

THE HISTORY OF TUSCOLA'S NEGRO* POPULATION

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The city of Tuscola has had a number of Negroes living in the community at various time periods. The biggest concentration at one time was from the 1890s through the mid 1940s. Following are the names of some of Tuscola's Negro residents:

Anderson, Arthur – Judged the most graceful walker at the 1898 “Colored Folks Cake Walk” in Tuscola, his partner was Cozy Chavous. Arthur later resided on DeWitt Avenue in Mattoon.

Anderson, James – in 1895, he was a barber; his residence was at 600 South Main; his barbershop was located at 11 North Main Street. **Archey (sometimes recorded as Archer), Franklin** – He was a barber. His residence was 14 W. Central Avenue. **Archey, John** – Son of Franklin and Maggie Archey. Born in Illinois. **Archey, Maggie** – Wife of Franklin. Born in Illinois. She was 19 years old in the 1880 census.

Box, Jim – Brother-in-law of Lemuel Riley, husband of Nancy Box, and father of Vernetie Box. The Box family was originally from Corinth, Mississippi. He was a handyman while living in Tuscola. **Box, Nancy** – sister to Lem Riley and wife of Jim Box, she was domestic help in Tuscola. **Box, Vernetie** – daughter of Jim and Nancy Box.

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Cecil “Pete”
Bridgewater

Bridgewater, Cecil “Pete” – A graduate of Tuscola High in the class of 1929, Cecil was born in Tuscola. His parents were Preston and Effie Chavous Bridgewater. Both Cecil and Harold Bridgewater were known as “Pete” by their Tuscola classmates. “Cecil was older than me,” said Harold. “They called him “Pete”, and called me “Repeat”. When mentioning “Pete”, that is the same as Harold Bridgewater. Cecil lived in Champaign and retired from the University of Illinois as an upholsterer. Cecil married Erma Scott and they had three children: Cecil Jr., Ronnie and Cassandra. Cecil Jr. was a successful trumpet player in New York. He has not only traveled all over the world playing trumpet, he is also a music director who made special arrangements for musicians. Ronnie is a teacher of music at the

University of Illinois.

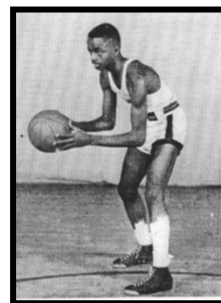
Bridgewater, Effie – Mother of Harold and Cecil Bridgewater. Born November 30, 1877 at El Paso, she was the daughter of Thomas and Mary DeGroat Chavous. Mrs. Bridgewater worked for James L. and Edith Bush as a domestic. She was working there at the same time Smiley Burnett worked at radio station WZD in Tuscola. Smiley called her “mom”, and Pete Bridgewater said that Smiley was especially keen on Effie's chocolate pie. Effie Bridgewater died December 5, 1975 in Champaign and is buried in Tuscola Cemetery. **Bridgewater, Geneva** – Daughter of Preston and Effie Chavous Bridgewater; she died in infancy and is buried in Tuscola Cemetery. **Bridgewater, Theodore** – Son of Preston and Effie Bridgewater, he died in infancy and in buried in Tuscola Cemetery.



Effie Bridgewater



Pete Bridgewater
pictured with classmate
Martha Brown



Bruce Kennard
Hayden, Jr. in a
photo taken in
Tuscola in 1943-44



John Chapman, Harold “Pete” Bidgewater and Milas Thomas at the Douglas County Museum, March 26, 1997.

Bridgewater, Harold “Pete” – Graduate of Tuscola High School in the class of 1935. He was born at his parents’ home in Tuscola on March 20, 1916. After graduating from high school, he married Ethel Cannon of Danville. At the age of nine years, “Pete” decided to take an Omaha, Nebraska-based correspondence course in taxidermy. He received instructions in the mail on how to stuff various animals, and then sent his finished product into the company to be graded. Pete notes that he is probably the first Boy Scout in Tuscola to get a merit badge in taxidermy. His scout leader was Ray Wulliman. Growing up, his friends included the Kennedy brothers, Byron Dust, Charlie Abercrombie, Stanley Romine, and Rex Robertson. Pete had fond memories of 1927-28 when the Star Store building was

vacant and Saturday dances there were all the rage. “Kids from Villa Grove caught the train and came to the dance, then rode back home later that night”, he recalled. The live band featured Harry Sherman Marsh on alto sax, Lewis “Luke” Belles, Forrest “Frosty” Ellis, and Willy Hixon on the mandolin. Pete was the featured tap dancer at the dances, having learned how to tap dance from someone who lived in the Meister house on South Parke Street in Tuscola. “Lessons cost 50 cents, which was a lot of money at the time,” said Pete. After high school, Pete joined the Mac Willis band, playing the bass fiddle at Wheat’s Steak House, Phren’s, the Eight O’Clock Club, and other area nightclubs in Champaign-Urbana. “At the Eight O’clock,” Pete said, “they called me the ‘Triple Threat Man’ because I could sing, dance, and play the bass fiddle.” The year 1953 saw the beginning of his remarkable radio career. He was an announcer on WKID and WITY radio stations and on WDWS for twenty years. Although he “officially” retired in 1995, he still announced a Sunday show from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. on the all-black station, WBCP (1580 AM).

Bridgewater, Preston – The father of Harold and Cecil Bridgewater, he played coronet with Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus Band. The family lived across the street from old North Ward School, 214 East Ensey Street. *Already a professional musician when they met*, Preston and his wife, Effie, were married in 1906 in Danville. He was a native of Kansas who came to live in Illinois in 1900. He grew up in the home of Benjamin Lafferty. Preston was already a professional musician when he met Effie. He died in 1921 in Kankakee. A son, Theodore, died in infancy and is buried in Tuscola Cemetery.

Buchanan, Billy Buck – Billy Buck was born in Southeast Missouri in 1848. His father was Negro and his mother was a Cherokee Indian. Billy came to Coles County at the close of the Civil War with Capt. Granderson Smiley. In 1868, he became a hired hand for Col. Lige McCarty, a large landowner.

For three years he was employed by James McCoughtry. For 16 more years, he worked for Dr. John A. Field. For five years he worked for the Henry Caraway family. Billy Buck lived in a rundown shack at the corner of South Main and Pinzon Street. He was familiar to local residents as a “shuffling figure with broom in hand sweeping the Main Street pavement”. Around 1935 or 1936, his shack was hit by a windstorm that blew off one room and a chimney. According to a 1936 newspaper article, this did not deter



Billy from remaining in his beloved shack. Because the chimney was gone, *“he built a fire on the dirt floor of the shack and went outside. When the room was heated, he opened the door and let the smoke out. Then he went inside to enjoy what heat remained.”* The rest of the house began to lean perilously, but Billy refused to move out. A wire was run around the shack and fastened to a big tree nearby to keep the building stable. Local citizens became very concerned that a human being should live in such squalid quarters, especially since it was located on one of Tuscola’s main thoroughfares. With Christmas on the way, local residents decided to collect money to build a new house for Billy Buck. According to the 1936 newspaper article, *“About \$85 was raised; carpenters, brick masons and others donated their services. Mrs. Walter Jones and Mrs. A. W. Bragg agreed to furnish the new cabin. A good bed, curtains, a rug, washstand and other comforts were provided. Dr. J. F. Gillespie gave a cook stove”*. The citizens of town built him a new cabin as a Christmas present the same year. Billy Buck died February of 1938. After his death, Billy Buck’s cabin was moved next to the railroad tracks near the west exit of the north part of Ervin Park. The wooden floor was removed and the City used the building as shed for mowers and other park maintenance supplies.

Calimese, Eunice – adopted daughter of Sherman and Maybelle Calimese. **Calimese, Grace Grigsby** – Is buried in Tuscola Cemetery. The inscription on her stone says 1882-1935. Her parents were among the early Negro families who came to Douglas County at the close of the Civil War. She was employed at a fraternity house at the University of Illinois, but lived practically her whole life in Tuscola. Her children were Ruth Calimese McMurray, Vergiealena Grigsby Cook, and Cozzetta Grigsby Earnest of Champaign. **Ruth Naomi Calimese** was born in 1914 to James and Grace Manuel Grigsby Calimese. A very accomplished woman, holding membership in Holy Cross Church in Champaign, the Champaign Education Association, National Education Association, and Retired Teachers Association. She was also a member and secretary of the National Association of Negro Musicians. She retired after more than 30 years in the Champaign Unit 4 School district, where she served as teacher and then assistant principal and counselor at Jefferson Junior High School. Her husband, Wilbern McMurray, was also a teacher in the Champaign school system and served as principal of Willard School from 1947 until 1964 and Marquette School until 1968. Ruth died in 1984 and is buried in Tuscola Cemetery.

Calimese, Isabelle – Born in 1852, widow of Peter Calimese; died in 1899. A resident of Camargo, Isabelle was living in Tuscola at the time of her death. Isabelle and Peter were parents of Eva Waldon, Robert Calimese, James Calimese, Maggie Allen, and Sherman Calimese.



Big Jim Calamese

Calimese, James Edward - Jim worked at the Douglas County Garage on North Main Street where he washed and waxed cars and handled the gas pump. He lived in a small interior room, without windows, on the second floor of the garage. He was a slow, easy-going man who always asked his customers if they wanted “geese” (gas). He is remembered for his huge hands. He was born in 1882 in Wolf County, Kentucky and came to Douglas County at an early age. He died in 1946 and is buried in Tuscola Cemetery. His daughter was Ruth Calimese; Cozzetta Grigsby Earnest and Vergiealena Grigsby Cook were his stepdaughters. His brothers were Sherman of Mattoon and Robert of Terre Haute.

Calimese, Mabel – Daughter of Robert and Dessie Derricksen Calimese, was born in 1907 in Tuscola. She was a 1925 graduate of Tuscola High School.

Calimese, Sherman – Son of Peter and Isabelle Calimese and husband of Maybelle Calimese. Father of Eunice and Henry Calimese. Sherman and Maybelle were living in Tuscola in 1926.

Chavous, Amanda – Servant in the home of Robert and Louise Foster. Mr. Foster was a druggist in Tuscola in 1880. **Chavous, Belle** - second wife of Solomon Chavous. The couple lived at the end of West Pinzon Street near the drainage ditch. She died in 1930 in Douglas County.



Cozetta Chavous

Chavous, Cozetta – Daughter of Thomas and Mary DeGroat Chavous, she was born in 1875 in Illinois. She was domestic help in Tuscola, cooking and keeping the house for the Ervin family. For 20 years, she worked at the University of Illinois. Her sister was Effie Bridgewater. She died in 1951 and is buried in the Tuscola Cemetery. **Chavous, Mahlon** – a pressman for the S.A. Richmond Patent Medicine Company (located where Jarman Center is now). In 1895, his residence was 27 W. Wilson. Mahlon was the uncle of Harold and Cecil Bridgewater.

Chavous, Solomon “Sol” – His name was often spelled “Chavours” in newspaper articles and official documents. He was born in Sangamon County, son of Thomas Chavous. Although he had no formal education, he could read and write. His half sister was Effie Bridgewater, so he was an uncle of Cecil and Harold

Bridgewater. He lived in Urbana and Tuscola, but died in 1933 in Kankakee. **Cockelreas, C. L.** – In 1900, he was a boarder in the Chavous home. He was born in 1870.

Davis, Charles – Son of James and Reba Davis, he attended school in Tuscola until the 5th or 6th grade, when the family moved away. Charlie died in 1978. His wife was Blondine. **Davis, James** Father of Laxey Mae Davis. He lived in Tuscola from 1935 until 1945 when he worked on the section crew for the Illinois Central Railroad. He also worked for Smith’s Lumber in Tuscola. Drafted during WWII, he served with the Quartermaster Corps on Okinawa. After the war ended, he stayed in Gary, IN with his wife, Reba, who had moved there during the war. When Reba died, Jim married Gertrude Joy in 1992.



Solomon “Sol” Chavous

Davis, Laxey Mae – Reared by James and Reba Davis after her birth mother, Essie Belle Wallace (sister to Reba Davis), died around 1932-33. ? Laxey Mae lived at the southeast corner of Ensey and Carico Streets while in Tuscola. The family then moved to Gary, IN; the Davis family consisted of five girls and two boys. **Davis, Reba** – First wife of James Davis. She and Jim met in Alabama and moved to Tuscola to live near Reba’s brother, Lemuel Riley. She worked for the VanVoorhis family while living in Tuscola. Charlie Davis was her son; she also raised her niece, Laxey Mae. She died in 1990.

Dixon, Mrs. Doc – She had a store in a building in the back yard of their home on the south side of town. Mrs. Dixon ran more of a convenience store than a grocery store where she sold soft drinks, cigarettes, candy, and a few staples. **Dixon, Doc** - He was a handyman for C. Ed Cox. Cox had a hardware store the first door west of the Tuscola Kandy Kitchen. Dixon took care of the lawn work at the Cox residence. **Easter, Kathryn** - Born in 1898, she lived at the corner of Ficklin and Court Street in Tuscola and hired out as domestic help for doctors and other prominent citizens. Among the people that we know she worked for were Pearl Bailey and Letha Williams. Letha was a 7th grade schoolteacher at South Ward, and hired Kathryn as a cleaning lady. *“I remember that she always wore white gloves and a hat,” said Letha. “She was very refined and loved pretty things. She seemed to be well-traveled and told me many stories. She thought the grocer, Bruce Williams, was wonderful because he was so good to her. I don’t think she had hardly anything, so she was always appreciative of everything anyone gave her”.* Kathryn loved red, so her friend and other employer, Pearl Bailey, made

arrangements for her to be buried in a red velvet dress. When she died in 1958, Kathryn was buried in Tuscola Cemetery.

Grigsby, Cozzetta - She was born in 1902 in Illinois, a daughter of Jerry and Grace Manuel Grigsby. Grace Manuel Grigsby later became Mrs. James Calimese. A 1922 graduate of Tuscola High, she married Robert Henry Earnest in 1928; he was a janitor at a U. of Illinois fraternity house. Cozzetta died in 1982 and is buried with her husband in Mount Hope Cemetery, Urbana.

Vergiealena Grigsby – She was born in 1908 in Tuscola, the daughter of Jerry and Grace Manuel Grigsby. She was reared by her mother and stepfather, James Calimese. A 1923 graduate of Tuscola High School, she was a cook at the University of Illinois. Vergiealena married James G. Cook and they had a son, Jimmy, Jr. She is buried in Tuscola Cemetery.

Harrison, Miss Harriet Jane – In 1895, she was a laundress who owned her home at the northwest corner of East Ficklin and South Center.

Hayden, Bruce Kenard – This man touched many lives in Tuscola as a city mail carrier. He was born August 14, 1889 in Fulton, Kentucky. He married Myrtle Theodora Holmes in 1918. In the same year, he entered the military service, attained the rank of master sergeant and was stationed in France. He moved to Tuscola in the 1910s, and later became a mail carrier out of the local post office. He retired after 34 years of service in 1944. He and his family then moved to Springfield, where he became an employee of the Illinois State Department of Finance and Labor. He retired in



Myrtle and Bruce Hayden

1965 after 20 years at that job. While living in Tuscola, the Haydens belonged to the Salem Baptist Church in Champaign. Bruce Hayden was active in the church throughout his life, serving as Sunday School Superintendent for many years. After the family moved to Springfield, he was a deacon at Zion Baptist Church as well as Sunday School Superintendent; he also sang in the senior choir. He was a member of the Mayor's Commission for Senior Citizens, the Coroner's Jury, and various other civic organizations. His children were Bruce Hayden Jr. and Ruth Hayden Morgan. Bruce Sr. died in 1977 and is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield. In Tuscola, the family lived in the 100 block of West Overton Street. Bruce's first wife, May, died young and left a daughter, Ruth. When Mr. Hayden remarried, Ruth was raised by Myrtle Holmes Hayden. Bruce Jr. was Bruce and Myrtle's son.



Bruce Hayden Jr.

Hayden, Bruce Kenard Jr. – He was born in 1928, son of Bruce K. and Myrtle Holmes Hayden. Known as "Brucie" to Tuscola folks, he graduated from Springfield High School and received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in music from James Milliken University in Decatur. Like his father, Bruce Jr. is fondly remembered by local residents. A distinguished violinist (first taught by his father), he began his teaching career as Director of the String Department at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida. His musical career extended throughout the recording and performance medium across the country, playing with such groups as the Soulful Strings and the Schubert Theater Orchestra. Bruce Hayden Jr. was professor and director of music at Malcolm X College when he died in 1976; he is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield. Bruce Jr. married a graduate of Milliken University, Colleen Dowling; their daughter was Dr. Carla Hayden who was the executive director of the Baltimore Public Library System. Divorced, Bruce Jr. remarried and had a son Bruce Hayden III. **Hayden, Ruth Norris** - She was the daughter of Bruce Sr. and May Gordon Hayden. Ruth was a 1933 graduate of Tuscola High School. She married John Morgan and they resided in St. Louis until they both died.

Hayden, Mariah – The mother of Bruce Hayden Sr. was born in 1860. When she died in 1915, she was buried in Tuscola Cemetery. Her grave is just south of the Unknown Soldier's memorial plot. **Hayden, May Gordon** - First wife of Bruce Hayden Sr. Born in 1887, she died at her home in Tuscola in 1917. When she died, she left her husband Bruce, as well as an infant daughter, Ruth.

Hayden, Myrtle Theodora Holmes – Second wife of Bruce Hayden, Sr., she was born in 1902 in DuQuoin, the oldest of five children born to John and Stella Lott Holmes. She married Bruce K. Hayden Sr., in 1918 and moved to Tuscola. They had a son Bruce Kenard Hayden, Jr. When she and Mr. Hayden moved to Springfield, she too was a very active church member, in civic and cultural affairs in Springfield through the James Weldon Johnson Study Guild, Urban League Guild, YWCA, and NAACP. She was employed by the State of Illinois for 21 years until her retirement in 1966. She loved music, gardening and flowers.

Hollis, Doc He was a barber. **Hunt, Thomas** - In 1895 he was a laborer whose address was West Pinzon Street. He owned his own home. **Logan** - resided at the same address as Thomas Hunt. **Hunt, Lufe** and **Hunt, Joe** - Sons of Lode Hunt. Lode lived on West Pinzon Street on the north side between South Main Street and Washington Street where he had a large garden. He had a two-wheel cart from which he sold his garden vegetables. He chanted "*Lode Hunt here, Lode Hunt here*" as he sold his wares. He is buried in Tuscola Cemetery and his tombstone inscription says "1875-1954". Lode Hunt and Logan Hunt may be the same person. **Hunt, Mrs. James (Emma)** - In 1895, she resided on East Overton Street.

Jacob, Joshua – Born in North Carolina, Jacob was a laborer living in Tuscola in 1880, aged 60 years old at the time. **Jacob, Joshua Jr.** – Son of Joshua Jacob, he was born in Indiana and was 17 years old in 1880. **Jesse, George L.** – In 1895, he was a printer in the *Tuscola Journal* newspaper office. **Johnson, Jack** – A dishwasher at the City Hotel.

Lamb, Elizabeth – She was a hairdresser who lived in Tuscola in 1880. She was born in North Carolina and was 26 years old at the time of the 1880 Federal census. Her children included **Flora Lamb** (a domestic who lived at 216 South Main in 1895); **Nettie Lamb** (born in Illinois in 1873), and **Noble Lamb** (born in Illinois in 1876). **Lamb, Joseph** – a day laborer who was born in Tennessee. His name shows up in both the 1870 and 1880 Tuscola census. His wife was **Mildred Lamb** (born in Virginia in 1825). **Lee, Miss Maria** - A laundress living at 15 East Ficklin in 1895. She owned her own home. **Linn, William** – a laborer who lived at 128 E. Overton in 1895. The house was owned by Charles Jones.

Masters girl – Raised by a white couple named Frank and Minnie Masters, very little is known about her. She and her parents lived in a house behind DeKalb on U.S. Route 36. The daughter frequently visited and supposedly later moved to Chicago. **May, Frank** - Frank May was a barber. He lived in the 200 block of East Buckner Street. Frank May weighed about 300 pounds. The barbershop was located on North Parke Street between F. H. Jones Lumber and the photography shop. Frank May was killed when his coupe was hit by train engine 2701 at the Wabash railroad crossing in Tolono in 1928.

Menefee, Ruben – This old gentleman worked for Pearle Wardall and Bill VanVoorhis. He was unmarried. He did not have his own home. Later in his life, he slept in a cot in the back of the Tuscola State Bank. At the bank, he was the janitor and handyman. He died in 1936, and is buried in Tuscola Cemetery without a tombstone. **Mitchell, William "Billy"** – He was a porter at the Beach House. He lived at 231 East Ensey Street in 1895. He lived in the vicinity of Brookside Restaurant on North Niles Avenue. Billy and Janet Mitchell were parents of two sons. **John Mitchell**, whom his classmates in Tuscola called "Billy", is the only one of the two boys who lived in Tuscola. He is a retired state policeman. Mr. Mitchell died in 1938, in Douglas County.

Page, Sarah J. – Born in Maryland in 1830, she was the mother of an adopted daughter, **Olla Fant**. Her husband was **Stephen Page**. Mr. Page was a laborer who lived at 213 East Ensey.

Phillips, Bingham and Flora – Mr. Phillips owned a dray business and had a team of high-spirited horses. The family was poor and they had several children. **Phillips, Vesta** – Attended grade school in Tuscola.

The **Lucian Reeves** family lived next to the Bragg house on North Main in Tuscola. The family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Reeves and a son, **Eugene Reeves**. Mr. Reeves worked for Mr. Bragg as his chauffeur. Just west of the Bragg house was a garage and home with bathroom, living room, and kitchen and closet downstairs, and on the second floor three bedrooms. The Reeves family lived there. The family was well-educated. One day Lucian Reeves and Mr. Bragg went to Indianapolis and for some reason, Bragg drove home. The car hit crushed rock on the side of the road, and Mr. Bragg was thrown from the car and killed. Shortly after that, the Reeves family moved away.

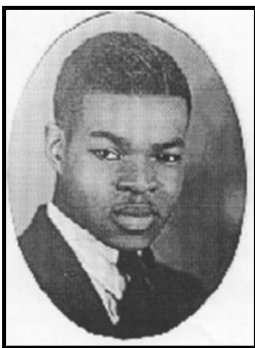


Nettie and Lemuel Riley

Riley, Lemuel – Born in Walnut, MS in 1893. He worked on the railroad for 25 years, as a guard at USI and an employee of the Tuscola Cooperative Elevator. He and his wife, Nettie, came to Tuscola in 1925 and lived on Carico Street for many years. He was a member of the Baptist Church and the Masonic Lodge in Champaign. In the early 1960's, he suffered a stroke and was forced to retire as a semi-invalid. He died in 1973. His sister was Nancy Box. **Nettie B. Garden Riley** married Lemuel in 1915, in Mississippi, came to Tuscola in 1925, remained in Tuscola after his death but was living in Gary, IN at the time of her own death. In the late 1950's, Geraldine Steele from Mississippi stayed with the Rileys and went to school in Tuscola.

Shedd, Laura – A washerwoman who was a boarder in the Harriett Harrison residence in 1880. **Shedd, Robert** – He was a porter at Washburns. He resided in 1895 at 131 E. Ensey in a home which he owned. He was a day laborer who was born in Tennessee in 1856. In 1870, he lived in the home of Joseph Lamb in Tuscola. According to a *Tuscola Journal* news clipping, by 1898, there was a **Mrs. Robert Shedd** attending “colored folks” social functions. **Slash, Andrew** – In 1895, he was a laborer living at 323 E. Overton Street in a house owned by J.F. Poole.

Walker, James - He lived at 203 N. Parke Street in 1895, where he served as a cook at the Beach House Hotel.



Howard Wright

Wright, Geraldine, daughter of Thomas and Willa Mae Jones Wright, was a 1935 graduate of Tuscola High School. She married Robert Johnson in Lafayette, Indiana around 1937 or 1938, and they resided there until they both died. They were the parents of Robert, Leslie, Jerry, Rosalyn, and Martha and had many grandchildren and step-grandchildren. During her years in Lafayette, she worked for the license bureau and a dry good store, but she was primarily a homemaker. She and her husband ran the Aero Inn Restaurant at the Aretz Airport in Lafayette from 1946 until 1953.



Geraldine Wright

Wright, Howard Leslie “Tommy” – Son of Thomas and Willa Mae Jones Wright, born 1915 and graduated from Tuscola High School in 1933. Both Geraldine and Howard were very bright students. Howard married Leora Easley in 1938 and had five children and several grandchildren. In 1970, he remarried. From 1952 until 1989, he operated his own janitorial service in Lafayette.

Wright, Thomas – Thomas’ mother had a terminal illness which left him an orphan at a very young age. Thomas was taken from his birthplace in Kentucky to live in Tuscola with a white couple named Josiah and Martha Jane (Easter?) Wright. It is possible that Tommy’s birth mother had been a servant in the Wright home. This Tuscola High School football player was a 1905 graduate of TCHS. He scored the winning touchdown at a Thanksgiving Day game against Arcola High’s football team. At that time, a negro person could not be on the streets of Arcola after sundown. After Tommy made the winning touchdown, he laid the ball down, climbed over a fence, ran across a field, and jumped into a waiting buggy that took him back to Tuscola. After high school, Thomas married **Willa Mae Jones** in 1914, in Champaign. Thomas’ father **Josiah** died in 1914, leaving a considerable estate. His total real estate holdings were valued at \$18,000 and he had \$6,000 in personal property when he died. His last wishes were that most of the real estate be sold for its cash value, and the remainder of the estate was to be shared with 18 cousins of Josiah. Thomas Wright got one share of Josiah’s estate and ownership of the family automobile upon his adopted mother’s death. When Martha died in 1925, Thomas acquired his adopted parents’ house.

Thomas operated a car garage on Wilson Street, where local residents with open vehicles parked them overnight. During the day in 1926 or 1927, the empty garage was turned into a skating rink, and “young Tommy” remembered that, as the boss’s kid, he had the privilege of skating there whenever he wanted to without paying. In the 1930s, Thomas did odd jobs around Tuscola. He died in 1942 in the Chicago Research Hospital and is buried in Tuscola Cemetery. Mrs. Wright, who was Bruce Hayden Jr.’s godmother, did domestic work in Tuscola, possibly for the VanVoorhis family. She died in Lafayette in 1990 at the age of 102 years.



Adrian S. Young

Young, Eliza – Born in Illinois in 1858, she was the wife of **Joseph Young**. In 1895, she lived at 518 S. Main in a house she owned. Joseph was a laborer who was born in Illinois in 1804. Joseph and Eliza had an age difference of 54 years. **Young, Tabby** – Mother of **George Young**, died while residing in the Beach House. **Young, Adrian S.** – Born 1870, in Illinois and died 1939 in Douglas County.

At one time, Tuscola had two churches with Negro congregations. One of the churches was located on Ensey Street in the northwest part of town (the second building west of North Niles on the north side of the street). Its name was the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) church. The other church was located at the northwest corner of Houghton and Center Streets at 114 E. Houghton. The latter church was called the “White Horse Riders” church. Originally built in 1882 as an Episcopal Church called “St. Stephen’s”, the building was turned into a private residence by a local carpenter named Allen Trigg.



Bishop Alexander Walker
Wayman of the African Methodist
Episcopal Church with members
of Tuscola, Illinois AME Church
at the dedication of the church on
June 23, 1873



Pearle Ervin Wardall of Tuscola was a prolific writer. She was the granddaughter of the owners of Tuscola's well-known, turn-of-the-century hotel, the Beach House. The hotel had many intriguing visitors and staff members. At one point in time, Mrs. Wardall jotted down her memories of George, "Aunt Tabby" and Katherine Young. Following are Pearle's memoirs of the Youngs: *"A colored man appeared at the Beach House one noon and asked Sarah McNally, the cook, if she would give him something to eat. She always would feed tramps if they would do some work for the food. While he was eating, Sarah found out he had a mother and sister down south and he had tramped up north and wanted to make a home for them. His mother and sister had been slaves, but he was what he called Free Born. Sarah started him to splitting wood and filling up the wood boxes and went in and talked to Grandmother Beach about him. George Young attended to the cows, milking and feeding them and taking them to the pasture across the Illinois Central Railroad tracks. George was with Grandmother Beach for a good many years. He did all sorts of odd jobs; even blackening shoes for the traveling men. He saved his money and sent for his mother, Aunt Tabby, and Katherine, his sister. George rented a cabin over on the Gail lot next to the pasture where he took the cows. Aunt Tabby was a great big fat woman and Katherine was simple-minded. She never talked, but just made gestures with her hands. Aunt Tabby said she was whipped by an overseer of the slaves when she was a young girl and hadn't been right since, and had Katherine show Sarah the scars. They worked there and ate their food in the kitchen or wash house for several years. At last Aunt Tabby died and George put Katherine up in the asylum at Kankakee.*

George lived there around the hotel and got a salary as long as grandmother ran the hotel. But when Mr. Kessel took over after he married Aunt Jenny, they didn't get along. When my father S.B. Ervin moved into the house up here, George came to work for him and stayed here for years. My father, S.B. Ervin, raised cattle just across the railroad back of our home and we had a big barn and mules, and three cows, and horses and George was busy from morning until night working in the garden, mowing the yard, copping wood, milking, helping with the churning, and doing chores around the house. He used to load the hay on the rack and he would take a load of kids and drive over to feed the stock. He went by Uncle Rice and John's elevator and over the dredge boat bridge and then we all played over by the windmill while George did the feeding of the cattle. George was quite a character in our lives a good many years. He sang sad Negro melodies; one I remember well – "Go chain the Lion down" – it was weird. When Papa quit raising and feeding stock, he talked to one of the conductors of the C. H. & D. railroad and George got a job in Decatur at the station there, moving trunks and baggage. We were young and guess we lost track of him, but George Young was a good man and quite a feature in our young life. Always good-natured. Never used bad language"

Tuscola's white and Negro populations seemed to get along together. Articles in the 1897 and 1898 *Tuscola Journal* newspaper tell of a time when "colored folk's cake walks" were quite a social event in town. White residents attended the festivities as spectators. Around Christmas of 1898, the following news items appeared in the *Journal*: *"The colored people have arranged for a grand cake walk and dance at the opera house next Monday night. These cakewalks have always been productive of much merriment and with a few specialities in the way of clog dances, the proper cut of "de pigeon" and the latest of ragtime music. The projectors of the walk can expect a crowded house. Colored people from Charleston, Mattoon, Champaign, Decatur, and other towns will be present. The irresistible George Jesse of Charleston will no doubt be on hand to make a good showing in the walk. The cake walk will*

be in the charge of Arthur Anderson, Will Parker, and Robert Chevours (Chavous) and they assure the public an entertainment that will be worthy of patronage. The following prizes have been offered by the managers: 1st prize - \$5 and cake to most graceful couple; 2nd prize - \$2 for second best couple; Gold ring to the most lovely lady waltzer; \$2 for the champion 'buck' dancer; box of cigars for second best." A follow-up story in the next issue of the newspaper said, *"The grand march was led by Mr. Robert Johnson of Champaign and Mrs. Robert Shed of Tuscola. William Montgomery of Mattoon acted as "drum major". Mr. Arthur Anderson and Miss Cozy Chavours (Chavous) of Tuscola were judged the most graceful walkers. Mr. Harry Brumble of Champaign won the \$2 prize for the bet buck dancer. The prize for the most lovely waltzer was given Mr. Louis Brumble and Miss Gertrude Chavous."*

Pete Bridgewater said that the only time he ever heard a derogatory remark made against him in Tuscola was when a group of itinerant Texas pipeliners came into Riley's Pool Hall and one of them made a racial slur. Riley cracked the Texan over the head with a pool cue and ordered the men out of the building. Pete also recalls the day when the school track team went to a meet in Monticello. The team hadn't eaten anything that day, so Coach Vernon Askew took the boys to a Monticello restaurant. All the team players got their food except Pete Bridgewater. When it became obvious that Pete was being passed by, the players would not eat their meals until Pete got his. Askew eventually asked the restaurant owner why Pete hadn't gotten any food yet. *"We don't serve Negroes in here"*, he said. Askew answered, *"Then we won't pay for the white's food."* Then the whole team got up and walked out of the restaurant without eating or paying.

In Tuscola, Bridgewater said, there was more affection for the Negro residents than there was hate. When asked if growing up in a nearly all-white community placed him at a disadvantage, he said *"no"*. *"It was to my advantage,"* he said. *"I didn't know I was black until I moved up to Champaign. Blacks living in Tuscola didn't have to go through all the hullabaloo of prejudice"*, Pete recalled.

Local white residents thoroughly enjoyed the musical talents of the town's Negroes--everything from the sound of Preston Bridgewater's trumpet, to Pete's music and tap dancing, to Bruce Hayden's violin, to the choir music wafting out of the town's Negro churches, to the black bands and orchestras that played at the local pub and on radio station WDZ. Jerry Lynch and his Rhythm Club Band could be heard on WDZ, as well as at the Friendly Tavern on Rt. 36 in Tuscola.

* NOTE: During the period of this article, the black residents were referred to as "Negroes". Thus, that designation is used in this article.



Mac Willis and His Doctors of Rhythm Boys



Jerry Lynch and the Rhythm Club Band



Harold "Pete" Bridgewater



Cecil Bridgewater



Thomas and Mary Chavous



Bruce K. Hayden Jr. and Colleen Dowling (Hayden) as students at James Milikin University, 1951



Effie Bridgewater



Ralph Bassett, Bruce and Myrtle Hayden and granddaughter



Effie Bridgewater (I), Jessie Backento and Cozetta Chavous



Preston Bridgewater and Ben Lafferty



Mary Chavous

Pictures Courtesy of the Museum Association of Douglas County, *Cabin Chatter*, Lynnita Aldridge Brown, Editor

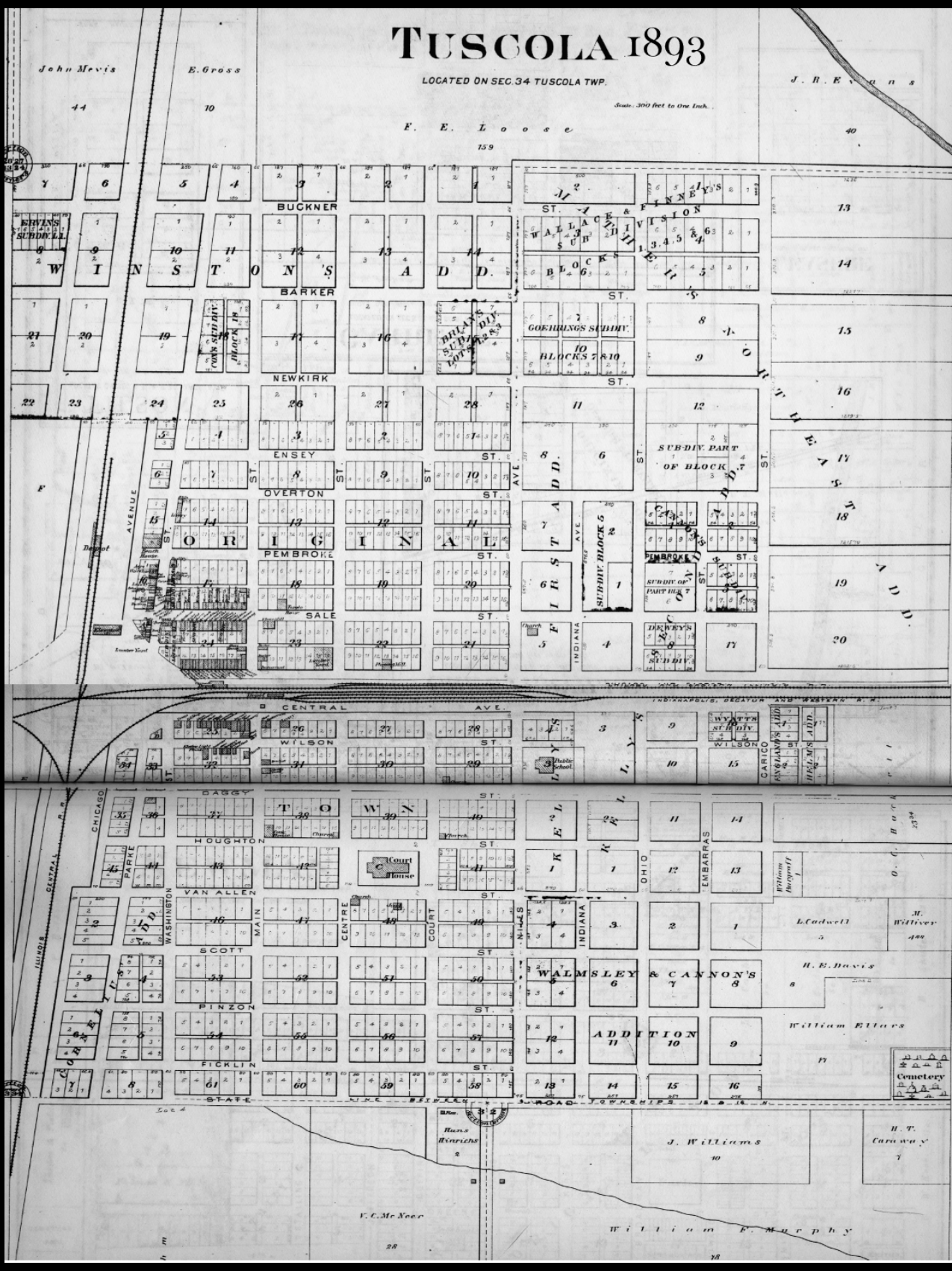
TUSCOLA 1893

LOCATED ON SEC. 34 TUSCOLA TWP.

Scale: 300 feet to one inch.

F. E. L o o s e

159



TUSCOLA BUSINESSES

Taken from the 1895 *Saturday Journal Historical Edition*
and the *Tuscola Journal Historical Edition*, September 7, 1922

The Hop Long Laundry – Established in September 1893. Mr. Long Stock of Canton, China was the owner. He had been a resident of Bloomington for thirteen years and had ten years experience in the laundry business. The Hop Long Laundry could turn out laundry in two days. The business was located at No. 24 West North Central Avenue.

“...He spoke English well, cut off his que and dressed American style. “Separate” collars were washed and starched for 2 cents and shirts for 5 cents. He belonged to the Presbyterian Church and was a generous donor.

Hop sent to China each year for a wonderful supply of display fire works which he turned over to Mr. McKee who arranged for a July 4th display in a “y” formed by switches between the three railroads. Large numbers of people attended for quite a distance.

There were always 6-8 or perhaps more Chinese workers in the back who had long ques and wore long, bright-colored native costumes with skirts. They often took group walks around town on good weather Sunday afternoons – in a long file and carrying on a continuous group conversation, in Chinese of course. Hop made frequent trips to St. Louis, Chicago, Indianapolis and mostly accompanied by two or more of these native-dressed men, supposedly to show them the big city. Hop was eventually arrested by Federal Authorities as a member of an organization smuggling Chinese into this country. While pretending to take men to the city and returning them, Hop was actually exchanging them and was operating a “way station” for transferring them. That was the end of the Hop Long Laundry! (A. B Sawyer memories, published in the *Tuscola Review*, April 10, 1984, interview by Lynnita Aldridge Brown)

The Martin Drug Store – Dr. W. S. Martin bought the Washburn Drug Store on December 21, 1894 from a sheriff’s sale. The sale of wall paper was the main attraction of the store. Dr. Martin could not handle the day to day business so he left it to the supervision of Miss Maggie Martin. Other employees included Jacob M. Smith and Carl Averitt.

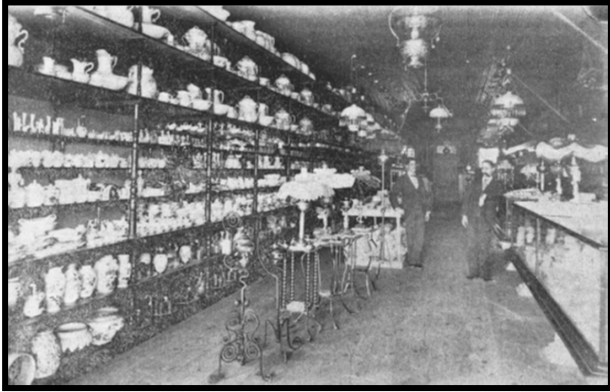
W. A. Johnson & Bro. – Opened his jewelry store in 1888 on north side of North Central Avenue. Moved to 14 West Sale Street in 1891 and partnered with his younger brother, R. J.N. Johnson. They specialized in jewels, optical goods (lenses) and repair of watches and clocks.



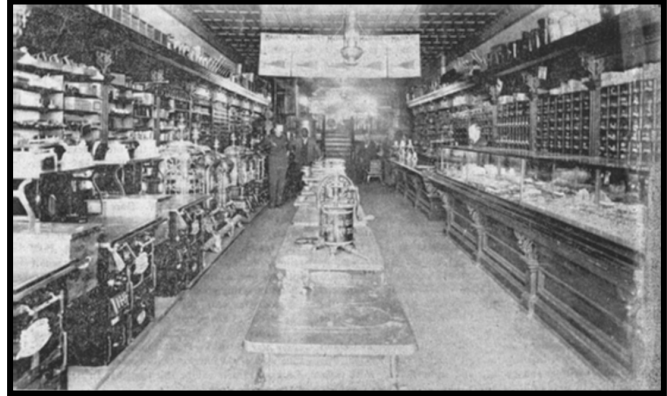
Interior W. A. Johnson & Bro.

Wortham & Cox – Established in 1890 by Mr. C. Ed Cox. Mr. Cox had previously worked for S. B. Ervin & Bro. In 1893 he partnered with Mr. Wortham (wholesale salesman) and

together they bought out the Ervins. They specialized in hardware, stoves, tinware, queensware, china and glassware. They were located at Nos. 4 & 7 West North Central Avenue.



Interior Wortham & Cox's China Store



Interior Wortham & Cox's Hardware Store

Wyatt & England – Real estate agency established July, 1894, by T. S. Wyatt & George England. Wyatt the Methodist preacher, formerly held the county offices of Sheriff and Treasurer. England was a prominent farmer from Murdock Township and the junior member of the firm. Wyatt & England was located over the First National Bank.

C. H. Manwaring – Boot & shoe factory and repair shop located at No. 4 East North Central Avenue.

J. L. Dawson – A grocery and mercantile business. They used the latest technology in making change (National Cash Registers) and getting customers their money's worth (Dayton Computing Scales). They were located at No. 10 West Sale Street.



J. L. Dawson's Grocery Store

Patrick C. Sloan – A real estate, abstract, loan and insurance business was founded by Sloan in 1883. Mr. A. A. McKee joined in partnership and the business became Sloan & McKee. They were located in the Von Lanken block on Sale Street. In 1890, Sloan dissolved the partnership. O. H. Sloan, Patrick's brother, oversees the clerical work. It was considered the busiest office in Tuscola.

Columbia Grafonolas on Easy Terms

The price of this E 2 Standard Model Columbia Grafonola, the most popular model made, is now only \$85.00.

\$85  **\$85**

\$5.00 DOWN AND ONLY \$5.00 A MONTH

Also other models on convenient terms
No extra charge for machines bought on payment plan.

CASHFORD ART STORE

Cashford Art Store – Opened in 1885 by Charles Cashford. Upon his death in 1908, his son Ray Cashford controlled and



Cashford Art Store

managed the store. When Ray died in 1918, Mr. Cashford's widow, Elizabeth assumed ownership and management of the store. Mr. Leonard Owen was connected with the business beginning in 1914. Cashford Art Store, over the years,

were dealers in paintings, steel engravings, pastel work, picture frames to order, wallpaper, plush and celluloid goods, stationary, vases, bric-a-brac, books/booklets, artists materials, games, etc. Located at No. 18 West Sale St.

L. I. Hackett – Lumberyard located at No. 25, 27, and 29 East North Central Avenue.

Hall, Jacobson & Co. – A manufacturer of tile for field drainage was established in 1882, in the northwest part of the city by J. P. and Dr. A. Hall of Niantic, Illinois. Dr. Hall was succeeded by Henry Jacobson of Niantic in 1883, brother-in-law of J. P. Hall. In 1885 S. L. Vance bought one third interest.



Hall, Jacobson & Co.

In 1890 G. E. Averitt of Harristown, Illinois bought Vance’s interest. In 1892 they bought 36.5 acres of ground just outside the city limits to the east. They built and moved the tile factory to this site near the I. D. & W. and C. & E. I. railroads. They manufactured one million tiles per year ranging in size from 3 to 15 inches. When the Christian Church was built in Tuscola, Hall, Jacobson & Co.

donated the bricks.

John R. Gwynn – A musical merchandise business located at the Homrighous’ Jewlery Store.

D. C. Hostetler & Son – A planing mill founded February, 1892. Took over the business from L. N. Wyatt. Their location was at No. 18 West Wilson Street. Mr. Hostetler sons name was John. They had facilities for scroll and turn work and specialized in the manufacturing of gables and ornaments, door and window frames, porches, stairways, etc.



D. C. Hestetler & Son Planing Mill

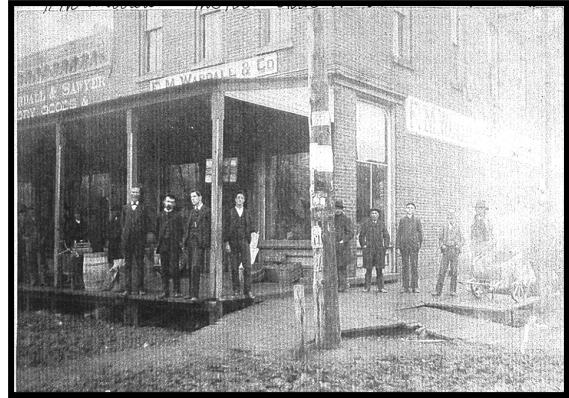


Insurance Office of A. A. McKee

Alonzo A. McKee – Insurance business. Mr. McKee joined Patrick C. Sloan. In 1892 when Sloan moved to his own facility McKee continued on his own with life, fire and tornado insurance.

Capt. J. C. Walker – He established a large flour and feed business located at No. 30 West Sale Street in 1893. Brands of flour that they stocked included “Gold Medal”, “Pillsbury’s Best”, Shellabarger’s “White Loaf”. They also kept graham, rye and buckwheat flour, plus a large variety of feed. December 11, 1894 he sold the business to Fred Scheideman and began working in the real estate business at the same address.

F. M. Wardall & Co. – The Grocery business founded by J. J. Knox at the corner of Main and North Central Avenue, was established in 1891. Mr. Wardall moved to Tuscola from Tolono where he had been engaged in the grocery business for many years. Miss Maggie Wardall, his sister handled the books and accounts while Mr. Lincoln Houk was head salesman. They specialized in green, dried and canned foods, mocha and java coffees. They also carried boots and shoes from M. D. Wells.



F. M. Wardall & Co.

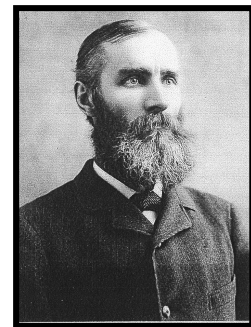
F. M. Wardall, Mr. McKee, Charles Wardall and Charles Moorehead in front of store.



F. M. Wardall & Co.



Mira Adelaide Wardall



Francis Melton Wardall

Cantrall & Smith – real estate, loans, insurance and collecting business, located on the second floor of the Knox Block at the corner of Main and North Central Avenue.

Ammen & Warren – They dealt in furniture and stoves specializing in folding beds, rockers, chairs, wickerwork goods and upholstered goods. They also had undertaking and embalming services. Ammen & Warren were located in the Opera block at No. 29 West North Central Avenue.



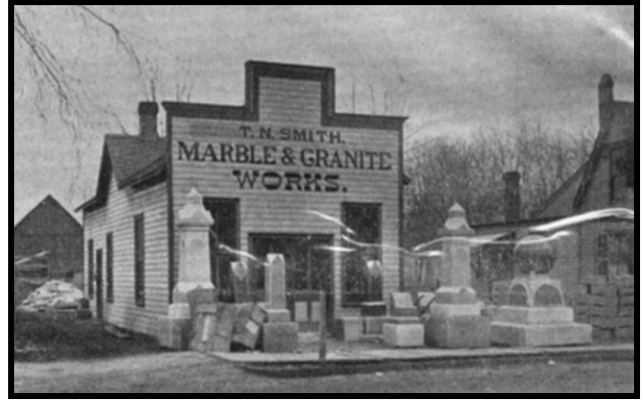
Ammen & Warren's Furniture Store

Miller & Sloan – A dry goods and furnishing house located at No. 27 west North Central Avenue. Mr. Miller took over the stock of J. M. Smith and Mr. Sloan took over the stock of Bright & Jones. They consolidated to form Miller & Sloan in 1885. They carried dry goods, the latest styles of cloaks and wraps, carpets, boots, shoes, hats and caps.

Special Shoe Store – Opened September 1893, by Mr. H. A. Lindhorst, they were located at No. 21 West Sale Street. They specialized in boots, shoes, rubbers, repaired rips, and breaks on everything they sold.



Special Shoe Store



T. N. Smith Marble and Granite Works

T. N. Smith Marble and Granite Works – Also known as Tuscola Marble and Granite Works, they carried marble, Scotch and Swedish granite and marble burial vaults. T. N. Smith took over the marble works after J. L. Goff died in 1891. Smith had been foreman under Goff for 10 years.

Wortham Brothers – A boot and shoe store which opened November 1, 1886. They were located in the Bright and Jones Block on North Central Avenue. In the spring of 1887, they moved to a room occupied by Wortham and Cox China Hall on North Central Avenue. They moved again in 1890 to the W. F. Kissel room located at No. 6 West Sale Street.. In 1890, they added a line of dry goods and groceries and in 1894, they added clothing, hats and caps.



Wortham Brothers

The Journal Book Store – They carried books by standard authors, juvenile books, schoolbooks, blank books, Oxford Bibles, family Bibles, newspapers, magazines and periodicals. They also made ladies' calling cards. Other items in stock included albums, toilet seats, collar, cuff, necktie and handkerchief boxes, ladies' purses, toys and dolls.

Phillip Garneau – A bakery and confectionery business established in 1879. They were located at No. 11 West Sale Street.

W. C. Kenner – A dry goods, cloaks, carpets and curtains business established in 1888. They were located at No. 22 West Sale Street. Clerks in the store were T. B. Foster, Will C. Chambers, Miss Mattie Sorrey and Miss Helen Fuller

Chas. L. Shonle – A merchant tailoring business established in 1889. They were located at No. 6 West North Central Avenue.

Cornelius Bye – Ran a boot and shoe business, closed it down and ten months later opened it back up. He was located on Sale street.

Mrs. C. S. Overman – One of the neatest, most stylish and complete lines of millinery goods in Tuscola. Located at No. 23 West North Central Avenue.



Mrs. C. S. Overman

Wardall & Sawyer – The largest stock of dry goods, dress goods furnishings, cloaks, carpets, etc. in Douglas County. Located at No. 3 and 5 West North Central Avenue. Mr. A. B. Sawyer was senior member and Mr. X. L. Wardall was junior partner. In 1882 they purchased the dry goods stock of J. M. Madison & Co. They soon purchased the store next door to them formerly occupied by R. J. Foster's Drug Store to expand their store. clerks were W. S. Dearduff, Misses Mae Jacobsen and Lottie Lamb and Charles Wardall.



Fred W. Hackett

E. E. Smith Department Store – Located in the Von Lanken and Gasmann Block at the corner of Main and Sale Street. Mr. Elmer Smith and his brother, Horace, were born and raised in Tuscola. They handled a complete line of house furnishings, plain and decorated china, glassware, lamps and bric-a-brac. The business began in 1890.

Fred W. Hackett – Ran a boot and shoe business at No. 35 West North Central Avenue. Mr. Hackett was born and raised in Douglas County. He purchased the stock of the firm Smith and Scheideman.

Grand Restaurant – M. H. Rule, proprietor.

George W. Smith – Started a hardware business with J. G. Russell in 1876. Smith later bought Russell out.

Joseph Huston – operated a lunch stand in the Evans Building on South Main Street. He began the business in 1878 on South Main (in the Courtesy Cleaners Building).



Huston's Lunch Stand

Robert Duffield – A contractor and builder came to Tuscola in 1891.

Andrew J. Buseby – A carpenter and contractor, Mr. Buseby had been a resident of Tuscola since 1859.

George W. Renner – Was the leading plasterer in Tuscola. He was a Tuscola native and began in the business in 1878.

Cross Bros. – The meat market business was founded in 1866 by Edmund Cross, who was associated with the business until 1889 when he

retired. The son, Chris Cross then became a partner. It was one of the first meat markets in Tuscola. Charles, the oldest son already worked for his father.

Hans Henrichs – A mason, Mr. Henrichs came to Tuscola from Germany in 1880. His abilities as a mason were recognized from the beginning. There was hardly a brick laid in Tuscola since his arrival that he didn't secure the contract.

Joseph Kornblum – Opened a dry goods store in 1871. He was first located where Cross Bros. meat market later located. He moved to the Bye and Paddleford Building and later to a room occupied by McKees Grocery. In 1887, He closed out his dry goods and sold his clothing line to M. and W. Lindauier, who moved it to the Woody Corner. October 1894, he opened up a bankrupt stock of clothing and furnishings in the C. T. Morris room on Central Avenue. In 1895 he moved to Sale Street. Mr. Kornblum was a native of Crakow, Austria.

The Postoffice Lobby News and Book Store – This business was an outgrowth of a small newsstand located in Foster's Drug Store by Maurice Reinheimer when he was 11 years old. The lobby news depot handled school supplies and books, gift books, all the leading dailies, periodicals and magazines. He also had a laundry agency.

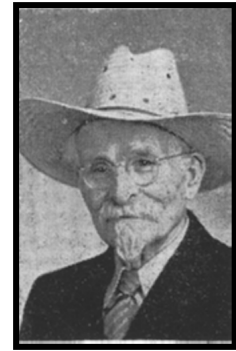
The Southside Avenue Dry Goods – This business was run by Charles S. Sanford.

William F. Kissel – He handled the City and Township builder's supplies. His office was located at the Beach House Hotel. The yard was located at the Illinois Central Railroad right-of-way.

W. R. Johnson – In 1884, Mr. Johnson purchased the fire insurance agency of W. J. Ammen which began it career with A. P. Helton in 1865. He was an agent for the Union Central Life Insurance Company of Cincinnati. His office was located on the second floor of the First National Bank building. His son, R. J. N. Johnson succeeded him in business.



D. N. Boyce – Ran the most thoroughly modern, photo studio in Eastern Illinois. His studio was located on the southwest corner of West Sale and North Parke Street, in a building built especially for his photographic studio. He was previously located in the Opera Block. Mr. Boyce succeeded his father in business.



D. N. Boyce

William T. Jones – A carpenter and contractor came to Tuscola in 1891.

John Bruhn – Owned a planning mill and factory located at No. 117 East North Central Avenue.

William Burggraf – A carpenter and contractor, began his business in 1883.

The Oak Hall Clothing House – Harry Madison and Company carried a full line of men’s clothing. The business was founded in 1879 and built a new store at No. 17 West Sale Street in 1891. The store was given its name because of the oak counters, racks, desks, etc.



The Oak Hall Clothing House

J. F. Marler Painting & Papering – John Francis Marler was married to Annis Enid Martin and they had one child, Frank Martin Marler.

Star Store – The Wortham Brothers built the Star Store at the corner of North Main Street and East North Central Avenue, which opened in 1901. It was a modern three-story building with a basement. The only building in town with an elevator which carried patrons to all floors. The first floor was used exclusively as a salesroom, supplemented by a large room on the second floor as well as a bargain room in the basement. The second and third floors also contained suites of offices. The lodge room of the Knights of Pythias and the general offices of the Douglas County telephone were on the third floor.



J. F. Marler Painting & Papering
L to R – John Marler & Frank Marler, age 6

The building had its own steam and electric plant. In 1902, The Wortham Bros. sold their interests to Charles B. Weise and George D. Bradford. The store burned down on April 23, 1905. It was rebuilt immediately in the same location with only two stories. Bollman and Buchanan purchased the store in 1908. When Mr. Buchanan retired, the name changed to “The Bollman Company.” Henry Senn joined

the company and managed it with A. H. Bollman Mr. F. D. Michener was associated with the corporation until 1922, when he retired to take charge of the Michener's Dry Goods.



Wortham's Star Store
Architects drawing of proposed store published in the
March 9, 1900 *Tuscola Journal*



The Bollman Company Star Store

Very Truly Yours

★

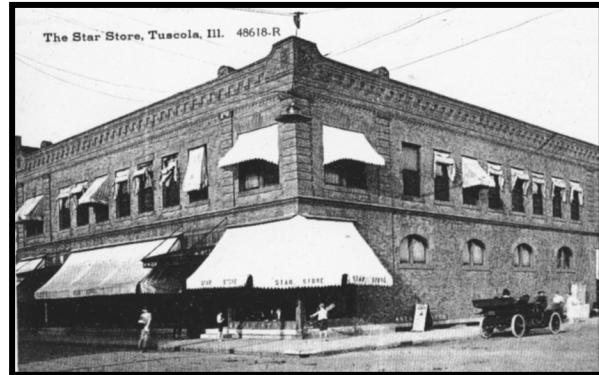
The Star Store ★

Tuscola, Ill.

Carries a full line of Ladies' Cloaks, Suits, Overskirts, Silk Petticoats and Millinery

Bollman & Buchanan

You are cordially invited to call



Williams & Hanna Furniture Store – Established in 1872 when Silas Williams entered into business with E. C. Brown. Mr. Brown died in 1877 and Elkin and Taggart took charge of Brown's business. In the same year, Mr. Elkin died and the firm became Williams and Taggart. It continued this way until 1904 when W. D. Hanna became associated with Mr. Williams.

White Front Café – George Richards, proprietor.

Curt Thornton – Ice Cream sodas.

New York Life Insurance Company – R. D. Ryan, general agent. Located in the Sawyer building.

Williams & Hanna

— EVERYTHING IN —

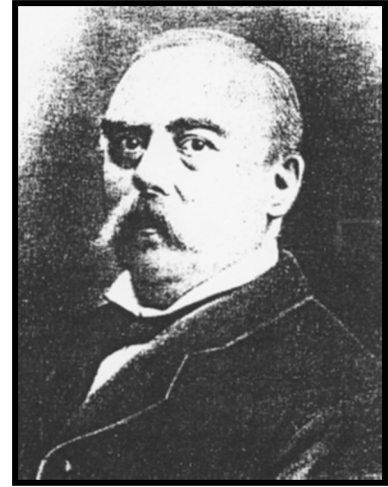
The Furniture and Undertaking Line

RUGS AND LINOLEUM

We also handle the best Sewing Machines made, together with Needles, Shuttles, Oil, Belts Etc., for any make of machine

C. Zimmerman Company – Charles Zimmerman was a native of Austria. After a fire destroyed his place of business in Terre Haute, he decided to come to Tuscola when he heard there was a need for another general store. In 1868, Zimmerman began to sell woolen goods, food and other necessities to local settlers. His “selling suit” became worn and dusty after a day of rolling barrels and moving boxes in his general store. After obtaining a pair of work pants from Marshall Field & Co. in Chicago, Zimmerman and his daughter, Rosa Urban, decided to alter the pants by attaching a bib, joined to the back with a suspender arrangement of the same denim cloth. The new-fangled “overall” became a popular item in Douglas County, and Charles Zimmerman decided the clothing business was much more profitable. The C. Zimmerman Company was born in Tuscola in 1871. The small company hired several local women to make overalls, but the volume of business increased so rapidly, the Zimmerman family decided to move back to Terre Haute.

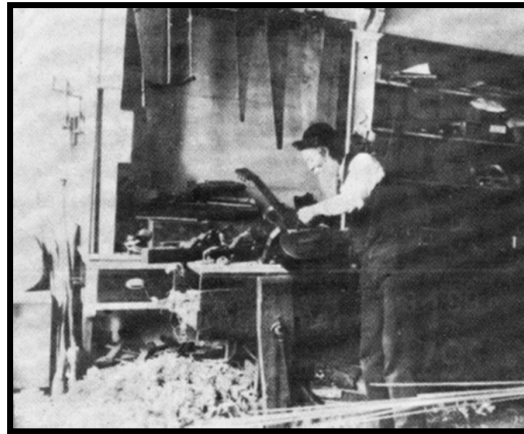
Story appeared in *The Cabin Chatter*, Lynnita Aldridge Brown, Editor.



T. P. Moore Woodworking Shop – This shop burned down about 1908 or 1909 and thereafter he had a shop in the woodshed at his home, where he did the same kind of work. He kept an army of cats, sometimes as many as thirteen. The cats weren’t just pets. They served a purpose, to keep mice out of his upholstery materials.



T. P. Moore



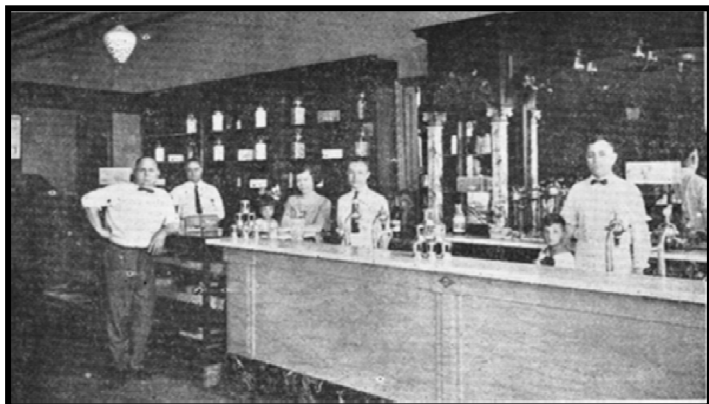
T. P. Moore in his woodworking shop.



**Clause Wiesener
Brick Laying Company**

Left to right – Claus Wiesener,
Bill Hendricks, Unknown,
Orville Gill, Joe Sollers and
Oscar Turner.

The Tuscola Kandy Kitchen – Owned and operated by the Flesor Brothers, born in Pegadacia, Greece in 1879. Gus Flesor, the oldest, located in Tuscola in 1901 and with John Vriner opened the Tuscola Kandy Kitchen. In 1906, Mr. Flesor bought the interest from his partner. In 1908, Nicholas Flesor came from Greece and became associated with Gus. In 1912, Thomas Flesor, the youngest brother arrived from Greece and joined in the business. The Tuscola Kandy Kitchen carried a complete line of candies and tobacco. They manufactured their own candies and ice cream. Gus Flesor owned and operated the business until he retired in 1969. He died December 10, 1978.



The Kandy Kitchen



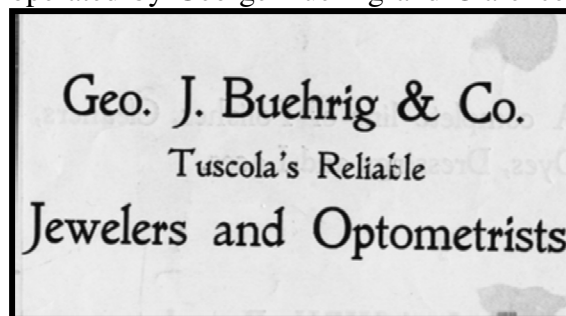
Gus Flesor

Geo. J. Buehrig & Co. – A jewelry store was owned and operated by George Buehrig and Clarence Buehrig. John Gates bought the business in the 1950's.



**R.
Travelute**

Travelute Studio – R. Travelute, owner and operator of Travelute Studio, came to Tuscola in 1915. He purchased the photo studio of D. N. Boyce. The studio was located at the corner of north Parke Street and west Sale Street.



Mrs. Mason's Hat Shop – Mrs. Charles Mason was the proprietor of this business, on Main Street in the Sawyer Building. This store was established in 1907.

J. J. Baldwin Plumbing Store – In 1904, J. J. Baldwin with Charles Mason opened a shop under the name of Baldwin and Mason. In 1911, Baldwin assumed the interest of Mr. Mason. Charles Patrick was his assistant.

The Tuscola Plumbing and Heating Company – Charles Mason was the proprietor and manager of this business. Mr. Mason served an apprenticeship with Brewster and Wallace in 1901. He and J. J. Baldwin formed a partnership in 1905. This firm was dissolved in 1907. He then went into business for himself. He installed the plumbing and heating in the Tuscola Grade School buildings.

Tuscola Vulcanizing Company – William Hickey came to Tuscola in 1912, and for one year conducted a Vulcanizing shop with Harshbarger Garage which later became known as Elmore's Garage. In 1913,

he moved to the Douglas county Garage. In 1917, he opened his place of business on Sale Street. He owned a two-story building plus the lot across the street.

Home of Hickey Service!
 We carry the most complete line of standard tires and tubes in Douglas county.

Gasoline
 Oil
 and
 Accessories

Vulcanizing
 of
 Tires
 and
 Tubes

FREE CRANK CASE SERVICE

Tuscola Vulcanizing Co.
 Phone 13

J. L. Warren – In 1893, J. L. Warren and E. W. Ammen formed a co-partnership and engaged in the retail furniture business. In 1895, the firm of E. E. Murphy and J. L. Warren was formed under the name Murphy and Warren. They continued in the furniture business and took up the undertaking business. In 1905, Mr. Murphy retired and Mr. Warren continued in the business until he sold to Ingram and Waddington. At the time of the sale he was in the Knights of Pythias building. In 1922, he again engaged in business on North Central Avenue.

The Fred A. Smith Lumber Company – This Corporation had its head offices in Rockford, Illinois, with Harry Campbell as manager. The lumberyard was purchased by Fred A. Smith Company in 1906. It had five employees – Fred Foley, J. P. Smith, William Murphy, Walter Bosley and Helene Pierce, who was the bookkeeper and stenographer.

Tuscola’s Greenhouse – George C. Schmitt owned this 5,000 square feet greenhouse located at the end of the pavement on south Main Street. Mr. Schmitt located in Tuscola in 1898.

The Victor Laundry – This business was owned and operated by Haden Shouse. He opened up the Tuscola Steam Laundry in December 1906. Employees were – Nellie Jones, Maude Hand, Mary Thomas, Mrs. Coffey, Fez Hamilton and Edward Helt.

Ladies Always

Appreciate good Laundry work. If you let us launder your waists and dainty lingerie you are sure to be pleased. With our modern methods and careful employees we are able to do this work better than it is possible to do it at home. Phone 218X and have us call for your next package.

Victor Laundry
 "The Laundry That Satisfies"

Mrs. M. Flinn
 LEADER of
 Up-To-Date
 Millinery
 TUSCOLA ILLINOIS

Mrs. Martha Flinn Milliners – The business of this establishment was conducted by Mrs. Pearl Denman, Mrs. Flinn’s daughter. Mrs. Flinn purchased the stock of the Kelly Sisters in the spring of 1881, and was then located on the site later occupied by H. R. Warren Hardware Store, a one story frame building. In 1886, fire destroyed both building and stock. In the spring of 1888, Mrs. Flinn purchased a lot belonging to John Russell and erected a brick building. Mrs. Denman retired soon after 1922.

The Tuscola Bottling Works – Frank R. Smith owned and operated this business. Their offices were in the Pioneer Creamery Company Building. Lee Kimery was Mr. Smith’s assistant.

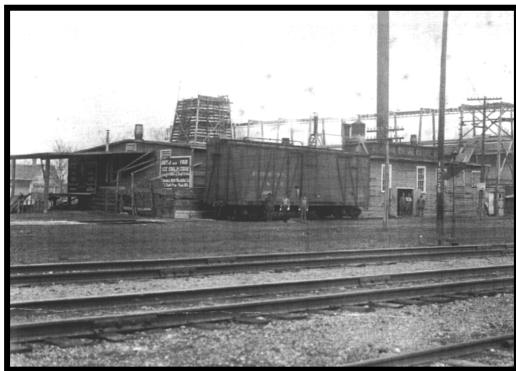


Frank R. Smith



Frank R. Smith in front of truck - 1914

Cox and Kelly Hardware – The hardware store was owned by C. Ed Cox and Fred Kelly. Mr. Cox’s father moved to Tuscola in the 1860’s and began working in the hardware store, which was then conducted by Lawson Bros., who were succeeded by the Ervin Bros. C. Ed Cox began working in the store at the age of fifteen in 1877. In 1892, he purchased the hardware store, which he ran alone until 1922, when he brought Fred Kelly in as partner. For many years, Mr. Kelly was the chief clerk for Mr. Cox. Other employees were – John Curry, clerk; Clara Bruhn, bookkeeper; W. P. Innis, tinner, Cecil Peck and Will Gross.

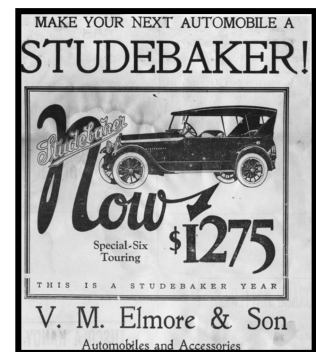


The Tuscola Deep Water Ice Company

The Tuscola Deep Water Ice Company – Local residents came to The Tuscola Deep Water Ice Company for all their ice and coal needs. The company was organized in the spring of 1907, by Thomas E. Smith. The plant and factory were located at 700 East North Central Avenue. Smith caused the company to be incorporated and sold his interest. The company had about thirty stockholders. R. J. N. Johnson, president of the board; Otho L. Storey, manager/secretary; L. R. McNeill, treasurer and A. A. McKee, vice-president. Other employees – Fred York, engineer; George Strong, Isaac Riley, I. L. Larimer, A. P. Bell and J. A. Gore.

Homer E. Todd – Mr. Todd conducted a plumbing business of West Sale Street. He served as an apprentice under Baldwin and Mason. He began his own business in 1912.

Elmore’s Garage – V. M. Elmore and his son Floyd were the proprietors of Elmore’s Garage. V. M. first started in business with O. L. Parker and J. L. Fiddler when they opened the Douglas County Garage. In 1912, he entered into his own business, located at the corner of north Parke Street and west Sale Street. They dealt in Hudson and Studebaker cars. They later built on the corner of East Sale Street and North Court Street on the Rice Ervin corner.



Roy H. Johnson – Mr. Johnson had offices in the Star Store, where he was engaged in the Life Insurance business. He sold Franklin Life Insurance. He came to Tuscola in 1905. He entered the offices of W. w. Reeves and stayed with them until he entered W.W.I.

Goldman Toggery – Boyd C. Goldman, Proprietor.

Lester Implement Company – This business began in 1882. They occupied a large three-story building on Sale Street. The founder was the father of Elmer Lester. Elmer conducted the business until 1917, when he sold his interest to Ervin Lester. Paul Lester was assistant manager and James E. Payne, bookkeeper.

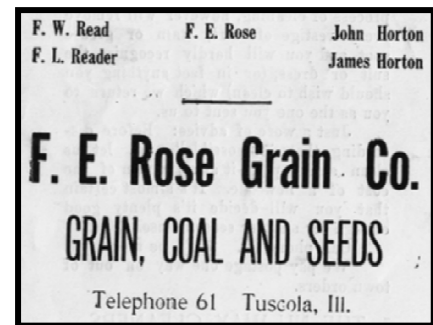


Leon Reinheimer

Leon Reinheimer – His men’s clothing store was located at 15 West Sale Street. The business began in 1913.

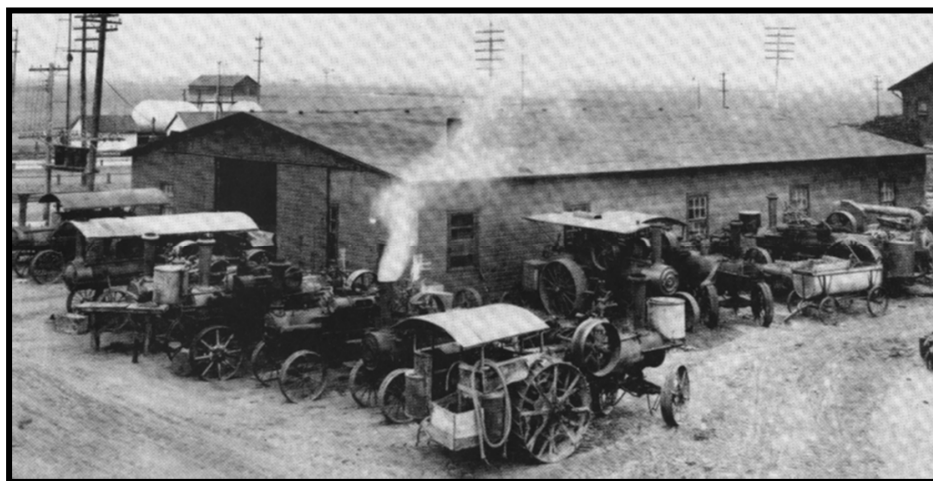
F. E. Rose Grain Company – This grain, coal and seed company’s offices were locate in a one-story brick building near the C. I. and W. Depot. F. E. Rose was the manager beginning in 1917.

Other parties who had interest in the grain elevator were – F. W. Read, J. K. Horton, J. W. Horton and F. L. Reader.



The Oakland – Tuscola Company – G. C. Jeffers and Fred Goodman owned and operated this business. They became associated in the automobile business in 1920. They sold Oakland and Chevrolet cars. The home of this garage was constructed of material taken from the old Douglas County Courthouse. The stone front being largely from the cornerstones and the sidewalk out front from the tile floors of the old building.

Held & Goodson – This steam machine dealership once was on the west end of Sale Street.



H. D. Blake & Company of Camargo – This sales room was located on Sale Street in the Harlan Building. He had the Dodge Brothers automobile agency. It was established in 1921. Earl Williams was the salesman.

G. E. MOORE'S
Cash Variety Store
—The Store of Real Values—

Small overhead expense, no lost accounts, enables us to under sell. We pay cash for our goods and buy where we can buy best. We constantly strive to get good merchandise from producer to consumer at the very lowest price.

We guarantee every article we sell you to be worth the money you pay for it, or your money back.

YOU WILL FIND IN THIS STORE

A full line of Groceries, Dry Goods, Ladies and Children's Dresses and Aprons, Hosiery, Sweater Coats, etc. Men's work clothing of best quality, overalls, shirts, work pants, dress pants, youths' suits, men's made to measure suits. We defy competition on men's tailor made suits. 300 all wool samples to select from, all one price, and we guarantee you a perfect fit. Our price today is \$25 for any suit.

We carry a full line of Peters Solid Leather Shoes; the shoe that has this guarantee back of it: "Your money back and a new pair of shoes free to the wearer who finds paper in the insoles, outsoles, heels or counters of a pair of Peters Diamond Brand, Shoes, the shoes with a diamond on their soles." Guaranteed rubber boots, and a full line of rubber foot wear.

OUR PRICES ARE LOWEST ON GUARANTEED PAINTS

We guarantee our house paint and barn paint to wear for five years, or we agree to furnish you new paint free of charge for repainting.

We sell automobile tires and parts. Our tires carry a mileage guarantee and we see that you get the mileage we sell them to give.

On our second floor you will find our 5c and 10c counters loaded with items that would cost you 25c elsewhere. Also you will find a full line of granite and galvanized ware, aluminum ware and tinware; stone ware, dishes, glass ware, and other items too numerous to mention.

**YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THIS STORE WHETHER
YOU COME TO BUY OR JUST TO SEE.**

Moore's Variety Store – George E. Moore was owner of this business, which he opened in 1919.

~~~~~

**Moulden's Battery Service Station** – Roy B. Moulden was the owner of this business He began the station in 1919.

**STORAGE BATTERIES**

---

Automobile, Farm Lighting and  
Radio Batteries in stock for every  
purpose.

---

**—RADIO—**

Let us install a set in your home and  
you can enjoy the nightly concerts  
from all over the United States.  
We carry a complete line of parts.

**MOULDEN'S BATTERY SERVICE**

Phone 163                      Tuscola, Ill.

**The Tuscola Produce Company** – This business was a corporation, organized in 1918, and was engaged in the poultry and ice business. W. W. Reeves was president of the Board of directors and J. M. Fuller was Secretary. Other stockholders were – A. W. Wallace, George Winn, T. E. Dickinson and Nathaniel Schweotzer of New York. The company was located in the Brown Ervin Building on Wilson Avenue. Five men were employed – J. D. Foreman, Edward Holmes, Fred Trout, James Slaughter and Elmer Thompson.

**Earl Jones and Frank Miller** – These men were proprietors of a garage located on South Central Avenue. This large fireproof building was built by T. N. Smith in 1919. They did general repair in addition to storage and sales of automobiles. They also sold Paige cars.

**Wanglin Car and Tractor Company** – R. d. Wanglin and W. E. Robinson, of Terre Haute, Indiana, were proprietors of this Ford sales and service company. These men purchased the business on April 30, 1922. Miss Verna Peck was bookkeeper, Harry Hickson, Edward Hickson, Harry Cooch, H. s. Pettycourt and Raymond Land were employed in the service department. Lloyd Dickinson, Fennis Harlett and William Cullison were salesmen.

**Sale Street Pool Hall** – William Riley was the proprietor of this business. He purchased the pool hall in 1920. Mr. Riley was assisted in conducting business by Bert Hill and his son, Loren Riley.

**American Express** – In 1922, the office was located on North Central Avenue with Charles Wood as agent.

**Western Union** – In 1922, the office was located on north Main Street with Charles Dotson as local manager.

**Illinois Central Railroad** –In 1922, L. B. Harlanuis was agent and Dick Powers was assistant. John Colwelluas was day operator and Walter Raney was night operator.

**C. I. & W. Railroad** – In 1922, Frank Reed was agent. Walter Shreves, George Grimes and Charles Skinner were telegraphers.

**C. & E. I. Railroad** – In 1922, George Hurst was the agent.

**T. Y. Tower** – In 1922, Charles Shephard was telegrapher.

**Whitlock's Shoe Store** – W. H. Whitlock and sons, B.L. and B. H., were the owners of the shoe store, located on North Central Avenue. They purchased the store in March 1922, from Fred Thornsbrue.



**Whitlock Shoe Store**

**The Bierfeldt Insurance Agency** – Horace Bierfeldt purchased the insurance business from M. E. Robinson in 1917. His office was over the Tuscola State Bank. Before going into the insurance business, he succeeded his father in the restaurant on West Sale Street.

**Shannon & Haven Brothers** – This was a general poultry and egg business on South Central Avenue. T. E. Dickson was manager and H. C. Shelton and w. Henson were employees. In 1922, they secured a lease from the C. I. & W. railroad for the purchase of the railroad park ground where they later erected a poultry building.



**Harry Gasmann**

**Gasmann Bakery** – Harry Gasmann was the owner of this bakery located on Parke Street. In 1908, Mr. Gasmann was engaged in business with William Fullerton's Bakery on South Central Avenue. He remained in that business until 1911. In 1919, He established his own bakery. He made the famous "Pullman Loaf." Associated with Mr. Gasmann was his brother, Thomas Gasmann. They leased both rooms in the Madison Building.

**Rice & Thornsbrue** – Shoe store.

**Tuscola Radio Supply Station** – Clyde E. Wiley, manager.

**Hackelman Cash Grocery** – A grocer/meat market the business opened in 1916, its location was at 104 East Sale Street. The proprietor of the grocery department was E. B. Hackleman and his wife Gertrude. In 1922, he, together with Henry Rahn, embarked in the meat business. The two firms employed the following – Miss Retha Hazelett, cashier and book keeper; Ernest Dressback, meat cutter; Arthur Ambler, Harry Baker, Juanita Haney, Evageline Cain and Mrs. Pearl Kennedy, clerks. The business closed in 1955.



E. B. Hackleman

**Special FOOD BARGAINS**

**Friday and Saturday, May 9 and 10 1941**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>MILK, F. P. - Pure, Safe, Economical <b>22c</b><br/>           3 Tall Tins</p> <p>MARSHMALLOWS <b>25c</b><br/>           2 large packages</p> <p>GELATIN DESSERT, Dauntless <b>25c</b><br/>           8 delightful flavors 5 pkgs.</p> <p>JELLY, F. P. - Assorted Pure Fruit Flavors, 14 oz. Thin Blown Tumbler <b>15c</b></p> <p>RED KIDNEY BEANS, Dauntless <b>10c</b><br/>           Uniformly high quality, No. 2 Tin</p> <p>CORN, F. P. Country Gentleman <b>25c</b><br/>           A real treat 2 No. 2 Tins</p> <p>F. P. MACARONI or SPAGHETTI, choice 6 7-oz. pkgs. 25c<br/>           PURE CIDER VINEGAR, Dauntless Qt. Mason Jar 10c<br/>           Fresh CUCUMBER CHIPS, Farmers Pride, 18 oz. Jar 15c<br/>           BORAXO 8 oz. Pkg. 15c<br/>           20-MULE TEAM BORAX 1 lb. size 17c<br/>           CAMAY TOILET SOAP 3 for 19c<br/>           IVORY SOAP Large 9c; Medium 3 for 16c<br/>           DREFT Large 23c<br/>           CHIPSO FLAKES Large 22c<br/>           OXYDOL Medium 2 for 19c; Large 22c; Giant 63c<br/>           P. &amp; G. SOAP 4 for 16c<br/>           CRISCO 1 lb. 21c; 3 lb. 58c<br/>           DAUNTLESS WALL PAPER CLEANER, 5 cans 25c</p> <p><b>FRYING CHICKENS</b> (each) <b>65c</b></p> <p>HAM SHANKS lb. 13c<br/>           ORANGES, Medium size dozen 19c<br/>           LEMONS, large size dozen 27c</p> | <p>EARLY JUNE PEAS, F. P. <b>25c</b><br/>           Quick canned 2 No. 2 Tins</p> <p>Yellow CLING PEACHES, Crystal <b>33c</b><br/>           Sliced or halves 2 No. 2 1/2 Tins</p> <p>CHERRIES, F. P. Red Pitted, large <b>23c</b><br/>           2 No. 2 Tins</p> <p>PRESTO WHITE - Softens hard-water instantly 32 oz. pkg. <b>19c</b></p> <p>MIRA-CLO - Softens, whitens, bleaches brightens Full quart <b>10c</b></p> <p>WASHRITE GRANULATED SOAP <b>43c</b><br/>           2 24-oz. packages<br/>           Free Carlton Silverware packed in each box</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**COFFEE**

**REX Vacuum Pack**  
 Full Flavored and always oven fresh  
**1 Lb. Tin 23c**

★

**FARMERS PRIDE**  
 Unvaried Fine Quality Famous for Generations  
**1 Lb. Airtight Tin 21c**

★

**DELICIOUS SIPS**  
 A fine quality blend Excellent in flavor and aroma  
**2 1-Lb. Bags 27c**

COMPLETE LINE OF FROZEN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

HACKLEMAN'S

PHONE 22
TUSCOLA, ILL.

**Helm Grocery** – This business was owned and managed by Clyde E. Helm and was located in the Evans Building at the corner of South Central Avenue and Main Street. He purchased the business from Fred L. Thornsbrue in 1919. Mr. Helm was assisted by Harley C. Helm (his son), Kenneth Matthews and Wayne Helm.



Clyde E. Helm

**McMillan's Cash and Carry Grocery** – Located on Sale Street, this grocery store was owned by A. H. Day and J. B. McMillan who was from Mattoon. Established in the Spring of 1922. Mr. Day's first business venture was with Charles Toliver in the restaurant business.



A. H. Day

**Tate Grocery** – George A. Tate was proprietor of Tate Grocery, which was located on the east side of South Main Street. The grocery store was opened in September of 1921 when he purchased the business of Kenneth Hinkle. In November, 1922, in partnership with Earl Jones and Henry Rahn, Mr. Tate established a meat market in connection with the grocery store. Tate later disposed of his holdings in the meat market to Earl Jones and concentrated solely on the grocery business. Other employees were – Cecil Tate and John Dresback, clerks.



**Kennedy Brothers Grocery** – This was truly a Tuscola firm. The Kennedy Brothers were Thomas, James, John and Martin. They were all born and raised in Tuscola. They first embarked in the grocery business in 1911. The first store was owned by Thomas and James. Thomas died in 1918. The other two brothers joined the firm. In 1918, the store was moved to the corner of Sale and Parke Streets. The brothers purchased the building of J. L. Maris, who was among the first grocers. Other employees were – Mrs. Renos Huber (their sister), L. L. Sharp and Victor Ross.



**Kennedy Brother Grocery Store**  
L. to R. – Lowell Sharp, Martin Kennedy and James Kennedy



**Thomas  
Kennedy**



**James  
Kennedy**



**Martin  
Kennedy**



**John  
Kennedy**

**Alec Hunt Grocery** – Alec Hunt owned this grocery store on the east end of West Sale Street in a building he built in 1920. Mr. Hunt served as a clerk for J. B. Wamsley. He also worked for the Wardall Company, but later returned to Wamsley. In 1915, he purchased the grocery business of Mr. Wamsley.



**Alec Hunt**

**C. A. Kitt** – Mr. Kitt owned a grocery store on north North Niles Street. He purchased the business from J. S. Cambridge in 1918. The Kitts added an apartment to the business for them to live in. Mrs. Kitts assisted in the business.

**Mr. Todd** – This gentleman owned a grocery store on North Nile Street. He purchased the business from Kenneth Hinkle in 1917. Mr. Todd's home was connected with the business and he was assisted by his wife.



**Howard & Weaver Grocery Store** – This store was located on North Central Avenue under the management of H. L. Howard and C. G. Weaver. This business was established in February 1919. In connection was a meat market under the supervision of J. B. Weaver, father of C. G. J. B. Weaver began in the grocery/meat business in 1887. Other employees include – Morris Thompson, George VonLanken and Walter Beckensto, meat department. Thomas Howard and Olaf Thomas, grocery department. Miss Louise Smith was cashier and bookkeeper.

**Schlorff & English** – They sold Paige and Overland cars, Hart Parr tractors and coal.

**Hendrix Chevrolet Sales** – Located at 107 East Sale Street.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1938

*Cooking for* **VALUES?**  
**CHECK THESE!**

FOR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, ONLY

|                                  |                                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>FANCY VEAL</b>                | Cooked <b>SPICED HAM</b> . lb 22c   |
| Veal Chops . . . . lb. 19c       | Boneless <b>PORK ROAST</b> . lb 20c |
| Veal Cutlets . . . . lb. 27c     | <b>FANCY BEEF</b>                   |
| Veal Loin . . . . . lb. 27c      | Beef Rib Boil . . . . lb. 10c       |
| Veal Patties . . . 6 for 25c     | Boneless Beef Roast lb 21c          |
| Chuck <b>BEEF ROAST</b> . lb 18c | Round Swiss Steak lb 27c            |
| <b>LOAF MEAT</b> . . . . . 16c   | Best Loin Steak . . lb. 25c         |
| Per pound                        |                                     |

Order a Fancy **BROILING STEAK** guaranteed tender lb 30c

|                                               |               |                                                  |                     |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>OXYDOL--</b>                               | GIANT BOX 59c | MED. BOX 1c                                      | BOTH FOR <b>60c</b> |
| GRAPE FRUIT—Seedless<br>8 for                 | 25c           | PANCAKE FLOUR—1¼ lb<br>carton                    | 8c                  |
| CAULIFLOWER—Snowball<br>large                 | 15c           | SUGAR CORN—No. 2 can Country<br>Gentleman, 2 for | 25c                 |
| IDAHO BAKING POTATOES—<br>15-lb. cloth bag    | 33c           | CRISCO—1 lb. tin<br>for                          | 19c                 |
| COOKIES—Chocolate Marsh-<br>mallon pecan, lb. | 17c           | CAKE FLOUR—44 oz. Swans<br>Down                  | 25c                 |

**CANNED MILK—Large Farmers Pride . . . 7c**

**HOWARD & WEAVER**  
PHONE 117 TUSCOLA

**Bassett Store** – H. S. Bassett was the proprietor of this store located on West Sale Street. Mr. Bassett sold the first Victor Talking Machine in the state of Illinois in 1893. He carried a complete line of Victrolas, Victor records and all sporting goods.



**Teeters Machine Shop** – Owned by Homer Teeters, the shop was located on Parke Street. He began business in 1912. Homer also owned The Tuscola Feed Mill and a General Repair Shop at 708 North Court Street.



Homer Teeters

*Tuscola Feed Mill* Bell Phone 315L

*Have your corn meal and rye flour ground to order.  
Retailers of all kinds of fancy chicken feeds, hay, straw, oats, corn, alfalfa, dairy & horse feeds.  
All orders delivered in any part of the city.*

**H. L. Teeter & Co.**  
TUSCOLA, ILLINOIS

**The White House Dining Room and Coffee Shop** – This business was owned by P.L. and Bonnie Cooper in the 1950's. Its location was on Route 36 in Tuscola. The building was later occupied by a second hand clothing store called Twice As Nice and a candy store owned by Scott and Tracy Flesor.



**Johnson Horse Shoeing** – William Johnson provided blacksmith work in Tuscola in the early 1990's. The business was located along East South Central Avenue.



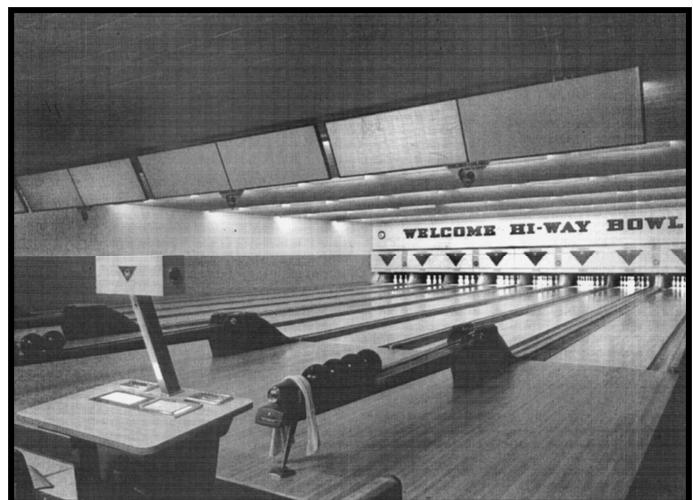
**The Bergfield Filling Station** – This station was located at 300 North Main Street in the 1940's.



**J. A. Maris Grocery Store** – This photo was taken around 1900, showing the owner and employees.



**Interior of the Hi-Way Bowl** which was located on Route 36. The Moose Lodge is presently at this location.



Ice

Have plenty of FINE  
MANUFACTURED  
ICE at all times. What  
we can't make ourselves  
will be supplied by The  
Twin City Ice & Cold  
Storage Co., of Cham-  
paign. Give us your  
patronage. Ice delivered  
to any part of the city  
Patronize home industry

Ice



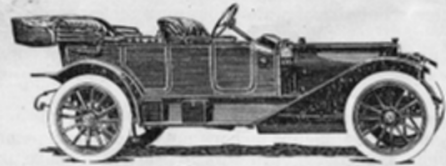
The CONSUMERS ICE CO.  
TUSCOLA, ILLINOIS

Garage Phone  
10

Residence Phone  
262

# Tuscola Garage

M. E. HARSHBARGER



Staver Hudson  
Oakland Paige  
Interstate

Full Line of Automobile Supplies  
and Accessories. .. Repair Work  
and Livery a Specialty. .. Tires  
and Tubes Vulcanized

Open Day and Night

BELL PHONE 65

39 S. MAIN ST.

*F. C. Porch & Co.*  
Grocers

TUSCOLA



Eggs, Butter and other  
Country Produce

ROBERT N. LOGAN

Clothing

Furnishings  
and... Shoes

No. 21 Sale Street

Tuscola  
Ill.

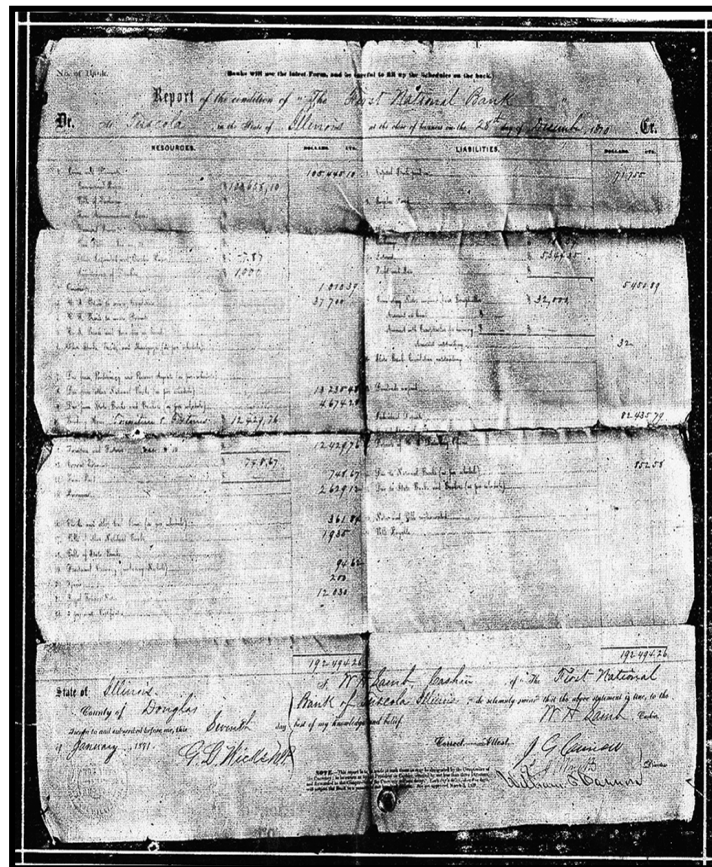
## Tuscola's Financial Institutions

**First National Bank** – Organized in 1866 as the private banking firm under the name Wyeth Cannon and Co. by Joseph Cannon, William Cannon and Leonard J. Wyeth. The bank first located on West South Central Avenue with William Cannon serving as the first president. Later it was moved to West North Central Avenue, on part of the ground where the Community Building is now located. In 1870, it was organized as a National Bank with William P. Cannon (president), W. H. Lamb (cashier) and James Hammett, Lemuel Chandler, Henry Calloway, Thomas E. Bundy, Joseph G. Cannon, Leonard J. Wyeth, Thomas McCougherty, John D. Murdock, Henry R. Neelson and George W. Henson as stockholders. In May, 1927 the bank was relocated to the corner of West North Central Avenue and North Main Street (100 North Main Street). July, 1956, two brothers, J. Thomas Edwards (Eureka, Illinois) and George A. Edwards (Plainview, Texas) acquired the original Cannon interest and stock in the bank. In the 1990's, the bank was bought by The First Mid Illinois Bank.



**A. W. Wallace**

President of the First National Bank from 1898 to his death in 1933. He played host to Uncle Joe Cannon during his visits to Tuscola.



**First bank statement made in Tuscola in 1870**





**This photo shows West North Central Avenue around the turn of the last century. Looking east, the First National Bank is the first storefront with the awning extended. The bank's address was 31 West North Central Avenue. Other businesses pictured are: Ammen and Warren Furniture next door east at number 29, Miller and Sloan Dry Goods at number 27, the Opera House and a lunchroom. Across the street is the C. & E. I. railroad depot.**

Photo courtesy of Bruce Wood.



**Interior of First National Bank 1895.**  
 Photo *The Saturday Journal* 1895.



**First National Bank Building built in 1926 at the corner of North Main and West North Central Avenue.**  
 Photo courtesy Pettitt Photo Service.

**The Tuscola National Bank** – Founded January 20, 1890, as the private institution of Baughman, Orr and Company, with L. K. Jones as president. Mr. Jones died in 1893, and A. W. Bragg became president. In 1895, James Helm bought the Orr interest and the firm became Baughman, Bragg and Company. In 1915, the bank was incorporated as a state bank, to be known as Tuscola State Bank. In 1940, it was chartered as a national bank, with Grover Helm as president. In 1953, Helm retired as president and assumed the position of chairman of board of directors. Paul Barrett was elected president with R. J. Crossman succeeding him in 1960. Construction of the bank building at the corner of North Main and West Pembroke Streets was completed in August 1964. The building was uniquely built in the shape of a football and now houses City Hall. The bank included a full basement and brought to Tuscola the first drive-up window. In 1960, the time and temperature clock was installed at the bank as a gift to the city in commemoration of the bank’s seventy years of service to community. A new Tuscola National Bank was constructed on Progress Boulevard at the entrance to the mall.

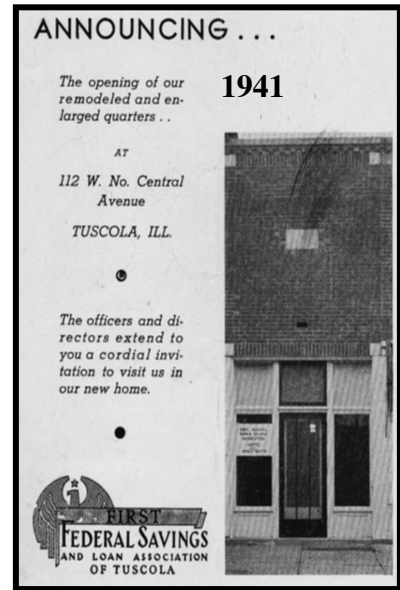
The collage is enclosed in a black border and contains the following elements:

- James F. Helm** (1895 - 1932): A black and white oval portrait of an older man with a mustache and glasses, wearing a suit and tie.
- Grover R. Helm** (1913 - 1968): A black and white oval portrait of a man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie.
- Sarah Jane Corrie** (1970 - 2002): A black and white oval portrait of an elderly woman with short, curly hair, wearing a dark jacket.
- Dixie Lee Curry** (1970 - Present): A black and white oval portrait of a woman with short dark hair, wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored blouse.
- Lloyd Allen Murphy** (1972 - Present): A black and white oval portrait of a man with a mustache, wearing a suit and tie.
- Michael Sha Murphy** (2002 - Present): A black and white oval portrait of a man with short hair, wearing a suit and tie.
- Brian Michael Murphy** (Summer 1998): A black and white oval portrait of a young man with dark hair, wearing a suit and tie.
- Historical Photographs:**
  - A black and white photograph of the original bank building, a two-story brick structure with large windows. A sign in the window reads "JAMES HELM & CO. BANKERS".
  - A black and white photograph of the current bank building at night, a modern multi-story structure with a prominent central entrance and large windows.

**First Federal Savings and Loan Association** – The parent organization of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association was the Tuscola Benefit and Building Association. First organized on March 24, 1883, the founders were among the substantial pioneers of the community. They were – A. W. Wallace, W. H. Lamb, James



Townsell, William Miller and E. C. Finney. The company was first capitalized for \$200,000, but the capital stock was increased to \$2,000,000 On May 2, 1885. The association operated under the state charter until August 1, 1935 when it was granted a Federal charter. Their location was at 112 West North Central Avenue until a new facility was built on South Main Street.



**Farmers State Bank** – They began business in April 1904, as a private institution under the name of the Farmers and Traders Bank. The first members of the co-partnership were – F. H. Jones, H. C. Jones (Tuscola), and J. R. Beggs (Arcola). F. H. Jones was the first president. January 1921, it was incorporated as a State bank. This bank is no longer here.

**The Cornbelt Building and Loan Association** – First organized in 1893, as the Cornbelt National Building and Loan Association. The first officers were – John Ervin, president; Charles Cross, vice president; M. H. Evers, secretary; C. L. Hines, treasurer and G. R. Jones, attorney. The Board of Directors were – W. F. McCarty, G. L. English, C. A. Vest, C. E. Hitch, Dr. C. L. Hine, W. C. Hackett, R. G. Callaway, F. E. Parker and F. H. Jones. This institution is no longer here.



Harry Conover

**The Home and Loan Association** – Organized in January 1909, they had offices with the Farmers State Bank. This business is no longer here.

**The Tuscola Loan and Abstract Company** – This Company was founded by Daniel Conover in 1907. Upon his death, Harry Conover took over the business. In 1889, Mr. Conover learned the business of abstracting titles to real estate. He then became secretary/treasurer of the Tuscola Loan and Abstract Company. First officers were – W. W. Reeves, president and L. O. Hackett, vice president. The office was with W. W. Reeves and Company in the Star Store Building. This company is no longer here.

**The First State Bank of Tuscola** – One of three branches of the Monticello State Bank. It was instituted in Tuscola in April 15, 1996.

## **The Ku Klux Klan in Tuscola** (excerpts from a paper by Judge Frank Lincoln)

To obtain an insight into the activities of a local Klan, the author examined the newspaper files of the *Tuscola Journal*, Tuscola, Illinois, for evidence of Klan activity. The newspaper reported the Klan's activity in a small, Midwestern, white, protestant, rural community. From 1922 to 1924, the *Journal* reported many instances of Klan gatherings and activities. On several occasions crosses burned in prominent places in town; other times crosses flamed in front of the residences of local immigrants. One time a cross was burned in front of the home of the Greek confectioner; another time a cross was burned at the rural residence of a German farmer who had sent money during the war to relatives in Germany. During the period between 1922 and 1924, two large public Klan gatherings were held in Tuscola. On September 6, 1923, a Catholic-Klan debate was held in Frahm's Grove on the southern edge of town. Klansmen and local citizens alike attended this event to hear a Protestant minister and a Klansman debate the Catholic issue. The *Journal* of December 6, 1923, reported a Ku Klux Klan wedding performed by a Christian minister who was a Klansman from Atwood, Illinois. The minister and the young couple were dressed in the Ku Klux Klan regalia; both the couple and the minister appeared at the ceremony unhooded. The *Journal* of March 8, 1924, reported that one hundred Klansmen visited the neighboring community of Atwood; after visiting one private house and one business house, the Klansmen persuaded the offenders to change their code of morals. The *Journal* said:

*"From the expressions of opinion heard on the street it seems that the citizen one-hundred-per cent for the Klan and recognize the fact that they cleaned up a situation in one night that the village authorities were simply unable to cope with through the regular channels of law and order."*

In July, 1924, the Klan staged one of its largest parades in Tuscola. The parade consisted of 1,965 Klan cars, one hundred marching Klansmen, a Klan band from Danville, Illinois, burning crosses, and a naturalization ceremony in Ervin Park. According to the *Journal*, some citizens came out of loyalty, some out of curiosity to see the Klan gathering, and some came to hear the band; however, no offensive remarks or actions were exhibited by anyone during the evening's activities. In reporting the parade, the *Journal* said:

*"Three huge wooden crosses wrapped with cloth and saturated with oil were placed in the north end of the Park. As the paraders headed by the band and one hundred robed Knights of the order entered the park, the crosses were set fire to and burned brilliantly for about a quarter of an hour. To the north of these huge blazing crosses, one of the automobiles from the parade had parked on the right and on the front of this car was an electric lighted cross about four feet high and three feet wide with red bulbs. The blazing crosses together with the fuses illuminated the north end of the Park and was a beautiful sight to look upon."*

The Ku Klux Klan activity in Tuscola terminated with the murder of Sherman Denny. Three men who were members of the Klan visited Mr. Denny on June 4, 1924, with the purpose of stopping Denny from bothering the wife of one of them. It seems Denny was afraid of the Klan and had bought a gun for protection. That fateful night a fight began and one of the Klansmen was shot in the leg, which prompted the fatal shot, which penetrated Denny's spinal cord. The whole crux of the defense was the claim of self-defense. A witness came forward and collaborated that they didn't shoot Denny until he struck them first. It didn't take the jury long to come back with a verdict of not guilty.

The hooded figures of the Ku Klux Klan were an expression of pain, sorrow and solemn warning. From anger and fear, not from knowledge and forethought, arose the Klan's methods. There is no room for a secret society such as the Ku Klux Klan in the United States. The Klan crusade to purify and stabilize spread contamination and strife everywhere. The Klan disrupted families, communities and states, turning husband against wife, neighbor against neighbor, and man against man, until it compacted an opposition as lawless as itself.