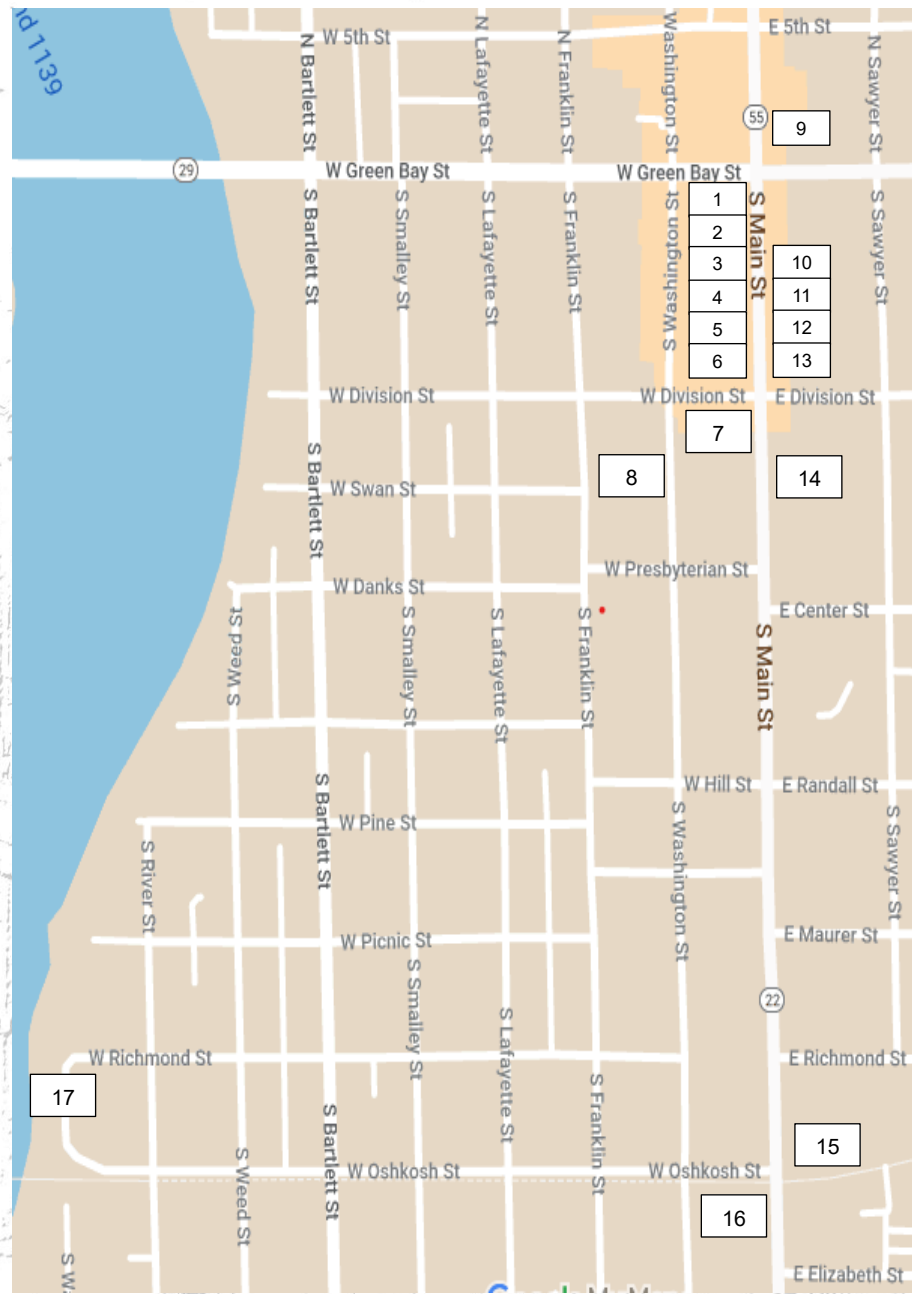


Shawano Has History

Historic Shawano Plaque Walking Tour Map



1 The Murdock House

103 S. Main St.

The iconic Murdock House stood on this corner for 62 years until a fire in April 1948. Now the Woolworth building takes its place.

2 Kuckuk and Pulcifer Building

107 S. Main St.

Constructed in 1890, the K&P building was the home of a jewelry and general merchandise business for decades.

3 The Andrews & Klosterman Dry Goods and Naber Drug Stores

117 S. Main St.

This building has been the home of a pharmacy since its construction in the late 1800's.

4 Holtz Saloon

125 S. Main St.

The Holtz Saloon appears little changed over the decades and maintains its original appearance to this day.

5 Schweers Hardware

127 S. Main St.

Schweers Brothers began selling hardware in this building a few years after its construction in 1890.

6 The Upham & Russell Building

153 S. Main St.

The city's oldest historic retailer, the Upham and Russell building housed their dry goods, clothing, and other businesses here until 1940.

7 Franklin School – Entrance from the Naberhood on Washington St.

For over 100 years, this city block was the home of two Franklin Schools and is now a city park.

8 Masonic Building

201 S. Main St.

The "Star of the Frontier" Lodge 170, remodeled and used this building for 98 years.

9 Nachtwey Livery Stable

116 N. Main St.

Around the year 1900 this was the site of the Nachtwey Livery Stable.

10 Dehn's Ice Cream Parlor

132 S. Main St.

From its construction in 1948 until 1983, this was the home of Dehn's Ice Cream Parlor, a favorite with teenagers.

11 Ludolph's Grocery

142 S. Main St.

Built in 1916, this building served as a grocery until 1938.

12 Citizens State Bank

146 S. Main St.

Built in 1910, this is second of four buildings that were the home of the Citizens State Bank.

13 The Wavrunek Harness Shop

148 S. Main St.

In 1898 Thomas Wavrunek constructed this building for his harness business.

14 The Nagle Building

220 S. Main St.

Opening in 1915, this was the home of the Crescent Theater for almost 100 years.

15 Chicago & Northwestern Depot

620 S. Main St.

The C&NW Depot building has been serving the public at this location for over 120 years.

16 The Farmers Brewery

713 S. Main St.

Built in 1916, Architect Bernhard Barthell used a Romanesque Revival style for the exterior of the Farmers Brewery building with cream colored brick made in the Shawano area.

17 Wolf River Paper & Fiber Company

Sturgeon Park

Construction of the dam in 1892 enabled operation of a pulp mill and a paper mill, which began production in 1894.



Shawano Has History



The Shawano Has History Project began in April 2022 when Ben and Diane Hartwig visited the Shawano County Historical Society looking to bring plaques to historic buildings in Shawano that would outline the history of the property, businesses, and owners.

This was the impetus that would become the Shawano Has History Project, a partnership between the historical society, Leadership Shawano County teams, the Business Improvement District of Shawano, the City of Shawano, and Chamber of Commerce.

With many of its original buildings that date from the late 1800's to mid-1900's, Shawano's business district has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1999. This foundation makes it straightforward for the project to choose relevant historic properties. A property's history is told through the use of a cast bronze plaque with text, a historic photograph, and a QR code that leads the visitor to a page on the Shawano County Historical Society's website with further information.

It took over two years to research the historic properties, develop the website, and information for the plaques. By January 2024, after several meetings with project partners, we started taking donations and selling plaques to business and property owners.

We've researched over forty properties that span the City of Shawano which are listed on the Shawano County Historical Society's website. The Leadership Shawano County team is working on fund raising and promotion where we've met with newspaper, radio, and TV organizations to get the word out. In the future we hope to partner with the history department at the high school to involve our students in this local history. We also hope to continue to add properties in the city and could expand the project to Shawano County.

