

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WINONA

EAST SECOND STREET COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Get in on the ground floor.

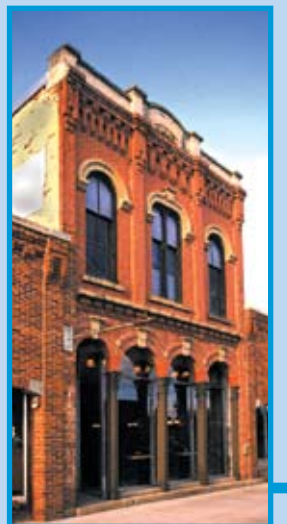
On July 5, 1862, Second Street looked dramatically different than it had on July 3rd. A massive fire on Independence Day destroyed virtually all the buildings in Winona's downtown. Yet despite this devastation, Winona rebuilt itself from the ground up. The city's first rail line was completed in that year, connecting Winona with Stockton, five miles to the west. By 1870, Winona was the fourth largest primary grain market in the country. And in 1876, over 250 businesses were located on Second Street.

The stone structures built along Second Street after 1862 recall the key role that Winona played in Minnesota's expanding economy. Today, the Second Street Commercial Historic District boasts some of the state's oldest surviving river-city commercial buildings. The architecture reflects the popular Italianate style of the period, but the buildings' construction is distinctly Minnesotan—from the limestone quarried nearby to the bricks baked at kilns just outside Winona.

The district was added to the National Register of Historic Places (NR) in 1991. Portions of the East Second Street Commercial Historic District were locally designated in January 2008.



First National Bank
58-60 E. 2nd St.
Built: 1867 **NR:** 1991
This Italianate-style bank symbolizes the importance of early finance. The prominent date stone in the cornice documents its status as one of Winona's oldest buildings.



C.M. Gernes Building
74 E. Second St.
Built: 1868 **NR:** 1991
The prosperity of downtown commerce is shown in the ornate cornice and the large glass display windows set between cast iron columns.



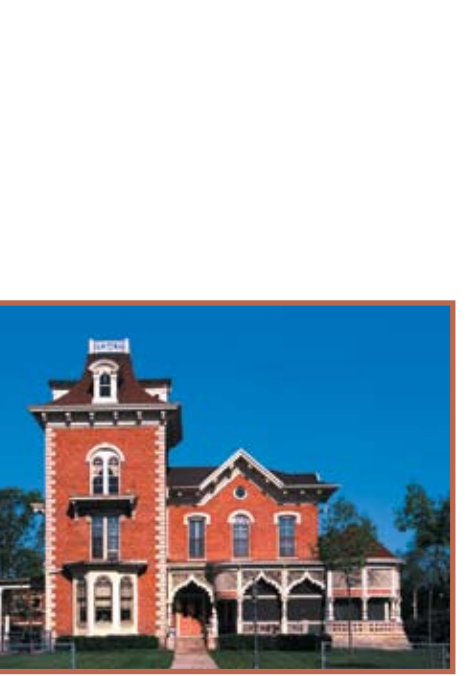
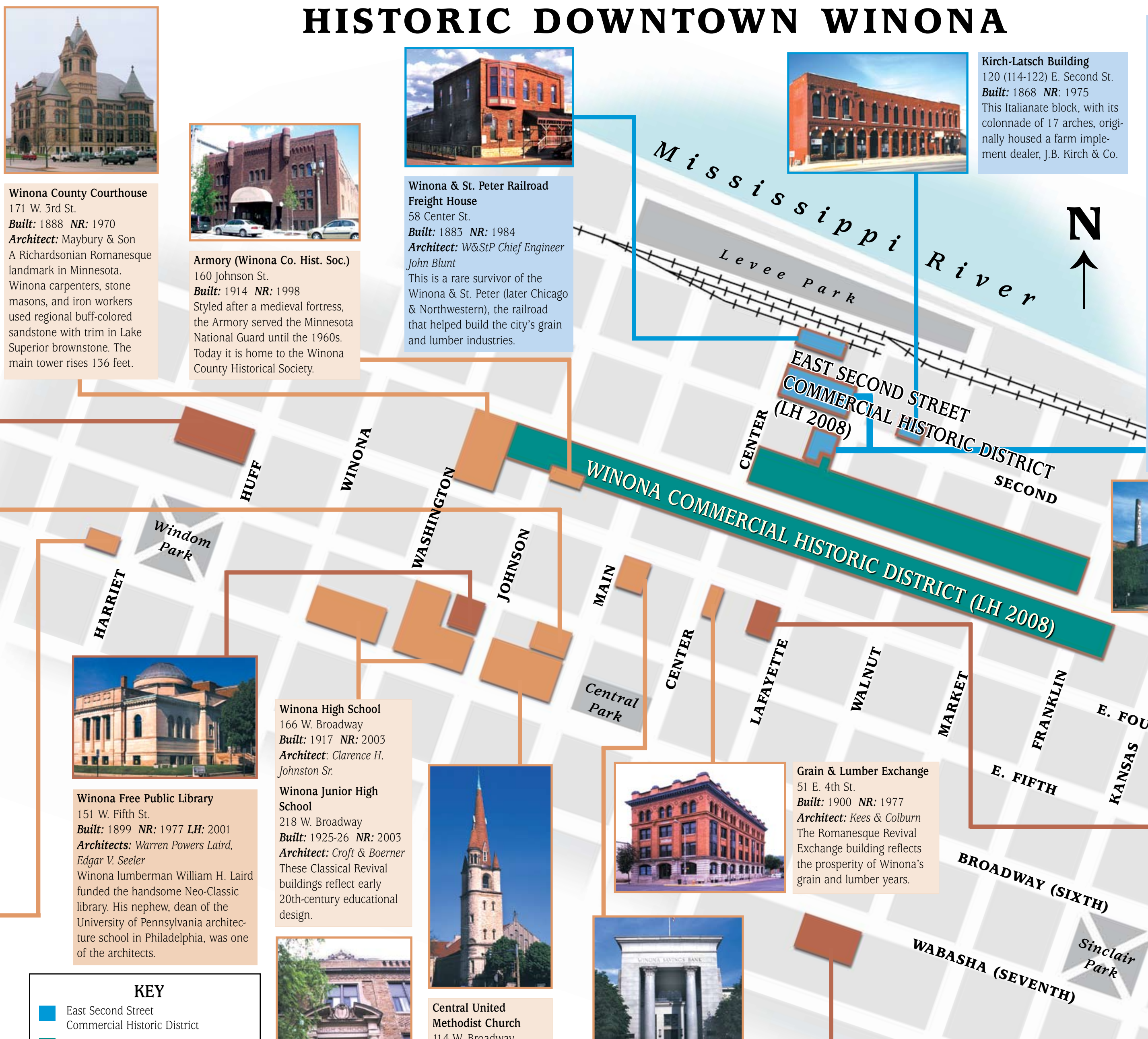
Second National Bank
50 E. Second St.
Built: 1871-72 **NR:** 1991
This striking Victorian Gothic bank on a prominent corner firmly anchors the district's west end.



J.R. Watkins Medical Products Co.
150 Liberty St.
Built: 1911, 1913 **NR:** 1984
Architect: George W. Maher
Chicago Prairie School architect George W. Maher designed the elegant administration building in 1911, the same year that company founder J.R. Watkins died. In 1913 Maher designed the manufacturing plant that completes the block.



WINONA COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT (LH 2008)

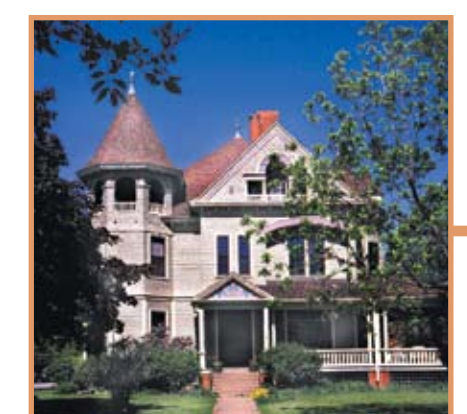


Winona County Courthouse
171 W. 3rd St.
Built: 1888 **NR:** 1970
Architect: Maybury & Son
A Richardsonian Romanesque landmark in Minnesota. Winona carpenters, stone masons, and iron workers used regional buff-colored sandstone with trim in Lake Superior brownstone. The main tower rises 136 feet.

Huff-Lamberton House
211 Huff St.
Built: 1857 **NR:** 1976 **LH:** 2006
Built for Winona pioneer Henry D. Huff and later sold to lumberman Henry W. Lamberton, this is one of the earliest and best-preserved Italian Villa style houses in Minnesota. Notable are the dominant tower and Moorish porch.



Winona Masonic Temple
251 Main St.
Built: 1909 **NR:** 1998
Architects: Warren Powers Laird & C.F. Osborne
Philadelphia architects Laird and Osborne designed the Winona Lodge No. 18 building in the Beaux Arts tradition of the Classical Revival style.



Hodgins House
275 Harriet St.
Built: 1890 **NR:** 1984
Architect: Charles G. Maybury
Lumberman Abner Hodgins had his own firm—Yeomans Bros. & Hodgins—mill the lumber for his Queen Anne style house, which survives unaltered.

KEY

- East Second Street Commercial Historic District
- Winona Commercial Historic District
- Local Heritage Preservation Site/District
- On National Register of Historic Places
- NR Year placed on National Register of Historic Places
- LH Year designated as a Local Heritage Preservation Site or District



Winona & St. Peter Railroad Freight House
58 Center St.
Built: 1883 **NR:** 1984
Architect: W&StP Chief Engineer John Blunt
This is a rare survivor of the Winona & St. Peter (later Chicago & Northwestern), the railroad that helped build the city's grain and lumber industries.



Armory (Winona Co. Hist. Soc.)
160 Johnson St.
Built: 1914 **NR:** 1998
Styled after a medieval fortress, the Armory served the Minnesota National Guard until the 1960s. Today it is home to the Winona County Historical Society.



Winona Free Public Library
151 W. Fifth St.
Built: 1899 **NR:** 1977 **LH:** 2001
Architects: Warren Powers Laird, Edgar V. Seeler
Winona lumberman William H. Laird funded the handsome Neo-Classical library. His nephew, dean of the University of Pennsylvania architecture school in Philadelphia, was one of the architects.

Winona High School
166 W. Broadway
Built: 1917 **NR:** 2003
Architect: Clarence H. Johnston Sr.

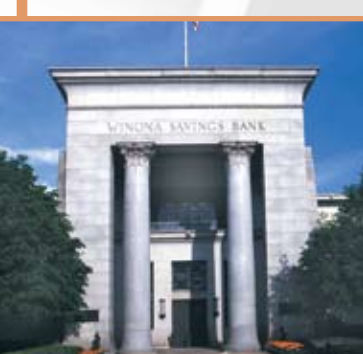
Winona Junior High School
218 W. Broadway
Built: 1925-26 **NR:** 2003
Architect: Croft & Boerner
These Classical Revival buildings reflect early 20th-century educational design.



Central United Methodist Church
114 W. Broadway
Built: 1896, 1963-64
Architect: Charles G. Maybury
Only the superb Romanesque Revival tower and arched entry survived a 1961 fire. The rest was rebuilt in a complementary style.



Grain & Lumber Exchange
51 E. 4th St.
Built: 1900 **NR:** 1977
Architect: Kees & Colburn
The Romanesque Revival Exchange building reflects the prosperity of Winona's grain and lumber years.



Winona Savings Bank
204 Main St.
Built: 1916 **NR:** 1977
Architect: George W. Maher
This Egyptian Revival design by Prairie School architect George Maher is one of his major Minnesota works. Glass and fixtures are by Tiffany.



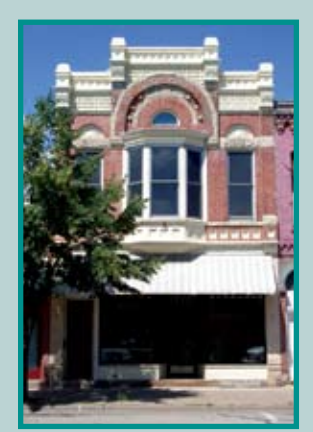
Paul Watkins House
175 E. Wabasha St.
Built: 1927 **NR:** 1984 **LH:** 2006
Architect: Cram & Ferguson
Ralph Adams Cram is America's greatest Gothic Revival architect and this is the only house he designed in Minnesota. Paul's uncle, Joseph, founded the Watkins Co.



Winona City Hall
207 Lafayette St.
Built: 1939 **NR:** 1999 **LH:** 2000
Architect: Boyum, Schubert & Sorenson
Designed by a Winona architectural firm in the Classical Moderne style, the city hall was financed by the New Deal's Public Works Administration (PWA).

WINONA COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

National Register: 1998 Local Heritage: 2008



Verkins Building
214 E. Third St.
Built: 1890s **NR:** 1998
This striking building features an elaborate, ornamental, stamped-iron cornice.



J.A. Merigold and Co. Dry Goods
59 W. Third St.
Built: ca. 1868 **NR:** 1998
Stone rosettes and a stamped copper cornice ornament this three-story brick building.

Most of the buildings in the Winona Commercial Historic District represent commercial adaptations of Italianate and Queen Anne architectural styles that were designed to accommodate commerce on the first floor and residences on the upper floors. For more on this district, turn the map over.

Visit the interpretive signs on the corner of Third St. and Walnut St. for more information about historic downtown Winona.