

Plainfield Avenue, N.E.

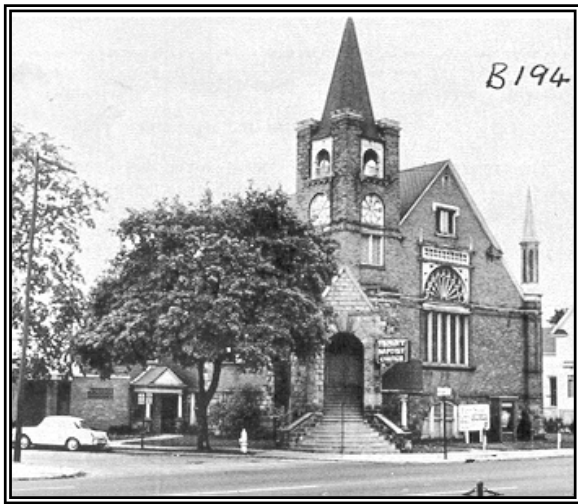
1104	???		
1128	03/10/81	6088	Boerema
1132	08/17/78	5610	Pitsch
1134	???		
1149	???		
1150	10/16/67	2533	E. DeVries & Sons, Inc.
	To reuse sewer line.		
	01/20/95	8475	Remtech Environmental Services
	Old Crystal Flash station. 2 buildings.		
1153-59	Photo in GRPL 125-H012971.		
1162	03/12/87	7608	Nykamp
	Odell Oil Co. No sewer, no gas.		

1209 Plainfield N.E. The Choo Choo Grill has occupied this site since 1946. The building was built in 1924 as the yard office for the Shipman Coal Co. Its trademark neon sign with a 1940's diesel locomotive was sold and removed in 1995. The sign had at one time flashed the words "Choo" and "Choo" in alternating fashion. Owner Don Guppy reported that the supports for the sign had deteriorated to the point it had become a liability, and he sold it to an Alpena antique dealer for \$7,500. Cf. GRP 12/16/1979 1J; and GRP 01/12/1995 B1.

1227	10/28/82 No cutoff.	7169	Courtade
1231	???		
1233	???		
1240	<i>1-story cement block building.</i>		
1243	02/14/74	4548	Pitsch
1254	04/23/91	8140	Courtade
1259	08/16/67 Sewer plugged in basement.	2474	Staggs

1309	08/01/95	8539	Courtade
1311	10/17/85	7421	Riverside
1312	05/03/65	1931	Staggs
	To reuse sewer line.		
1315	???		
1318	09/25/62	1390	OK Wrecking
1319	???		

1331 Plainfield N.E. Designed by Grove Proctor, this brick and stone building on the northwest corner of Grove Street served Second Congregational Church from 1874 to 1950, and had a seating capacity of 350-400. From 1950 to 1965, it was the home of Trinity Baptist Church. The offices and studio of the Children's Bible Hour remain in a newer building on the site, but the old church was razed to provide a parking area. (GRPL 286, October 1, 1963, B 1947.)



1339-45 08/08/89 7954

1353	06/28/61	379	Henry S. Brown
1361	08/09/77	5359	<i>Creston Recreation</i>
	<i>2-story frame commercial.</i>		
1363	02/07/69	2963	<i>Anthony Mazzarelli, owner</i>
	<i>1-story commercial.</i>		

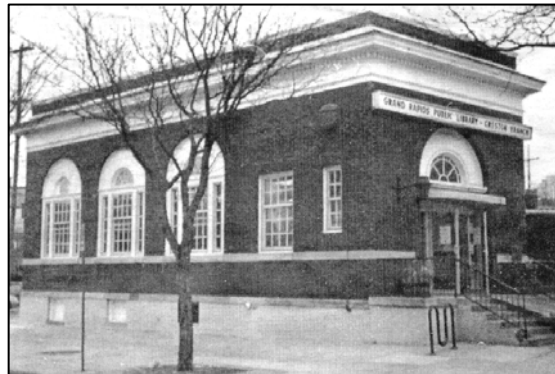
1401

1-story brick store.

1431 Plainfield N.E. On this site stood the Page Block and Hall, a 3-story brick “flatiron” building designed to fit in the triangle formed by Plainfield on the east, Coit on the west,



and Quimby on the north. As early as 1912, a branch of the Kent State Bank was located here; as well as the Creston Pharmacy, with an address of 1437. The building also housed at least two apartments. The large building was removed--one unsubstantiated report says that the top floor burned off--and replaced



with the 1-story brown brick structure, 1,200 square feet in size, built by the Old Kent Bank and Trust Company. The bank moved to more spacious quarters with parking and drive-in facilities at the northeast corner of Plainfield and Lafayette in 1962, whereupon this building was purchased by the City for the Creston Branch of the Grand Rapids Public Library. It remained so occupied until January 9, 2002, when a larger branch was opened in the VanBelkum Building at Plainfield and Saunders. (Photos: *Northfield Advance*, December 26, 2001, p. 3. Upper left, 1888. Lower left, 1950. Lower right, 2001.)

1504 Plainfield N.E. Lewis DeKorne moved the family furniture business from Ottawa Avenue to this building, which he had constructed in 1929. The business was started by his father, Boudewyn, and in the 1990's is operated by the family's fourth generation.

1512-14 Part of 1504.

1516 Plainfield N.E. Creston Theater. A good example of the modernistic style.

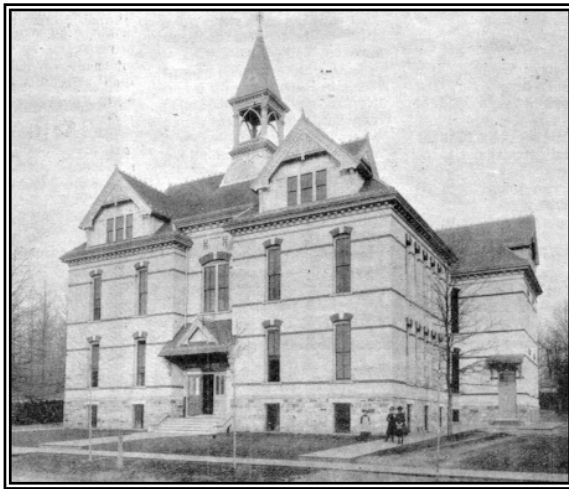


1956; below left, August, 1983.)

(Photos: City Assessor; top left, 1936; top right, c.

1530 Plainfield N.E. Plainfield School. classrooms; it was later increased to ten.

Built in 1884, it originally contained six classrooms; it was later increased to ten. When the school was removed, Lafayette Avenue was cut north to Plainfield from Quimby Street. (Photo: Gordon Harrington, in the *Interpreter*, February 3, 1972, p. 11.)



Thomas E. Smith

1530

09/21/65

2023

- 1547 06/26/63 1595 Robert Steed
2-story dwelling. To reuse sewer line.
- 1548 Auto sales.
- 1554 2-story dwelling.
- 1558 2-story dwelling.
- 1562 2-story dwelling.
- 1566 2-story dwelling.
- 1567 2-story dwelling.

1600	08/01/77	5343	Diamond
1611			
1614	08/01/77	5310	Diamond
1615			
1620	08/01/77	5302	Diamond
1626	06/01/77	5342	Diamond
1627	12/16/60	120	Capitol
1634	06/02/77	5344	Diamond
1636	12/05/77	5292	Diamond
1640	08/01/77	5303	Diamond
1644	06/02/77	5315	Diamond
1654	05/16/77	5341	Diamond
1660	09/14/77	5340	Diamond
1664	08/01/77	5317	Diamond
1670	08/01/77	5306	Diamond

1676-90

1720 Plainfield N.E. Creston High School. Built in 1923. Addition built in 1977-78, completed in 1980. Capacity: 1,360. 2009-10 enrollment: 882.

1743	03/25/63	1548	Graves & Assn.
	<i>To reuse sewer line.</i>		

1747 Plainfield N.E. This grocery store was built as Daane's Market in 1952 by Sy VanderKooy, who had begun working at the store in 1948 at its former location at Ann & Plainfield. In 1977 he sold the store to D'Amico's.

1753

1841

1849

2002 06/12/63 1592 *Robert LaPointe*
 To reuse sewer line.

2004

2112 05/16/78 5522 Dan Courtade

2122

2125 04/24/72 4162 *Capitol*

2126 03/10/69 2998 *Staggs*

2135 09/28/72 4284 Capitol

2140

2150 Plainfield N.E. The Roxy Theater was built in 1929. It was purchased by the newly-established Blessed Sacrament Church in 1946, and the congregation worshiped here until 1950, when a combination church-school building was built on Diamond Avenue. For some years afterwards, it was used as a roller skating arena.

2153 10/18/78 5649 *Courtade*
 No water cutoff. To be used for future 7-1-1 Store.

2157

2171 09/10/68 2828 John W. Potter, Inc.

2178 Plainfield N.E. Frank Koelzer purchased Treats Pharmacy in 1945. He renamed it Kay's Pharmacy and operated it until his death in 1958. In those years, like any typical neighborhood drug store, it had a soda fountain and was a favorite gathering place for young and old. Frank's son Jim owned and operated the business for many years, and now Jim's son Mike is the company president. It was expanded in 1995 to double its original size, and specializes in a variety of home health needs, including medical equipment.



(Photo: *Northfield Advance*, March 21, 2001, p. 3. The dairy bar sign advertises Borden's Ice Cream.)

2200

2204 Plainfield N.E. A 1-story brick automobile showroom and garage was built on the northeast corner of Plainfield and Eleanor in 1928. It housed the Alberda-Shook Chevrolet dealership from 1932 to 1934. From 1936 to 1949, Stehouwer, a DeSoto-Plymouth dealer, did business on the corner. This was followed by VanAndel-Flikkema, a Chrysler-Plymouth dealer, from 1950 to 1990, when the building burned at 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday, June 12, with a loss of \$1 million. In January, 1993, a new Burger King restaurant opened on the site.

2204 04/03/91 8132 Courtade

2209

2213

2214

2215

2217-19 08/17/2000 9017 Pitsch

2221 08/17/2000 9018 Pitsch

2225 04/06/94 8398 Courtade

N.W. corner Plainfield & Marywood. 50' x 100' 1-story cement block commercial building. Alberda-Shook truck garage.

2232 02/08/66 2110 Capitol

2240

2420 Plainfield N.E. The Barber Briggs House. The Edward L. Briggs House is a historic landmark designated by the Grand Rapids Historic Preservation Commission.



The home is one of the oldest in the city, and the only house of that era which remains in the original family. It was built in 1852 on what became the southeast corner of Plainfield and Arlington. The Michigan Historical Marker reads: "Barber and Mary Swan Briggs migrated to the Ann Arbor area from New York State in 1834. They moved to a large parcel of land near Grand Rapids in 1850, clearing it for a farm and constructing this house in

1850-52. Their son Edward served in the Michigan House of Representatives from 1873 to 1876, and around 1875 their son Charles developed the property into an eighty-acre dairy farm called the Oakgrove Dairy Company. In 1911, Charles Briggs sold eleven acres of land at the corner of Oakwood Avenue and Knapp Street to the city of Grand Rapids for use as a park, which the city named Briggs Park. The Briggs farmland was eventually subdivided as the Pasadena Park neighborhood; however, the farmhouse has remained in the Briggs family for over 150 years." (Photo: Tom Firme, *Northfield Advance*, March 28, 2001, p. 3.)

2440

09/06/82

7160

Riverside

2471 Plainfield N.E. This imposing dwelling was the Sligh mansion, in the 2400-block of Plainfield Avenue, razed about 1935. In 1936, the address of the Sligh Municipal Golf Course was 2471, on the southwest corner of Plainfield and Sligh Boulevard. (Photo: GRPL 237 (Pitsch/Capitol collection), Series 8.)



2912

2921

3110	10/04/61	533	Everett J. VanderVeen
	No sewer.		
	08/16/91	8173	Paul & Peter Fennema, Byron Center
	Amoco service station; being rebuilt.		
3125	07/22/81	7042	Kentwood
3127	07/22/81	7043	Kentwood
3151	05/01/61	268	Pitsch
3170	04/15/98	8788	Seler
	Plainfield Plaza water tower.		
3200-rear	11/16/73	4516	William R. Childs
3205	10/17/79	5833	Dan Courtade
3206	09/30/88	7811	
3225	09/21/66	2268	Potter-Fisher
	No sewer, no water.		
	08/30/91	8183	Embree
	Chinese restaurant.		
3234	02/17/88	7741	
3240	04/07/88	7752	
3250	05/20/85	7380	Pitsch
3260	11/16/71	4048	Pitsch
3463	01/10/92	8214	Pitsch