

Nauvoo

The Way We Were

1300 Mulholland

1891 Plat: Drug Store (west side)
Meat Market (east side)
1912 Sanborn Map: Jewelry (west side)
Meat Market (east side)
2010: Book Store (east and west sides)

1877

Walter Building

One of the few three-story buildings in Nauvoo

The building was designed for two separate businesses to operate at the at the same time: one on the east side, one on the west.

In 1947, the two sides merged into one.

East Side:

1872 – 1900s Walter Brothers Meat Market (Early 1900s)

West Side:

1877 – 1894 Central Drug Store

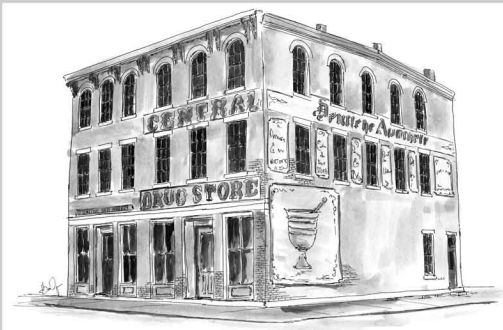
1912 – 1946 Kemlers' Jewelry Store
Also sold ice cream
"You scream, I scream, we all scream for Kemlers' ice cream"

East and West Sides:

1947 – 1958 Kron's Pharmacy

1958 – 1970 Lutz's Hardware Store

Present Latter Day Harvest Book Store



Drawing by David Alan Badger

1. 1891 Plat and 1912 Sanborn Maps were used as baselines for building locations. They are available for viewing at the Nauvoo Historical Society's Weld House Museum, 1380 Mulholland.

2. Addresses in quotation marks indicate no existing structure at this location in 2010.



Photo Courtesy of Marilyn Kraus

c. early 1900's "Central Drug Store," Walter Building
(Note the sign Deutsch Apothete on the west side of the building, indicating the strong German immigrant influence in Nauvoo between the 1850's and 1860's. The original sign remained on the building until 1915.

The Walter Building, built in 1877 by Michael Baumert, Sr., for businessman Christian Walter, replaced an existing, unidentified building noted in an 1859 Plat. It was one of the few three-story structures in Nauvoo at that time. Over the years, the third floor was used by various groups: fraternal lodges, Nauvoo City Council, as well as a practice area for the Nauvoo City Band.

East Side

The east side was where the Walter Brothers, Christian and Fritz, ran "Walter Brothers' Meat Market." (The brothers formerly ran a meat market on Main Street on the "Flats" prior to their move "uptown." They were perhaps the oldest established meat market in Hancock County," according to one source.) Meat could be smoked out back in the smoke house. Christian retired in 1892. Jake and Fred "Snooky" Walter later owned the building, offering "fresh and smoked meats" in a Walter Brothers ad in the early 1900's.



5th and Main St., KEOKUK, IOWA.

1300 Mulholland

West Side

On the west side was a drug store, known as “Central Drug Store,” run by Arnold Masberg, who in the 1870’s had run a drug store in his home on Wells (11th) across from where the Mormon Temple now stands. Masberg, apparently, ran Central Drug from 1877-1880 when A.C. Mills bought the building, purchased Masberg’s stock, and operated the drug store and a jewelry store from 1880-1893. For a brief time (August to November 1895) W.W. Akenhead ran a watch repair and tobacco shop in the building.

Then, from 1885-1894, August Beger and Robert Aitchison ran the drug store in the building. In 1894, Beger bought out Aitchison’s share in the business and moved into the new “Business Block” on Mulholland and Bluff.



Photo Courtesy of Bruce Hierstein

From c.1912-1946 Edward and Caroline “Carrie” Kemler ran “Kemlers’ Jewelry Store” whose motto was “The Place for a Square Deal.” The store featured watches, jewelry repair and engraving, silverware, and confectionary goods, including homemade ice cream. “I scream, you scream, we all scream for Kemlers’ homemade ice cream” was from a well-known ad. The IOOF Hall (International Order of Odd Fellows, a popular fraternal group of the time) was located on the third floor c. 1912.



Photo Courtesy of Leonard Hogan

Kron’s Pharmacy c. latter 1940’s, early 1950’s
Note that the Deutsch Apothete sign is gone. (It would reappear and disappear over the years to follow.)

East and West Sides

Until the late 1940’s different stores were located on each side of the building. Then, in 1947, Eldred Kron purchased the building and moved his pharmacy from its previous location at the Temple House down the street to the west. He utilized both sides as “Kron Pharmacy” until 1958 when he built a new building in the same block to the east.

In 1958, Otis “Otie” Lutz bought the building, closing his former store (located across the street and to the west) and reopened “Lutz’s Hardware Store in the larger facility. Otie and/or wife Loretta ran the store until 1970.

Since then, a series of owner/operators have had businesses in the store.



Photo Courtesy of Nauvoo Historical Society

Montgomery Electric and Hardware c. 1970’s.
The building (“1310”) to the east (L), formerly the “Casino,” is Bunch and Jim’s Tavern.