

Fulton Street, E.

8-12 Fulton E. The Grand Rapids Herald. This long-running newspaper published its first edition on March 19, 1855, its last in 1959.

8-12 11/26/68 2892 Capitol

20 Fulton E. The Grand Rapids Press building. Built in 1906, it was the first building in the nation and “among the first in the western hemisphere” to use reinforced concrete in constructing its frame and floor. The *Press* moved from this building to its new home at 155 Michigan N.W. in April, 1966. (Photo: c. 1908, Morrow postcard collection.)



20 11/26/68 2893 Capitol

99 Fulton E. Veterans Memorial Park, formerly known as Fulton Street Park. This town square was once the site of traveling circuses and grazing cows.

Fulton E. & East Park Place, N.E. The H.H. Philbrick house stood on the northeast corner. It was a square cottage built in 1840 for Mr. Philbrick, a music teacher.

100 Fulton E. A large 3-story brick residence, the home of Major Amasa Brown Watson, was built in 1882-83 on the southeast corner of Fulton and Sheldon.



Major Watson was a commander of the 8th Michigan Infantry in the Civil War, and later was active in the political as well as the civic affairs of Grand Rapids. He died suddenly on board a train at the Union Depot on September 18, 1888. His widow still occupied the house in 1912, and it was torn down in the mid-1920's. Jacobson's and White & White successively occupied the site. (Old #200. Photo, Baxter, p. 772.)

100-18

110 07/27/71 3942 Capitol

123 09/02/80 5973 Pitsch

124-26 Fulton E. Loraine Building. Named after Loraine Immen, wife of prominent Grand Rapids businessman and real estate investor Frederick Immen, who resided at 35 Lafayette N.E.

127-29 08/27/85 7400 Pitsch
No cutoff.

135 04/27/2000 8979 Rhoades Property
Purple East store. Purchased by Park Congregational Church for
parking.
03/27/2002 9158 Pitsch

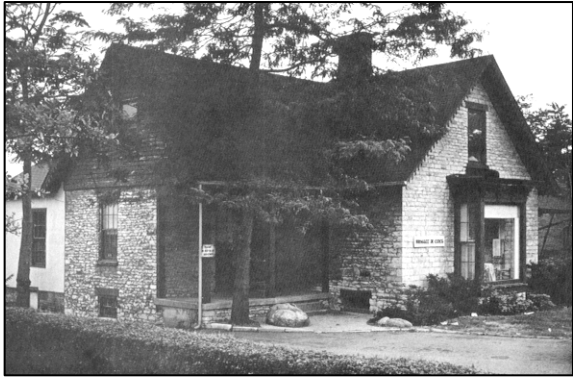
134-36 Fulton E. One Trick Pony. Beginning in 1856, the buildings that house this restaurant have been a general store, an upholsterer's workroom, a dressmaker's studio, a dry cleaner, a meat market, a feed and flour emporium, radio and music repair shops, and the home of the West Michigan Tourist Association. The Tap Room section of the restaurant is the oldest continually occupied building in Grand Rapids. The restaurant was named by owners Dan Verhil and his father, John, who have a passion for ponies and horses. The name comes from circus ponies, which were trained to do one thing only and to do it well.

157-59

158 Fulton E. The Willard Building, a 1-story brick commercial, was built in 1930 on the site of the old Burlison Hospital. It contains a series of shops on both the Fulton Street and Jefferson Avenue sides, and is noted for the terra cotta peacocks along its roofline.

165	06/13/75	4825	Urban Renewal--Capitol
207	03/08/63	1536	Aalsburg Construction
	To reuse sewer line.		

220-22 Fulton E. Truman Lyon House. This delightful Gothic revival cottage was built in 1845 by Truman H. Lyon, state senator in 1853-54. It is the best example of a river limestone house on the east side of the Grand River.



With its solid, rusticated stone construction, this home bespeaks the craftsmanship of an earlier era. Although ravaged by fire at 6:09 a.m. on Thursday, January 21, 1971, with a loss of \$59,600, when it housed the Russell H. Cole Interior Design firm, it did not suffer structural damage and has been completely restored. (Photo: David Hanks, 1972 Heritage Hill Association calendar.)

221 Fulton E. The large 3-story brick residence of A.J. Bowne was built on the northeast corner of Fulton and Barclay in 1883. Later occupied as the parish house of

Division Avenue Methodist Church, it was demolished in 1916 and became the site of First United Methodist Church. (Old # 285.

Photo, Baxter, p. 770.)



227 Fulton E. First United Methodist Church. The site on which the building stands was purchased in 1910 in anticipation of future growth. Completed in 1916 at a cost of \$175,000, the structure is 14th Century Gothic. The chancel window, "Easter Morning," is by Tiffany, as is the narthex window. The sanctuary, chapel, and clerestory windows are by Cosby Willett. All-purpose and choir rooms replaced a basement gymnasium in the 1920's. Stained glass windows were added to the sanctuary from 1930 to 1950. In 1961, a chapel was created from a third parlor and a Sunday school room. Stained glass windows were installed in the chapel in 1962. In 1972, the north building was completed, adding office and Sunday school space.

230 Fulton E. Abram Pike house. Built 1844-45. Abram W. Pike (1814-1906) was one of the capitalists who had settled the wildcat town of Port Sheldon in Ottawa County in 1836.



Because of his knowledge of many Indian dialects and the Native Americans' confidence in him, Mr. Pike became a well-known fur trader and buyer who often traveled to the trading post now known as Chicago. The capitalists' bubble exploded in 1838, when the town of Port Sheldon had but 300 inhabitants. The Port Sheldon Company abandoned the place, leaving Pike as the sole occupant and "absolute monarch of the realm" (Larry Wagenaar, "Ottawa County Had 'Wildcat' Towns," *Holland Sentinel*, Sunday, June

4, 2000, p. A16). After several years he sold the hotel and 30 lots for less than the cost of the paint and glass used in constructing the building. The pillars and the rest of his outstanding Greek Revival residence and store were moved piece by piece to Grand Rapids and reconstructed almost in the middle of the woods, on the outskirts of the village, on Fulton Street, where Mr. Pike lived in it for over 60 years, until his death. This is one of the few remaining examples of Greek Revival architecture with balanced low wings on each side of the central section, and is an outstanding Michigan example; although an early undated photograph of the building at the Grand Rapids Public Library shows the house without the west wing. For its time, its design was fairly sophisticated. The building features a full-height tetrastyle Doric portico. The Grand Rapids Art Museum was located here from 1924 to 1980. By 2007, the home had been occupied for several years by the local architectural firm Design Plus. (Photo: David Hanks, 1972 Heritage Hill Association calendar.)

233 Fulton E. On the evening of November 20, 1915, President Woodrow Wilson, in Washington, threw a switch to turn on the evening lights of Grand Rapids to announce a week-long celebration of the newly completed Masonic Temple. Designed by Osgood & Osgood, it cost \$500,000 in 1915, and would cost \$13 million to duplicate in the 1990's. Plans for the Temple had begun as early as 1903. It is the largest structure in the Heritage Hill historic district. The exterior is crafted of granite and brick, with six 45-foot-high pillars gracing the front, lending a decidedly Grecian look to the overall facade. The impressive interior boasts massive marble staircases, a ballroom with a seating capacity of 500, and a 5th-floor theater built like a Roman amphitheater. The entire structure presents a massive front of imposing architecture, while the interior is modest in its effects but rich in appointments. The fifth floor also houses the Masonic library, where Senator Vandenberg's Masonic sword and other Masonic treasures are on display. Barrier-free parking, elevators, and a coffee shop are all offered at the Temple.

254 Fulton E. Women's City Club / The Sweet House. This grand structure was originally built as a private residence in the mid-1850's and completed in 1860 by Martin



L. Sweet along the lines of the foursquare houses favored by the merchants of the eastern seaboard. Of particular interest is the glazed belvedere. In years past, the lovely wrought-iron fence often suffered damages inflicted by runaway horses. Mr. Sweet first came to the city in 1846, and was elected Grand Rapids' first Republican mayor about ten years later. He was a colorful character, and was very active in the business community as a bank president, miller, farmer, and owner of the once-famous Sweet's Hotel, which stood on the site where the Pantlind or

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel stands today. It is said that upon the expiration of his one term as mayor, Mr. Sweet refused reelection, as well as his munificent salary of one dollar--which the City still owes him. He dabbled in a variety of businesses, and was reputed to have the first Holstein-Friesian cattle ever to come to Michigan. He bred the livestock on a farm which is now part of the Kent Country Club. Sweet Street, which runs adjacent to the club, was named after him. It is only fitting that the house would have an intriguing life as well. It was a showcase home, and it is reported that on Sunday mornings people would line up across the street to see what Mrs. Desdemona Sweet would be wearing to church, as silk brocades and velvet wraps were not common in Grand Rapids in those days. They would then watch her walk grandly down the path to the waiting coachman and launau. Sweet died in 1905, and his house remained vacant until occupied by a Frank M. Davis in 1911. From 1914 to 1919, the 3-story Federal revival/Italianate home was home to Malek Music Studios, and was operated by Ottokar Malek, a respected piano teacher who later directed the city's first symphony orchestra. The outstanding Italian villa fell into disrepair after Malek moved his enterprise to a downtown office building. During the 1920's, the Sweet mansion served as a boarding house, with a tailor and a furniture worker listed as its only residents. When the Women's City Club, founded in 1924, purchased the property for \$55,000 in 1927, the house was a shambles. An additional \$30,000 was invested to rebuild and restore it. The boxy structure features a widow's walk that explodes from the center of the roof. The rooms within are spacious affairs with 12-foot ceilings. The spacious, airy dining room, which seats 130, and the auditorium below it were added before the club moved into the house in October, 1928. The club's original 500 members first congregated in two rooms at the former Morton House. Within months the group moved to the Silas Godfrey house on East Park Place, N.E. From a peak membership of 2,400 in 1959 and again in 1974, the club has 750 members in 1993. Former president Gerald R. Ford and his wife Betty, are both honorary members of the Women's City Club. For the annual \$50 membership fee, the club offers lectures, travelogues, study groups, crafts, and bridge sessions. (Photo: David Hanks, 1974 Heritage Hill Association calendar.)

300-02 Fulton E. Dikeman House. This Flemish-style Colonial Revival home was built for Aaron Dikeman, Grand Rapids' first jeweler, in 1849. (Photo: David and Marilyn Hanks, *The Homes of Heritage Hill* [Grand Rapids, MI: The Heritage Hill Association, Inc., 1970], p. 9.)



320

04/17/63

1554

Capitol

326 Fulton E. Perry House. This home, which in the 1970's served as the offices of the American Cancer Society, was built by George R. Perry in 1870. Mr. Perry at one time



served as mayor of Grand Rapids. A forward-thinking man, Mr. Perry believed in the education of women, and stood up for his beliefs by sending his daughter to Vassar. In 1966, the home was purchased by the F.W. Grotenhuis Insurance Co. Because of a need for expanded space, Mr. Frank Grotenhuis undertook an extensive remodeling project at this location, being very careful to preserve the character of the home. Significant features are the classic portico, and the fanlight window which dominates the front gable. This home, as well as 330 next door, might have been lost to "progress" if imaginative owners had not taken the initiative and adapted them to meet the needs of their growing

businesses. (Photo: James Starkey, 1977 Heritage Hill Association calendar.)

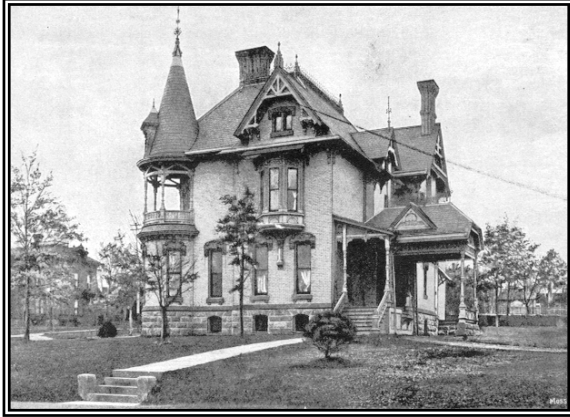
330 Fulton E. The Barnes House. VanClaire's Decorating Studio is housed in a charming Craftsman style home which features classic detail and Adam ornamentation.



It is believed that this house was built prior to the Civil War, and was a rental property for many years. In 1898, it became the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Harding Barnes, who were very prominent members of society in that era. Mr. Barnes was the chief engineer of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, and responsible for all railroad construction. He was one of the earliest stockholders of the Kent Country Club. (Photo: James Starkey, 1977 Heritage Hill Association calendar.)

400 Fulton E. See 10 Prospect S.E.

411 Fulton E. George Widdicomb came from Devonshire, England, in 1858, and settled in Grand Rapids. He gathered together 12 craftsmen and set up a small cabinet shop that prospered. Built for Harry Widdicomb in 1883, this magnificent mansion was by 1912 occupied by Mrs. D.P. Blodgett. It was demolished in 1935. (Old # 369. Photos:



top, Baxter, p. 779; bottom [sideboard], Pitsch/Capitol collection, Series 5.)



422-26 Fulton E. The Gay House. Built in 1883 at a cost of \$50,000 by George W. Gay, co-founder of the Berkey & Gay Furniture Co. Louis Campau, founder of Grand Rapids, built the first house to occupy this site. Lumber from Campau's house was used in the construction of the carriage house.

427 Fulton E. The White House. This massive Elizabethan or Tudor Revival home was built in 1907 by T. Stewart White, one of Grand Rapids' pioneer lumber barons, who was



also very prominent in the banking community. Mr. White's prominence was heightened by the accomplishments of his five sons. Stewart Edward White was a well-known author. Gilbert was a noted artist who at one time decorated the front parlor of the house with murals depicting life in King Arthur's court. The faces in the mural were portraits of his family and their servants. The dining room ceiling was done in 24-karat gold leaf by New York's famed Tiffany & Co. In the early 1930's, this stately home was vandalized and most of its contents destroyed.

In the 1950's, it served as the Grand Rapids Furniture Museum, with a collection which later became part of that of the Grand Rapids Public Museum. Today the home is beautifully maintained as a women's dormitory by Davenport College.

433 07/19/66 2216 Houting & Meeusen

439 Fulton E. The Shanahan House. Robert Emmett Shanahan, born on a farm near Columbus in St. Clair County, came to Grand Rapids in 1882 and became affiliated with the Bissell Carpet Sweeper Co. He eventually became its secretary and general manager. He married Mary E. Doran at St. James Church on June 19, 1888. They had three daughters, Florence (Mrs. Robert) Peck, Camilla (who eventually had a shop in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York), and Dorothy (+1920). Robert Shanahan died suddenly at his home on Friday, April 21, 1922, at 65 years of age, and was buried from St. Andrew's Cathedral. His wife eventually moved to 457 Fulton E., and died on Monday, March 15, 1948, at the age of 83.

439 07/19/66 2217 Houting & Meeusen

440 Fulton E. The Morman House. This shingle-style house was built in 1906 for Samuel A. Morman and his wife, Mary, on land owned and subdivided by the Gay family, who lived in the large house to the west.



The Mormans lived here until Mary's death in the 1960's, when the house was sold and converted to apartments. By the late 1970's, there were five apartments. After sitting empty for nearly five years, the house was purchased by The Renaissance condominiums in 1994, and now has three spacious units. Rev. George and Susan Heartwell were living here in 2002. (Photo: 2002 Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes brochure, p. 9.)

448 Fulton E. Built in 1904. Converted to The Renaissance condominiums in 1994.

455-r 04/30/90 8037 Riverside

457

458 04/28/69 3028 Cooke

461 Fulton E. In 1912, this large 3-story brick mansion was the residence of J.H.P. Hughart, a local railroad owner. In 1948, it was the home of furniture magnate Robert W. Irwin and his wife, Viola H. Irwin. (Old # 413.)

461 02/22/61 230 Veterans Trucking Co.
 07/09/71 3915 Pitsch

500 Fulton E. The Waters Apartments. Constructed in 1961, this large apartment house contains 103 fine units.

521

535 Fulton E. The Hollister House. Harvey J. Hollister, pioneer banker, lived in this old homestead which he had purchased from Daniel Ball at the time when it was the only



house on Fulton Street hill. Mr. Hollister was born in Michigan in 1830. At the age of 17, he was teaching school near Romeo and later worked in a drug store. His family moved to Grand Rapids, and in 1853 he became confidential clerk in the bank of Daniel E. Ball & Co. After that bank folded, he worked with Martin L. Sweet. In 1864, Mr. Hollister instituted the first national bank in the city, the Old National Bank, and acted as vice

president by 1903. Until his death, Mr. Hollister was a director in the Michigan Trust Co., president of the Michigan Barrel Co., director of the G.R. Brass Co., the Antrim Iron Co., and treasurer of the G.R. Malleable Co. He died September 25, 1909, leaving an estate valued at \$85,000. In 1912, this wonderfully symmetrical 3-story Italianate home was the residence of Mary G.H. Bundy. Mr. and Mrs. Osceola L. and Viola S. Currier were the occupants in 1948; Mr. Currier was the factory manager at Kelvinator. Greatly expanded from its original floor plan, the house is now divided into ten apartments. (Heritage Hill Assn. house history. Photo: GRP 07/09/2006 K1. Old # 471.)

627 *Is this, with 629, the house in the rear of 631?*

638 07/19/66 2205 Houting & Meeusen

801 Fulton E. Fulton Street Cemetery. The oldest public cemetery in Grand Rapids, Fulton Street Cemetery has many choice family estates or single lots available. Already used for burials prior to its purchase by the village, the first six acres of land was purchased on July 9, 1838, by the Trustees of the Village of Grand Rapids for \$300. Today, the cemetery is comprised of 12.48 acres of land. The oldest gravestone in Grand Rapids is located in this cemetery, marking the grave of Andrew Haldane. The headstone reads, "In memory of Andrew Haldane who died September 6, 1838 in the twenty-fifth year of his age." Fulton Street Cemetery is also the resting place of John Ball. A large granite boulder dug from the hills of the park that bears his name has marked his grave since 1884. Many Civil War soldiers are buried at the Fulton Street Cemetery and their memorial stones give details of their service as well as names and dates.

834	08/20/97	8738	Pitsch
838	10/28/64	1854	Staggs
903	05/09/89	7899	
906	11/08/79 11/13/79	5850 5856	Dan Courtade (cancelled) Pitsch
907	04/20/66	2163	Capitol
909-f	12/22/65	2073	Capitol Sewer line in basement of house in rear.
910	02/23/96	8612	Pitsch Rear two buildings.
912	10/14/63	1669	Staggs <i>To reuse water & sewer lines.</i>
915	04/05/71	3835	Capitol
918	05/09/95	8495	Pitsch

943 Fulton E. Ferwerda's Sales and Rent-All operated near and on this site from January, 1921, until August, 1994. The station started when Tony Ferwerda and his partner Pete Boslooper opened a roadside gas pump and vulcanizing shop. Cars simply stopped along the side of the street next to the pumps to refuel. After a few years, the venture moved to a lot across the road, and then to the present site adjacent to that. In January, 1929, the new drive-in gas station opened, the first station in the state to offer full service. Pete Ferwerda bought the shop from his father in 1961 and operated it until it closed.

955 Fulton E. Van's Pastry Shoppe. John VanderMeer's family has owned the business since 1935. In 1941, his grandfather built this building across the street from the original location (*the Paper*, February 8-14, 2001, p. 7).

1000			
1006	08/06/70	3567	Pitsch
1007	12/02/76 02/14/79	5181 5695	J. DeVries Excavating Kirk Rottschafer Bldg., Inc.
1011	12/06/61	681	Capitol
1012	08/06/70	3566	Pitsch
1016	08/18/69	3110	Pitsch
1020	08/18/69	3109	Pitsch
1022	02/10/77	5199	Pitsch
1028	02/11/89	7875	
1033-35	04/11/89 Part of building.	7892	
1034	02/11/89	7876	
1036	02/11/89	7877	
1105	12/05/77	5403	Houting & Meeusen

1215	08/01/67	2467	Pitsch
1229	10/18/71	4021	Pitsch
1235	11/27/79	5866	Pitsch
1241	07/29/96	8653	Pitsch
1304	04/17/2002	9162	Pitsch
<i>1314-16</i>			
1331	08/30/94	8436	Courtade
1341	08/05/85	7399	Riverside
	Actual numbers 1341-1403. Two cutoffs.		
1400	09/21/65	2021	Ken Overholt
1404	11/25/86	7563	Riverside
1408	09/21/65	2019	<i>Ken Overholt</i>
1411	09/10/69	3128	Capitol
1414	06/15/66	2190	<i>Capitol</i>

1415 Fulton E. Fulton Heights Foods. This grocery was founded by Cornelius DeJong and his uncle, Adrian VandenBerge, in 1913, next door to its present location. The 36,000-square-foot store was renovated in 1992, and had 140 employees in 1995.

1450	10/25/66	2294	Capitol
	To reuse water line.		

1515	11/08/67	2564	Capitol
1519	07/11/75	4885	Pitsch (voided)
	09/18/75	4945	Pitsch

1593 Fulton E. The noted Grand Rapids artist Mathias Alten moved to the Stacey farm in the summer of 1913, and lived here with his family until his death in 1938. The house is on the northwest corner of Fulton and Elbourne Avenue, which was renamed Alten Avenue after the artist's death.

1715 Fulton E. Temple Emanuel. A 1926 Tiffany window depicts the biblical Ruth and Boaz.

1800	08/08/89	7961	
2031	09/29/82	7168	Pitsch
	Fine Arts Bldg.		

2249

3121