

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

179

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

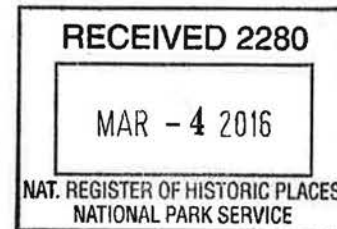
1. Name of Property

Historic name: Clare Downtown Historic District

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)



2. Location

3. Street & number: 114-120 E. Fifth St., 102-202 W. Fifth St., 112-115 E. Fourth St., 112-124 W. Fifth St., 307 and 321-622 N. McEwan

4. City or town: Clare State: Michigan, MI County: Clare

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

5. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A X B X C ___ D

Marched M. [Signature] 3/11/16

Signature of certifying official/Title: _____ Date

MI SHPO

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: _____ Date

Title: _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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6. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

For Edison H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

4.19.16
Date of Action

7. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>36</u>	<u>15</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>39</u>	<u>18</u>	Total

Doherty Hotel listed as 1 Contributing, 1 Non-Contributing for post-1965 addition

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

8. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Domestic / Single Dwelling
- Domestic / Hotel
- Commerce / Financial Institution
- Commerce / Specialty Store
- Commerce / Department Store
- Social / Meeting Hall
- Government / City Hall
- Government / Post Office
- Education / Library
- Religion/ Religious Facility
- Funerary / Mortuary
- Recreation And Culture / Theater
- Recreation And Culture / Auditorium
- Agriculture/Subsistence / Storage
- Healthcare / Medical Business/Office
- Transportation / Rail-Related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Domestic /Hotel
- Commerce / Trade Business

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Commerce / Trade Financial Institution
Commerce / Trade Specialty Store
Commerce / Trade Department Store
Commerce / Trade Restaurant
Government / City Hall
Government / Post Office
Religion / Religious Facility
Recreation And Culture / Theater
Recreation And Culture / Monument/Marker
Agriculture/Subsistence / Storage
Healthcare / Medical Business/Office
Transportation / Rail-Related
Vacant/Not In Use

9. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian

Late 19th and 20th Century / Classical Revival

Modern

Other / Commercial Brick

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Weatherboard, Steel, Stucco, Asphalt, Concrete, Glass, Vinyl, Aluminum, Limestone, Terra Cotta

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Clare Downtown Historic District comprises the historic commercial core of the City of Clare, and is located along four blocks of North McEwan Street, along with adjacent portions of West Fourth Street and East and West Fifth Street east and west of McEwan Street. The district contains fifty-one buildings, two structures, one site and two objects, dating from 1873 to 2000. The buildings range from one to four stories in height, with most being one and two-story. The predominant styles of buildings are Neoclassical and Commercial Brick. In addition Late Victorian, Mid-century Modern and late twentieth-century styles are represented.

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Narrative Description

The Clare Downtown Historic District measures sixteen and one-quarter acres, and is located in the south central section of the City of Clare. It is just to the north of the Little Tobacco River, which meets up with the Tobacco River on the east side of the city, that river eventually merging with the Tittabawassee and Saginaw Rivers before emptying into Saginaw Bay of Lake Huron. McEwan Street, also known as Business Route US-127, running through the district, is the city's main north and south-running street. Third, Fourth and Fifth Streets intersect McEwan in an east and west direction with Fifth Street also serving as Business Route US-10. Third Street intersects McEwan only on the east side, while Fourth and Fifth Streets travel through east and west of McEwan. Also intersecting McEwan, just to the south of Third Street, is the Great Lakes Central Railroad line, which runs in a southeast to northwest direction.

McEwan Street is a busy four-lane structure north of Third Street, with room for parallel parking on both sides of the street. South of Third Street McEwan is two lanes wide with an additional center turn lane. Third, Fourth and Fifth Streets are two-lane roadways, with parallel parking located along the north side of Fourth Street. Third Street has diagonal parking on the north side of the street. Fifth Street contains no parking spaces. Since 1989 the downtown has seen changes to the streetscape in the form of brick paver areas located within the concrete sidewalks, electric lampposts, park benches, tree plantings, decorative trash cans, and bicycle racks.

The district is located entirely within the original plat of the City of Clare. The lots were platted to measure 66 feet by 132 feet, with almost ninety percent of the lots positioned in a north-south direction. All the lots located along McEwan Street were platted in an east-west direction, with narrow ends fronting on the street. The district at its greatest east and west width measures approximately 1,270 feet, and the approximate length north and south measures 3,830 feet. The topography is fairly level, with a slight increase in elevation of ten feet from the south limit of the district to the north limit along McEwan Street.

The district's three primary blocks of old commercial buildings extend north from a railroad line that crosses McEwan, the city's main street, at an angle. On McEwan's west side, the district's south boundary extends south of the tracks a short distance to include a large gable-roof early twentieth-century elevator building, the last remnant of agriculture-related commercial buildings that clustered around the tracks. Just north of the tracks, Third Street forms the south edge of the three blocks to the north along McEwan that contains the district's primary commercial buildings. The buildings stand side by side in the two blocks between Third and Fifth and in the south half of the block between Fifth and Sixth. The primarily one and two-story buildings stand directly on the sidewalk line. The 1924 four-story Doherty Hotel, the district's tallest (and only four-story) building, stands at the northeast McEwan/Fifth corner. The building fronts on the two streets, with large motor inn/conference center additions of modern design but in red brick complementing the original hotel, project out behind to the east and northeast and, with their associated parking lots, occupy the entire block between Fifth and Sixth and east to Pine Street. The Doherty, as will be shown in the inventory and significance sections, is a – if not the – key landmark building in downtown Clare, and including in the district the original hotel building but not its large and functionally important extensions seems to make no sense. On the west side of the 600 block between Fifth and Sixth streets, the district's north boundary marks the south edge of a large modern hospital complex that, with its parking areas, occupies the entire rest of the block to the north and extends west to Beech Street.

East of the buildings fronting on McEwan's east side, the district includes the north half of the block between East Fourth and Fifth streets to include the 1882 upright-and-wing house at 120 E. Fifth. The house, which serves commercial uses while retaining its landscaped yard and much of its historic character, stands to the east of part of a city parking lot behind (east of) the buildings fronting on McEwan. The otherwise typical paved parking lot contains a highly atypical feature: an open shed-roof wooded shelter for the horses of horse-drawn carriages that bring members of the local Amish community from outside of the city in to shop. The south part of the block's east

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section, which contains the city's large new public library and more parking, is excluded from the district. On the west side of the district, the area west of the post office (111 W. Fifth) is a large parking lot, while to the south, along W. Fourth east of Beech, a four-story senior citizens' apartment building, with its property, extends east to 126 W. Fourth.

The district extends west along the north side of W. Fourth and along W. Fifth to include a cluster of commercial buildings along Fourth's north side and a few commercial buildings near McEwan and historic public buildings – post office, Congregational church, and city hall – located farther west.

The district's oldest buildings date to the 1870s, and are of wood frame construction. Two of these buildings, 114 West Fifth and 611 North McEwan, were originally residences that have been since converted to commercial use. The oldest concentration of commercial buildings is located along the east and west sides of the 500 block of North McEwan, the east side of the 400 block of North McEwan, and the two buildings located at the northwest corner of Fourth and McEwan. All the buildings within the district, except for eight, were constructed with solid brick or brick veneer walls. These commercial buildings range in dates of construction from the 1880s to the 2000s, with Neoclassical and Commercial Brick buildings predominating. Two of the oldest and most distinguished buildings are the Late Victorian buildings located at 524 and 532 North McEwan, constructed in the later part of the nineteenth century.

Neoclassical elements were popular as part of the design elements of buildings within the first two decades of the twentieth century. No. 518 North McEwan features Ionic piers, jack arch lintels, bracketed cornice and dentils on the building's second story. No. 523 North McEwan displays Ionic piers, prism glass transom windows, decorative brickwork, bracketed cornice and scrollwork frieze board. Buildings exemplifying Commercial Brick design are 112 West Fifth Street and 418 and 420, 513, and 609 North McEwan. Also of note are the decorative terra cotta elements – lintels, capitals, and rosettes – in 431 North McEwan. Other buildings still retain their cornices and other classical details.

The district is surrounded by a mixture of commercial and residential buildings. The majority of the commercial buildings just outside the district are less than fifty years old, and are located to the southeast, southwest and west of the district, with residential areas located beyond them. The residential areas to the north and east are located closer to the district than those formerly mentioned. The residences surrounding the district are in the oldest part of the city. Most are of a vernacular design with very few of the higher style residences still in existence. McEwan Street north and south of the district, along with Fifth Street east and west of the district, continue to be devoted primarily to commercial use.

INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS AND OTHER FEATURES

All resources are Contributing unless noted as Non-Contributing. The entries in this section are followed by a list of abbreviated sources specific to each building. The abbreviations for the sources are defined as follows: *CPress.* = *Clare Press*, *CCP.* = *Clare County Press*, *CHSY.* = *Clare High School Yearbook* (Advertisements), *Cour.* = *Clare Courier*, *Dem.* = *Clare Democrat*, *DPress.* = *Clare Democrat and Press*, *Sent.* = *Clare Sentinel*. For all buildings, property ownership information was obtained through deeds located at the Clare County Register of Deeds Office, Harrison, Michigan. Further information was obtained from the 1893-1934 Sanborn Maps, and tax assessment data at the Clare County Treasurers Office, Harrison, Michigan.

W. FIFTH STREET, NORTH SIDE

102. Norwood Building (1939); Frank Roberts, contractor.

This is a one-story commercial building, with a tan brick, stacked bond front. It is capped by a leanto-type roof and stands on a concrete block foundation. The roof slopes down from west, against a taller adjacent building, to open ground on the east. The front, likely rebuilt in its present form after a fire in 1948, displays an aluminum framed

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glass door at the right, southeast end of the façade and a large aluminum framed fixed sash display window, above a low bulkhead, to the west of the door takes up much of the building width. There is a shallow flat-top projecting canopy that spans the width of the façade. The tall upper façade is capped by a flat-top concrete parapet. The exposed east elevation is covered in vertical vinyl siding over stacked brick near the front and concrete blocks farther back. It contains three vinyl windows and one steel framed door. The north elevation shows the leanto roof and is clad in the same vertical vinyl siding as on the east elevation. The new windows on the east side, which replaced larger ones, and the vinyl siding were all added in 2009.

This building was constructed by James Norwood in 1939. It may have actually been a remodel of an open structure that was located here prior to James Norwood owning the property. It is unknown when that structure was built or what it looked like, but it was owned by Fred Busche for Busche Motor Sales. The lot was still vacant as of October 1937. Peter Crueger and Fred Busche were the owners of the property from September 1937 to 1939.

James Norwood used the building for his "Fix-it Shop," and owned it until Fred Busche bought the building in January 1946. Genevieve Pearson opened her Pearson Dress Shoppe here in July 1946. The building was damaged by fire in April 1948. Later that month Mrs. Pearson was arrested on arson charges. By August of the same year the building was remodeled and The Children's Center apparel store was leasing it. Fred Busche sold the building to Harmon Ballard in September 1949. Mr. and Mrs. Joe W. Weible sold The Children's Center store in March 1950 to Leslie Karr, who owned and operated The New Yorker children's clothing store in Mount Pleasant. Harmon Ballard sold the building to Arthur Skeets in January 1952. The Clare Office Supply Co. was the occupant in 1953. Arthur Skeets sold the building to George Scheer in April 1962. In 1963 the Clare Business Service was occupying the building. Leo Stevens bought the building from Scheer in February 1966, but sold it back to him in 1974. The Clare Factory Outlet was using the building in the late 1980s. The present owner, Carolyn Murphy, bought the building from Patricia Jones in March 1994. It is unknown when Patricia Jones purchased the building. In the early 2000s the building was being used by the Image Quest Active Wear business. After that the building was known as the Meeting Place. The Desired Skin tattoo shop opened here in 2009.

Sent., 4/21/1939; 6/28/1946; 4/49, 4/23 and 8/20/1948; 3/30/1950; *CHSY.*, 1953; 1963.

104 W. Fifth. Creguer Building (1937).

This is a red Commercial Brick one-story commercial building, topped by a flat roof and standing on a concrete block foundation. The entry, with its aluminum frame glass door topped by a transom, is set into a recess at the façade's right/east end. The recess's west side is angled and has an aluminum-trim display window above a low brick bulkhead. The front to the west contains a double aluminum framed fixed sash display window that, on its own low brick bulkhead, forms a continuation of the adjoining window facing the entry and spans two-thirds of the façade. The display windows rest on a single course of rowlock bricks. The upper façade above the storefront features a large horizontal brickwork panel outlined by slightly raised soldier brick bands at top and bottom and stacked stretchers on either end. Concrete slabs form the parapet cap. The building's exposed west side is constructed of concrete blocks and contains two steel sash windows toward the north end. Clay tiles cap the west side parapet, which steps down with the roof's gentle downward slant to the rear. The north/rear elevation is also clad in concrete blocks and is slightly recessed from the building to the east. It contains a single door and two fixed sash vinyl windows, both with rowlock brick sills and concrete slab lintels.

This building was constructed by Peter Creguer in 1937 in order to house his harness shop and shoe repair business, moved from another location. By 1962 the Clare Loan Company was using the building. Peter Creguer sold the building to Robert Campbell in December 1964. Diane Sadler-Demo purchased it in April 1990, and sold it to Roger and Emily Chase in March 1992. The Chases sold the building in November 1998 to Michael and Michele Rengert. The Rengerts sold the building to the present owner, Mid Michigan Big Brothers/Big Sisters, in September 2000.

Sent., 10/29 and 12/24/1937; 1/25/1962.

110 W. Fifth. Clare Congregational Church (1909); W. T. Cooper, Saginaw, architect; House, Oles and Bailey, Marion, builders; 1958 addition by William H. Harper, Clare, architect; Sanford Mott, builder.

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This building is constructed with limestone-trimmed red brick walls in a cross-gabled Greek cross form with an octagonal dome, and stands on a stone and concrete block foundation. The church's four facades except for 1958 additions are virtually identical. Each façade is divided horizontally by a limestone beltcourse separating the high, rusticated basement from the main story and vertically by shallow piers with limestone trim which, extending up into the gable, flank a broad, central area above the beltcourse containing three side-by-side, round-head windows. Separated double bands of raised header brickwork outline the windows and form a segmental-arch cap to this central portion of the façade on each elevation. Chevron-pattern brickwork fills the area between the window arches and segmental arch above. A single row of three small recessed panels of Greek cross form in the brickwork punctuates each side of each façade between the buttress-piers and the returns of the simply detailed classical cornice. The windows contain stained glass saved from an earlier, frame church building. Lower, segmental-arch-head windows aligned with those above pierce the basement-level walls. The original main front entrance, at the building's southeast corner, was a small hip-roof structure whose front barely projected beyond the main façade's wall plane; it was enlarged with a lower front addition in 1958. A primary feature of the church is the broad and low octagonal dome that stands at the crossing. It rests on a vertical-side base that rises to just above the roof ridges. Each of the four sides facing the building's corners is pierced by a rectangular stained glass window, and each face of the dome contains a round-head dormer displaying a stained glass rondelle. The walls of the dome's base, originally wood shingled and painted a slate color, and the dome itself, also wood shingled but painted a copper color, are both now clad in black asphalt shingling along with the church's gable roof.

The auditorium occupies the building's entire main floor. It has a Greek cross form with the central dome springing from broad arches that span the openings into the cross's four arms. The arches are supported by square-plan piers with gold-leafed Corinthian capitals. The north or rear arm contains a modern chancel arrangement. The floor slopes downward toward it from the entrance. Side and two more central aisles separate central and side tiers of stained wood pews which form concentric rings outward from the chancel. Painted detailing which once decorated the dome, arch spandrels, and walls has been restored.

The main portion of the building remains substantially intact since its completion in 1909. The top of the dome originally contained a balustrade, which was removed c. 1950. In 1958 a major addition was made to the building's east side, providing space for classrooms, office and minister's study, kitchen and dining area, and restrooms, and the originally tiny narthex at the church's southeast corner expanded. This addition was constructed with concrete blocks and had a flat roof. The addition has concrete block walls except for the brick-faced south, street-facing front, and a flat roof so as to not interfere with the auditorium's windows. The designer of this addition was William W. Harper, principal of Clare High School. The addition's north or rear side facing the parking lot also contains a later open, gabled porte cochere. A handicap entrance constructed of red brick with a hipped roof was added to the southwest corner of the building in 1994. Also in 1994 an extensive restoration of the building's sanctuary was accomplished.

This building is significant for its architect, W. T. Cooper, and as an example of a central-plan auditorium style church of the early twentieth century. It has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1995.

Sent., 8/21/1908; National Register Nomination, Clare Congregational Church 1994; Christensen.

114 W. Fifth. Holridge House (1873). Non-Contributing in its present exterior condition.

This is a much altered and expanded two-story gable-roof house now with fronts facing south and west. It stands on a combination stone and concrete foundation, and is capped by an asphalt shingled roof. A two-story gable-front section stands at the house's north end, and a long two-story side-gable wing extends to the south with its gabled south end overlooking Fifth. A one-and-a-half-story gable-roof east wing, raised to two full stories by large shed dormers on the front and back roof slopes, extends to the east along Fifth from the side-gable wing's south end. The house's west side is fronted by an enclosed one-story hip-roof structure that extends from end to end, with a small open porch at its north end fronting an entrance. The south side contains a small white-painted brick hip-roof projection that, with a street-facing central gable, contains an entry flanked by tall glass block windows. The majority of the building is faced in wide exposure aluminum siding except for the brick south entrance and diagonal

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tongue-and-groove wood siding facing the north end's lower façade around the entrance sheltered by an open porch under one end of the hip roof west side extension. Many of the windows in the second story are double-hung wood framed with three-over-one lights, but there are also fixed sash windows in the north gable and two double-hung one-over-one windows on the north end of the west elevation. The majority of the windows in the first story are double-hung aluminum framed except for fixed sash windows in the west elevation.

The house was originally constructed as an upright-and-wing dwelling that faced south on Fifth. The original two-story upright is the present gabled section facing Fifth at the southwest corner, while the one-story wing was the present east ell also fronting on Fifth. An open porch with a shed roof extended over the south side of the east wing. By 1899 a one-story addition was built on the north end of the house in the angle between the back of the upright and wing. Between 1906 and 1910 a one-story structure was added to the northwest corner of the building. By 1923 an addition was made to the northeast corner of the building. This addition was even with the east end of the east wing and the north end of the 1899 addition. At the same time the east wing porch on the south side of the house was enclosed and its front brought flush with the south end of the upright to its west. In 1926 Charles Thurston converted the house to a funeral home. The west end of the house was used for the business while the east wing was his residence. It was at this time that he built a porch on the west elevation to serve as the entrance to his business and one on the east elevation for his residence. He also extended the second story over the 1923 addition on the northwest corner of the building in 1931.

Since 1934 two other additions have been made, both of unknown dates. One of these additions was the projecting south entryway, the other the one-story addition to the existing porch on the southwest corner of the building. A driveway exit was constructed on the Beech Street side of the building in 1948 to eliminate the inconvenience and danger of entering directly onto Fifth, then US-10. Another remodeling to the building's front was started in April 1949. At different periods of time, sheds, barns and/or automobile garages have been located at the north end of the lot.

This building was built by Henry Holridge in 1873, for use as his primary residence. In 1884 William Ross was using the building as a boarding house. Amanda Ross purchased the building in September 1886 and continued operating the boarding house. Albert Thurston purchased the house from Amanda Ross in February 1895 and Jennie Fall bought it from Thurston in March 1903. She sold it to Charles Thurston in December 1911. Charles Thurston used the house exclusively as his primary residence until 1926 when he moved his funeral business into the building. This was the first funeral home in Clare. The west end of the building was used for the funeral home, while the east wing was used for his residence. When Charles Thurston's wife Nellie died in 1944 the building was deeded to her two sons Albert and Russell. Russell Thurston, who continued the family funeral home business, purchased Albert's interest in the building in 1945. An explosion of unknown origin created extensive damage to the building in February 1951. The damage was so extensive that the Thurstons relocated their business and place of residence. In February 1952 Russell Thurston had already moved his business and residence and sold this building to Ralph and Helen Heather (not married). By August of the same year the building had been repaired and Dr. E. J. Gushon opened an eight-room medical clinic. In 1953 Dr. C. B. Neff began using the building for his dental office. Helen Heather sold the building in June 1972 to Dr. Thomas and Gail Neff, who continued his father's dental practice. Gail Neff sold the building to its present owner, Dr. James Haines, in October 1998. Dr. Haines continues to use the building as a dental office.

CCP., /12/1884; *Sent.*, 2/22/1895; 7/26 and 10/8/1926; 8/20/1948; 4/23/1949; 2/2 and 2/23/1951; 3/20/1953.

202 W. Fifth. Clare City Hall and Memorial Building (1934); R. V. Gay, St. Johns, architect; Herb Randall and D. W. Osborn, supervisors, Civil Works Administration.

This is a two-story enframed window wall building and is constructed with walls of tan brick, stands on a concrete foundation, and has a flat roof. What is today the front at the east end is entered through an enclosed glass porch in the center of the building's east elevation. The east front is divided into three bays, with the central one containing the entry recessed slightly from the walls planes of the bay to either side. In the north and south bays broad unornamented piers frame vertical recessed strips between containing ground and second-story modern six-over-six windows with panels of soldier brickwork above, below, and between them. The south bay contains upper and lower

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windows, the central an upper window over the entry, and the north an upper window above a bricked-in area that originally contained an entry. The narrow west end is similar in finish to the east, with a more simply finished center entrance and more six-light windows set into recesses, with soldier brick zones around them (a former window in the ground story of the north bay has been replaced by a plain door).

The broad south façade displays a slightly projecting bay at each end like those on the east side, containing lower and upper windows, and there are six bays of lower and upper windows between them. The windows are all now single-light aluminum-frame ones, with turquoise-hue enameled aluminum panels below the ground-story and above the second-story ones, and horizontal aluminum grills between the first and second-story windows. Originally there were six-over-six windows downstairs and in the end bays upstairs, and six-over-six windows topped by six-light transom sash above in the upstairs' six central bays. The original double-door front entrance, in the south side's projecting east end bay, has become a window. The north façade, similar to the south as it was originally, retains more of its historic appearance, with the original window openings unaltered, though four of the windows now contain single-light windows. All the original windows have been replaced with modern ones.

The exterior's decorative flourishes include the use of brick of contrasting hue – tan for the base color but with accents in a dark red brown brick for soldier brick window lintels and panels in the window bays, a continuous soldier and stretcher brick beltcourse below the building's frieze, and for raised brick rectangles centered in the frieze areas of the projecting end bays on all sides. Metal flashing caps the concrete slab parapet cap that shows in older photographs.

This building was constructed in 1934 to replace the wood framed city hall building which had been occupied for about forty years on the same site. That building was constructed in 1872 and served as the Clare Public School prior to being converted to the City Hall. The present brick building was constructed to be used not only as the city hall, but also as a meeting hall for the American Legion. The construction was performed by local labor provided through the Civil Works Administration. The construction was first supervised by Herb Randall. Mr. Randall resigned on May 22, 1934, and was replaced by D. W. Osborn. The building was dedicated to the veterans of World War I and the American Legion. It has always been owned by the City of Clare and used as its city hall.

A major remodeling of the building took place in 1964. The main entryway to the building was moved to its present location on the east elevation, and was enclosed in aluminum framed glass. The colored panels and louvered sections on the building's south elevation were added in 1971. The north/rear façade remains much more intact – one could wish the building could be turned around on its lot, with the more intact north façade facing the street.

Sent., 12/15/1933; 3/23, 12/9 and 11/16/1934; 2/20/1964; 1/6/1971.

W. FIFTH STREET, SOUTH SIDE

109. Holbrook/Mair Building (1941); David Mair, builder.

This is a two-story commercial building with front and long west side (facing the open post office property) faced in tan brick and the east side and rear in concrete block. It stands on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof. The front contains a recessed entry at each end – the east (left) one providing access to a staircase to office suites on the second floor and west into the ground-story storefront. Both doors are wood with glass windows. The aluminum-trim storefront has paired display windows on brick bulkheads and, with the smaller display windows facing the entry recess on each side, fill the entire space between the entries. A canvas bubble canopy spans the entire storefront at transom level. The front's second story has two double-hung vinyl windows. Two attic vents are located above the second-story windows. Double-hung replacement vinyl windows line the first and second stories of the east and west elevations and the parapets have clay tile caps. The south end of the building has a one-story concrete block addition with a stepped parapet that reflects the slanting shed roof. Its date of construction is unknown. The building originally abutted a building to the east which burned in the late 1970s.

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This building was constructed jointly by Donald Holbrook and Robert Mair in 1941. The street-level retail space was originally occupied by Robert Mair's Band Box Cleaners business. Donald Holbrook, who at the time was Clare County's prosecuting attorney, had his law offices on the second floor. In addition the Freeman Oil Company and Higelmire & Associates both had offices on the second floor. In 1947 the Gibraltar Insulation Company from Pontiac opened an office in the space formerly occupied by Freeman Oil. In 1972 Donald Holbrook purchased Robert Mair's interest in the building. He sold to Norell and Barbara Mahon in 1984. Mahon owned it until 1998 when she sold it to the present owner, The Seven R's Company. The American Dry Cleaners business has been located here at least since 1976.

Sent., 7/11/1941; 6/27/1947, *CSHY.*, 1976.

111 W. Fifth. United States Post Office (1936-37); Office of Louis A. Simon, Washington D.C., Supervising Architect of the Treasury; Neal Melick, Washington D.C., Supervising Engineer; Spence Brothers, Saginaw, builders. (Flagpole=Contributing object)

Resting on a tall concrete base capped by a limestone beltcourse and reached by a wide central granite staircase (there is also a two-run concrete ramp to one side), the Post Office is a broad, symmetrical-front limestone-trimmed light tan brick building in a simplified version of Neoclassicism similar to many post office buildings built across the nation during the 1930s. The central three bays of the five-bay wide front display smooth limestone piers, with abstract capitals, outlining a central eagle-capped entry topped by a tall transom and a tall window, with large central lights flanked by sidelights, resting on a limestone bulkhead, on each side. The present modern door is a single anodized aluminum-finish one flanked by a sidelight on one side. A horizontal sign above the door carries the message "US POSTAL SERVICE, 111 W. 5th STREET, CLARE, MICHIGAN 48617." Centered directly above is a figure of an eagle, with wings extended upward, in bronze or some other metal. A limestone beltcourse spans the center bays above the piers and extends to the building's corners and along the side elevations as well. Above is a buff brick frieze with flat-top parapet. Raised metal letters above the front's central bays spell out UNITED STATES POST OFFICE. The front's outer bays each contain a centered single window, with limestone panel above and below, flanked on either side by areas of buff brick. The panel above each of these end windows contains a carved depiction of a winged aircraft propeller. The two narrow side elevations each display a window at each end framed in limestone panels above and below like those in the front's end bays, while between them are three windows that lack the limestone finishes except for slab sills. The rear elevation is also finished in buff brick, with the same limestone beltcourse and brick frieze, and contains a loading dock area.

The east and west elevations of the building are similar. On the north and south ends of the building are fixed sash windows with limestone panels above and below. A set of three fixed sash windows are located in between. Light tan brickwork surrounds the windows. The second window from the south on the west elevation has been bricked in since its construction. The west elevation also contains a set of concrete stairs which lead down to the basement. The stairway starts at the northwest corner of the building and heads south. A concrete retaining wall with a concrete slab extends along the north half of the west elevation and is surrounded by a steel handrail. A steel door is located at the bottom of the steps. To the south of the door the concrete slab is raised about half way up the retaining wall, to a level just below the basement windows. The brickwork on the west elevation of the building extends further south and forms the west wall of the loading dock, which is located on the southwest corner of the building. The height of this wall section extends to about the top of the east elevation windows. The east elevation also contains a set of concrete stairs leading to the basement. The concrete stairs are located at the southeast corner of the building and extend to the north. The concrete retaining wall extends north to about one-third of the east elevation. The steel door to the basement is located at the north end of the retaining wall.

The loading dock makes up most of the south elevation. It has a raised platform and is in the shape of an ell, covering the west three-quarters of the building's south elevation with a perpendicular wing extending to the south on the building's west end. The loading dock is covered with a steel cantilevered roof to a height just below the limestone belt cornice. A lone fixed-sash window is located on the east end of the south elevation, and is of the same style as the other windows in the building. A brick chimney is located on the southeast corner of the building and extends well above the parapet.

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The north yard of the building contains two concrete trenches which extend from roof drains built into the building's northeast and northwest corners. The drain openings are located just above ground level within the concrete base of the building's northeast corner and the handicap ramp on the building's northwest corner. The trenches begin at the drain openings and continue north to the sidewalk. The flag pole located at the northeast corner of the property is not the 1937 original one, but stands in the original location. Two trees located in the grassy areas north of the building were planted in 1962.

The building's basic form has changed little since its construction in 1937. The concrete handicap ramp was constructed on the west end of the building's façade in 1989, adjoining the main steps and stoop. At the same time the front double doors and the present lamp posts, with spherical globes on the east and west sides of the steps, were added. The original lampposts were shorter than the present lampposts and had semi-spherical globes. The original six over six double hung windows were replaced in 1988, and the current aluminum-framed windows were added in 2005 or 2006. The west wall of the loading dock on the southwest corner of the building was constructed in 1998.

The front door opens to a small enclosed wood-trimmed vestibule, with a low ceiling with exposed beams. The vestibule leads to the post office lobby through two wood-framed glass doors on its east and west ends. The original brass mailboxes and service windows are located along the south end of the lobby. These mailboxes each have an engraved eagle with spread wings, and arrows and olive branches in its talons. A crest containing the box's key locking mechanism is located in the eagle's chest. A starburst emanates from the eagle to the edge of the door. Below the eagle is a framed frosted glass window containing applied numbers. Additional mailboxes were added along the east wall in 1998. The lobby is surrounded by a tile wainscot. The rust-colored wainscot cap rises above a narrow row of brown tile, followed by a wider row of tan tile, on top of another narrow row of brown tile. The remaining seven rows of wainscot tile are tan at the top and change to dark brown at the floor in a graduated pattern. The walls and ceiling are finished in plaster. The ceiling has wide raised trim on the ceiling and vertical fluted molding on the wall along the north, south and west sides. The three copper ceiling lights in the lobby were installed in 1938. The floor is finished in small square and larger square tiles. The smaller tiles are all tan in color while the larger tiles are the same colors as the wainscot tiles.

The east wall as mentioned earlier contains mailboxes which were added in 1998. These boxes have off white doors with gold fret pattern borders. At the top of the box, inside the border is a ten-pointed gold star with letters within the star. The center of the star contains the key locking mechanism, but originally contained a combination lock mechanism. At the bottom of each box is a gold framed frosted glass window with applied numbers. These mailboxes are of the same style as the mailboxes located in the lobby's south wall just to the west of the original brass mailboxes. Since this section of mailboxes was added later the tile in the wainscot is a lighter color and does not match the rest of the wainscot. The wood door located on the south end of the east wall was originally located on the east end of the south wall before the east wall was added.

The east end of the north wall contains a wood-framed glass-enclosed bulletin board with the words "UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION" carved in the border at the top.

The west wall contains the original wood door to the Postmaster's office centered between two wood-framed glass-enclosed bulletin boards. Above the door and the bulletin boards is a mural by Allan Thomas, entitled "The Mail Arrives in Clare - 1871," depicting a postal worker delivering mail to a lumber camp in the late nineteenth century.

Also of note in the lobby are the original cast iron radiators, and two original waist high wood tables.

The work area, located behind the south wall of the lobby, contains a hardwood floor, plaster walls, and wood wainscot. The ceiling contains a skylight which is still located on the roof but has been covered over both on the interior and exterior. The fluorescent ceiling lights in the work area were added in the 1970s, and the duct work for the air conditioning in the work area's ceiling was added in 1973.

The construction of the building began in 1936 and was completed in May 1937. The postal operations moved from a building which was located just to the east of 502 North McEwan, but no longer exists. The present building has always been owned by the United States government and used for a post office.

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Sent., 8/7/1936; 5/21, 10/8 and 10/15/1937.

E. FIFTH STREET, SOUTH SIDE

114. Fifth Street Parking Lot Horse Shelter (2005); Terry Scheringer, Mount Pleasant, contractor. Non-Contributing structure.

This structure was built as part of the Fifth Street Parking Lot Project in 2005. The project construction contract was awarded to Pat McGuirk Excavating in March 2005. This is a single-story wooden structure with an asphalt shingled shed roof. It has three windowless sides with an open front facing the north. The siding is of vertical tongue and groove wood, exposed on the interior, with horizontal planking added in the interior's lower four feet. The roof is highest on the north front and slopes down to the south. This structure is used as shelter for horses which pull the carriages bringing members of the local Amish community to town to conduct business or shop in the downtown area.

120 E. Fifth. Goodman House (1882).

This building is a gable-front and wing structure. The two-story main upright portion of the building has a gabled front facing the street to the north, and stands on a stone foundation. A one-and-a-half-story side-gable wing extends to the east from the back part of the upright, and the angle between the upright and wing is filled by a hip-roof section with eaves slightly lower than the east wing's. A deep shed-roof open porch fronts the upright and east wing. A broad and low added gable-roof one-story ell, with smaller rear extension, extends south from the back of the old part of the house and rests on a concrete foundation. Another one-and-a-half-story side-gable wing extends west from the one-story rear ell directly behind the upright. An open wooden deck, part of a café that occupies part of the building, fills the angle between the upright's west side and north façade of the west wing. The aluminum framed glass front door on the façade is located between two large wood-framed front windows. With the exception of the facade under the porch, which has diagonal tongue-and-grove siding, the rest of the house is covered with red vinyl siding. The upright's second-story front displays three windows with gabled caps. Above the windows in the front gable is an octagonal decorative attic vent. The east and west wings' gabled end each contains two double-hung windows with gabled caps. The upright's west side features a slant-sided bay window with a double-hung window and wooden trim with the gabled peak in each of its three sides. The modern rear addition's west and south elevations contain vinyl double-hung windows, the east elevation a single metal-framed glass door, accessed by a short flight of steps, and several casement windows.

The main portion of the building has changed little since it was first constructed. The west-side bay window was added in 1894. Throughout the house's history changes have been made. Between 1899 and 1906 a small one-story addition was made to the building's south/rear side. In 1918 Grant Terwilliger did some remodeling on the building; most likely this was to add a one-story attached garage on the south side of the building that shows on the 1923 Sanborn map. By 1983 an older front porch had been removed and a modest entryway with an A-frame roof had replaced it. The current porch was constructed sometime between 1995 and 2004, replacing the A-frame entryway. In 1988 part of the south end of the building was removed to make room for the present large south end addition. A deck located on the south end of the building was constructed in 2006, and converted to an enclosed space in 2012. The current vinyl siding was added in 2012; prior to that some sections of the building still had their original clapboard siding. A new deck at the northwest corner of the building was constructed in 2013. The windows now have vinyl-clad trim that, added in 2012, retain the historic forms with gabled caps, but cover the original caps, with their incised detail, except in the bay window.

This building was constructed as a house for William Goodman in the spring of 1882. The property was deeded to William Goodman's wife Kittie in November 1898. She sold it in July 1901 to Charles O'Donald, who deeded it to his wife Ann in April 1905. William and Mary Cole bought the property from Ann O'Donald Kidder in December 1907. Grant and Loretta Terwilliger purchased the property from the Coles in March 1912. It was deeded to Loretta in January 1919, but sold by her to Lewis and Frances Thompson in August 1925. Hazel Oden, who bought the

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building from the Thompsons, owned it until November 1983. She was the last use the building as a residence. In 1983 she sold the house to John and Delphine Gibson, who opened the "Grandma's House" gift shop. The Gibsons sold in November 1995 to Glen and Stephanie Mogg, who continued the gift shop business. The current owners, Dr. Elmer and Mary Ann Shurlow, purchased the building in May 2004 and opened the Herrick House gift shop, and later the Mulberry Café in the south portion of the building.

CCP., 8/27/1881; 1930 Photograph, Robert Knapp Collection; 1985 Photograph, Mary Ann Shurlow Collection; Mary Ann Shurlow Interview, 5/5/2010.

E. FOURTH STREET, NORTH SIDE

[115]. Fifth Street Parking Lot Dumpster Enclosure (2005); Straus Masonry, Weidman, Michigan, contractor. Non-Contributing structure.

Located between E. Fourth and Fifth Streets directly behind (mid-block) the buildings fronting on McEwan's east side, this structure was built by Straus Masonry of Weidman, Michigan, as part of the Fifth Street Parking Lot Project in 2005. The Fifth Street Parking Lot Project was awarded to Pat McGuirk Excavating in March 2005.

This is a three-sided rock-faced concrete block structure constructed for the purpose of enclosing garbage dumpsters. Concrete blocks are placed on the west, north, and east elevation of the surround. The west half of the south side is closed off with wood slats mounted to a steel frame, while the east half is open. The south elevation contains the chain link gate which encloses the dumpster.

E. FOURTH STREET, SOUTH SIDE

112. McKinnon Blacksmith Shop (1904); O. M. Sutherland, architect; 1946 remodel, John Robert Mester, builder.

Non-contributing because no historic finishes are visible.

This is a one-story commercial building now displaying brown brick and vertical metal siding, except for a concrete block rear façade, and shingled mansard roof – all but the block rear façade dating from a 1980 remodeling. The front and northern one-third of the east and west elevations are finished in the brown brick, the remainder of the east and west elevations in vertical corrugated steel siding. There are four narrow, vertical aluminum framed, single light, fixed sash windows on the façade of the building, with an aluminum framed glass door in the center. Two windows of the same style are located within the bricked area of the east elevation. The building sits on a concrete foundation. The block south façade has a center door and double hung window to the west.

The original appearance of the building is unknown. The interior was remodeled in 1946, but it is unclear how much work was then done on the exterior. The present appearance of the building is due to the remodeling work that took place in 1980. Prior to that the building was finished in red brick. The façade had two eight light, fixed sash windows with a recessed entry between. To the east and west of the door within the recess were two four-paned fixed sash windows.

The building was built in 1904 by Archie J. McKinnon for his blacksmith shop. He owned it until December 1923 when his son Roy McKinnon purchased the building. Roy McKinnon operated an automotive repair shop in the building and at one point also had a gas pump. In May 1946 Roy McKinnon sold the property to Ethel Allen and Estelle Artibee. They leased the building to H. Rexford Allen in July 1946 for his insurance business. Estelle Artibee sold her interest in the building to H. Rexford Allen in November 1952, and Ethel Allen sold her interest to him in April 1959. James Allen purchased the building in October 1979. In October 1980 Robert Allen purchased the building; he continued the insurance business that his father H. Rexford Allen started. Since 2012 the building has housed Elaine's Hair & Nail Expressions.

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Sent., 6/16 and 12/2/1904; 7/5/1946; Robert Allen Interview, 8/19/2009.

W. FOURTH STREET, NORTH SIDE

112. McCambly Building (1911); E. E. Buckner, builder.

This is a commercial building constructed with brown brick walls in an American bond pattern. It has a concrete foundation and a flat roof. The most distinctive feature of the facade is the paneled treatment below the parapet. The upper facade's brickwork frames a recessed brickwork panel topped with a corbel table. A modest classical cornice, topped by a low clay tile-capped brick parapet, extends across the front and wraps around to the south end of the building's east elevation facing toward McEwan Street. Large plate glass windows above tall masonry block bulkheads flank a slant-sided central recessed entry containing a windowed metal door. Piers flanking the storefront and vertical strips at the entry recess' front and rear corners are faced in light colored masonry veneer in a mosaic-like pattern. The same light colored stone veneer is continued around the south end of the east side where it frames another store window. An asphalt shingled pent roof runs the entire width of the facade above the windows and door. Smaller square windows are located on the east elevation of the building. The most southern of the square windows has been removed and the hole bricked in.

Except for the panels and framing around the windows of the facade, which were added recently, this building has seen very little change. The only other notable change was a metal-sided addition to the north end of the building which happened sometime after 1934. This addition is clad in vertical metal siding and topped by a flat roof. An overhead garage door is located in the center of the addition's east elevation. An alley on the west side of the addition leads to a door with transom window on the north elevation of the original portion of the building.

This building was constructed by John McCambly in 1911 for his harness shop. Grant Terwilliger purchased the building in January 1912 and continued the harness shop business. George Easler became the new owner in April 1920, but only owned it for four months before selling it to George Dawson in July 1920. Upon the death of George Dawson in 1922 ownership went to his two sons, Ora and Theron. Ora immediately sold his interest in the building to his brother Theron, who used the building for a cigar factory. In January 1923 Ora purchased the business from his brother and moved it to the building on the southeast corner of McEwan and Fifth Streets. Theron retained ownership of the building until May 1925 when he sold it to Sheral M. Callihan, who used the building for a lunchroom. Roy Joslin leased the building from Callihan in December 1925 for the same use. Sheral Callihan retained ownership of the building until 1930 when he sold it to Malcom D. Feighner and Florence Parish, who also owned the building immediately to the west where they printed the *Clare Sentinel* newspaper. That building proved to be too small for their printing needs so they moved the paper to this building in April 1938. It continued to be printed here until 2003. Feighner and Parish published the paper from this building until July 1950 when William Elden became the new publisher. Feighner and Parish sold the building to William Elden in September 1960. Elden placed the ownership of the building in the name of the Clare Sentinel Inc. in January 1961. Northern Communications purchased the *Clare Sentinel* business and the building in August 1967. William Elden continued as publisher until his retirement in May 1969. Alfred Bransdorfer took over the publishing duties October 1969, and purchased the building in 1976. He sold the *Sentinel* to Clare Publishers in 2005, and sold the building to the current owners, G & G Investments, in 2006. Patty Ann's Quilts was a recent occupant of the building. It then sat vacant for a while until the current occupants, P.T. Billings Services, began using the building.

Sent., 5/26/1911; 1/19/1912; 4/22/1920; 1/5/1923; 6/5 and 12/4/1925; 4/22/1938; 7/28/1950; 8/30/1967; 5/14 and 10/22/1969.

114 W. Fourth. Clare Sentinel Building (1907); H. W. Pierce and Sons, builders. Non-Contributing with present 1970s front.

One-story commercial building with c. early 1970s brown brick storefront and later vinyl siding-clad upper facade. The building has a concrete foundation and flat roof. The asymmetrical storefront contains a square-plan recessed central entry flanked by a small, low horizontal window on either side. A "BAR/LIQUOR" neon sign projecting

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over the sidewalk from the right side of the upper façade dates from sometime shortly after the present use as a bar began about 1959, though with the name "Bob's Lounge" revised for different proprietors. A shallow rear extension, with concrete block lower walls below vertical steel siding, was added in 2000. "Big Chicken," a large plastic chicken rooster that stands on the sidewalk in front, an advertisement for the place's featured broasted chicken, has been a highly visible downtown fixture for about twenty years.

The front was originally faced in rock-faced concrete block. The street level contained large plate glass windows, with transoms, flanking two doors in a recessed center entry. The façade was capped by a bracketed cornice. The building originally contained two store spaces. The larger unit occupied the entire building except a separate southwest space occupying one-quarter of the footprint. It is unknown when the present façade was constructed, but it most likely happened after 1971 when Warren Keiser united the two spaces into one. When the present brick façade was built, the door was located where the east window is now and there was one window to its left. The vinyl siding on the upper facade was not added until later. The interior retains its pressed metal ceiling, and evidence of openings in the west wall to the adjacent building made in 1950 when store spaces in the two buildings were combined can still be seen although now bricked up. The cooler with the original wood door dating from Manuel Sutton's ownership beginning in 1959 is still present.

This building originally housed the newspaper office and press room for the *Clare Sentinel*, and the jewelry store of Edward White. The newspaper occupied the larger portion of the building. Edgar G. Welch and Philip A. Bennett built the building in 1907 after a fire swept through this part of the city earlier in the year. This portion of the building was sold to Erastus Palmer and Enoch Andrus in June of 1910. Erastus Palmer sold his interest in November 1911. John Paul Jones and Malcolm Feighner purchased the building in July 1921. Jones sold his interest back to Enoch Andrus in September 1922. In February 1923 Enoch Andrus sold to Benjamin Parish. The newspaper operated out of this location until 1938, when it relocated to the building immediately to the east. In September 1945 Malcolm Feighner and Florence Parish sold the building to James McKinnon (by this time Benjamin Parish was deceased). In 1949 James McKinnon was leasing the building to Feller's Cut Rate Store. The following year an archway was constructed in the west wall and Feller's expanded into the building to the west. In 1957 Drs. Keyes and Ballard, D.O., were using the building for their medical practice.

James McKinnon owned the building until September 1959, when he sold to Manuel Sutton. Manuel Sutton operated a bar in this building under the name "Manny's." Warren Keiser bought the building in July 1962 and continued the bar under the "Manny's Bar" name. He sold to Robert Ruby in August 1990, who opened Bob's Lounge. The Evening Post Bar and Grill began using the building in July 2013.

The smaller of the two units of this building was originally owned by Edward White, and was used for a jewelry store. In March 1912 Mrs. A. Beemer began renting the unit from Edward White for an unknown use. White sold to Adelpa Kump in April 1912, who operated a barber shop out of the building. Homer Douglas began renting the corner space for his barber shop in 1932 and bought it in April 1935. Vere Kinsey began leasing the barber shop from Homer Douglas in 1957. Douglas sold the unit to Warren Keiser in May 1971.

Sent., 10/25, 11/22 and 12/27/1907; 4/22/1910; 3/29, 4/29 and 5/8/1912; 7/22/1932; 5/13/1938; 9/25/1953; 1/27/1957; 8/30/1962; Photograph c.1980.

120 W. Fourth. M. E. Whitney Building (1907); Walter Petit, builder. Non-Contributing with present façade.

This is a one-story commercial building with façade mostly clad in vinyl siding. The storefront has a recessed central entry with broad display window on each side angling inward from the edge of the façade. The door, single-light windows, and storefront fascia are of aluminum. The building sits on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof. The rear/north façade does not extend as far back as those to either side. It is clad in vinyl siding and contains an off-centered paneled steel door and adjacent small horizontal fixed sash vinyl window.

The building has concrete block walls, but its original appearance is unknown. However, it is known that the façade is of brick behind the siding below the windows. The interior retains a pressed metal ceiling.

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The original owner was Melanthon E. Whitney. He built this building in 1907 after a fire swept through this part of the city earlier in the year. The original use was for Whitney's five-cent movie theater, the Palace Theatre. In May 1912 Wallace Weir, who owned the building to the west, rented this building for his new and second hand goods store. Whitney rented the building in February 1913 to George Valley, who operated the Valley Restaurant. Thomas Groves bought the restaurant in July 1915. In August 1920 Whitney rented the building to the Ohio Dairy Company for their cream station. He sold the building in November 1921 to Harry Hubel, who sold it to Everett Sanborn in November 1929. Clarence Tucker bought the building from Sanborn in May 1945. In 1950 Feller's Cut Rate Store, located in the building to the east, expanded into this building by constructing an archway connecting the two buildings. The Helping Hand Shop was leasing the building in 1959. Clarence Tucker owned the building until December 1965 when he sold it to Manuel Sutton. After the death of her husband, Violet Sutton sold the building to Warren Keiser in November 1970. Keiser retained ownership of the building until April 1996 when he sold it to Edward, Ramona, and Linda Prichkaitis. The Prichkaitises sold the building to the current owner, Stephanie Mercer, in May 2000. She operates the Stitches for Britches embroidery business here.

Sent., 7/5/1907; 5/10/1912; 2/28/1913; 7/23/1915; 8/26/1920; 11/3/1950; 7/7/1959.

124 W. Fourth. Wallace T. Weir Building (1907). Non-Contributing in present façade.

This is a one-story commercial block building whose façade is largely clad in vinyl siding. It has a concrete foundation and flat roof. The front contains a central square-plan recessed front entry flanked by single-light display windows set into square-plan recesses, leaving a narrow fringe of vinyl siding at the façade's outer edge on either side. The upper façade is entirely faced in vinyl siding. The building's exposed concrete block west side wall was surfaced in stucco in 2009 after the adjacent building was torn down. Clay tiles cap the top of the building's west side. The north elevation is constructed of concrete block and is recessed from the west side wall, which extends farther north. It displays a plank door at its west end and boarded-up center window and east door. The shallow northernmost part of the building, with a low-pitch shed roof, appears to be a later addition.

The original appearance of the building is unknown. The façade was altered in 1946 when Corky's Diner began operations. The new front was then described as a "new green and white front with French type windows and yellow columns" (*Sentinel* 6/14/1946). The façade was again altered in 1953 when Feller's Cut Rate Store opened, but it is unknown how the appearance was changed other than it was painted red. The current façade was constructed in 1985 when the vinyl siding was added and the current windows and door installed.

This building was originally owned by Wallace Weir, who built it in 1907 after a fire. Weir purchased the pool room business of Jay Smith and moved it to this building, originally running a second-hand store from the basement and the pool and billiard hall on the first floor. Elmer Ford leased the basement of the building beginning in November 1912 and continued the second hand store. The pool hall was leased in May 1915 to Charles Adams, and then in late 1916 to W. J. Stephenson. Wallace Weir sold the building to George Dawson for his cigar factory in March 1917. Dawson sold the building in September 1922 to Iva Holcomb. She sold the building in May 1924 to Lewis H. Thompson, who owned a farm implement store in the building to the west. Everett Samborn bought the building from Lewis Thompson in June 1944, and owned it until May 1945 when Clarence Tucker purchased it. William Dunlop owned the building from February 1946 until August 1973. In June 1946 the Dunlops opened Corky's Diner here. In April 1947 Guy Mercer and Nick Kreiner purchased the diner business from the Dunlops. Mr. and Mrs. Oakley Serrine purchased Corky's Diner in May 1950, and Harold Pugaley purchased it in November 1951. In October of the following year Corky's Diner relocated to a building on the opposite side of Fourth Street. Feller's Cut Rate Store expanded for the second time, into this building, in early 1953, along with the two buildings immediately to the east which it already occupied. Warren Keiser purchased the building from William Dunlop in August 1973. In September 1994 the current owners, Edward, Ramona and Linda Prichkaitis, purchased the building from Dianne R. (Flinn) McCarthy. They continue to operate the Drapery Boutique business.

Sent., 8/2 and 3/6/1907; 11/15/1912; 5/21/1915; 12/7/1916; 3/1/1917; 6/14/1946; 4/15/1949; 5/5/1950; 11/2/1951; 10/31/1952; 1/14/1953.

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MCEWAN STREET, EAST SIDE

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402. Subway Building (2000). Non-contributing.

This EIFS-clad one-story building sits on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof. The symmetrical west-facing Subway front has a double aluminum-framed glass door in the center flanked by a set of windows each to the north and south. The west (mostly Subway) half of the longer south elevation facing E. Third Street has five windows. In the east half of the building's south side single aluminum-framed glass doorways, fronting separate storefronts, alternate with windows. All the windows on the building are fixed sash aluminum-framed glass. The front and sides doors and windows are each topped by a round arch motif in the EIFS. The front and side elevations display a continuous brick veneer bulkhead rising to window-sill level. The building corners above the brick veneer are finished with EIFS quoins that rise to a three-band wide fascia below the parapet. The east (rear) elevation of the building continues the brick veneer bulkhead and EIFS façade and contains a single window and metal door, with rounded arches above.

This building was constructed in 2000 by T. S. R. Development for use as a retail mini-mall. The building contains four tenant spaces, a northwest front corner one leased by the Schumacher Insurance Agency (prior to them occupied by IBT Title-Clare County). The southwest corner part contains the Subway restaurant. To the east are the Russell Winter Insurance Agency and Brenda's Hair and Tanning Salon.

Sent., 5/16/2000.

406. O'Callaghan Building (1907); H. W. Pierce and Sons, builders; 1924 renovation.

This is a two-story commercial building with a brown brick facade. It stands on a concrete and stone foundation and has a flat roof. The upper story front contains four now-boarded-up segmental-arch-head windows, paired together on each side separated by a large rectangular limestone or concrete plaque bearing the incised inscription "I. E. HAMPTON 1924." The windows have triple-course rowlock headers. Wood joists that supported a now lost cornice project from the upper façade just below the present tile parapet cap. The non-historic ground-story front displays a central entry, with sidelights, and a large single-light display window on either side. Wide vertical wood boarding outlines the slightly recessed entry and fronts the bulkheads beneath the display windows, leaving narrow vertical strips of red brick exposed at the outer building edges and between the window and entry on either side. The entire storefront is capped by a tall asphalt shingled pent roof that runs up to the base of the second-story windows. It displays the name "CAMPBELL PRINTING INC." in large raised letters. The rear façade and exposed portions of the side walls are faced in vertical sheet metal siding. The back contains a garage door and pedestrian entrances in the first and second stories.

The building's façade was initially constructed of rock-face concrete block and contained a large door in the center with small windows located to either side in the ground story and five windows in the second. The south elevation contained small windows at the top of the first story, and larger windows more widely spaced in the second story. In 1924 the façade was rebuilt in brick and designed to match the building to the north except for the brick color. The façade had a large garage door opening in the center. Brick piers on the north and south sides of the door extended to the bottom of the second story. Beyond the pier to either side was a large plate glass window. The windows and door all had prism glass transoms. Above the transom windows was a recessed area of dentil brickwork. At one time a gasoline pump was located at the edge of the street. The second story, intended for use as a lodge room or dance hall following the renovation, instead was used for auto storage, reached by a utility elevator at the rear of the building. It is unknown when the street level of the present façade was altered, but it most likely happened in the 1970s. The steel siding on the south side of the building was added in 1982.

This building was constructed in 1907 by John O'Callaghan for use as his livery and feed barn. The building adjoined another livery to the east which was constructed in 1903 and fronted on Third Street. In March 1923 Isaac Hampton purchased the building from the O'Callaghan Estate. Isaac Hampton already owned the building immediately to the north, and wanted the extra building to expand his Ford automobile and tractor dealership. In February 1946 the Hampton Estate sold the building to Floyd and Clarence McGuire and Eugene Campbell, who the

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next month opened the McGuire & Campbell Firestone Home and Auto Supply store. In January 1947 Warren McGuire purchased the interest of Eugene Campbell in the building and business. The business then became McGuire Brothers Firestone Store. Woodcock and Walters were operating an auto repair garage in the rear of the building prior to the sale and continued their business after the building's sale. Floyd McGuire sold his interest in the building in April 1950. Arthur Ulrich began leasing the building in mid-1955 and opened a Pontiac car dealership. Ulrich purchased the building in May 1958. In the late 1950s or early 1960s Feller's Shoe Store was leasing the building. Larry Campbell purchased it from Mr. Ulrich in January 1976, and opened Campbell Printing. Linda Lou Campbell was deeded the property in September 1992. The present owner, Riverview Leasing, purchased the property in 1998, and continued the Campbell Printing business. The building is currently vacant.

Cour., 10/4/1907; *Sent.*, 4/12/1907; 3/16/1923; 4/11/1924; 3/15/1946; 1/10/1947; 1/20/1955.

412 N. McEwan. Davis Block (1915). 1941 interior renovation, Harold Moline, contractor.

This double-storefront two-story commercial building has an upper façade that closely matched 406's, though clad in dark brown brick. It also has two sets of paired segmental-arch-head windows (boarded in) separated by a large rectangular limestone or concrete plaque inscribed with "DAVIS BLOCK 1915." The building retains its wooden cornice with modillion-like brackets supporting a projecting shelf. The ground story displays two storefronts that slant inward from the building's outer edges, with aluminum-trim display windows toward either end and large-light wood doors, with transoms, toward the center. Two square posts in the broadly V-shaped recess in front of the storefronts support the upper façade. The low storefront bulkheads and the broad former transom/signage area above are faced in diagonal board siding, the narrow space between the doors in vertical boarding, and there is a large central sign for the single business that now occupies both storefronts. The exposed part of the north side is constructed of rock-face concrete block and drops down to a single story in height, while the rear (east) façade is of plain concrete block with rock-face block below the eaves. The building rests on a stone and concrete foundation and has a sloping roof.

The street-level front originally had a garage door located in the center. A brick pier each on the north and south sides of the door extended to the bottom of the second floor. On the outer side of each pier was a large plate glass window. The door and windows all had transoms. The street-level front was aligned with the upper facade. Above the transom windows was a recessed area of dentil brickwork. In 1916 Isaac Hampton built a thirty-two foot addition on the east end of the building. The interior of the building was renovated in 1941 to accommodate the A & P Grocery Store. The street-level façade was remodeled to its present form in 1946 with the columns supporting the second story covered in stainless steel.

This building was constructed by J. M. Davis for his automobile repair garage. Mr. Davis owned his building for less than a year before selling to Isaac Hampton. Hampton relocated his automobile repair garage here and eventually opened a Ford automobile dealership in the building. The building was used as an automobile garage and showroom until at least 1934. The A & P grocery store moved into the building in August 1941. Lewis Siegel purchased the building from Isaac Hampton's wife Nellie in January 1946 with the intention of partnering with Elmer J. Atkinson in a hardware store here. The A & P store, which grew too large for this building, closed in the summer of 1946, and by November of the same year the Northland Hardware Store opened. Lewis Siegel sold the hardware business in May 1952 to Ivan F. Belknap of Detroit and Roy A. Warner of Saginaw. Northland Hardware operated into the 1960s. After Northland Hardware, the building housed the Western Auto store and later a video rental store, both for unknown periods of time. Lewis Siegel owned the building until January 1973 when he sold it to Richard Redick. Donald Applegreen acquired it in January 1979 and sold it to Larry Campbell in January 1985. The building was deeded to Linda Lou Campbell in September 1992. The current owner, Riverview Leasing, purchased the building in September 1998. Clare Family Fitness used the building from 1993 to 2011. The building was used by Image Quest Active Wear, and was vacant for a short time after that. Currently Four Leaf Brewing is using the first floor of the building.

Sent., 8/27/1915; 4/27 and 6/15/1916; 8/1/1941; 7/19, 8/30 and 11/1/1946; 5/2/1952; Don Jones Interview, 2/20/2012.

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418 N. McEwan. Bicknell's Dry Goods Store (1898); 1923 renovation.

This is a one-story commercial building with façade constructed of brick painted dark yellow with a light yellow accent color. The building sits on a stone foundation and has a flat roof. The storefront contains a central entry, with skylights and three-part transom, flanked by a single-light display window on each side. Plain stone-trimmed brick piers edge the façade and the piers' bases and the very low display window bulkheads are of stone. A tall transom/signage panel above the storefront is now faced in sheets of vertically grooved wood paneling that cover prism glass transom windows. The upper façade displays a three-course tall strip of corbelled brickwork below a tall frieze area containing three square recessed brickwork panels, with square stone blocks marking the corners, evenly spaced across the façade. The parapet is capped with a modillioned and dentilled cornice supported by four evenly spaced tall corbel brackets. Beneath the paint the brick is of a dark brown hue, with the square recessed panels in the frieze of a lighter colored brick. The two-story east (rear) façade is clad in vinyl siding and contains a door, raised five steps above grade, plus single and double-width vinyl windows. The building is connected to the building to the north by way of two interior doorways, and retains its pressed metal ceiling.

The building's present appearance was the result of a 1923 renovation that made its façade match the building to the north. The building originally had a two-story front with three second-story front windows and smaller recessed panels in the brickwork between them and the façade was topped by a two-tiered ornate cornice. The building's facade was of brown brick, but the upper façade had a polychromatic look because the square recessed panels there were of a lighter colored brick. The now covered transoms contain prism glass.

The building was constructed by Nathan Bicknell in 1898 for his dry goods store. It served as his main retail location until the construction of his large store immediately to the north in 1907. When that building was constructed Bicknell moved his stock to the new location and leased 418 to the J. A. Allen & Company grocery. J. A. Allen vacated the building in 1923, and William Bicknell, who had acquired it in 1915 after the death of his father Nathan, remodeled it to expand his Bicknell Department Store into this building. The remodeled building, now with a front identical to the existing Bicknell Department Store immediately to the north at 420, housed the store's men's and boys' ware lines. William retained ownership of the building and ran the Bicknell Department Store until his death in 1966. Nick and Norma Allen purchased the building the next year and opened Allen and Bell's Department Store there in 1968. John Bicknell purchased the building in January 1976, later selling to John and Jane Seibt. Allen and Bell's Department Store operated in the building until John and Jane Seibt sold the building to John and Lynn Blied in August 2003. Black Bear and Broadcloth Department Store opened here in 2003. This building sat vacant for a time, but then housed Fantastic Finds Antique Store. Fantastic Finds moved to 518 N. McEwan in 2012 and the building is presently being used by the Central Michigan Music music store.

Sent., 9/16/1898; 11/18/1989; 4/9/1915; 10/26/1923; 12/29/1966; 8/1/1968.

420. Bicknell's Department Store (1907); "Bogart," Saginaw, reported as "architect."

This is a one-story, double-storefront commercial building. The façade is constructed of dark brown brick now painted light yellow with a dark yellow accent color. The building sits on a stone foundation and has a flat roof. It is entered through a set of double doors separated with a fixed sash window centered in the southern two-thirds of the façade. The two doors are framed by single-light sidelights and a five-part transom. There are two large display windows, framed by brick piers, north of the doors, and a single one to the south. The windows have very low stone bulkheads. A tall prism glass transom area above the storefront is now covered up with sheets of vertically grooved wood paneling. The upper facade displays a three course tall strip of corbelled brickwork and, above that, eight square recessed panels of lighter-hued brickwork evenly spaced across the façade, with square stone blocks marking the corners. The facade is capped with a modillioned and dentilled cornice supported by evenly spaced tall corbel brackets. The building's north side and east/rear elevations are clad in vinyl siding. The rear façade displays modern vinyl windows and doors. A single-story garage projects to the east with a garage door on the north end of its east face. An interior stairway is evident by the sloped roofline from the garage to the second story. This building connects to the building to the south by way of two interior archways, and retains its pressed metal ceiling. Much of the original interior molding and trim are still intact along with the rear balcony, with balustrade, which served as the business office. It also retains one of the Air Line™ cable message devices which is connected from the rear

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balcony to the front counter. The balcony area also contains a one-bedroom apartment which now serves as storage space.

Nathan Bicknell owned and operated a dry goods and clothing store where the building to the south (418) is located. In 1907 he built this larger building and moved his business into it. Nathan's son William took over the operation of the store in 1913. William Bicknell added Bert Greer and Clyde M. Hays as partners in April 1915. In November 1915 William and James Bicknell, Nathan's sons, were deeded the property after the death of their father. In 1923, when the J. A. Allen & Co. grocery vacated 418, the Bicknells expanded the store back into 418, connecting the two buildings' interiors and remodeling the front of 418 to match 420. In December 1932 Dr. C. A. Withey, a chiropodist (foot specialist), leased a portion of the building for an unknown period of time. It is unknown when James sold his interest in the building, but William retained ownership of the building and ran the Bicknell Department Store until his death in 1966. Nick and Norma Allen then purchased the building and opened Allen and Bell's Department Store in 1968. John Bicknell bought the building in January 1976, and later sold it to John and Jane Seibt. Allen and Bell's Department Store operated in the building until John and Jane Seibt sold the building to John and Lynn Bliet in August 2003. Black Bear and Broadcloth Department Store opened here in 2003. The Willow Classic Women's Apparel Store operates out of the building at present.

Sent., 7/19/1907; 1/10/1913; 4/9/1915; 10/26/1923; 12/29/1966; 8/1/1968.

426 N. McEwan. McEwan Professional Building (1997). Non-Contributing.

This is a one-story brick building with diagonal corner facing the McEwan/Fourth intersection and a tall asphalt shingled mansard roof. Standing on a concrete foundation, the building has a long façade on E. Fourth and is divided into three units, with the main unit at the west end, with its sidelight-framed entrance in the diagonal corner facing the intersection. The narrow west front contains a single broad double window. The long north side façade contains two more nine-light doors to the other spaces and six tall and narrow single-light windows.

The building was constructed in 1997 by Mark Koch, owner of G.L.S. Investments, for use as an office building. Caroline Murphy purchased the building in 2004. The west and middle units are currently occupied by Edward Jones Investments, and the east unit is leased to Solutions Psychotherapy L.L.C.

Sent., 6/3/1997.

**502. Clare Hardware Company (1902); Haug & Scheurman, Saginaw, architects
Citizens State Bank 1929 renovation: Bond, Hubbard Company, Chicago, architects and contractors;
Garfield Memorial Library 1988 renovation: Marchiando and Rau, Mount Pleasant, contractors;
"Neoclassical" EIFS door/window and cornice trim added 2007.
Non-Contributing with present exterior finish.**

This is a two-story red brick one-part commercial block building now displaying a simple finish of Neoclassical inspiration. The building sits on a stone foundation and is covered with a flat roof. The front contains a central main entrance, with a narrow square-head window to either side and three shorter windows in the second story aligned with the door and windows below. At the far left (north) end of the façade is a second, lower second-story entrance, with a small square-head window upstairs above it. The door and window openings all display smooth EIFS slab sills, jambs, and lintels and simple projecting cyma-molding caps. The building corners display raised brick quoins and the façade is capped with a projecting EIFS cyma-molding cornice. The EIFS work seems intended to resemble limestone. The doors are modern aluminum-trim ones, the windows double-hung vinyl ones, the ground story's with transoms. The long south-side elevation facing E. Fourth displays the same finishes. There is a central entry on E. Fourth and another at the far east end closely flanked by a window on each side. The Fourth façade contains a small number of ground-story windows, with more – single, paired, and triple – upstairs. The east façade's visible second story is also clad in red brick, and its window openings have been bricked in.

This building has changed twice since its original construction in 1902. The building in its original form, designed by Haug & Scheurman, had a Neoclassical/Renaissance-inspired appearance, with classical piers supporting a tall

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entablature with modillioned cornice and a large central upstairs triple window of palladian window form. The piers and entablature continued one bay onto the south side elevation. A stringcourse of light colored stone on the façade's second story was an added feature. The first-story façade contained a large fixed sash window with a five light transom window above, and flanked by two arched openings. In 1929 the building was remodeled and given an Art Deco appearance. A 1929 article in the *Clare Sentinel* describes the remodeled bank as follows: "The exterior of the building will be veneered in white cast stone with sills of natural stone, and it will present a most imposing and beautiful appearance. The interior walls are to be finished in ornamental plaster and all the woodwork will be of mahogany. The large steel posts in the present lobby are to give way to an eye-beam that will support the ceiling. A larger lobby with cages of marble and bronze will be placed along the south wall, and the center entrance to the bank will provide more room for the customers and bank officials. The floor will be of terrazzo with brass strips inserted and the present vault door will be replaced with a six inch burglar proof, time lock door that weighs three tons. A sound-proof machine room for the bookkeeping department, ladies waiting room, private office for the cashier and a coupon booth for the convenience of safety deposit customers, are just a few features which will make this bank one of the most modern in this section of the state." During this renovation more windows were added to the building's first floor south elevation and the present arrangement of windows and doors on the building's façade was created. The work was performed by the Bond and Hubbard Company of Chicago, which specialized in bank construction and remodeling. The current brick exterior finish resulted from further remodeling performed in 1988. The vinyl windows along with the EIFS details were added in 2007. The building retains its Eureka Heating and Ventilation Company coal burning boiler which was forged in Saginaw in 1905. Also in the basement of the building are three bank vaults. Two of the vaults have doors. One of the vault doors is from the Mosler Safe Co. of Hamilton Ohio. Also of note is a bricked over opening to the building to the north at the bottom of the stairway at the building's northwest corner.

Haug & Scheurman (Charles H. Haug and Fred T. Scheurman) of Saginaw designed the 1902 building with its long ago lost highly ornamental original façade. The same architects did the 1897-1902 Pollasky Block, 101-09 W. Superior, Alma; 1899 half of the Schlieder Building, 212-14 W. Main, Owosso; and 1902-03 old City Hall in Alma (now Liberty Professional Building) – all fine jobs. This building was constructed in 1902 by William Callam for the Clare Hardware Company. The hardware store was located on the first floor facing McEwan Street, a harness store was located at the east end of the first floor. The second floor consisted of two private offices, a telephone office, and a tin shop on the east end. After the fire of 1904, which burned all the wood framed buildings between here and the Doherty Opera House, William Callam along with James Tatman, constructed the brick building to the north. The Clare Hardware Company expanded to include the south unit of that building, with the interior of the two buildings open to one another. In 1907 the hardware store moved completely to the building to the north and the first floor of this building was used for the Citizens Bank. The first floor east unit housed the S. H. Morse & Son harness shop, and George Benner housed his insurance business on the east end of the first floor. In late 1907 the second story of the building, which to this point was unfinished, was being converted into apartments for two families. In 1908 Catherine Callam was deeded the building after the death of William Callam. By 1910 the first floor was shared by the bank, Paul Greiser's tailor shop in a middle unit, and a restaurant in the east unit. George Benner opened a real estate agency in the building in December 1911. In June 1912 the Greiser tailor shop was replaced with a cigar and tobacco store operated by Herschel Halsted. The Citizens State Bank took over ownership of the building from Catherine Callam in January 1917. In 1923 Joseph Bowler opened his law office in this building in the unit formerly occupied by Jones & Ross, on the building's first floor. Also on the first floor, Grant Terwilliger had a harness shop that he operated until March 1923. In 1926 the Vogue Shoppe was operating in one of the units of the building. December 1926 saw the A. L. Rogers and Forest Shumway barber and beauty shop opening in the first floor's middle unit. In February 1930 William S. Teeter opened his real estate and oil lease exchange business in the building. The Mammoth Producing and Refining Company leased the entire second floor from April 1937 until spring of 1942. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mowbray opened the Mowbray Insurance Agency in October 1941. Dr. A. E. Mulder moved his dental practice to the second floor of this building in October 1942. Dr. Richard Siberneck opened an optometry office in late 1950 in the office which Dr. Mulder vacated with his retirement. Maurice Studios located to the second floor of the building in April 1953. The building was purchased by the Mammoth Oil Company from the Citizens State Bank in 1961. At the same time Mammoth Oil allowed the Clare City Library to relocate to the building's first floor. The library was allowed to occupy the space rent free in return for renaming itself the Garfield Memorial Library, in honor of the wife of Sam Garfield, Mammoth Oil's local representative. Mammoth Oil sold the building to the City of Clare sometime in the late 1970s. The library then occupied both

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floors of the building. The city sold the building to North Ten L.L.C. in July 2007 after relocating the library to 185 East Fourth Street. For a short time Curves women's fitness center was leasing the first floor. At present the North Ten offices are located on the second floor of the building, and the Reclaimed Wood business is leasing the first floor.

Cour., 3/20/1903; 8/9/1907; *Sent.*, 7/17/1902; 1/11, 2/1 and 2/8/1907; 12/8/1911; 6/21/1912; 4/13/1923; 4/3/1925; 4/23 and 12/24/1926; 6/12/1929; 4/16/1937; 10/3/1941; 11/3/1944; 9/15/1950; 4/17/1953; 8/31/1961; 7/5/1988.

506 N. McEwan. Tatman Building (1904). O. M. Sutherland, Clare, architect; W. H. Pierce, builder.

This is a broad-fronted two-story commercial building, with painted brick upper façade dominated by its seven window bays framed by brick piers with Ionic capitals and its massive modillioned classical cornice. The building sits on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof. The upper façade's brickwork and stone trim is painted white except for the piers, architrave brickwork, and cornice, which are painted a light tan color. The second story's tall square-head windows are paired in the five broad central bays. A narrow bay at each end of the façade contains a single window, narrower than those in the central bays. The windows, closed in and covered with louvered blinds, have stone slab sills and caps. The piers with their carved stone Ionic capitals support a simple brick entablature that uses courses of corbelled brickwork for the architrave and has a tall smooth brick frieze below a cornice with large simple modillions. The storefront has large aluminum-trim display windows resting on low vertical-board bulkheads. The main entry is located in the center of a broad recess that occupies most of the front's south half. A square-plan column faced in metal stands at the midpoint of the recess's front and provides support for the upper façade. The entire storefront is topped by a projecting red transom-level vinyl canopy displaying the store name. Vertical tongue-and-groove boarding clads the façade above the canopy up to the second-story windows. There is also a vertical HARDWARE sign projecting from the second story above the entry. The majority of the building is two-story except for a one-story section on the east end of the building's south half that wraps around the building to the south at the McEwan/Fourth corner and faces south on Fourth Street. The upper east (rear) facade of the two-story part of the building is clad with steel siding with no window openings. Its lower story contains a rear entrance beneath a projecting shed-roof/metal-column porch and, along with the one-story south-end extension, is sided with vertical tongue-and-groove wood siding. The south front of this rear extension contains a garage door and is spanned by a low pent roof just above the garage door's head.

The building was originally divided into two sections, with the entry for the south part at the building's southwest corner and for the north in the center of that end. By 1957 the south unit's first story was clad with un-coursed stone to the second-story window sills. The present display windows were installed in 1985. The shutters on the second story windows were added at the same time. The awning which extends across the building's façade was also added in 1985 but has since been updated. The building retains its metal ceiling in the north portion of the building, and its Warner freight elevator in the south part. The second-story retains apartments that have long since been vacant.

This building was constructed in 1904 for James Tatman and William Callam. Tatman had the north half built for his grocery and shoe business, while Callam built the south half to house an expansion of his Clare Hardware Company, then located in the corner building to the south. In April of the following year John and Mary Calkins purchased the south half of the building. The south half's second story was used as a roller skating rink in 1906 but by 1910 was incorporated into the hardware store. In early 1907 the Clare Hardware Company vacated the corner building to the south (then being occupied by the Citizen's Bank), and only occupied the south half of this building. A new firm, W. B. Webb and Mortimer Gallagher's Clare Hardware and Implement Company, leased the south half in March 1914. Webb and Mortimer purchased the south half in January 1916. By 1923 the second story of the south half was used for a tin shop. The name of the hardware business was changed in 1928 to the Clare Hardware and Furniture Company. W. B. Webb sold his interest in the business and by 1935 Ben Mercer was co-owner with Mortimer Gallagher, who were at the time beginning to sell Dodge and Plymouth vehicles. Stanley Burdo purchased the south half and business in February 1936 and retained the Clare Hardware and Furniture Company name. The south half was combined with the north half in 1943 when Stanley Burdo purchased it from the James Tatman Estate.

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The north half of the building was owned by James Tatman and housed his grocery and shoe business. In mid-1905 James Tatman sold a half interest in his business and building to George McKeever. Joseph Bowler started his law practice here in 1908 by leasing a portion of the Tatman & McKeever building. In December 1914 James Tatman divided the first floor of the north unit into two units, leasing the north unit to L. G. Fox, jeweler and optometrist, while running his grocery business out of the south unit. In January 1919 D. E. Mater leased the north unit for his furniture business. In January 1930 the National Grocer Company opened the R. Chain grocery store in the south unit. This business was managed by E. W. Brown, who purchased the business in September 1930 and began to run it under his name after that. E. W. Brown ran the grocery store for an unknown period of time. In 1938 one of the units in the building's north half was leased to the Clare Restaurant.

The north half's second story initially contained three suites of offices and a lodge room. One the offices served the Secretary of Michigan's Republican Party, Dennis Alward, from 1915 to 1919. Attorney A. E. Wylie moved his law firm to the second floor of the building in November 1932. Prior to this Mr. Wylie's office was used by the Clare County Credit Bureau, and also by Mr. Tatman as his private office after his retirement from the grocery business.

In 1943 Stanley Burdo purchased the north half of the building from the James Tatman Estate, combining it with the south half of the building which he purchased in 1936. Stanley's son Ben inherited the building and the hardware/furniture business in January 1947. Beginning in April 1968 the Clare Hardware and Furniture Company again became two separate businesses for a time. Ben Burdo owned and managed the Clare Hardware Company in the south portion of the building, while Dan and Bill Burdo owned and managed the Clare Furniture Company in the north portion. Ben Burdo retained ownership until 2006 when the building was deeded to his daughter Elaine Demasi. Vincent and Elaine Demasi sold the building in October 2006 to the present owners, Dennis and Kathy Sian. The Sians continue to operate the Clare Hardware business from this location.

Sent., 12/2/1904; 6/9/1905; 1/11/1907; 6/19/1908; 3/6 and 12/4/1914; 1/30/1919; 1/24 and 9/26/1930; 11/25/1932; 2/1/1935; 3/6/1936; 7/15/1938; 4/25/1968

518 N. McEwan. Doherty Building (1910-11).

This two-story commercial building has a painted stone-trimmed brick upper façade with Neoclassical elements that include piers and fluted columns with Ionic capitals and a modillion and dentil-clad metal cornice. The upper façade is divided into three bays, the center broader than the side ones, with a raised brick pier, with Ionic capital, at each end of the façade and fluted Ionic columns, probably of metal, on stone bases, separating the middle from the side bays. The square-head double-hung second-story windows, the center a double window, are modern ones with closed-in transoms. Each has a flat-arch painted stone cap, with center keystone. Corbelled brickwork caps the window bays and, as in the building to the immediate south, is used to cap the entablature's architrave and the top of the frieze below the cornice. A balustrade and pediment above the cornice were removed sometime after 1940. The 1950 storefront has an asymmetrical form, with the front with its large display window slanting inward from the right for three-quarters of the frontage to an offset entry at the deepest corner of a recess, then projecting out to the building's front wall plane for the left-hand quarter of the frontage with additional, but smaller, display windows. At the right-hand end of the façade a second entry leads to the second story. The storefront is faced in vertical wood boarding and capped by a modern vinyl bubble canopy, over a wood shingle pent roof, displaying the store name. The building's brick east (rear) elevation has a ground-floor entryway in a shallow vertical-board-clad rear extension sheltered by a gabled wood porch. A second-story apartment is accessed by an open steel stairway. The building retains its pressed metal ceiling on the first floor. The stairwell's first floor landing's tilework spells out "F & A M" for the Fraternal Order of Masons which used the upper story from 1911 to 1931.

Construction of this building began in 1904 after a fire in July of that year destroyed the wood frame building previously located here. By the end of 1904 only the foundation was completed. Construction did not begin again until 1910, and was completed in 1911. The building was constructed for Alfred J. Doherty. The name of the architect is unknown, but Doherty had a habit of hiring Saginaw architects. Upon completion of the building Mr. Doherty leased the first story to Elmer Anderson for his drug store business. The second story was leased to the John Q. Look No. 404 Lodge of the Masons. The Masons leased the second story of the building until 1931 when they moved to the old Doherty Opera House, three buildings to the north. Elmer Anderson purchased the building from

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Doherty in April 1921. Anderson ran the drug store business until his death in 1941. His daughter, Mrs. Jean Allen, assumed management of the business until 1947 while her brother was serving in the military and later attending school. Elmer's son, Elmer "Bud" Anderson, took over the operation of the store in 1948 from his mother Josephine. The building was deeded to the Anderson children in 1957. George Panches began managing Anderson's drug store in 1965 and purchased the business and the building in 1975. Current owner Margaret Panches bought the building in December 1998. Mood Makers beauty shop leased the building until 2012, followed by Fantastic Finds Antique Store, and now Millies Downtown gift store. The west half of the second story was used for the Clare Main Street office until 2012, while the east half of the second story is still used as an apartment.

Sent., 12/2/1904; 10/14 and 10/28/1910; 1/13 and 7/7/1911; 4/28/1921; 10/20/1950; 5/5/1955; 2/12/1975.

520 N. McEwan. McKinnon Building (1904); O. M. Sutherland, architect.

Non-contributing because no historic features are visible beyond the storefront's brick end piers.

This is a narrow one-story commercial building with façade clad mostly in vinyl siding. The building has a stone foundation and flat roof. It is now connected by a doorway with the one-story building immediately to the north. The façade's street level contains a square single-light window on either side of a center door. The storefront is edged in 1960s white stacked bond brick piers. An asphalt shingled pent roof extends across the entire façade above the storefront and below the vinyl siding-clad upper facade. The east (rear) elevation, containing a centered single metal framed glass door, is faced in vertical board and batten siding. A shed-roof canopy fronts the east elevation of this building and the building immediately to the north. The shed roof on the east elevation contains an asphalt shingled center gable containing a sign for the business.

The front's original appearance is unknown. An exterior stairway to the basement was removed and cemented over in 1917. In the 1960s the building was remodeled to have a recessed entry with plate glass windows on both sides. The remodeling included brickwork below the windows and on the north and south ends of the building in a stacked bond pattern. Above the windows and doors was a broad flat canopy that extended across the entire façade. The building's upper facade was covered in undecorated paneling. Sometime after 2004 the façade was altered to contain a single center window, and the vinyl siding and pent roof added. At some unknown time the building was connected to the one to the north so the two could house the same business. The current windows and door were installed in 2012.

This building was constructed for Archie J. McKinnon in 1904. It replaced an existing wood building that was destroyed by fire in July of the same year. The building was originally leased to Elmer Anderson for his drug store business. He operated in the building until 1911 when he moved into the newly constructed Doherty Building immediately to the south. From late 1912 to early 1915 E. Burt Jenney leased the building for his banking business. In October 1915 the building became the Oil & Drum Co. office. The next month C. W. Calkins both opened and closed his store business. In December of the same year M. C. Fife opened a restaurant in the building. In 1917 Allen and Manee opened a meat market. Harris and Hirt moved their hardware store to this building in May 1928. In April 1936 the building was deeded to Archie McKinnon's son, Kyle McKinnon. The property was acquired by Margaret McKinnon in January 1948. By 1945 Kenneth and Jay Hendrie were using the building for their Hendrie Brothers Market. The partnership was dissolved in 1950 with Kenneth Hendrie retaining ownership of the business. William Lewis purchased it from Kenneth Hendrie in 1952, and continued the meat market and grocery business under the Bill Lewis Market name. In 1953 the property was deeded to John and Martha Murphy (Martha Murphy was formerly Martha McKinnon), who owned it until September 1954 when they sold to Alfred J. Doherty II. Robert Fielder opened Fielder's Shoe Store in October 1955. Marlin and Betty Alexander took over the shoe business from the Fielders in 1956, and it became Alexander Shoes. Alfred J. Doherty II's wife Helen sold the building to Herschel Jewett in September 1979. James Mester purchased it in July 1983. In the 1980s Jan-Dor Fashions was leasing the building. Keith Benmark was the next building owner. He purchased the building at an unknown date, and owned the building until March 1989 when he sold to Christopher Miller. Mr. Miller owned the building until April 2004 when he sold it to the present owners, Diane Demo-Sadler and Vivian Demo. Since 2004 it has been used for the Apple Tree Lane Gift Shop business.

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CHSY., 1950; 1961; 1982; 1987; *Sent.*, 8/4 and 12/4/1904; 10/11/1912; 10/8, 11/17 and 12/10/1915; 9/6 and 10/4/1917; 4/28/1921; 6/2/1950; 6/20/1952; 11/1/1956; 3/24/1960; 5/16/1968.

522 N. McEwan. W. P. Lewis Cigar Factory (1904); O. M. Sutherland, Clare, architect; D. J. Fox, builder.

This is a narrow one-story commercial building with a white pressed brick front topped by a dentiled metal classical cornice. It sits on a stone foundation and has a flat roof. The front has brick piers that, flanking the storefront, support a brick upper façade with a simple corbelled brick detail below the frieze. The storefront has a deeply recessed slant-sided center entry flanked by large glass windows above contrasting brown brick bulkheads. An awning shelters the storefront. Modern paneling fills a recessed transom/signage area above. The east (rear) concrete block part of the building was added in 1952 and contains a steel framed glass door at the building's southeast corner. A shed roof canopy shelters the east elevation of this and the building immediately to the south. The parapet above the awning is clad in vertical board-and-batten siding.

The storefront originally had its doorway located at the façade's south end and there was one large plate glass window to the door's north, extending across the front. The door and window both had transoms. The current storefront's brickwork and recessed entry has been in existence since at least 1950, but could date to as early as 1941 when the building was remodeled due to a fire.

This building was constructed in 1904 for William P. Lewis to house his cigar store business. It replaced a wood frame building that was destroyed in a fire in July of the same year. After Lewis' death in January 1913, Bill Adams purchased the cigar store business. In February of the same year the east end of the building was leased to Shumway and Rogers for their barber shop. Jay J. Green began leasing the building in January 1927, and opened the Jay Green Clothing Store for men. William P. Lewis's wife Alpha Lewis sold the building to Clyde Harris in March 1934. Mr. Harris sold the building to Jay J. Green in June 1951, and the business name was changed to the J. J. Green Clothing Shop. The building was deeded to Jay J. Green's son Jay in 1962. He eventually changed the name of the business to Green's Clothing & Shoe. By the late 1980s the business was called Green's Shoes. The building had been used by the Green family for their clothing and shoe store for over sixty years. The early 1990s saw the building being leased to Diane Sadler for her Apple Tree Lane Gift Shop business. Diane Sadler purchased the building from Maxine Green in December 1998. The west end of the building was partitioned off in 2012 for use as barber shop, while the remainder of the building is used for the Second Hand Treasures retail store.

CHSY., 1950; 1957; 1964; 1966; 1987; 1988; 1993; *Sent.*, 7/14, 8/11 and 12/2/1904; 1/3 and 2/7/1913; 1/21/1927; 10/24/1941; 4/27/1951; 8/22/1952.

524. Doherty Opera House (1891); Fred Hollister, Saginaw, architect.

This is a painted stone-trimmed brick two-story Late Victorian building with commercial space downstairs and, originally, the opera house upstairs. The building has a stone and brick foundation and flat roof. Its upper front contains tall segmental-arch-head window openings, the center double width for paired windows, capped by gaged arches formed of rowlock and soldier brick. The two single windows on each side and paired center window are wooden double-hung with rock-face stone sills and transoms above the lower windows' wooden lintels with their pyramid moldings. The front also displays a rock-face stone beltcourse below the second story and rock-face blocks at window lintel level in the narrow piers between the windows. A continuous horizontal drip molding spans the front above the second-story window caps, and the broad frieze contains a row of small square sunken panels below the parapet, which lacks the ornamental cornice once present. The ground story has been rebuilt to complement the storefront of the building next door to the north – both now housing quarters of the Isabella Bank. It has a center entry, with sidelights and transom, and two evenly spaced double-hung windows to either side. Below the windows is a base formed of four courses of rock-face concrete block. The small sections of wall above this base and below the window and door heads are finished in brick. Above, the broad area between the ground-story window heads and original rock-face stone beltcourse beneath the second story is finished in EIFS complementing the current façade of the building to the north. The building's south side façade, rising above the adjacent single-story building, presents a blank brick wall, with the top story finished in EIFS. The back is faced in EIFS above a narrow shed-roof concrete block ground-story rear extension that contains a single entry.

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The section of the façade which contains the second-story windows is the only portion of the building which has not changed since its original construction. Some changes have occurred above and below this section of windows. Originally a balconet was located below the center second story windows. The original parapet had a brick pediment with a flag pole at its peak on the south end capped by a cornice with dentil bed molding extending to the north. The present recessed squares on the parapet were only located below the cornice. Cresting was located on top of the cornice. Below the pediment was a recessed circle with three windows in the lower half and small squares in the upper. The pediment was removed and the present look of the parapet was constructed sometime in the 1920s. The street level front originally contained two storefronts, each with a center entry flanked by display windows. By 1910 the door to the south unit was located at the south end of the façade. In 1960 a marquee was added, spanning the entire façade and across the south half of the building to the north. By the 1970s the façade had a single door in the center with large plate glass windows on either side of it. The present street level façade was constructed in 2007. Historically the interior of the second story was accessed via a stairway located in the center of the building immediately to the north. The second-story interior retains the appearance it had when the Masons occupied it prior to 1990.

This building was constructed in 1891 for Alfred J. Doherty I. It was built with the intention of leasing the two first floor store spaces to businesses while the entire second story would be used as an opera house. The north unit of the first floor was leased to S. C. Kirkbride for his furniture business, while the south unit initially housed the Post Office. By 1911 M. B. Gallagher was using the north unit for his hardware and farm implement business. By 1914 J. E. Doherty had his hardware and furniture business there. The Post Office stayed in the south unit until 1931 when it was moved to a larger building on East Fourth Street. The process of converting the Opera House to a public meeting place was begun in 1912 and finished in 1914. In January 1931 the Alfred J. Doherty Estate deeded the building to his son Alfred J. Doherty, Jr. At the same time the Masons began using the former Opera House as the city's Masonic Temple. The Kroger Grocery and Bakery Company leased the building's south unit from 1935 to 1939. Sometime after that Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cox moved their Clarified Bakery into the south unit. The Coxes sold the bakery to Lon M. Galloway in June 1946, but bought it back in August 1947. In July 1957 Helen Doherty, Alfred J. Doherty Jr.'s wife, sold the building, in two parts: the second story to the Clare Masonic Building Association, and the first to Gay's 5 & 10 Store and Kenneth and Gertrude Cox. Gay's 5 & 10 had been leasing the building prior to their ownership. Gay's 5 & 10 Store purchased the second story from the Masons in October of 1979. Part of the agreement was to lease the second story to the Masons for ten years. The Cox interest in the building was sold in August 1983. The store became part of D & C Stores in the 1980s and continued in business until the 1990s. James and Evelyn Gay and Richard Gay sold the building to Equity Investment Corporation in June 1992, and Equity Investment sold it to Isabella Bank and Trust, the building's present owner, in December 1992. In the early 2000s the Stone Soup gift shop leased the building. The Corporate Title business, owned by Isabella Bank, used the building in 2007-08, then moved to Mount Pleasant. The office was vacant for a number of months before Raymond James Financial Services began using the building in 2009. Its name has since been changed to Isabella Bank Investment & Trust Services.

CHSY., 1950; 1978; 1989; 1990; *Sent.*, 4/18/1890; 7/5/1895; 1/28 and 4/15/1910; 5/7/1913; 1/9/1914; 5/17 and 5/31/1935; 8/19/1938; 6/7 and 8/2/1946; 8/8/1947; 7/14/1960.

532 N. McEwan. Clare County Savings Bank (1887); Fred Hollister, Saginaw, architect; A. A. Shaver, builder.

This is a two-story Late Victorian commercial building whose second-story façade, designed by the same architect who did the Opera House building next door a few years later, complements that building's second-floor design in its use of paired windows with segmental-arch heads with gaged arch caps built of rowlock and soldier bricks and turned-column details separating the window pairs. The building sits on a stone foundation and has a flat roof. The bank building's second story rises above a rock-face stone beltcourse atop the modern ground story. The second story has its paired double-hung windows at the ends of the façade, separated from two additional central windows by broad brick piers with rock-face stone block trim at window lintel level. The two central windows are themselves separated by another similar pier. Like the square-head window pairs to either side, which are set into shallow recesses beneath their segmental arch heads, the central windows are also capped by a gaged brick segmental arch,

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the central pier subdividing the arched recess over the windows into two parts. The front façade is capped by a simple cornice supported on four sets of triple brackets, the whole capped by a narrow metal pent roof that fronts the main flat roof. The building's main entry is recessed into the northwest corner facing the McEwan/Third intersection. A square-plan EIFS-clad column resting on a rock-face concrete block base stands at the corner of the recessed entry space and supports the corner of the building above. The paired aluminum-trim doors are angled to face northwest and flanked by floor-to-ceiling windows on either side within the recess. The street level of the building's façade complements the ground-floor design of the adjacent Opera House building in its four-course base of rock-faced concrete block and its pattern of alternating square-head double-hung windows and brick piers between them, exhibiting the same dimensions as those in the Opera House front, south of the entry. Above the windows the storefront is faced in EIFS, with its lower edge displaying a segmental-arch-head motif, with shallow panels above, spanning the recessed entry and each two windows. The storefront frieze contains the bank name located within it, and is capped with a modern cornice with dentil molding.

The only area that has changed since its original construction is the first story of the façade and the building's east elevation. The structure originally had cresting at the top of the north and west elevations. The original segmental-arch-head entryway was located in the center of the building's façade. This entryway served both the north and south units of the building and led to a stairway to the second floor. To the south of the entryway was a large plate glass window. To the north of the entryway was a large circular three-over-two window with turned mullions, polychrome header bricks and raised stonework framing it. After the 1920s when the bank relocated to 431 North McEwan, this window was removed and replaced with a plate glass window that matched the window on the south unit. The present façade and the west elevation were constructed in 1993 after Isabella Bank and Trust purchased the building. The building retains its historic Detroit Safe Company vault door, although not in its original location. The second story retains the rooms used for the Masonic temple.

This building was constructed in 1887 by Alfred J. Doherty. It was designed to house the Clare County Savings Bank in the north unit of the building's first floor, offices to the east side of the bank on the first floor, the Doherty Hardware business in the south unit of the first floor, and offices on the second floor. When Doherty built the Opera House building immediately to the south, access to the Opera House on the building's second floor was gained through the stairway in this building. The unit on the east side of the bank was used as a tailor shop in 1893 and 1894. By 1899 this area was used as an office. Also, in 1893 and 1894 the rear of the hardware store was used for a tin shop. The tin shop was relocated to the second floor above the hardware store before 1899 and continued there until at least 1906. Alfred Doherty sold his interest in the hardware business in 1903 to his sons Frank and Floyd Doherty. Floyd sold his interest to Frank in 1904. In 1907 the bank expanded its office space to include the whole north half of the building's first floor. Prior to 1909 Arthur Lacey's law office was located in this building. In 1909 a law partnership was created between Arthur Lacy and Joseph Bowler. Mr. Bowler would use Arthur Lacy's office and Mr. Lacy would represent the business in the Detroit area. By 1910 the Doherty Hardware Store was replaced by a harness shop, and in 1914 that was replaced by the Roy Joslin Lunchroom. In the winter of 1916 Mr. Joslin operated a seasonal bowling alley in his lunch room. In 1917 the Lunchroom was sold to Ralph Stevens. After the bank moved out in the early 1920s, J. E. Doherty opened his plumbing and undertaking business in the north unit of the first floor; he purchased the building the following year. Ora Dawson moved his cigar factory to the second floor above J. E. Doherty in January 1923. Two months later a fire caused some damage to the building. The Vogue Dress Shop began occupying the west end of the plumbing store space in 1927. The undertaking business was moved to the east end of the building and the plumbing supply store moved to the basement. Sometime before the late 1920s J. E. Doherty was co-owner of the building with Alfred J. Doherty I. After Alfred Doherty's death J. E. Doherty became the sole owner in the early 1930s. He eventually sold to Fred Doherty. By the 1950s Clarified Bakery was leasing the first floor south unit. In the late 1950s the building went into foreclosure, and it was purchased by Alfred J. Doherty III in 1960. Sometime in the 1980's, D & C Variety store was using the first floor south unit, and Lenny's Hair Design was in the north unit. The building was sold to Isabella Bank and Trust in March 1993 and they occupy the entire first floor. The second story has been vacant since the late 1980s.

Dem., 4/1/1887; *Sent.*, 7/16/1903, 6/2 and 7/21/1904; 5/31/1907; 6/25/1909; 11/13/1914; 2/19/1915; 1/28 and 3/21/1916; 3/8/1917; 3/31 and 10/7/1921; 1/5 and 2/16/1923; 4/11/1927; 5/17/1935

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604 N. McEwan. Doherty Hotel (1922-24); Clarence Cowles, Saginaw, architect; William J. Morris Company, Midland, and O. W. Jenkins Company, contractors; façade renovations (windows) 1965 Additions: 1947; 1960 (Seiter Brothers, contractors); 1990, 2001. 1960 and later additions Non-Contributing.

The Doherty is a four-story, two-part vertical block building. It has walls of red-brown brick, sits on a concrete foundation, and has a flat roof. The main entryway is just to the south of the center of the building's main/west façade. The entryway is through a modern steel framed glass vestibule which projects from the façade toward the street. The street level of the façade and the south side elevation display brick piers with plain masonry capitals. Between the piers are broad vinyl windows with brownish rock-face random ashlar stone bulkheads, on concrete bases, below. The windows have canvas awnings and an arch-top vinyl canopy shelters the entry vestibule and the sidewalk in front out to the street. A limestone beltcourse caps the first floor. A shallow projecting balconet, supported by carved limestone console brackets, rises above the entryway in the second story. The second to fourth stories contain vertical banks of aluminum-frame windows. The upper façade displays a single-course horizontal strip of soldier brick below the present fourth-story windows. Slightly projecting bands of rowlock bricks two courses high and soldier brick (a single course) together form the base for a tall brickwork frieze, and another row of stretchers is present at the top of the frieze just below a projecting terra cotta cornice of simple classical form. The windows – short double-hung ones in the second story and tall sliders in the third and fourth – are set into shallow recessed banks framed by metal surrounds. Beneath the windows in each window bank are what appear to be enameled aluminum panels, some with spaces for air conditioners. The narrow south side elevation is finished in similar fashion, with piers, wide windows, stone bulkheads, and beltcourse atop the first story. At the rear corner is a separate entrance to the Doherty Cocktail Lounge. The upper stories contain a single window in the center of each story, the second-story one capped by an arched treatment, with now closed-up windows in a single vertical bank like those in front, on either side. The north elevation is a plain brick wall with no windows or ornamentation. A one-story addition, with finishes that mimic those of the main building, has been made to the north of the north end. The rear/east elevation is finished in painted concrete blocks and is fenestrated with double hung windows with masonry lintels. A visually important historic feature of the building, standing on the roof at the south end and angled southeast, is the HOTEL DOHERTY neon sign that is supported by an open metal structure.

The hotel has been expanded with a cluster of red brick one, two and three-story additions located to the east and northeast of the original structure. A one-story addition east of the building's south end displays widely spaced narrow vertical windows and a tall slightly projecting metal fascia. East of that, set back behind a circular drive and parking, is an angled entry with arch-roofed drive-through canopy. This serves as a primary entrance to the hotel's large motor inn complex that stands separate from the old hotel and is comprised of several large red brick and EIFS-clad buildings topped by flat roofs, some with asphalt-shingled mansards around their perimeters. with EIFS-faced areas around the immediately to the east of the original building has a one-story section with a segmented arch porte cochere which extends from the building to the southeast. The motor inn section also contains a large indoor swimming pool.

The original hotel building has seen considerable change since its original construction. The areas between the first floor piers had large plate glass windows, with transoms above. By the 1940s the transom windows were covered and by the 1960s the present windows installed. The windows in the upper stories were originally set into the brick façade without the vertical window banks. The second-story windows originally had arched tops, like the one that survives in the center of the south side. The present windows, set in vertical banks of windows with metal panels beneath, were installed in 1965. The middle bank of windows on the building's south elevation shows the window openings as they originally appeared. The stonework below the windows of the original structure where added in 2012 and replaced areas of stucco.

Additions have also been made to the building. The first was a sixteen by twenty-four-foot addition on the building's east side whose construction began at the end of 1924. In 1947 a thirty-five by thirty-foot addition to the building's banquet room, known as the Wedgewood Room, was constructed also on the building's east side. The one-story addition to the north of the original structure was constructed from 2012 to 2013.

In 1960 a separate hotel annex building was constructed to the northeast of the original hotel. In 1990 the annex was joined with the original hotel by means of a wing containing an indoor pool and thirty-three additional rooms. An

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additional sixty rooms were added in 2001 to the east and west of earlier additions. **These large additions form what reads as a single large complex that, although highly important to the hotel operation, are considered Non-Contributing for purposes of this nomination because built well after the hotel building's construction and of a different, broad and low, motor inn form from the hotel proper.**

The Hotel Doherty was built by Alfred J. Doherty for the purpose of providing Clare with a high class hotel that would replace the Calkins Hotel that, located on the same site, burned in 1920. Construction was begun in 1922 by the William J. Morris Company of Midland, but when they could not finish the building within the agreed upon time they were replaced by the O. W. Jenkins Company, who completed the remainder of the construction in 1924. Mr. Doherty served as the hotel's president from 1924 to 1928. The company that owned the hotel was incorporated in 1925. Son Alfred J. Doherty II became president in 1928 and served in that capacity until 1956. In an effort to capitalize on the growing tourist traffic Doherty constructed a set of ten one-story cabins. Also, under his ownership the lunch room which was located in the southwest corner of the building was converted to a cocktail lounge in 1942. The banquet room was enlarged and renamed the Wedgewood Room in 1947. The present neon sign located on the top of the building was installed in 1948. The cocktail lounge was remodeled in 1950 and renamed the Emerald Room. The City Library, which had been located in the northwest corner of the building's first floor since the hotel's opening, was asked to find new quarters in 1950. The space, in the north end of the main floor, was remodeled and became the Early American Room, the hotel's main dining room, in 1951. Willard Bicknell served as president from 1956 to 1969. During his leadership the hotel was expanded to include a separate annex located to the northeast of the main hotel, along with an outdoor pool. The cabins were torn down at this time to make room for the addition. Alfred J. Doherty III was president from 1969 to 2006. In 1990 he constructed another addition which joined the annex to the rest of the hotel, and added an indoor pool. His sons, Richard and James, are the current co-presidents and have been in their positions since 2006. Their addition of sixty rooms on the east and west ends of the building, and their 2012 dining room expansion on the north end of the original hotel building complete the present look of the hotel.

Sent., 12/30/1921; 1/13/1922; 4/11 and 9/26/1924; 1/30/1942; 6/20/1947; 4/2/1948; 3/24 and 8/25/1950; 2/16/1951; 10/15/1959; 6/16/1960; 7/8/1965; Alfred J. Doherty III, Interview, 9/30/2009.

[616 N. McEwan]. Doherty Hotel Marquee Sign (1960).

Standing in front of the parking lot north of the hotel building and straddling the sidewalk, the dark green steel sign has a round column at each end that supports the sign itself, which presents identical faces to the north and south. The sign consists of a smaller trapezoidal form at the top displaying the Doherty name, a larger rectangular section beneath it containing five panels each displaying one of the letters of the word HOTEL, and a second, larger trapezoidal shape beneath it that contains a back-lit sign panel for displaying changing messages. Below the lower trapezoid section is a smaller trapezoid area displaying the words "Dining Room." A smaller rectangular sign hanging below this reads, "Serving GREAT FOOD All Day."

Sent., 6/16/1960.

[622]. Dr. Kuno Hammerberg Monument (c. 2002); Brewer-Bouchey Monument Co., Saint Louis, MI. Non-Contributing object.

Sited on an area of red brick paving between the sidewalk and street at the northwest corner of the Hotel Doherty's block long frontage, this is a small black granite bench style monument whose base displays the inscription: IN MEMORY OF/ DR. KUNO HAMMERBERG M.D./ 1901 - 2002. The monument was placed here in honor of Dr. Kuno Hammerberg after his death in 2002.

Dr. Kuno Hammerberg was a much loved family practitioner, who practiced medicine in the Clare area for close to fifty years. Born on July 10, 1901, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, he came to Clare in 1934 after graduating from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago. The monument is placed in front of the location where Dr. Hammerberg practiced medicine the entire time he was in Clare. His office was in a wood framed building, originally a house, constructed prior to 1893. By 1899 it housed the *Clare Sentinel* newspaper. In 1910 it was used

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for a millinery business, and by 1923 it was a store. Prior to Dr. Hammerberg moving into the building it was used by a plumbing store. Dr. Hammerberg practiced medicine in this building until the 1970s. The building was torn down in 1978.

9/16/2002 Clare City Commission Minutes.

MC EWAN STREET, WEST SIDE

307. Clare Hay, Grain and Bean Company Elevator (1918).

Standing with its narrow end to the street, this wooden elevator structure has a three-story gable-roof structure near the street and one-story gable-roof west or rear section. Resting on a concrete foundation, the building is covered with steel siding and has a steel roof. The three-story tall main mass of the building has a slightly lower section at its west end. The longer, taller part is topped by a smaller story-tall gable-roof section perched above its midpoint. To the west of the three-story part is a longer one-story gable-roof section. Broad shed roofs extend the length of the building's south elevation sheltering the loading dock in the three-story section and a set of double doors in the one-story part. Two boxed structures with roof vents are located above the roofed area over the east and west ends of the loading dock. A row of four wood framed windows are located just under the eaves on the north and south elevations of the three-story mass. Two wood framed windows are located on the east elevation of the building at the same height as the previously mentioned windows. Two windows on the first floor of the east elevation are aligned with the windows located above, with the southern window being covered over. A wood framed door on the east elevation with a hood roof is located between the windows, and is accessed by a set of steel steps. A steel tank is located above the one-story section on the west end of the building. A framework of steel ducts is located on the south side of the building and extends to a height above the three-story building's roof. A structure with overhanging storage bins is attached to the south end of the one-story section's west end. This structure is designed for trucks to drive under and load from the bins from above. The building has changed very little through its history. However, the shingled roof was replaced with a steel roof in 2002.

This structure was built in 1918 by Chatterton & Son, and replaced a two-and-a-half-story Clare Hay, Grain & Bean Company grain elevator located on the same site. Chatterton & Son owned the elevator until E. G. Johnston purchased it in 1926 and operated the business under the same name. In 1939 or 1940 the name of the business was changed to the Johnston Hay, Grain & Bean Company. Sometime before 1953 it became the Johnston Elevator. Ed Johnston's son Joe took over the business in 1952, and sold it to the Cutler Dickerson Company in 1987.

Sent., 8/8/1918; 5/7/1926; 6/5/1953.

[S of Third St.]. Great Lakes Central Railroad Crossing

This is a gated railroad crossing at road level. It is unknown when the gates and lights were added to the site, and although the rails, ties and other hardware are not original, the site is located on the original main line of the former Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad, built to Clare in 1870. Sometime between 1906 and 1910 the F & PM was absorbed into the Pere Marquette Railway. In the mid-twentieth century the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, later CSX Transportation, took over the railroad's operations. In the early 1990s the Tuscola & Saginaw Bay Railroad took over operations. The Tuscola & Saginaw Bay would change its name to the Great Lakes Central Railroad in the early 2010s.

The original rail line had a single set of tracks, with a combined freight and passenger depot located on the west side of McEwan just to the south of the tracks. The Toledo & Ann Arbor Railroad built to Clare in 1887, and intersected the Flint & Pere Marquette tracks just west of the downtown. Where the tracks intersected, a new Union Depot was constructed. The depot at McEwan Street was converted to a freight depot. Sometime between 1884 and 1893 the number of tracks crossing McEwan was increased to three, two of those sidings located to the north of the mainline. The three tracks crossed McEwan until sometime after the mid-1900s when the sidings were removed leaving only a

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single set of tracks intersecting Clare's main street. The freight depot south of the tracks was torn down sometime after the mid-1900s.

321 N. McEwan. Clare County Savings Bank/Michigan Creamery Co. Office (1885); A. W. McIntyre, builder.

This wooden commercial building has north and south sections. It is clad with vinyl siding and covered with an asphalt shingled roof. The parapet of the slightly broader south part rises slightly higher than the north part's parapet. The front door is located near the north edge of the south section, with a window to the south of the door. A canvas bubble canopy extends across the entire façade of the building. The building has a variety of roof forms which reflect the many additions made. In the front part of the building the roof slopes upward from the south eave to a peak in the center of the building. The front section's north side elevation shows part of the cornice of a side-gable roof, cut off partway down the front slope, forward from which point the eave runs flat a short distance to the front parapet. Behind the north side gable peak, a long shed roof slopes gently downward to the rear. The south elevation behind the building's front section angles to the northwest so that the building's west elevation is only about two-thirds the width of the east front elevation. The west elevation contains only a steel door at its north end, while the remainder of the building is vinyl sided with no windows or ornamentation.

This building originally only consisted of its present south half and was located where 524 North McEwan stands now. It was a small building with a gable roof and a falsefront with bracketed cornice. The builder was A. W. McIntyre. The building was moved to this location in 1890. To its south was a warehouse, constructed prior to 1893, and the two buildings were joined by a breezeway. The building forming the present south side was oriented in the standard east-west direction, the warehouse in a southeast-to-northwest direction, adjacent to the railroad tracks. The warehouse was torn down after a fire in 1917 and the building presently forming the south side stood alone after that. At the time of the fire the building was owned by Alfred J. Doherty, and used by Jay Wyman and Patrick O'Toole for their produce business. An addition forming the north part of the building was made between 1923 and 1934. A red face brick front with plate glass window was added in 1951 along with glass block windows on the south elevation after the building sustained fire damage in the spring of that year. By the 1960s the north part of the building was expanded again. The west addition to the building's north half was constructed at an unknown date.

The south portion of this building was constructed in 1885 by bank owners Perry, Sutherland & Wolsky for use as the Clare County Savings Bank and was located where 524 North McEwan is located now. The building was sold to Albert VanBrunt in February 1887 when the bank relocated to its new location immediately to the north at 532 North McEwan. VanBrunt operated a grocery store out of this building for three years. In 1890 Alfred J. Doherty purchased the lot from VanBrunt in order to build his new opera house. The building was then moved to its present location at 321 North McEwan.

After this it is unclear who owned the building or when ownership changed. Sometime before 1893 the building was connected to a warehouse to the south. In 1893 and 1894 the building was used as a harness shop. In 1899 the building was used as an electrical supply store, and 1906 saw the building functioning as a bean warehouse. In 1909 the Michigan Creamery Company bought this building and the connecting warehouse. This portion of the building was used as the company's office. The building was used as a gasoline filling station in 1923 and continuing into the 1950s – housing the Merritt Oil Company in 1951. The Clare Party Store was opened in 1964 by Mrs. Ruth Nivison. The present owners, Jon and Vicki Warren, purchased the building from the Tuscola & Saginaw Bay Railway Company in 1994, and continue to operate it as the Clare Party Store.

CCP., 9/26/1884; *CHSY.*, 1966; *Dem.*, 3/4/1887; *DPress.*, 4/4/1890; *Sen.*, 1/22/1909; 8/28/1917; 6/5/1951; 5/21/1964

405 N. McEwan. Beemer's Saloon (1900). Non-Contributing with present façade.

This two-story building is covered with vertical steel siding on the second story, and a combination of horizontal, vertical, and diagonal tongue-and-groove siding on the street level, so that no historic finishes are now evident. It sits on a stone foundation, and is covered by a flat roof. The façade is combined with the façade of the adjacent one-

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story building to the north. In the front facing McEwan two side-by-side doors are set into a recess at the façade's north edge. The front to the doors' south contains two round porthole windows set into vertical boarding that fills the former large display window location above a tongue-and-groove-siding bulkhead. The transom location is filled with diagonal boarding. A large recessed infill panel that fills the second-story front above window-sill level occupies the location of the building's former sign. The main entrance to the building is located in the middle of the building's broad south elevation, which overlooks angled streetside parking. A lighted vinyl bubble canopy covers the south main door. Two double-hung windows are located near the west end of the south elevation's in the second story, with a steel covered chimney between them. The west elevation of the building has a one-story concrete block addition with steel siding below the slanting steel shed roof. The back's second story above the shed roof is also clad with steel siding, as is the building's north elevation above the adjacent one-story building. Clay tiles cap the parapets on the north and south elevations. The interior of this building opens into the interior of the building to the north.

The building's original brick walls were covered with the present steel and wood in 1987. The east front door was originally inset and centered, with two fixed sash windows on either side of it. It was once crowned with a storefront cornice. The present steel siding on the second story is covering two windows on the south elevation and two windows on the façade. Brickwork above the second story windows formed three recessed horizontal rectangles with two recessed circles in between them. A cornice with dentil molding once capped the façade of the building. An original one-story addition to the west end of the building was built between 1923 and 1934, but has since been replaced by the current concrete block one. Until the 1970s a one-story barber shop abutted the building's south elevation.

This building was constructed by Oliver Beemer in 1900 for his saloon business. Oliver Beemer sold the building to George Benner in January 1911. During the early days of Prohibition the building was used as a billiards room. Benner sold the building to Floyd Shoup in August 1920, and he converted the building into an ice cream and butter creamery under the name Clare Creamery Company. In the fall of 1925 the Clare Creamery Company relocated to a new building on the northeast corner of Fourth and Beech Streets. Fred Shoup sold the building to John Dionese in February 1927 and Dionese opened a restaurant. In 1935 after Prohibition had ended John Dionese converted his building from a restaurant back to a bar. Since then this building has always been used as a bar. John Dionese deeded his building in September 1938 to Virginia Dionese. In November 1986 Virginia Hartzler (formerly Virginia Dionese) sold the building to Wilbur and Betty Adams. Gary and Cheryl Ruckle purchased it in April 1987, but began leasing it the year before for their Ruckle's Pier Bar and Grill business. The present owners RPYC Investments have owned the building since September 2000, and continue to operate under the Ruckle's Pier Bar and Grill name.

Sent., 8/10 and 12/7/1900; 9/16/1920; 9/11/1925; 3/18/1927; 7/5/1935.

407. Ramey Building (1926). Non-Contributing with present façade.

This narrow-fronted one-story commercial building's front is finished in vertical, horizontal, and diagonal wood siding matching the building immediately to the south. The building sits on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof. The front door is located toward the north end, and there is a round name sign for Ruckle's Pier Bar & Grill to the south of the door. The west/rear elevation is clad with steel siding and contains one one-over-one vinyl window.

The original appearance of the building has changed a few times since its construction. A photo from the early 1930s shows a brick building with an inset door at the north corner of the façade. A large fixed sash window filled most of the remainder of the façade's street level. By the 1970s the door had been moved closer to the center and flush with the façade, and a smaller window was located to the south of the door. The present façade was built in 1987.

This building was built by Earnest Ramey in 1926 to replace a diner at this location that was destroyed by a fire in the same year. Ramey sold the building in April 1927 to Roy Joslin, who continued the restaurant business. Burton J. Sanford purchased the building in July 1936. It was next sold to Mary Atwood in December 1977. She owned it until November 1979 when Elizabeth Berrant purchased it. Dani Fuson purchased the building in October 1986, but

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was leasing it prior to that for her Downtown Dani's Restaurant. The building became a bar in 1986 when Gary and Cheryl Ruckle began leasing it and joined it with the building to the south as part of Ruckle's Bar & Grill. The Ruckles purchased the building in March 1999. The present owners, RPYC Investments, purchased the building in September 2000, and continue to operate under the Ruckle's Pier Bar and Grill name.

Sent., 4/2 and 6/11/1926; 4/8/1927; 7/3/1936.

409 N. McEwan. Western Auto Store (1957).

This one-part commercial block building is faced with red brick. The building sits on a stone foundation, most likely the foundation of the original 1900 Doherty building, and is covered by a flat roof. The aluminum-trim storefront with its large single-light display windows slants inward from either side to a central entry. Above the storefront is a wood-frame asphalt shingled pent roof. Above the pent roof is a low brick parapet. Projecting from the parapet at a right angle is an electric lighted sign. The west/rear and visible part of the north side elevation are constructed of concrete block. The rear contains a door centered on the façade with a transom window above. Other than the pent roof, which may cap the original flat-proof projecting canopy, this building has not had its appearance altered.

Ella Autry built this building in 1957 to replace a portion of the Doherty Building she lost to a fire in January of the same year. She continued her Western Auto Store business in this location. By the early 1970s Mrs. Autry was leasing the building to Louis Montini, who opened the Clare Print and Pulp store. Ella Autry sold the building to Elvin Autry in September 1978. Louis Montini bought it in February 1980. He owned it until Peter Montini purchased it in September 1993. The Clare Print and Pulp store continues to operate here.

Sent., 8/15/1957

415. Downtown Clare Professional Building (1972). Non-Contributing because less than 50 years old.

This is a two-story office building with partly below-ground first story. The building is clad in brown brick, sits on a concrete foundation, and is covered with a flat roof. The symmetrical front has aluminum double doors in the center, topped by a flat-top vinyl canopy, and a large fixed sash plate glass window located in a framed area above. Surrounding the window is faux shake style vinyl siding. This central door and window area is framed by brick piers that extend from the ground to the top of the building. The north and south halves of the front are mirror images of each other. In the center of each half are narrow glass windows in each story set between more of the same brick piers. The glass blocks on the partly below-ground first floor have two columns of four blocks and rest at ground level. The second-story windows consist of two columns of seven blocks also stacked vertically. Broad zones of plain brickwork flank these windows areas on either side. The west elevation of the building has the same form as the front but is constructed of concrete block instead of brick, and there is a chimney located at the northwest corner.

This building has changed very little since its original construction. The only change to the façade is the addition of the window and awning above the door. The window and awning were added at an undetermined time and replaced a plain unornamented panel.

This building was constructed by the 415 Corporation in 1972 for use as an office building. It replaced a building that burned in January 1957. Between 1957 and 1972 the property was used as a parking lot for the Groves Brothers Five and Ten Store immediately to the north. The 415 Corporation owned the building until March 1993 when Barbara Young purchased it. She owned it until September 2005 when the present owners, the Four Fifteen North McEwan Company, purchased it. The building has sat vacant for a number of years.

417. Groves Brothers Five and Ten Store (1957, 1963); Sanford Mott, contractor.

This one-story commercial building has two parts built in 1957 and 1963. The building is faced in tan brick, with red brick accents, stands on a concrete block foundation, and has a flat roof. The south two-thirds of the building was built in 1957, the north one-third, with front slightly recessed, in 1963. The entrance to the building is through two inset aluminum framed glass doors located in the north corner of the south section's façade. Between the two doors

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is an aluminum framed fixed sash window that is the same height as the doors. To the south of the doors is a broad four-section band of aluminum framed fixed display windows that extend to the southern corner of the building. These rest on stacked brick bulkheads. North of the doors, beyond a pier that projects outward to the façade line of the south section, is the added north section. Its front, set back to the line of the south section's recessed doors, consists of a three-part aluminum framed display window that extends to the north corner's flanking pier. Spanning the whole front is a broadly projecting asphalt shingled pent roof, which appears to be built atop the original aluminum flat-top canopy. The front's piers and bulkheads are of tan brick. The brick parapet for both sections of the building uses red brick to outline a broad central tan brick panel. The red brick and all the tan brick in the front except for the stretcher bond brickwork in the broad horizontal parapet panels is in stacked bond. The west elevation, containing one centered steel frame glass door, is sided with vertical tongue-and-groove wood siding, with square wood panels located at ground level. The north and south elevations that are exposed are constructed of concrete block and the parapets capped with clay tiles.

The original appearance of the building has been altered very little since its construction. The north one-third of the building was added in late 1963 at the same time that the building immediately to the north was constructed. Prior to this the lot where the addition was located served as a parking lot for the surrounding buildings. Originally archways through the side walls connected the addition and the adjacent building to the north. It is unknown when these archways were enclosed. The original awning was flat and showed all the brick work on the parapet. The present pent roof was constructed at an undetermined time. The signage for the Grove Brothers store was located within the framed brick area of the parapet, and consisted of individual letters. The present electric lighted sign was installed in 2003.

This building was constructed in 1957 by James Groves to replace a building at the same location that burned in January of that year. The building initially housed the Groves Brothers Five and Ten Store. James Groves built the north addition to the building in late 1963. By late 1977 George and Betty Graham were leasing the building for their furniture store. In March 1978 James' wife Arlene sold the building to the Grahams. Betty Graham sold it to David and Virgil Graham in December 2007. The Continental Home Center has been operating out of this building since 2003.

CHSY., 1960; 1964; *Sent.*, 4/25/1957; 10/31/1963.

425 N. McEwan. Gambles Store (1963).

This is a one-story commercial building with concrete block walls and brick front. It rests on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof. A slant-sided central recess contains the entrance. Low brick bulkheads support a display window on each side of the entry and two-section display window in the front to either side. The door and windows are of bronze anodized aluminum and have transoms above. The storefront is outlined on the sides and top by decorative concrete strips formed of separate masonry-like pieces, with a keystone centered over the entry. The brick façade appears to have all been buff or tan brick, but the window bulkheads, brick strips flanking the storefront on either side, and strips outlining a broad central panel area occupying most of the façade above the storefront have been painted red, leaving only the large area above the storefront in its original tan color. The parapet has an ornamental cornice-like cast concrete cap. The west/rear elevation has a short, shed-roof extension and is constructed of concrete block. It contains a door located at the south end, garage door near the center, and small barred window, along with the building utility boxes, at the north end.

This building was built as an addition to the Gambles store located next door to the north and originally had no separate front entrance. The windowed façade then had a projecting flat-top canopy in common with the building to the north (427). In the original construction there were interior openings to the buildings both to the north and south. The present storefront was constructed in 1984 when a separate store first occupied this building only. At the same time a firewall was constructed separating this building and the building to the south. The opening connecting 425 and 427 to the north was also closed at some point, but it was reopened in 2012 when Ray's Bike Shop began using both buildings. A wooden log awning covering the entire upper façade above the windows was constructed in 2007 but removed in 2012. The current windows and doors and the shed-roof extension on the west elevation date from 2012.

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This building was constructed in 1963 by Roy N. Beltinck at the same time as the addition to the building to the south (a previous building burned in 1957, and the site served as a parking lot until the present building was constructed). It initially housed an extension of the Gambles store located in the building to the immediate north (427). Roy N. Beltinck's wife Marion transferred ownership of the building to her sons James, Roy J., and Charles Beltinck in March 1969. James and Charles later sold their interest in the building to Roy J. Beltinck, and Roy sold the building to Emerson Hampton in June 1980. By the mid-1980s Charles and Martha Stuckert were operating a furniture store out of this building. Emerson's wife Eileen Hampton sold the building to Charles and Martha Stuckert in August 1984. The Stuckerts sold to Roger and Emily Chase in July 1996. The Chases owned the building until September 1996, when they sold it to William and Pamela Wilson, who operated the Wilson Decorating Center. The property was deeded to Pamela Loar Wilson, and by December 2003 Joe Perras and Pamela Loar-Perras owned the building. Red Hook Properties purchased the building from Joe Perras in September 2007, and the building then housed Artistic Engraving and Marketing. This business closed and the building sat vacant for a number of years. It was sold to Oberloier Smith Properties Inc. in April 2012, and in the same year Ray's Bike Shop began using the building.

Sent., 10/31/1963.

427 N. McEwan. Dawson Building (1890). Non-Contributing with present upper façade treatment.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial building. It is a stone-trimmed brick building, but very little of the original finishes are now evident. The building has a stone foundation and a flat roof. The first floor front retains red brick end piers displaying rock-face stone trim blocks at the base and atop the one-time transom level. The rest of the storefront and lower façade reflects extensive renovations dating from 1947, 1957, and later. The storefront has a deeply recessed entry at its right/north end and low brick bulkheads to the left/south beneath large anodized aluminum display windows. The present storefront doors and windows were installed in 2012. The façade above the windows up to the second-story window level is finished in tan brick. A beltcourse of rock-face limestone blocks caps the unadorned tan brick lower façade and serves as the sills for the second story's two double-hung windows. The rest of the second-story front is clad in vertical metal sheeting installed in 2002. The exposed second story on the south side displays a small area of the original red brick below metal sheeting that covers most of that façade. The west/rear façade displays more of the metal sheeting, pierced by two double-hung windows, above a single-story shed-roof rear extension that matches closely the rear extension to 425 next door to the south. It has concrete block walls and contains an off-centered steel door, with fanlight, and a small window located to the north of the door. The addition is covered by an asphalt shingled shed roof.

The present configuration of the storefront was the result of remodeling work done by Roy Beltinck in 1947. The original street level contained a center inset door with large windows on either side. Much of the present appearance of the building is the result of repairs made to the building due to damages sustained when the building to the south was destroyed by fire in 1957. An earlier fire in 1912 caused interior damage to the building, but did not damage the façade. The original façade had a storefront cornice below the existing sillcourse. The second-floor front windows had rounded brick caps with keystones. Also, even with the tops of the windows was a rough cut stone stringcourse. The façade was capped with an ornate cornice with decorative modillions. The partition walls on the second story were removed in 1896, and the entire floor was converted to a hall. The one-story twenty by twenty-four foot addition to the west end of the building was added in 1936.

This building was built by George Dawson in 1890 for his saloon business. Dawson sold to William Wolsey in February 1897. As of May 1899 the store space housed a grocery. James Duncan bought the building in September 1899 and continued the grocery store business. He ran the second-story hall as Duncan Hall for dancing and social gatherings. Some time prior to 1906 Mr. Duncan closed the grocery store and opened a saloon, but in 1909 he converted it back to a grocery store. In May 1912 A. W. Thorpe leased the building and purchased Duncan's grocery stock. Earl Foss leased the building beginning in 1930, and opened a bakery. This was the third bakery opened in the city at that time. In 1936 the Clare Auto Parts Company occupied the newly erected addition on the west end of the building. After forty-two years of ownership the building was sold to Emery McLaughlin by the James Duncan Estate in July 1941. Emery McLaughlin sold the building to Roy N. Beltinck in February 1944 to become his

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Gambles Store. The building was deeded to James, Roy J., and Charles Beltinck by Marion Beltinck in February 1969. James and Charles sold their interest in the building to Roy J. Beltinck at an unknown date, and Roy sold the building to Emerson Hampton in June 1980. By the mid-1980s Charles and Martha Stuckert were operating a furniture store out of this building. Emerson's wife Eileen Hampton sold the building to Charles and Martha Stuckert in June 1996. The Stuckerts sold the building to Roger and Emily Chase in July 1996. The Chases sold it to Bradley and Brittney Humphrey in November 2003. McEwan Street Real Estate purchased the building from the Humphreys in October 2007. The building was sold to Oberloier Smith Properties Inc. in June 2012, and in the same year Ray's Bike Shop began using the building.

Cour., 9/25/1896; *DPress.*, 4/11/1890; 9/2/1890; *Sent.*, 5/14/1909; 5/10/1912; 4/25/1947; 4/25/1957.

429-31 N. McEwan. Clare County Savings Bank (1922); Cowles & Mutscheller, Saginaw, architects; W. J. Morris, Midland, contractor.

This two-story Neoclassical building is clad in brown brick and displays cream-tan hued terra cotta accents on its two street-facing sides. The building stands on a concrete foundation and is covered with a flat roof. While the front has been largely rebuilt since use as a bank ended in 1932, the north side elevation with its Neoclassical elements remains largely intact. The ground story front has been entirely rebuilt and now contains a recessed central entry flanked by smooth EIFS-clad walls that contain a triple fixed window on each side. The entry contains a steel door, with modern cut glass design, flanked by sidelights. The ground story is capped by a simple non-original classical-type limestone or concrete cornice. The front's second story, completely remodeled from the bank's original façade but finished in brown brick similar to that in the side façade, contains four modern triple-unit windows set within a slightly recessed area of brickwork that spans nearly the entire front. The windows rest on stone or cast stone slab sills and have soldier brick caps. Above is the original terra cotta classical entablature and cornice. The brick parapet above has a molded terra cotta cap, its midpoint featuring a raised pedestal flanked by rosette-decorated console brackets, all in terra cotta. Round terra cotta medallions originally positioned in the parapet toward the ends are no longer present.

The longer north side retains most of its historic features in both the first and second stories. Above the concrete foundation the lower walls up to the ground-floor window sills are faced in limestone. The north elevation is divided into three units which consist of single-bay east and west sections that, together occupying slightly less than half the overall frontage, separate a slightly recessed five-bay center section. The recessed center section displays shallow projecting two-story piers, with classical capitals displaying acanthus leaves and egg-and-dart and tongue-and-dart bands, that support a terra cotta entablature that runs across the east and north facades. The first story of the recessed section contains four low fixed sash vinyl windows and a steel framed glass door in the west bay. In the second story above the windows and door are taller four-section vinyl windows, each topped by a decorative terra cotta panel displaying decorative curvilinear leaf forms and other ornament. The east and west end units have window openings on the street level, but the west end window has been bricked in. Above these in the second story are two-section vinyl windows, also topped with decorative terra cotta panels containing the same ornament. The brick parapet above the terra cotta entablature displays a decorative terra cotta rosette in each end unit and has the same molded terra cotta cap as the front.

The west/rear elevation is plain, lacking the street sides' classical finishes, and clad in brown brick. It contains a chimney stack, located toward the south end. The first floor contains three plain steel doors and four double-hung windows with masonry sills and steel bar grills. The second story contains another door with retractable steel stairway. The second story also contains a double-hung window, with masonry sill, on the north end above one of the ground-story doors. The small portion of the exposed south elevation is constructed in a mixture of brown and red brick.

This building was originally designed for use as a bank and had a vault form. An October 28, 1921, *Clare Sentinel* article describes the interior of the building as follows:

Upon entering the building from Main Street we come into the entrance lobby 6x18 feet. After closing the outside door we encounter two more in this space, the first being an iron gate in the

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center and another door in entering the public lobby. At the left is a door which leads to the president's office, also the stairs leading to the offices above. At the right of this will be located the consultation room, but no entrance to this can be made from the lobby. As we pass to the public lobby we find a room 45x50 feet with 22 foot ceilings. To the right is the office of the cashier, while just beyond to the west is the working space of the employees, enclosed with counters artistic gratings. To the left of these is a large spacious space in the center of which will be desks and supplies to the accommodation of the patrons. The desks and counters of this room will be of a pink Tennessee marble as well as four foot of wainscoting. Above this the walls will be finished in a unique panel effect. The floors of the entire building will be of terrazzo covered with linoleum in working places. Back of the public lobby and in the center we find the large vault which extends from the basement up to about 11 feet above the main floor, the basement section to be used for storing valuable papers of the bank. The upper part which opens to the main floor is divided in two sections the north half will be used for depositing money and the south for safety deposit boxes. The entire vault will be burglar proof. To the left of the vault will be found a ladies room at the rear of which is the toilet and storage rooms, while to the right and back of the vault is the customer's room. To the right of the vault the room serves as a passage to the locker and toilet rooms of the bank and the stairway to upper rooms. Here will be situated the directors' room and a small store room for supplies. These will face the public lobby to the east and fitted with pivot swinging windows. The same dark walnut finish will be carried out in these offices.

The building's Neoclassical front was largely rebuilt in 1939. Originally the central third of the façade was recessed and the central entry with its console bracket-supported flat-top classical lintel flanked by terra cotta-clad Ionic columns that ran up to the entablature. Above the entry was a triple-unit window. The column on either side of the recess adjoined a broad slightly projecting pier on either side, and there was a similar pier at each outer corner of the façade. Shallow recesses between the piers on either side each contained a double window in the ground and second stories of the same dimensions as the existing windows around the corner on the north façade, the second-story ones capped by the same ornamental terra cotta panels as the surviving ones on the north elevation. The north elevation's second-story windows in the recessed central section were much longer than the present windows, their sills located nearly at the level of the sills of the present low ground-story windows. A four-sided clock was added to the northeast corner of the building in 1929 but removed in the 1960s (in 2013 a reproduction of the 1929 clock was placed in its original location on the northeast corner of the building). The set of four triple windows on the second-story façade were added and the windows on the north elevation shortened when the building was remodeled in 1939. During this remodeling the street-level front was rebuilt with plate glass windows across the entire façade of the building and an inset door in the center. All the windows on the façade and north elevation were replaced with the present vinyl windows in 1993. The EIFS on the street level façade was added in 2006. The large plate glass windows on the façade had been removed prior to this at an unknown date. The building's second story retains a portion of the original egg-and-dart cornice and plaster medallions from the bank's interior. The basement also contains the Diebold vault door from the building's banking days.

This building was built by the Clare County Savings Bank in 1922 to house their bank business. The property was purchased in 1913 and the bank planned to start construction 1915. Architectural plans were drawn at this time by Cowles & Mutscheller (Clarence Cowles and George Mutscheller) of Saginaw, but the rising cost of building materials caused the delay in construction. The bank fell into receivership during the Depression and was deeded to the receiver, Allen Graham, in 1932. In December 1937 Isaiah Leebove, chairman of the board of the Mammoth Producing and Refining Corporation, purchased the building from Graham. Leebove was murdered at the Doherty Hotel in May 1938 and the property was acquired by Mammoth Producing and Refining in September of the same year. Two months later Cornelius Wood purchased the building. Remodeled, it then housed a Kroger grocery store. In 1948 the building was leased to Marvin Witbeck for his Witbeck IGA grocery store. Marvin Witbeck leased the building for about ten years. During the time a bowling alley was operating in the building's second floor. Witbeck's IGA moved in 1961 to a larger new building on the north end of Clare. Fellers Department Store later leased the building, followed by the Butcher Shop. In 1966 Michigan Bell Telephone Company began leasing the entire first floor. Worldtronic used it for an occupational training school, and it also sat vacant for a while. After the death of Mr. Wood, the owner since 1938, the property was deeded to his son, Cornelius Wood Jr., in July 1977. Ronald and Barbara Kunse purchased it in September 1990. In September 2004 the F.A.C.E. (Facing Alcohol Concerns through

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Education), purchased the property from the Kuneses, and occupied the second story. Currently Wells Fargo Advisors is using the first story south unit, which was vacated by the Clare Chamber of Commerce. Superior Title & Settlement Agency is using the first story north unit, and The Clare County Review newspaper is using the second story.

Sent., 3/14/1913; 8/20/1915; 5/4/1916; 10/28/1921; 7/28/1922; 12/10/1937; 12/9/1938; 6/2/1939; 5/7/1948; 12/7/1961; 4/28/1966; Gerry Witbeck, Interview, 11/11/2009.

501 N. McEwan. Davy and Company Store (1904); George Barrus, Loomis, foundation; Bovey and Wood, Mount Pleasant, brickwork.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial building of Neoclassical inspiration. It has painted brick walls, a stone foundation, and a flat roof. The ten foot deep inset entryway is centered on the façade. A broad and deep central square-plan recess, flanked by large windows, contains the entrance, and it is flanked by large paired wood-framed display windows facing the street on either side. Above is a small wood shingled pent roof and above it a band of low wood panels – the pent roof and paneling together filling the former transom area. The storefront is capped by a cornice with dentil band. The upper façade is divided into two halves by raised brick center and end piers – their Ionic capitals now entirely missing, leaving only simple rectangular forms in their places – that support a tall, slightly raised frieze topped by the main cornice with wide overhang displaying console brackets and a dentil band beneath. Each half of the second story contains a shallow slant-sided oriel window set into an Ionic pilaster and flat-top entablature frame (only one of the four Ionic capitals remains in place). The eastern bay on the broad south, street-facing side façade, outlined by more of the same piers, also displays a single pent roof-topped display window in the ground story and double window, framed by Ionic pilasters (retaining their capitals) and entablature, in the second. The storefront cornice and tall frieze and main cornice continue along the entire south side, and there is another pier at the southwest corner. A broad band of glass-fronted display cases along the south side's west half, topped by a large wood shingle pent roof, projects into the sidewalk area. Five windows on the south elevation's second story are boarded up. Header brick arched caps to now bricked-in basement windows are visible on the building's south elevation. The west elevation is comprised of a north and south half: The north half has segmental-arch-head openings with rowlock caps in the second story. This is because the north portion of this building was constructed at the same time as and was part of the building to the north. The south half displays two square-head double-hung windows in the second story, and three smaller bricked-in windows in the upper portion of the first story. The north half contains a single door with a steel gate which leads to a raised concrete slab loading dock. The loading dock is located on the north half of the west elevation, and extends out into the alley.

This building still retains much of its original appearance, although some changes have occurred. The ten-foot deep entry recess was built, and the entire interior of the building reconstructed after a 1926 fire. The panels covering the transom windows were installed sometime in the late 1960s or early 1970s. The display case on the south elevation was added in 1914, and the windows on that side were bricked up in the 1960s.

This building was constructed in 1904 for Lew E. and Vernal R. Davy for their Davy & Company dry goods and clothing business. This building stands on the site of a wood building at the McEwan/Fourth corner and also includes what was the south third of an older building immediately to the north as its north half. Lew E. Davy was the manager of Clare Davy & Company store here, while his brother Vernal managed the company's Reed City store. In 1910 John H. Wilson bought an interest in Davy & Company and it became the Wilson and Davy Company, selling the same line of goods as previous. In 1924 Lew and Vernal Davy purchased the stock of the Wilson and Davy Company and changed the name to Davy's. At the same time F. L. Fleming purchased Wilson and Davy's shoe department and started the Fleming Shoe Company in the basement of Davy's building. Fleming's Shoe Store operated in this building until it closed in 1962. Vernal Davy sold his interest in the building to his brother Lew in January 1925. A fire in 1926 gutted the building but left the exterior standing. Except for changes to the entrance the newly remodeled building continued to look the same on the outside. Glen C. Folkert purchased the building and business from the Davy Estate in October 1963 and opened the Clare location of his Mill End Stores chain. The building and business were deeded to Folkert's daughters, Deirdre Folkert and Jacklyn Fairbairn, in December 1989. The Mill End Store business closed in 2009. The building is now known as The Venue at 501.

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Sent., 12/24/1903; 5/26 and 12/2/1904; 11/19/1909; 2/11/1910; 8/21/1914; 9/22/1922; 1/8 and 3/12/1926; 2/3/1939; 11/22/1962; 9/12/1963.

505-09 N. McEwan. Mussell/Elden Building (1895). Designed by architect (unnamed) from Saginaw.

This is a two-story, two-storefront commercial building. It has painted brick walls, a stone foundation, and a flat roof. The south half of the building front has a traditional though non-historic wood-trim storefront with recessed slant-sided central entry with glass windows on either side of the door angling out to the façade. The front contains a large plate glass display window on either side of the entry. The front displays low wood bulkheads and a row of transom windows above the door and windows. Wood pilasters with paneled lower sections and incised-detail uppers flank the storefront and support a plain wooden frieze and dentiled classical wooden storefront cornice just below the second-story windows. The second story contains a slant-sided central oriel window, with double-hung windows, with pilasters of simple classical-inspired design separating the windows. A double-hung window, with stone slab sill and molded brick surround, is located on either side of the oriel window. The same cornice extends over the building immediately to the south. An inset doorway to the second story is located between this south and the building's north half.

The north storefront has a rectangular-plan recessed entry at the storefront and building's north end and plate glass display windows flush to the façade to its south. The storefront piers and bulkheads are of what appears to be concrete panels. A flat-top horizontal canopy spanning the storefront is topped by a broad wood paneled signboard area above that rises to the base of the old storefront cornice below the second-story windows. The second story contains a broad central window, replacing another (now removed) oriele window flanked by a double-hung window on either side with stone slab sill and molded brick surround matching 505's.

The brick upper façade above both halves of the front displays a molded brick egg-and-dart band at about mid-level and a projecting modillioned main cornice, with dentil band beneath. The exposed upper part of the north side elevation is faced in a combination of T-111 siding near the front and a thin stucco or cement coating on the rest. The west/rear elevation contains double-hung windows with segmental-arch head windows with rowlock caps. Its first story contains a combination of bricked-in and boarded up window and door openings also with rowlock brick segmental-arch heads.

The present south storefront underwent a major remodeling in 2008 that brought its appearance back to something similar to the original. The oriele window above it lacks the ornamental cresting it once displayed. The north storefront was rebuilt in its present form in 1957; prior to that it looked very similar to the present appearance of the south unit. In 1957 the second story oriel window in the north half was removed for safety reasons. An outside stairway leading to the basement on McEwan Street was removed in 1920. The building retains its Gardner Elevator Company freight elevator, which is located in the building's southwest corner. The south half's second story contains the wall studs and skylights from offices originally located there. In addition, both the north and south halves' first story retain their pressed metal ceilings.

The building was constructed in 1895 as a joint effort between Lew Davy, Robert Mussell, and William Elden. The local newspaper noted the plans for the building were by a Saginaw architect, but did not list the name. The building was originally three storefronts in length, but the southern unit owned by Lew Davy was renovated and combined with his new building to the south in 1904. It was originally intended to be three stories in height, and another unit to the north was planned by Ed White but both never came to be. The present south unit was built by Robert Mussell for use as his drug store, which he relocated from the third building to the north. Robert's wife Anna operated the drug store for many years after Robert's death in 1902. By 1912 Forest Shumway was operating a barber shop in the basement of this unit. After about thirty-three years of business which started at 515 N. McEwan, Mrs. Anna Mussell sold the drug store business in 1916 to Floyd Kirkpatrick. The arrangement must not have lasted long because Mrs. Mussell regained the business and sold it again in 1936. A fire in March 1917 gutted the interior of this unit of the building, but it was rebuilt and in use before the summer of the same year. Anna Mussell sold her drug store business to E. H. Wright in April 1936. In May 1946 Roy Cimmerer purchased the drug store business from Mr. Wright and the part of the building housing it from Anna Mussell and opened his Economy Drug Store. Robert Roy Cimmerer obtained this part of the building in 1983 after his mother's death. The Mill End Store used the

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building from 1985 into the 2000s. Folkerts Coffee Creations purchased this part of the building in December 2007, and Deidre Folkert purchased it in June 2008. Coffee Talk 505 opened in 2009 but closed in 2012. After being vacant for a short time the Revive coffee shop is now using the south unit of the building.

The north section of the building was constructed at the same time as the other two units for William Elden to house his bazaar store. The 1917 fire in the Mussell section burned the roof of this part as well and resulted in extensive water damage. Thomas Holbrook leased this part of the building for his bazaar business prior to the fire and continued after. In 1921 Morgan Grocery replaced it. William Elden continued to own this north section until June 1934 when he sold to his son Norris Elden. Elden sold it in November 1947 to Frances Ellen Hall, Mary Morgan and Anne Marie Danielson. Morgan Grocery closed in September 1948, and in October of the same year Household Appliance Company was leasing the unit. It is unknown when Anne Marie Danielson and Mary Morgan sold their interest in the unit, but Frances Ellen Hall and her husband John sold it in 1953 to A. J. and Helen Doherty II. A. J. Doherty III inherited this part of the building from Helen in March 1957. Doherty sold it to present owner Deirdre Folkert in June 2008. Spider Submissions Gymnasium began leasing the second story of the building in 2009, but vacated it the year after. In 2012 Made with Loving Hands Arts and Craft Consignment Shop became the sole occupant of the north unit of the building.

The photographer L. C. Hulbert in May 1914 took over the photography studio of M. W. Cartwright, but it is unknown which part of the building they occupied. From November 1898 to November 1907 Thurston Undertaking was located on the second floor of the north part. Courier Printing was located in the west end on the second story's south part. When Thurston Undertaking moved out in 1907, the dentist Dr. H. E. Neeland occupied their old office. Later Dr. Sanford and Dr. McKnight also had offices in the second story.

Sent., 2/22, 3/15, 8/23 and 8/30/1895; 11/15/1907; 8/16/1912; 5/8/1914; 6/20/1916; 3/22, 5/24 and 7/19/1917; 8/26/1920; 5/1/1936; 5/28/1937; 9/17/1948; 4/11/1957.

511 N. McEwan. White Jewelry Store (1887).

This small one-story flat-roof commercial building stands on a stone foundation but otherwise retains little of its historic finishes. The front displays painted brick storefront piers and bulkheads. The building has a rectangular-plan recessed entry, with wood door, at the north/right end of the facade. Most of the remainder of the front at the street level is a single wood framed plate glass window. Above the window and door is a wood shingled pent roof, with a fishscale wood shingled gable in its center. The tall upper façade above the pent roof is also sided in fishscale wood shingles. At least the rear half of the building is constructed with concrete block walls. The west/rear elevation contains a lone steel door, and the north elevation contains two low barred windows.

The building was built in a manner that a second story could eventually be added. Joining the building with the Davy/Mussell/Elden building to the south and adding a second story were planned in 1895. This was not done, but instead a ten-foot addition was built on the west end of the building in the same year. Another one-story addition on a concrete slab was constructed between 1910 and 1923. This addition was half the width of the building and was located west of the south end of the building's west side. The building received a final addition sometime after 1934 that brought its west and north sides out to the present dimensions. The present upper front façade with its pent roof was constructed in 1965.

This building was built in 1887 by Ed White to house his jewelry business. White sold his jewelry business to M. D. Ellis in April 1905, but then bought it back from Ellis in July of the next year. Ed's son Carl joined him in the business in December 1913, the business name becoming White and Son. In August 1916 Ed White sold his jewelry business to Cyrus Mummon, who signed a five-year lease on the building. The building was sold to Frank and Margaret McKnight in September 1925. The Johnson Electric Shop occupied the building at an unknown time prior to the Gamble's Store leasing the building in February 1938. In May 1941 Dr. Frank McKnight moved his dental practice here from the second story of the building immediately to the south. The building was remodeled after the death of Dr. McKnight, and in March 1965 Barb Krell opened Barb's Infant and Gift Shop. Margaret McKnight sold the building to Barb and Robert Krell in July 1966. By 1972 the property had been foreclosed on. Kenneth and Patricia Jones purchased it in October 1973. Cloze N-Stuff Women's Apparel operated in the building from the mid-

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1970s to the early 1990s. The Joneses owned the building until August 1994 when they sold it to Sandra Bailey. Edward, Ramona, and Linda Prichkaitis purchased the building in April 1996 for their Drapery Boutique business. The Prichkaitises owned it until November 2007, when they sold to present owners, Lawrence and Linda Witbeck. Radio Shack is the present occupant.

CHSY., 1967; 1975; 1989-1991; *Dem.*, 3/11/1887; *Sen.*, 2/22 and 6/14/1895; 4/21/1905; 7/6/1906; 12/26/1913; 6/1/1916; 2/25/1938; 5/9/1941; 3/11 and 6/10/1965.

513 N. McEwan. Bogardus Building (1916).

This is a one-story, one-part commercial building. Its storefront piers and upper façade are built of brown brick, and the building has a concrete foundation and flat roof. The ground-floor storefront is faced in rock-face random ashlar stonework in a range of hues from grayish-white to pink and mauve. The entrance to the building is through a deeply recessed aluminum framed door in the façade's north end. Four small display windows, separated by stonework, are set into the façade south of the door. One is located in the entry recess that angles out to the façade, while the other three are set flush with the front wall plane. Above the window and door a large modern canvas awning conceals a wood framed asphalt shingled hipped pent roof. Also concealed by the canvas awning in the upper façade is concrete lettering that spells out "S BOGARDUS" in the center of the dark brick. The west elevation is constructed of concrete blocks and contains a single steel door with a double-hung window to the north of the door.

The building front was substantially altered around 1965 when the stonework and present display windows were installed. The present entry occupies its historic location at the façade's north end. The interior retains its original pressed metal ceiling with egg-and-dart molding.

This building was constructed in 1916 by Simon Bogardus for his grocery store business. Bogardus operated his store for an unknown time, and then his son-in-law N. L. Tibbils operated a jewelry store here until 1941. In August 1941 Consumers Power Company began leasing the building. Eva Bogardus deeded the building to her daughter Hilda Tibbils in August 1945. Howard Evert leased the building for his jewelry business beginning in November 1957, after Consumers Power relocated. Howard Evert purchased the building from Hilda Tibbils in December 1965, installing the present stone front. Lawrence Evert obtained the property in August 1974, and continued the Everts Jewelry business. The present owner, Rodger Hicks, continues the jewelry business under the Hick's Jewelers name. He purchased the building in November 1987, but leased it as early as 1984.

CHSY., 1964; 1975; 1980; 1994; *Sent.*, 6/1 and 6/28/1916; 8/1/1941; 11/28/1957.

515. C. B. Wood Building (1942).

This is a one-story, Commercial Brick building, faced in orange-tan brick and topped by a flat roof. The aluminum framed door is located in a square-plan recess, with angled outer corners, at the north/right end of the front. The rest of the front between the corner piers contains plate glass display windows above the brick bulkheads. There are no transom windows above the windows and door. The tall upper facade contains a shallow recessed brick area flanked by the piers and topped by a corbelled brick detail and frieze below a concrete slab cap. The west/rear and south side elevations are constructed of concrete block. The west elevation contains one steel door in the center with a double-hung window to the south and a small casement window to the north. A highly decorative colored glass tile mosaic was added to the building's west elevation in 2012.

This building was likely entirely constructed in the spring of 1942, though there is some question about whether it, or only the present façade, was new then. Mammoth Producing Corporation was the first business to lease the building in 1942. Russ's Record Shop was operating in the building in the late 1960s-early 1970s. Sometime between the Mammoth and Russ's occupations, the Michigan Consolidated Gas Company used the building. The property was deeded to Winston and Neil Wood in September 1990. The Woods sold to Rose Coon in August 1993, then sold to Robert Coon and Patricia Tyler in September 1996. The building was sold to Kenneth Plonski and Brenda Harshman in October 1996, but then deeded back to Coon and Tyler in November 2001. Mary Faith Lund bought the building in February 2002 and sold it to James Grawey in August 2005. In August 2005 Debra Gadberry

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purchased the building. In the mid 2000s the building was being used by Rustic Creations, and prior to that Fantastique Bridal and Formal Wear store was operating here. The present owners, Thomas and Kim Kleinhardt, purchased the building in May 2009. The Kleinhardts opened their 515 Gallery in late 2010.

CHSY., 1972; *Sent.*, 7/3/1942; 5/25/1967; 5/22/1970.

517 N. McEwan. Lossing Building (1886).

Clad in enameled steel panels, this one-story, one-part commercial building stands on a stone foundation and has a flat roof. The front entrance is within a broad slant-sided recess located slightly off-center toward the façade's north/right end. Large aluminum-trim display windows spanning the front between metal panel strips edging the façade rest on low maroon metal panel bulkheads. The edge strips and tall upper façade are faced in pale yellow metal panels except for a triple strip of maroon that runs vertically about halfway up the upper façade from near its north end, then angles west horizontally across the façade to near the south edge, then runs vertically again up to a broad maroon band spanning the parapet below its cap. The west/rear elevation and the small visible section of the south side elevation are constructed of concrete blocks. A steel door is centered on the west elevation with two eight light windows on either side of the door.

The original building on this site had two stories. In 1886 the two-story building was moved back to the west and a new one-story front section added to the east facing McEwan Street. This façade had a similar appearance to the building immediately to the south at that time. It had an inset center doorway with angled glass windows extending out on both sides of the door and display windows to either side. The front had transom windows above the door and windows, and a dentil cornice above the transom windows. Sometime between 1906 and 1910 the two-story section of the building was either lowered to or replaced by a one-story structure. The present façade of the building was constructed sometime in late 1947 and early 1948. An opening to the building to the north was constructed in the winter of 2012.

The original building on this site could have been built as early as 1871. It was a two-story building that was later moved to the west and the present one-story structure added to it in 1886. This one-story section was added while Dorothy Lossing owned the building. Ed White leased the building for his jewelry business in 1886, but then moved to his new building three doors to the south the next year. Mrs. Lossing owned the building until February 1888 when she sold it to Martha Mason. In July 1889 Martha Mason sold the building to Theo Boge for his shoe and boot repair business. Theo Boge left Clare in October 1891, selling the building to Edward Waller in February 1894. Between 1891 and 1914 the building housed a shoe repair shop. D. Crouse ran the shop in 1905-07, and William Lange from then until 1914. Edward Waller sold the building to Allen E. Mulder in August 1905. Thomas Lynch purchased the building from Mulder in May 1914 and owned it until May 1916 when he sold to Arthur Dorney. Dorney sold the building to James Bicknell in August 1919. Bicknell owned the building for eight months, selling it in April 1920 to Jonathan Jones, who sold it twenty days later to Thomas Holbrook. Prior to Thomas Holbrook's purchase W. F. Broderick was leasing the building. Mr. Holbrook moved his bazaar business here from the Mussell/Elden Building four doors to the south. In 1947 Bliss and Fisher opened The Vogue Dress Shop in the east end of the building, while the American Beauty Shop operated in the west end. The building was remodeled in its present form about this time. Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Rosier bought The Vogue Dress Shop in July 1949. They sold in July 1953 to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Spenny, who continued the ladies apparel business. In 1955 Jean's Dress Shop, owned by Jean Makin, was operating in the building. Thomas Holbrook's wife Cora sold the building in January 1958 to Donald and Octavia Jones. By April of the same year Jones Floor Covering was operating out the building. Jackson Mair purchased the building in December 1982 and owned it until April 1992 when it was purchased by John Seibt. At the same time ownership of the building transferred to Willard Bell. Karen's Bridal Gallery and Boutique leased the building from the late 1980s to the early 1990s. In May 1994 Willard Bell transferred ownership back to John Seibt. The next month Victor and Patty Lemm purchased the building. Aaron Lund bought the building in March 2001, and sold it to Meng Mei Wong and Ling Li Wong in October 2003 for their Panda Chinese Restaurant. The Cops and Doughnuts Bakery purchased the building in December 2011 and began using it in the winter of 2012 for the restaurant part of the business.

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CPress., 4/29/1887; *CHSY.*, 1960; 1971; 1989; 1993; *Dem.*, 12/31/1886; *DPress.*, 10/2/1886; *Sent.*, 2/22/1907; 2/10/1913; 2/27/1914; 6/3 and 6/24/1920; 10/10/1947; 2/20/1948; 7/8/1949; 7/10/1953; 6/2/1955; 7/18/1957; 4/3/1958.

521 N. McEwan. Foss Bakery (1907); Clark and Son, builders.

This is a two-story, two-part commercial building. It has white painted brick walls, a stone foundation, and a flat roof. The 1960s ground story storefront has a rectangular-plan recessed entry near the south/left end that contains both a front-facing store door, flanked by large vertical windows, and a second-story door in the entry's south side. North of the entry is a large display window. The bulkheads, a brick pier to the front's right, and left-hand enclosure for the second-story stairway are faced in stacked brickwork. Above the windows and door is a section of vertical tongue-and-groove wood siding that is covered by a cloth awning. The second story of the building front features raised piers, with dentil-trimmed stone caps, that divide the façade into two bays and support an entablature with corbelled and dentil brickwork lower and upper edges separating a smooth frieze. The front is capped by a simple wooden classical cornice, with modillion band beneath. The second story contains two sets of paired double-hung windows set into shallow segmental-arch-head recesses between the piers. The recesses' caps are each formed of an inner strip of alternately projecting and recessed soldier bricks framed by an outer strip of raised rowlocks. The lower ends of the caps rise from a cut stone beltcourse that spans the parts of the front between the piers and windows. The west/rear elevation's first story is a 1922 addition with brick and concrete block walls. A steel door is located at the north corner with two double-hung paired windows to the south and a single small fixed sash window at the south corner. The addition has a flat roof with an eave supported by plain timber brackets. The south elevation of the building above the adjacent building is constructed of painted brick.

The building's second-story front still appears as it did when it was originally constructed. The original street level façade had recessed entries at the north and south ends, with plate glass windows between, and transom windows above. In 1922 a twenty-five by thirty-five foot addition was constructed on the west end of the building. The present street-level storefront was constructed in 1961. In 2009 an opening was created to the building immediately to the north, and an additional opening was constructed to the building to the south in 2012. The building retains its historic freight elevator, an American Radiator Company coal burning boiler, and about thirty pieces of historic bakery equipment.

This building has always contained a bakery. It was constructed in 1907 for J. E. Foss' bakery business. In March 1941 the sons of Jennie Foss (J. E. Foss's wife), Earl and Ernest Foss, took over the operation of the business and ownership of the building. Earl sold his interest in the building in December 1959. Charles Palshan purchased the business from Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Foss in March 1965. Ernest Foss had been involved in the operations of the bakery since 1916. Charles Palshan and his wife Maxine leased the building from 1965 until August 1986 when they purchased it. They sold it in April 1991 to Kenneth Mackenzie. Mitzi Mitchell purchased the building from Mackenzie in May 2001 and owned it until March 2006 when she sold to Antoinette Jablonski. In July 2009 Jablonski leased the building to a group of nine Clare city police officers, who changed the name from Clare City Bakery (which it had been called since at least the late 1940s) to the Cops & Doughnuts Bakery. Cops & Doughnuts, which purchased the building in August 2010, has become an important institution and stopping point for travelers passing through Clare.

Sent., 8/30, 11/1 and 12/6/1907; 10/27/1922.

523. Rhoades Block (1908); E. B. Gorr, Clare, architect; William Holbrook, Clare, masonry; Geek Brothers, Clare, contractors.

This one-part commercial building has only a single story, even though it is almost as tall as the two-story building immediately to the south. Its walls are constructed of dark brown Saginaw paving brick, and it stands on a stone foundation and has a flat roof. The storefront features an off-center slant-sided deeply recessed entry flanked by large display windows set in mid-20th-C. metal frames. Diagonal tongue-and-groove wood siding covers added in 1983 clads the window bulkheads. The storefront is capped by prism glass transoms. Raised piers treated as quoins, with a single recessed course of brick to every four raised courses, edge the façade and are capped by Ionic capitals

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of simplified, abstract design and support a raised brick frieze and console bracket-decorated metal cornice. The brickwork in the upper façade above the storefront and below the entablature displays a large masonry keystone in its top center below the raised entablature and contains a central rectangular panel of stacked brickwork, with alternate bricks slightly recessed from the wall surface. This brickwork surrounds a masonry plaque displaying the "RHOADES BLOCK" name in raised letters. Centrally positioned above the cornice is a framed brick section of parapet with a masonry block reading "1908." A single story 1949 addition on the west end of the building is constructed with tan brick walls and has a flat roof. The north end of the west elevation contains a door and a similar sized boarded-over opening. Both are topped with pedimented hoods. One small six-light window is located to the north of the openings, and two small double-hung windows are located to the south. The west elevation of the main section's second story contains a projecting shed roof. The south elevation's second story is finished in painted brick, while the north elevation's first story is covered with newer brown brick.

This building appears almost exactly as it did when it was originally constructed, the only difference being the diagonal tongue-and-groove wood siding, which was added in 1983, below the shop windows, which replaced paneled sections. The front roofline also displayed balustrades located to the north and south of the "1908" masonry block. These were taken down sometime in the late 1930s or early 1940s. The twenty by twenty-four foot addition was constructed on the west end of the building in 1949. The north side of the building was bricked over after the Dunlop Building to the north burned in the late 1970s. In 2009 an opening was created through the walls of this building and the building immediately to the south. The building retains its original metal ceiling. The basement's east wall shows the bricked over opening which once was the coal chute located on McEwan Street.

The pressed metal ceiling was a product of the Eller Manufacturing Company of Canton, Ohio, and its components are listed as being Colonial in style (with one exception) in the company's 1910 catalog. The ceiling is formed from the following components: Cove model No. 1813, with what appears to be Inside Leaf No. 51 and Mitre Leaf No. 51 ½ at angles; Panel No. 432, twenty-four by twenty-four inches; Panel No. 433, twelve by twenty-four inches, and Panel No. 434, twelve by twelve inches; and Gothic Filler No. 855 around the edges next to the cove.

This building was constructed in 1908 by Andrew Rhoades for the purpose of housing his grocery store business. It replaced a wood frame building that was destroyed by fire in 1907. Mr. Rhoades operated his grocery store until December 1917. The following month B. H. Demarest leased the building for his Demarest Cash Bargain Store. In December 1920 Andrew Rhoades sold the building to William Bicknell, who owned it until 1968. From 1931 to 1939 the Chaffee Grocery was operating here. In June 1939 Lyle Smith leased the building for his Modern Food Market business, in April 1941 Murl Houghton for his Houghton Drug Store business, and in July 1965 Charles Clark for his Clark Drugs business. William Bicknell sold the building to Edward Hardy in April 1968 and he owned it until November 1976 when he sold to Charles Clark. Downtown Drugs was leasing the building in 1982 and operated well into the 1990s. William Barz purchased the building in December 1984 and Kevin Stevens bought it in April 2008 for his Kevin's Carpet business. This business closed the same year and the building was deeded back to William Barz. In August 2009 the Cops and Doughnuts business, which is located in the building immediately to the south, purchased the building to sell its line of apparel and gifts.

CHSY, 1958; 1964; 1982; 1989; 1996; *Sent.*, 10/9/1908; 12/13/1917; 1/10 and 1/24/1918; 11/13/1931; 6/2/1939; 4/4/1941; 4/23/1949; 7/15/1965; Eller Mfg. Co., *Eller's "Perfect-Fit" Steel Ceilings. Catalog No. 20, 34, 86, 125, 150, 165.*

525 N. McEwan. Her Place (1985). Non-Contributing.

This is a one-story, one part commercial building that rests on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof. The broad front displays a wide central slant-sided recess containing two doors separated by a brick pier, with steel framed glass doors. Plate glass windows on either side of the doors angle out to the face of the façade and an additional wide display window is located to the north and south of the entry. The recessed entry is deep and broad enough that the size of the windows in the recess and to either side are the same. The storefront is capped by a tall hipped asphalt shingled pent roof. The long street-facing north side elevation is faced in brick matching the front below a vinyl-clad upper section the same height as the front's pent roof. It contains one steel framed glass door and one adjoining steel framed fixed sash window. The west (rear) elevation is constructed of concrete block with a lone single-light metal

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door. The area above the door and on the exposed south elevation is covered in vertical tongue-and-groove wood siding. The building has not seen any change to its appearance since its original construction. This building replaced the Dunlop building (Clare's first brick building), which burned in the 1970s.

This building was constructed in 1985 by Willard Koch to house Her Place women's clothing store. Willard Koch continues to own the building, and his son Tom Koch and his wife operate the business.

Sent., 7/31/1985

601-05 N. McEwan. Dunwoodie Building (1907). E. B. Gorr, Clare, architect; Barris and Linsea, builders.

This is a broad-fronted one-story, one-part commercial building. The building is divided into three units, all three fronting on McEwan Street. It is sided with a combination of brick and wood siding, stands on a stone foundation and has a flat roof. The south and middle units have a uniform finish and are sided with vertical tongue-and-groove wood siding and have aluminum framed glass doors and windows. Above the doors and windows is a canvas awning. The area above the awning along with the upper part of the building's south elevation are covered with vertical tongue and groove siding. The north unit, a separate store, is sided with brick above the aluminum framed glass windows and door and has rock-face random ashlar stonework bulkheads and pier bases, added in 1954. The whole building front is capped with a non-original cornice, with pronounced dentil band, which continues along the south, street-facing side elevation. The street level section of the building's south elevation is finished in whitish brick. Its base displays segmental-arch heads for basement windows that have been bricked in (only the brick arches are now visible above sidewalk level). The south façade's second story is now faced in vertical wood siding like the front and contains five square-plan windows located just above the brick ground story. These windows were covered for a number of years. A doorway at the west end of the south elevation, along with a display window to its east, are capped by an asphalt shingled pent roof. The west elevation of the building is divided into three sections. The south third is faced in vertical tongue-and-groove siding and has a metal shed roof awning. The center section shows the original appearance of the west elevation with a door opening on the north end of the section with two short windows to the south, all set in segmental-arch-head openings capped by heads formed by three rowlock courses. The door opening is boarded over on the lower portion and contains a window above. The north section is sided with vertical corrugated steel and contains a door at the south end. The building's south and center units retain their original pressed metal ceilings. The middle unit retains the platform, located above the door, at the east end of the first floor which was used for the movie projector when it was used as a theater. The basement of the south unit contains the walls which housed the library in the 1950s.

This building was constructed in 1907 by James Dunwoodie as a multi-unit retail building. The center unit was originally leased to J. Gardner for a music store, and the north unit was leased to Mr. Thurston for his picture framing, undertaking, and cabinet business. The center unit housed a clothing store by 1910 and, by 1916, the Princess Theater. In April 1909 Frank Ballinger leased the south unit for his grocery store business. In August of the same year William Ryan purchased Ballinger's grocery business. The south unit was vacant in 1910, but prior to 1916 Simon Bogardus leased it. The Consolidated Light and Power Co., run by F. B. Doherty, moved into either the south or center unit in April 1912. F. E. Doherty had a vulcanizing business in the basement of this building that he relocated to another building in July 1913. The building was sold to William Caple after the death of Mr. Dunwoodie in 1916. From 1916 to 1922 Caple began selling the three units.

Caple sold the south unit to Norris J. Brown only five days after he purchased the building. Brown deeded the property to his son, Wells Brown, in September 1920. Wells Brown sold this unit to Murl Houghton in June 1937 for his Clare Drug Company business. Prior to this, the unit housed the A & P Tea Co. store. In September 1945 Mr. Houghton leased the unit to Miss Louise Loeffler for her Louise's Flower and Gift Shop. Prior to her lease, it was used by James Hoskins, owner of Jim's Recreation. William and Dorothy Maxwell purchased this unit in October 1971, but began leasing it as early as 1958 for their Maxwell Flowers business, which remains the occupant today. They sold to Ronald & Barbara Künse in April 1992. Carolyn Murphy, purchased this unit in January 1997. Currently the Clare Candy Company is using the west end of this unit, while Maxwell Flowers and Gifts continues to use the east end.

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The center unit was purchased in April 1922 by John Asline. Asline, whose Princess Theater opened in this location by 1916, continued his Princess Theater business here until he opened his newly constructed Ideal Theater immediately to the north in 1930. Mr. Asline sold the center unit in August 1936 to Roy Cimmerer, who opened a tavern here. His Wild Bill's Pub was located here until 1974. Roy's wife Minerva sold the unit to William & Carol Carlton in April 1978. The Carltons sold to William and Dorothy Maxwell in June 1978, but the Maxwells were using the building as early as 1975 and also for a time in the 1950's. Maxwell Flowers has been operating out of the south and center units ever since. They sold to Ronald & Barbara Kunse in April 1992. The present owner, Carolyn Murphy, purchased this unit in January 1997. The center unit was formerly occupied by Friends and Coffee coffee shop, but is now used by Brewin' on McEwan micro-brewery and restaurant.

Cable sold the north unit to William Reardon in August 1919. In April 1921 the Thurston Undertaking business moved out to a larger location and Charles Gould of Gould Undertaking Co. began leasing this unit. William Reardon sold the unit to Levi Cimmerer in July 1921. In November 1921 Gould Undertaking Co. was renamed the Friz Undertaking Co. Andrew Friz purchased this part of the building in March 1926 and at the same time also purchased the stock and undertaking business of Charles Gould. Friz leased the unit to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ramey, owners of the Ramey 5¢ to \$5.00 Store, in December 1941. Andrew Friz owned the unit until August 1945 when he sold it to Carl Schmitt. In November 1949 Ernie Bryant and Neilan Credit's The Sports Shop began operating out of this unit. The unit was leased to the Moyer's Store in December 1951. In April 1954 Carl Schmitt sold it to Dr. John White, who used it for his optometry practice. Dr. White owned the unit until April 1971 when he sold it to its present owner, Dr. Alan Scott.

The basement of the building under the south unit contained the Clare Public Library from November 1950 until 1961. The Yarn Mart began to lease the former library space in November 1962, and it was then leased by Bob Chapman for his copying business in October 1966.

CHSY., 1950; 1951; 1958; 1974; 1985; *Cour.*, 6/14/1907; *Sent.*, 5/7, 7/26 and 11/1/1907; 4/16 and 8/27/1909; 4/19/1912; 7/18/1913; 1/20/1916; 4/17/1919; 4/28 and 11/14/1921; 3/26/1937; 12/12/1941; 8/31 and 9/28/1945; 11/11/1949; 11/10/1950; 12/14/1951; 7/16/1954; 8/31/1961; 11/15/1962; 10/20/1966.

607-09 N. McEwan. Ideal Theater (1930). R. V. Gay, St. Johns, architect; Roeske Wobig, Saginaw, contractor.

This is a two-story movie theater building with a front faced in brown brick. It stands on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof. The building's front is divided into two sections, a slightly broader south one containing the theater entrance and a north unit that contains a storefront. The north store space occupies only a small portion of the building footprint at its northeast corner. The brick upper façade is Commercial Brick in "style" with the three slightly projecting broad piers at the façade ends and center each containing, slightly above window lintel level, a small vertical panel of stacked headers outlined by slightly projecting stacked headers on either side and vertical strips of them above and below each panel, rising six bricks up toward the parapet and running down all the way to the base of the second story. The second-story window areas in each section of the front are slightly recessed beneath the broad brick frieze that spans them between the piers, and two bands of dentil-like brickwork, the lower of rowlocks, the upper of soldiers, span the recessed areas above the windows. Each side contains three windows (some of the windows closed in) separated by strips of brickwork. The windows rest on concrete slab sills and are outlined by slightly raised vertical header strips on either side and slightly raised alternating rowlock and soldier bricks on top that mesh with the rowlock dentil-like band directly above. The frieze's lower edge in each section is formed of a horizontal band of soldier brick. The parapet has a concrete slab cap, and displays a three step high raised section in the center of the theater portion of the façade. The north elevation of the building is clad with brown brickwork on the west half and light tan brickwork on the east half. The west and south elevations are covered with the same light tan brickwork.

The present ground-floor movie theater façade, presumably dating from a renovation done in the 1940s or early 1950s, is Moderne in style. The theater entrance comprises three aluminum framed glass doors, with a side light to the north, all set within a broad slant-sided recess between enameled metal panel-faced walls containing display cases for movie posters, two on each side. Projecting over the sidewalk above the entry is a blue-green, yellow,

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orange, and white-colored triangular-footprint metal marquee illuminated by bulbs and neon lighting. The marquee is topped in each face by a yellow metal sign panel containing raised, neon-lit letters spelling out the theater name, IDEAL.

The ground-story storefront to the north has a deeply recessed entry at the left (south) and display windows facing the entry and street. An angled plate glass window extends from the door and meets another plate glass window on the façade. The window bulkheads and north corner pier are faced in whitish rubble stonework, which has been in place since at least 1961, while the wooden door, with large glass light, and metal window trim appear to date from c. 1950 or a little earlier. A wood shingled pent roof overhangs the storefront's street-level façade.

This building was constructed in 1930 for John Asline. Mr. Asline owned the Princess Theater in the center unit of the building immediately to the south, but was looking for a larger building to house his movie theater business. Continuing the theater business, James Olson leased the theater in November 1933. Olson bought the building from John Asline in December 1938. Russ' Record Shop was leasing the store space in 1961, and was located there until the mid-1960s. In July 1969 Arthur Damoth moved his real estate agency into the store space. The theater was closed for approximately one year prior to October 1968. At that time mayor and service station owner Willard Koch, Carl Stephenson, owner of Stephenson Funeral Home, and E. C. Shurlow, osteopathic physician and operator of the Clare Nursing Home, purchased and reopened the Ideal. Stephenson and Shurlow eventually sold their interests in the theater, but Willard Koch retains ownership of it to the present, and the operations are directed by his son, Tom Koch. The store space (north unit) has had many short lived businesses. It is currently occupied by Covet Cut and Color, which opened here in March 2012.

CHSY., 1961; *Sent.*, 3/21 and 5/30/1930; 10/1/1964; 10/23/1968; 7/30/1969.

611 N. McEwan. R. J. Whitney House (1873).

This is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gable former house with subsidiary front gable and broad one-story rear wing. It is clad with vinyl siding, and topped by an asphalt shingle roof. The main front mass of the building stands on a stone foundation, while the addition on the west end of the building has a concrete foundation. The building front contains a modern storefront with a recessed slant-sided central entry fronted by a set of three steps. The bottom two steps are semi-circular while the top step has a straight front. Display windows on tall wood bulkheads flank the entry. The north window is flush with the upper façade, while the south window is a three-sided bay window with wood piers which extend from the ground to the tops of the windows. The window was ornamented with three leaf clover motifs when the store occupant was the Leprechaun Shop gift store. A hipped wood shingled pent roof spans the entire facade above the storefront. A moderately pitched front gable is centered in the façade and extends across the center two-thirds of the building. The north and south elevations contain gabled ends with double-hung windows on the second story. A broad and deep one-story gable-roof addition is located on the west end of the building. Its west end has a centered steel door with a circle light. To its north is a low horizontal fixed sash window whose top is nearly even with the top of the door.

This building has seen some change over its history but its basic character remains evident. The predominant feature of the building is its side-gable roof with subsidiary front-facing gable present from the building's construction. The original structure was the gabled section closest to McEwan Street. Whether or not the one-story rear section is original is not known, but it is shown in the 1884 birdseye view. In 1905 the present stone foundation was placed under the house. Other than the removal and addition of a porch on the façade, the building did not change until 1953. At that time the porch was removed and larger windows installed on the façade. The present appearance of the building was due to a major renovation in 1995. That is when the street-level storefront was constructed, and the one-story addition on the west end was expanded.

This building was constructed in 1873 by R. J. Whitney. It was built to be used as a residence, but it is unclear if this was Whitney's primary residence. The property was sold to George Bellnap in June 1873 and sold by Bellnap to Peter Callam in November 1878. Alfred J. and Alice Doherty purchased the building in May 1879. This was the first home that the Dohertys owned after arriving in Clare. They lived there until May 1883, when they began renting to William Goodman. A. J. and Alice Doherty owned the house until August 1883 when they sold it to Elizabeth

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Phinisey. Mrs. Phinisey died in approximately 1888 and left the house to her daughter, Ova Phinisey. Ova married Floyd Kane in 1904 and they sold the house to Thomas Holbrook in May 1905. Isaac Hampton purchased the house in March 1916 and sold it to William Caple in January 1917. Up until this point the building was used as a residence, but Caple used it for his insurance and real estate business. In September 1921 Mr. Caple sold his business to the Clare Insurance and Realty Company, which purchased the building in December of the same year. The building was next purchased by Mabel Lockwood in June 1928. Dr. Burton Sanford purchased the building in April 1931 and along with Dr. F. C. Sanford moved his medical practice here in February 1934. In December 1952 W. James Olson purchased the building and the next month began leasing it to Arthur Damoth for his real estate and insurance business. The Damoth Agency was purchased in 1958 by Bernard Wyman of the Mount Pleasant Agency in January 1958, and the name was eventually changed to the United Agency in 1960. Arthur Damoth purchased the building in November 1963 along with Donald Holbrook and Anne Irene Olson. James Sykora bought it in March 1971. The Central Michigan Travel Agency, owned by Joe Cascarelli, began leasing the building in August 1973 and eventually purchased it in November 1985. Julia Cascarelli bought the building in December 1986 but sold it to Edward Kosciuszko in December 1988. It was foreclosed on in February 1989. The present owner, Steven and Kristi Gollish, purchased the building in January 1990. The Leprechaun Shop gift shop, which was owned by the Gollishes, operated out of the building in the 1990s and early 2000s. After the Leprechaun Shop closed, the building was leased to Gates Computer and Gaming, which operated for a short time in the mid-2000s. The building since has had several renters which have all used the building for a short time. The current business, Kap's Koins coin shop, started using the building in 2013.

CHSY., 1961; *Sent.*, 5/27/1883; 10/28/1904; 5/26/1905; 1/18/1917; 9/30/1921; 2/2/1934; 1/2 and 3/13/1953; 1/16/1958; 7/7/1960; 8/22/1973.

613 N. McEwan. White House Restaurant (1935); Kern Brothers, builders.

This is a narrow-fronted and deep, one-story gable-front commercial building and stands on a concrete foundation. It has vertical wood board-and-batten siding and has a red metal sheeting roof. The entryway to the building is located through a doorway on the north end of the façade. To its south is a plate glass window, with flower box below. A hip-roof canopy, supported on squared-off brackets, spans the front above the door and window. An open latticework metal stanchion projecting outward over the sidewalk from below the gable peak houses sign panels displaying the words OPEN and HAMBURGERS in neon lighting, and a second projecting sign located over the door displays the White House Restaurant name. Slightly narrower gable-roof rear extensions telescope out behind the front section. The front two sections are faced in vertical wood board-and-batten siding, the rear section in horizontal synthetic siding. The building's north side has a set of three double hung windows with wood shutters and window boxes in the front section. Across the north side of the property is a narrow garden area fronted by a white picket fence at the sidewalk line.

Other than the two additions to the west end of the building the structure has changed little since its original construction. The first eight by ten foot addition which is immediately to the west of the main section was constructed in 1937. Another small addition for restrooms on the building's west end was added at an unknown date. The metal roof was installed in the 2010s.

This building was constructed in 1935 on property owned by Thomas Holbrook. The diner was first operated by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schultz. From 1935 to the present this building and an adjacent house that was located to the northwest have been sold together as a unit. The adjacent house was destroyed by fire in 2013. Holbrook owned the property until September 1939 when he sold it to Curtis and Dolores Hearnes. The property was deeded to Dolores Hearnes in June 1952 through her divorce from Curtis. Dolores Hearnes eventually remarried and became Dolores Kuhlman. Benjamin & Joan Harrell purchased the property from Dolores Kuhlman in November 1991. They sold to William and Monica Baranski in September 1995. The present owner, Denise Jenks, purchased the property from the Baranskis in October 2003.

Sent., 9/17/1937; Denise Jenks, Interview, 8/19/2009; John Jabour, Interview, June 2011.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture

Architecture

Commerce

Entertainment / Recreation

Industry

Politics/Government

Social History

Period of Significance

1873-1965

Significant Dates

1873 First existing buildings within district constructed

1887 Construction of first Italianate building

1904 Construction of first Classical Revival buildings

1924 Completion of Doherty Hotel construction

1934 First Modern building constructed, City Hall

1937 Post Office construction completed

1961 US-27 bypass constructed around Clare

1965 50-year cutoff under National Register criteria

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Alfred J. Doherty I

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

W.T. Cooper, Saginaw, Architect

William H. Harper, Clare, Architect

R.V. Gay, St. Johns, Architect

Louis A. Simon, Washington D.C., Architect

O. M. Sutherland, Clare, Architect

Bogart, Saginaw, Architect

Haug & Scheurman, Saginaw, Architect

Bond Hubbard Company, Chicago, Architect and Builder

Fred Hollister, Saginaw, Architect

Clarence Cowles, Saginaw, Architect

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George Mutscheller, Saginaw, Architect
E.B. Gorr, Clare, Architect
Frank Roberts, Builder
House, Oles and Bailey, Marion, Builder
Sanford Mott, Builder
Herb Randall, Civilian Works Administration Supervisor
D.W. Osborn, Civilian Works Administration Supervisor
Terry Scheringer, Mount Pleasant, Builder
David Mair, Builder
Spence Brothers, Saginaw, Builders
Straus Masonry, Weidman, Builder
E.E. Buckner, Builder
H.W. Pierce and Sons, Builders
Walter Petit, Builder
John Robert Mester, Builder
Harold Moline, Builder
Marchiando and Rau, Mount Pleasant, Builders
D.J. Fox, Builder
A.A. Shaver, Builder
William J. Morris, Midland, Builder
O.W. Jenkins Company, Builders
Seiter Brothers, Clare, Builders
W.J. Morris, Midland, Builder
George Barrus, Loomis, Builder
Bovey and Wood, Mount Pleasant, Builders
Clark and Son, Builders
William Holbrook, Clare, Builder
Geek Brothers, Clare, Builders
Barris and Linsea, Builders
Roeske Wobig, Saginaw, Builder
Kern Brothers, Builders
Brewer-Bouchey Monument Co., Saint Louis

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Clare Downtown Historic District meets national register criterion A at the local level for serving over the years from the late nineteenth century to the 1960s and later as Clare's commercial center, offering stores, banks, hotels, and professional offices; its governmental center, the location of city hall and the post office; and its social and recreation/entertainment focal point, with standing buildings that housed lodge halls and entertainment spaces, including an opera house and movie theaters. The district also meets criterion A for its association with the area's agriculture through the elevator and various stores that served the agricultural community and its associations with the area's oil and natural gas industry during the early years of the industry from around 1930 to the 1960s. The district also has significance under criterion B for four buildings that are directly associated with Alfred J. Doherty, a businessman and community leader who played a direct and key role in a broad range of projects and activities to improve the city from the 1880s until his death in the 1920s. The district also meets criterion C for its variety of late-nineteenth and early and mid-twentieth-century architecture that includes public buildings and a church as well as commercial buildings. The district is particularly rich in commercial buildings of Neoclassical-inspired design but also contains notable Late Victorian, Commercial Brick, and International style/Mid-century Modern buildings.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Founding of Clare

The Huron, Ojibwa, and Ottawa Indians preceded white settlers in what is now Clare, Michigan. Although they never settled here they did use this and the surrounding area for hunting. When the Isabella County Indian Reservation was created in 1855 near what is now Mount Pleasant to the south, the Isabella-Houghton Lake Indian Trail was also carved out. The trail was used to travel from the Chippewa River in Isabella County to the south to Houghton Lake farther north in the northern Lower Peninsula. This trail would eventually become part of what is known today as Old US-27, and it traveled through the future downtown Clare.

The future site of Clare remained a wilderness into the 1860s. The area contained large stands of white pine, and this drew the attention of lumbermen beginning in the 1860s. On September 1, 1863, Ammi W. Wright, a leading lumberman from Saginaw, purchased land that included what is now the part of the downtown district east of the present day McEwan Street. Five months later, on February 10, 1864, Bay City lumberman William McEwan purchased two tracts of land located on what is now the west side of McEwan Street. Ammi Wright purchased his land from the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad Company, while McEwan purchased his using military warrants which he bought from Private Admiral Bumpus and Sergeant William Rand, two veterans of the War of 1812. On September 13, 1864, McEwan purchased Ammi Wright's tract of land; McEwan thus came to own the entire site on which the central part of Clare developed. McEwan began operations in Clare in 1868, including the construction of a lumber camp located to the southwest of the present downtown Clare, and the land which makes up the central part of Clare was cleared in 1868 and 1869. William McEwan had his home as well as sawmill in Bay City. The logs harvested from the Clare area were floated southeast down the Tobacco River, then north on the Tittabawassee and Saginaw Rivers up to Bay City.

As mentioned earlier Ammi Wright purchased his land from the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad. The Flint & Pere Marquette was organized in 1857 and was granted lands by the United States government in exchange for constructing a railroad from Flint through Saginaw to Ludington, Michigan. The east part of the line between Flint and Saginaw was completed late in 1862. The long stretch west from Saginaw, through lands that were nearly entirely wilderness, was completed to Ludington in 1874. The part of the line from Saginaw west as far as the future site of Clare was to be completed in 1870. The line crossed the Isabella-Houghton Lake Indian Trail, which was later improved into an Isabella-Tobacco River State Road, near the McEwan lumber camp by the end of 1870.

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With the railroad and the State Road intersecting on his land, McEwan believed this would be an excellent location for a new town. He hired Peter Callam and John W. Calkins to survey an area of eighty acres spanning the railroad line for the new town. McEwan's plat of the village site, the first in Clare County, was filed on December 30, 1870. The original plat of the town of Clare extended from one block south of First Street on the south to one lot north of Seventh Street on the north and from the third lot west of Maple Street on the west to three lots east of Hemlock Street on the east. The Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad dissected the town at an angle from the southeast to the northwest. Roughly one-third of the townsite was to the south of the tracks and two-thirds to the north. Historically the commercial area developed in the heart of the town along McEwan Street, the industrial area along the railroad line, and the residential area surrounding both.

The Clare Business District

By the end of 1870, Clare, named for the county in which it is located, comprised a small collection of buildings. Four boarding houses, mainly serving the railroad crews constructing the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad and local woodsmen employed in lumbering, were located south of the railroad tracks. These boarding houses were owned by Pettibone, McKinnon, Bush, and Slater. One of McEwan's surveyors, Peter Callam, constructed Clare's first store along First Street. This store also housed the first post office, with Callam serving as the first postmaster. Henry Trevidick constructed a drug store the same year on the southeast corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets. These buildings, in addition to a handful of houses and McEwan's lumber camp, were all that made up Clare at the end of 1870.

The next year thirty more buildings were added to the settlement. The area south of the railroad tracks would contain warehouses and support industries. It would have the reputation of being known as 'the other side of the tracks.' The town would mainly grow to the north where most of the important commercial buildings and the residences were located. The area south of the tracks, however, would develop first. The early development of the area south of the railroad tracks can be attributed to the prevalence of marshy land located to the north. Much filling was needed to make the land north of the tracks usable; logs and sawdust along with more suitable fill were used to raise the grade.

The 1870s was a time of rapid growth for the new town. Lewis Randolph, Albert Lotis and Alfred Louch opened blacksmith shops in 1871, 1872 and 1875, respectively. Louch was responsible for the construction of the stage coaches which ran from Clare to Mount Pleasant. The stage line was operated by Saxton in 1873 and by the Parrish Brothers from 1873 to 1879. The stage was the main means of communication with the closest significant town, Mount Pleasant, located sixteen miles to the south, until a line connecting Coleman, located on the F. & P.M. east of Clare, with Mount Pleasant was constructed in 1879.

In the same location as his blacksmith shop at the southwest McEwan/Second corner, Alfred Louch operated his "Live and Let Live" livery stable. Behind him E. Smalley operated his wagon-building shop in 1877. On the opposite side of McEwan between Second Street and the railroad tracks stood a group of warehouses. Two of these were operated by Pratt & Company and supplied Pratt's lumber camps. Lumbering was a huge industry in the Clare area during the 1870s. Pratt's company alone paid out \$75,000.00 yearly in expenditures in the Clare area, with most of this money staying in the village. The lumbering activities, with their payroll and related expenditures, supported the town and encouraged growth.

The Sterns House hotel was located on the east side of McEwan south of Second Street. This side of the street also contained J. W. Calkin's hardware store, Peter Callam's grocery store (1870), and the shop of A. A. Shaver, furniture maker (1873), on the southeast corner of First and McEwan Streets. In addition, a saloon operated by A. Beebe (1872) was located on the west side of McEwan between Second and First Streets.

The Flint & Pere Marquette passenger and freight depot was located on the west side of McEwan just south of the tracks. On the other side of the tracks to the north was the Nicolls House hotel, which changed its name to the Anglo-American House before it burned in 1879. On the east side of McEwan just north of the tracks was another hotel, the Alger House (1871). To the north of the Alger House were O'Callaghan's grocery store (1878), George Lee's store, Fred Lang's bakery (1874), George Halstead's barbershop, and Jefferies meat market. These buildings,

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including the ones located on the west side of McEwan between Fourth and Third Streets, with the exception of the Alger House and O'Callaghan's, were all destroyed by fire in 1878.

Farther north on the east side of McEwan Street between Fifth and Fourth Streets was the William Ross grocery (1872), followed to the north by Grace Whitley's dry goods store (1878), S. Bowdish's drug store, and R. Crawford's grocery store. In the same block on the east side of McEwan, from south to north, were located J. C. Rockafellow's general store and later post office (1875), P. Campbell's boot and shoe shop, 'Deacon' Cooley's harness shop, and William Elden's jewelry store (1879) at the southwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets.

In 1878 the *Clare County Press* published the following description of the village of Clare:

Clare is the name of a bright little village situated midway between Saginaw and Reed City, on the Flint and Pere Marquette Railway, one of the most extensive railroad lines passing through the state, reaching from Toledo, on Lake Erie, to Ludington, on Lake Michigan. Clare County is geographically nearly the center of the state, on the high table of the water shed and is noted for its healthful climate, its extensive timber operations, and unsurpassed agricultural lands. The Clare village has some seven hundred inhabitants, and is increasing. The business places comprise about a dozen dealers in dry goods and groceries, three hotels, three saloons, two drug stores, two millinery stores, a jewelry store, a clothing store, a picture frame store and undertaking establishment, a hardware and furniture store, two boot and shoe shops, a harness shop, a blacksmith shop, a carriage shop, a foundry and machine shop, two shingle mills, a grist mill, a planing mill, sash and door factory, a grain elevator, and numerous small industries incident to every village. The Congregationalists have a good church building, and flourishing society, and the Methodists Episcopal Society have a new church just completed, which do credit to a larger town. There is a graded school in charge of competent teachers, red ribbon and white ribbon temperance societies, three lawyers, three doctors ... With good churches, good schools, good society, good facilities for the transaction of business, and cheap lands in abundance, Clare is destined at no distant day to become an important center of industry and trade.

Despite Clare's growth in the 1870s, it was a very rough town to live in. There were frequently shootings and unruly behavior within the town. The need for hiring a marshal was apparent to the townspeople, but in order to do that the town must become an incorporated village. This action was opposed by both William McEwan and the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad. Combined they owned about sixty percent of the platted town. Incorporation for them would mean paying taxes on their properties. The townspeople won out in the end. The voters approved the establishment of village government, and on January 13, 1879, the State of Michigan incorporated the Village of Clare.

On the down side, the later part of the 1870s proved to be the end of Clare's chances to become the county seat. The first Clare County seat was located in the neighboring village of Farwell. The circumstances behind a fire which destroyed the county building in Farwell in 1877 are unclear. Some people suspected arson, and many of those people believed it was set by people from Clare who wanted the county seat moved to their town. However, Clare is not centrally located in the county, but instead near its southern edge. In the end neither Clare nor Farwell would be the seat of county government. Early in 1878 a committee appointed by the county board of supervisors selected an undeveloped location close to the county's geographical center near Budd Lake. After this centrally located site was approved by county voters, the owner, the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad, platted a village and donated a courthouse square site to the county. The site, named Harrison after President William Henry Harrison, has served as Clare County seat since 1879.

Despite losing the county seat plum, the village of Clare continued to grow during the 1880s. During the decade Clare transitioned from a pioneer lumber boomtown to an established village with a more diverse economy. By the middle of the decade Clare County's pine forests would be depleted and its lumbermen moved on to other forest lands farther north and in states farther west. The growing amounts of cleared land gave rise to agriculture.

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In 1881 Clare's first Opera House was constructed on the site of the burned Nicholls House, and the Doherty Hardware Store on the east side of McEwan between Fourth and Fifth Streets opened. In 1883 Robert Russell built his drug store on the west side of McEwan between Fourth and Fifth Streets, and the Zemon-Sable store, the Osborn & Randall Roller Mill, E. H. DeVogt photography, Bicknell's Home Delivery Dairy, and H. E. Lambeck's tailor shop all opened.

The first brick commercial building, Dunlop's Medical Hall, was constructed on the southwest corner of McEwan and Fifth Streets in 1885. The Clare County Bank opened in a location on the opposite side of McEwan from the Medical Hall in the same year. The year 1885 also saw additional new businesses, the L. T. Olds Dairy, W. Scott Emory, cigar manufacturer, and John Dennis' meat market, established.

A second railroad serving Clare, the Toledo, Ann Arbor & North Michigan Railroad, was completed north to Clare in 1887. The line was located to the west of the downtown just outside of the platted town. The old Flint & Pere Marquette passenger and freight depot was abandoned and a new Union Depot serving both lines constructed in the same year where the two lines crossed. The Flint & Pere Marquette added a number of sidings to serve local businesses in Clare in the period between 1884 and 1893. The 1884 birdseye view shows only the single main line track running through town. Eleven years later the 1893 Sanborn map shows three sets of tracks crossing McEwan Street and four crossing Beech Street. As time progressed the railroad added multiple sidings to serve the needs of the industries located along the tracks.

After only six years of operation the Husted Opera House burned in 1887, and was not rebuilt. The year 1887 also saw the Maxwell and Bryant blacksmith shops, H. O. Squires restaurant, E. L. Squires ice house, and the Harris & Herrick grocery opening for business. In 1887 the Clare County Savings Bank, after two years in their wood-framed building, constructed a new two-story brick building on the southeast corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets.

Clare also made great strides in infrastructure in the 1880s. Wood water mains were installed in 1886, and gas-operated street lights along with Clare's first telephone lines were introduced in 1887. And, after much debate and all volunteer help, McEwan Street from the Little Tobacco River to Sixth Street was topped off with a clay cap to provide a more solid driving surface.

To demonstrate the amount of growth taking place in Clare in the 1880s the *Clare County Press* published a new, glowing summary description of the Clare community in 1887:

Clare, an incorporated village of 1,200 inhabitants, located near the geographic center of the lower peninsula, at the probable junction of the F. & P. M. and T., A. A. & N. M. R. R., 50 miles from East Saginaw, 39 miles from Reed City and 15 miles from Mt. Pleasant. It has 2 churches, 1 graded union school, 2 weekly newspapers, 3 hotels, 3 livery barns, 13 grocery and provision stores, 5 dry goods and clothing stores, 1 furniture store, 3 hardware stores, 4 drug stores, 2 boot and shoe stores, 2 meat markets, 1 manufacturer of beef and chicken broth, 1 bank, 1 planing mill with sash & door factory, 1 planing mill, 1 foundry, 3 shingle mills, 2 lumber mills, 1 grist mill, 4 blacksmith shops, 1 photography gallery, 1 dentist, 5 physicians, 2 lawyers, 1 lodge I.O.O.F., 1 lodge I.O.O. Foresters, 1 lodge Chosen Friends, 1 lodge G.A.R., 7 millinery shops. The contiguous country is the very best agricultural land. The Tobacco River flows near the village with grayling and trout in the waters. Homes can be procured for the thousands with moderate means. The best place in the state to locate manufacturers.

The start of the decade of the 1890s began with a change in its form of government. In 1891 the village of Clare petitioned the state legislature to approve a charter incorporating it as a city. With a population of 1,174 citizens Clare became the smallest incorporated city in Michigan, a title it held until the following year when Harrison was incorporated as a city.

The new decade also saw the introduction of electrical service into the village. In 1890 Alfred J. Doherty's Doherty Electric Light Co. was operating a small electric plant at a dam on the Tobacco River. Doherty strung line from this initial plant to his hardware store and several nearby stores in 1890 and the next year extended

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service to his new Doherty Opera House building. In 1894 Doherty with other investors founded the Clare Electric Co., which soon made electrical service available to the rest of the city. The first electric lights along McEwan were turned on in April 1895. They were lit at dusk and turned off at midnight. By July of the same year there was seven and a half miles of electrical wire strung providing electricity to the entire city. The downtown power lines were strung down McEwan Street in front of the buildings. In 1922, when damage from an ice storm necessitated the reconstruction of the power poles and lines, they were relocated to the back alleys.

Alfred J. Doherty was influential in bringing electricity to the city of Clare, but this was only part of his importance in the city's and downtown's history. He came to Clare from Belfast, New York, in 1878. From 1880 to 1883 he taught at the Dover School north of town. Doherty opened an insurance office in 1883 and worked at that until he opened his hardware business in 1885. He built Clare's second (and still standing) Opera House building in 1891. Doherty was elected to the State Senate in 1903 and re-elected in 1905. He served as the Senate Republican Whip for both of his terms. At the end of his senatorial terms he was named as a possible gubernatorial candidate, but declined to run. He later served on the State Board of Agriculture and was eventually appointed as the director of the Michigan State Fair. He served as one of the first statewide elected members of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees, serving from 1907 to 1919. He was responsible for the construction of eight business blocks in the downtown area (four of which still stand), the Doherty Hotel being the best known, and numerous residences. At one time before the turn of the twentieth century he owned the Clare Water Works, the Clare Electric Light Company, and the Clare Telephone Company. He was also part owner of the electric power plant on Mackinac Island. He served as mayor of Clare before and after his time in the State Senate. In the later days of his life he served as a lobbyist for the Pullman Railroad Car Company.

The 1890s saw the construction of several important early brick buildings in the downtown area. The no longer standing Wilson-Sutherland Building was constructed in 1890-91. It housed William Wolsky's dry goods business from 1891 to 1902. In the same year Alfred Doherty constructed his Opera House Building at 524 N. McEwan. The S. C. Kirkbride furniture business along with the post office occupied the two first-floor units, while the Opera House occupied the whole second floor. The Davy/Mussell/Elden Building was constructed on the west side of McEwan between Fourth and Fifth Streets (505-09 N. McEwan) in 1895. It was built as a triple storefront building with Lew Davy's clothing store, Robert Mussell's drug store and William Elden's bazaar store occupying the first floor units.

The year 1900 saw the construction of Clare's largest commercial building, Alfred Doherty's six-storefront building on McEwan's west side between Third and Fourth Streets (no longer standing); it took up most of the middle of the block. The first decade was also remembered for the impact of fires in the reshaping of Clare's streetscape. A fire on July 4, 1904, was the largest in Clare's history. The arson fire was set in a barn close to Pine Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets. The east wind pushed the fire toward the west and it consumed most every wood frame building on the block. The only buildings to survive along McEwan Street were three brick buildings, the Clare Hardware Building on the northeast corner of Fourth and McEwan Streets (502 N. McEwan) and the Doherty Opera House and Clare County Savings Bank Building located at 524 and 532 N. McEwan. These three masonry buildings still stand. All the buildings that replaced the burned-out wooden ones, and all future buildings in the downtown, were constructed with brick walls.

A 1907 fire caused extensive destruction along the west side of McEwan between Fourth and Fifth Streets opposite the area on the street's east side hard hit by the 1904 fire. The two wood frame buildings on the north end of the block just south of the Dunlop Medical Hall burned along with most of the buildings on the south side of the block along Fourth Street. Within one year the two buildings along McEwan and most of the West Fourth Street buildings had been replaced.

Fires would continue to change the landscape of downtown Clare, but none was as destructive as the 1904 and 1907 fires. From 1910 on, nearly all new building construction along McEwan Street would come about as a result of individual buildings being destroyed by fire. The Wilson-Sutherland Building on the southwest corner of Fourth and McEwan (429-31 N. McEwan) burned in 1910 and the site remained vacant until 1922 when the still-standing Clare County Savings Bank Building was built on the site. The six-storefront Doherty Building on McEwan Street between Fourth and Third Streets burned in 1957. Its site was occupied by four new buildings

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built between 1957 and 1972. Clare's first brick building, the Dunlop Building, located at the southwest corner of Fifth and McEwan, burned in the 1970s and was eventually replaced by the Her Place Building in 1985. The McEwan Professional Building at the southeast corner of Fourth and McEwan was constructed in 1997 sometime after the Jackson Meat Market burned. The Subway store, on the northeast corner of Third and McEwan Streets, constructed in 2000, was the exception. It was built on a vacant lot that had once contained a gasoline filling station.

The last significant building growth in downtown Clare occurred along West Fifth Street in the 1930s. The new Clare City Hall building, followed by the Post Office, proved to be the catalyst for further growth in the area. Three more buildings in the half block west of McEwan Street were added between 1937 and 1941.

Clare's downtown continued to prosper in the 1950s, with much storefront renovation taking place, but the 1960s and more recent years have proved to be more challenging. Since the early 1960s limited access highway construction bypassing downtown Clare has had negative repercussions on the downtown which was dependent on the tourist industry (see Commerce section below). In an effort to attract and retain businesses, Clare created its Downtown Development Authority in 1989. Despite the highway bypasses, which shunt most through traffic past the city's downtown, and the ongoing development of a large commercial area north of the city near a freeway exit, the city's downtown has retained a substantial amount of business activity including not only stores such as Clare Hardware that continue to serve local needs but also the Doherty Hotel and, in recent years, the Cops and Donuts store complex that are magnets for visitors as well as locals.

Commerce

McEwan Street has always been the commercial heart of Clare. Initially most businesses located to the south of the railroad tracks, but the town would soon grow more to the north. McEwan Street between Third and Fifth Streets had the highest concentration of commercial businesses. West Fourth Street early on also had a high concentration of commercial activity, but not enough to rival McEwan Street. West Fourth Street would become less important as a commercial area toward the last quarter of the twentieth century. Beginning in the 1930s Fifth Street would rise as an important commercial area of the town.

Even before the platting of Clare in 1870, Peter Callam and Henry Trevidick were operating a general store and drug store respectively in Clare. As time went on, Clare would acquire the necessary businesses for the needs of its citizens. The 1893 Sanborn map shows six saloons, five dry good stores, ten grocery stores, three drug stores, four millineries, three barber shops, two jewelry stores, one hardware store, and an agricultural implements store, all within a three-block area of McEwan and a half block area of West Fourth Street. In addition, the town had several hotels, blacksmith shops, boot and shoe shops, restaurants, a livery, and a marble works. Other businesses within Clare would eventually include a photography studio and two undertakers. As time progressed and agriculture replaced the lumber industry, Clare would acquire more harness shops and implement and hardware stores. With the automobile came gasoline filling stations, automobile dealerships, and automobile repair shops. Most of the early business buildings were of wood frame construction, but by the early part of the twentieth century they had been replaced by brick.

Few buildings in Clare were constructed with multiple store fronts. Three buildings were constructed with two storefronts, two with three storefronts, and one with six storefronts. The Davy/Mussell/Elden Building was altered from three storefronts to two in 1904 when the Davy Building was constructed. The Doherty six-storefront building was lost to a fire in 1957.

The following list is a sampling of some of the businesses which operated long-term in the early to middle part of the twentieth century in buildings that survive to this day:

- Bicknell's Department Store, 420 N. McEwan (1907-1966)
- Davy & Company Store, 501 N. McEwan (1893-1963)
- Anderson Drug Store, 518 N. McEwan (1911-1975)
- Foss Bakery, 521 N. McEwan (1907-1965)

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Clare Hardware, 511 N. McEwan (1904-present)
Mussell Drug Store, 505 N. McEwan (1895-1936)
Thurston Funeral Home, 509 N. McEwan(1898-1907), 605 N. McEwan (1907-1921), Odd Fellows
Building (1921-1926), 114 W. Fifth Street (1926-1951), corner of Sixth and Beech Streets (1951-?)
Jay Green Clothing and Shoes, 522 N. McEwan (1927-late 1980s)
Whitehouse Restaurant, 613 N. McEwan (1935-present)

For clothing purchases in Clare, the most popular places to shop were Bicknell's Department Store and Davy's Clothing Store. Bicknell's Department Store was founded by Nathan Bicknell in 1907. Bicknell came to Clare in 1875 and started in business by opening a general store. As business improved he was able to construct a brick store building in 1898, located at 418 N. McEwan. In an effort to expand his business he constructed another brick store in 1907 at 420 N. McEwan, and opened a dry-goods store there. This store was located immediately to the north of his general store building. Once the dry-goods store was opened his son James converted the older building to a grocery store while Nathan's other son William managed the dry- goods store. William bought out James' interest in the business after the death of their father, and would operate the business until his death in 1966. Subsequent owners have continued to use the Bicknell Building for clothing-related businesses.

The other major clothing store in Clare was started by brothers Vernal and Lew Davy along with F. B. Smith in 1893. This business was operated out of the Wolsey Building located at the southwest corner on Fourth and McEwan Streets. Vernal Davy and F. B. Smith operated another Davy Store located in Ewart, Michigan, twenty-five miles west, while Lew Davy operated the Clare store. Lew Davy moved his business to the newly constructed brick Davy/Mussell/Elden Building on the west side of the 500 block of McEwan in 1895. At the turn of the twentieth century Davy purchased the frame building immediately to the south of his brick building. He operated his business out of both buildings until he constructed a single brick building at 501 N. McEwan in 1904. Lew Davy purchased his brother's share of the business in 1925, and operated the business until his death in 1963. Glen Folkert purchased the Davy store building in October 1963 and operated it as the Mill End clothing store.

The Mussell Drug store was begun by Robert Mussell in 1883, and was located in a brick building in the middle of the west side of the 500 block of McEwan Street. Mussell's business was growing and the need for a larger building was evident. In a joint effort with Lew Davy and William Elden, Robert Mussell constructed a two-story three storefront building, with Mussell's storefront in the center. With Robert's death in 1902, his wife Anna Mussell operated the drug store until 1936. Anna was one of the few business women to own and operate a business in the Clare community. She sold the business to E. H. Wright in 1936, who later sold to Roy Cimmerer in 1946. The building housed a drug store until 1983.

By 1906 local merchants were complaining about the competition from mail order catalogs – so much so that the *Clare Sentinel* printed an extensive article in their December 7, 1906, issue addressing the consequences of buying merchandise from catalogs instead of local merchants. What the response was to this article is unknown but it seems that most businesses adjusted and survived this crisis.

Like most other towns, Clare also witnessed an infusion of chain stores in the downtown in the 1920s and 30s. E. A. Anderson converted his drug store business at 518 N. McEwan to a Rexall Drug Store in the early 1920s. Murl Houghton opened his Walgreen's store at 523 N. McEwan on September 24, 1936; the store was previously the Clare Drug Company. The A&P Tea Company grocery occupied the south unit of 601 N. McEwan at the northwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Street, and later 412 N. McEwan. The south unit of 524 N. McEwan housed a Kroger Grocery and Bakery starting in 1935 and then moved to 429 N. McEwan in 1939. No. 429 N. McEwan became the location of an IGA Store in 1948. The Gambles department store occupied several different buildings in downtown Clare starting in 1934. Other chain stores that located in the city's downtown included the Western Auto Store located at 409 N. McEwan and the Firestone Store located at 406 N. McEwan.

Chain stores were one threat to the long-term vitality of the downtown's independent merchants. Another and perhaps greater threat in Clare's case was the replacing of the old main roads that passed through the city's business district with limited access highways that bypassed the business district entirely. Prior to the freeway development, downtown Clare stood at the intersection of several important highway routes. US-27 (now US-127), a primary

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north-south route in Michigan's Lower Peninsula, followed McEwan Street through the downtown. US-10, which provided a connection between Detroit and the Saginaw Bay cities of Saginaw, Bay City, and Midland and also led west to Ludington and ferry connections across Lake Michigan to Wisconsin, followed Fifth Street through town, intersecting US-27 at the corner by the Doherty Hotel. US-10 led a few miles west to State Route 115, which serves as a gateway to the northwestern Lower Peninsula's Lake Michigan resort areas. The city's location at this important route junction made it an important stopping off point for travelers. The downtown relied for a substantial part of its livelihood on restaurant, hotel, and gas station business and other retail sales to visitors. In 1961 the US-27 (now US-127) freeway and a US-10 freeway running east from Clare were completed, and in 1975 the US-10 freeway running west from Clare was completed. These entirely bypassed downtown Clare, resulting in the closing of all the gasoline service stations and most of the restaurants in the downtown area. Eventually a new commercial area, known locally as "Hamburger Hill," developed at Clare's far north end near the US-127/10 exit. Here gas stations, restaurant and hotel franchises, along with other stores, have opened to serve both the traveling public and local residents. The growth of this new commercial area has resulted in substantial business losses in the downtown area.

Banks

The first known bank in Clare was established by Wheaton and Perry and was operating as early as 1879. The Clare County Savings Bank, which opened in 1885, was started by William Wolsky, Clark Sutherland, C. W. Perry, and Louis Weisman. It was originally located in a small building on the northwest corner of the lot where 524 N. McEwan is now located. In 1887 Alfred J. Doherty built a new building (no longer standing) for his hardware business on the southeast corner of McEwan and Fifth Street. Doherty occupied the south half of the building and the bank leased the north half.

The Clare County Savings Bank bought the lot at the southwest McEwan/Fourth corner in March 1913 as a site for a building of its own. By 1916 the plans had been drawn up, but rising building costs delayed the project. The new building was constructed in 1922.

Despite the bank's history of prosperity and excellent management, the Clare County Savings Bank suspended business on May 21, 1932. An investigation showed that at the time of the bank's closing the Clare County Savings Bank held \$40,000 in assets in the building, \$140,000 in mortgages, \$528,000 in bonds, but only \$32,000 in cash reserves. The cash reserves were well below state law requirements. The investigation also exposed the fact that bank officials had been conned by a traveling bond salesman who promised big returns on oil investments, but the bonds were actually worthless. The bank never reopened but the building, with its front remodeled but still showing much evidence of the Neoclassical design, remains in use today as an office building.

Two additional banks opened in July 1903. One was Dr. J. W. Dunlop's private bank housed in his no longer standing Medical Hall Building. How long this bank operated is unknown. The other bank begun then was the Citizens Bank. It was established by Fred Lister, George Benner and Charles H. O'Donald, with ten thousand dollars capital. The bank was originally located at 515 N. McEwan, but in 1907 it moved to the building on the northeast corner of McEwan and Fourth Streets (502 N. McEwan). By 1908 the bank had doubled its capital and, receiving a state charter, became the Citizens State Bank. About the same time Fred Lister, the bank president, died of cancer. William Haley became the new bank president. During William Haley's tenure as president, Dr. A. E. Mulder, J. W. Calkins, Mrs. A. E. Mussell, W. H. Virtue, and N. A. Bloom all served on the Board of Directors. Mr. Haley eventually sold his interest in the bank to Albert E. Sleeper, who was then the acting State Treasurer, and would later serve as Michigan's governor in 1917-20. James S. Bicknell became the bank's cashier in 1911 and two years later the bank president.

In contrast to the Clare County Savings Bank, the Citizens State Bank did very well financially. They purchased the 502 N. McEwan building they were leasing in 1917. In 1929 the building was completely renovated and given a white stone Art Deco façade (the building is still standing but the exterior no longer reflects the 1929 appearance). Due to its investments in the local oil industry the bank remained sound through the 1930s. The bank sold the building in 1961 and relocated to a modern new building on the west side of the 800 block of McEwan Street (outside of the district). The Citizens State Bank would operate in Clare until 1979 when it was absorbed by Chemical Bank.

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Offices

Three early twentieth-century buildings and one mid-twentieth-century building in downtown Clare have second stories that were devoted to office space. Those buildings are the following:

- 109 W. Fifth, Holbrook/Mair Building (1941)
- 502 N. McEwan, Clare Hardware Building (1902)
- 505, 509 N. McEwan, Mussell/Elden Building (1895)
- 506 N. McEwan, Tatman Building (1904)

One of the more noteworthy Clare citizens who had his office in the downtown was dentist Dr. A. E. Mulder. Dr. Mulder worked as a dentist, but also served in the past as president of Clare's School Board and as Clare's mayor. He had his office at 502 N McEwan from 1942 to 1953, when the building was owned by Citizens State Bank. The Mammoth Oil Company also had offices in the 502 N. McEwan building from 1937 to 1942 after it had been previously located at 431 N. McEwan. In 1942 Mammoth Oil would move to 515 N. McEwan, and in 1961 move back to 502 N. McEwan, where it stayed until the late 1970s.

Albert Thurston had his undertaking business on the second floor of 509 N. McEwan, and the *Clare Courier* Newspaper operated out of 505 N. McEwan. A. Ray Canfield, publisher of the *Clare Courier*, also served as the secretary of Michigan's Democratic Party from 1907 to 1919. Between 1915 and 1919 Dennis Alward, another local politician, served as Michigan's Republican Party Secretary, and had an office on the opposite side of McEwan at 506 N. McEwan.

Dr. H. E. Neeland, Dr. Sanford and Dr. McKnight all had offices upstairs in the building at 509 N. McEwan. Attorney A. E. Wylie located his law firm at 506 N. McEwan.

Donald Holbrook, Clare County's Prosecuting Attorney from 1937 to 1942 and later Circuit Court and Appeals Court judge, had his law firm's office in the 109 W. Fifth Street building starting in 1941. He also shared the second floor at various times with the Freeman Oil Company, Higelmire and Associates, and Gibraltar Construction.

Hotels

The first hotels in Clare were the Markley, McKinnon, Pettibone, and Slater boarding houses constructed in the 1869-70 period to serve the railroad work crews building the Flint & Pere Marquette through the area. Markley's was located on Vernon Hill, which lies immediately to the south of the present downtown; the locations of the others are unknown. None remain standing.

The first real hotels were constructed in 1870 and 1871. Caleb Sterns built his hotel on the east side of McEwan just to the south of Second Street and along the Little Tobacco River. The Nicholls Hotel was built on the west side of McEwan just to the north of Third Street, next to the Flint & Pere Marquette depot. It was described as being "one of the most excellent houses in this section of the state," but to what it was being compared in this then thinly settled part of the world is unclear. The third hotel constructed was the Alger House. This hotel was located on the northeast corner of McEwan and Third Street, directly across the street from the Nicholls Hotel.

The Nicholls Hotel would eventually change its name to the Anglo-American House before it burned to the ground in 1879. The Alger House would go through a variety of owners between 1873 and 1881. Sometime between 1884 and 1893 the building was cut into three parts and moved off the lot. The Sterns House, which later became the Commercial House, closed sometime between 1884 and 1893.

The Exchange Hotel was located along the east side of McEwan between Third and Fourth Streets in the 1880s. A portion of the building was moved to the south side of Fourth Street to the west of McEwan sometime after 1884; renamed the Lackie House, owned by Archibold Lackie, it advertised a stove in every room and a livery in back. Later sold to Henry Orth from Saginaw and renamed the Central Hotel, it then became the Clare Inn sometime before 1934 and remained in business past mid-century until destroyed by fire.

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The Toledo, Ann Arbor & North Michigan Railroad was built to Clare in 1887, intersecting with the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad at the west end of town. The new Union Depot was constructed that same year where the tracks intersected and the old Flint & Pere Marquette Depot along McEwan was abandoned. The relocation of the depot resulted in the construction of a hotel close by. The Stevens House was built near the depot on the north side of Fifth Street. Although built to be a first-class hotel, the Stevens mostly served railroad men. Plagued with financial problems and changing ownership several times, the Stevens House closed sometime between 1899 and 1906. Another hotel near the depot on the south side of Fifth Street called the Thompson Hotel opened sometime between 1910 and 1923. This hotel, like the Stevens House, did not attract a high quality clientele. Despite this it was able to remain in business into the mid-1900s.

None of these early hotel buildings have survived.

In 1891 the first hotel in Clare to put on metropolitan airs, J. W. Calkins' Calkins House, opened at the northeast corner of Fifth and McEwan. The Calkins House was a three-story brick structure. Its main floor, elevated five feet above ground level, contained dining and reception rooms as well as the office, and also a Western Union Telegraph office, where railroad and ship tickets to all points could be purchased. A large bar and a "Tonsorial Parlor" along with a wash room and laundry were located in the basement. The second and third floors, reached by broad flights of stairs, contained spacious and luxuriant parlors and sleeping rooms accessed by well-lit hallways. Each room contained an electric call bell connected to the hotel office. The entire building was heated with steam heat and lighted by electricity. In addition, a carriage would transport guests back and forth from the railroad depot.

The Calkins, Clare's leading hotel during its thirty-year existence, burned in January 1920. J. W. Calkins did not plan to rebuild, and plans by a Detroit businessman, W. E. Currie, for what he called the Blue Moon Hotel did not materialize. Clare's business community and many leading citizens viewed the lack of a quality hotel in town as a major drawback to the city's moving forward as a progressive community.

One year after the loss of the Calkins Hotel the city and Clare Chamber of Commerce reached an agreement with Alfred J. Doherty, the city's wealthiest and most influential citizen, to construct a high class hotel. The agreement was that the Chamber of Commerce would purchase the site of the old Calkins House and turn it over to Doherty, and Doherty would be given tax incentives for five years in return for building a hotel with a value of at least \$60,000.00 on the site.

Two contractors later and at a cost exceeding \$200,000.00, the Doherty Hotel was completed in April 1924. It contained four stories, with sixty sleeping rooms and several suites. Thirty-six of the rooms contained either a tub or a shower, the rest contained only a sink, but all had hot and cold running water. In addition the hotel featured an elevator, billiard room, cafeteria, dining room, ballroom, two store spaces, and quarters for the public library.

After the hotel's opening skeptics opined that a small city like Clare could never support such a large hotel, and Doherty's investment would never pay off. The hotel was such a success, however, that by the end of 1924 Doherty was already expanding his kitchen. The hotel remains in operation today and has had to expand several times over the years. In 1933, at the end of Prohibition, the hotel was issued the third liquor license in the state of Michigan, and the first outside of Detroit.

The main reason for the popularity of the Doherty Hotel was its location at the intersection of key highways. At the time the Doherty Hotel was constructed, the major roads coming through Clare were State Highway M-14 (McEwan Street), which ran north and south, and State Highway M-20 (Fifth Street), which ran east and west. Both were still dirt roads at the time. The key to drawing automobile traffic from the south to the northern vacation areas was the paving of these two roads. In the mid-1920s there was tremendous competition between communities for state funding to pave roads. In addition there was talk that M-14 would be rerouted and bypass Clare altogether. In 1925 Clare natives Dennis Alward, A. Ray Canfield, and Alfred J. Doherty began lobbying Washington D. C. to have M-14 designated as a military road between Lansing and Camp Grayling, the state's National Guard training camp, located sixty miles north of Clare, which would make it eligible for federal funding for concrete paving. With the help of Congressman Roy Woodruff, they were successful, but it was not until 1932 that the pavement actually reached Clare. In 1926 M-20 became US-10, and M-14 became US-27 (now US-127), and the Doherty Hotel then

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stood at the intersection of two major federal highways heading north connecting downstate cities with popular northern recreation destinations. As a result most tourist traffic from southeast and south-central Michigan traveled through downtown Clare on its way north. In addition Clare was approximately halfway between Michigan's southeast cities and northern vacation areas, which made Clare – and the Doherty – popular dining and overnight locations before the remainder of the journey north.

The most famous guest to frequent the Doherty was Henry Ford. Ford owned proving grounds to the west of Harrison, and would stay at the Doherty when in the area. In addition, during Clare County's oil and gas boom in the 1930s and 1940s many oil men used their Doherty Hotel rooms for offices.

With the rise in tourist traffic coming through Clare after the paving of US-27 and US-10, additional motels and cabins began springing up. Some of these included the Lone Pine Cabins, the Manor Inn Rooms and Cabins, and Roy McKinnon's Tourist Cabins. These were mostly located along US-27 and US-10, but never presented any competition to the Doherty Hotel. The Doherty Hotel also constructed ten cabins of their own east of the hotel building in 1930.

In fact, except for the period during the Depression, the Doherty Hotel has always been a very successful hotel. The first real decrease in business occurred in 1961 when the US-27 bypass was constructed around Clare. This decrease in business was nothing compared to when I-75 was completed to its connection with US-27 well north of Clare in 1975, taking much of the Detroit area traffic headed north away from US-10 and Clare. Despite these setbacks the Doherty Hotel survived and has also expanded several times since 1975. At present the hotel is run by the fourth generation of Dohertys and remains a popular dining, hotel, and conference location.

The Doherty Hotel received both state and national recognition for both its food and service in the mid-1900s. State recognition came from a March 14, 1954, article in the *Bay City Times*, the July 1958 issue of the *AAA Motor News*, and a February 1959 article in the *Detroit Free Press*. National recognition came in the 1960 edition of the *Duncan Hines Adventures in Good Eating* dining guide, along with articles in the January 1960 and February 1963 issues of the *Ford Times* magazine.

Car Dealerships/Garages

Alfred Doherty's son Floyd is believed to have owned the first automobile in Clare. He purchased a Cadillac in 1908 and drove it back to Clare. His father was known to have driven an Oakland, but likely kept it in Lansing where he served as a state senator.

For its size Clare had a good selection of automobile dealerships. On East Fifth Street Walsh & Gordon sold Plymouth and Chryslers, while Corman Motor Sales dealt in Oldsmobiles. Woodward Auto Sales sold Hudson and Essex at 103 West Fifth. Zemmer Motors sold Chevrolets on East Fourth Street, and Thompson & Wilkinson sold Willy-Knight, Overland, Whippet, and International trucks from their implement store on West Fourth Street.

Ike Hampton operated his Ford dealership in the still standing building at 412 N. McEwan starting in 1915. The building housed a garage and showroom until at least 1934. Hampton purchased the building immediately to the south (406 N. McEwan) in 1923 in order to expand his dealership. After Ike Hampton's death the building was sold to Floyd and Clarence McGuire and Eugene Campbell, who operated the Firestone Home and Auto Supply Store. Arthur Ulrich operated his Pontiac dealership from the same location in the 1950s.

Newspapers

The *Clare County Press*, Clare's first newspaper, began publication in 1878. Prior to this, Clare was served by the *Farwell Register* from nearby Farwell, seven miles west, which started publishing in 1871. The *Clare County Press* was started by Alvarado F. Goodenough. Dennis E. Alward became editor of the paper in 1880, and purchased it the same year. Alward owned the paper for eight years and during that time shortened the name to the *Clare Press*. Marvin D. Eaton started a second paper, the *News-Argus*, in December 1884, and it became the *Clare Democrat* in 1886. The *Democrat* eventually merged with the *Press*, and the combined paper became the *Clare Democrat and Press*.

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E. D. Palmer and R. G. Jefferies started the *Clare Sentinel* in 1892, and later purchased the *Clare Democrat and Press*. The *Clare Sentinel* was known as a Republican paper and had no Democrat opposition until 1895. That was the year A. Ray Canfield moved to Clare from Harrison and started the Democrat-leaning *Clare Courier*. It was housed on the west end of the second floor of 505 North McEwan Street. In the battle of newspapers the *Clare Sentinel* won out, and published long after the *Clare Courier*, which changed its name to *The Clare County News* in 1922 and went out of business shortly thereafter.

E. D. Palmer eventually sold his interest in the *Clare Sentinel* to R. G. Jefferies, and Jefferies eventually sold the paper to Edgar G. Welch and Philip A. Bennett. Welch and Bennett operated the paper from a building located on the east side of the 600 block of North McEwan Street. In 1907 they constructed a new building at 114 W. Fourth Street and moved the printing operations there.

Welch and Bennett sold the *Clare Sentinel* to Erastus Palmer and Enoch Andrus in 1910. The next year Mr. Palmer sold his interest in the paper to Andrus, who retained ownership until 1921. John P. Jones and Malcolm Feighner next became owners. Two years later Benjamin Parish purchased Jones' interest. Benjamin Parish died on June 27, 1934, but his wife Florence retained his interest in the newspaper.

The *Clare Sentinel* and printing business of Malcolm Feighner and Florence Parish continued to grow and necessitated a move to a larger building. This move took place in 1938 when the business was relocated to 112 W. Fourth Street, the building immediately to the east of their previous location. This building served as its home until after 2000. The *Clare Sentinel* stopped publishing in April 2012.

Agriculture

From the earliest surveys of Michigan, the northern portion of the state had always been considered to have poor soil for the growing of crops. Clare County, including the area surrounding Clare, was covered with White Pine forests, which were considered to grow in sandy and infertile soil. This was the opinion of experts even as late as the beginning of the twentieth century. The November 18, 1906, issue of the *Detroit Free Press* quoted University of Michigan professor of forestry Filbert Roth as saying, "Since 1875 Michigan has fooled away over \$1,500,000 trying to sell for agricultural purposes the so-called cut-over pine lands. The first thing for the people to understand is that all lands are not suited for the plow; that the light soil of the upper half of the lower peninsula and of the upper peninsula is, broadly speaking, a natural forest reserve rather than an agricultural country." The opinion of Professor Roth may have been true for the north and northwestern part of Clare County, but the southeast portion of the county, including much land around Clare, proved to be good for agricultural purposes.

Throughout its history only about forty percent of the land in Clare County was used for agricultural purposes. Of all the agricultural land in the county, forty-four percent was located in the four townships in the southeast quarter of the county: Arthur, Grant, Hatton and Sheridan. The City of Clare was the major commercial center for this area of the county, and also for parts of northern Isabella County to the south.

Because of the small amount of land used for farming, Clare County was not a major producer of any agricultural products when compared to the more heavily producing southern counties. But the one area in which Clare County led the state was the number of large farms located within the county. From 1910 to 1950 Clare County led the state in the number of farms with 1,000 or more acres. From 1910 to 1940 it placed anywhere between second place and fifth place in the number of farms between 500 and 1,000 acres. In 1930 Clare County had one of only thirteen farms in the state that measured 5,000 acres or more. Most of these large farms were devoted to raising livestock, with cattle and sheep being the major animal types.

The number of large farms was evidence that commercial farming in Clare County could be profitable. Many of the owners of these large farms were outside investors and did not reside within the county. Men from Saginaw, Chicago, Detroit and northern Ohio were owners of these commercial farms. The reason can be found in the cost of farming in Clare County. In 1900 the value of farm land in Clare County was \$8.00 per acre, the ninth lowest in the

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state. Between 1900 and 1910 the total value of farm land increased by 214.8%, the twelfth highest increase of farm values of any county in the state.

With livestock being a major agricultural activity in the county, clover and timothy were major crops. Other crops produced in the county included potatoes, beans, peas, corn, sugar beets, oats, barley, and rye. In general most crops grew well, but not in abundance. Most crop yields from 1900 to 1950 were at or slightly below the state average. Flooding was not a problem within the county, while an abundance of creeks and a high water table provided enough water to sustain crops in the dry times.

Early Mills and Elevators

Most of the grain-handling facilities located in the town of Clare have historically been located near the railroad tracks. There were two exceptions to this. First, a flour mill was built on the Tobacco River in 1879. This mill was destroyed in 1886 by flooding resulting from a heavy downpour that washed out crops, railroad grades, bridges, mills, and roads. Then in 1892 Mr. Varney built a flour mill on the Tobacco River at about the same location as the present Shamrock Lake Dam. The mill eventually went out of business and was removed. What remained at the site washed out in the 1910s.

In 1876 T. P. Horning and Reist built Clare's first grist mill, but it was destroyed by fire the next year. In 1879 the Horning-Schaeffer flour and grist mill was built at a location north of the Flint & Pere Marquette tracks on West Fourth Street. This was eventually destroyed and replaced by the W. E. Hubel flour mill sometime between 1894 and 1899. The flour mill was sold and became the Kirkbride & Co. Flour Mill in 1903. By 1910 the building no longer existed.

By 1893 Andrew Rhoades was operating a feed mill along with his shingle mill located on the west side of McEwan south of the Flint & Pere Marquette tracks. The complex consisted of the two one-story mills along with two one-story shingle sheds, a one-story hay and feed warehouse, a one-story hay and grain warehouse, and the Rhoades Grocery Store. By 1899 the shingle mill was expanded and converted into a hub and heading mill, but the feed mill was never enlarged. The feed mill was discontinued sometime between 1906 and 1910. In 1910 the complex retained only one feed warehouse.

The G. W. Lee Feed Mill was in 1893 located on the east side of McEwan Street. This was another one-story mill with an attached one-and-a-half-story warehouse. An additional one-and-a-half-story hay and feed warehouse was located on the north side of the railroad tracks.

By 1899 the G. W. Lee Feed Mill was replaced by Clare's first grain elevator, which was operated by J. T. Horning. This was a three-story structure; it was sold to Burch and Wyman in 1905. They immediately made modifications to the building to include field bean handling and coal retail. They also purchased the F. B. Doherty lime, cement, and coal business. By 1910 the elevator was being operated as the Clare Elevator Company. This grain elevator was torn down in the 1970s.

The Clare Roller Mill was built in 1903 by William Callam. The mill was operated by an electrical turbine water wheel at the dam on the Tobacco River. By 1923 it was being operated as the Clare City Mills, and producing twenty tons of feed per day. The building was torn down in 1937 to make room for a Gulf Oil Company gas station.

The Survivor: The Chatterton-Johnson Elevator

Clare's second grain elevator was erected in 1905. This elevator was built by J. D. McLaren on a spot just south of the A. S. Rhoades mill complex. It was a two-and-a-half-story structure with warehouses for hay and barrel heads. The elevator was purchased by Chatterton and Son in 1917, and renamed the Clare Hay, Grain & Bean Company elevator. The following year the original two-and-a-half-story elevator was torn down and replaced with the present three-and-a-half-story elevator located at 307 N. McEwan. In the same year the warehouse just to the north of the elevator was expanded. The elevator was sold to Ed G. Johnston in 1926. The name of the business was retained at the time of the purchase but was eventually changed to the Johnston Hay, Grain and Bean Company in 1940, and has since been changed to the Johnston Elevator. Ed Johnston's son Joe took over the business in 1952. The elevator was sold to the Cutler Dickerson Company in 1987.

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By the turn of the twentieth century Clare had, for the most part, completely transitioned from an economy dependent on the lumber industry to one based on agriculture. As a result of the success of the local agriculture, Clare began to advertise itself as "The Market City" in 1909. The following year the *Clare Sentinel* reported sales of agricultural products in excess of one million dollars. Of that one million dollars, grain production accounted for thirty-one percent, livestock (alive and dressed) twenty-eight percent, and dairy products (wholesale cream and butter) twenty-five percent.

Agriculture-related Stores

During this time businesses began to spring up in support of this industry. A list of Clare businesses from 1902 shows very few stores catering to agricultural enterprises. Besides five hardware stores, John McKerracher's harness shop is the only farm-related business listed. Sometime after 1907, John Gardener would own an agricultural implement business on the north side of west Fourth Street. This implement store was sold to L. H. Thompson in 1912, and sometime in the mid-1900s became the Brewer Implement Store. At an unknown location W. B. Webb and Mortimer Gallagher owned the Clare Hardware and Implement Company. They relocated to 506 N. McEwan in 1914 after purchasing the Calkins Hardware building.

Oil Industry

The earliest history of exploration in Michigan for oil and natural gas is very poorly documented. It is possible that early discoveries in Ontario east of Sarnia in the early 1860s may have led to some exploration in the nearby areas of Michigan's St. Clair County across the border from Sarnia, and wells driven in that area in the 1887-90 period reportedly produced small amounts of crude oil that were refined and used for lubricating buggy and wagon axles. Drilling for water or for brine in certain parts of the state resulted in oil and natural gas discoveries, and since the state was located close to areas in Ontario, Ohio, and Indiana that were already producing oil and gas by 1900, there was ongoing interest in the subject and expectations that oil and gas in marketable quantities would be found. A first successful strike in Saginaw, fifty miles southeast of Clare, in 1925 quickly led to further strikes in that area and to larger firms beginning to explore more widely where the geology suggested. Drilling in what came to be the Mt. Pleasant field, ultimately one of the largest producers, located relatively close to Clare, began in 1927 and early in 1928 came an important strike that ushered in a boom in the oil and natural gas industries across the central part of the Lower Peninsula from Saginaw, Bay City, and Midland on the east to Mt. Pleasant, Alma, and Clare in the center and to Muskegon on the west. Exploration and new discoveries across the region proceeded rapidly during the 1930s.

In the Clare area the first discovery was of the McKay gas field in Grant Township in 1929. Additional oil and gas fields were developed in the west and northwest part of the county and to the south in adjacent Isabella County during the 1930s and 40s and later. The discovery of oil in the Clare area had a greater positive economic impact on the city of Clare than the tourist industry. To a large extent it insulated the city from the effects of the Great Depression.

With the oil and gas discoveries representatives of Michigan and national oil companies flocked to the scene. In the early oil boom days few oil men actually opened local offices. Most ran their operations out of rooms at the Doherty Hotel. The Strange Oil and Gas Company was one of those businesses headquartered at the Doherty Hotel. There were, however, exceptions: the Freeman Oil Company had offices in the Doherty Building in the 400 block of North McEwan Street and also in the second story of the Holbrook/Mair Building at 109 West Fifth Street. Merritt Oil also had an office in Clare, though at a location unknown today. Additionally, William Teeter opened a real estate and oil lease exchange office in February 1930 in the building at 502 North McEwan Street.

The key player in the county's oil industry in the 1930s and later was the Mammoth Petroleum Company, established in 1930 and reconstituted as the Mammoth Producing & Refining Corporation in 1933. Isaiah Leebove and Carl ("Jack") Livingston, both with backgrounds in the Oklahoma oil industry, and Sam Garfield, who had strong connections with Detroit's largely Jewish criminal underground, the Purple Gang, created the company after coming to Clare in 1929 seeking opportunities in this area located so close to previous discoveries. Leebove also had strong connections with New York's criminal underworld. Mammoth Petroleum/Producing & Refining was more

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than just your average oil exploration and drilling company. It was an oil company that served to launder money for Detroit's Purple Gang crime syndicate. Mammoth Oil had its first known office in Clare in the second story of the Citizen's State Bank Building at 502 N. McEwan, the northeast corner of North McEwan and Fourth Streets, in April 1937. In December of that year the company acquired the former Clare County State Bank Building across the street at 431 N. McEwan. For the area's oilmen and investors, including those affiliated with Mammoth, the Doherty continued to serve as a key social gathering place. On May 16, 1938, the hotel's bar became the site of the murder of Isaiah Leebove by Jack Livingston, his former business associate in Mammoth, who felt Leebove had cheated him of his fair share in Mammoth profits. In 1942 Mammoth moved its office to the newly constructed building at 515 N. McEwan, remaining there until it purchased the Citizen's State Bank Building in 1961. Mammoth Oil operated from this location until it closed its Clare office in the 1970s.

Social History/Entertainment and Recreation

Clare like most other communities had its share of social organizations. From the Sanborn maps it can be noted that the Women's Relief Corp. operated a dining hall on the northeast corner of Sixth and McEwan Streets from c. 1894 to 1899. The Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) occupied for a time Duncan Hall located on the second floor of 427 North McEwan.

Two groups which had a long presence in Clare's downtown were the Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF). The Masons met in the north unit of the second floor of the Wilson-Sutherland Building, located at the southwest corner of Fourth and McEwan, from c. 1893 until the building burned in 1910. The Masons then relocated to the second floor of the newly constructed Doherty Building at 518 North McEwan and remained at this location until 1931 when they remodeled and moved into the old Doherty Opera House. In 1989 after meeting in the former Opera House for fifty-eight years the Masons moved to the former Seventh Day Adventist building on East Fifth Street (outside of the district).

The IOOF is first known to have met in the south unit of the second floor of the Wilson-Sutherland Building in 1893. The following year they moved to a building in the middle of the east side of McEwan Street between Sixth and Seventh Streets. By the turn of the twentieth century the IOOF had moved out of this building and it was being used by the Knights of Pythias. The IOOF relocated to the second floor of Alfred J. Doherty's new six-storefront building. After fifty-seven years of meeting in this location, the IOOF was forced to relocate when the building burned in 1957. Their new lodge was constructed north of the downtown on Wilcox Parkway in 1958.

The American Legion met in the second floor of City Hall when the new building, officially known as the Clare City Hall and Memorial Building and dedicated to those who served and died in World War I, was completed in 1934. The building was designed to house second-story space for the American Legion.

The Clare Library Association and the Clare Study Club were two groups comprised of mostly women which advocated for the advancement of education in Clare. The two groups were influential in accumulating a 300-book library in the early twentieth century which was initially housed in the Union School. The school and library were lost in a 1921 fire. The Clare Library Association once again rallied to collect books and was able to establish a library within the Doherty Hotel once the building was completed in 1924. In 1950 the Doherty Hotel asked the library to relocate in order to use the space for a dining room. The library first relocated to the basement of the Dunwoodie Building across the street on the west side of McEwan, and operated there until 1961 when it relocated to the northeast corner of Fourth and McEwan. The library continued to grow and found it necessary to expand into a larger building, which it did in 2007, relocating to 185 East Fourth Street.

Even though the village of Clare was platted in 1870 and had seen rapid growth, it was not until 1881 that it saw the opening of its first Opera House. The Husted Opera House was constructed in 1881 at what is now 415 North McEwan. It was a three-story building with the opera house located on the third floor. The building was destroyed in an 1888 fire that damaged nearly the entire block of buildings. With the loss of the Opera House, Clare was without a place of entertainment. The G.A.R. Hall filled some of the void, but it was not equipped for the needs of the Clare citizens. Coming to the rescue in 1890 was Alfred J. Doherty. His Doherty Opera House at 524 N. McEwan, located adjacent to his hardware store, opened in 1891, with the opera house located on the second floor of the building.

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Repertory troupes who came to the Doherty Opera House traveled a circuit which included Farwell and Harrison. The Doherty Opera House also offered local drama talent, particularly that of the Clare Dramatic Club, consisting of Floyd Doherty, Alberta Long, Julia Harris, Sarah Malcolm, Mrs. Robert Mussell, Frank Colburn, T. S. Dorsey, C. H. O'Donald, R. G. Jefferies, Grant Defoe, and Frank Louch. Music was provided by the Kirkbride orchestra. Some of the club's productions were "The Dutch Recruit," "Among the Breakers," "A False Marriage," and "Imogene or the Wicked Witch." Probably the most unusual production put on at the Opera House was by Professor D. M. Bristol in 1893. His "Equescurriculum" included thirty horses.

After the opening of the Doherty Opera House, the G.A.R. Hall continued to hold productions. In fact in 1890 and 1891 a traveling troupe held shows of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in both the G.A.R. Hall and the Doherty Opera House within sixty days of each other. However, the Doherty Opera House began acquiring the better shows and the G.A.R. Hall was converted to a gymnasium for the local citizens.

Business was booming for the Doherty Opera House at the turn of the twentieth century. The interior was completely redecorated in 1901. In 1903 the Opera House tried its hand at motion pictures. The Colonial Motion Picture Company scheduled a showing of the "The Great Train Robbery" movie. The movie and projector were, however, destroyed in a fire in Alma prior to the movie's showing in Clare.

The motion picture industry continued to be bad news for the Doherty Opera House. The mid-1900s and early 1910s saw the opening of several small motion picture theaters in Clare. The Star Theatre, the first to open in 1906, was located on West Fourth Street. It was owned by Whitney and Sutton, and showed one- and two-reel movies. The theater had a large white sheet on one end of the room and benches for patrons to sit on. In 1907 Dr. Dunlop opened the Oriental Theatre on the vacant second floor of his Medical Hall on the southwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets. The theater, bought by E. N. Whitney in 1910, became the Vaudette. The Star Theatre became the Temple in 1908 and then, bought by Fred Northquist in 1911, became the Palace Theatre.

On July 4, 1912, the first full-time theater was opened in Clare. The Princess Theatre, owned by the Princess Photo Company, was located in the center unit of the Dunwoodie Building on the northwest corner of Fifth and McEwan Streets. The theater showed three-reel movies and illustrated songs daily.

As motion pictures became more popular, the Doherty Opera House could not compete. In March 1913 the Opera House's seats were sold off and work began to convert it to a public meeting room. In 1931 the Masons were leasing it for their Masonic Lodge.

What became downtown Clare's primary movie theater was built in 1930. In that year John Asline, then the owner of the Princess Theater, constructed the Ideal Theater at 609 N. McEwan. The theater could seat five hundred people, and was equipped with the most up-to-date projectors. The Ideal still serves Clare to this day.

Other recreational activities included roller skating on the second floor of 506 N. McEwan, and bowling on the second floor of 431 N. McEwan after the building was no longer used for banking purposes.

Churches

On September 8, 1872, the Rev. Austin Hull Norris and State Superintendent of Congregational Churches, the Rev. Leroy Warren, arrived in Clare to promote the establishment of a Congregational church in the village. The following Sunday evening the Rev. Norris held his first worship service in a small building in the south part of town that was being built for a school building. The church was officially recognized by council on December 22, 1872. The small congregation first met at the school building, but the Rev. Norris was determined to have a proper church building. He learned that William and John McEwan had set aside lots number eleven and twelve in block sixteen, on West Fifth Street, in trust for the Presbyterian Society. The Presbyterians, lacking an organized congregation, relinquished their claim on the property to the Congregationalists.

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Construction of a Congregational church, the first church building in Clare, began in July 1873. The financial hard times of 1873 caused the money for the project to come in slowly, and as a result the building was not finished until the summer of 1874. The present brick Congregational church, completed in 1909, stands at the same site within the district.

Other denominations would also soon build in Clare – the Free Methodists, Methodist Episcopal Church, Baptists, German Lutherans, and Catholics all by 1900 – but their church buildings all stood outside the district.

Architecture

The Clare Downtown Historic District contains a concentration of commercial buildings that, dating from the later nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century, possesses architectural significance for embodying a variety of architectural styles and features. The district also contains several architecturally distinguished non-commercial buildings, including a church and public buildings.

Clare's Congregational Church, built in 1908-09, is significant as a central-plan auditorium type church whose domed Greek cross-form exterior reflects Early Christian (with Byzantine and Romanesque elements as well) church design – a highly distinctive design for a Michigan Protestant church building of the early twentieth century. The building is significant in architectural terms not only for its design but also for its high place in the career of its Saginaw, Michigan-based architect, William T. Cooper. Part of the building's significance is also its very-old-for-Michigan geometric-pattern stained glass windows, which were saved from the previous 1870s church and reused in this building.

Two significant public buildings within the district are the 1930s City Hall and Post Office buildings. Clare's City Hall was constructed in the winter of 1933-34 under the direction of the Civilian Works Administration (CWA). The CWA was a New Deal agency established to provide construction jobs to unemployed workers. The program began on November 8, 1933, and ended less than five months later on March 31, 1934. The Clare City Hall and Memorial Building (its official name when built) is a two-story brick building of simple Art Deco-influenced design that is notable for its exterior brickwork that includes panels of vertically laid soldier bricks, raised brick details, and accents in brick of different hue from the main body of the building – techniques that, without dramatically raising the cost of the building, provide a great deal of artistic variety and visual interest. Although the building has been substantially altered over the years, these visual qualities have survived for the most part and reflect solid honor on the architect, R. V. Gay (1895-1943) of St. Johns, who had an extensive career in central Michigan specializing in school and public buildings. Gay (R. V. was his given name) first worked for the Warren S. Holmes Co. of Lansing, school building design specialists, in the early 1920s and then briefly as a partner in Gay & Brezner before forming his own firm around 1923. His two largest projects were the Northern Michigan Tuberculosis Sanitarium (later Alpine Regional Center for Developmental Disabilities) in Gaylord, 1936-39, and Midland High School in Midland, 1935-37. Gay had a Clare connection in that his wife, Florence (White) Gay, was from there – the two met in the early 1920s at the Warren S. Holmes Co., where both were serving as draftsmen, and Mrs. Gay later worked with R. V. Gay in Gay's architectural practice. Gay's obituary notes that he was "prominent in state and national American Legion circles."

The Clare Post Office was constructed in 1936-37. While a typical design for a Depression Era post office whose symmetrical unornamented modern design represents one of the eleven basic standard post office designs used by the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury between 1934 and the early 1940s, the building exhibits the quiet understated refinement of design of most of these 1930s post office buildings. The Clare Post Office is also notable for containing a mural created for it when the building was new. It is Allan Thomas' mural, "The Mail Arrives in Clare-1871." Post office murals such as this were funded through the Treasury Department's Section of Painting and Sculpture, and commissioned both to provide artwork to local communities for the purpose of boosting the morale of people suffering the effects of the Great Depression and providing support for unemployed artists as part of the federal Depression-relief effort.

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The earliest buildings within the Clare Downtown Historic District are three former residences. All of them were wood framed and of vernacular design that would be common to any late nineteenth-century rural Michigan community. Of them the 1882 Goodman House at 120 E. Fifth is the most intact.

The downtown's and district's two most important nineteenth-century buildings from an architectural standpoint are the adjoining Doherty Opera House and Clare County Savings Bank buildings at 524 and 532 N. McEwan, of Late Victorian design and built in 1891 and 1887, respectively. The buildings' broad upper facades complement each other in their use of rock-face stone trim, tall soldier brick arches over the windows, and paired windows beneath broad segmental arches. The bank building retains its broad projecting cornice supported by beefy brackets in groups of three. The Opera House has lost something through the removal of its decorative roofline treatment – a cornice with ornamental balustrade and gabled treatment at one end – and a small balustrade balcony that once fronted the center paired windows. Restoring at least the roofline treatment would have a dramatic visual impact on this key building and its block in the downtown.

The close design affinity between the two buildings stems from the fact that both were built for the same client, local businessman Alfred J. Doherty, and Doherty used the same architect, Fred W. Hollister of Saginaw, for both. Hollister (1847-1923) had a wide-ranging career across the Lower Peninsula and beyond over more than a half century. Born in upstate New York, he came to Saginaw as a youth and, working in other architects' offices beginning in 1864, entered into his own practice in 1870. Hollister had a general practice and designed everything from houses to commercial buildings and churches, but he was best known for his public and institutional buildings that included county courthouses in Isabella, Saginaw, Ogemaw, Gladwin, and Huron counties, 167 school buildings, according to an obituary, and large buildings at the Michigan Soldiers' Home in Grand Rapids, Michigan School for the Deaf in Flint, and Industrial School for Boys in Lansing.

Key features of the downtown district are its many Neoclassical buildings. These buildings by their number, size, and fine detailing visually dominate the McEwan streetscape and give the downtown much of its character. Neoclassicism is an architecture that prominently features elements directly or at least loosely based in classical Greek and Roman architecture, particularly columns, piers, pilasters, and cornices and entablatures. America's Classical and Greek Revival architecture, most popular from the 1820s to the 1840s, reflected one rebirth of interest in the architecture of ancient Greece and Rome, but went out of style in the 1850s. A new rebirth of interest in Neoclassical as a more restrained and simplified alternative to the highly decorative Victorian styles most popular in the 1850s to the 1880s was popularized by the very widely attended 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, whose buildings presented a luxuriant display of imposing large-scale architecture predominantly of classical character.

Neoclassical styling was introduced to the Clare downtown in 1904 with the Davy Building at 501 N. McEwan, with its broad piers, second-story window bays outlined by piers and entablatures, and broad main frieze and console bracket-decorated cornice. The second-story piers' Ionic capitals and most of the Ionic capitals on the second-story window piers have disappeared over the years, but enough are left to serve as models for reproducing these important lost features that would further enhance the visual character of this notable building.

The large building to the immediate north at 505-07 N. McEwan is also a prime example. It also has a console-bracket-detailed main cornice and a classical-trim-decorated bay window (a second bay window in 507 has been removed) and, while lacking the broad piers, instead features classical molded architrave-trim brick window surrounds on the second-story windows and also a molded brick egg-and-dart band forming the frieze's lower edge – both unusual touches not duplicated elsewhere in Clare's downtown.

Like the Davy Building, the Tatman Building at 506 N. McEwan also displays a simplified, abstract Neoclassicism that works well in commercial blocks of standard form with storefronts downstairs and office or living quarters upstairs. It has large brick piers with Ionic capitals of simplified, abstract form. A low corbelled brick architrave supports a broad plain frieze and a cornice with oversized squared-off modillions. The paired second-story windows have plain stone slab caps. Now housing a single large store, Clare Hardware, the broad-fronted building with its six groups of paired windows plus a single one at each end is one of the largest commercial blocks in the district. The

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building was designed by Clare architect O. M. Sutherland. Sutherland is also responsible for the design of two other brick buildings on the same block of McEwan, which were also rebuilt after the 1904 fire.

The 1911 Doherty Building next door to the Tatman at 518 N. McEwan is another outstanding Neoclassical store building. Its second story is adorned with a brick pier at each outer edge and fluted columns in the center. Piers and columns are crowned with highly detailed Ionic capitals rather than the more abstract form used next door, and the cornice displays intricately detailed console brackets and a dentil band beneath. The entablature's brickwork, also intricately detailed, uses corbelled work to form separate architrave and frieze bands and dentil-like details. The upstairs windows' flat-arch stone caps with raised keystones are another fine classical touch. This is another of local businessman Alfred J. Doherty's ornaments to his city.

The Cops & Doughnuts "complex" at 521 and 523 N. McEwan contains two more notable buildings of Neoclassical inspiration, both constructed in the wake of a 1907 fire. The Foss or Clare City Bakery building at 521 N. McEwan was constructed in 1907, the Rhoades Building at 523 in 1908. The Rhoades Building uses a quoin-like treatment in the brick end piers, with masonry Ionic capitals of wonderfully abstract form, while the main cornice itself displays console brackets with conventional classical detailing above a decorative metal frieze. The storefront retains its old prism glass transoms. This beautifully detailed brick building was designed by another local architect, Edward Gorr. The Clare City Bakery Building, 521, has the most inventive front of any Neoclassical-influenced building in the district, using the brickwork to provide a highly abstract version of the classical vocabulary.

An important historic feature of the Rhoades Building is its highly intact original pressed metal ceiling, fabricated by the Eller Manufacturing Company of Canton, Ohio. Ornamental pressed metal ceilings (and wall finishes) came into great popularity in the late nineteenth century as a cheaper and more durable substitute for ornamental plasterwork. They were part of a much broader development of architectural metalwork of all kinds – ornamental metal building fronts; pressed metal exterior cladding in place of wood, brick, or stone; cornices; and roofing material – that reached a peak of use during the same late nineteenth and early twentieth-century time period. The pressed metal technology made possible an infinite variety and degree of complexity in designs – ornamental work that was far beyond what could be accomplished in plaster at an affordable price. Manufacturers of pressed metal ceiling and wall material were to be found in many parts of the nation, but Ohio in general and particularly Canton, Ohio, located near great steel mill centers such as Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Youngstown, Ohio, became an important center for the industry. By 1900 Canton was the home of three leading manufacturers, the Berger Manufacturing Company, Canton Steel Ceiling Company (based in New York, but with the plant in Canton), and the Eller Manufacturing Company. These companies' early twentieth-century catalogs, each a thick volume containing hundreds of designs for whole ceilings and ceiling components – Berger's 1908 *"Classik" Metal Ceilings Catalogue Number 12* contains 420 pages – illustrate both the immense variety of designs and the artistic skill and creativity of the firms' designers and artisans. Eller's 185-page 1910 catalog states that the company, the successor to J. H. Eller & Co., was then in its twentieth year of making metal ceilings (Eller, Introductory, 4). Like Berger and some other large-scale manufacturers, Eller designated its designs by style, such as "Gothic," "Colonial," or "Italian Renaissance," the intent seeming to be to assist clients in selecting models for the various ceiling components that complemented one another. The Rhoades Building's ceiling mostly follows a design for an entire "Colonial" ceiling that, illustrated on the catalog's page 34, uses the same cove design along the edge outlining the same panels in three sizes. The Clare ceiling differs from the page 34 design, though, in using a filler of "Gothic" design for the flat area against the cove around the edges. The ceiling uses stock components illustrated on later pages in the catalog. It is a fine example of the pressed metal ceiling type during its prime years. Another excellent example of an Eller pressed metal ceiling exists in the former Lipsett Hardware Building, now the Pickford Area Historical Society Museum, in Pickford, Chippewa County.

What was once the downtown's most fully developed example of Neoclassical design, and still retains much of the original Neoclassical finish, is the former Clare County Savings Bank at 431 N. McEwan. The building originally displayed a shallow, recessed portico containing two two-story tall Ionic columns in the central third of the front. While the front was rebuilt without the portico and the banking room divided into two stories after the bank's 1932 failure, the buff brick front and long street-facing side retain much of their terra-cotta detailing, including the classical entablature and parapet cap, rosette medallions in the low attic, pier capitals displaying anthemions and

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other classical motifs, and the ornamental terra cotta panels above the side windows depicting acanthus leaves and other classical devices. Hopefully something more appropriate can be done with the first-floor front one day.

This building was designed by Cowles & Mutscheller of Saginaw, comprised of Clarence Cowles and George Mutscheller – Cowles also served as the architect for the Doherty Hotel, whose construction began in 1922. The building was designed in 1915, but not constructed until 1922. Born in Flint, Clarence Cowles (1869-1935) moved to Saginaw and opened his own architectural office in 1893. George Mutscheller (1882-1936) was born in Sturgis and moved to Saginaw by 1908, when he and Cowles formed the Cowles & Mutscheller firm. Saginaw historian/architectural historian Thomas Trombley states that, “In the first decade of the twentieth century, Clarence Cowles produced designs for a number of substantial private and public buildings. Although he employed many different historically inspired styles, his work is characterized by structural innovation and imaginative manipulation of space.” Trombley lists among Cowles’ own buildings two in Saginaw – St. Mary’s Catholic Cathedral, 601 Hoyt, a Gothic building built in 1901, and the Forest Lawn Cemetery Comfort Station, exotic in its Moorish-inspired design. A 1915 article cited by Trombley reported that the Cowles & Mutscheller firm “has designed 1,600 buildings since its inception.” He states, “In the teens, Cowles and Mutscheller designed some of their finest buildings.” While the loss of the full Ionic column-decorated original front of the building is to be regretted, the building exterior as it stands today with much of the original intricate Neoclassical detailing in place remains a key architectural landmark in the district and downtown.

An architectural “style” dating from the early to the mid-twentieth century commonly found in Michigan downtowns is what has been called “Commercial Brick,” a fashion in which references to historic styles of architecture are downplayed or omitted and the decorative qualities provided by the brickwork itself impart the “style.” Rectangular panels of brickwork outlined by raised strips of header and rowlock or full stretcher and soldier bricks, as in the upper façade of 104 W. Fifth Street, are a characteristic Commercial Brick motif, with other forms such as panels of basketweave or herringbone brickwork. Color variations – playing off two different hues of brick in the same façade – are also sometimes part of the Commercial Brick vocabulary. The 1907 Clare City Bakery Building, with its elaborate shadow-catching display of brickwork that presents more abstract than truly classical forms seems the prototype for Commercial Brick in downtown Clare. A prime example in the district is the 1933-34 Clare City Hall in which architect R. V. Gay used raised brickwork panels, strips and panels of soldier brickwork, and accents of brick of different hue to enliven a building of otherwise relatively simple exterior design. The buff brick upper façade of the 1930 Ideal Theater Building is the district’s outstanding commercial building of Commercial Brick design. Its upper façade displays a variety of brickwork patterns – stacked headers forming raised strips flanking the window openings and framing the façade’s three broad piers and forming vertical raised strips and panels in the centers of the piers, horizontal bands of alternating raised and recessed rowlock and soldier bricks spanning the tops of the window bays, and horizontal bands of headers alternately recessed and flush with the façade below the second-story window openings and below the parapet – that provide an interesting play of light and shadow.

The massive Bicknell Building at 418-20 N. McEwan, its larger north part built in 1907 and the shorter southern section in matching style resulting from the façade renovation of an older building in 1923, also fits into the Commercial Brick fashion despite its classical-inspired cornice with modillions and dentils. Its attic below the cornice displays recessed squares of brickwork with masonry blocks marking the corners and strips of headers outlining the panels on all sides. A three brick high corbelled band formed a cornice-like detail separating the attic from the tall storefront below. Horizontal header courses spanning the attic façade between the panels and blocks above and below them were made of a different color brick from the rest, giving the upper front a bi-colored look that is no longer present since the façade was painted in the 1970s. The historic photo of the building in *Clare 1865-1940* shows the now boarded-in middle level of the façade above the storefront filled with broad strips of large prism glass windows that made a strong contribution to the building’s very striking appearance. A 1907 newspaper story lists “Bogart” of Saginaw as “architect” – who this was and whether architect in the modern sense or in the old sense of “chief builder” was meant is unclear.

During the 1920s “modern” architecture that purposefully rejected the historic styles of the past began to come into popularity in the United States. Modern design had its beginnings in the United States as well as Europe in the early twentieth century, but found more ready acceptance in Europe than it did in the United States. One early form of

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modernism, known as Art Deco, characterized by angular, blocky forms, was at its height of popularity from the 1920s into the 1930s. Although City Hall's brickwork and the Ideal Theater Building's upper façade's brick detailing both have something of an Art Deco feel to them, no buildings in the district truly exemplify Art Deco. But two buildings in the district do exemplify the slightly later Moderne style of the mid-1930s to the early 1950s with its smooth finishes and rounded rather than angular forms. One is the Ideal Theater's theater front with its colorful marquee, a 1937 renovation to the 1930 building, the other the enameled metal panel-front building at 517 N. McEwan that forms the southern end of the Cops & Donuts buildings.

In the first decades after World War II the International style, the high point of modern design in its crisp, clean lines and lack of ornament, became widely accepted in the United States. The dominance of the International style coincided with the prosperous period of the 1950s and 60s when much building and renovating of older buildings was taking place across the nation. The buildings at 102 W. Fifth and 417 N. McEwan with their stacked-bond brickwork built using elongated Roman brick and large expanses of shop windows set on low bulkheads are highly intact examples of the International style storefront design of the post-World War II era. The current front of 102 W. Fifth likely dates from a 1948 renovation after a fire, while 417 N. McEwan was built in two parts, the larger south end in 1957 and north end in 1963.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
 previously listed in the National Register (Clare Congregational Church)
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 16.25

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Clare Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Clare, Michigan
County and State

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 43.820602 | Longitude: -84.771137 |
| 2. Latitude: 43.820602 | Longitude: -84.766296 |
| 3. Latitude: 43.816934 | Longitude: -84.766303 |
| 4. Latitude: 43.816957 | Longitude: -84.771173 |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The district boundary begins at the NW corner of lot 9 block 17; thence E along the North line of lots 9 and 8 block 17, and lots 11 to 14 block 16; th E to the SW corner of the E½ of lot 5 block 16; th N to the NW corner of the S¼ of the E½ of lot 5 block 16; th E along the North line of the S½ of lot 7 block 16 to the center of North McEwan Street; th N to the North line of block 15; th East along the North line of block 15 to the center of Pine Street; th S along the East line of Block 15 and lot 7 block 22; th W along the South line of lots 7 to 4 block 22; th W to the SE corner of the W¼ of lot 3 block 22; th S along the East line of the W¼ of lot 12 block 22, and lots 3 and 12 block 27 to the center of East Third Street; th W to the center of North McEwan Street; th S to the North line of block 39; th W along the North line of lot 6 block 39; th W to the NW corner of the E½ of lot 5 block 39; th N 50 feet; th E 55 feet, th N along the West line of lots 9 to 6 block 28 to the center of West Fourth Street; th W along the South line of lot 10 block 21 and the East 8 feet of lot 11 block 21; th N to the South line of lot 4 block 21; th W to the SW corner of lot 4 block 21; th N along the West line of lot 4 block 21 to the center of West Fifth Street; th W along the South line of lots 12 to 14 block 16 and lots 8 and 9 block 17; th N to the Point of Beginning.

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The northern border of the district on the east side of McEwan is located where Sixth Street formerly existed. Sixth Street between McEwan and Pine Streets was deeded to the Doherty Hotel in 1990 to become part of the site for the hotel's expansion. The east edge of the district runs along the center line of Pine Street to the middle of the 500 block of Pine, where it turns to the west through the Fifth Street Parking Lot to the east edge of the properties located along McEwan. This parking lot was part of a 2005 development project which cleared the middle of the 500 block between McEwan and Pine Streets. The district border then proceeds south through the remainder of the 500 block and the 400 block to the center line of Third Street, where it again proceeds west to the center of McEwan Street. The border then follows the center of McEwan south to 307 North McEwan (Johnston Elevator) where it heads west and wraps around the elevator before proceeding to the north, bordering the west edge of the properties located along McEwan. Once the border reaches the center of West Fourth Street it proceeds west past 124 West Fourth Street before heading north following the west property line of 124 West Fourth Street. It then follows the south and west property line of 111 West Fifth Street (U. S. Post Office) to the center line of West Fifth Street where it proceeds west to 202 West Fifth Street (Clare City Hall). It then wraps around 202 West Fifth Street and heads east following the north edge of the properties located along West Fifth Street. It then turns north wrapping around 613 North McEwan, and heads east to the center of McEwan. The border then heads north to the point where it began.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary was drawn to encompass the area of downtown Clare that includes the highest concentration of historically and architecturally significant commercial buildings. South of the elevator at 321 N. McEwan (west side of street) and south of E. Third (east side) are mostly post-1965 buildings that are a mix of commercial and residential. North of 613 N. McEwan and north of the property fronting on W. Fifth's north side west to Beech is the modern Mid-Michigan Hospital complex and its parking lots. North of the Doherty Hotel complex (604 N. McEwan) are a combination of modern commercial buildings with some older homes and a church complex. To the district's immediate southeast, south of 120 E. Fifth, is a modern library building and a parking lot, and the east two-thirds of the next block south, bounded by Pine and E. Third, contains a mostly non-historic mix of commercial buildings and houses. East of Pine Street is an older residential area. The area between W. Fourth and Fifth east of Beech contains parking lot (west of the post office, 111 W. Fifth, and a large modern elderly housing complex. South of W. Fourth are no historic buildings, except, too far west to be included in the district, the historic railroad station, recently moved and now being rehabilitated in consultation with SHPO). West of Beech development becomes more scattered and contains few historic resources.

11. Form Prepared By

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organization: Lingaur Preservation
street & number: 313 East Seventh Street
city or town: Clare state: MI zip code: 48617
e-mail: klingaur@gmail.com
telephone: 989-418-2101
date: November 9, 2015

Additional Documentation

Clare Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Clare, Michigan
County and State

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Clare Downtown Historic District
City or Vicinity: Clare
County: Clare State: Michigan
Photographer: Kenneth Lingaur

Date Photographed: November 8, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0001)
W. Fifth St. looking NE from W of City Hall (City Hall L, Cong'l Church dome to R, Doherty Hotel to its R in distance).

2 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0002)
N side of 100 Block of W. Fifth St. looking NE (Cong'l Church L, Doherty Hotel in distance R)

3 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0003)

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S side of 100 Block of W. Fifth St. looking SE (Post Office R)

4 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0004)
S side of 100 Block of E. Fifth St. looking SW (Goodman House L, Horse Shelter R)

5 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0005)
Doherty Hotel, E side of 600 Block of N. McEwan St. looking NE.

6 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0006)
W side of 600 Block of N. McEwan St. looking SW (shows 523 to 613 N. McEwan, R-L).

7 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0007)
E side of 500 Block of N. McEwan St. looking SE (shows 532-part of 506, L-R).

8 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0008)
E side of 500 Block of N. McEwan St. looking NE (shows 604-402, L-R).

9 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0009)
W side of 500 Block of N. McEwan St. looking SW (shows 505-525, L-R).

10 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0010)
W side of 500 Block of N. McEwan St. looking NW (shows 501-525, L-R).

11 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0011)
N Side of 100 Block of W. Fifth St. looking NE (124-112, L-R).

12 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0012)
S side of 100 Block of E. Fifth St. looking SW (shows 112, L, and 426 N. McEwan, R).

13 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0013)
W side of 400 Block of N. McEwan St. looking SW (shows 405-431, L-R).

14 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0014)
W side of 400 Block of N. McEwan St. looking NW (shows 405-431, L-R).

15 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0015)
E side of 400 Block of N. McEwan St. looking SE (shows 426-402, L-R).

16 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0016)
E side of 400 Block of N. McEwan St. looking NE (shows 506 & 502, far L, to 402, R).

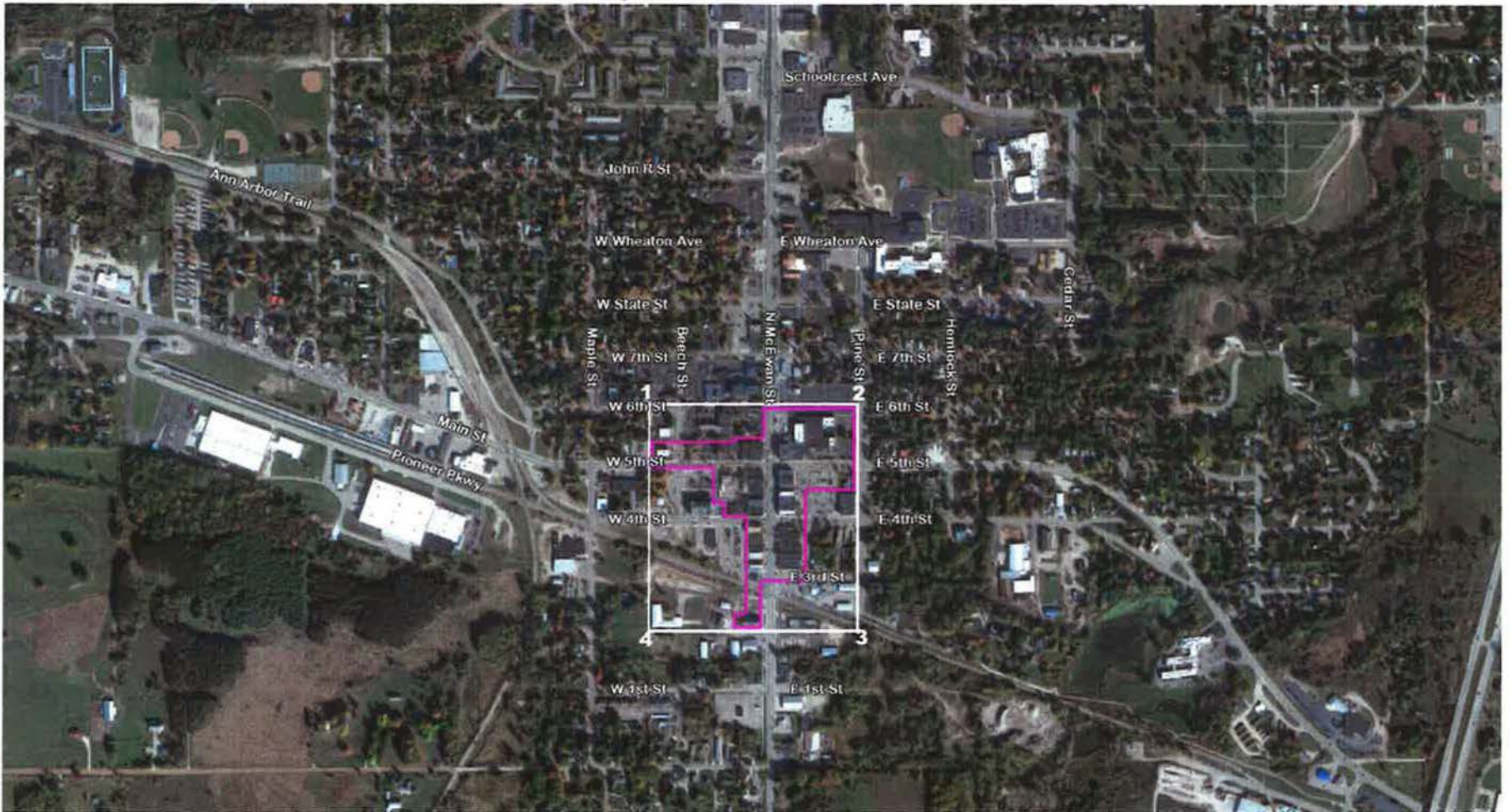
17 of 17 (MI_Clare_Clare Downtown HD_0017)
W side of 300 Block of N. McEwan St. looking NW (shows 307, L; 321, center R (in white); 405, R. Large red brick building in center is modern elderly housing just outside district W of 124 W. Fourth).

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

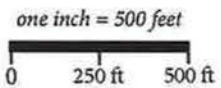
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Clare Downtown Historic District
 Clare, Clare County, Michigan

Lat./Long. 1: 43.820602, -84.771137
 Lat./Long. 2: 43.820602, -84.766296

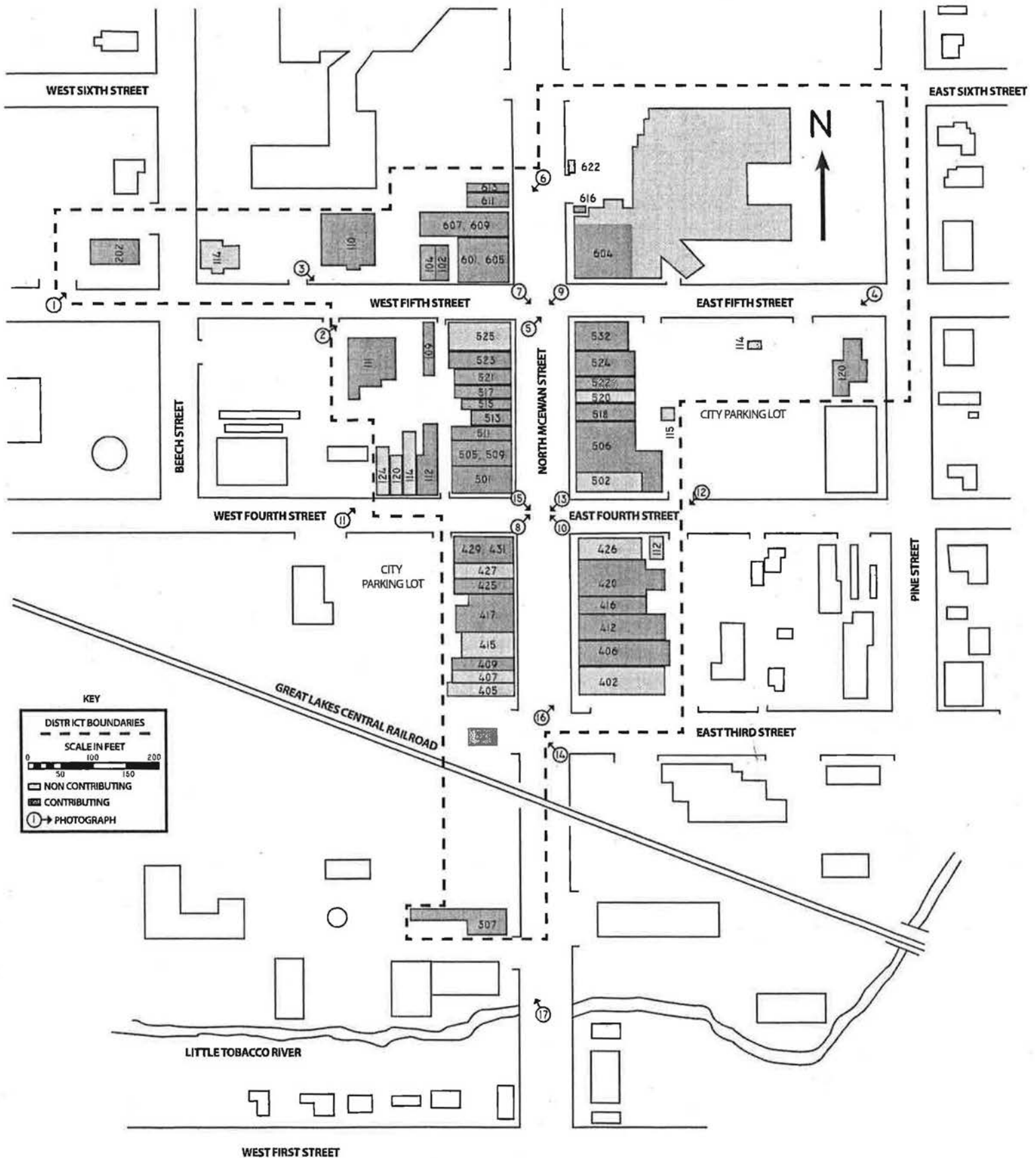
Lat./Long. 3: 43.816934, -84.766303
 Lat./Long. 4: 43.816957, -84.771173



CLARE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

Clare, Michigan, Clare County

December 2013









UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

MIDLAND
HARRISON
LANDING

NEW YORK
SPRINGFIELD

Handicap Accessible Sign





Doherty

VACANCY

Doherty Hotel

BAR

Care

Hotel Doherty

Cocktail Lounge

VACANCY

LEFT TURN ONLY



Brewing on
McEwen

The Old H. H. H.
Co. & Sons, Inc.
EST. 1905

NUTS
NIE

KAPS
KØINS

OPEN
HAMBURGERS



ISABELLA BANK

ISABELLA BANK

McEwan

ISABELLA BANK
Investment and Trust Services

Red awning with white text

Red awning with white text





HOTEL
DOHERTY

HARDWARE

Clare Best Hardware

Paint
Plumbing

NORTH
BUSINESS
127

WEST
BUSINESS
115

BUSINESS
10

AIMED
WOOD



POPS & DOUGHNUTS
MAKING CLASSIC CITY PASTRIES SINCE 1996

Her Place

127



McEwan



Radio

Wicks Jewel





Drapery Boutique & Design

welcome to our
tailor's
BRITCHES

tailor's
BRITCHES

CREATIVE SEWING
ALTERATIONS
& SEWING MORE

The Evening Post

BAR

ROCK





Claine's
HAIR & NAIL
Expressions
386-3701



Ruckle's Pier
BAR & GRILL

WELCOME HUNTERS

BUD LIGHT

WELCOME HUNTERS

BECK'S PIER BAR & GRILL

BUD LIGHT

WELCOME HUNTERS

BECK'S PIER BAR & GRILL

BUD LIGHT

WELCOME HUNTERS

BECK'S PIER BAR & GRILL

Clips Prints & Photo Shoppe

BECK'S PIER BAR & GRILL

BUD LIGHT

WELCOME HUNTERS

Continental

APPLIANCES - FURNITURE

APPLIANCES - JEWELRY

Continental

APPLIANCES - FURNITURE

APPLIANCES - JEWELRY





McEvan

Edward Jones INVESTMENTS

Milton

HARTWELL BOOKS



CAMPER PAINTING, INC.

JCT
BUSINESS
10
115

SCHUMACHER AGENCY

SUBWAY



Johnston Elevator

Johnston Elevator

ADM

Plex

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Clare Downtown Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MICHIGAN, Clare

DATE RECEIVED: 3/04/16 &pw DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/15/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/30/16 &pw DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/19/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000178

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4.19.16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

&a4L

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720-2520

January 1, 2016

Mr. Robert Christensen
National Register Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
Michigan Library and Historical Center
702 Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30740
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8240

Dear Mr. Christiansen,

I write to support most strongly the people of Clare in the bid to have their downtown designated a Historic District. I believe I know the history well having written two books focused on the town, *Clare: 1865-1940* and *Mystery Man—Gangsters, Oil, and Murder in Michigan*.

Clare is an outstanding example of a town that cares for its history and, especially in recent years, has taken active steps to preserve and enhance its architectural and historic legacy. As you drive around Michigan's small towns, one disconcerting sight after another meets the eye: dilapidated buildings, vacant storefronts, unsightly modern 'enhancements', and new, architecturally unbecoming buildings injected onto lots that once held fine, period structures. But drive along McEwan in Clare and an altogether different prospect meets the eye: fine examples of 19th century brick buildings remain; early 20th century structures virtually fill whole blocks. Of course some rebuilding after fires such as the 1956 disaster or the Dunlop Café's destruction has broken the historic lines; that could hardly be avoided. But overall, the newer structures do not much diminish the powerful impression of the rest of the Downtown from the grandeur of the Doherty Hotel to the Ideal Theater's magnificent marquee, the fine Clare Bakery (now Cops and Doughnuts), the old Davy's Department Store (now The Venue) and so forth.

But Clare's Downtown is more than just a fine example of a main street of the early-mid 20th century. It was the hub of a town that showed how American values of hard work, investment, and leadership carved a town out of a green wilderness. Then, rather than dry up and blow away as so many lumber towns did, Clare took on new life as a market center for the agriculture, grazing, and industry of the area. Among its citizens, forward looking investors built factories to produce furnaces and wooden ware and even travel trailers when cars began to turn the town toward the booming tourist business wrought by the advent of the automobile. A.J. Doherty, state senator and erstwhile candidate for governor, represented the importance of small town America in the larger political landscape—as did Dennis Alward, Clare's 'boy mayor,' who went on to prominence in the national Republican Party.

Clare's main street was a stage for playing out some of America's biggest dramas. The drive for Prohibition brought Carrie Nation to town. Depression saw suffering with the failure of a

pillar of the community, the Clare County Savings Bank, located right on McEwan and still standing today. Prohibition brought gangsters from Detroit to play an important part in Clare's next life, the oil boom of the 30s. The murder of one of their henchmen took place in the venerable Doherty Hotel.

As calm settled into Clare after the disruption of the Second World War, main street continued to be the focus of the community, the place where traditional 4th of July Parades were held as well as the then new Clare Irish Festival, now a famous fixture among Michigan celebrations of our roots.

Clare's downtown buildings have seen a lot and been a part of a lot of history. Today, there is widespread determination and enthusiasm to preserve and enhance that architecture. The recent award of a façade enhancement grant is but one indication of the business persons' determination to recapture even more of the essence of those by-gone days. Who could not rejoice in the prospect of modernizing siding being pitched into landfill, the old, stately brick once again brought to light of day? In the town as a whole, the herculean task of saving, moving, and repurposing the Union Depot shows in another way the zeal of Clarites to save their heritage. Likewise, there is now determination to preserve two Depression-era city bridges, rare examples of such WPA work surviving in small towns. This legacy expands on the beautiful Depression era murals in the Middle School and in the Post Office.

Clare Downtown Historic District. That is a designation Clare richly deserves. It recognizes Clare's striking main street architecture as well as its past, present, and future dedication to recognizing and preserving an important slice of American history and culture. Thank you for all your hard work in helping the citizens of Clare reach this point in the process. I very much hope and, of course, strongly recommend that the designation be granted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Knapp". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Robert Knapp
Professor (emeritus)
University of California, Berkeley



Clare County Historical Society

c/o Jon H. Ringelberg, Treasurer
3062 E. Colonville Rd.
Clare, MI 48617-9448

A 501(c)3 organization

January 6, 2016

Robert Christensen
National Register Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
702 Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30740
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Christiansen:

On behalf of the Clare County Historical Society, I want to add my voice to that of the people of Clare who wish to see their downtown designated as a Historical District.

Clare was born out of the lumbering camps of the 1870s and grew up with the railroad. Like many similar cities and towns, it struggled once the lumber played out and during the Depression years that followed. But unlike many, Clare regained its footing during the oil boom of the late 1930s and continued to prosper as people took to the roads after the war to take advantage of the woods, rivers and lakes for which Clare County is renowned. Some came only to visit while others came to live as full- or part-time residents.

Even in the dark years of the Depression when jobs disappeared around the state and country, residents in Clare never forgot their past. In the Downtown area are two magnificent Depression-era murals; one in the post office and a second in the Middle School that speak to the community's past. There is also a third Depression-era mural in the historic downtown Doherty Hotel that shows beer making by Leprechauns, but that may speak more to Clare's Irish roots and its post-Prohibition longings than its past. I will leave it up to others to interpret that one!

Clare also speaks to its past through its downtown. While other cities and towns in Michigan were tearing down their old buildings in the name of urban renewal, Clarettes were working to preserve theirs. Much of the downtown area looks as it did 100 years ago. Recently, the community, with strong support (including financial) of downtown business owners received a grant to restore the facades of seven downtown buildings to as close as possible to their original look.

The Clare County Historical Society mission is to preserve, advance and disseminate the history of Clare County, Michigan.



97TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514
PHONE: (517) 373-8962
FAX: (517) 373-7195
E-MAIL: joeljohanson@house.mi.gov

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JOEL JOHNSON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

COMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN, WORKFORCE AND
TALENT DEVELOPMENT
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCE AND TRADE
JUDICIARY

January 6, 2016

Mr. Robert Christensen, National Register Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
Michigan Library and Historical Center
P.O. Box 30740
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Mr. Christensen,

I am writing in support of the City of Clare's application to have the downtown area added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Clare is a premier example of small-town Pure Michigan in the heart of the Lower Peninsula. Founded with the coming of the Pere Marquette Railroad in 1870, it was incorporated as a city in 1891. Institutions such as the Doherty Hotel and the Ideal Theater, and even newer additions including Cops and Doughnuts (the former Clare Bakery), add a richness to Clare that is rarely found in similar towns. McEwan Street is the epicenter of a city that has seen considerable change, but has evolved and grown along the way while still maintaining its considerable charm. Old buildings meet new downtown and none look out of place.

History lives in Clare, especially through the recent project of moving and restoring the Union Depot, built in 1895, and efforts are currently underway to preserve bridges built under the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression, expanding on the WPA's art legacy in the post office and middle school.

I am in strong support of Downtown Clare being added to the National Register of Historic Places. As its state representative, I am confident that the city would welcome sharing its heritage with not only Michiganders but with people throughout the United States as well.

Warm regards,

Joel Johnson
State Representative
97th District

cc: Mayor Pat Humphrey, City of Clare
Mr. Ken Hibl, City Manager, City of Clare



33RD DISTRICT
1005 FARNUM BUILDING
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MI 48909-7536
PHONE: (517) 373-3760
TOLL-FREE: (866) 305-2133
FAX: (517) 373-8661
senjemmons@senate.michigan.gov

MICHIGAN SENATE
JUDY K. EMMONS
STATE SENATOR

COMMITTEES:
FAMILIES, SENIORS AND HUMAN SERVICES, CHAIR
VETERANS, MILITARY AFFAIRS AND HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE CHAIR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT
ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

January 7, 2016

Mr. Robert Christensen
National Register Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
Michigan Library and Historical Center
702 Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30740
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Re: Clare Downtown District
Recommendation to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Dear Mr. Christensen,

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter regarding Clare's Downtown District.

It is my understanding that there is a pending request from the City of Clare to have Clare's Downtown District be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Clare's Downtown District holds a tremendous historical value to the community. Downtown Clare has experienced many cultural and social changes ranging from lumber, agriculture, and industrial economic markets. Throughout these significant changes the community has been committed to preserving its significant historical enrichment to the area.

I have long believed the preservation of our history better prepares us in addressing our future. That is why I am extremely supportive of Clare's commitment to preserve its history and would ask that you strongly consider this designation be granted.

Thank you again for your time and consideration of my support for this application. If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Judy Emmons
State Senator
33rd Senate District

Cc: Ken Hibl, Clare City Manager
Pat Humphrey, Mayor



Clare County Historical Society

Nine years ago, the City enacted changes in its zoning codes with the goal of ensuring the historic aspect of our downtown is preserved. Those standards are monitored and enforced by the Downtown Development Authority. It's wonderful to walk the downtown area these days and peek into various businesses that line the streets: A bakery owned by local cops; a shop that recycles old barn wood and ships its creations nationwide; a business that features all kinds of hand-crafted items from area artisans; a bike store that rents kayaks and canoes to use on area waters and that rents bikes to use on a rail trail (a trail that passes through downtown Clare and that stretches from Midland to Reed City); and even an art gallery. Yes, our little city has its own art gallery.

In addition, the community has banded together to save, move to the downtown area and refurbish an old Queen Anne style railroad depot, built in the 1890s and that once served the community and—thanks to community support and work—will open this spring to serve a new generation.

And these are just a few of the businesses and buildings. There are others including a 1930s movie theater that shows first-run movies for only a fin and a downtown Congregational Church, the latter already listed on the National Register. I could go on and on. I expect to see a lot more people walking the streets of Clare should it receive an historical designation.

Our job in the Clare County Historical Society is to help preserve, advance and educate people—residents and visitors alike—about the history of Clare County. The interest and commitment of the people in Clare to its history and to its downtown makes our role that much easier. Adding the downtown as a Historic District will not only reward the community for its past work but set the stage for continued success. We hope that the designation be granted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Johnson', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Martin Johnson
Marketing Coordinator/Board Member
Clare County Historical Society



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

KEVIN ELSENHEIMER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



March 1, 2016

Mr. J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed is a national register nomination form for the Clare Downtown Historic District in Clare County, Michigan. This property is being submitted for listing in the national register. All written comments concerning this nomination submitted to us prior to our forwarding this nomination to you are enclosed.

Questions concerning this nomination should be addressed to Robert O. Christensen, national register coordinator, at 517/335-2719 or christensenr@michigan.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Martha MacFarlane-Faes
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

