 357.

<sup>94</sup> 1 Deeds 434.

**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
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**Historic Name:** Amanda Paige

**Date Built:** 1873

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** At its core this is a two-story Italianate style home with fine segmental arched window hoods, 2/2 light windows, and brackets and dentils under the eaves. Rectangular in form, its basic block has a hipped roof. The 1898 Sanborn map shows the house had its basic footprint at that date, with a porch across the facade, and one-story bay on the south side, what is now an entry. After changes were made, the 1904 map shows a porch wrapping around the southwest corner. At present, the home is a duplex with entries on either side under small under roof entry porches.

**Historic Information:** The history of the house at 1019-1021 South Third Street (Lots 15 & 16, Block 14) is difficult to decipher. The 1873 Tax Assessor's record has a penciled note added to Lots 11-17, Block 14: "Pages House." The value of the house is given as \$150. The following year, the value of just Lot 16 is given at \$1280 with a penciled note: "\$1100 added for house." The owner is given as Mortimer Webster, a real estate speculator in the neighborhood. By 1877, the value of these two lots is noted by the tax assessor as \$2200 — indicating a quite large house — and the owner is listed as Amanda Paige. However the first recorded deed on this property is in June 1879 when Elizabeth Churchill sold the lots to Louise and Sturgess Selleck who took up residence there. Sturgess and Louise were from the East; he from Connecticut, she from Ohio. The 1880 Census lists him as being 55; she as 52. They have a daughter and a grandson living with them as well as (a sign of prosperity perhaps) two servants. Most likely the earlier transactions were in the form of unrecorded contracts or bonds for deed. Churchill often had trouble paying the taxes on her lots, and it is not possible to record a deed if there are unpaid taxes. Louise Selleck sold the property to Alice E. Castle in October 1882. An 1899 building permit notes that the owners were spending about \$700 on a new addition and repairs to the main building. Louis Seymour, a cashier at Minnesota Mercantile, lived here in 1900.<sup>95</sup>

**Address:** 1022 South Third St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1484

**Historic Name:** Daniel O'Neil

**Date Built:** 1877

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This is a early home with a front gable form. The primary feature are the segmental arched windows with 2/2 lights, double-sash. On the second floor, street elevation, the central bay has a truncated door. There is a full facade open porch with a gabled pediment over the entry showing foliate carving. The entry door is on the south (left) side with a segmental arch transom. A substantial one-room addition extends off the northwest corner, while the 1½ story rear wing (original) show two gabled, through wall dormers.

**Historic Information:** Daniel O'Neil purchased Lots 13 & 14 from attorney and real estate speculator, Edmund Butts in May 1875. In August of the same year, he took a mortgage from Seymour, Sabin & Co., a lumber dealer and manufacturing concern in Stillwater. Two years later, in 1877, the tax assessor placed a value of \$1050 on Lot 14 indicating a substantial house on this

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<sup>95</sup> 5 Deeds 419; 10 Deeds 480; 1881-82, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; SAM 78, Roll 9; SAM 7, Roll 4; SAM 7, Roll 6; 1880 Federal Census for Stillwater, family #112; Stillwater Bldg Permit #983

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property. When house numbers were assigned in the mid-1880s, this house took the number, 1022 South Third Street. Dennis Boyle, occupation "logs" lived here in 1900.<sup>96</sup>

**Address:** 203 East Willard St.

**Inventory No.:** WA-SWC-1485

**Historic Name:** S. Blair McBeath

**Date Built:** 1911

**Contributing**

**Physical Description:** This home is a well-constructed foursquare style home. Two-stories in height, it has a shallow peak hipped roof with hipped dormers on the west and north elevations. Typical of the style the eaves are wide and the second floor has symmetrically arranged windows. These are 1/1, double-sash. A façade wide porch covers the north elevation. The door is set on the far east side of the façade with a tripartite window completing the first story. To the rear is a almost square two-story ell with 6/1 windows. On the west façade is a two-story bay. This elevation also has a brick chimney on the wall. Basement hopper windows are 3/1. There is an extensive, fenced yard to the east.

**Historic Information:** S. Blair McBeath, an attorney and manager of the collection department for the Northwest Thresher Company, contracted with local contractor, Frank Linner (pronounced Linner) & Co. in the summer 1911 to build him a \$4,000 two-story house, 30 feet by 32 feet with a hip roof. This attractive house took the number 203 East Willard Street. From all evidence, this seems to replace an earlier house on these lots that was built by Michael O'Brien about 1874. The house number of that earlier house appears to have been 219 E. Willard. In 1900, this was the home of Frank A. Lindbloom, travel agent for Minnesota Mercantile Company.<sup>97</sup>

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<sup>96</sup> 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*; 1 Deeds 26; K Mtgs 357; 1877 *Stillwater City Directory*.

<sup>97</sup> City of Stillwater Building Permit #1463; 1906-7 *Stillwater City Directory*; T Deeds 740; 1884, 1900-01 *Stillwater City Directory*.

## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Although the St. Croix River, its associated lumber industry, and the active commercial district are the popular images of Stillwater, its residential neighborhoods played a significant role in defining the city's quality of life. In the years after the Civil War, Stillwater grew at a rapid pace, spurred by an expansion of the lumber industry in the St. Croix River valley. In 1870, two thousand loggers harvested more than 145 million board feet of lumber. At the peak of production in 1890, 450 million board feet passed through the St. Croix boom. Locally, sawmills and finishing industries employed hundreds of men, and by 1890, the city's population had climbed to 18,000.<sup>98</sup>

The district is significant within the context of the development of residential neighborhoods in Stillwater in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The period of significance begins in 1868 with the date of construction of the oldest remaining building and ends in 1940, with only a single home being constructed after World War II.

The Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition is one of the city's oldest residential neighborhoods, with its earliest homes dating to 1868. Following the construction of the Washington County Courthouse in 1867, increasing numbers of residents purchased lots within the newly available land just to the south. Of the 101 properties within the district, eighty-six date from the nineteenth century. Architecturally, the district is a remarkable collection of early Minnesota residential architecture. Towns along the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers were settled nearly a decade before the interior, due not only to navigation on the rivers, but also to the Dakota, who owned much of the territory to the west until the Treaties of Traverse de Sioux and Mendota. That ten year difference meant that the Italianate styles prevalent between 1850 and 1880 were fading from fashion by the time that towns in central and western Minnesota fully developed. Within the district, eighteen of the 101 properties are Italianate style. Only eight are easily classified as Queen Anne. Most, however, are nineteenth century vernacular forms.

The district also illustrates the statewide historic context, the St. Croix Triangle Lumbering, 1843-1914. Unlike many Minnesota River towns that relied on brick for early construction, within this Addition, all but one of the homes were constructed of wood and many of its residents worked in logging or lumber related jobs.

In 1837 the United States entered into a treaty with several bands of Ojibwe and Dakota Indians. Under the terms of the treaty, the Indians ceded the northern third of present-day Wisconsin and more than three million acres of land between the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers. Soon after, Joseph R. Brown, a colorful Indian trader and promoter, opened a small warehouse at the head of Lake St. Croix to supply his upriver fur trading operations. The land was part of Wisconsin Territory, and soon Brown's small settlement, which he named Dacotah, was designated as the county seat of St. Croix County.

A new mill opened just south of Brown's warehouse, and it became the preferred location for new arrivals looking for work. By 1846 Stillwater had about ten families and twenty single men. In January 1846 Stillwater was designated the new seat of St. Croix County. At that time, before the Treaties of Traverse de Sioux and Mendota, three cities dominated the delta between the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers: St. Anthony, St. Paul, and Stillwater. James Mullen, who came north from St. Louis that year as a cabin boy on the War Eagle, offered his impressions:

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<sup>98</sup> Agnes M. Larson, "When Logs and Lumber Ruled Stillwater," *Minnesota History* 18 (1937): 176.

## **East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

We find St. Paul to be a small village. There are a few houses on a high, almost perpendicular bluff, overlooking the river. . . . We are soon at Mendota and Fort Snelling. . . . We have ample time in the morning to visit the post before starting down the river, and the following morning finds the prow of the War Eagle resting against the Stillwater landing. Here Capt. Harris greets his friends and is warmly welcomed. So far, Stillwater seemed the most active and enterprising village on the whole route.<sup>99</sup>

Wisconsin became a state in 1848 with its western boundary set at the St. Croix River, leaving the people who lived in Wisconsin Territory west of the St. Croix with no government. To resolve the issue, a convention met in Stillwater that year and elected Henry Hastings Sibley to petition Congress for a new territory, earning Stillwater its title as the birthplace of Minnesota. Sibley was successful and Minnesota became a territory on March 3, 1849. The first Minnesota Territorial Legislature named Stillwater as the seat of Washington County.

The town was platted in 1848 with 600 residents “of whom nearly all of the men were lumbermen,” as one historian wrote. It was lumber that drove Stillwater’s economy in the nineteenth century taking advantage of the river that carried timber from the pine forests to the north down to a log-holding boom just upriver from Stillwater. Steam mills sprang up on the St. Croix in the 1850s, and wood finishing industries followed. Products included shingles, windows, doors, furniture and flooring. Good transportation also helped the city prosper. The river carried goods between Stillwater and river ports to the south, and early stage roads connected the city to St. Paul, Marine, and Point Douglas. Railroads arrived in the early 1870s, vastly expanding markets for timber and manufactured goods.

By the late nineteenth century, Stillwater had entered a golden age that produced the biggest opera house west of Chicago, the elegant mansions of the lumber barons, and many brick commercial buildings on Main Street. It had gaslights in 1875, telephone service downtown in 1878, and the first electric lights west of Chicago in 1888. The city also boasted as many as forty-six saloons and was home to six breweries. In June 1889, the first electric street railway in Minnesota began operation in Stillwater.

Socrates Nelson was one of the principal investors in the new addition. Born in 1814 in Conway, Massachusetts, Nelson headed west at age twenty-five after a youthful turn as a store clerk, settling first to southern Illinois. There he worked up and down the Illinois River and, in St. Louis, met a young entrepreneur named Levi Churchill, with whom he made a lasting business relationship. Nelson decided to venture north in 1844.

After marriage to Bertha Bartlett that same year, he moved to Stillwater and opened its first store near today what would be approximately the intersection of Nelson Street and S. Main St. The land along the St. Croix was a raw and unsettled region, but ripe for an ambitious man like Nelson. His store and home stood just off the landing at the levee in Stillwater, welcoming many a new settler to northwest Wisconsin Territory. Nelson bought furs from local traders, then shipped them down to Churchill in St. Louis, who had better access to the market. In return, Churchill sent goods

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<sup>99</sup> William Folsom, *Fifty Years in the Northwest* (St. Paul: Pioneer Press Company, 1888), 33.

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back up the Mississippi to be sold at their store along the Stillwater levee. Nelson also acted as a transfer agent, handling packages and other goods headed further upriver or inland.<sup>100</sup>

Levi Churchill was the distant partner on Nelson's business ventures, choosing to remain in Saint Louis. He was a New Englander as well, born in Woodstock, Vermont in 1813. He migrated west in 1844, and appears to have succeeded at business almost at once. As a land speculator, he was one of the incorporators of Fillmore, Missouri, located on the Missouri River north of Kansas City.<sup>101</sup>

Nelson's financial investments soon turned to real estate. When the new federal land office opened St. Croix Falls in 1849, Nelson and Churchill made one of the earliest purchases, acquiring 160 acres near present-day West Willard and South Holcombe Streets. He was active in the lumber industry, opening a steam sawmill in Baytown (now part of Bayport) in 1852, then platting its townsite in 1856. Here he faced competition, as lumberman Isaac Staples and Andrew Short laid out the village of Bangor nearby, while William Holcombe platted Middletown just to the north.<sup>102</sup>

It was in Stillwater, though, that Nelson and Churchill made their biggest stake, basically splitting the waterfront land of Stillwater with two other pioneer families. John McKusick bought out his sawmill partners, and claimed the area between the old prison site and what is today Nelson's alley. Joseph R. Brown took the northern part of the waterfront, between what would be today the site of the old territorial prison and Browns Creek. Nelson and Churchill's claim extended 1/2 mile south of Nelson's alley. All three claims extended three quarters of a mile west from the river.<sup>103</sup>

They acquired the land just as a rush of new settlers came to the city. As the *St. Croix Union* noted in late 1856:

Less than two years ago they sneered at Stillwater's being anything outside of the basin, or original limits. . . . We were laughed at by some for pitching our tent out in Holcombe's addition — it being then a wild unbroken wilderness. What are now the facts? There are over 100 houses out there now — some of them first-class — and about 600 inhabitants. Lots, which when we located there two years ago could be had for \$25, cannot now be purchased for less than \$100 — and they are constantly rising. Lots of been enhanced in value fourfold within the past two years, and the way we read the signs of the times, they lack much of having reached their maximum.<sup>104</sup>

A week later, the same newspaper breathlessly reported:

Additions to Stillwater are all the rage now. Within a few days past, Jacob Marty has sold to Joshua Carter and Gov. Ramsey, 140 acres of land lying west of Stillwater and adjoining Holcombe's addition, for \$7000. It is soon to be surveyed into town lots. We rejoice to see this movement. There are now three heavy St. Paul capitalists and speculators deeply interested in Stillwater; R. F. Slaughter, Col. H McKenty, and Gov. Ramsey. We are glad to know that St. Paul speculators are vitally interested here, because it argues that they now

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<sup>100</sup> William Folsom, *Fifty Years in the Northwest* (St. Paul: Pioneer Press Company, 1888), 33; Warren and Foote, *History of Washington County* (Minneapolis: North Star Publishing Company, 1881), 590.

<sup>101</sup> *History of Andrew and DeKalb Counties* (St. Louis and Chicago: Goodspeed, 1885), 185-188.)

<sup>102</sup> William Folsom, *Fifty Years in the Northwest* (St. Paul: Pioneer Press Company, 1888), 58-59.

<sup>103</sup> William Folsom, *Fifty Years in the Northwest* (St. Paul: Pioneer Press Company, 1888), 40-41.

<sup>104</sup> *St. Croix Union*, December 5, 1856.

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see what we saw nearly 3 years ago; that is, that Stillwater is destined in evidently to be a great place. They now see the Stillwater is not a one-horse town town. They now see the Stillwater has unrivaled advantages — that she has much capital — that a railroad is to come here probably before one runs to St. Paul, and that Stillwater is rapidly advancing in all that contributes to material prosperity and greatness.<sup>105</sup>

Thousands of Minnesotans caught speculation fever in these years, and Churchill and Nelson were not immune. In January 1857, the partners teamed with Robert Slaughter, a St. Paul real estate dealer, to develop their Stillwater property. The pair deeded forty acres to Slaughter, who, in turn sold half to Hilary B. Hancock, a Minneapolis lawyer. Both of these new men were major speculators, with Slaughter involved in deals in Duluth, Anoka, and St. Peter. On June 15, 1857, the four partners platted the Churchill, Nelson and Slaughter's Addition to Stillwater.<sup>106</sup>

A local news story predicted that their future “seemed secure”:

The price of land in our city and vicinity is advanced with astonishing rapidity during the last two years, and from present appearances we shall see still greater improvements in the future. During the past week Mr. H. R. Murdoch purchased ten acres of land adjoining Cooper's addition, from Mr. Slaughter, for \$100 per acre. Two years ago this same land was sold for five dollars per acre. There are yet many splendid investments and fortunes to be made in the city, which is yet in its infancy — and every day presents new evidences of its future greatness. On every side preparations are being made for the erection of a capacious warehouses, substantial — and in some key instances— fine private dwellings, and everything promises a season of unprecedented prosperity.<sup>107</sup>

Within months, though, the economy collapsed in what became known as the Panic of 1857, caused in part by rampant land speculation. Its financial repercussions brought land sales to a halt. Its effect, however, was short-lived, but as the outlook improved, the outbreak of the Civil War turned eyes to the battlefield rather than to real estate sales. Churchill and Nelson manage to sell only a few of lots in block 10 before the Panic of 1857. It did not help that South Hill could only be reached via the Main Street steps, or by a path wending its way through a ravine, commonly known as Nelson's Hollow. Property would not sell until streets were extended to the addition.<sup>108</sup>

As the Civil War drew to a close, and young men returned home to take up their former lives, Nelson was now working without Levi Churchill, who died in St. Louis in 1857. To jump-start sales in the addition, Nelson and partners donated a whole block for construction of a new Washington County Courthouse, understanding that the city would finally be forced to provide easy and quick access up the bluff to the courthouse.

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<sup>105</sup> *St. Croix Union*, December 12, 1856.

<sup>106</sup> Donald Empson, *The Western Half of the Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter Addition Residential Area, Stillwater, Washington County, Minnesota* (Stillwater: Stillwater Heritage Preservation Commission, 2002), 14-15.

<sup>107</sup> *St. Croix Union*, December 12, 1856.

<sup>108</sup> Emma Glaser, “How Stillwater Came to Be,” *Minnesota History* 24 (1943): 204.

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As Nelson anticipated, the building of the new courthouse spurred other development as well. A new, large public school, Central school, was constructed just across from the courthouse and across South Third St. Soon, Father Maurice Murphy purchased lots for the new St. Michael's Church. Its cornerstone was laid in 1873 and dedicated in August 1875. Work on Third Street began well before the church was completed. By late fall 1869, the local newspaper could report, "The Third street grade is rapidly approaching completion. The gap between the fill is steadily being closed."<sup>109</sup>

With the building of the courthouse and other institutions nearby, and the opening of the 3rd St., the lots in the Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughters addition began to sell. By 1870, the Stillwater Republican could report, "Mr. J. O'Shaughnessy is this week moving into his new house out on Third Street. It is quite a tastefully built residence. We notice quite a number of new houses in that neighborhood. The suburbs are building up rapidly."<sup>110</sup>

Given the burgeoning local economy, it was a propitious time. In 1881 the St. Paul *Daily Globe* reported:

There has been no time in the history of Stillwater when houses were as scarce and commanded such high prices as at present. There is not to-day sufficient room for the present population of the city. Let the business men who are so anxious for the future of the city, go to work and put up small, neat tenement houses, that will rent from ten to twelve dollars per month, and then you will see the population of the city increase. We will rent fifty for a year good security. Men of means have been obliged to keep out of here for want of sufficient room.<sup>111</sup>

Among the "men of means" who responded was David Tozer. A native of New Brunswick, Tozer was one of the city's most prominent businessmen in the latter half of the nineteenth century. As a biographer noted, "Mr. Tozer never neglected his opportunities," investing in the lumber trade and real estate. He was the primary owner of the Stillwater Lumber Company, later buying out his two partners. The company produced lumber, lathe, and shingles, and shipped widely by rail. Although he owned timber rights for massive holdings in the St. Croix River valley, he also was among the earliest to invest in the cedar and fir forests of western Washington state, anticipating depletion of the upper Midwest. His estate was valued at \$3 million at his death in 1905.

Tozer was an early investor in the South Hill, buying a number of lots in the late 1860s. Most were targeted as rental homes. However, in 1874, he built a brick Italianate house for himself at 702 S. Third Street. Homes associated with Tozer include 713 and 715 S. Fourth Street and 704, 715, 801, 805, 807, and 905 S. Third Street.

Most of the popular housing types of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries can be found in Stillwater's residential neighborhoods, but that breadth of styles is not found in the Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter district. Its lots were filled by the early twentieth century, so the foursquares, bungalows, and revivals (Tudor, Colonial, Dutch) found in so many historic neighborhoods are absent here.

The fabric of Stillwater's residential neighborhoods was to a great extent the result of local builders access to quality building materials. The first dwellings and outbuildings were constructed

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<sup>109</sup> *Stillwater Republican*, November 2, 1869.

<sup>110</sup> *Stillwater Republican*, November 3, 1870.

<sup>111</sup> *St. Paul Daily Globe*, April 11, 1881.



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from the wood or stone, but the early exploitation of the northern forests and the establishment of sawmills soon provided local builders with an inexhaustible supply of cheap lumber. It also provided the city with a large set of skilled craftsmen familiar with woodwork.

Limestone and sandstone were also quarried locally and were an important building material, although relatively few stone masonry buildings were built. Concrete block became popular after 1910 for foundations and retaining walls. Wooden shingles were the most common roofing material for all types of buildings constructed before 1900; afterwards, houses were roofed with asphalt or asbestos shingles or, in rare instances, with metal sheets.

The largest number of homes reflects nineteenth century vernacular tastes — within the district, all are wood frame and most have stone foundations. Almost all are two stories, in either a front-facing gable or a gable front and wing plan. Most have full facade one-story, hipped roof porches, although these are subject to modifications or removal over the years. A common variation is the use of bays, either one or two stories in height.

If we turn to common architectural styles, the Italianate predominates, with nineteen of the 101 properties reflecting its forms and details. In Stillwater, that typically meant a two-story, cube-like form with a shallow hipped roof. Although pattern books of the era show a decorative exuberance, here they are generally absent, except for the use of bracketed cornices, so with modillions and dentils. Windows, symmetrically placed and usually three across on the primary facade's second floor, show one over one lights and simple triangular pediments. Among the best examples is David Tozer's home at 704 S. Third, somewhat surprisingly the only brick house in the district although owned by a lumber magnate. Using brick, its builder could use fine stepped brick, segmental arched window hoods over the openings.

The other important architectural style found in the district is the Queen Anne, with twelve examples within the district. These are most often hipped with front-facing gables, such as 704 South First St. Typical details include imbricated wood shingles and triangular pediment hoods over the windows. Seven houses have towers.

Who lived in the neighborhood? As with any glance to the past, there are only snapshots, as residents come and go. The peak of immigration was reached by the 1890s and the arrival of foreign-born newcomers to Stillwater declined steadily thereafter. That peak parallels the habitation of the neighborhood.

Census data show that Stillwater's population has been a blend of many ethnic elements, principally old stock American and Western European during the early years, and the flow of immigrants through the St. Croix gateway provided cultural heterogeneity. The earliest townfolk were transplanted Yankees from New England, followed by other Native Americans and foreign emigrants.<sup>112</sup>

Beginning in the 1840s, European immigration to the United States and were attracted by the undeveloped lands of Minnesota. Germans, Irish, and Scandinavians came to Washington County in great numbers; during the middle and late nineteenth century, hundreds per year walked over the Stillwater levy or disembarked at the Union Depot, usually en route to someplace else. A significant

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<sup>112</sup> Robert C. Vogel, *Stillwater Historic Contexts: A Comprehensive Planning Approach* (Stillwater: Stillwater Heritage Preservation Commission, 1993), 59-62.

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number did not move on but stayed in Stillwater, where the American-born majority learned to accommodate a diversity of people and lifeways.

One writer described the city's population mix in 1870 as “four-tenths American, two-tenths Irish, two-tenths German, one-tenth Scandinavian, one-tenth French, Scotch, etc.” That roughly matches the background of the residents found on South First, Second, Third, and Fourth Streets in 1900. Choosing that year as the end of major home construction, we can look to census records and city directories to gain an understanding of the people who lived here.

“Old Stock Americans” — transplants (or children of transplants) from New England, Pennsylvania, and New York — made up a quarter of the district's population. As first wave settlers, they were often instrumental in establishing new towns. Old Stock Americans, said historian John Rice in the landmark book, *They Chose Minnesota*, “laid the groundwork for the future state of Minnesota. They built and managed towns, founded industries, and established important institutions.” Rice explained, “They had the advantage of speaking the national language, so it was they who opened the shops, operated the banks, published the newspapers, and ran the government.” That was certainly the case in Stillwater as a whole, with its ties to the logging industry of Maine through the Hershey and Staples Lumber Company.<sup>113</sup>

In addition, fifteen families had Canadian roots, listed as French Canada, Canada, or New Brunswick. The latter is an important subset since it included several prominent lumbermen, such as David Tozer.

Of the other ethnic groups, the Irish were by far the most important. Looking at the place of birth of the parents of residents in 1900, fully one quarter found their roots in Ireland. For comparison, the Irish population equaled 6% of all Minnesotans in 1890. They came to Stillwater almost as soon as settlement began. Anne Regan, in her *The Irish in Minnesota*, observed that logging brought many Irish to Stillwater, and many came through New Brunswick. It was, by 1870, a “Miramichi town,” referring to the largest city in northern New Brunswick, one predominately Scots-Irish in origin. A reference to the city's Catholic population in 1853 describes “some 350 souls, mostly Irish laboring men from New Brunswick.”<sup>114</sup>

After the old stock Americans and Anglo-Irish immigrants, the most important foreign group were the Germans, who migrated to Minnesota during territorial times and continued to come in significant numbers throughout the latter part of the nineteenth century. This is reflected in the district, where twelve percent of residents had a parent born in Germany. Collectively they had a pronounced impact on the local cultural and business scenes. Once in Stillwater, they formed churches and fraternal organizations, sponsored celebrations of German culture, and established outlets for ethnic food, drink, and entertainment.

Seen in economic terms, the district drew generally from the middle class. Relying on the 1900 federal census and the 1900 Polk City Directory, we can gain some clues as to how district residents earned their living.

Looking at the head of household only, twenty percent were shopkeepers, either as a proprietor or salesman. John O'Shaughnessy was a dealer in boots and shoes, also earning extra income as an agent for the new Singer Sewing Machine Company, the Cascade Clothes Washer, and the Cunard Mail Line Steamship Company.

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<sup>113</sup> John G. Rice, “The Old Stock Americans,” in *They Chose Minnesota: A Survey of the State's Ethnic Groups*. Ed. June Drenning Holmquist (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 1981), 58-62.

<sup>114</sup> Anne Regan, *The Irish in Minnesota* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 2002), 9.

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Peterson, John	Cigar salesman
Borscht, Ernst	Confectioner
Ries, Charles	Clerk wholesale liquor
Horgan, William	Carpet salesman
Pfleger, Henry	Butcher
Grace, Frank	Jeweler
Mock, Emil	Dry Goods
Schuttinger, August	Manager Millinery
Kelm, Just	Prop Feed Store
Ziegler, Philip	Clothing
Willman, Frederick	Jeweler
O'Shaughnessy, John	Boot and Shoe
Heisel, Henry	Cigars
Kelty, John	Coal
Doyle, D	Boot and Shoe
Pfenning, S	Prop Meat Market
Burlingham, D (903)	Prop. Book Store
Rohrbach, Abe	Prop. Clothing Store
Rivard	Grocery
Seymour, J	Cashier MN Mercantile

The social and economic rank of the saloonkeeper is uncertain, requiring a more complete survey of historic sources. They share much in common with shopkeepers, running an independent business and maintaining civic and social relations with patrons. Seven percent of the heads of household were employed in this job.

Among the professionals, the neighborhood included two physicians, George Waiter and John Johnson, as well as one lawyer, Orris Lee.

Ward, John	City Clerk
Gowan, Anna	Bookkeeper
Clarke, Louis	Civil Engineer
Lee, Orris	Lawyer
Davis, Horace	Bookkeeper
Foley, James	Bookkeeper
Joy, T.	Insurance Agent
Schweizer, Louis	Agent, Am Express
Johnson, John	Physician
Swanson, Frederick	Bookkeeper
Watier, George	Physician
Stikley, Joseph	Prison Guard

Not surprisingly, the lumber business was well represented, with thirteen percent holding jobs as either workmen or executives. Three men were listed with the occupation of "explorer,

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pinelands". Tradesmen were the next most significant occupation, including carpenters, stone masons, and painters. Finally, eight percent of the heads of household were laborers, sometimes listed as "day laborers" in the Polk City Directories or the federal census records.

The Addition's households were basically nuclear in structure and census records suggest a rough average of six persons per household during the late nineteenth century, when the single-family house seems to have been the norm. Among all social classes, children often lingered at home into their late twenties as they established their careers, while others cared for aged parents. Fifteen percent of the neighborhood homes recorded at least a single boarder, while nine families had servants according to the 1900 federal census.

One of the best glimpses into daily life in the Addition during the late nineteenth century comes from Albert Caplazi. In 1944, he wrote:

At that time Elliotts on the northwest corner and Days on the northeast corner of Fourth and Hancock streets were the last houses on Fourth Street. Lumber and labor was cheap in the 70s and 80s it is said. Many families had a cow or two in the seventies and early eighties. There was lots of free pasture from Hancock Street south to park and Highway 212 and west to Lily Lake was nearly all woods. There was no herd law, and cows could run at large. They would be turned out in the morning and come home in the evening to be milked. . . . From Hancock Street south to Fairview Cemetery and from 4th St., west to Holcomb Street was forty acres of woods, which was cleared, broken, and sewed to grain in the late 70s. It was called Marsh's field.

As the Addition's lots filled with homes, however, new construction began to the south and west, and the free pasture was gone by the early twentieth century. By 1900 the lumber was giving out and the mills closed. The final failure of the largest manufacturer, the Minnesota Thresher Company, in 1914 coincided with the last lumber rafts leaving Lake St. Croix and the moving of the state prison to South Stillwater. This began Stillwater's rapid population decline as workers moved away. As the jobs left, Stillwater's population declined from a high of more than 13,000 in the 1880s to a low of around 7,000 in 1940.

With continued infill of surrounding pasture lands into home lots growing the population, in the early twentieth century, a small commercial area grew around the corner of East Churchill Street and South Fourth Avenue, including a bakery, service station, and movie theatre. This was spurred, in part, by the development of the local streetcar system, which stopped at this corner. Of course, commercial development happened on all four corners of this intersection. The earliest commercial block appears to be Hooley's grocery store and meat market at 902 S. Fourth Street. However, this was a small one-story wood structure. It was not until 1901 when Hooley erected a two-story brick structure on the corner.<sup>115</sup>

At the same time, Charles and Carrie Glaser opened a bakery, and later grocery, across the street at 901 South Fourth. This would become Meister's Bar in the late 1940s. Across Churchill, further commercial developments came in the 1915, when the Hilltop Theatre began welcoming patrons, and 1923, when the Stillwater Oil Company opened on the corner.

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<sup>115</sup> Empson, *Western Half*, 32.

## **East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition Local Historic District, Stillwater, Minnesota**

The Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter Historic District reflects the growth of late nineteenth century Stillwater into one of Minnesota's leading cities. Faced with an economic boom that drove the city's population to 19,000 people by 1890, local residents looked to this early subdivision for homes that were removed from the bustle of the downtown commercial district and the noise and commotion of the sawmills, manufacturing plants, and railroad tracks. Its residents' roots reflect the ethnic mix of the city in those years, predominated by Yankee stock, transplanted Irish, and German immigrants. The houses are one of Minnesota's best collections of Italianate homes, but more important than style, show the use of the local resources of lumber and stone, as well as the pool of skilled laborers in carpentry and woodwork.

As a whole, the neighborhood gives us an understanding of a golden age in Stillwater's history.

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**PROPERTIES**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>SHPO No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contributing</b>
215	Churchill St. E	WA-SWC-1351	1883	Noncontributing
218	Churchill St. E	WA-SWC-1352	1886	Noncontributing
114	Churchill St. W	WA-SWC-1357	1915	Contributing
704	First St. South	WA-SWC-1359	1895	Contributing
712	First St. South	WA-SWC-1362	1881	Contributing
720	First St. South	WA-SWC-1364	1883	Contributing
802	First St. South	WA-SWC-1366	1879	Contributing
808	First St. South	WA-SWC-1368	1906 ca.	Contributing
912	First St. South	WA-SWC-1370	1884	Noncontributing
918	First St. South	WA-SWC-1373	1892	Contributing
920	First St. South	WA-SWC-1375	1900 ca.	Noncontributing
1002	First St. South	WA-SWC-1377	1884	Contributing
1006	First St. South	WA-SWC-1378	1895 ca.	Contributing
1018	First St. South	WA-SWC-1383	1897	Contributing
713	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1384	1870 ca.	Contributing
715	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1385	1870 ca.	Contributing
719	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1386	1877	Contributing
801	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1387	1872	Contributing
807	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1388	1872	Contributing
815	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1389	1883 ca.	Contributing
817	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1390	1883 ca.	Contributing
823	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1391	1923	Noncontributing
901	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1392	1901	Noncontributing
909	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1393	1872	Contributing
913	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1394	1883	Contributing
915	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1395	1895	Contributing
919	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1396	1873	Contributing
921	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1397	1872	Contributing
1001	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1398	1883	Contributing
1009	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1399	1873	Contributing
1015	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1400	1986	Noncontributing
1019	Fourth St. South	WA-SWC-1401	1900 ca.	Contributing
704	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1402	1877	Contributing
708	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1403	1880	Contributing
709	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1404	1875	Contributing
712	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1405	1913	Contributing
713	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1406	1868	Contributing
717	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1407	1888	Contributing
720	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1408	1872	Contributing

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723	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1409	1872	Contributing
806	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1410	1890	Contributing
807	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1411	1870	Contributing
808	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1412	1890	Contributing
814	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1413	1874	Contributing
815	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1414	1896	Contributing
819	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1415	1881	Contributing
822	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1416	1891	Contributing
903	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1417	1873	Contributing
904	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1418	1894	Contributing
905	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1419	1886 ca.	Noncontributing
910	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1420	1880 ca.	Contributing
911	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1421	1878	Contributing
914	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1422	1876	Contributing
915	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1423	1886	Contributing
920	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1424	1882	Noncontributing
1001	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1425	1875	Contributing
1004	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1426	1876	Contributing
1007	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1427	1922	Contributing
1008	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1428	1918	Contributing
1012	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1429	1882	Contributing
1013	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1430	1879	Noncontributing
1017	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1431	1882	Contributing
1018	Second Street South	WA-SWC-1432	1883	Contributing
703	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1448	1870	Contributing
704	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1449	1874	Contributing
712	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1450	1914	Contributing
715	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1451	1939	Contributing
718	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1452	1870 ca.	Contributing
719	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1453	1888	Contributing
801	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1454	1880	Noncontributing
804	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1455	1871	Contributing
805	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1456	1880	Contributing
807	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1457	1880	Contributing
808	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1458	1889	Contributing
811	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1459	1902	Contributing
813	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1460	1896	Contributing
814	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1461	1877	Contributing
821	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1462	1895	Contributing
822	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1463	1890 ca.	Contributing
901	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1464	1912	Contributing
904	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1465	1874	Contributing



**East Half, Churchill, Nelson, and Slaughter's Addition  
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905	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1466	1871	Noncontributing
906	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1467	1906	Contributing
907	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1468	1878	Contributing
913	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1469	1886	Contributing
916	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1470	1874	Contributing
918	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1471	1890 ca.	Contributing
919	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1472	1880	Contributing
920	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1473	1880	Contributing
1001	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1474	1880 ca.	Contributing
1002	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1475	1876	Contributing
1003	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1476	1884	Noncontributing
1006	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1477	1882	Contributing
1007	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1478	1882	Noncontributing
1009	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1479	1882	Noncontributing
1010	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1480	1876	Noncontributing
1013	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1481	1884	Contributing
1014	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1482	1877	Contributing
1019	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1483	1873	Contributing
1022	Third Street South	WA-SWC-1483	1877	Contributing