

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received **JUL 18 1985**
date entered **AUG 15 1985**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Ortonville Commercial Historic District

and or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Multiple--see text. N/A not for publication

city, town Ortonville N/A vicinity of

state Minnesota code 22 county Big Stone code 011

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple--see text.

street & number N/A

city, town N/A N/A vicinity of state N/A

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Big Stone County Courthouse

street & number 20 S.E. Second Street

city, town Ortonville state Minnesota 56278

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Minnesota Statewide Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1983-84 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office, Fort Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota 55111

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____ N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Downtown Ortonville Historic District contains twenty commercial buildings* located along N.W. Second Street between Jefferson and Jackson avenues in Ortonville. The district is comprised of buildings stretching along approximately half of Ortonville's four block long business district and includes the buildings which make up the core of the commercial center. Bordering the proposed historic district are commercial buildings which were built at the turn of the century but which have been altered considerably, and buildings which were constructed after circa 1940. Surrounding the district to the east and west is a mixture of turn of the century residential and commercial structures. Located within the two blocks north and south of the district are three other architecturally and historically significant downtown Ortonville buildings, the Big Stone County Courthouse (1902), the Columbian Hotel (1892) and the Ortonville Carnegie Library (1915).

The Downtown Ortonville Historic District contains buildings constructed between 1879 and 1978, although the vast majority were built between 1898 and 1915. At least six of the twenty buildings were designed and built by the local contracting firm Carlson-Hasslen Construction Company, which is Ortonville's oldest continuously operated family business and which constructed its first building in 1898. Most of the buildings in the district have brick facades and nearly all are trimmed with rockfaced purple granite quarried near Ortonville. The buildings are all one or two stories tall, and most are good examples of turn of the century commercial architecture, with decorative brickwork on the facades, ornate cornice treatment, and small storefronts with recessed entrances. Among the most architecturally significant buildings are three banks built between 1898 and 1915. Nearly all of the buildings are in good condition. Unfortunately, many have been altered at the storefront level, although some of the alterations are not irreversible. As a group, the buildings present a uniform collection of small, rather ornate, brick commercial buildings which retain their turn of the century character. Individual descriptions of the buildings included in the historic district follow.

*(19 contributing buildings and 1 non-contributing bldg)

1. Address: 33 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Ortonville State Bank
Present Name: Civic and Commerce Association
Built: 1914
Architect: Carl Hasslen
Builder: Carlson-Hasslen
Condition: Good

A handsome Classical Revival bank building which is one of the many buildings in the district which were constructed by Carlson-Hasslen. Built in 1914, the bank is faced with stretcher bonded tan pressed brick with rockfaced purple Ortonville granite and smooth gray stone trim. The building is basically intact, with brick pilasters supporting a brick and stone entablature, a recessed entrance, and two storefront windows with leaded glass transoms. The Ortonville State Bank was chartered in 1914 and closed in 1922 when it was one of three banks in Ortonville. Among its first officers were John Carlson of Carlson-Hasslen as president and Carl Hasslen as a director. The building now houses the Civic and Commerce Association, Sherman Photographic Studio, and the R.S.V.P. Office.

2. Address: 37 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: N. Schoen and Son, Wholesale and Retail Furniture
Present Name: Al's Arcade and Family Fun Center
Built: 1909
Architect: Carlson-Hasslen
Builder: Carlson-Hasslen
Condition: Good

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1879-1922 **Builder/Architect** Multiple--see Descriptions

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Downtown Ortonville Historic District, comprised of twenty buildings on N.W. Second Street, is historically and architecturally significant as a uniform collection of small turn of the century commercial buildings which comprises most of Ortonville's business district and stands as one of the most intact collections of Victorian commercial buildings in west central Minnesota. The buildings are significant as good examples of Victorian commercial architecture commonly found in small western Minnesota communities, and are unique because of their liberal use of stone ornamentation; purple granite quarried near Ortonville. In addition, the buildings are important because a large percentage of them (at least six of the twenty) were designed and constructed by one builder, the locally prominent firm of Carlson-Hasslen. Furthermore, the buildings are historically significant because they housed firms founded by some of Ortonville's earliest businessmen and have served as a regional center of trade since the nineteenth century.

The community of Ortonville is located at the South Dakota border in Big Stone County. It sits at the south end of Big Stone Lake which is navigable through the Minnesota River system. The town was platted unofficially in 1872 by Cornelius K. Orton whose commercial building, the Orton Block, is included in the Downtown Ortonville Historic District. Despite Orton's attempts to settle the town in the early 1870's, most of the community's first businesses were not established until several years later. The Shumaker Store (represented in the historic district by the Shumaker Building at 205 N.W. 2nd St.) which was founded in 1876, was the first mercantile store opened in Ortonville. Other early businesses included C. K. Orton's bank and the first post office, both founded by Orton in 1878 and probably located in the Orton Block after 1879. By the 1880's, after rail service had reached the town, Ortonville's business district contained a healthy collection of small businesses, many founded by German and Scandavavian immigrants to the area. Ortonville was incorporated municipally in 1881 and became the county seat of Big Stone County in 1886. The commercial district grew steadily until about 1920 when Ortonville experienced a peak in population and the downtown business district reached close to its present size.

The newly built Ortonville commercial district, which was comprised mostly of woodframe buildings in the 1870's and 1880's, suffered from several large and small fires in the nineteenth century. Among the worst were a fire in 1879 which nearly destroyed the entire town, and a major fire in 1897 which consumed everything on the east side of Second Street between Madison and Monroe avenues except the fireproof vault of the Bank of Ortonville. The results of these fires are seen in the buildings which exist in downtown Ortonville today and are included in the historic district: most of the buildings on the west side of Second Street are reconstructions of previous post-1879 woodframe buildings, and the buildings on the east side of the street within the district were all constructed after the 1897 fire. Most of the commercial buildings standing in Ortonville today are faced with fireproof brown or red brick produced locally at a brickyard which operated near Ortonville from circa 1880-1932, or shipped in from the Twin Cities Brick Company, or brickyards at Willmar or Springfield, Minnesota or on the East Coast.

The buildings which comprise the downtown Ortonville historic district are fairly uniform in construction date (most were built between 1898 and 1915), in scale, and in quality of

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sparrow, Magdelene. Big Stone County, Minnesota, 1881-1981. Ortonville: 1981.
 Sparrow, Magdelene. Extensive unpublished research on buildings in downtown Ortonville.
 Big Stone County Historical Society, Ortonville, Minnesota. Includes property deed information, biographical information on owners, etc.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 3½ acres

Quadrangle name Ortonville Quad.

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UTM References

A	<u>14</u> Zone	<u>700140</u> Easting	<u>5019960</u> Northing	B	<u>14</u> Zone	<u>700240</u> Easting	<u>5019960</u> Northing
C	<u>14</u>	<u>700320</u>	<u>5019800</u>	D	<u>14</u>	<u>700260</u>	<u>5019760</u>
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Granger, Field Assistant

organization State Historic Preservation Office
Minnesota Historical Society

date October 1984

street & number Fort Snelling History Center

telephone (612) 726-1171

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota 55111

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 6/26/85

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

J. Melvyn Byer
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register.

date 8-15-85

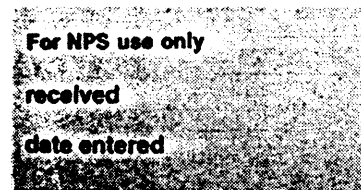
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet Downtown Ortonville
Historic District **Item number** 4 **Page** 1

Owners of Properties Within Downtown Ortonville Historic District:

33 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 5, Block 19, Original Plat)

Civic and Commerce Association
33 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

37 N.W. 2nd St. (Lots 3-4, Block 19, Original Plat)

Phil Degreeef
HCR 37 Box 213
Pierre, SD

47 N.W. 2nd St. Lots 1-2, Block 19, Original Plat)

James and Thomas Kaye
47 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

102-108 N.W. 2nd St. (Lots 13-14, Block 16, Original Plat)

Masonic Temple Association
213 Monroe Ave.
Ortonville, MN 56278

105 N.W. 2nd St. (Lots 11-12, Block 17, Original Plat)

C. Motley
P.O. Box 227
Wayzata, MN

112 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 15, Block 16, Original Plat)

Morley McPherson
112 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

115 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 10, Block 17, Original Plat)

George Gimmetad
115 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

116-118 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 16, Block 16, Original Plat)

Carol Thompson (South $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 16)
116 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

Delton Silberstein (North $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 16)
118 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

117 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 9, Block 17, Original Plat)

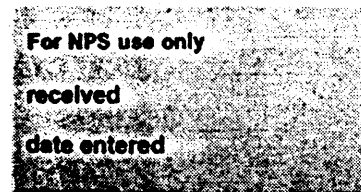
Ivan Stern
117 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

121 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 8, Block 17, Original Plat)

Washington Federal Savings Bank
121 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

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Continuation sheet Downtown Ortonville Item number 4 Page 2
 Historic District

Item #4 (Owners of Properties) continued:

123 N.W. 2nd St. (Lots 6-7, Block 17, Original Plat)
Thomas Wilson
Milbank, SD

124 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 18, Block 16, Original Plat)
Geier Brothers Inc.
124 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

128 N.W. 2nd St. (Southwesterly 72.66 feet of Lot 19, Block 16, Original Plat)
Robert E. Yaeger
128 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

133 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 5, Block 17, Original Plat)
John Tobin
133 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

136 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 21, Block 16, Original Plat)
Robert Jorschumb
136 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

137-149 N.W. 2nd St. (Lots 1-4, Block 17, Original Plat)
Larry E. Cartwright
149 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

142 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 22 and South 12' of Lot 23, Block 16, Original Plat)
Donna Auchstetter
146 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

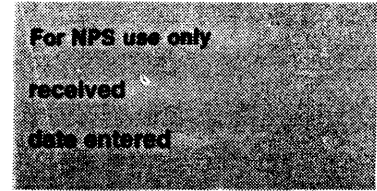
146 N.W. 2nd St. (North 13' of Lot 23 and all of Lot 24, Block 16, Original Plat)
Alvin Auchstetter
146 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

205 N.W. 2nd St. (South 16.7' of Lot 11 and all of Lot 12, Block 12, Original Plat)
Anne M Peterson, fee owner Steven Roggenbuck
205 N.W. 2nd St. 308 Pacific
Ortonville, MN 56278 Ortonville, MN 56278

213 N.W. 2nd St. (Lots 9, 10, and North 8.5' of Lot 11, Block 12, Original Plat)
Daniel M. Petersen
213 N.W. 2nd St.
Ortonville, MN 56278

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Continuation sheet Downtown Ortonville Item number 4 Page 3
 Historic District

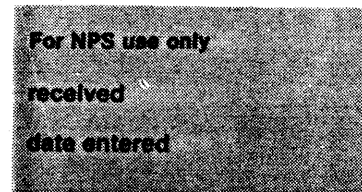
Item #4 (Owners of Properties) continued:

120-122 N.W. 2nd St. (Lot 17, Block 16, Original Plat)
 Duane Gustafson (South ½, Lot 17) Dr. L. T. Olson (North ½, Lot 17)
 120 N.W. 2nd St. 122 N.W. 2nd St.
 Ortonville, MN 56278 Ortonville, MN 56278

132 N.W. 2nd St. (NEly 27.33' of Lot 19 and all of Lot 20, Block 16, Original Plat)
 Dr. William Stewart
 132 N.W. 2nd St.
 Ortonville, MN 56278

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Continuation sheet Downtown Ortonville Item number 7 Page 1
Historic District

A three bay building faced with stretcher bonded brown pressed brick which was built in 1909 as an addition to the N. Schoen and Son furniture store built in 1903 immediately to the northwest. The building has a decorative brick cornice, rockfaced Ortonville granite trim, and a fanlight transom above the central second story window. The building's three storefronts have been altered and an obtrusive wooden awning has been installed across the first story. N. Schoen and Son Furniture was owned by Nels Schoen and his son Martin (1870-1958) and was advertised as the third largest furniture store in Minnesota before World War I. This building later housed a variety of businesses and is now occupied by a game arcade and a cafe. See also adjacent Schoen building.

3. Address: 47 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: N. Schoen and Son, Wholesale and Retail Furniture
Present Name: O'Kaye's Furniture
Built: 1903/1922
Architect: Carlson-Hasslen (1922)
Builder: Carlson-Hasslen (1922)
Condition: Good

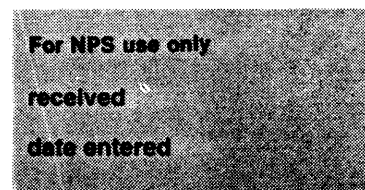
A large two story, three bay building at the southwest corner of Second St. and Monroe Ave. which is faced with dark brown brick with simple concrete ornamentation. The building has remained basically intact since 1922, although wooden panels have been installed in the storefront. The building was constructed in 1903 as N. Schoen and Son Wholesale and Retail Furniture store, owned and operated by Nels Schoen and his son Martin Schoen (1870-1958). In 1909 Schoen's expanded their business by constructing a major addition to the southeast (the building at 37 N.W. 2nd St.) after which they advertised their store as the third largest furniture store in Minnesota. In 1922 the 1903 portion of the building burned and was rebuilt by Carlson-Hasslen Construction Company. Martin Schoen left the business and his brother, E. N. Schoen (?-1944) formed Schoen-Swenson Furniture Company in 1922 with partner S. J. Swenson (?-1937). The building has been a furniture store (and sometimes mortuary) since 1922. It now houses O'Kaye's Furniture. See also adjacent Schoen building.

4. Address: 105 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Ortonville Mercantile Store
Present Name: C. Motley's Department Store (now vacant)
Built: 1916
Architect: probably Carlson-Hasslen
Builder: Carlson-Hasslen
Condition: Good

A large commercial building at the northwest corner of Second St. and Monroe Ave. which is faced with textured dark brown brick, with rockfaced Ortonville granite coping, water-table, foundation, and sills. The building has a projecting curvilinear parapet wall, common to commercial buildings designed in the 1910's and 1920's. The previous building on this site housed Bertelson's Store, Culver Brothers Big Store, and then the Kollitz Store until September of 1916 when it was destroyed by fire. The present building was built in 1916 by Carlson-Hasslen and housed the Ortonville Mercantile Store and several other businesses until it was recently occupied by C. Motley Department Store. It is now vacant.

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Continuation sheet Historic District

Item number 7

Page 2

5. Address: 115 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Pioneer Meat Market
Present Name: Ortonville Decorating Center
Built: 1893
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Fair

This small building is one of the oldest buildings standing in downtown Ortonville and is the second oldest building in the historic district. It is a woodframe building with a main facade of soft red brick veneer rising to a central pediment. The building has paired second story double hung windows topped by brick window hoods with rounded arches and label-like moldings. The first story storefront has been altered and the brick has been painted white. The building was constructed in 1893 as the Pioneer Meat Market, a business owned by the partnership Conrad and Thorndike. By 1900 the building housed Hawick and Borg Saloon. It later housed a succession of hardware stores, and is now the Ortonville Decorating Center.

6. Address: 117 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Grosenick's Men's Wear
Present Name: Ivan's Men's Wear
Built: 1903
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Good

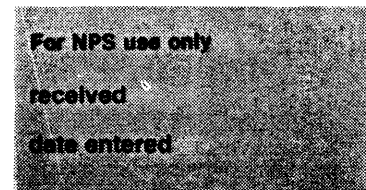
Built in 1903, Grosenick's Men's Wear is a two story building faced with brown brick. Behind the metal screen installed on the building circa 1971 the upper facade is intact, with a brick projecting pediment flanked by brick piers, all topped by rockfaced Ortonville granite trim. The storefront level has been altered. The building was constructed for A. H. F. Grosenick (1868-1938), a German immigrant who came to Ortonville and established a clothing and tailor shop in 1888. He was succeeded in the business by his son Ferdinand (1902-1968). In 1933 Ivan Stern began working at the store. He eventually became part owner in the business and became full owner in 1970. Stern remodelled the building in 1971.

7. Address: 121 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Schmidt Building
Present Name: Washington Federal Savings Bank
Built: 1897
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Good

A small, three bay building faced with stretcher bonded brown brick and trimmed with Ortonville granite. The building has rockfaced stone piers between the bays and a projecting parapet wall with granite coping and the name "Schmidt" incised in granite at the top. The building has been altered with a 1976 brick storefront. It was constructed in 1897 for August Schmidt, who established a meat market in Ortonville in 1879. This building

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housed his market from 1897-1906 and from 1906-1971 housed other meat markets. In 1976 it was purchased and remodelled by First Federal Savings and Loan and the building is now owned by Washington Federal Savings Bank.

8. Address: 123 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Bernie's Shoes and Georgia's (non-contributing)
Present Name: Bernie's Shoes and Georgia's
Built: 1978
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Lundberg Construction
Condition: Good

A one story blond brick commercial building which is the only new building standing within the boundaries of the historic district. It was built in 1978 for owners Georgia Kolb and Lucy Kockx.

9. Address: 133 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Clarke Building
Present Name: Montgomery Wards
Built: Circa 1910
Architect: Probably Carlson-Hasslen
Builder: Carlson-Hasslen
Condition: Good

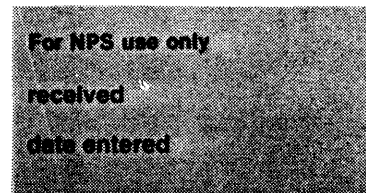
A simple early twentieth century commercial building faced with stretcher bonded light brown pressed brick. The building has a corbelled brick cornice, corner pilasters with Ortonville granite capitals, and the name "Clarke" at the top of the parapet wall. The storefront has been altered. The Clarke Building was constructed circa 1910 for Patrick C. Clarke (1841-1918), an Irish immigrant who moved to Ortonville in 1879 and, with a partner, opened Clarke and Hartnett Hardware. The business was located in a woodframe building built on or adjacent to this site in 1879. By the time the present building was constructed circa 1910, the business was known as P. C. Clarke Hardware. The building housed at least three other hardware stores before becoming John Tobin's Montgomery Wards.

10. Address: 137-149 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Orton Block
Present Name: Cartwright Drug, etc.
Built: 1879/1907
Architect: Probably Cornelius Orton
Builder: Probably Cornelius and Peter Orton
Condition: Good

The Orton Block is located at the southwest corner of Second St. and Madison Ave. and is a one story woodframe building covered with metal siding which was constructed as a two story building in 1879. In 1886 a third story was added to the structure but the present appearance dates from 1907 when the top two floors were removed. The building has a pressed metal cornice with the name "Orton Block" and the date "1907". The storefront level was remodelled circa 1969. The Orton Block was built by Cornelius K. Orton (1846-1890) and was probably constructed by Orton himself with the assistance of his brother Peter, a

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 Historic District

carpenter. Cornelius Orton was the founder of Ortonville, arriving in the area and platting the town in 1872. He started the town's first bank and post office (1878), held most civic offices, worked to bring rail service to the area, and was a director of the Fargo and Southern Railroad. He spent most of his Ortonville career in banking and real estate. The Orton Block is the single building in Ortonville which best represents Orton's impact on the town (his residence, no longer standing, was located on a farm). After Orton's death in 1890 at the age of 44, the building was owned by his widow and children until 1969 when it was sold to the present owners. It now houses several businesses.

11. Address: 102-108 N.W. Second Street
Historic Name: Masonic Building
Present Name: Rensberger T.V. and Polly-Cook-It
Built: 1898
Architect: Unknown
Builder: John Anderson
Condition: Good

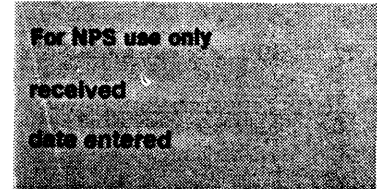
A two story building at the northeast corner of Second St. and Monroe Ave. which is faced with stretcher bonded brown brick. The building has rounded arched window openings with egg and dart springing blocks, granite lintels, and a brick cornice. The building has been altered with the infill of windows and the remodelling of the storefront level. It was built in 1898 by the Masonic Temple Association. It housed the Masonic Hall on the second story, and, on the first floor, the Ortonville Post Office (from 1898-1930). A store and a cafe now occupy the building's two storefronts.

12. Address: 112 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Culver Drug Company
Present Name: JoLee's Jewelry
Built: Circa 1900
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Good

A one story brick building constructed after the 1897 fire which destroyed the commercial buildings on this block. The building has been altered considerably but rockfaced purple granite trim is still visible on the facade. It is one of the least architecturally significant buildings in the district. In 1908 the building housed the Culver Drug Company.

13. Address: 116-122 N.W. Second St.
Historic Name: Brown's Jewelry Store
Present Name: State Farm Insurance, etc.
Built: 1907
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Good

A one story building faced with stretcher bonded light brown brick, with a decorative brick cornice and rockfaced Ortonville granite trim. One of the four storefronts is basically

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intact. The building was constructed in 1907 for Fred L. Brown (1865-1950), a jeweler who was the son of J. William Brown who operated a jewelry store until 1906 in the building at 213 N.W. 2nd St. Brown's Jewelry Store was operated here by Fred Brown and, later, his son Fred Brown Jr. (1900-1970) until 1970. The building now houses L. T. Olson's Dental Office, Duane's Barber Shop, State Farm Insurance, and the Styling Hut.

14. Address: 124 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Citizens National Bank
Present Name: Geier Brothers Inc.
Built: 1898
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Good

The Citizens National Bank is an interesting bank building which is faced almost entirely in rockfaced purple Ortonville granite. The building is one story tall, with a slightly projecting stone parapet wall, large rectangular windows, and an entrance recessed within a granite rounded arch. The area above the storefront contains a panel of yellow brick, apparently original to the design (as indicated by early photos). The building is one of the most intact commercial buildings in downtown Ortonville. It was built in 1898 to house the Citizens National Bank, which was established that year by G. W. McArthur, John S. Tucker, and E. J. Weiser. The bank was one of three banks operating in Ortonville in the early twentieth century, and became insolvent in 1926. The building became the A. L. Moore land office circa 1930 and has been the Geier Brothers real estate office since circa 1941.

15. Address: 128 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: First National Bank of Ortonville
Present Name: Yaeger Optometrist
Built: 1901
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Good

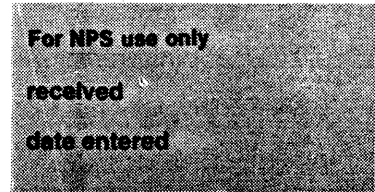
An unusual Classical Revival bank building constructed of coursed ashlar rockfaced Ortonville granite and stretcher bonded grayish-brown pressed brick. The projecting parapet of the facade has Ionic pilasters supporting metal cornices and a full pediment, egg and dart molding, and a flagpole at the top. The storefront level of the building has a large rectangular window and a rectangular recessed entrance. Although new windows and a door have been installed, this building is one of the most well preserved in downtown Ortonville and represents a good example of the use of Ortonville granite. The First National Bank was organized formally in 1902 by Richard Norrish (who had previously been involved in the Bank of Ortonville), E. J. Weiser (who helped found the Citizens National Bank four years earlier), and John Michell. In 1904 John Michell (1852-1931) bought controlling interest in the First National which he held until circa 1932 when the bank folded. From 1933-1952 this building housed the Northwestern State Bank of Ortonville, which was established in 1930 as the Northwestern State Bank of Marietta, and changed its name and moved to Ortonville in 1933.

16. Address: 132-136 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Wihlborg Store
Present Name: Flowers by Bob, etc.
Built: Circa 1905

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Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Fair

A one story building faced with light brown brick with decorative brickwork at the cornice level and altered storefronts. It is one of the least architecturally significant buildings in the district. The building was constructed after the 1897 fire which destroyed this block of commercial buildings, and by 1906 housed the Wihlborg Store.

17. Address: 142 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: C. J. Stark Building
Present Name: Value Variety
Built: 1903
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Fair

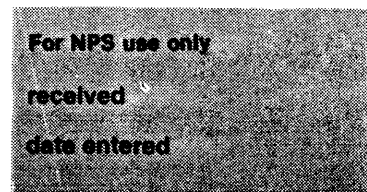
The C. J. Stark Building is a two story, three bay commercial building faced with stretcher bonded brown brick with rockfaced granite trim. The building has a decorative brick cornice with a triangular projection filled with brick laid in a checkerboard pattern. At the top of the main facade is an iron name and date panel. The second story has three large rounded arched window openings with keystones. These window openings have been partially filled in and the storefront level has been altered, although it retains a cast iron beam with raised "rosettes" above the storefront. The building was constructed for Charles J. Stark (1864-1947), a Swedish immigrant who established a hardware store in Ortonville in 1899. He operated his business from this building from 1903-circa 1921. Stark served as cashier of the Ortonville State Bank from 1915-22 and held many civic offices. From 1908-circa 1914 the second floor of this building housed the Granger College, a branch of the Granger School of Business of Aberdeen, South Dakota. Stark sold the building in 1921. It is now the Value Variety store.

18. Address: 146 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Nielson Drug
Present Name: Auchstetter Drug
Built: 1901
Architect: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Condition: Fair

A two story building located at the southeast corner of Second St. and Madison Ave. The building is faced with light brown pressed brick and has pilasters between the second story bays, smooth granite sills, slightly segmentally arched window openings, and decorative brickwork. The first floor of the building has been altered and the upper cornice has been removed. The building was constructed for John Nielson, a Swedish immigrant who operated a drug store here from 1901-1920. From 1920-circa 1959 the building housed the Gunderson Drug Company owned by Harry Gunderson (1892-1959). The Ortonville Clinic, staffed by several doctors, nurses, and dentists, was located on the second floor. Circa 1959 the building

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became Auchstetter Drug owned by Alvin and Donna Auchstetter.

19. Address: 205 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Shumaker Building
Present Name: Ben Franklin
Built: 1897/1905
Architect: Unknown
Builder: John Hancock (1905 addition)
Condition: Good

The Shumaker Building is a large red brick structure located at the northwest corner of Second Street and Madison Avenue. The southern six bays of the building were built in 1897 and the northern four bays were added by Morris contractor John Hancock in 1905. The Shumaker Building has rounded arched and rectangular window openings with transoms, a metal cornice, granite trim, and decorative brickwork. The first story storefronts have been altered. The building was constructed in 1897 for Abraham L. Shumaker (1861-1930), his brother George Shumaker, and his son Ferdinand Shumaker. The three operated a department store here from 1897-circa 1914. The business had been established circa 1876 by Abraham Shumaker's parents and was the first mercantile store in Ortonville. The business was known as F. Shumaker and Son, The Pioneer Store from circa 1897-circa 1914 when it was sold and became the Pioneer Cooperative Department Store. The second story of the large building housed the Ortonville Cigar Factory, and several offices including those of doctors, dentists, Cliff Attornies, and the telephone company. From 1933 until recently the building housed Peterson's Ben Franklin, which has since been sold to new owners.

20. Address: 213 N.W. 2nd St.
Historic Name: Brown Building
Present Name: Coast to Coast
Built: 1903
Architect: Carl Hasslen
Builder: Carlson-Hasslen
Condition: Good

A two story, four bay building faced with soft brown brick. The building has decorative brickwork above the second story windows, a projecting parapet wall with a stone panel reading "87 Brown 03", second story rounded arched window openings with keystones, and granite trim. The storefront level has been altered. The Brown Building was constructed in 1903 for J. William Brown, who became a jeweler and optician in 1887 when he acquired his brother's business. In 1906 he sold the business, but he retained ownership of this building until circa 1940. After Brown's store closed in 1906 the building housed several jewelry stores including Palm's Jewelry Shop until 1940 when it became a Coast to Coast store.

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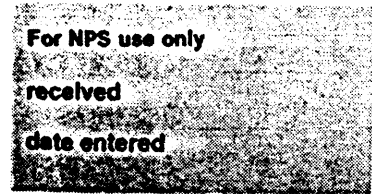
Item #8 (Significance) continued:

design. Nearly all of the buildings in downtown Ortonville feature purple granite sills, lintels, coping, and other ornamentation cut from purple granite quarried near Ortonville by several granite companies. Local granite was also used as curbing throughout the downtown business district. At least six of the twenty buildings included in the district were designed and constructed by one local firm, Carlson-Hasslen Construction Company, which became the area's primary contractor. The firm is Ortonville's oldest continuously operated family business. It was founded circa 1898 by Swedish immigrants John Carlson (1873-1938) and Carl Hasslen (1871-1959) under the name John Carlson and Company. Carl Hasslen was the firm's principal designer. From circa 1907 until Carlson's death in 1938 the firm was known as Carlson-Hasslen Construction Company. Today the Hasslen Construction Company is one of western Minnesota's largest contractors. The company has built hundreds of armories, banks, houses, churches, and commercial buildings in western Minnesota and eastern South Dakota and is still operated by the Hasslen family. In addition to designing and constructing several buildings within the historic district, the firm built many other downtown Ortonville buildings outside of the district boundaries, as well as many public buildings, churches, and residences in town.

The buildings which comprise the Downtown Ortonville Historic District were included in a fifteen month historic sites survey of seven west central Minnesota counties conducted in 1983-84 by the State Historic Preservation Office. The survey staff determined that Ortonville had an unusually uniform collection of turn of the century downtown buildings for a western Minnesota community of its size. Although the buildings have been altered at the storefront levels, very few have sustained major and irreversible alterations to their facades, and each still retains much of its original Victorian character. In addition, the survey indicated that downtown Ortonville buildings contain a much more liberal use of stone ornamentation than is common in other western Minnesota communities, a feature that ties the buildings together visually as a group and serves as a reminder of the area's importance as a granite producing center. The survey also indicated that compared with many other downtown business districts in west central Minnesota communities, Ortonville's business district is healthy, its buildings are well maintained, and interest in the town's historic resources is evident. The buildings in downtown Ortonville are now the subject of a downtown promotion and redevelopment project currently being undertaken by the City of Ortonville and members of the business community.

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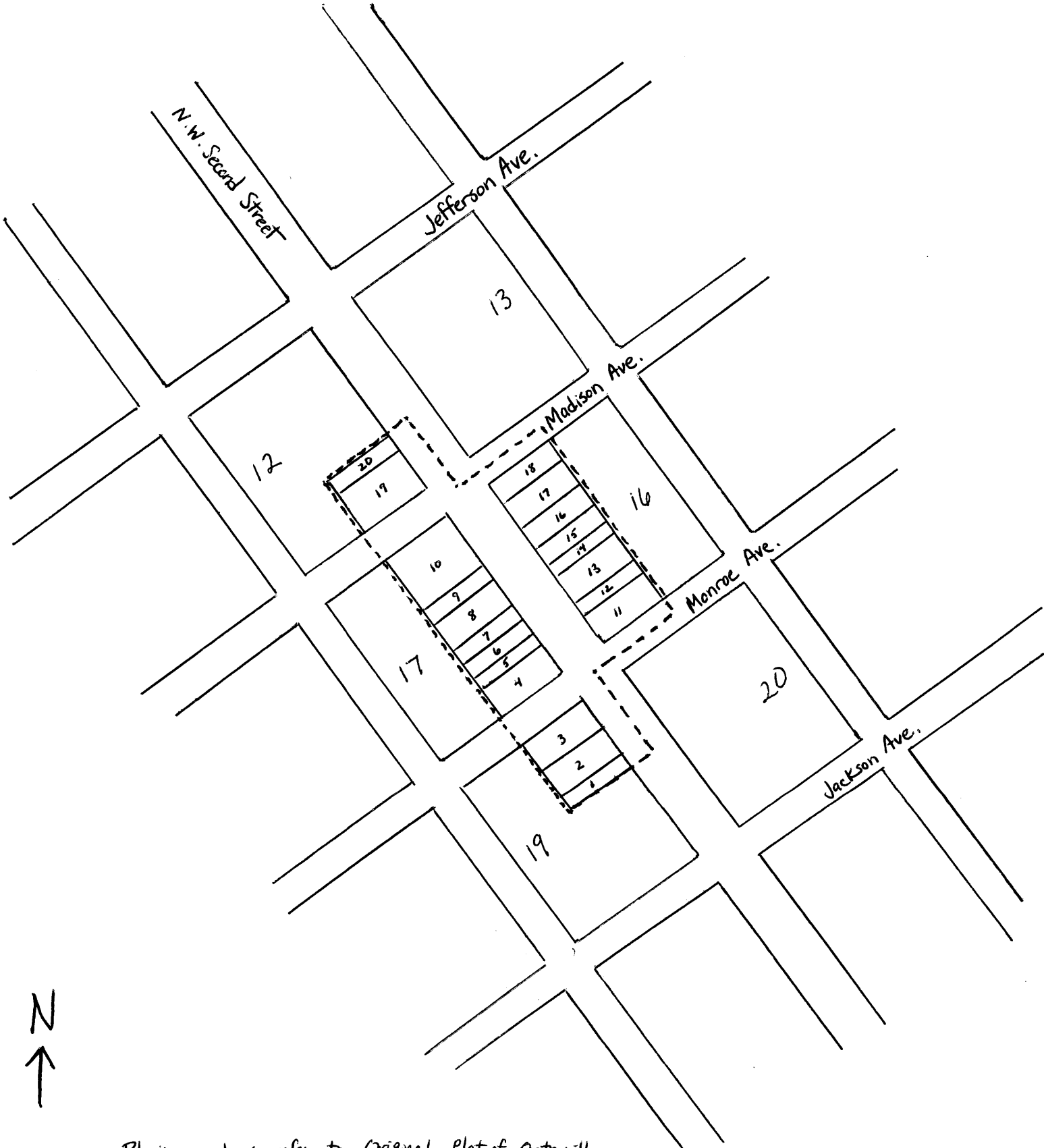


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Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point at the intersection of the centerline of the Northwesterly/Southeasterly alley of Block 19 of the Original Plat of Ortonville and the southwestern extension of the southeasterly lot line of Lot 5 of Block 19, thence northwesterly along the centerline of the Northwesterly/Southeasterly alley of Block 19 and the centerline of the Northwesterly/Southeasterly alley of Block 17 and the centerline of the Northwesterly/Southeasterly alley of Block 12 to the point of intersection with the northwesterly lot line of Lot 11 of Block 12, thence northeasterly along the northwesterly lot line of Lot 11 to the point of intersection with the centerline of Second Street, thence southeasterly along the centerline of Second Street to the point of intersection with the centerline of Madison Avenue, thence northeasterly along the centerline of Madison Avenue to the point of intersection with the Northwesterly/Southeasterly alley of Block 16, thence southeasterly along the centerline of the Northwesterly/Southeasterly alley of Block 16 to the point of intersection with the centerline of Monroe Avenue, thence southwesterly along the centerline of Monroe Avenue to the point of intersection with the centerline of Second Street, thence southeasterly along the centerline of Second Street to the point of intersection with the northeastern extension of the southeasterly lot line of Lot 5 of Block 19, thence southwesterly along the southeasterly lot line of Lot 5 of Block 19 to the point of beginning.

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Big Stone County, Minnesota



Block numbers refer to Original Plat of Ortonville.
Building numbers correspond to those in the
National Register nomination text.